the Devil Went Down to Georgia: 
Russia’s Return to Imperialism

MATT COLE 
STAFF WRITER

At the end of the Cold War, western nations held their breath in hopes that a new democratic Russia would allow its historically imperialist governing-style to fall by the wayside.

To the dismay of democracies around the world, Russia has proven that old habits die hard: on August 8, 2008, Russia invaded a former Soviet satellite, the Republic of Georgia.

Russia’s foreign policy has been consistent since the end of WWII: invade smaller, weaker, nations in order to exploit their resources and labor. While Georgia is just another benchmark in this age-old tradition, it is important understand the history of both nations in order to better answer the questions: Why Georgia? Why now? Georgia first began major relations with Russia in 1800 when the nation was willingly absorbed into the Russian Empire in order to receive military protection against Turkey and Iran. After the 1917 Bolshevik Revolution, Georgia re-declared their independence; unfortunately, their freedom was short-lived, as they were invaded by the Red Army in 1921 and forced into the newly-formed Soviet Union.

For the next 70 years, Georgia became just another addition to Soviet expansionism, contributing troops to both World Wars, while acting as the birth place of Joseph Stalin. In 1991, as the Soviet Union

CONTINUED ON PAGE 8

Bypass the Breathalyzer

JAMES NESBITT 
STAFF WRITER

Hillsdale students returning to campus have discovered a lot of changes this year: a newly designed quad, freshly paved parking lots, and the first full year of a new student union and cafeteria. But, another change has confronted some students: an increased level of law enforcement by Michigan State Police. During the weekend prior to the start of the semester, between 12 and 14 students received minor in possession (MIP) citations from area law enforcement officers, according to Director of Security Mike Wertz. Police issue these citations by administering breath tests to students, which amounts to a search and seizure of evidence. When an officer wishes to enter private property to search and seize, he first needs a warrant. But a few police officers have led some students to believe that this requirement does not apply when citizens are walking on the streets.

One of these students, who asked to remain anonymous, recalled her exchange with state troopers Keith Pillar and Britt Owen, who stopped her while she was walking down Hillsdale Street: “I asked them, ‘Do

CONTINUED ON PAGE 2

SOUND BITES

Barack Obama, in an interview with Fox News’ Bill O’Reilly, on the “offensive comments” made by Reverend Jeremiah Wright:

MR. O’REILLY: You had never heard those comments?
SEN. OBAMA: I hadn’t heard those comments.
MR. O’REILLY: He was selling them in the lobby at the church.
SEN. OBAMA: What can I tell ya?
MR. O’REILLY: How many times did you go to church a month?
SEN. OBAMA: You know, I’d probably go twice a month sometimes.
MR. O’REILLY: And he never said inflammatory stuff?
SEN. OBAMA: He didn’t say stuff like that, all right.
MR. O’REILLY: Did he say white people were bad?
SEN. OBAMA: No. What he said was racism is bad.
MR. O’REILLY: But not white people are bad?
SEN. OBAMA: There was no doubt that what he said was racism was bad. The relationship was ruptured, I’m not a member of the church.
MR. O’REILLY: Right.

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**NEWS**

**A New Extreme on Abortion:**

**Calvin Freiburger**

Staff Writer

After Jill Stanek, a nurse at Christ Hospital in Oak Lawn, Illinois, exposed how doctors at the hospital were leaving newborns who survived abortions to starve to death, the state senate considered legislation protecting the rights of such “born-alive infants” in 2001 and 2002. Both times, then-state Senator Barack Obama opposed it. He initially dismissed objections to his stance on the grounds that he would have voted yes if the bill included language guaranteeing it wouldn’t be used someday to undermine Roe v. Wade.

Considering that reversing Roe would not ban abortion, but simply send the issue back to the democratic process, we could conclude from this that leaving newborns to a slow, agonizing death was of less concern to Obama than the nightmare scenario of Americans voting on abortion policy. This excuse didn’t reflect well on him, but it was nothing compared to the revelations to come. In late August, the National Right to Life Committee unearthed records showing that in 2003, Illinois lawmakers had tried again, this time with the very language Obama claimed was the original dealbreaker. Senate Amendment 001 said, “Nothing in this Section shall be construed to affirm, deny, expand, or contract any legal status or legal right applicable to any member of the species homo sapiens at any point prior to being born alive as defined in this Section.” At the time, Obama chaired the Health Committee, which unanimously added the previous language—only for Obama to vote no on the bill anyways, killing it before it reached the Senate floor. Why? As President Barack Obama.

“**THIS ISSUE ULTIMATELY IS ABOUT ABDUCTION AND NOT LIVE BIRTHS**

—Barack Obama

Afraid of a New Extreme on Abortion?

Another political genius: Joe Biden, who told supporters at a Wednesday rally that, “Hillary Clinton is as qualified or more qualified than I am to be vice president of the United States of America.”

Ron Paul refuses to endorse John McCain’s bid for the presidency.

The United States has seen a sharp decrease in citizenship applications after hiking the application fee to combat costs. The new price of freedom? $675.

**NO MORE PADDY-WHACK for KILPATRICK**

**Nate Anderson**

Staff Writer

After deliberation a Detroit jury decided not to give the dog a bone. The two-term mayor encountered a series of allegations and accusations of misconduct since his election in 2001. These included inviting strippers to the mayoral mansion, numerous accusations of corruption, an extramarital affair, and ultimately, avowed perjury as well as assaulting a police officer.

Major Kilpatrick held up for months despite the mounting evidence against him. The tide began to finally turn when text messages surfaced in January that explicitly evidenced an affair he had long since denied under oath. The mayor finally pled guilty to three charges; six felonies were discarded as part of the plea bargain. To the city of Detroit he owes four months in prison, a million dollars, his future pension, law license, and five months of probation. Shortly after the agreement the disgraced mayor chose to grace the people of Detroit with his presence, giving an address that the Detroit Free Press described as “part-apology, part campaign speech.” He gallingly declared, “Our challenge now is to put the anguish and the turmoil of recent months behind us... To those who have supported me throughout the years... I thank you with all my heart... I know that supporting me has not always been easy, but it has not been boring either.” According to the Detroit Free Press he proceeded to crack a smile. Governor Granholm, who the mayor stalwartly supported, demonstrated her eagerness to look past the affair. “It’s very important for us as a state and as a city to turn this page together. There is much work to do. It is my profound hope that we can now write a new history for this great but embattled city.” Fewer and fewer Americans can remember the day that the word “great” every applied to city of Detroit, at least without being followed by the words riot or fire. Detroit may have burned some time ago but Mayor Kwame Kilpatrick did worse than fiddle as it continued to smolder. 

While Western speculation about North Korea vehe-

mently denies that their leader, Kim Jong Il is gravely ill and/or recovering from a severe medical ailment.

Actor Matt Damon recently told the Associated Press that he believes that Sarah Palin facing down Russian President Putin would resemble “a really bad Disney movie.”

Sports star and cancer survivor Lance Armstrong has decided to get back on the bike in attempt to win his 8th Tour de France.

Another political genius: Joe Biden, who told supporters at a Wednesday rally that, “Hillary Clinton is as qualified or more qualified than I am to be vice president of the United States of America.”

I have to take a breathalyzer? The police told me, “you need to take a breathalyzer.” MCL §436.1703(6) states that an “officer who has reasonable cause to believe a minor has consumed alcoholic liquor or has any bodily alcohol content may require the person to submit to a preliminary chemical breath analysis... A minor who refuses to submit to a preliminary chemical breath test analysis as required in this subsection is responsible for a state civil infraction and may be ordered to pay a civil fine of not more than $100.00.”

There is a hole in what police are telling students, however. Although police are able to cite this law to convince students to cooperate, they cannot actually enforce it. In September 2007, Judge David M. Lawson of the United States Eastern District Court of Michigan ruled in Platte et al. v. Thomas Township et al. that Michigan Complied Laws §436.1703(6) is unconstitutional on its face because it is repugnant to the Fourth Amendment... Governor Jennifer Granholm, [her] servants, agents and employees, and those in active concert and participation with [her], are restrained and enjoined from enforcing or imposing sanctions under Michigan Complied Laws §436.1703(6), and from enforcing any policy or rule enacted under the authority of said statute.” This ruling requires police to obtain a warrant before requiring pedestrians to submit to a breathalyzer test. Officers have been citing MCL 436.1703(6) and warning students of the penalties for not submitting to a breath test, but they have not been disclosing to students the fact that this statute is not enforceable. Faced with the intimidating circumstances of the situation, the officers’ suggestions, and lacking the knowledge that citizens may refuse to submit to a breath test before a warrant is obtained, many students decide to cooperate. “I didn’t know about the [the court’s decision]. The officers told me that if I cooperated and paid my fine, the school and my parents wouldn’t find out, so I took the test,” said one student confronted by Michigan State Police.

PM FROM PAGE 1

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During the New England Patriots’ opening game, quarterback Tom Brady tore both the ACL and MCL in his left knee, likely ending his season and requiring 6 to 9 months of rehabilitation.

In an less than surprising announcement, Apple unveiled the revamped iPod Nano at a press conference last Tuesday. In a variety of colors, it features a thinner design, wider screen, and shuffle sensors similar to that of the iPhone. During the presentation, Steve Jobs declined to comment on his health.

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HILLSDALE CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP “UNITES”

NATE ANDERSON STAFF WRITER

While the Hillsdale Christian Fellowship/Intervarsity (HCF) program at Hillsdale College has had a substantial presence for many years, the group has recently put some effort into centralizing and expanding its ministry on campus.

During its kickoff on the 28th of August, various student leaders including David Stehlik, Sarah Gillary, Shannon McCleary and Nate Jerauld explained the function of the group’s various arms. The primary alteration comes with the addition of “Frontlines.” In an attempt to provide go-to Bible studies for each dorm, HCF opted to imprint its stamp onto student-initiated groups. Involvement thus far has proved all-inclusive, involving over a dozen small groups, from studies of “Mere Christianity,” to a Christian video series and old-fashioned reviews of books in the Bible. HCF provides loose oversight, encouraging group leaders to meet with the Pastor of the Pine Ridge Church and HCF affiliate, Steve Bricks. Vision Team member and leader of the Foundations ministry, David Stehlik, described HCF and Pastor Bricks’s role as helping to “cast the vision for small group leaders who control their own curriculum.” “We recognize the common purpose,” he emphasized.

The “Foundations” ministry encompasses the prayer and fasting element of HCF. The group is open to any student, or at least any willing to forego a few trips to SAGA. Stehlik especially encourages students to accept a 15 meal plan instead of the customary 19 meals, donating the surplus ($140) to the HCF treasurer. “In the time that you would usually fill yourself up physically you can fill yourself up spiritually,” he explained.

Replacing and altering the former Crossroads meeting is “Unite.” The service runs just one Thursday a month, and is meant to be a type of umbrella gathering of all the smaller ministries. As before, it will consist of praise and worship, as well as a guest speaker. AIA (Athletes in Action) and “The Well’s” contemporary worship service, will continue under the HCF banner. The administration has markedly solidified the sprawling campus ministries. Groups that attempt to incorporate outside leadership, beyond Intervarsity, are generally prohibited from using campus facilities, unless they reach an agreement with the campus ministry. UCO, or University Christian Outreach, an Ann Arbor-based ministry, attempted to negotiate the placement of a charismatic worship and prayer service on campus. The group was ultimately barred from becoming an official campus club, due to its outside leadership. The group eventually located off campus, with UCO leader, Mike Shaugnessy, nonetheless reporting that he was “very happy” with negotiations.

It remains to be seen whether the administrations efforts to provide a comprehensive worship experience for Christian students will pay off. Toeing the line between base uniformity and baseless acceptance promises to provide a challenge for many years to come. **Hillsdale Forum**

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MARTIN KRAEGEL III STAFF WRITER

As last year’s CCA on the lessons and legacy of the Vietnam War coincided neatly with the national debate on US policy in Iraq, this year’s opening CCA on the Cold War also finds a parallel in current events. Russia’s aggressive response to Georgia, regarding the breakaway provinces of South Ossetia and Abkhazia, has sparked speculation that a renewal of the Cold War may be imminent, while tensions between the West and Russia have reached levels not seen in years. New missile defense systems to be placed in Poland and the Czech Republic, while ostensibly aimed Iran, have been viewed by Russia as threatening to their power, along with the United States’ goal to include countries like Georgia and Ukraine into NATO. Former President of Russia, and former member of the KGB, Vladimir Putin, still seen as the real power in that country, has been adamant about nationalizing Russia’s oil industry, using its energy resources as leverage in Europe, and projecting power in the region economically. Some speculate he has his sights on a renewed Russian empire. Russia-U.S. relations have become a campaign issue in the 2008 election as well. Both major presidential candidates have criticized Russia. Republican candidate John McCain echoed John F. Kennedy in proclaiming that, “Today we’re all Georgians,” and vowing that the United States will stand by Georgia in facing Russia.

Examining the issues and history involved in the Cold War and its lessons for today, CCA I, entitled “The Cold War: History and Controversies,” held from September 7th to September 11th included speakers: Taitiana Yankelevich, director of the Andrei Sakharov Program on Human Rights, speaking on “Life Behind

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Continued on Page 9
I am impressed with her, I think that she will bring unfiltered experience to the ticket. As a neutral candidate, Palin is the Republican’s lifeline. The party is unified behind her.

–Henry Curtis, OH Alternate Delegate

I am an anomaly: I am a conservative, I am a Republican, and I am an African-American. And with all those qualities, I am having a lot of fun around here.

–Retired Marine Charlie Strickland, MN Alternate Delegate

Tell everyone and don’t stop until we put John McCain and Sarah Palin in the White House!

–C.R. Waters, AZ Delegate

This is my sixth convention, and I have been a McCain supporter for the last two years. We have to keep this momentum alive through November.

–John Peschong, CA Delegate

I am a little bit hung-over from the Romney thing, but Palin seems to have turned that around. She is a shock factor—sharp, articulate, relatable—she has narrowed the gap. Clearly, our placement [near the stage] reflects the importance of Michigan in this upcoming election.”

–Mando Shailem, Egyptian Emigrant

Now my family has been calling and calling...they all want me to try and get on TV again tonight.

–RNC Volunteer from Alabama

“We like everything!”
“I got to lick an ice sculpture!”

Emily (age 8) and Zoe (age 6) on what they like about their first-ever Republican National Convention. Their father was a California delegate.

We’re very proud of her. It was an honor that just happened to come her way, and it is very well deserved.

–Mr. Heil, father of RNC intern and Hillsdale Student E.B. Heil

I am at a loss for words when it comes to Sarah Palin.

Originally, I was a Romney supporter, but now it is time to get the word out about our Maverick.

–Joan Rynolds, MI Delegate

I’ve never been in a city this friendly with this much tear gas residue.

–Comedian Jon Stewart on Minneapolis/St. Paul (September 5,

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–Mr. Heil, father of RNC intern and Hillsdale Student E.B. Heil

I think that what Senator McCain said was important. To Arabs he said some great things. The line about not sending more money to people that hate us, that is very important.

–Mando Shailem, Egyptian Emigrant

“We like everything!”
“I got to lick an ice sculpture!”

Emily (age 8) and Zoe (age 6) on what they like about their first-ever Republican National Convention. Their father was a California delegate.

You again?

–Fox News anchor Megyn Kelly to GA Delegate Brad Huges

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President Phillips’ BOLD STAND on CAMPUS UNREST

STEPHEN CASAI
GUEST CONTRIBUTOR

In the late 1960s, U.S. campuses were in turmoil. Students rebelled and spoke out against the draft, Vietnam War, and college curriculums. They distrusted everyone over 30. Some wanted to overthrow the establishment. They even demonstrated in classrooms, preventing professors from teaching.

On July 22, 1968, Hillsdale College President J. Donald Phillips (1907-1993) took a bold and courageous stand on campus unrest. In a letter approved by the Board of Trustees and sent out to all Hillsdale College students enrolled for the fall semester, he warned that the college would not tolerate student disturbances.

The letter, he said, “is submitted now in order that a student may have adequate time to select another college if the above terms are unacceptable. Moreover, the college shall use its offices to help such a student find a college or university more acceptable to his or her personal purposes.”

Phillips’ letter received national coverage. Three hundred newspapers printed articles about his letter, and it was reported on hundreds of radio and television broadcasts.


“In a period of sit-ins, riots, and general student revolt on U.S. campuses, at least one college has laid down a firm policy on what is expected of its students-- and told them to go elsewhere if they don’t like it,” the magazine said.

“J Donald Phillips, president of Hillsdale College, wrote to all incoming students advising them of Hillsdale College, wrote to all incoming students advising them of Hillsdale College,” said. “Approximately 3-5 million news,” the student newspaper

According to the fall 1968 issue of the Hillsdale Magazine, the college received many letters from the students and their parents, expressing their gratitude that “their education would not be disrupted.”

The college’s magazine also pointed out that not a single student withdrew from Hillsdale because of the letter.

In 1968, E. Ross Adair, U.S. congressman and member of Hillsdale College’s Board of Trustees, honored Phillips’ letter by entering it in the Congressional Record.

This article has been reprinted with permission from Stephen Casai. Affectionately known as “Saga Steve,” Casai serves as a customer representative at the Knorr Family Dining room and contributed to the local magazine Community Plus! from 1997 until 2000. This article originally appeared in the August 2000 issue. Casai is available via e-mail at scasai@hillsdale.edu.

OBAMA FROM PAGE 2

Obama said on April 4, 2002, he was worried “what liabilities the doctor might have in this situation,” and dismissed the concerns driving the bill, because he was sure “this issue ultimately is about abortion and not live births.”

After this scandal blew up in Obama’s face, his defenders have claimed both that Jill Stanek’s allegations were never corroborated and that Illinois law already protected such babies. Both claims are false. At the time, Christ Hospital admitted they were performing live-birth abortions (but announced it would from then on limit use of the procedure to babies with fatal birth defects), and while pre-existing Illinois law ostensibly protected abortion survivors, it only required treatment for babies who had “sustainable survivability.”

In addition, as Chicago Tribune columnist Eric Zorn wrote on August 20, “Prosecutors in Illinois entered into a consent decree in 1993 agreeing not to prosecute doctors for apparent or alleged violations of this law based on ‘born alive’ definitions or other definitions.”

This is, simply put, infanticide. It is evil even by the standards most pro-choicers claim to hold. It’s shocking that a United States Senator could so callously disregard both his first duty (“to secure these rights, governments are instituted among men”), and basic human decency and compassion, all to thwart even the slightest, most nonexistent challenge to what pundit Ann Coulter aptly called the Left’s “holiest sacrament: abortion.”

It’s even more shocking that a mainstream political party could embrace him. All Americans of conscience— liberal, conservative, and independent alike—ought to be disgusted. Barack Obama is running in part on a promise to heal the sins of the past, but it is clear all he’ll really do is trade them for brand-new sins of the future.”

9/11: Never Forget Project

Each year, Hillsdale College Republicans, in partnership with the Young America’s Foundation, go to work in the early morning hours of September 11 to arrange nearly 3,000 tiny American flags along the Quad in memory of those killed in the 2001 terrorist attacks.

Though this year’s anniversary has past, we humbly ask that you please keep each of the victims and their families in your thoughts and prayers throughout the upcoming week.
The flight from Detroit to St. Paul was at capacity; filled, in part, by thirty-five Pittsburgh police officers coming in to support the city for the critical night of voting and chanting among one another, it would have been easy to mistake the group for a sports team. Other than being slightly older and more muscular than the average American, they were nearly indistinguishable from the other passengers. Yet, when one officer was reaching to take his photo, someone near him turned. "They're the Right People, the Right Place, & the Right's Big Party," the officer said, as if he were a graduate of the class of 04, the class of emotions that expressed a palpable thirds of passengers that expressed a palpable sense of pride.

The flight was odd, blunt, sharp, otherwise dangerous. One Fox anchor had a pineapple taken away (it was later returned to him,) and plans of umbrellas lay abandoned under security tables. Arriving at the airport, various agents held up their passes in the air, a final visual confirmation of their clearance. Hurrican Ike cut out the opening day's schedule short as President Bush and Vice President Dick Cheney canceled their appearance in order to head Gulf Coast. Simultaneously, what had been a pop rally for John McCain turned to relief fund-raiser, with RNC Chairman Mike Duncan leading the effort. First Lady Laura Bush and First Lady golped McCain's speech messages encouraging charity before airing videos in which Governors Rick Perry (TX), Charlie Crist (FL), Haley Barbour (MS), and Bob Riley (AL) offered their own words of thanks and support. After only three hours of official business, the convention adjourned for the day. Thursday evening, the Michigan delegation hosted a party at local night club "Blackbeards". A black suit, a black veil, and a black gold ring, the group's members danced to the night's music to support McCain. Across the river in Minneapolis, the Bipartisan Policy Center preformed the "Two Parties, One Ticket" event at local restaurant Bellanotte. Dedicated to bridging the gap between Republicans and Democrats, Former Senate Majority Leaders, Trent Lott, Chuck Grassley, Bob Dole, Howard Baker, and George Mitchell founded the center in 2006. But the RNC was not the only convention in town that week. Just as the party started, Rep. Paul Ryan's supporters started to trickled out of the Target Center. Some wore black, while others stood fired up and ready to fight. Standing on the streets yelling incessantly about the "Revolution" and Rep. Paul's plan to turn America around, they found no one. From the street, a team of security and service looked on in amusement. While the secret service didn't attend every party, Bob Dole's presence at Bellanotte demanded their presence on this particular evening. He mingled with guests for about an hour, smiling for photos before, no doubt, heading to bed.

The conventions final days blur into a mix of excitement and bulbous. Wednesday evening, Mike Huckabee, Rudy Giuliani, and Mitt Romney greeted a lively crowd, each humorously criticizing Barack Obama's Chicago history and plans for the presidency. Their remarks "el vino di vino di la vida," as the liturgical song "la vida," stood as a weaving thread through the evening's events, reminding everyone of the impact that the candidates would have on the dance floor.

Delegate dangled, politicians networked, everyone drank, and the party ended just passed the juvenile hour of eleven p.m.

**TUESDAY**

Despite the conclusions, officials filled Tuesday's lineup and arranged with most networks to extend primetime coverage of the convention. Laura Bush announced her husband via satellite to roasting applause and fanfare. Presidents Bush's after-stomach speech included all of the trademark elements: some love for McCain, some love for America, and a joke. Despite the media buzz, however, President Bush paved the way for both former Senator Fred Thompson and Joseph Lieberman, whose campaigns were also in the air. While the service didn't attend every party, Bob Dole's presence at Bellanotte demanded their presence on this particular evening. He mingled with guests for about an hour, smiling for photos before, no doubt, heading to bed.

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The brightness of the world seems to have lost a little bit of its splendor this past month with the passing of one of its more radiant souls, Aleksandr Solzhenitsyn. Solzhenitsyn, age 89, died from heart failure outside of Moscow on August 3rd, after battling a long decline in health. The Russian novelist and historian is best remembered for bringing to light the horrors of the Soviet gulags through his brilliant works of literature.

Born on December 11, 1918 in Soviet Russia, Solzhenitsyn was raised by his widowed mother and his aunt on the family farm. Facing a difficult childhood, his mother encouraged his education as much as possible. In addition to studying mathematics at a state university, he enrolled in correspondence courses at the Moscow Institute of Philosophy, Literature and History. He would later admit that he did not question the Soviet ideology until becoming a prisoner in their labor camps.

Solzhenitsyn also served in World War II on the Eastern Front as a soldier of the Red Army. In early 1945, after writing a letter criticizing Stalin, he was arrested for the propagation of anti-Soviet materials. He received the usual sentence for those days: eight years in a labor camp. Those years in the camps would later serve as a model for his groundbreaking novel, One Day in the Life of Ivan Denisovich.

As the first novel to openly chronicle the nightmares of the gulag experience, One Day in the Life of Ivan Denisovich immediately sold out on its first publication. Never before had such a raw account of Soviet oppression been allowed to spread throughout Russia, much less to pervade the Western world. Solzhenitsyn didn’t stop there. He became one of Russia’s most prolific writers, publishing over 30 works, including the ambitious Gulag Archipelago. This massive multi-volume work presents the experience of the Soviet gulag camps in the form of numerous eyewitness accounts. Solzhenitsyn used many primary sources as background for the book, including his own recollections. Ten years in the making, the powerful true account was described by influential U.S. diplomat George F. Kennan as “the most powerful single indictment of a political regime ever to beleighed in modern times.”

Perhaps more than anyone in recent history, Solzhenitsyn has proved to mankind that it truly is possible for one man, even without a seat of power, to make a remarkable difference in the world. Given his contributions to the Russian and historical literary traditions, it is safe to say that Solzhenitsyn will continue on in our living memory, and in the memory of the world that he so dramatically changed.

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At the encouragement of the Russians, secessionists intensified regional violence. President Mikhail Saakashvili responded by sending Georgian troops to suppress the rebellions. Under the Russian Constitution, Russian forces have the right to intervene wherever Russian citizens (i.e. those with Russian passports) are being harmed, and thus, Russian forces “legitimately” invaded Georgia.

While the rest of the world was watching the Olympics, Russia easily occupied the entire northern half of Georgia, blockaded their Black Sea ports, and gained complete control of Georgian airspace in only four days. On August 12th, Russian President Dmitry Medvedev met with French President and European Union President-in-office Nicolas Sarkozy. Discussion focused on what Russia called a counterattack resulting from genocide by Georgian forces as well as the approval of a six-point peace plan.

With much coercion, President Sarkozy convinced President Saakashvili to agree to the Six-Point Plan, which, among other things, allows for the continued occupation of Georgian territory by Russian troops to act as peacekeepers. Widespread rumors of violence, arson, and theft have been reported under the watch of the peacekeepers.

On August 25th, the Federal Assembly of Russia voted to recognize Abkhazia and South Ossetia as sovereign nations, and called on the international community to do the same, citing the February 17, 2008 recognition of Kosovo’s independence from Serbia as an example. At present, no nations in the international community, besides Russia, have formally recognized Abkhazia or South Ossetia for fear the Russians will immediately annex the nations into the Russian Federation once they are declared independent.

After Norway reported sightings of Russian aircraft flying just north of their airspace, the United States and NATO have taken what they consider necessary military precautions, including sending ships to the Black Sea, inserting missiles in Poland, and placing former Soviet republics, specifically those in Eastern Europe, on high alert. Furthermore, on September 4th, Vice President Dick Cheney flew to Georgia as a representation of America’s commitment to the people there. During his visit, he met specifically with President Saakashvili to discuss the rebuilding of Georgia’s badly-damaged military and the ongoing efforts to incorporate Georgia into NATO. Cheney also met with leaders in Azerbaijan and Ukraine to discuss their future NATO membership. The ex-Soviet republics are being encouraged to gain membership as means of protection. This is a necessary precaution if the Russians decide to declare war on any of their former satellites; if they do, Russia will also be declaring war on 26 of the world’s most powerful democracies.

A summit will be held in Moscow on September 8th, to discuss what is to be done next regarding the increasingly hostile situation. Russia has announced it will be up to the West to determine what the future will hold, but promises any military action taken against Russia will be reciprocated. President Medvedev has said, “We are not afraid of anything, including the prospect of a new Cold War.”

Solzhenitsyn didn’t stop there. He became one of Russia’s most prolific writers, publishing over 30 works, including the ambitious Gulag Archipelago. This massive multi-volume work presents the experience of the Soviet gulag camps in the form of numerous eyewitness accounts. Solzhenitsyn used many primary sources as background for the book, including his own recollections. Ten years in the making, the powerful true account was described by influential U.S. diplomat George F. Kennan as “the most powerful single indictment of a political regime ever to beleighed in modern times.”

Perhaps more than anyone in recent history, Solzhenitsyn has proved to mankind that it truly is possible for one man, even without a seat of power, to make a remarkable difference in the world. Given his contributions to the Russian and historical literary traditions, it is safe to say that Solzhenitsyn will continue on in our living memory, and in the memory of the world that he so dramatically changed.
As Sarah Palin's 17 year old daughter faces an unexpected pregnancy, two students discuss the possible implications for Palin, her family, and her campaign.

CATHERINE SIMMERER
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

When John McCain announced Sarah Palin as his pick for the Republican vice presidential nomination, the conservative world celebrated; a fresh new face with a perfect record, just what was needed to fight the charismatic Obama. Palin was an ideal choice: pro-life and pro-liberty. A hockey fan, a mom of five, a beauty queen: the perfect touch.

Now she announces that her 17-year-old daughter Bristol is 5 months pregnant. Being pro-life, abortion is not an option. Some will say that this is an opportunity for Sarah Palin to prove to the world her standards on moral issues. Others will say this shows a lack of judgement, discretion, and control on her part as mom. Since 1992, she has been handling the reins of Alaska’s government, and doing a pretty decent job of it. Somewhere during those years, however, it appears she forgot to rein in her daughter.

Bristol and her boyfriend, Levi, are going to be married. How sweet! How perfect they are for each other! Sure, Bristol and Levi are considered above the age of consent in Alaska, but some states such as Arizona, California, and Tennessee consider such an affair statutory rape of a minor; had they been in one of these states, Levi might have been sent to jail. Looking at this from a moral and not a legal standpoint, however, their action was wrong; everyone seems to overlook this fact. You would think that a state governor would know this. Perhaps I am being judgmental, but the role of parents is to raise their children under the moral guidance of the Ten Commandments and God’s laws. What about “thou shalt not commit adultery”? So maybe it was an “accident.” So maybe Palin is really the best of moms, and Bristol has just gone astray on her own. But maybe, just maybe, Sarah Palin’s awe-inspiring work in the government has left a gap in her family life. With Mom at work 24/7, occupied in important business affairs, Bristol is left to make important decisions on her own. She is at the age of young adulthood, when inexperienced, insecure girls need Mom to give advice, care, and love. Without steady and constant guidance, anything can influence her judgment and tip the balance of her decisions.

Perhaps, if Palin had never gone into politics, this would never have happened. But then, we wouldn’t have had such a wonderful VP nominee.

HEATHER SHELL
COPY EDITOR

Last Sunday at church, the priest delivered a very stirring message in his homily. He asserted that if Jesus had been born today, the Pharisees would not have had to resort to crucifixion in an attempt to cripple his ministry. All they would have had to do is smear his reputation in the press, a practice the priest termed “character assassination.” My mind couldn’t help but stray to Sarah Palin. Don’t get me wrong— I’m not equating the current Republican candidate for the vice presidency to Jesus Christ; I am simply arguing that Governor Palin is indeed a victim of character assassination. The sad thing is, the brunt of the attack is not coming from the direction of the enemy camp, but from the members of her own political party.

Yes, it’s true— Palin’s teenage daughter is pregnant. It is a lamentable situation to be sure. Bristol made a choice that will dramatically change the course of her life. By entering into marriage and motherhood at the ripe age of seventeen, she is sacrificing innumerable experiences and opportunities, including much of what we as college students are experiencing now. Palin herself acknowledged that this pregnancy will cause their daughter to “grow up faster than we had ever planned.” The situation is regrettable, but what makes it absolutely tragic is the fact that it is being exploited and distorted in a manner that is both vicious and ridiculous. As difficult as it will be for Bristol to have and raise this child, I’m sure it was even more difficult for her to thrust herself into so harsh a limelight and allow herself and her actions to be bandied about in the press like a political liability. It is unjust and ignorant to presume that this incident in any way affects Governor Palin’s qualifications to serve our country in the White House. In fact, there could be no more concrete example of Palin’s conviction and commitment to what she believes to be true and right.

Mere months after choosing to give life to a child with Down’s Syndrome, her daughter’s decision to take the high road and not layer misdeed upon misdeed is evidence of the strength and validity of her political and personal positions. Palin proves that no matter the circumstances, she is a busy mother pregnant with a disabled baby or the most embarrassing and inconvenient of teenage pregnancies, nothing is worth taking the life of a child. Palin has handled this unexpected pregnancy with incredible grace and integrity, and only proves her ability to tackle any sticky situation of the national level with equal aplomb.

A New Perspective on the Cold War

Why CCA I had an important message for us all

EMILY WAGNER
QUEST COLUMNIST

During the first lecture of the Cold War CCA, given by Tatiana Yankelevich, I observed a contrast among the members of the audience. Of course it is easy to recognize that Phillips was filled with students trying to meet graduation requirements and somewhat more mature alumni, but along with the generation gap there was, I think, a difference in their reactions to the difficulties in the lives of Soviet Russians that Yankelevich addressed. While my fellow students and I applauded politely before and after Mrs. Yankelevich spoke, a number of those venerable alumni cheered and clapped vigorously at such phrases as “the Soviet Union was evil,” (an audience member, a septuagenarian woman with shockingly red-pink hair, loved that line) and “we must defend self-determination and freedom.” The feeling that emanated from them was that the grand battle across continents and decades is still real. They appeared to me like troops of soldiers who, satisfied with their overwhelming, triumphant victory, are still prepared to defend it tooth-and-nail against encroachments from any less tasteful border-nations of the West.

From my own personal experience, I cannot connect with their victory. I can feel (a feeling I am sure most Americans share) strongly affected by popular images of concentration camps and U-boats and the Bataan death march; those are real for me, somehow conveyed down the years through movies and museums. I can almost grasp the magnitude of it all. But the 50-odd years of living numb from fear of nuclear annihilation that was certain to come out of the skies at any moment, of safety drills whose designers seemed to believe that an inch of fake wood and metal on school desks was enough to save students from radioactive death, remains unknown to me. WWll’s offspring, the Cold War, isn’t something that pervades the

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Sartorial Review:
Fashion Week, Spring 2009 Ready-to-Wear

MARIA L. DONNIES
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

Fashion week is a semiannual event during which fashion houses showcase their designs for the upcoming season to the press, editors of fashion magazines, and buyers. Fashion week, an international venue, is located in the four fashion capitals of the world: New York City, London, Milan, and Paris. January through March, designers reveal their fall collections and September through November, designers present their spring lines. Held far in advance of the literal season, Fashion Week presents clothing to buyers so that they may have sufficient time to determine which styles to showcase and which to shut-out.

This year, fashion week kicked off to a fantastical start with spring 2009 resort-wear, showcased in New York from September 5-12. Encompassing the pragmatic glamour of the jet setting crowd and the simple elegance of those who travel to gorgeous destinations, resort collections can transition smoothly from the office to the Bahamas. Though casual, it retains the tailored sleekness and seemingly effortless sophistication of the fabulously affluent.

Prevalent colors found in the women’s spring lines include a fusion of cobalt blue, fluorescent pink, yellow, and orange, and the ever-classic white, and though the colors are expected, the cuts and patterns of spring attire are entirely whimsical. Versace implemented eye-popping shades of orange and blue throughout their line of body-skimming evening gowns and cocktail dresses abounding with intricate folds. The floral prints popularized for fall 2008 evolve into spring-worthy styles on vibrant cocktail dresses and pallid grey floral patterns abound on trench coats and evening gowns. Tie-dye, a pattern once reserved for camp children, takes an unexpectedly sophisticated approach on conservative skirts and office wear. Moroccan prints, a prominent spring trend, were seen most conspicuously in the Tory Burch and Nicole Miller lines. Exaggerated plaid patterns dominated Vera Wang along with the geometric color block pattern introduced earlier this year. Full skirts and ethnic-inspired, avant-garde jewelry continue into spring.

Men’s resort wear emphasized tribal patterns and vibrant hues. Bold, vertical stripes dramatically covered relaxed suits. Viktor and Rolf, among other designers, showcased Moroccan themed microprints and iridescent fabrics. Galliano and Louis Vuitton presented their signature, eye-popping hues of pink for spring. All white, well-tailored, relaxed suits dominated the runways along with cuffed shorts and slacks in classic white and khaki. Interesting accents hearkening back to old-world class found form in the polka dot and vertically striped bow ties in Dolce and Gabbana’s line.

Fashion week is captivating because every season, it reintroduces resurrected styles from previous eras such as the subdued, ladylike 40’s and the glam, over-the-top 80’s. Dictating the mood of an approaching season, the shows provide opportunities to experiment with looks one might not otherwise consider. How you carry and present yourself accounts for how others perceive you and depends a great deal upon clothing. One’s style is a revealing facet of one’s personality, crucial in both every day interactions and special occasions such as job interviews and first dates.

The invitations to the RNC premier read, “This film may be offensive to children, young people, old people, in the middle people, some people on the right, all people on the left, terrorists, war-mongers, Christians, Jews, Muslims, Atheists, Agnostics (though you’d have to prove it to them), the ACLU, liberals, conservatives, neo-cons, ex-cons, future cons, republicans, democrats, libertarians, people of color, people of no color, English speakers, English as a second language speakers, men, women, more women, and Ivy league professors. Native Americans should be okay.”

Given that warning, it is no surprise that An American Carol has already generated a great deal of publicity. Kevin Farley, brother of late SNL star Chris Farley, gained over twenty pounds to fill the role of Michael Malone, a documentary filmmaker out to crash America’s birthday party. Occupied by thoughts of the poverty, lack of healthcare, mistreatment of prisoners, and other assorted issues that plague the US, Malone’s arrogant attempt to scrap the Fourth of July sparks a visit from three spirits of history-past. Guiding Malone on a Scrooge-esque journey of self-discovery, John F. Kennedy, George Washington, and Gen. George Patton scarcely resemble their historic counterparts, but their message remains clear: the sacrifices of American heroes past and present deserve our admiration, remembrance, and respect.

Politically incorrect to an extreme, if you can survive a series of offensive jokes, this film comes highly recommended. An entertaining way to bite back at the liberalism of Hollywood, spend your time and money and see An American Carol.
I loved the looks on people’s faces when they found out I was going to the Bob Dylan concert.

“How old are you?” they would ask me, incredulous.

I would laugh it off, because with music, age has no limit. Music is timeless, and sustains beyond the lifetime of its composer: I’ll be listening to Dylan when I have one lifetime of its composer: I’ll be listening to Dylan when I have one lifetime of his harmonica.

I knew what Frank meant; Dylan’s later stuff really tugs at my heart strings to be sure, but not in the way I particularly like. When Jack Black posed the question to John Cusack in High Fidelity of whether it’s better for a musical artist to burn out or fade away, I always think of Bob. I always think he should have stopped while he was still ahead, instead of continuing on to record some of the worst music I’ve ever heard. Nevertheless, I bought a ticket and re-arranged my conflicting plans: after all, this is Bob Dylan.

And yet, I thought twice about buying a ticket. My friend Frank, another Bob Dylan aficionado, told me to go into the experience with an open mind.

“It’s not what you think, Julie,” he said. “It’s not what you’re expecting. Just go and appreciate the man and his music.”

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I remember the first time I heard Bob that night; it was dark, and we were late. My friend Sarah thought there would be an opening act, and we were surprised to hear his band’s strained chords across the parking lot when we arrived. A hollowed voice caught my ear, and I wondered who was singing. The vocalist couldn’t seem to catch his breath, or sing for more than a few short spurts. The songs were largely instrumental, presumably because this was the voice of a man who should be fed through a tube for the rest of his life. The voice came from the man who was playing the keyboard…and the harmonica?

A sharp pang of realization spread into the face of every classmate you pass, avoiding icy stares towards the open desk in the far back corner. The clock reads 9:15, and settling comfortably into your desk, pen in hand, you crack open your book and sit unapologetically, anxiously waiting for class to really begin.

Carry on, Professor-so-and-so, carry on.
Across:
1. Feté in the Arb
2. Occasion for Alums to return annually
3. Oldest building on campus
4. One-stop shopping -- like it or not
5. The best scoop in town
6. Muddy Waters crowd
7. Randall of the Preschool
8. Charger Hue
9. Hillsdale’s ____ is pretty preppy

Down:
2. The self-proclaimed “most popular” of its kind on Earth
4. They throw a swingin’ party
7. The Arnn Barn
8. Home of late-night soccer, juggling club, and giant snow turtles
10. George and Winston’s newest chum
11. Site of Hillsdale’s own “Globe Theater”
12. Cancer canter
13. Virtue rejoices in it
14. Ballot selection for many Hillsdale students*

* DON’T FORGET TO REGISTER AND REQUEST AN ABSENTEE BALLOT FOR NOVEMBER’S ELECTION!