

*Standard*. Shalit, author of a widely debated piece on racial hiring at *The Washington Post*, landed at *The New Republic* on a Network internship after her stint as editor of the *Princeton Sentinel*. So did Rees, who worked with *TNR*'s conservative pundit Fred Barnes after editing the *Review* at Wesleyan University in Connecticut. Theissen got his first break, an internship in the Reagan White House, through the Network as a junior at Vassar.

Many staffers at conservative campus publications also participate in expenses-paid internships sponsored by the National Journalism Center, an affiliate of the Education and Research Institute, a right-wing organization headed by M. Stanton Evans. NJC interns spend

six weeks working with the center's staff and another six working with writers and editors at conservative media like *Human Events* and *National Empowerment Television*. Bernadette Malone, the 1993-1994 editor of the *Binghamton Review* at the State University of New York at Binghamton, interned through the Center last year with conservative columnist and talk-show host Robert Novak. Malone is now a full-time Novak staffer. John Fund of *The Wall Street Journal*'s editorial page is another notable NJC alumnus.

No less important to the movement is the Leadership Institute, a tax-exempt conservative group headed by Morton Blackwell, a former Reagan aide and

# Who's Who

BY SUSAN THREADGILL

- *Jil Sander Meets Armani*
- *More Monkey Business*
- *Threadgill Blamed for Hill Defeat*

We always like to think that the Democrats are the party of the people. But a friend overheard this conversation at the convention in Chicago. Man to woman who had just gotten on the elevator: "Don't I know you? Weren't you wearing a **Jil Sander** suit at \_\_\_'s lunch?" Woman: "Yes! You were wearing an **Armani** with the same fabric." They must have been lobbyists. . . .

Speaking of flush lobbyists, another convention source tells us about a casino lobbyist who presented

**Richard Gephardt** with a \$20,000 contribution to the party—twice the amount Gephardt was expecting. He was so touched that he invited the lobbyist to share his convention skybox. . . .

We promise to lay off **Dick Morris** items for at least a month—okay, our fingers are crossed—but we can't resist giving you these two comments about the solicitous calls **Bill Clinton** and **Al Gore** made to the consultant. "They acted," observed **Richard Cohen**, "as if Morris had been hit by a car on the way to do volunteer work at a homeless shelter."

"When **Lani Guinier** . . . was forced to withdraw because of her beliefs—not her misconduct—she didn't get a call, so why does Dick Morris?" asked **Susan Estrich**. We also like **Lance Morrow**'s explanation of the motive behind the calls: "[F]or God's sake, keep Dick on the reservation." . . .

Had you lost track of **Billy Broadhurst**? Aficionados of political scandal will recall that Broadhurst was **Gary Hart**'s companion in fun and games. It was Broadhurst who chartered the Monkey Business, the boat that took Hart and **Donna Rice** to the Bahamas. Last month, he was

indicted for fraud by a federal grand jury in Louisiana, accused of skimming money from construction contracts for two floating casinos in New Orleans. . .

How would **Bob Dole** perform the executive part of being chief executive? Not very well, implies a long article in *The New York Times* by **Elizabeth Kolbert** and **Adam Nagourney**. If you didn't get past the first page, you may have missed such quotes as "more adept at dealing with his peers than his subordinates" (**Barbara Sinclair**, a UCLA scholar), "didn't have a regular and easy relationship with people who were subordinates" (**Norman Ornstein** of the American Enterprise Institute), and "Dole has trouble leading large organizations. Being his White House Chief of Staff could be sheer hell" (**William B. Lacy**, a former top Dole aide).

The quotes we like best were, as they often are, from anonymous aides. One said: "The way decisions are communicated by him is through reverse Socratic method. You find out what the decision is by the questions you ask him—not because he's come over to tell you what he's decided."

Another observed that Dole rarely explains his decisions. "He

leader of the College Republicans during the 1960s. Largely with funds garnered from direct mail efforts (Blackwell worked for conservative direct-mail guru Richard Viguerie in the 1970s), the Institute provides grants to start conservative student papers and trains the papers' staffs through the "student publications schools" it runs in Washington and around the nation. Participants in the two-day sessions get nuts-and-bolts advice on starting conservative student publications, including lectures on "fighting the campus left." Recent presenters include Major Garrett, the *Washington Times* political correspondent, and Kevin Pritchett, the former *Dartmouth Review* editor and *Wall Street Journal*

editorial page staffer who is now an aide to Senate Majority Leader Trent Lott.

Conservatives may grouse about the hurdles they face in getting their perspectives heard in the media. But if the swelling ranks of influential alumni of the student newspaper network are a measure, conservatives don't need to be pitied so much as emulated. Conservative organizations have secured their voice on campus by offering students a moveable feast of money, contacts, and programs. Whatever the excesses of the conservatives' campus crusade, no one can argue that the right isn't getting a substantial return on its investment.

gives you a conclusion but no insight. You can't guess from a prior decision how he might make a future decision." ...

In his new book, *Bare Knuckles and Back Rooms*, **Ed Rollins** says that **Ross Perot** accused him of being part of a CIA conspiracy to sabotage Perot. The Texas eccentric was convinced, according to Rollins, that **George Bush** had put Rollins on the CIA payroll to wreck the Perot campaign. ...

**Willie Brown**, the mayor of San Francisco and the former speaker of the California Assembly, has been chosen one of its "humanitarians of the year" by a California chapter of the American Cancer Society. Hmmm. You may recall from a Who's Who item just a couple of months ago that, before he was overtaken by **Bob Dole**, Brown, according to one study, was the leading recipient of campaign contributions from the tobacco industry. "Willie Brown is probably responsible for more lung cancer and more kids smoking in the state of California than any other politician except maybe Pete Wilson," **Stanton Glantz**, the author of the study and a professor

at the University of California at San Francisco, told *The San Francisco Examiner*. ...



An informed source says **Scott Reed** is running the Dole campaign as a manager, not a strategist. It appears the campaign's only strategist is **Bob Dole** himself. In light of the *Times*' story above, that may explain why the campaign has been troubled. ...

Last month, a reader from Bozeman, Montana, wrote complaining that a Who's Who item in our July/August issue had been unfair to Democratic

Congressional candidate **Bill Yellowtail**. Haunted by images of headlines like "Threadgill Blamed for Yellowtail Defeat," we hasten to balance our reporting with this recent news about Yellowtail's opponent, **Rick Hill**, who has boasted that, in contrast to Yellowtail's failure to pay child support, he was devoted to his own children and "had fought hard to have the right to be part of their lives." But the *Helena Independent Record News* notes that when Hill first filed for divorce, he sought to give his wife custody of their three sons. Maybe he had good reason for wanting her to have custody. Then again, maybe Yellowtail had a good reason for not paying child support. ...

We all know there has been a decline in civility in Congress, and many of us, including this magazine, pin most of the blame on Gingrichites. But it should be noted that when things have actually gotten physical, it's been Democrats who were to blame. Democrat **Sam Gibbons** yanked the tie of Republican **Bill Thomas**, and Democrat **Jim Moran** administered what *The Washington Post* describes as a "stiff shove" to Republican **Duke Cunningham**. ...

Jay Lincoln

# GIs: Not Your Average Joes

*What the military can teach us about race, class, and citizenship*

BY AMY WALDMAN

**L**ike much of southeast Washington, D.C., 8th Street has seen better days. But at the corner of I Street sits one local landmark unscarred by age, crime, poverty, or neglect—a symbol, you might say, of tradition untouched by progress: the U.S. Marine Corps barracks.

Amid urban chaos, it is an oasis of order. A guard mans the gate; inside, crisply uniformed men and women move with purpose. The lush, manicured parade, maintained by a horticulturist and a staff of 20, spreads to the foot of the commandant's residence. From the band room drift sounds of the United States Marine Band—"The President's Own"—rehearsing a haunting classical refrain.

But not only the physical contrast to the surrounding streets is stark: Those who live within this haven's walls are a breed apart as well. The young enlisted Marines I meet, none older than 24, have poise and self-possession well beyond their years. They carry themselves with pride and speak in modulated tones, their words laced heavily with "ma'ams." Their answers are thoughtful. They have come, by and large, from the South, and from the working class, the children of seamstresses and social workers, farmers and factory workers. But from the first day of boot camp they abandon their inherited identities to be reborn into the military class.

They signed up for many reasons—patriotism, opportunity, challenge, to find their mettle. Corporal Gabriel Ford, 21, enlisted three years ago after growing up on a West Virginia farm and deciding college wasn't for him. His parents divorced early, and he wanted to make something of himself before making a commitment like marriage. The Marines promised

to make the most of him. "They break you down to ground zero," he says, "and then build you up. You realize you can be a leader, that you have all these qualities that you never knew you had."

For others, the lure is practical. Corporal Adrian Santiago, 21, was born in Mexico and raised in Chicago, where a persuasive Marine recruiter snagged him on the cusp of high school and adulthood. The recruiter convinced him that the Corps offered what he wanted from life: the chance to travel; to grow up; to afford more education. Such blandishments may seem to have cultish echoes, but they all happen to be true. Indeed, they are time-honored reasons for military service. Chief Warrant Officer Joe Boyer says he signed up 20 years ago because everyone from his Illinois small town high school was "going to the farm or going to work at Caterpillar to make bulldozers." Neither option appealed to him; slaying dragons and seeing the world did.

Yet Boyer says civilians have told him he must have gone into the military because he was too stupid to do anything else. This white male Midwesterner looks at me and says, "I am a stereotyped minority." He's right. Among the well-educated and well-off, the perception persists that the military is the blue-collar option of last resort.

Twenty-five years ago, that notion had some merit. Once the educated began to evade the draft, and then were let off the hook entirely by the draft's end, the military became a place for people with few options. Drunkenness, drug use, desertion, illiteracy, and racial tension were rife. Forty percent of Army recruits were high school dropouts.

But beginning in the early 1980s, the armed forces began raising standards and requiring, if not a high school diploma, at least a GED (and only a tiny per-