

The Big Picture: When IDRISI ruled the world

and the number of people in the administration doubled. Presumably, this was to handle the additional workload caused by the enslavement of faculty, staff, and children to further the IDRISI Project and help the aliens.

The 70s had taught Balcunas that an organized, informed student body is nothing but trouble. To that end he arranged for a scandal to break the back of the student press here.

Specifically, in 1983, the Spree Day parody of the Scarlet, called the Harlot, contained a three-page insert called Jew-S-A Today. It contained a number of debatably anti-gay, anti-Jew, and anti-black comments, and caused

a massive outcry. The first response was from the administration, not surprisingly, many for whom were working for IDRISI. They stuffed every students mailbox with a two-page letter viciously attacking the Scarlet, and reprimanding them for their poor taste.

This antagonized the Scarlet considerably, and the Managing Editor wrote a column attacking the administration and defending the Scarlet's lack of judgement. This served to alienate the student body even more, and come next fall, the Scarlet's staff was cut to half of what it used to be, with all the senior editors resigned or graduated. The Scarlet has never recovered from this loss of campus-wide credibility.

With the student

body cut out of the info loop, and the key administrators now under IDRISI's control, Balcunas was able to implement both IDRISI's and the aliens' agendas with no fear of discovery, dissent, or complications.

Over time, many of the features of today's campus were installed. We look and wonder, but they know we will never ask out loud:

- The radar dishes on the roof of the University Center.
- The huge unaccounted-for spaces in three corners of Tilton Hall
- The secret pool beneath Atwood Hall
- Why Physical Plant is too busy to press new keys or install phone lines

- Why Campus Police insists on signing out keys, can't handle the Card-Entry system, and is very selective in whom they bust
- Why IDRISI has their own building, but everyone but Admissions has to share
- The secret floors of Jonas Clark
- The University Park Plan, the most desperate PR campaign ever attempted
- The shutting off of Shirley Street, Woodland Street, and possibly Downing Street
- Those weird streaks in the ground where snow and rain won't collect
- The disappearance of the campus dogs
- DAKA's existence here for 22 years
- Jack Foley's mustache
- The mysterious removal of Dana Commons from student use

- Why Clark spends millions trying to "help" Main South and yet guarantees the neighborhood's death by bringing all college-type services on campus
 - The extraterrestrial idiocy of the University Center design
 - Admissions' scruples about representing the school
 - Student Council paying \$15000 for the electronic message board
 - David Milstone and the Residential Death and Housing gestapo
 - The fact that colorful pillars of wax were a "fire hazard" for many years
 - The Sackler elevator
 - The inexplicable inability of the Vax to upload
 - That idiot in the Cougar outfit
- [Please see the Timeline Comparison on the next page for more "coincidences."]



Balcunas can clearly be seen taking a reading from the transmitter



Psychology Professor David Stevens shows WheatBread investigator Bill Evans alien notes in the study of human psychology and effects of mind-control drugs.



The former command center of the alien spacecraft rises above the Clark landscape, converted into a library pending future use.

Students React to Disclosure of Alien Involvement

by Tatyana Populas

Clark students had mixed reactions to the recent disclosure of alien involvement at the University. Feelings ranged from shock and surprise to emphatic denial to bombastic indifference.

Student Council president Chris Condon tried to instate a feeling of calm, and assured that he and Tom would take action. "The coming days will see this issue weighing heavily on the minds of the students, and to that end, Tom and I have drafted a petition to the administration."

President Conden later added, off the record, that he was somewhat concerned about being abducted and that he hadn't seen Tom for days.

Many students, still fresh from films like Independence Day and The Arrival, and television series such as Friends, expressed concern. All around campus, the effects could be seen, from Campus Green to Grind Central. Some were simply in shock, mulling about the U.C., eyeing the electronic message board suspiciously.

Others felt depressed. Large groups of students could be seen drooped about like unsuspecting subjects in a Salvador Dali painting. Even the hackey circles felt the effect, as participants resorted to simply dropping the sack on the ground and staring at it.

A disaffected Jody Gray mused, "I'm terrified about this. I mean, like I don't even know how to react—I'm numb... do you know if there's a party on Florence street tonight? One that the pigs won't bust?" Senior Benden Sheehan took a more direct view. "This is just one more reason that Clark sucks."

Other students were more reflective. "I'm shocked, really," exclaimed John Macey, "But it really explains a lot of things. Like why DAKA was here for so long, because they [the aliens] obviously ate, like, houseplants or something, right? Not food."

"That's totally bizarre. But it kind of makes sense," added Else Berendes. "I mean, just look at the way they run this place."

Senior John Spelman was even more forthcoming. "It figures. I think we all had our suspicions about [Mike] Dennis, but this is just [expletive] perfect. It

certainly explains why the administration is so unfocused on student life and student needs."

George Gilpatrick was in agreement. "Absolutely! That totally explains the flagpole."

Some students, especially those in their first year, did not seem alarmed and even expressed enthusiasm at the turn of events. Bullock and Wright were abuzz with the news, the sound of happy chatter and Space Hog wafting out over the quads. "After all, college is a place and time of new ideas," says Clark News.

Emily Gerard, first-year student, expressed initial excitement at the idea, proclaiming "This adds a whole new element to Clark's diversity." She further added, "This is exactly what I expected from the Viewbook."

Sociology major Amy Weisenfeld appeared delighted at the news, stating "Randy, write something funny for me to say."

Junior and Student Council Treasurer Abou Fall displayed a more guarded optimism. "On the surface it does not appear to be a problem, but I have to look at the numbers more closely."

Junior Robert Mohns, Senior Forest Lee and recent graduate Mark Garriepy appeared undaunted and even intrigued by the alien presence, insisting that they "were probably Goths with really cool piercings."

Some Clarkies were just angry.

"I can't believe it!" exclaimed Junior Cari Morin. "With all

these aliens running around, its no wonder we can't field a decent arts department."

Brian Caruso agreed. "No wonder this institution is such a capitalist enterprise. It was bad enough that my tuition was going to crap like UPNRP and WheatBread. But this systematic hoarding of tuition money for some kind of weird alien shit is ridiculous."

Senior Sam Pulda also expressed a negative view, stating, "I just can't believe with that all the money we pay to go to school here, we have to put up with this. We should be able to party any time we want, without any interference from RA's, the cops, or power-mad space aliens intent on global domination."

But being the panacea of diversity that is Clark, reactions were more random than anything else.

"That's why I can never find a book in the library," remarked crew powerhouse Erinn Gerry. "And it explains Housing's eagerness to keep everyone on campus."

"You all fail!" chortled newly appointed faculty member and PhD candidate Steve Guo. "Just kidding."

Peter Kaskan,

upon hearing the news, glanced toward the library and muttered, "Waste of bricks."

Nathan Kleinberger seemed unsettled. "I liked it better when I just thought the administration was incompetent."

Junior Rachel Eisner bluntly remarked: "No wonder the library is so fucked up."

Senior Mike Cross reminisced: "I guess that's why I spent the first three months of my freshman year lost in the basement of Sackler."

"Well, I guess, in the end," contemplated Economic major Ari Herzog, "it really doesn't change a whole lot."

Junior Jim Levesque seemed unaffected by the revelations, extemporizing, "What?"



George Gilpatrick '98 was one of dozens of students to react to the news this week.