Dead Moines
**Editor's Note**

*Ethos* is back. Did you forget about us last summer while tanning on the beach or working those fab internships? If you have, allow me to reintroduce us. We're *Ethos,* the magazine that just won't go away. And we're back for a full year coming to you with four big issues.

We're better than ever. We've got new digs in Hamilton Hall with a blurred view of the women's bathroom. The constant noise of flushing is slightly distracting, but we're tough. We can take it.

As a result of the move, we're no longer mistaken for the computer lab monitors downstairs. As they'll tell you, we know absolutely nothing about computers. From what we understand, there's some sort of crank you have to turn in the back, right? Is this thing on?

But seriously, we're back for you. Without you reading our little book, we're just wasting paper. And we've changed a little bit. Maybe matured some. You might even say we're refined ourselves over the summer.

We're trying to give ISU students want they want: Sex, drugs and rock'n'roll. OK, that's not all students want, but you get the idea. This magazine it written, edited and designed by students, not the journalism faculty, nor our parents and nor the blurry figures in the women's bathroom. Unless they're students.

"Shortcuts" and "How to," have been banished to magazine hell (a little refined), but don't fret. We've got a whole new section for ya that actually reads like a real magazine. "Jibba Jabber," page 4, debuts this issue and will fill you in on the crazy stuff happening on campus and in the world. We breakdown Iowa State University's "Top 5 Talkers," interview an intriguing campus personality and give our wicked sweet entertainment pick. We also have a new section called, "Huh," which examines the perplexing strangeness of our society.

But before you get that short-attention span-inspired information fix, flip to our cover story, "Dead Moines," page 16. Our capital city's been comatose for years. That's not a secret. *Ethos* Copy Chief Kate Kompas sees how bad it really is and what can be done to revive our sleeping neighbor to the south.

On a similar note, what's up with the lack of diversity in Iowa's radio scene? Little hint: It's not your radio's fault. It's the usual suspects, corporate money-grubbing clones, *Ethos* resident entertainment expert and Senior Editor Bethany Kohoutek explores why every channel sounds alike in her story, "Tuning Out Diversity," page 8. She'll tell you why we're nowhere near a "new music revolution."

Sept. 11 is still on everyone's mind, and rightfully so. Having just been to New York City, I had several anxious moments following the attacks. I'm sure we all have, but it's weighing heavy on some of your peers' minds because they'll be protecting our freedom here and possibly abroad. Senior Editor Jacqui Becker introduces you to those brave souls in "Ready to Serve," page 11.

Editor-in-chief David Roepke, who is merely a figurehead, tries to sort out what to think about America's response to Sept. 11 in his commentary, page 31. He'll write an essay for the back of the magazine each issue, in a column we call "Last Man Standing."

Katie Robb's alleged false accusations of being kidnapped and raped at gunpoint by four African-American men provoked a lot of debate on this campus. Darryl Frierson is new to *Ethos* and his thought-provoking essay, "Black Man, White Campus," page 28, tackles the stigma attached to African-American students at Iowa State. He may not change your perception, but he'll make you think about how far we have and how far we haven't come.

For something lighter, check out Senior Editor Paul Kix's muscled-up story, "You So Sexy," page 14. You're going to get up close and personal with some vain bodybuilders with a lot of veins popping out.

And it just wouldn't be right if I didn't do something silly this issue, "The Laugh Track," page 24. Some of your fellow former Iowa Staters are working the clubs and taking the classes so they can be big stars someday. One of them already is.

Thanks for picking up our first issue. We hope you read it cover to cover. We think we've put together a tight edition. If you agree or disagree, we want to know.

Rip us, cheer us, cuss us and tell us what you want to see in the magazine. If we're not serving you, if you don't put this magazine down and think, "Hey, that was pretty cool," then we're not doing our job. So drop us a line. We're tired of opening an empty mailbox. All we ever get is fliers from the university's marketing machine. It would be nice to get a piece of mail from an actual student. We can take the pain and the praise, we promise. Just keep it above the waist and in good taste. And, of course, keep reading.

Until next time,

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