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As mentioned earlier, our memory is not like a tape recorder. The memory only actually retains a general sense of our experience, the meaning, the gist, if you will, of what happened to us. And through the network of synapses, we can recall the events as our brains have interpreted them.

Contrary to a common belief that being afraid will embed a memory into your brain, when under stress, details of a traumatic event can be impaired or even manipulated.

At most police stations, the witness of a crime either looks through mug shots or picks and chooses through a menu of facial features until an artist or computer creates a composite, but re-researchers have found that these techniques actually impair the memory to be static what they are actually doing is overlaying the imprint of memory with all of the new additional prints, just as they would be overlaying fingerprints on a murder weapon if they had handed it to several bare handed people.

Dr. Andy Morgan of Yale university has found that when stress, measured by hormone levels, is extremely high witnesses ability to identify a suspect is extremely impaired. When subjects were shown a police like line-up and asked to identify the person that had interrogated them the day before during a highly stressful military exercise they could not. But yet, when shown a photo array of several people, 34% correctly identified their interrogator. When shown one picture at a time instead of all at once, accuracy did increase to about 49%. Morgan says that stress is the key, the more stress a witness registers the less accurate they are.

So in a high stress event Morgan found that whether you did live line-ups, photo spreads or sequential photo line-ups, you would have done better flipping a coin. Morgan also found that confidence has absolutely no relationship to accuracy. Those who failed testing claimed to be absolutely sure without a doubt in their mind that the person they picked was the interrogator.

Police line-ups pose these types of problems, different methods of identifying, equal different results. Regardless of what the studies have revealed, only a handful of cities are making reforms. Some departments are reluctant to change because they know that witnesses will not only make fewer mistakes, they'll pick out fewer suspects, too. And everyone knows, we couldn't have that.

Intuition tells us that some memories are indelible, but research shows other otherwise when it comes to memory we often can't trust our own eyes. Next month I'll try and explain how Post traumatic stress disorder affects memory. This is just FOR WHAT IT'S WORTH.

Ride Safe
Chuck

The Next Generation of Biker™

Well, it's about time we get some more of the kids involved here on the pages of Free Riders Press. So without further a do, I give you "the next generation of bikers".



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JUNE 24-25, 2005

Featuring: **Heartsfield**

SCHEDULE

Friday 6/24
 Gates Open: 3pm
 Insomniac Gypsy: 9pm-1am
 Gates Close: 2am

Saturday 6/25
 Gates Open: 8am
 Dealers : 1pm-5pm
 Pig Roast: 5pm-6pm
 Heartsfield: 6pm-10pm
 Wet T-Shirt Contest: 10pm-11pm
 Tuck Pence: 11pm-???

MUST BE 21 TO ENTER

***FREE** { BEER, ROOT BEER, CAMPING }

Free beer and tap rootbeer (6/24) (6/25)
 Campers welcome to set up Wednesday (6/22)
At: BONERS AGAIN IN NEKOOSA, WI
 4 miles south of Rainbow Casino, Turn right (west) onto 3rd St. East by Smuggler's Bar & grill

TICKETS ON SALE AT:
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