WPI students teach kindergartners how to graph

What do M&Ms, circles and squares, and Gummy Bears have to do with math? For the 24 five-year-olds in Dot Shea's kindergarten class at city View Magnet School in Worcester, these familiar objects helped them understand the principles of graphing. data collecting and statistical analysis. Led by a team of four Worcester Polytechnic Institute juniors, the children, who worked in groups of six, were able to predict how many objects of a certain color were in a set, sorted each set by color or shape, put the objects on a graph, and discussed how close their estimations came to the actual quantities.

Bruce W. Army, Eric A. Keener, David M. Perri, and Rick W. Porter, prepared and presented five lessons based on the guidelines and standards of the National Council of Teacher of Mathematics (NCTM), which suggest that young children be introduced to math through the use of items they recognize, and thus become comfortable with math and see its many uses. Shea's class, like others at City View, is comprised of students from virtually all of the city's economic, social, ethnic and racial backgrounds. Shea taught follow-up lessons after the WPI students completed their project.

The students completed their research to satisfy their Interactive Qualifying Project (IQP) requirement. Dahlin Tang, assistant professor of mathematics, was the project advisor.

Francis J. Trainor, head of WPI's School College Collaboration in Mathematics and Science Education, says this IQP is one example of the kinds of projects the Institute is involved in under the collaboration, which was created in 1988 to strengthen ties with local school systems and to work closely with them in meeting the challenges of creating a restructured, relevant curriculum. By doing so, WPI acknowledges that education is a continuing process from kindergarten to college, and that linkage between vari-

ous educational levels is essential.

"One of our lessons involved building blocks," says Perri. "We showed the children photographs of buildings and had them duplicate the shapes with the blocks, then place the blocks on the graph paper to construct a real graph. We asked them to make distinctions between specific columns, to see the most popular shape, and how many more of one shape there was than of another. They had little trouble with the concepts."

"This was a very positive experience for my students," says Shea. "It's wonderful that college students are getting interested in the elementary schools. They were very enthusiastic and patient with the children and served as excellent role models. Most kindergarten children know how to count to 10 but they do not have a concept of what 10 means. The WPI students helped the children move from rote counting to number concepts." Shea says she tested the children some-

time after the lessons ended to determine if they retained the graphing concepts they learned. "Seventy-five percent of the children were successful," she says.



PHOTO COURTESY OF WPI NEWS SERVICE

From left: WPI juniors David Perri, Eric Keener, Bruce Army and Rick Porter with their advisor, Assistant Professor Dalin Tang.

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New Voices X reveals the meaning of life

by Ken Botwinick Class of '92

This past week, from Wednesday to Saturday, was the tenth New Voices, a festival of WPI student written and performed plays. If you know anything about the social life here at WPI, you must know that some of the social events have poor turnouts.

New Voices, however, has always been an exception to this rule. I've attended New Voices for the past four years and it has always packed the house. Something else it always seems to do is amaze me, and if you know me, you know I'm not easily impressed.

You can usually guess what the plots of the plays are going to address: typical idealism, rebellion, coming of age, love, contemplation of the future, etc. By the time you reach college you've pretty much seen most of these themes rehashed a million times. The originality of the New Voices X plays,

WPI students honored by Spencer Institute

by Prof. Wilkes Social Sciences

In a small ceremony on the WPI Campus, Dr. Jack Porter, Director of the Spencer Institute for Business and Society announced the winners of the Spencer Institute Essay competition on the C.P. Snow "Two Cultures" debate. The Winner of the \$50.00 first prize was WPI Freshman Thomas Russell, an interdisciplinary major. The two second prizes of \$25.00 each went to Ross Weyman and Thomas Purcell. Ross was at the London Project Center, but he was told he'd won before he left. Honorable Mention certificates went to Steven Backer, Joseph Carpentier, Brian Raymond, Benjamin Kibler and Anthony Gonzalez - all of WPI.

In his comments Porter said that he was impressed by the extent to which the competition was dominated by technologists who had given attention to the humanities and social sciences, largely due to the 18 WPI submissions. The contestants from liberal arts colleges were outnumbered 6:1 in the end and showed less feel for the technical culture than the technical people did for the humanistic fields. WPI's "technological humanists" swept all three prizes in the contest, largely because so many dared to tackle an issue many others were reluctant to

address

Porter offered a challenge to his audience, vowing to run the contest again next year, possibly with a different (though related) topic. Next year he hoped more people would explore the potential pivotal role of the social sciences, and especially, sociology, in bridging the "two cultures." Someone from the audience suggested that it was not clear whether the social sciences were in a strategic position or caught in the crossfire, but that they had noticed elements of each in their first contact with sociology. Indeed, the 18 WPI students that moved in and dominated the Spencer student essay competition were all members of Professor John Wilkes' introductory sociology class, SS1202 in B term of this academic year. Most had heard of this classic debate for the first time in that class, and took advantage of Wilkes' offer to let their essays stand

as term papers for the class.

Some members of the WPI Chapter of Student Pugwash urged that the next round of the contest involving WPI contributions not be limited to the members of a single class. In their view, the topic was a good one for independent studies and writing in other classes as well as a subject someone might want to tackle on their own without getting course credit if they knew about it well in advance.

however, continually looked at even the most mundane themes from a refreshing viewpoint. The audience was constantly intrigued, if not completely hanging off the edge of their seats. If you didn't go see New Voices, it is hard to recap every play for you here, but to give credit where credit is due, some of my favorites were: Run Rabbit Run, by Kyle Outlaw; Hats, by Duane Morin and Rob Douglas; Cloud Chamber, by Charles Lyons; A Form of Love Story, by Timothy McInerney; Sabel, by Kelli Clark; and Quintus

Pryde II, by Robert H. Tarr.

Adding to the excitement was Some Assembly Required, WPI's own improvisational theater group. These guys were whacked. You could never tell what they were going to do from one minute to the next, which was obviously their main attraction. Since most of their show was based on audience participation, they didn't even know what they would end up doing. By stringing together different situations suggested by the audience, or by having conversations where the audi-

ence could fill in key words, the whole experience felt like one big Mad Lib. It was great fun and a welcomed change of pace between plays.

The acting in New Voices X was impressive considering how much work the actors had between rehearsal and their normal course load. Sometimes, however, I felt that the actors were just reciting the script with some inflections here and there, instead of actually performing it. But taking into consideration that WPI is an engineering school and not a school for the performing arts, everyone should be commended for a job well done. Bravo! A handful of the actors were very talented, however, being less "rigid" and much more believable than the others. They made you feel like you were watching real life, instead of a student play. A few of my favorite actors and actresses from New Voices X were: Michael Bleyhl, Aedin Culhane, Jonathan Davis, Craig Johnson, Jim Moore, Kristin Sullivan, and Jim Tyrell. Look out for these people in the future.

The New Voices experience is an exciting and memorable one. It is one of the few campus activities that truly unites everybody with a common cause; to analyze the weirdness in life, or be entertained by it. If you missed New Voices this year, I would suggest never missing it again. If you did see it this year, pat the writers and actors that you know personally on the back. Let them know what a wonderful service they provided for their peers, and get them to do it again next year. Our campus is like an empty box. You only get out of it what you put in to it. Let's keep putting in great efforts like New Voices X!

Oh yeah, I told you that New Voices X revealed the meaning of life. Guess you want to know what the elusive answer is, huh? According to the play, Inmate Conversations, which depicted many subtle wisdoms, the meaning of life is one of two things. Either it is "being surrounded by people that you love and that love you in return", or it is "being able to hit the toilet with your pee". You decide.

Judiciary board candidates

Elections today in Daniels Hall

Anthony Doherty

My name is Anthony Doherty and I am seeking the position of student justice for Campus Hearing Board in today's election. I am presently a junior majoring in Civil/Environmental Engineering. Since transferring to WPI in the fall, I have become very involved on campus. I have been in Student Government since A-Term, when I was elected Senator, and I was recently elected Senator at Large for next year. One of my primary responsibilities in SGA is serving as the Assistant Treasurer for Class One Student Organizations. I am also involved in the ASCE and the Green Earth Movement. I feel that my involvement on campus qualifies me for the position of student justice. Please remember my name, Anthony Doherty, when casting your vote TODAY in Daniels Hall.

Mike Kruczynski

In my two years at WPI, I have always fought for what I believed in. Upperclassmen may remember the way that I fought to keep the bowling lanes open. Even though I was not successful, at least they are now open for the last few weeks of school. Freshmen can also go and see improvements in DAKA. Though there are still many problems to be solved, Bob Tonning and I have worked hard to let DAKA and the school know that it is time for improvement. Don't vote for Mike Kruczynski because you know him. Vote for Mike Kruczynski because you know that he fights for what he believes in.

See 'Hearing Board' page 4

Reviews A Poppin returns

See page 4

Poll Results: the wait is almost over

See next issue



for all Manufacturing majors or SME mem-

bers. There is no charge for this as the SME is providing the food. It will be held on the lower

lawn of Higgins House. Food will be cooked

and available from 12:00 until 1:30. An activ-

ity such as volleyball will be available for

anyone wishing to participate. If a rain date is

necessary, the BB'Q will be held the following

day, Thursday, at the same time. Hamburgs,

hotdogs, salad, chips, soda, and condiments are on the menu. If you have questions, call Kyle Lebouitz at 795-0765 or Derek Smith at

Women's Chorale

The "Messiah" went quite well. In fact, It

A special thanks goes to the Glee Club, for

1) This Thursday is Bagel Day for Group 2.

If you need directions, call Esther, or any-

one who might have them. Hopefully, every-

one will come. Well...since next week is finals,

this will be our last Club Corner for the year.

So,we say farewell to Mags, Alicia, and Janet.

We'll miss you, next year. Come and visit,

sometime. To everyone else, have an awesome

summer! And, we'll see you in September!

2) Tonight is the end-of-year party!

was great! We'll have to do it again sometime.

inviting us to sing with them, and for a couple

831-5037. See you there!

of unforgettable parties.

Don't Forget!

CLUB CORNER Alpha Phi Omega

Hi everyone! Pledges, are you ready? Tonight is the brother induction at 7:30. The officer's meeting is tomorrow at 6:00 in Salisbury Lounge. Summer party date is set for July 17, 18, and 19 at Sue's cottage. Oh, and Dave, please look both ways before crossing the street. -Jen

How can you have an orgy without a bowl and spoon?...Screech...Twack!...Hey, Dave, watch out for that car!... I got the plate number, we can sue...Our president, road kill...Actually, you know, I was rooting for the car...The present pledge class rules...What's the deal with the professor?...Chloe ate him (the professor, that is)...Chloe is greek for road pizza...Kevin it's his lab...I would like to thank all the little people out there for a great Fellowship project. That was awesome... Let's see, that was chicken fried rice, sweet and sour chicken, and Jordan chicken, right?...I worked for Walden Woods and all I got was this...CMON guys, kill someone. The cops are getting bored...Keith, I cleaned up the kitchen. Cool, huh?...Jason, where'd ya go? Reeses and Juicy Fruit. You missed it ... Good job at the pieeating contest guys, maybe next time you'll beat the sororities...Whoa-what's that? Voting took how long?.@#\$%^! Musn't have been there...I did kill someone, now catch me...Ema, where are you? I'm hungry... Kansas City sucks, I wanna see Minnesota...Someone still owes me a dinner(squeek, squeek)...Don't worry, you're still the sweetest... Happy B-day (woof, woof- peanut butter). Get a dog?...Pledges shouldn't have to sit through voting!...Hey, how's your mouth, Keith? A bit hot, eh?...Mama, I'm coming home!...Duhvoting?...Congrats to Sue on her hat trick at Recognition!!

AUSA

AUSA is sponsoring a Bowl-a-thon on this Friday at 6 pm in Alumni Gym. Remember to get your pledge sheets filled before you arrive.

For all of you non-members, if you are approached to donate a pledge please help us out. The Bowl-a-thon will benefit the Central Massachusetts Shelter for Homeless Veterans. It is located in the old National Guard Armory downtown. They need funds and receive a lot of it from private donations so please pledge whatever you can. For more information contact one of the Army ROTC cadets you see.

Fencing Club

Our last Fencing Meet, at UMASS, left with

A job well done, considering we entered the competition several people short of a full team. A special note of appreciation to these people, who competed in weapon groups other than their own, to fill in for missing team members, you saved the day!

Lens and Lights

We did not have an article last week because Dude was busy at an event and did not have time that night to type one up. But not too much has happened since then. We are still looking for new members. If you are at all interested, we meet just about every week in AK 233. Recently the class 3 clubs have gotten together to discuss matters of mutual interest. The results have been quite positive and we are currently planning for next year. One of the major projects is to make a paper designed specifically for new students. It would have ads for local businesses and of course highlight the class 3 clubs. We are also going to get together and have an event on the quad. This would stimulate interest and hopefully gain extra members and interest in the class 3 clubs. It would also introduce all students to the class 3 services which are provided at WPI.

We have tentatively decided to sponsor or co sponsor movies for next year on a semi regular basis. With the help of all the LnL members who responded to the E-mail query we were able to decide what movies to show. Foremost was: The Wall, 1984 and Brazil. Do you get the feeling that we have a rather depressing school?

Quotes of the week: You can overcome any loss with bigger amps! -Joe Chlario (Mechanics Hall) No, LnL d*cks are bigger -Pat It was turned all the way down? No wonder it didn't work! -Jeremy Pop! -bad splice It forgot the words... again. - Aaron 1 did not mean to spin the wheels! -Dude We used to have distro. -Rich Fall behind and spring back? -Dude I have all the money but can not spend it. -Dave 2*(Please turn down the left side, you are driving it too hard)

Ultimate Frisbee

I know that I don't go to practice, but I have a killer cold from hell and I constantly feel tired and just like crap in general...this in no way means that you healthy people should not attend...On the contrary I encourage you to do so. I hope that I am well to play in sectionals. I hope Cook still gives me gym credit since I need it desperately. Good luck this weekend without your plague-ridden secretary loser. I miss all the poultry jokes and getting taken out by "The Butcher", the two man indian sprints and all. It was my life..really

SME

The Society of Manufacturing Engineers is holding a barbecue this Wednesday, April 29,

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Just a quick note to remind you members that we have a meeting today at 4:30PM. Be there! Nominations and elections for next year's officers will be held.

SOCCOMM PRESENTS:

"The Hand that Rocks the Cradle"



Sunday, May 3rd Perreault Hall 6:30 PM & 9:30 PM \$2.00 admission



FINE ARTS COMMITTEE PRESENTS:

"Two thumbs up-way up. It's one of the year's best films." "A triumph." - Mike Clark, USA TODAY "A powerhouse movie... the work of a truly gifted filmmaker." ICE CUBE CUBA COODING IR MORRIS CHESTNUT NO LARRY FISHBURNE FROM

"Boyz N the Hood"



Tuesday, April 28th Perreault Hall 7:30 PM Admission is Free

AXP

year... it really seemed to go by fast this time.

As for the postulants, it can't go fast enough.

They came down for a little turbo get-your-act-

together vacation, and we'll know how they did

soon enough. The front porch looks great

though, as opposed to your suits. Cathy's

bedtime stories gave 'em tents to go with their

Okay guys, only about two weeks left in the

Congratulations to the seniors who have firmly made postgraduate plans, such as Bonger, who will get a full ride at Univ.of Washington, and Trotta, who will head out to Caltech. Greatwork guys! Rumor has it that there will be a senior party shirtwith names, dates and cities made up soon! An excellent idea.

Pete is ugly! Donate cash so we can win this "award" for the third straight time (Wop's 2nd time) and donate the cash for a worthy cause in memory of brother Tripoli.

Okay Schnappsy, what's the deal? You seem to enjoy taking the heat for foolish en-You will learn that such comicalactivity is not paid for with a passing chuckle or a quick joke, but with a nickname. Such stories are passed on from generation to generation of Crows. Schmeggler's Midnight Walk is an example. Pane's Underwear Fiasco is another.. The Gerry Mel-Fry Incident, Moore n Waid, and the list goes on. So then, I give you "Huggies" dependable, absorbant (even if you hit the floor before the stream does), and guaranteed not to leave a rash.

We enjoyed having our National Consultant Dave Holtz by for a few days, and we hope he found the visit as pleasant as we did. "Quick! He's gone! Call UMass and warn them!"

Okay, I'm pressed for time, so this must

LITP (Let's Irradiate The Pledges!!)

Well, everyone, sorry about last week (it wasn't my fault, really!), but we're back this week (hopefully) and a lot has been going on

 $A\Gamma\Delta$

First of all, CONGRATULATIONS to all our sisters who made AGD the Outstanding Chapter at WPI. We've got a lot to be proud of! Let's not forget that we were also awarded the Dean's Award for Outstanding Academic Achievement! Keep up the good work! (It will soon be over and we'll be able to relax in the

Traditions Day was a lot of fun. (Great job in eating those pies, girls!) Roses to Heather Russell for her work on rush. You're doing a great job! I'd also like to let Kim know that we think you're doing an awesome job on

IRD was a lot of fun. It was great to spend time with alumni. Thanks to FIJI for the garden party and social last Tuesday. Congratulations to Tara, Marci, Chris, Lisa, Kristin, Becca, Toni, Brenda, and Wendy - you guys definitely have talent! Happy Belated Birthdays to Chris, Pam Mamacos, Pam Moser, and Deana. Donna says hello from Puerto Rico - especially to Musiak and friends. "Holly, how was that lab bench?" But anyway....moving right along...

I'd like to dedicate the end of this column to our seniors: Kristin, Jodi, Chris, Pam, Tammy W., Jen W., Rachael, Lisa, Nancy, Michelle, Kathy, Melissa, Lynne, Marci, Tori, Tammy O., Leilani, Tara, Cheri, Heather, and Beth. You have been such a strong part of AGD - it's hard to imagine being here with you. Good luck in your careers, grad school, or wherever life takes you. We know you'll be happy and successful in whatever you do, but no matter what you do or where you go, we'll always be here for you. Love, your sisters.

Hopefully everyone got to see Baker when he came to visit. What a treat that was. It was just like the good old days with him back at the Tau House, but he heard his calling in life ("Baker to aisle 9, Baker to aisle 9 please."). Who says you have to work hard for a great future?!

Following a slightly different calling is Dawson, who has been seen carrying on fulllength conversations with trees. When approached about the whole episode, Matt responded with, "I was doing some major soul searching. I feel at one with myself when I surround myself with nature and all its simple beauty." Whatever, Matt.

Hey, has anyone seen Miller around? I heard he was picked up on a yellow twelve speed by one of Worcester's finest. The Breathalyzer revealed a blood-alcohol level of .47. Apparently Miller was detained overnight by the police as he didn't even come home one night at all. (Where else could he have been?!)

There has been a tie between Fiacco and Gaughan for their imitation of a lobster. Fiacco said he should win though because he's fooled around with a lobster more than Guaghan has.

A few rookies have begun to make a name for themselves in the Church Basketball League, specifically Hartenstine and Jimmy Lau. Time will tell if they are up to the physical challenge of competition day in and day out. All Civils in the house may want to consider a study of the Basketball League as a possible IQP project.

To you new brothers: Do something "interesting" so I can finally stop tooling on Harrington. I need something else to write about! I know you guys are boring and have no social lives, but there must be something newsworthy that happens to you!

ΦΣΣ

Greetings Phi Sig Sigs! I hope everyone is ready for another fun and exciting week. Although I don't think anything can top our exhilarating week with our lovely seniors. I hope all of our seniors enjoyed themselves and realize how special they are to us. (Sniff, Sniff)

Anyway, thanks to everyone for cleaning our house. It looks great and it was nice to see so many sisters hard at work. (Not hardly working) Also, thanks to those who helped out at the Bancroft Tower clean-up.

I hope everyone is looking forward to our prestigious "awards" night on Friday. Deb, Sue, and M.B. - Be nice. It should be a lot of fun so be there or well, hey, you know..

Let's all get psyched for the SAE car rally and the ZP/DPE Weird and Wacky Olympics this weekend. And let's not forget the pig roast with Sig Ep on Saturday. O's to Amy K. for all

On a more personal note, happy birthdays to Patty H. who also turns 21 today and to Amy B. (April 30). Lisa and Heather get psyched for tonight. Special hellos to Johanna from Becky and to Maura V., Julie V., Jeanette, and Dianne. Don't worry Dianne, chem isn't everything. Study hard for those upcoming exams and remember, "If you dream it, you can do it."

ΣΑΕ

Greetings & Salutations, beloved WPI community. As the school year comes to a close, we at SAE are making the sincerest effort to achieve academic excellence, unless it intereres with the important stuff. Congrats to Chinny & Swill for finally losing those oh-soattractive pledge pins. It's rumored that Chinny was on his fifth one. Model Pledge. Speaking of pledge, Johnny B. amazed one and all with the cheeziness of his mission for Dante. Rem showed great senior wisdom in assigning a proper punishment (initials O.M. mean anything to you, Beaker?) Unfortunately, it seems that McTKE's new status as zoo president has gone to his head. A few bowlings should take care of that. Question for Indiana Al-I thought that you used the whip, not the other way around! Advice - don't invite Nadler to dinner - or Givvs to a bar, or anywhere for that matter! Anyone psyched to let 40 guys use your backyard for the weekend of May 8 - 11, please contact Ian. Don't forget to enter the SAE -AGD car rally - it's just a week away! Fun & excitement! Thrilling headgear! Spire - tingling toast! From an old pal Stinky Wizzleteeth, this has been a song about a whale. Find

P.S. By the way, Froggy, the toilet is down the hall from the kitchen, not in it.

TKE

Slight inconvenience week round 2 has begun. A few of the New guys didn't quite catch on, alright, they had no clue, Javier. But they all made it eventually. You guys actually did a good job!

How 'bout them Sewers eh? F#\$%@n' awesome as always! I know funny things happened, but I haven't slept in days, I can't remember them.

Tuna's on a roll, Moons over My hammy, a damn hot giggling girl, shot's o'sweet 'n low with water chasers, and many...many cups of coffee. What a night, thank God for Dennys.

If this is my last column, have a great

ΘX

Ahh, yeah...I should've gone to U-Clown. Here's the latest from the Theta Chi news line...Merrikan advised by fashion authorities to start varying his wardrobe; ten straight days of the jeans and sleeve-less shirt motif was deemed too much even by Goose's standard...Swank was elected pit crew chief of Team Smitty last week but after failing to even get the bike started he was replaced by Skippy; the reason for the change appeared to be the fact that Swank forgot to put gas in the tank..."My name is Bambi and Earth Day is like a national thing"...Hoyen was recently spotted scrubbing dishes by a Palmolive representative who then asked him to appear in a commercial for their company; he declined the offer in order to protect the secret behind his fabulous work, Holly...Daigle graduates on time only to become the head night manager of Store 24; commenting on his position he stated he just like the hours...Who needs a threedimensional DO NOT ENTER sign anyway?...Mansur got a fresh new haircut only to find out it was really a satanic ritual on his head staged by Dinga the anti-christ himself...The FBI will continue their search for Dowd after he and an accomplice hit an armored car last week and took off with I million dollars; it seems Dowd was over whelmed by the lack of house bills and general disrespect for his position and set off to quote "Straighten this right out" he was last seen leaving the area in a Red Nova driven by a crazed madman mumbling something about house details...Bring it home DJP1.

ZΨ

Let's have some party themes huh? (1) (my

favorite) Think Like an Eskimo Party "UGHH! Look at the seal." (2) Cheap Halloween Costumes Party "I'm crazy one armed man..I've got one crazy arm."...Toasterhead, Nozzleface, Sinkass, etc. (3) Goto Kentucky Party "We're here...in Kentucky...Let's drink...Haaaaa Tenessee too bad you're not here...in Kentucky." (4) Swamp in the Basement "Murph, pass me a beer after you wrestle that alligator would ya? (Imagine doing the wash in the following days of that party) (5) Painful Vegetables Party. Each person mans carrots, corn cobs, celery, etc. and randomly beats other party goers for extreme fun. HWAAAHSHHHH shell actually works and you know it. Now-everything turns into those two leaves. When I'm 65 or so- Everything turns into those 197 leaves, I remember when it was that one leaf... the good old days. The beach rules. Fred sitting my room - a motion detector. Delayed laughs could be really messy right Steve? Handbook of Environmental Engineering is awesome Woog a savior in fact. Whatever. Go ballistic over color me lame. How old is she?!? It's just a Dog Eat Dog world when it comes to seeing color me bad...nice! Skin, what color is chocolate? DIFFERENT... CAKE IS NOT ORANGE...DIFFERENT! AHHH! I wonder who's gonna write these next year and how they'll be ... sane? Shane here's your goddamn pants! I'm putting them in your room..arrgg! Mike, I told you not to carry the goat's blood around like that..darnit. I'm a fraidy cat. Rush theme? -"Worship Satan and Do drugs... you'll be zete-in, but we're not Thugs" I don't think so. Why does everyone think we're the satan worshipping drug house on campus anyways? It's just not true...oh well. Only one more of these for me to write it would seem..rather depressing...The next one will be interesting.

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COMMENTARY

Reviews A Poppin

Ramifications of Legs

by Shawn Zimmerman Newspeak Staff

Well, the almost Flood-like proportions of fan mail, arriving sometimes twice a day in huge specially built dumptrucks, have finally convinced me to break my self imposed vow of dignity. All the begging, pleading, and demanding falls no longer on deaf ears. Yes! I have decided to I continue my award-winning series on what I consider to be the highest study of all, Female Anatomy. This week, I will explore the all-encompassing ramifications of Legs.

Legs have fascinated men for centuries. Legs allow you to do an incredible variety of activities: running for your life from vicious Sabre-Tooth Poodles, leaping off of sidewalks to avoid maniacal Massachusetts drivers, and they look darned

stylish when used by Godzilla as chopsticks. They keep our butts from dragging on the ground, and provide a basis for the entire jeans industry without which television would be stultifyingly boring.

Which brings me to my next point. Spandex. I do not know who invented Spandex, but whoever he is, he should be canonized. Saint Spandex. I like the sound of that. That would sure as heck get Catholicism back on its feet. Think of it, instead of having boring school names like Our Holy Mother of the Bloody Knees, you'd get cool names like Our Heavenly Mistress of Butt Cleavage. You could have all the nuns standing in the choir singing, and then when the pastor calls a really upbeat, swinging tune like Our Lord Above Made Earwax That We Could Misuse Q-Tips, they would all whip off their habits and start dancing

around like the Rockettes. If that wouldn't get kids interested in religion, then I don't know what would.

But, unfortunately, the Pope isn't taking any calls right now, and everytime I tell a Cardinal about it, he laughs so hard he snarfs his rosary. Luckily, though, Spring is once again upon us. This means that campuses the world over will be hip deep in Spandex. You won't be able to drool without hitting some. Except of course, at WPI, where a major point of the illustrious Plan involves testosterone backing up in our systems until it explodes out of our foreheads. How this is good for engineering, I do not

But, I do know that it is considered a bad strategy. It is a well known, and almost universally accepted, theory that states that if the Bounty had carried spandex, Mr Christian would

never have mutinied. This would have been bad for the film industry, but good for Captain Bligh. As a matter of fact, one of the first scripts for Mutiny On The Bounty originally had Mr Christian whipping the crew into a frenzy with an inspirational monologue which is excerpted be-

And did he get us cable? NO! He knows that Christmas In Connecticut is playing all this month! And what about munchies? Did he bring the Doritos and Ho Hos that are universally accepted as necessary for a civilised existence? He did not! He got us a bunch of mouldy fruit! And speaking of fruits, we've got enough Vaseline to sodomize a herd of elephants, and did he even remember to bring the women? Not! I mean the poor cabin boy has to sleep sometime. I say we blow this clambake! Who's

History records that the mutineers died ingnominious deaths on Pitcairne Island. But they died happy, with Spandex tied around their heads and big goofy grins plastered on their faces. This monologue scene, by the way, was eventually cut because it was considered not in poor enough taste.

Well, I had intended on working the phrase "Pliers of Pleasure" into this article at some point, but I can see that I have strayed from the subject a bit. Don't worry, have no fear, I'll be returning to it at some future date. But not next week, because that is National Spleen Week, and I will be describing in loving detail the erotic possibilities of this wonder organ.

Technical Writing, the final chapter

by Bryan Gunn Newspeak Staff

The story of the technical writing major is almost complete. There remains little left to tell, and most of what does remain is just some history and left over bits of information that people may find more interesting than informative.

Since technical writing is WPI's newest major, the history of technical writing at this school is not very ex-

tensive. After an afternoon of legwork, I discovered that the first technical writer to graduate from this school was Linda Blackmar. She graduated in 1986, followed by Jody Bobbitt in 1987 and then Barbara O'Toole in 1988. Oddly, there was not another technical writer until Ellen Madigan, who is graduating this May. Starting with Ellen, there seemed to be an explosion of interest about the technical writing major. This increase in interest has yielded thirteen technical writing majors (three of whom are graduating this May). This was quite a jump for a major that had previously never graduated more than one person per year.

Technical writing made a major step forward last year when it officially broke away from the Interdisciplinary Studies category and became a fully independent major. It now has its own listing in the student handbook, its own distribution requirements, and its own letter designation

In closing, let me say that

this album is without a doubt the best

album in the history of music (at least

since the UHF soundtrack) and you all

should rush out to the nearest record

store and buy ten or twenty copies, to

give some meaning to your worthless,

Should the number of technical writers get much larger, there will be a need for a larger technical writing organization. Right now, there is no official technical writing department here. Everything concerning the major is being taken care of by a combination of different departments and faculty members. The head of the technical writing department, such that it is at this point, is Professor Stephen Weininger of the chemistry department. Although he does not teach any of the classes for the technical writing major, he is technical writing's overall advisor, organizer, and leader. The two main technical writing professors are Professor Wesley Mott of the English department, and Professor John Trimbur, also of the english department. They handle the bulk of the courses for the technical writing major. From there, the hierarchy dissolves, but there are professors from almost every major involved with the

technical writing in some way. In the future, it would be nice to see

the creation of an entirely separate technical writing department. This would include faculty and staff that are dedicated solely to the technical writing major. It would also include office space and classrooms. A writing laboratory, with various computers with different publishing and word processing programs, as well as laser printers, would also be nice.

But most of these plans are for the far future. If you are interested in the technical writing major now, get in contact with Prof. Weininger in Goddard Hall, room 305, or Prof. Trimbur in the lower level of Salisbury Labs, room 22.

This brings my series of articles about technical writing to a close. For the people who are thinking about changing their major to technical writing, and for those who were just curious, I hope these articles were informative and helpful. For those who are already technical writers, clip and save these articles so you can give them to people who ask you what your major

ARTS AND ENTERTAINMENT

Weird Al's new album Music Review: More Minute", my personal all-time

by Steve Sousa Newspeak Staff

I'm sure all my regular readers (all 2 of them) will be horribly disappointed, but nothing really interesting happened in wrestling this week. Therefore, instead of my regular article I will review "Off the Deep End", the new album by "Weird Al" Yankovic.

I'm sure that by now everyone on the planet has heard "Smells Like Nirvana", the first single, so I don't suppose I need to say much about that. However, I think that "I Can't Watch This", his parody of the Hammer song is even funnier than "Nirvana". This song has Weird Al lamenting about the pathetic state of television. Especially funny is the verse about America's Funniest Home Videos. He also does parodies of "The Right Stuff" (The White Stuff), "Rico Suave" (Taco Grande), and "Baby, Don't Forget My Number" (The Plumbing Song). In addition, this album has the mandatory polka medley, in which Al interprets popular songs through the eyes of his accordion. He does a fine job with songs as diverse as "Love Shack"

"Enter Sandman", "Losing My Religion", and "Ice, Ice Baby"

As usual, Al truly shines on his original songs. With the exception of "Airline Amy", they are all falldown-on-your-face funny. "Trigger Happy" shows the point of view of a psycho NRA member sung to a Beach Boys beat, which made me happy, because I've always liked the Beach Boys. "I Was Only Kidding" is about the cruelest break-up in history. Lines like "When I said I'd never leave you flat/Well guess what? I was only kidding:I can't believe you fell for that/You're so gullible." strike a deep chord in anyone who has ever been dumped. In "When I Was Your Age", Al tries his hands at one of the oldest jokes in the world, about someone exaggerating about how tough he had it growing up. However, my favorite original is "You Don't Love Me Anymore", a sweet love song worthy of James Taylor or Jim Croce. Al slowly catches on to the fact that his girlfriend doesn't feel the same way she used to, due to the numerous and hilarious ways she tries to kill him. I almost like this one as much as "One

Hearing Board candidates

continued from page 1

Derek Smith

miserable lives.

favorite Weird Al song.

My name is Derek Smith and I am currently a junior majoring in Mechanical Engineering. I am seeking the position of student justice for Campus Hearing Board next year. I feel I am qualified for such a position due to my involvement on campus during the past few years. I have been a Resident Advisor for two years and involved in activities such as Society of Manufacturing Engineers, the Scuba Club, the Committee for Concerned Students, and Crimson and Gray. If elected as a student justice, I am confident that I will justly and competently represent the student body. Please remember my name, Derek Smith, when casting your vote this Thursday for Campus Hearing Board. If you have any questions feel free to contact me at Box 867 or 831-5037. Thank you.

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

WPI police block fire access

To the Editor:

When the fire alarms sounded at 3:20 pm Thursday afternoon, we all left Fuller Labs. The second WPI Police cruiser toarrive came from West Street, down the driveway between Atwater Kent and Salisbury Labs, and parked in that driveway. The next car to arrive was a Worcester Fire car which parked right behind the WPI cruiser. Sure enough, when the fire truck arrived and pulled into that driveway its access was blocked by the

Thank goodness there was no fire and the truck was not needed because it would not have been able to get around the WPI Police car or the Worcester Fire car. If our own Police do not have the sense to clear that lane for a fire truck, then there should be rules to that effect for them to follow. If such rules exist, they should be enforced. This could have been a disastrous situation.

> Jeffrey A Bloom Graduate Student



MIP 1

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WPI Newspeak of Worcester Polytechnic Institute, formerly the Tech News, has been published weekly during the academic year, except during college acations, since 1909. Newspeak has been printed on recycled paper since January, 1991. Letters to the editor should be typed (double-spaced) and must contain to typed or printed name of the author as well as the author's signature and telephone number for verification. Students submitting letters to the editor should put eir class after their name. Faculty and staff should include their full title. Letters deemed libelous or irrelevant to the WPI community will not be published.

The editors reserve the right to edit letters for correct punctuation and spelling. Letters to the editor are due by 9:00 a.m. on the Friday preceding publication of them to WPI Box 2700 or bring them to the Newspeak office, Riley 01. All other copy is due by noon on the Friday preceding publication (this includes electron nissions, classifieds, greek and club corners) and must include the author's name. telephone and box number. We reserve the right to edit all other copy. All

official control of the Collegate Press Service. Printing is done by Saltus Press. First Class postage paid at Worcester. Massachusetts. Se is \$20.00 per school year, single copies 75 cents within the continental United States. Make all checks payable to WP! Newspeak.

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Yo Dennis! Merging Club Corner and Greek Corner is a BAD THING TO DO.

Hey NERDS! Stoddard C will live forever as will the Classic Lines! I'm shit-faced, I'm a bitch, and we're all leaving! Best wishes to the Class of 92! MARSHA

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Bored with the local nightlife? Join the WPI Bridge-Driving club. Contact Adm. Earle.

ATTENTION CLASS OF 95 - Any freshman who missed the Co-op orientation meeting held 3/31 AND who might be interested in co-op opportunities with the CIA, National Security Agency or NASA should stop by the Co-op Office, Boynton 1st floor to get more info ASAP.

We love the pledges, the sisters, and the senior!

I just wanna do a Phi Sigma Sigma!

Skull society...What a bunch of boneheads!

Stimpy, you stupid idiot!

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S, hosted enough, already? NO? Well, then

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B.S. That's what friends are for, love, your neighbor.

Polly wanna cracker? No? Well, we want some pizza, then thanks, they were the best, even if some had icky stuff on it.

Sching! (Schwinn) None of us is worthy of your godliness, so Blow me. (Huff, Huff, Huff)

Ren, Let's do the Happy, Happy, Joy, Joy Dance. Congrats on TKE. You're the best. Love ya, your biggest fan.

Sax, you party with the best of them - yeah, ME!!! Love ya.

New Class Announced- LE1001-E01 How to use Perreault Hall. Requited for all Physics and Chemistry Professors.

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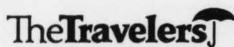
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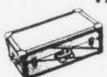
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Thursday, April 30: Ralph's

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POLICE NEWS

Tuesday, April 14, 1992

At 1017 hrs., an Officer queried 2 suspicious non-students who were talking near a parked vehicle in a campus parking lot. Computer checks revealed the subjects had extensive records for B&E's & B&E's into motor vehicles. Subjects were advised of trespassing and warned not to return to WPI.

At 2355 hrs., an Officer responded to a noise complaint in a dormitory and discovered an unauthorized party in a dorm room involving alcohol consumption. Sixteen underage partygoers were dispersed, and the alcohol was confiscated and disposed of. A report was filed with Student Life.

Sunday, April 19, 1992

At 0210 hrs., Worcester Police requested WPI Officers assist them with an unruly cab fare on West Street. WPI responded and subject was arrested for disturbing the peace.

At 1902 hrs., residents of a dorm reported a smell of gas. Officers responded and notified the Gas Company. Personnel from Commonwealth Gas detected a loose hose on a gas water heater in a dormitory room and corrected the problem. (NOTE: The WPI Police urge anyone that detects an odor of natural gas to contact this department immediately. DON'T HESITATE TO CALL AND DO NOT CREATE ANY SPARKS OR FLAME BY LIGHTING A MATCH, OR UTILIZING ANY ELECTRICAL APPLIANCE OR LIGHTSWITCH, ETC...)

Tuesday, April 21, 1992

At 1805 hrs., WPI Police received a report concerning a disoriented person in Harrington Gym. Responding Officers determined the subject was missing from a local nursing home and returned her to same.

Wednesday, April 22, 1992

At 1253 hrs., Officers responded to a call involving unknown persons allegedly selling artwork in a classroom building. Subjects were located and identified and advised that appropriate permits were needed to peddle merchandise on campus. Subjects were further advised that no peddling is allowed in classroom buildings, and that these buildings are so posted. Subjects were escorted from campus, and agreed if they returned to WPI to obtain the necessary permits.

COMMUNITY UPDATE

AIAA paper airplane contest tomorrow

by: Alan Ruiz Class of '93

The paper airplane contest, sponsored by the AIAA student chapter of WPI, is taking place tomorrow, Wednesday the 29th, from 1:30 to 2:30 in Harrington Auditorium. The paper airplane contest is open to the WPI community.

There are two classes of paper airplanes, standard and exhibition. Each class of airplanes has three different events, length of flight, duration of flight and landing in a specified location. Each participant may compete with only one paper airplane in each event, but he may have a different paper airplane for other events.

The standard class is composed of those paper airplanes that are made from an 8.5 X 11 piece of paper. The paper may be cut and all of the paper does not have to be used. No glue, paper clips or scotch tape are allowed.

The paper airplanes competing in the exhibition class can be made from several pieces of paper of any size or shape. Glue, paper clips and scotch tape are allowed for this class. No forms of propulsion may be installed.

T-shirts will be awarded to the first place in each event, certificates to the first place and runnerup in each event. A mystery grand prize will be awarded to the participant who, in the opinion of the judges, deserves it the most.

What's Happening

Tuesday, April 28, 1992

7:00pm - Worcester State College, Chandler Village Government presents: Live Entertainment: "She's Busy", at One Lancer Place.

7:30pm - Movie: "Boyz N the Hood," Perreault Hall.

Wednesday, April 29, 1992

3:00pm and 8:00pm - Holy Cross, Film: "At Play in the Fields of the Lord," Kimball Theater, Admission: \$1.50 with college id.

4:00pm - Holy Cross, Concert: Student/Faculty Recital, Fenwick Chapel.

7:00pm - Worcester State College, Film Series: "Viewer's Choice"; at One Lancer Place.

7:30pm - Anna Maria College, Annual Spring choral Concert, at Zecco Center.

8:00pm - Video: "Tequila Sunrise", Gompei's Place, Admission: Free.

Thursday, April 30, 1992

4:00pm - Holy Cross, Lecture, "Revitalization of the Mayan Culture, Professor Victor Montejo, University of Connecticut, Hogan 310.

5:30pm to 7:30pm - Worcester Art Museum, Education Open House for Adult Programs.
8:00pm - Coffehouse presents: "End Construction", a four-piece acoustical group, at Gompei's Place.

Friday, May 1, 1992

11:00am - Fuller 311, (CS) Colloquium, Two MS Thesis Presentations: "Automatic Generation of Procedural Attribute Grammar Evaluators," Mark Sprague, Sequoia Systems, Marlboro, MA. "Interfacing DataTree MUMPS and Windows 3.0," Theodore J. Raia, UMass Medical Center.

Sunday, May 3, 1992

6:30pm and 9:30pm - Film:" The Hand That Rocks the Cradle", Fuller Labs, Perreault Hall, Admission: \$2.00.

Monday, May 4, 1992

11:00am - Fuller 246,(CS) PEDS Seminar (Performance Evaluation of Distributed Systems), "Mach Kernef Support for Network Protocol Servers," Kurt Brawand, WPI CS Dept.

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