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The

# INKWELL

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The Armstrong State College Student Voice

VOL. LIV, No. 6 November 1, 1989

## Report: more college core

by Amy Hudson, CPS

All college students should have to take at least 50 credit hours of humanities courses to graduate, said Lynne Cheney of the National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH) in one of the first college-level reform calls of the six-year-old school reform movement.

The report's suggestions, if adopted, would radically change how most students go to college.

Cheney also said they would force students to learn the "basic landmarks of history and thought," satisfying critics who use surveys showing some collegians' unfamiliarity with certain geography, history and literary facts as proof colleges don't educate people well.

To support their call for reform, Cheney and the NEH also released a survey October 8 showing large percentages of college students didn't know key historical dates and phrases (see following story).

The NEH's report, titled "50 Hours," calls on colleges to strengthen their general education requirements with a core of learning - 50 semester hours of required study, which would take a full-time student nearly two years to complete - in cultures and civilization, foreign languages, mathematics, natural sciences and the social sciences.

"Entering students often find few requirements in place and a plethora of offerings," and, as a result, skip from class to class throughout their college careers with "little rationale" or any sort of consistent pattern, Cheney complained.

Reaction to the NEH report has been predictably mixed.

"General education is real strength of the American system," said James Kilroy, dean of the English department at Tulane University in Louisiana. "A college education should be more than just a technical kind of training."

"I think a 50-hour core curriculum would be absurd," countered Walter Johnson, an engineering dean at the University of Nevada in Reno (UNR).

He thinks even a 36-hour core, which UNR implemented this year, is too much. Noting that many engineering grads eventually end up doing something besides engineering, the core prevents them from trying anything outside of engineering or

the core.

"They no longer have time to explore," he observed.

Some students, though, like having specific requirements in general education.

"It's a pretty good core," said Glen Krutz, president of UNR's student government. "There needs to be a body of common knowledge."

"If colleges are saying they are liberal arts colleges, they have an obligation to prepare (students) not just for their first job, but for life," said Jeff Morgan, vice president of St. John's College in New Mexico, where students must take core courses - half in humanities, half in science - all four years.

In the mid-eighties, two bestselling books - Allan Bloom's "The Closing Of The American Mind" and E. D. Hirsch's "Cultural Literacy" - further fueled the criticism. Bloom, a University of Chicago professor, wrote of his students' self-centeredness and ignorance. Hirsch listed hundreds of dates, facts, allusions and other bits of miscellany that, he felt, all educated people should know, but don't.

In a survey conducted by The Inkwell, all students surveyed knew the date when Columbus discovered America, citing "in 1492 Columbus sailed the ocean blue." Just over half knew what Prometheus did in Greek Mythology, but less than a third knew that the Three-Fifths Compromise was a part of the Constitution dealing with the status of slaves.

Feeling the heat, scores of schools adopted "core" course requirements for their students.

Nationwide, the average college grad in 1988 took an average of 1.5 more credit hours of humanities than did the average grad of 1984, the NEH found in a survey released last February.

Nevertheless, most colleges don't make students take enough humanities courses, the NEH contended.

It found that four out of every 10 colleges let students graduate without ever taking a history course. Nearly 45 percent didn't make students take English or American lit classes, while 62 percent didn't require philosophy and 77 percent didn't require foreign languages.

Yet others believe students should get such general knowledge in high school, not college. ♦



Lane Library is trying to make improvements on student suggestions

## Lane Library works to improve

by Don R. Newman

Considering the recent surge of enrollment at ASC (up 13% from last fall to approximately 3687), it is not surprising that one of the main concerns on campus is Lane Library.

With a total of about 600,000 volumes, including books, binded materials, audio-video, journals/magazines, microforms, et al, and an annual budget of just \$160,000, half of which is spent on periodical subscriptions, can the library meet the needs of the greatly expanded student body? What about faculty concerns? Why all the negative talk about the Library? Can this negative talk be substantiated?

Last spring a survey was conducted to pinpoint possible problems and to see what students and faculty felt about the library. Though the survey has not been completed, Jack Dennis, director of Lane Library, told me that he feels it was fairly representative of all involved. Each department head selected a sample from their own department to participate in the survey, totaling 850 students. Half of the faculty also voiced their opinions.

The top student concern was over periodicals. When asked whether they had looked for a journal/magazine article in the library, 81% replied that they had done so. Of that 81%, 46% found most of what they needed, 34% found some of what they required, 14% found few of what they were looking for, and only 5% found all the journals they needed.

To help alleviate this problem, the library has plans to add 80-100 new subscriptions this year.

The next most pressing concern for students was the schedules operating hours on the weekend. While 80% of the students,

found Sunday hours (1pm-9pm) adequate for their needs, just 68% found Saturday hours (10am-3pm) sufficient. The percentage of those dissatisfied with Sunday and Saturday hours, 20% and 32% respectively, are considered large enough to be significant. Presently there are no immediate plans to increase Library hours. But the matter is being looked into, and in the winter quarter there may be a trial run with expanded hours.

It should be noted that the budget is the primary problem in both the periodical and hours issues.

Another high problem area was the availability of materials when needed. 20% of the students stressed that materials were not readily available when they were needed. Oftentimes the materials are checked-out or overdue, which is beyond the Library's control. Also, when publications are sent to be bound, it takes three to four weeks to return, and once again, this problem is beyond the library's control.

The quality of the microform copiers was also of concern to 22% of the students, who felt that it was unsatisfactory. Lane Library is presently awaiting the arrival of a new microfilm copier, which should arrive within three to five weeks.

The addition of new computer systems was of concern to 84% of the students, who felt the system should be expanded. Since the survey was taken in the spring, a new ERIC system has been installed along with an Infotrac. While there is a need for a computer to aid the nursing program in their studies, the budget won't allow for one at this time.

On a positive note, 91% rated the librarians at the circulation desk as helpful and the librarians at the reference desk received a 95% rating as being helpful.

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EDITORIAL

by Dee Shurling

There's been a lot of fuss about the NEH survey that supposedly reveals all college students to be idiots. In order to combat this ignorance, Lynne Cheney feels an increase in core curriculum is required. She has mapped out a course of study that, if implemented, is supposed to guarantee that every person graduating from college will know when Columbus discovered America.

I have a problem with someone adding even more structure to what I feel is a system with too many requirements already. There are several classes I would be interested in taking but have not because they do not fit into my degree. Likewise, there are several classes I have had to take that I do not think were worth the time or money. Health is a good example of the latter category. Who needs a class about the dangers of fatty foods and drugs?

Students are not supposed to come to college with a planned major engraved into their foreheads. The first two years should be unconstructed enough to allow experimentation with different fields before you narrow your options and declare a major. How can a person decide the best career for themselves if they're too busy taking required courses?

Most students are reluctant to take classes that may not apply to their degree. These classes must be paid for and studied for and attended, and most of us don't have the time and money to blow on self

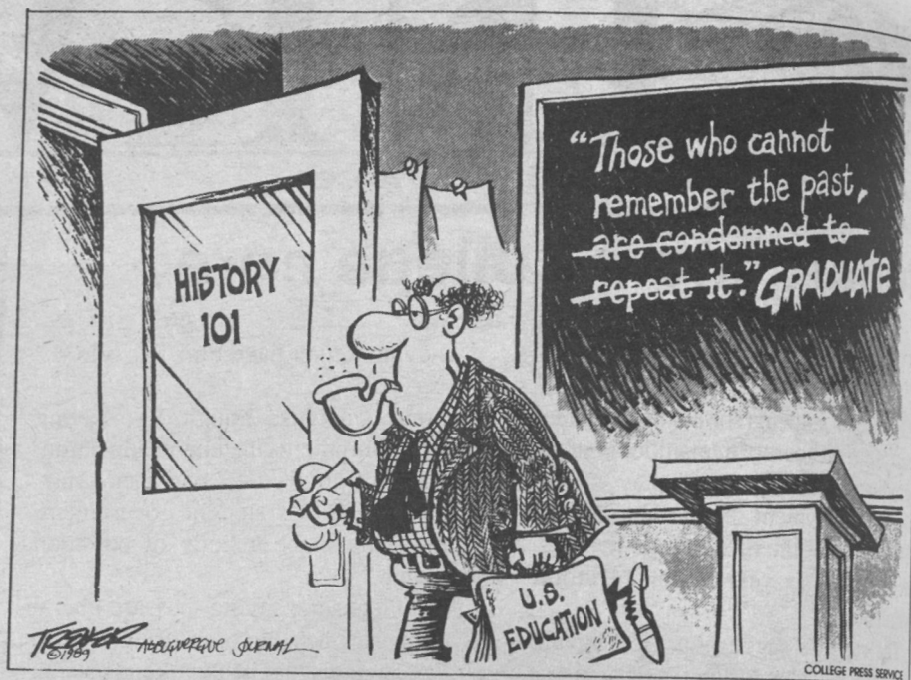
enlightenment.

Which brings us back to the purpose of college in the first place — learning. That's right, learning, not just getting a piece of paper that will enable you to earn more money. From this angle I can empathize with Cheney, because she seems concerned that today's students are only getting a piece of paper out of their college experience. But forcing students to take classes they have no interest in is not going to make them more knowledgeable.

It is a proven fact that people retain information they find interesting. For example, I have no interest in, and won't remember anything from, higher mathematics. I can not visualize asymptotes -- it simply does not excite me. Likewise, many people are not interested in history, and, no matter how many courses they take, are not going to remember the Monroe Doctrine.

Of course the "well rounded person" theory states that we all must take classes we hate in order to be complete human beings. So obviously we have to have some type of standard course of study, although I don't know how learning to bowl is going to make me a better person.

But instead of tightening core curriculum requirements, I feel we should be loosening them. Students should have more of a choice concerning what they take. Yes, I'm talking about more electives! Instead of forcing a body of "common knowledge" down our throats, college should be allowing us to develop our own unique interests and perspectives. ♦



The Close of My Days  
Textbooks and toilet paper

by Art Brooks

This week's column links two unlikely things: textbooks and toilet papers. One is costly, the other inexpensive. And yet, textbooks and toilet paper are things that touch us all at Armstrong.

For the well-healed student this may seem like a small thing, but I would suspect, that for most of the students at Armstrong, the financial burden of buying textbooks is a crisis.

For Armstrong, which charges pretty good prices for textbooks, one can cost at least \$75.00, has a rather unique buy-back system. If a course requiring the textbook you are now using is not being taught next quarter, or even the rest of the academic year, the money you will be offered for them is not only insulting, but also possibly the first step towards a nervous breakdown. Some students are painfully aware of what I mean.

Last year there was a letter in The Inkwell in which the writer noted that some students are going the whole quarter without books because they cannot afford the books. One student told me recently that his book bill for one quarter came to \$230. Obviously something is awry!

Recently a representative of the Arkansas Book Company set up tables in the MMC. Picture the scene. One student wishes to sell a mint copy of a book on the Middle Ages. It cost him, he said, \$26.50. The book buyer offered him \$4.50!

Another student had five textbooks and a backpack. Upon hearing what he was being offered for the texts, he promptly put them back in the backpack and left.

A third student had two armful of books. She was later seen dumping them in a refuse container rather than accept the buyer's offer.

Obviously the situation has long ignored calls for remedial action—and soon.

If you haven't read the excellent article by Dr. Steve Ealy in the last issue of the Inkwell, better do so now. For the article presents clearly the many problems facing Armstrong, the college you have selected.

Apathy on the part of the administration and students in addressing the problems can only mean a severe lessening of the educational value of the school. You see there is a link between the two parts of this column. You get lesser value if you try to resell your textbooks, and you will get less than the education you are seeking if something is not done soon to check the drift now present on this campus.

Has anyone considered the possibility that Armstrong has admitted too many students? Said to say the attrition rate will probably weed out some (or many) students, but not enough to overcome the classes with 100 students. Dr. Ealy's analysis presents the dangers in such large classes cogently. Please read his article!

By coincidence I cut out my first column which appeared on Page 2 and have sent it along to my son, a member of the sports staff of the Detroit News. When I refolded the page this is what I read:

"...some perceive any change in established routines as a threat, and an Armstrong State College orientate toward serving a larger student body will have to break with some established routines..."

Dr. Ealy, if nothing else, is very perceptive.

The big question is: "Will anyone in authority listen to him?"

Yes, the title of this column is based on the fact that the writer attends night classes as his days come to a close. It is still light when I get to campus, but dark when I leave for home. ♦

The Inkwell staff

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Sayings of the wise by Joseph Babula

"One bird in the hand is better than two in the bush."

# Faculty Speaks

## Why professors never change their clothes

by Dick Nordquist

"Dear boy," my Uncle Enos once told me, "a college education is a valuable possession, the most precious gift a man can own." Then, after kissing my teddy bear good night and hurling me face down into the toy chest, he whispered hoarsely, "It's like underwear."

I still remember the sound of my uncle's dentures clacking as he tripped out of the room and went crashing down the stairs. And I still remember how much I wanted to ask him what in sam hill he had been talking about. But the police were there immediately, and Uncle Enos was back in prison before he ever had a chance to explain.

So now, I suppose, it's my job to figure it out. You see, the unctuous editor of this rag (whose dysgraphic staff genuinely seem to believe that parking, for godsake, is the biggest problem on campus) toadied up to me last week and asked for a free slice of professional prose — extra cheese, no vulgarity.

"No problem," I said, handing him the latest chapter of a 40 page suicide note that I was about to hand to the Dean.

But little Perry White wouldn't take it, insisting that I cough up "something that the students would be interested in. Something like this..." And he waved in front of me a galvanizing think-piece scribed by Professor Steve Ealy.

You've seen it. Lots of uninterrupted type wrapped around a snapshot of an Eagle Scout at parade rest. Maybe you've even read it. Fortified by a jug of Folger's, I got as far as the line about faculty who think of their jobs as "part-time responsibilities," faculty who "bug out" after third period.

"Where's Ealy?" I hollered at the newsman. It had been decades since I (or anyone else, for that matter) had last "bugged out." But this was after four on a Friday afternoon, and I hadn't been home to change my clothes since Tuesday. I was, indeed, ready to bug out.

"Dr. Ealy is in Washington," came the polite reply. "He'll be gone for a week."

In other words, he'd bugged out. So I promised the kid I'd deliver this article.

Now I'm stuck with an inexplicable underwear analogy in the lead and just a few lousy inches to reveal all the secrets of college life. You'll have to bear with me. Yes, you — the one in the back with the pencil up your nose. Pay attention.

Sadly, dear old Uncle Enos never had a chance to savor the tedium and terror and the occasional vagrant joys of higher education. You, on the other hand, are now fulfilling your parents' fondest dreams — or at least you soon will be, once you take your posters and move out of the house.

Coming to college directly from high school is undoubtedly an unsettling experience. At first blush, Armstrong may look much the same as the school you left behind — books, pens, desks, chalkboards, fatty

food products in the cafeteria. But one difference strikes you at once: all the lesson-planned, hall monitoring, heartburned teachers have been replaced by a strange new species. The professors.

It's like arriving for breakfast one sweet autumn morning and finding that Mom has been replaced by a hundred-dollar leather-corseted whip-and-chain hooker and that Buddy has been transformed overnight into a fiercely salivating twin-gilled alien with erupting spores on his spotty hide. Somebody is still at the stove burning the cream of wheat, but you don't know who the hell it is.

Relax. Your professors are paid enormous amounts of money just to be weird — to jar you out of old habits, prejudices, and cliches, and to provide you with a few new ones.

So the first thing you need to do is stop using that moronic word weird. Once it meant "fate"; now it means "goofy." If you've spent your entire life penned up here in the hookworm and pellagra belt, brainwashed by backwoods preachers and moonshined by anal-retentive schoolmarms, you have no business dismissing anyone else as "weird." Go climb your family tree.

Next, forget immediately everything you were taught in high school. They were just kidding. High school doesn't count.

Be prepared, friends, for lengthy bouts of boredom and loneliness: such is the human condition. But don't let a fit of despair drive you to drugs, marriage, or ROTC. Instead, read a damn book. There are three or four left in the library.

As far as academics go, be sure to pick the toughest and craziest professors you can find: the ones often disguised as "staff" in the schedule because otherwise nobody would sign up for their classes. By the same token, avoid instructors reputed to be "nice and easy." Your paying for ideas, buddy, not a barmaid at Rosalita's. As Tina Turner says, "We don't do nothin' nice and easy."

Likewise, don't expect baked goods from your professors. Be grateful for a few recipes.

But all this is not to say that you should endure rabid abuse from some sclerotic don. Unfortunately, you'll still find the occasional professor who derives a perverse pleasure out of celebrating the idiocies of his charges, chortling over malapropisms in final exams and photocopying Newsweek articles which reveal that 98% of college freshman think that Ozymandias is the rock singer who chews off chicken heads.

Such characters are merely transferring their own professional inadequacies onto you and should not be taken seriously. Remember, long after you've graduated, they'll still be teaching the same old courses. So who's the idiot here?

And should you ever feel oppressed by your instructors, you might comfort yourself with the knowledge that they, in turn,



Since no file photograph of Nordquist was available, The Inkwell commissioned this artist's portrayal of him.

are oppressed by a small but well-heeled tribe of superannuated professors known as "administrators." These are old white men in black frocks whom you will probably never see until the night of your graduation.

Most of the time they are either "out of town" or locked in their offices, running their fingers through shag carpets and cackling horribly. Though they live in a little red schoolhouse, they are frequently inclined to cry, "By God, I'm a university." Ignore them.

All things considered, you're in a pretty good college. The absence of a football team is a clear indicator of that. And my only real piece of advice for you is to wake up, quit whining, and make your time here matter. As Robin Williams once said, "Carpe diem."

Remember, Bubba, no matter what happens to you here at Armstrong — no matter what random pleasures you choose to seize or what flavors of despair you chance to taste — draw solace from the fact

that here you will be spared the worst fate a young man or woman could possibly imagine. You may leave here bent, you may leave here grown, but thank God you cannot, under any circumstance, leave here as a certified public accountant.

So drink deep, keep your mojo working, and don't waste time counting the holes between the stars. Uncle Enos told me that, too. And, as usual, I don't know what in sam hill he was talking about. ❖

*Editor's Revenge Note: Since 1980, Nordquist has lived in the Department of Lang., Lit., and Dramatic Arts, where he currently serves as Composition Coordinator. In 1981, while the Dean was off on a junket to Reno, Nordquist created the Writing Center. He has published a couple of textbooks and stacks of hack journalism under various pseudonyms. Next year he intends to flee ASC to teach English and contract terminal dysentery in New Guinea. To meet Nordquist, just look for the guy who looks like he has lost something.*

## Playground or battleground?

by Rev. Chris Fuller  
BSU Coordinator

The sports scene has become increasingly dominant in our American culture, and has taken on an unhealthy glow in our pursuit of winning at all costs. I am often appalled at unsportsmanlike behavior found on the intramural field, court whatever. In spite of rules that inhibit or penalize bad attitudes, unsportsmanlike conduct continues to raise its ugly head. I feel like this is not only a reflection of an unhealthy attitude towards sportsmanship, but these problems are reflective of our society as a whole.

I believe that we have allowed our egos to control our actions. I have heard it said that it is O.K. to be cocky, as long as you could back up your talk with ability. There have been many athletes who have predicted prior to the contest. Joe Namath confidently predicted that the Jets would defeat the Baltimore Colts in Super Bowl #3. Joe Namath was admired for his confidence, and ridiculed for his arrogance. Any athlete knows that 50% of any contest is won or lost in the mind. Sports is as much a mental game as a physical contest. Many athletes these days undergo hypnosis to

improve their concentration. Most athletes psyche themselves up for a contest in order to give maximum effort. But, when we psyche ourselves up to win instead of psyching ourselves up to play our best; I submit that we are taking the game too seriously.

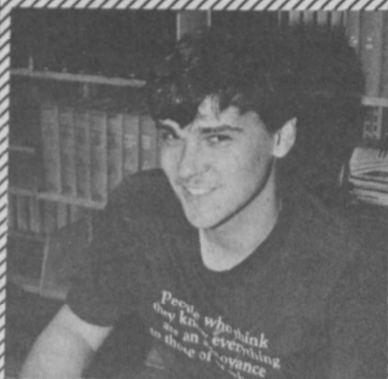
Winning at all costs is too expensive. There are many things in life more important than sports. I admired Terry Kennedy's remark following the San Francisco earthquake when he pointed out how an event like that helped put everything in perspective. Sports are not important.

However, I am not advocating playing namby-pamby powderpuff intramurals. Anyone who knows me, knows that I am a competitor. I play hard. The way I look at it, if I play, then I'm a winner. Most people are winners or losers even before the contest begins. If your identity is based on the game's outcome, then you've got a low self-esteem. Put sports in their place.

By the way, while your rearranging the priorities in your life, be sure and put God at the top. Matthew 6:33 says, "Seek ye first the kingdom of God and His righteousness, and all these things will be given unto you." Want to talk about it? The BSU has a free lunch every Friday at 12:30 noon. See you there!

## ASC Quoteline...

Does the Lane Library satisfy the needs of the ASC students?



"Yes, for my needs --I usually use it for studying. They should stay open later on Sundays."

Eric Tucker  
Soph. Chemistry

"Yes, but the library should stay open until 11:00 p.m. on weeknights."

Montreal Freeman  
Junior, Criminal Justice

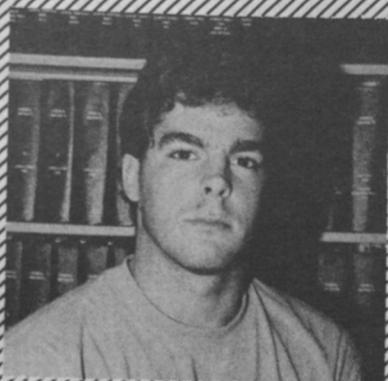
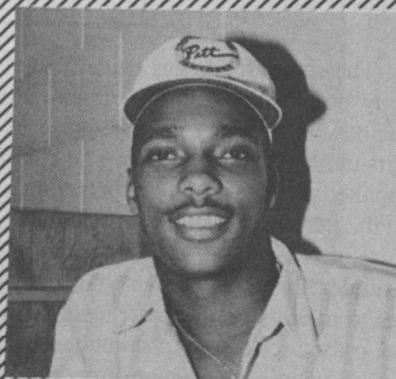


"No. Since a large majority of students work, the library should stay open later on Saturdays so students can study. The weekend hours suck."

Teresa Tastin  
Senior, Computer Science

"Yes, but the library should stay open later on week nights."

Tyrone Green  
Junior, General Studies



"No, the library should be open until 11:00 p.m. on weeknights and it should be open longer on Saturdays."

John Muntzer  
Junior, History

## Lane Library presents...

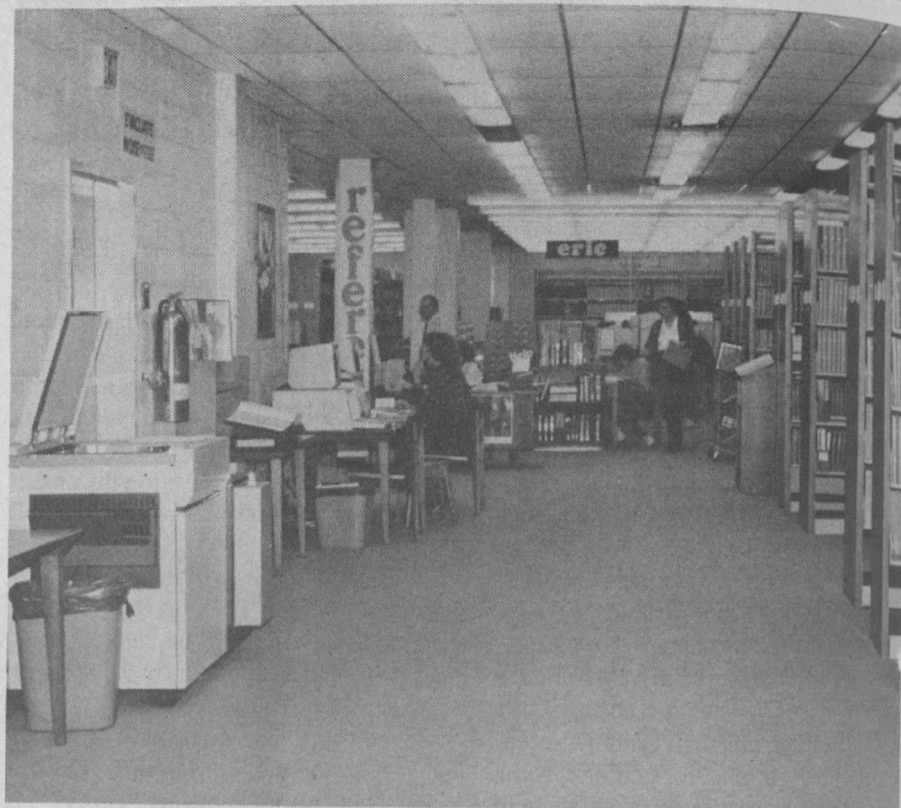


photo by Beth Cohen, SPS

## It's a new library for fall

Lane Library got a face lift this summer. The first floor was recarpeted, repainted, rearranged, and the lounge furniture was replaced. The original floor covering and furnishing had withstood more than a decade of heavy student use and were sadly in need of renewal.

Planning for the project began over six months ago, but the process had to wait until the summer session was completed. The library was closed to the public and disorder began as each section of the library was emptied, boxed, or stored. Raymond Lopez of Plant Operations designed a device, which allowed the lifting and replacing of a unit of shelving without unloading the books, easing and speeding the recarpeting.

A hot and muscle-weary crew of student helpers, Plant Operations workers, and library staff shoved, pushed, pulled, and

tugged furniture and boxes for three weeks. Were we ready when school started? Almost.

There were lost and misplaced items still getting adjusted throughout the month of September. Labels are finally in place, most of the signs are up and we are ready at last. Please stop by to see the result of this collective effort.

Notice as you enter there is a new floor plan with many familiar services relocated. No, there aren't more shelves and less seating, there are now aisles of tables with seating among the shelf ranges. One result of this change is a quieter library than you knew last year as sound is buffered by the shelving.

The library staff is proud of their accomplishments and appreciate your comments about the new floor plan and seating arrangements. ♦

### Library continued from page 1

A space for additional comments was provided at the end of the survey. The comments included a wide range of concerns, some of which have been acted upon: "It's too cold," maintenance is working on it; "It's too noisy," upstairs is designated as utter silence, while downstairs allows conversation at an acceptable level (let someone know if there is a problem); "The copier line is too long," a new one is not available due to the budget; "The copier is too expensive," the library doesn't set the rate nor do they receive any of the money (the administration is in control of this factor).

The faculty's main concern was the availability of materials. 24% of the faculty stated that they were generally unable to find need material. This concern is understandable considering the greater needs of professors.

The faculty's other top concern was in the area of funds received by Lane Library to purchase of new materials. 66% of the faculty indicated that the library did not receive enough funds to purchase materials.

A concern that was addressed by faculty and students alike was the lacking physical appearance of the library. This issue has already begun to be covered. During the summer break, the entire first floor was recarpeted and rearranged, and from initial feedback, most feel the library now looks "just fine, beautiful, nice," and so forth.

Lane Library does have its problems. But at the same time, the problems are being sought out and solutions are being undertaken as the resources become available. If anyone has a comment or suggestion for the improvement of Lane Library, please pass it on to the librarians — they need to know how they can further improve their service to you. ♦

# Russian born teenager growing up an American in Savannah

by Dee Shurling

Alex Gubenko looks like any other Windsor Forest High senior, blonde hair starting to get long and heavy metal t-shirt. However, the difference between Alex and any other student became clear recently when Alex was contacted by the media to act as translator for Yuri Alexov, Soviet defector. Alex was chosen for the job because he spent the first 7 of his seventeen years in the Soviet Union and remains fluent in the language.

Alex and his family were able to immigrate from their home in Kiev to the U.S. because they are partially Jewish. "In the words of my father, we came here for a better life for the kids. We were directed to Savannah because my father is an inspecting engineer and there was a lot of construction going on here." Because Alex and his older brother were under 18 at the time they emigrated, they did not have to take the naturalization test as their parents did. The Gubenkos are now all U.S. citizens.

The Gubenkos have no other family in the U.S. However, there are six other Russian families in Savannah, and the group is very close. One of the members of these families is a friend of Yuri's and the reason he came to Savannah after he defected. Alex stated that the two men have been friends since childhood and had been plan-

ning Yuri's defection for three years. Yuri, a classical violinist, is now looking for a job and, with Alex' help, trying to learn English.

Thanks to Gorbachov and the glasnost movement, Alex will return to Russia this summer for the first time since he left ten years ago. Also going are his father and a friend, Steve. "I'm very excited about going, I'll be able to speak Russian freely there. I want to go to Red Square because I've never been there. Much of the rest of it will be a flashback to childhood - 'Do you remember this?' I'll be able to see my family also." Since their immigration, the Gubenkos have been able to communicate with these family members only through letters and phone calls. "The letters had always been opened and the calls were most likely monitored." He says he has "absolutely no fears of being held back in Russia."

Alex is very interested in politics, which is to be expected considering his unique position. "Gorbachov has done a lot and he's much more popular in Europe than Bush is. But there are a lot of people in Russia who don't like him because they don't think he's changing things fast enough." Alex is confident that Gorby will stay in power. When asked for his opinion of Reagan's "Evil Empire" theories, Alex replied, "Well, the man's getting old, isn't he?" He also stated that he did not think

Reagan did much for improving U.S.-Soviet relations.

We are all aware of the stereotypes of Russians that ideas such as the "Evil Empire" have helped to perpetrate. Alex noted that the Russian people have plenty of ideas about Americans that are not necessarily true also. "They look up to Americans because we have a free country, but they also think we are greedy, spoiled, rude and more worried about ourselves than others. One book that I have from when I was a kid shows all of the Americans as fat slobs while the Russians are wearing suits. The Russian press has reported only the negative things about Americans, but I think they're opening up more now."

The stereotype of Russians as heavy drinkers may have its basis in fact. "I think that it is pretty accurate to say that there are more alcoholics in Russia. There are too many problems and drinking is one way out," points out Alex.

But, as anyone who has seen the recently crowned first Miss U.S.S.R. can tell, all Soviet women are not fat and hairy, and many of the other generalizations are also myths. "For people who know me, Russia is a completely different concept now," Alex explained. "They realize it's not so different from here." He says he does not feel people treat him differently because of where he was born. "Everybody at school knows and there aren't really any problems. One day this guy was wearing a pin that said 'Russia Sucks', but he took it off after I started telling him how stupid it was."

With graduation coming soon, Alex is reviewing his options for after high school. Among his choices are art college for a major in cover design and a career as a translator. "About the only thing I can't do is run for President. But I consider it a privilege being Russian. I've seen both sides of the world and can compare them."

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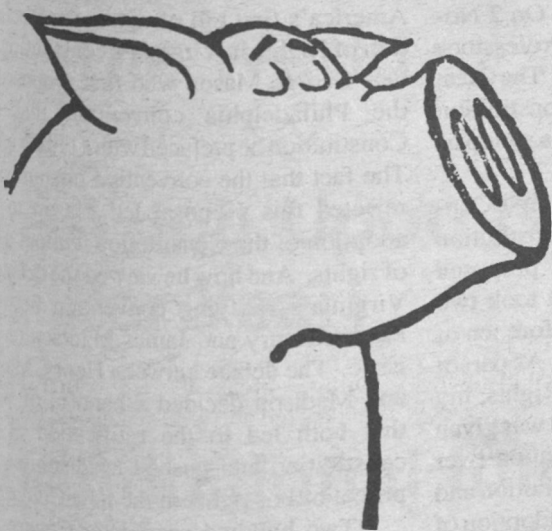
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## Russian sociologist visits ASC

by Nancy Dare

On 9 October, Dr. Lily Golden, an anthropologist from the Soviet Union, visited Armstrong. A luncheon was held in her honor, and afterwards, she joined an Education class, taught by Dr. Stephens.

Near the end of class Golden graciously and surprisingly agreed to answer questions. The topics covered were education, AIDS, drug and alcohol abuse, equal rights, the Lenin Library, and the social condition in Russia.

Education was discussed first. Golden said that all education in Russia is free, and everyone goes until they are sixteen years old. Schooling begins at the age of three when children enter kindergarten. They study music, foreign languages, and how to read and write. Some of the languages taught are French, German, English and Chinese. Teachers that teach kindergarten go to school for two or three extra years after the age of sixteen for teacher training. When children enter formal school at the age of six, they can already read and write.

Golden said there is a movement going on to try and stop children from entering school at the age of three because it is generally believed that three is too early to begin reading and writing.

After children finish their basic education, they go into a trade school for job training or spend two more years on academic studies. In an effort to secure a position in higher school for their children, many parents hire a private tutor for their 14 and 15 year olds.

Golden said it is true that most parents think their children are the greatest, the smartest, and most talented people on earth, and they work very hard to help their children excel. The well known "tracking" is absent in Russian schools because they believe that everyone develops at a different rate. A poor beginner could be a late bloomer. Albert Einstein was cited as a prime example.

Students get paid to go to school from the age of 16 and up. The amount they receive is determined by how well they do in their studies. Competition to enter a university is very fierce with 50 or more people applying for each opening.

There are special schools for adults who go back to school, which is fairly common. The school is taught at night so pupils can work during the day. Material taught at night is the same as in the day schools.

Golden pointed out that some of the reasons people go back to school are: if late bloomers and if they could not attend as youths because of studying music, dance, and athletics. "That's why we win all those gold medals at the Olympics," she observed.

On the subject of AIDS, Golden said there are only a few known cases of it in the country and at least a third of the cases were a result of doctors using dirty needles. There are no disposable needles available at this time, but there are two factories being built which will produce them.

Golden said there is not a drug problem, although a small amount of drugs do get into the country through port cities. She admitted there is a problem with alcoholism in some places, and the problem is a serious one.

She countered this statement with the observation that there are Islamic and Catholic communities where little to no drinking takes place.

Golden said some startling things about equal rights. Women have the exact same opportunities as men for education, jobs, and divorce. In some jobs the women earn more than their male counterparts do. It is easy for a woman to get a divorce because there is little to lose: the housing is free, they earn as much as men, and there are few material goods to divide. She said women are VERY liberated and have too much independence.

More information we received about Russia included the library system. There are many public libraries including the Academy of Science, Library of Foreign Literature, and the Lenin Library. The Lenin library is in the process of obtaining every book that has ever been published! It is located in Moscow and was built in 1939. Over 2.5 million people visit it each year. It is linked with 4,500 other libraries in the Soviet Union and with 200 foreign libraries through it's inter-library loan system.

On the subject of Mikhail Gorbachev, Golden pointed out that he is highly criticized from all sides. People are tired of waiting for reforms, which has lead to many strikes in Russia. With the extremely powerful bureaucrats, Gorbachev can't change things without some cooperation.

The affluent citizens are very anxious at this time because they know that the average person doesn't have the foresight to know that change takes time. The growing impatience of the masses could result in civil war. ♦

arguments for the debate.

Rev. Allan Bosson of the Southside Baptist Church, who is originally from New Zealand, and Judy Eckburg, the public relations liason for the Coastal Empire Right to Life, will present the pro-life arguments.

Dr. John Kearns of the Armstrong Department of Government will serve as moderator for the debate.

## Debate on abortion to be held

A debate on abortion will be held on 9 November in the Health Professions Auditorium at 12:30pm. The debate is sponsored by the Student Government Association, and it will feature two pro-choice and two pro-life speakers.

Rev. Andrew Summers of the Pastoral Counseling Center and Rabbi David E. Ostrich of Temple Mickve Israel Reform Synagogue will present the pro-choice

## Student Bill of Rights

1. The right to attend classes during their regularly scheduled time without deviation from such time and without penalty if the student cannot attend instructional hour not intitutionally scheduled.
2. The right to consult with an assigned advisor for a reasonable amount of time each quarter.
3. The right to transfer core cirriculum within the University System.
4. The right to consult with faculty outside of classroom time during regularly scheduled office hours or by appointment.
5. The right to reasonable access to campus facilities of which use is required to complete course assignments and objectives.
6. The right to receive each quarter for each course, a syllabus which outlines course objectives and requirements and to be informed of any changes in these syllabi at the beginning of the quarter.
7. The right of timely review of lecture and/or reading material before a major examination is administered.
8. The right of each student to receive access to any of his/her records kept by the institution.
9. The right to reasonable access to grading instruments and/or evaluation materials.
10. The right to be informed of the grade appeals process.

## SGA: Student Bill of Rights

The Student Government Association, following the lead of the Georgia Student Advisory Council, has accepted a Students Bill of Rights to be included in the SGA constitution and the student handbooks. The proposal is all but voted on by the Board of Regents, who expect a vote to approve the Bill officially to come soon.

SGA President Robert Spaulding says that the Bill of Rights has drifted down through SAC to colleges all over the state, who are accepting the proposal also.

"Rights of individuals and students have been abused and misunderstood," asserts Spaulding, as a reason for the Student Bill of Rights, which establish a variety of rights.

Many of the Rights may seem obvious but simply need to be laid out in a logical manner for students and faculty members to see. Some of the rights include: the right

to consult advisors, the right to consult with faculty outside the classroom, right to campus facilities, the right to timely review before a major exam, the right for access to records and evaluation materials, and the right to be informed of the grade appeals process.

"Our founding fathers of the constitution thought that we needed a Bill of Rights to protect its citizens," points out Spaulding. "So as SGA president, I see fit to protect the student's rights because we are the consumer."

According to Spaulding, as soon as the Board of Regents finalizes its support for the Bill of Rights, the Armstrong Administration will then look into approving what the Armstrong student senate has already endorsed. ♦

## Faculty Lecture Series continues

Dr. John Kearns from the Department of Government will present the next lecture in The Faculty Lecture Series. On 2 November at 12:30 in the Health Professions Auditorium, Kearns will present "The Great Betrayal: the Debate over the Constitution and the Bill of Rights." Here is a synopsis of his lecture:

On September 25, 1789 the first Congress under America's new Constitution sent out to the states twelve proposed amendments for ratification. It took two more years and much debate before ten of them became our Bill of Rights. As part of the bicentennial of the Bill of Rights, my lecture will relive this debate as it was given in the Virginia ratifying convention over the issue of adopting a new constitution and the need for a bill of rights. The adoption of a new constitution and a bill of rights was as Lord Nelson said of the battle of Waterloo, "a damned near thing!" Virginia was crucial for the adoption of both.

In this lecture I will look through the eyes of a prominent Virginia delegate to the

to the constitutional in Philadelphia, George Mason, who was the principle author of America's first bill of rights, the Declaration of Rights in Virginia's constitution. It was George Mason who first proposed at the Philadelphia convention that the Constitution be prefaced with a bill of rights. The fact that the convention unanimously rejected this proposal led Mason to the adoption of the Constitution without a bill of rights. And how he viewed the debate in Virginia's ratifying convention between Patrick Henry and James Madison on the issue. The debate between Henry, Mason, and Madison decided a handful of votes that both led to the ratification of the constitution and pushed Madison to propose a bill of rights in the new Congress.

Two hundred years later Congress is now asked to consider amending the First Amendment. How would Mason, Henry, and Madison now reflect on this, and America's constitutional history to evaluate the role of the Bill of Rights for America's dream of liberty? ♦



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# Lady Pirates ready for new season with new head coach

by Chris Foster

The weather is turning to a cool, breezy autumn, and the thoughts of the athletic world turn to two sports: football and basketball. Since Armstrong doesn't have a football team I guess will have to concentrate on the basketball program, specifically the women's team.

After last year's less than spectacular record, Armstrong decided to hire a new coach. Lenny Passink saw the job as a challenge and accepted the position as the head coach.

Passink brings a great deal of experience with him.

His last coaching job was with the now defunct Savannah Spirits of the Continental Basketball Association, as an assistant coach.

Altogether he has over 9 years experience with men's basketball, he is the first to admit that coaching a women's team is a new experience. He is trying to instill the

team with a new work ethic. He wants the team to have fun while also trying to improve every day.

Returning to the squad from last year's team is Kim Godbee, Dina Mitchell, Wallethe Widener, Jackie Moore, and Laura Branson. Coach Passink also has a crop of enthusiastic freshman to help fill the team out.

When asked about a probable starting five, the coach said that he had a starting thirteen. Coach Passink will be using more defensive pressure against the opponents

hoping that this will allow the offensive tempo to increase.

All of this will make for a much more

exciting game, and the coach hopes that the student body will show more support.

The first game is Tuesday, November 21, against the Florida Institute of Technology at 5:30PM. Come to the game to see the new Lady Pirates start a new and better season.. ❖

## Hoops '89-'90

# Intramurals

## Flag football standings and latest scores as of 23 October

### Men

- 1 Longshots 4-0 def. Clippers 44-0 (suspended)
- 2 New Breed 5-1 def. BSU 26-20, lost Waterboys 12-7
- 3 89'ers 4-1 def. Dropouts 20-14, def. ROTC 22-20
- 4 BSU 4-2 def. ROTC (forfeit), lost New Breed 26-20
- 5 Waterboys 3-1 def. New Breed 12-7, def. Clippers 13-6
- 6 Road Warriors def. Trojans 12-0
- 7 Clippers lost Longshots 44-0, lost Waterboys 13-6
- 9 ROTC lost BSU (forfeit), lost 89'ers 22-20
- 10 Trojans lost Road Warriors 12-0, lost Dropouts 12-6

### Women

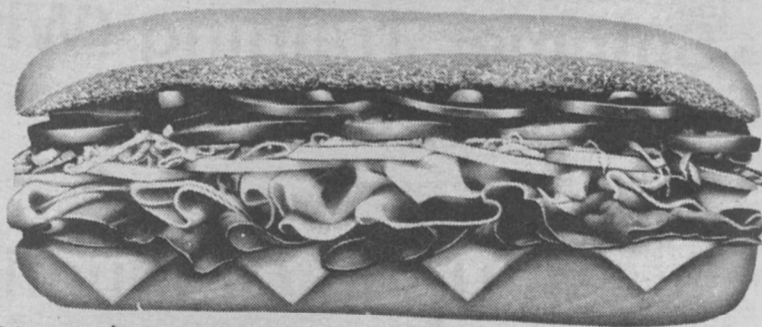
- 1 Longshots 3-0 def. Alpha Gamma Delta 43-0
- 2 New Breed 2-1 def. Phi Mu 14-0
- 3 Phi Mu 1-2 lost New Breed 14-0
- 4 Alpha Gamma Delta 0-3 lost Longshots 43-0

### Intramurals Quote of the Week:

"I believe that we are the best 0-5 team in the league. If we score more points than the other team, we might win, but I wouldn't bet on it. We've got potential -- in other words, we ain't worth a damn yet."

-- Michael West, Captain of the Trojans

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## The Weekly Crossword Puzzle

### ACROSS

- 1 Exploit
- 5 Jog
- 9 Deface
- 12 Solo
- 13 At this place
- 14 Anger
- 15 Noisemaker
- 17 Exist
- 18 River in Scotland
- 19 Heavy volume
- 21 Commemorative disk
- 23 Buffoonery
- 27 Indian mulberry
- 28 Popular TV maid
- 29 Auricle
- 31 Cloth measure
- 34 Either
- 35 Weight of India
- 37 Comb. form: middle

- 39 Three-toed sloth
- 40 Marry
- 42 Plunge
- 44 Dressing for fish
- 46 Sun god
- 48 Hindered
- 50 Commonplace
- 53 Saucy
- 54 Garden tool
- 55 Behold!
- 57 Stage whispers
- 61 Possessive pronoun
- 62 Object of devotion
- 64 Girl's name
- 65 Openwork fabric
- 66 Sums up
- 67 Microbe

### DOWN

- 1 Distant
- 2 Period of time
- 3 River island

- 4 Gossips
- 5 Subject of discourse
- 6 Concerning
- 7 Spherical body

- 8 Abound
- 9 Center
- 10 Region
- 11 Walk unsteadily
- 16 Lounged about
- 20 Before
- 22 Babylonian deity
- 23 Arab lateen-rigged vessel
- 24 Underdone
- 25 Measure of weight: abbr.
- 26 Sweet potato
- 30 Parts of steps
- 32 Intertwine
- 33 Fabricated
- 36 Free of
- 38 Spurring forth
- 41 Most arid
- 43 Vigor: colloq.
- 45 Chaldean city
- 47 Near
- 49 River ducks
- 50 Slender
- 51 Repetition
- 52 Lamb's pen name
- 56 Unusual
- 58 Female deer
- 59 Transgress
- 60 Everybody's uncle
- 63 Hypothetical force

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61				62		63			64			
65				66						67		



photo by Beth Cohen, SPS  
Bill Gebhart and Kelly Nelson as Mr. Frank and Anne Frank

Theater - Armstrong - Masquers presents

# The Diary of Anne Frank

Dramatized by  
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and Albert Hackett

Production Designed  
and Directed by  
John Suchower

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## Bruce Willis Talking up a winner

by Ron Speir, Jr.

### A Review

In the complicated world of today, many children are born or raised by single parents. Take *Baby Boom* as an example of the yuppie mother without father — not great. But imagine the situation focused from the child's point of view and add Bruce Willis' ad-libbing wisecracks for the child's voice, and what do you get? *Look Who's Talking*.

This film is based on a believable if not common premise. Kirstie Alley stars as Mollie, a single accountant who has a little accident during an affair with a rich client, and nine months later she is a mother. With the "father" providing a variety of excuses, Mollie is forced to embark on a search for a perfect father for her new son Mikey.

But a funny thing happened on the way to the hospital. Mollie is rushed to the hospital by a congenial taxi driver, James, A.K.A. John Travolta, who becomes involved with the birth. Afterwards, James just can't stay away from the baby and the mother, pledging to be the baby's baby sitter if Mollie helps him get his father into a plush city-run elderly home.

The simple plot may work out to be an O.K. film in the end with a few minor changes, but with Mikey's (or should we say Willis') wisecracks, the film takes off. Not only do we get the story of a mother looking for a suitable father, but also the story, from the point-of-view of a baby, of

how life begins, filled with all the curiosities that we see as mundane parts of our existence.

Willis' wisecracks are, for the most part, completely ad-libbed. It would not be hard to believe that the kid really is the young Bruce Willis — in fact it could explain alot about Bruno. One memorable scene, when Mickey's grandmother, played by Olympia Dukakis, is changing his diaper, Mickey demands that she "put some of that white powdery stuff" on him.

Almost overshadowed by Willis' voice is the fine performance by Travolta. Yes, believe it or not, Travolta is once again good in a film, especially after you get use to him not playing a stupid role. One brief scene is accompanied by the *Staying Alive* anthem almost thumbing its nose at the past films.

The only bad comment is about Alley. Despite her fine performance as the maligned mother in search of a father more than a husband, she almost seems typecast into the same role she plays in *Cheers*, the prudish business woman. It would be refreshing for her to play some different parts like the mountain woman-guide in *Shoot to Kill*.

*Look Who's Talking* is well worth seeing, if not for the Willis' wisecracks that really make the film above average, then for the opening sequence, which could be used in a sex education class to demonstrate the way babies are made (an inside view). ❖

Words to the wise by Joseph Babula

"It is better to try and fail, than fail to try"

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Robert Busek, MD - Bookkeeper/Computer Programer - 232-1592  
Savannah Symphony - Receptionist - apply in person  
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Economy Legal Services - Secretary - 927-0777  
Judith M. Heck, Attorney - Secretary - Send resume

### \*SALES

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Metropolitan Life Insurance - Telephone survey - 927-7568  
March of Dimes - Telemarketing - 354-2891

### \*FOOD SERVICE

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Baldinos - Counter help - 354-8459

## CLASSIFIEDS

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### \*MISC.

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Chatham Medical Association - Medical Technician - 355-1315  
Rosemary Allen - Childcare - 927-0405  
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Ga. Dept. of Transportation - Survey traffic - 234-5640  
Watkins Motor Lines - Dockworker - 234-8894  
Kroger - Floral shop assistant - 236-9321  
Advance Business Forms - Delivery/Warehouse - 925-8084  
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# UFO, aliens invade campus

by T. H. Hunter

Alien life forces from an unknown planet landed at ASC on Friday, October 13. The alien spacecraft circled over the campus for three days searching for a parking space. Once they were able to land, Campus Security issued them a parking ticket because their flying saucer did not have a parking decal.

According to witnesses, the aliens shouted what seemed to be profanities at the security officer who was doing his job. The officer had no way of knowing that the aliens were not students, although they did have green hair. The officer could easily have mistaken them as transfer students from SCAD.

The reason the aliens chose ASC are only speculations. For a long time many students have thought that some of the faculty were not from this planet. They insist that the satellite dish outside of Victor Hall has been sending messages to their home planet asking to return home because the people upstairs keep rodents for pets.

Some say the aliens kidnapped ASC president, Robert Burnett, and replaced him with an alien clone (like in *Invasion of the Body Snatchers*).

Others feel that the space vehicle did not come to pick up those they had left, but to drop off new infiltrators for the alien takeover.

This theory is absurd. Why would anyone want to take over Savannah? Nothing ever happens here. If they wanted to take over a real city, why didn't they land in Statesboro? After all, they have a Univer-

sity, and we don't.

Another proposed reason for the landing at ASC is the laser-light show. Everyone loves to see bright lights that are flashed in conjunction with loud rock music. But if this is the thing that brought our alien visitors, the name of the show — Saturn V — probably attracted their attention.

The most popular speculation regarding the alien visit is the search for intelligent life. According to one student, Lyat Nothing, the aliens went to Victor Hall first because they saw the advanced machinery — the satellite dish — outside. Once the aliens realized that the dish was only there to pick up the Playboy Channel and ESPN, they knew there was no hope of finding intelligent life on this campus.

The discouraged aliens left Earth for their undetermined planet of origin. If they had only taken the time to go one building over — Gamble Hall — they would have found the intelligent life for which they were searching. I am not trying to imply that ALL life in Gamble Hall is intelligent, this would be absurd. No, the intelligent life, like everyone knows, are the students taking Latin. If the aliens do not believe this the only thing they would have had to do is ask Dr. Noble. He would explain that those who know Latin are intelligent, while he might add that those who do not are barbarians.

The best and most probable reason that the aliens landed at ASC is that they were lost. The aliens left on their own without causing any harm. Many students and faculty members did not even know we were invaded. With the number of incoming freshman, the aliens fit right in. ❖

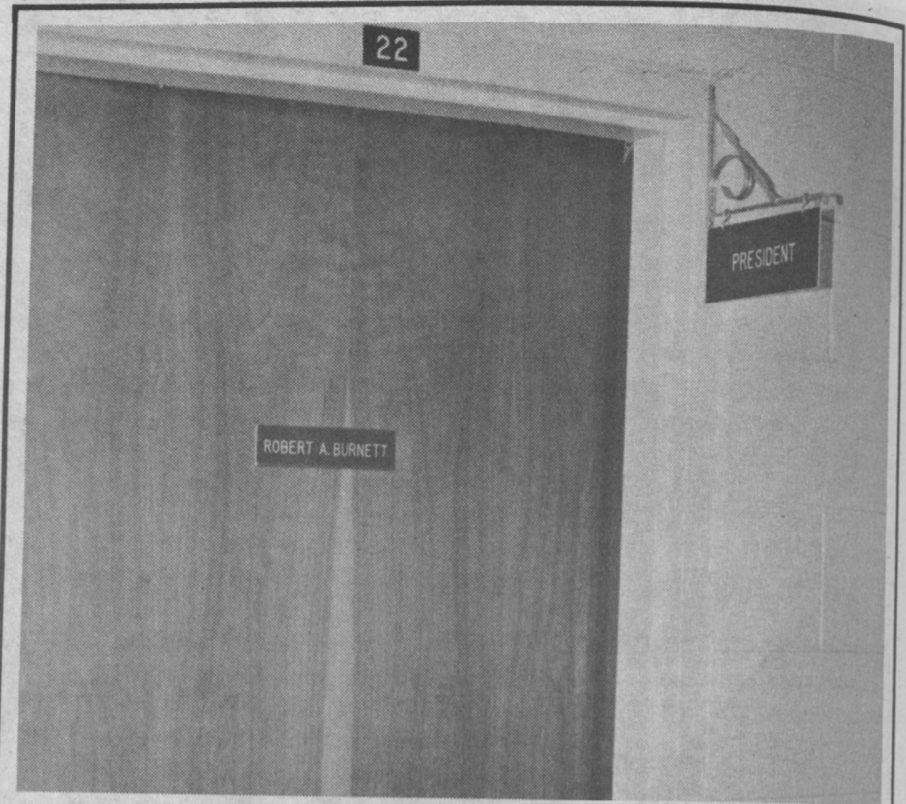


photo by Beth Cohen, SPS

Is the real Burnett behind this door or his alien clone?

## Seven steps to pick up females

by Cujo King

Here is your guide to making a lasting impression with the female student body. If you say the wrong thing or make the wrong gesture, your reputation will be ruined for the rest of your college career. So, gentlemen, I am here to inform you of the correct and incorrect ways of conversing with women.

When you arrive at the party, the first thing that you will notice is the people in attendance. This will automatically tell you what kind of party it is. Is it rowdy or laid back, formal or informal? To succeed, you must adjust your personality and approach to the tone of the party.

After you have ascertained the type of environment you will be in, you begin to search the room for women that you would like to get to know. This begins the real test. You find your mark.

First, make sure she is not with someone else. You wouldn't want to get plastic surgery performed on your face by someone named Butch. Once you are certain that she is alone, begin to show subtle signs of interest.

Rule #1: Do not stare. She will automatically assume that you are either an idiot or a blindman. When she looks your way, let her know, by way of bodily movement and facial expression, that you would like to speak with her. Give her a little smile, but, by no means show any signs of vulgarity.

At last you may walk over and talk to her.

Rule #2: Do not strut. She will think that you are conceited and an all around jerk. Remember, you are not Elvis. The rotating pelvis only works in "Jailhouse Rock."

Rule #3: Avoid the "line," the well-known crap that is slung by men to women

at least one hundred times a day.

Don't try to deny it. You know you have used the infamous "line" at least once in your life: "Hey baby! What's your sign."

There is not a single line that we, as women, haven't already heard, so do not attempt it. If we are intelligent enough to go to school, we definitely do not want to hear some guy sling all of that krap in our faces. Wise up!

Rule #4: Do not ask stupid questions. She will think that you are trying to make her seem uneducated.

Whatever you do, don't ask her if her hair is natural or if she has breast implants.

As long as you keep asking questions, you should have no problem following the next rule:

Rule #5: Do not talk solely about yourself. She will think that you are vain.

If all you talk about is your glorious football career, she will assume that all you care about is your conceited self. She will begin to look for the quickest possible exit. Ask her about her life and her interests. Ask if she plays any sports or what her favorite classes are at school. Let her know that you would like to get to know her better. You don't necessarily have to have a degree from Harvard; just act like you have a little bit of common sense.

Rule #6: Do not appear too forward.

While talking, do not begin pawing, stroking, or drooling. She will assume that you are only out for one thing. Even if you are, you could make it seem more subtle. Acting like a hormone-crazed baboon will only contribute to your downfall.

Finally, the piece of advice that should prove to be most helpful:

Rule #7: Be yourself. Women don't like to hear a lot of exaggerated tales about guys. We don't particularly care. In fact, we find it quite boring.

So, with all of this in mind, go out and enjoy yourself. ❖

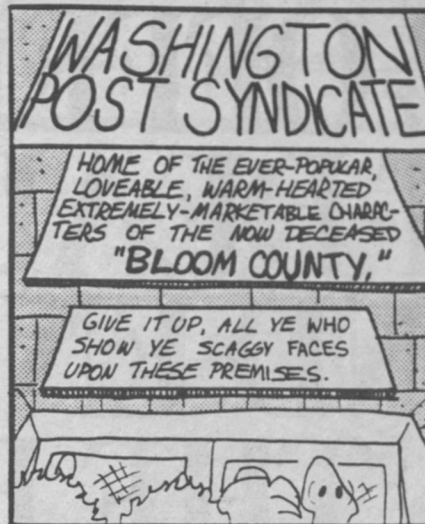
## The official Inkwell Top Ten List

From the home office in Pooler

Top ten reasons for having a top ten list:

10. Making a top 20 list too hard
9. We use the Krystal coupons instead of putting them in the paper
8. "Free Jim Bakker" ad campaign ran out of funding
7. It's a favorite of the cafeteria staff
6. Cheaper than a nationally syndicated cartoon
5. Its more fun to write than a real news article
4. Accomplishes something that Shakespeare didn't do
3. A tribute to David Letterman, the man & the human being
2. It's either this or a bi-weekly astrological forecast
1. Filler! Filler! Filler!

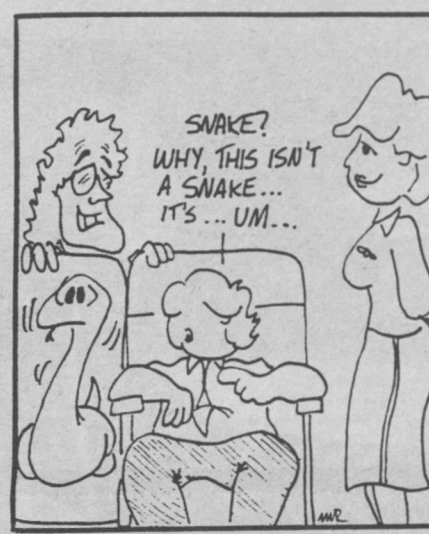
ARM-IN-ARM



by Michael West



ARM-IN-ARM



by Michael West



Sayings of the Wise by Joseph Babula

"Doubts are our worst traitors, they make us miss out on what we could have got"

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