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The "War on Terror" is talked of quite frequently these days, but we should ask ourselves if this war is new to us? Terrorism should've been confronted decades ago, and it's a shame that we had to wait until the bombing of 911 to actively get involved in it. We've all witnessed terrorism on the nightly news for the last quarter of a century. I think that most of the civilized people of this world would agree that terrorism needs to be confronted. What's not agreed upon is who should do the confronting.

We've been criticized for being bullies, and accused of widespread use of torture and profiteering. We've been labeled infidels, because our culture differs from the viewpoints of fanatics who seem to think that their God is bigger than ours. We've even been accused of picking this fight by false accusations of weapons of mass destruction. Isn't the widespread use of fear, terror and genocide on a people big enough en mass to justify our involvement?

Are we really bullies if we seek justice for the loved ones of 911? Do bullies try to establish democracy for the people they're trying to exploit? We didn't knock down skyscrapers on innocent people in their lands, and terrorist shouldn't be able to pack a quick bag and hopscotch to asylum in a bordering sympathizing look-the-other-way nation. Bullies or not, fanatics started this fight and if they thought we'd crumble with fear, they're sadly mistaken. Wherever a terrorist feels secure should be fair hunting grounds, and we should have the support of civilized nations both ethically and militarily.

We should have the support of the religious community worldwide and agree on fundamental beliefs to rid all of our congregations of fanatical extremist. The enemy may feel invulnerable and even invisible but in the end justice will be served. Death squads are unconstitutional in the United States and we should have the support of all of our neighbors in ridding the world of such factions.

I heard a Sergeant for the U.S. Army give a speech at my stepson's graduation from basic training in the military. He proudly stated that "the United States has been in the ass-kicking business a long time." If we were fighting this war for imperialistic reasons then I would much better understand the lack of international support. If we were fighting this war for religious reasons, then I would much better understand our lack of support at home. The basic issue isn't whether or not we should be involved, but how much we should be involved and why we aren't supported in our efforts at home and abroad? • Tim Dougherty
Reverent Praise To
Robert Jones & the SUNYIT Print Shop

Publication Guidelines:
The Factory Times is published monthly and funded through advertising revenue and a portion of the mandatory student activities fee. It is written, designed, and published by the students of SUNYIT. The articles inside do not reflect the views of SUNYIT, the Student Association of SUNYIT, or the Factory Times, but rather the view of that article's author. No part of this publication may be reproduced or transmitted in any form or by any means, except as may be expressly permitted in writing by the Publication Director. The Factory Times staff meets every Tuesday at 12:00 in the ISET Conference Room in Donovan.
It has recently come to my knowledge that a few individuals at one of the Student Association meetings has addressed their concern with writers of the Factory Times using obscenities in their writing, as they were offended by it. Now, I'm not sure exactly how many people are offended by the use of these words, but I sure would like to know just how many people feel the same way. With that said, now it's time to lay the cards out on the table, because once again I must clear things up with my audience.
IF MY MATERIAL IS OFFENSIVE, THEN THAT MUST MEAN THAT YOU DON'T WATCH TELEVISION OR MOVIES WITH A RATING HIGHER THAN PG-13.

When I first landed a position as Staff Writer for the Factory Times, this is what I was told: "We don't worry about censorship here." It was a writer's dream job! The First Amendment was exercised to the fullest extent! I was free to put my thoughts down on paper without worrying about someone telling me, "James, you can't say that because it's inappropriate." I went a full six months without hearing one person tell me or anyone else in the Factory Times that they were offended by my work because I used obscenities. And now, six months later, not only am I informed that a small amount of people have publicly stated that they are offended by obscenities, but I am told that I "have to be careful" about what I say or "my writing won't be published." And even more interesting is that apparently by using obscenities, people sound "immature." I guess it's true when they say nothing's ever as good as it seems.

Now let's get real. We hear obscenities everywhere we go: in the cafeteria, watching television, playing video games, in music, at open mic nights. They're everywhere. Comedians use them in their material...does that make those comedians immature? In the movies you'll hear someone say as they're trying to escape death or they've lost a loved one scream what has been deemed as an inappropriate word in aguish or fear, and yet we can all say "wow if that happened to me, I'd do the same thing," and we're not offended. And now, when you open up an issue of the Factory Times and you see an obscenity that offends you? You must be joking.

Think about the way it's being used. I write a column about "things that piss me off." The whole object of this column is to inform you about things that I am against because I feel they are important (or sometimes not so important, as with the forwarded messages/emails article) while taking a comedic approach about it. These "swear words" aren't being used to make myself sound immature or out of sheer anger, they're used in order to get your attention and to make you laugh, to "set the mood," if you will. When I write a creative piece, I'll sometimes put an obscenity into some of the dialogue to add to the effect of the character development.

If my material is offensive, then that must mean that you don't watch television or movies with a rating higher than PG-13. This is one of the few ways I have left of expressing myself freely without running into any major problems. These styles of writing are mine. They are a tool in helping me to create something readable, and I don't plan on changing the way I write regardless of what I'm told or what the cost.

You read my work by choice. It is your free will, as given to you when you're born into this world, to pick up an issue and read my work. And! (I'm not done yet!) If you've read previous issues of the Factory Times and noticed the lovely words I used in those articles, then you should know better than to continue to read the works that I've written, or that anyone else has written for that matter.

Now comes my question: Are there more of you who are offended? Is there a large enough group of people who are so offended by my work that maybe I should be somewhat wary of it? I'd like to know your thoughts and opinions. Furthermore, I will give you my personal e-mail address in order to state your opinions to me directly for two reasons, the first being that this is the final issue of the Factory Times for this semester, meaning that there won't be a place for your responses to be put up until next semester, and the second being that I want to be the first to read these opinions since I am the one asking you these questions. The only thing I ask in return is that you don't hide behind the infamous "Anonymous" name. With that said, I hope I've shed some light on those of you who may feel that my work, or that the work of the other writers is offensive. Oh, and feel free to come and find me to speak with me personally, because I love debates.

Sincerely,

James Schneider
Chief Writer of the Factory Times
itsdiabitus@gmail.com
The PC Lab having technical difficulties the first couple of weeks during Web Design class? I'll let it slide, even though maintenance should have been there to fix it.

"We'll have class in the Mac Lab so we can get stuff done."

I can live with that, I guess. So we're two weeks behind. I'll just read the textbook to try to teach myself how to create web sites. Not exactly what I paid for when I handed over 16 grand, but it was just a flaw in the system.

"James, that's so easy." Hey, this is the first time I'm trying to learn about Web Design, so it isn't exactly a walk through the park.

A winter storm warning that forces the college to shut down? Nobody can help that. Now we're three weeks behind. Meeting once a week for three and a half hours really seems to be hurting the learning experience that I came here for.

I walk into the Mac Lab for a different class earlier in the day and notice that all of the computers are locked up. A friend calls tech support, and they never come down. Then
my professor walks in and calls them, and they finally send someone down to try and fix the problem...but to no avail.

I visit with my Web Design professor, and she says in an extremely frustrated tone, “Well, class is cancelled tonight because they didn’t fix the Mac Lab.”

And that was the last straw.

FOUR WEEKS BEHIND!

That’s four weeks that I could have had to learn about new techniques and styles in creating a web site, never to be given back to me. The money I paid to learn, out the damned window. It kills me. It really kills me. I’m so sick and tired of this! I come to this campus to learn new skills that I need to begin a successful career, and “the labs aren’t working.”

How about spending some of your funds on fixing the problem instead of preparing 20 million dollars to get a new sports building that nobody’s going to use? Granted, a sports building is cool I guess, but maybe it’d be a wise idea if you wouldn’t spend all of that money on it and fixed the problems that are causing the learning aspect of college (which is the most important aspect) to be greatly hindered. Repeat after me: This. Is. A. Tech. School.

That’s right! TECH SCHOOL. So why are there so many problems? It’s okay if there’s a couple here and there, but when these problems cause me to miss nearly a month’s worth of class, don’t think I’m just going to sit back and let them get away with it.

“Oh, big angry man James. What are you going to do about it?”

I’ll tell you one thing, I’m not going to do nothing like some people have a tendency of doing around here. No. I’ve taken it upon myself to confront the Dean of Arts and Sciences along with a majority of my Web Design classmates about this matter in an attempt to be reimbursed for those classes. My professor isn’t the one to blame, it’s the screwed up facilities that we have here. And if you think I won’t get reimbursed, let’s just say I have quite a few tricks up my sleeves. For instance, “But Mr. Dean of Arts and Sciences, what am I to tell the students that I’m trying to recruit from my other college? Do you think they’ll come here if I tell them there’s a huge chance that the labs that are needed to do their homework might shut down at any given point in time, thus rendering them helpless and agitated because they can’t afford to purchase the software required to complete the projects?”

Oh yes. While I will be extremely mature and will channel my anger into a powerful weapon of kind words and frustration, I will still be angry. This isn’t like losing some loose change to a broken soda machine. This is something much more important.

I know there’s a slight possibility that those of higher authority on this campus may begin throwing out this issue of the Factory Times because once again someone has the balls to stand up to SUNYIT in yet another problem that always seems to be overlooked, but don’t think I’m going down without a fight. May the rest of you get the courage to do the same. • James Schneider
ARIES (March 21 - April 19) When you have that recurring nightmare about yourself don't worry about it, but if you want them to stop drink chocolate soymilk. Green is your summer color and you should wear it often. Your sporting life will keep you in good stead for a summer triathlon if you keep at it. You find that you have an uncontrollable urge to yell like a drill instructor, feel free to do so as it is a great stress reliever.

TAURUS (April 20- May 20) Always make time to shop for car insurance. It will make your day more fulfilling. Rotten food can be an unhealthy way to lose weight! You do a lot of good work, so you should make people pay for it. A man named Paul will address you sometime in the near future about the size and fit of your t-shirt. Don't be scared or taken aback, he just wants to know if you are comfortable under pressure.

GEMINI (May 21- June 21) Scraping the bottom of the barrel is always a sad affair, especially if it's the biscuit barrel. Cold winds encircle your future. You might think you are special today as people will stop to stare at you, but the truth is that your hair is two slightly different colors and people are finally noticing. You will also notice a small rash on your left heel, don't worry it's not your time to die yet.

CANCER (June 22- July 22) When opening the door for a stranger, take care to notice any loose change that they may drop so that you can slam the door in their face, grab the money, and then run for dear life. You will be provoked by a creepy teenager with strange eyes, don't get upset by him, he's just looking to creep you out. The computer you are trying to access has forbidden your entry as it deems your future too scary and it does not want to be a part of it. You will be really disappointed in the coming days. The blemishes on your skin will diminish along with your sanity and otherwise happy demeanor.

LEO (July 23- August 22) Mythology states that all kinds of crazy crap happened. You believe that, don't you? That's why you're reading this. Please pay for the services I provide by continuing to read The Factory Times in the coming years. Your future may be tainted by a mistake in your past. Now is the time for a new resolution. You'll keep on fighting till the end A small puppy will bite you with excitement, leaving you with a paranoid feeling as you ponder how to treat rabies. A skittle will fall from an unknown height and land in your lap.

VIRGO (August 23- September 22) Your lucky horse for today is: Sombrero's Bottom. You are not the person you once were, try to reflect those changes in your general appearance and, please, smile for a change. You're incredible, but bamboo will probably bring you the luck that you have been craving. Eating bamboo however will only bind your intestines, and you will feel self-conscious forever. Break a mirror over someone's head and they will receive bad luck, kill them in the process however, and you will be declared insane.

LIBRA (September 23- October 23) Your future may well rely on the kindness of others and your ability to fight your way to the front of a line. Make sure that what you are in line for is worth fighting for. Fudge Marshmallow cookies will go on sale at your local grocery store, and although you will be tempted to invest in stock, hold out until July till the stars align in your favor. You will break your favorite picture frame on your way out the door, slow down so the world can catch up.

SCORPIO (October 24- November 21) Watch out for falling pianos, they always seem to land on your head. When you put your mind to it, you can be one hell of a person. Remember to chew before you swallow. A yellow blanket will plague your dreams. You should see a doctor for the pain in your left hand, as black sores, oozing with purple smoke, are never a good omen. You will find yourself tied up in the following weeks, which will lead you to believe that hair-ties can solve world hunger.

SAGITARIUS (November 22- December 21) Butter your bread on both sides so that if the bread falls, you'll be screwed no matter what. It may be easier to make a toasted sandwich if you used pre-sliced bread. Your lucky drink for today is: Clear Pop, not Soda although you understand that it is supposed to be Soda, not Pop. Don't take everything you have for granted. You might start seeing spots, this however
is not because everything around you is infected with chicken pox, but rather because you are staring directly at the sun too often.

CAPRICORN (December 22-January 19) Lots of different shades of gray help you understand that the world generally is not better in black and white. When faced with a lifetime of trauma, please remember what your mother always told you. "Wash your hands!" Your soul-mates silhouette will be seen easily in the clouds as they pass, I do not advise skipping events to find out who it is as it will only come out at night.

AQUARIUS (January 20-February 18) Personal warranties don't mean that you're ever going get your money back on that camera you bought off of the "man in the funny hat". Seek comfort in clothing today, nudity is prohibited in public anyway and you will be spending a lot of your time there. You've got as much right as anyone to stamp your feet and demand retribution, but over a turkey sandwich? I think you are overreacting. You will stumble over a stick, listen closely as it knows the meaning of life and will never repeat himself.

PISCES (February 19-March 20) To avoid embarrassment, please avoid wearing underwear on incorrect areas of the body. When hankering for some food you may decide to experiment with various plants, you should avoid those with 3 leaves. All of your pets have died from an unknown bacterial infection, and you have lost momentum from the last four cartwheels you have attempted. Sheep shearing might be a future career for you, as you seem to be drawn to very large scissors.

- Jessica Rowe

**EXPANDING VOCABULARY**

Kismet (kiz-met) noun
- Destiny; fate, fortune

Convivial (kuhn-viv-ee-uhl) adjective
- Relating to, occupied with, or fond of feasting, drinking, and good company; merry; festive.

Stanch (stonch) verb
- To stop the flowing of; to check in its course; also, to stop the flowing of blood from; as, "to stanch a wound."

Limm (lim) verb
- To depict by drawing or painting.
- To portray in words; to describe.

Flummery (fluhm-uh-ree) noun
- Any of various desserts made of flour, milk, eggs, etc.
- Empty compliment; complete nonsense.
Fun in the Sun!

So the warm weather is here, now what do you do? Well put away those big sweaters and oversized sweatshirts, and break out the shorts and tanks. It's time for some fun in the sun! No idea what sort of fun to have either because you are stuck in whatever armpit of New York you live in and all of your college friends are stuck somewhere near the bellybutton. And of course there is the issue of your summer job. You probably sit behind some ice-cream stand scooping out ice cream, and getting hot fudge all over yourself as screaming children yell that they want theirs in a cone. Fun stuff as it might be, you need to find some sort of outlet for the summer job blues. If you sit behind a desk it is worse, you have those dull florescent lights beating on you all day, but you are still pasty white because your body hasn't seen the sun in months. Here are some quick fixes for the summer blues, and even some ideas for fun in the sun all over New York State.

First, if you have a full time job over the summer, it might be hard to see the sun, especially if you are always working, and get out when the sun is finally going down. Tanning Beds work wonders to get your tan up to par during the week so that you can enjoy the sun on your days off and not look pasty while doing it. Of course there is the scare that tanning beds can cause skin cancer, so proper precautions must be taken in order to safely keep your golden glow. Not only do tanning beds provide the desired results for a deep glow, but they also are very beneficial when used correctly. Most know that they provide the body with vitamin D, which is used to absorb calcium and keep your bones strong, but they also are extremely relaxing. Finding a place that has music in the beds will make your tanning experience excellent. I recommend searching for the tanning
center that is right for you, and finding the perfect lotion that works well. Buying from the store itself might not be a good idea however as the lotions are highly priced in most cases. Buy the tanning lotion you like online for a cheaper price. So your skin is glowing, and you are still bored? How about a road trip through the different sights that New York has to offer?

Whether it is a recreational park, beach, amusement park, or hiking through mountains, New York State offers many of the best sights that should be seen. For amusement parks there is, the always popular, 6 Flags Darien Lake, or even the 6 Flags Great Escape.

Looking to make a splash amongst all of your amusement? Go to Enchanted Forrest Water Safari. All of these attractions are fun for a day, with lodging on site or close by if you want to continue your fun throughout the week. For the simple recreation, there are state parks littering the state. From Glimmerglass State Park, to Letchworth State Park, there are an array of activities offered at each site ranging from swimming classes and theatre experiences to horseback riding and white water rafting. The key to finding a park that is just right for you is to go to the New York State Park website and clicking the options that you are looking for. Looking for a beach to lie in the sun? This is a great opportunity to get away for the day, try Lake George Beach; it is one of the most spectacular beaches in New York. Also, any other lake in New York State probably has a beach. If you are looking for a large place to meet people and hang out, try for a bigger lake such as Lake Ontario. For a smaller more peaceful place, a secluded beach such as the one on Cedar Lake might be a better option. Yet again finding the place that is right for you is only a couple mouse clicks away. Also if you are looking for excursions through the wildlife, head to the Catskills or the Adirondacks. There are many wilderness experiences offered at both places that should fit your fancy.

The idea behind the summer is to have some fun and enjoy the break before you come back to campus. (If you are graduating, you might want to use your summer as a last hoorah before you enter the real world) The idea is to have fun, yes, but also be aware. You can have all the fun in the world, but if you hurt yourself or someone else in the process it sort of throws a wet rag on the whole event. So have a great summer and be safe! • Jessica Rowe
Health and Wellness

Facts about Underage Drinking in Young Adults:

- Alcohol is the drug most used.
- Youth who use alcohol before the age of 15 are four times more likely to be alcohol dependent than adults whose first drink is at the legal age of 21.
- More than 67% of youth who start drinking before the age of 15 will try an illicit drug. Children who drink are 7.5 times more likely to use any illicit drug, more than 22 times more likely to use marijuana, and 50 times more likely to use cocaine than children who did not drink alcohol before age 15.
- Alcohol kills six times more youth than all illicit drugs combined.
- Alcohol is linked to as many as two-thirds of all sexual assaults and date rapes of teens and college students.
- Studies reveal that alcohol consumption by adolescents results in brain damage, possibly permanent.
- The typical American youth will see 100,000 beer commercials before he/she turns 18.
- The consequences of underage drinking are a tremendous expense to the U.S. economy and total more than $53 billion per year, by far the most costly of all drugs.

The distressing statistics of the violent crimes related to alcohol abuse are significant and suggests that a solution needs to be found. Thus, the question remains: what can we do to reduce alcohol abuse among college students? The health education in schools and colleges can play a crucial role and can be the best economical and preventative measure in preventing alcohol abuse among young adults.

We value your input. If you have suggestions to improve alcohol education here at SUNYIT please call the Health and Wellness Center at 315.792.7172. Help us — Help you!

Care for yourself and friends! We look forward for your input!

- Mariya Stashenko, RN

Resources: http://www.ncadd.org

TRYING, DRINKING, AND BINGING: ALCOHOL USE

Alcohol addiction is defined as compulsive use and impaired control over alcohol use, preoccupation with obtaining and using the alcohol, and continued use despite adverse consequences (Community Health Nursing, 2005).

The three leading causes of death for young adults (age 15 to 24) are automobile accidents, homicides and suicides. Alcohol is a leading factor for all three.

Alcohol addiction is a common problem and it's spreading among this age group. It exists in rich and poor families and runs at an epidemic rate at the college level.
APRIL IS ALCOHOL AWARENESS MONTH
THE MESSAGE BEING:

THINK BEFORE YOU DRINK!

- Make alternate driving arrangements – Leave your car keys at home & designate a driver!
- Know your limits – gender and body size does make a difference!
- Know what & and how much you drink.

1 (1 ounce) standard shot = 1 (5 ounce) glass of wine = 1 (12oz) beer

PUZZLES

Sudoku Solution:
Who's Who on campus:
and what can they do for you?

Profile:
Robert (Bob) is the Assistant Director of Career Services. He has been working at SUNYIT since May '94. For the past three years he's been running the office himself. He previously worked as director of Human Resources at ICL.

What Can He Do For You?
If you've attended a job fair on campus, or participated in Professionals for a Day, then you have Bob Palazzo to thank. Job fairs and Professional for a Day are two annual programs he organizes for the benefit of the students. Bob's job keeps him in contact with employers; he picks up a lot of tips about what employers are looking for and passes those tips on to us.

If you want to stop into career services it's on the bottom floor in the rear of Donavan. You can meet with Bob or someone in the office to help you with career counseling, career selection, a career search, writing a resume, practicing for interviews or getting connected with an employer. Why not sign up for E-recruiting so employers can find your resume online, and job openings matching your desired job field can be e-mailed to you.

So many students attend SUNYIT and never stop at career services; those students are at a great disadvantage. The services are free and as Bob says, it is your "gateway" to a professional career.

Profile:
Jennifer is our Assistant Director of Student Activities. She graduated from the College of St. Rose with an undergraduate degree in sociology and a graduate degree in higher education administration. She came on board here at SUNYIT in January of this year.

What Can She Do For You?
Part of Jennifer's roll as Assistant Director of Student Activities is to oversee the Club Funding Board, CFB, but she also works with students in a more direct manor. If you ever thought about starting a club on campus you can start by meeting Jennifer. You'll find that starting a new club is surprisingly easy. If you're already a member of a club and have any questions about holding club activities, you might want to check with her to find out exactly what's allowed. There are a lot of clubs on campus, if you want to get involved. Jennifer has a listing of all active clubs. There's a good chance there's one for you.

If you have any good ideas for campus activities stop into the office located upstairs in the Campus Center, past the Cat's Den; Jennifer would be happy to hear from you.
**Profile:**
Paula is a secretary in the Human Resource Office. She is a graduate of MVCC and has been working at SUNYIT for 14 years, ten of those in Human Resources.

**What Can She Do For You?**
Paula's office hires all the SUNYIT faculty and staff but they also have employment opportunities for students. If you stop in to Human Resources, Paula can give you the appropriate paperwork and a listing of on-campus jobs. There are many departments and offices looking for students to fill work-study, temporary service, and graduate assistant positions. There are about a dozen different departments and offices to choose from. Currently there are 147 students working on campus.

A job on campus is perfect for depositing some extra cash into your pocket. Temporary service students earn at least $9.15 an hour, but that's not all an on-campus job is good for; it also looks great on a resume. It's convenient too, because the hours are flexible to student schedules and the jobs are located right on campus.

You may also want to look into some of the openings they offer for summer employment.

**Profile:**
Ron is the Assistant Librarian at the Cayan Library; he graduated from SUNY Albany in '97 and worked at MVCC for three years before coming to SUNYIT in October 03. He is active in the SUNY Librarians Association.

**What Can He Do For You?**
If you drop into the library from time to time, you might have noticed Ron Foster sitting at the front desk. He's there for a reason; one of which is to help you. Ron also buys books, movies, etc. for the library as well as maintains and controls the library website - so he knows his way around the data base.

You might also have noticed he is often helping students find the information they need to write their papers. If you're looking for journals, articles, or books, and need a little help with your research strategy, he can give you some tips there too.

The library contains a world of information. It can be a mind boggling place if you don't have a good librarian to give you some pointers. Ron can give you a few pointers and help you access that information more efficiently.

Next time you drop in congratulate him on getting notice of tenor and for his upcoming promotion in October. • Rob Graves
Larry's Graduation Party

Larry's graduation party was held at our home in June of 1971. Our entire family, both immediate and extended, as well as many family friends was there for the occasion. Larry was the third oldest child in a family of six children, but the event was very special because he was the first child to graduate from high school. My parents were very hospitable people and they knew how to throw a party. All systems were go, and everyone seemed to be having a wonderful time. The women were busy with catching up on the most popular gossip of the times and the men were busy trying to outdo each others' wit. "The boys," who would include Larry's friends, his older brothers and their friends, and his younger brothers were all keeping a close eye on the keg of beer in the garage.

As the day progressed into early evening the boys in the garage decided that the party would be much more interesting if they were to gang up on Larry's dad and throw him in the family swimming pool. Larry and his younger brother sternly disagreed with the proposition but they were disproportionately outvoted. The boys proceeded to nonchalantly seek out their victim with as much conviction as Roman Soldiers entering the garden. Larry's father (Joe) didn't know what hit him as he was thrust into the pool; he scarcely had time to identify the culprits. Larry's younger brother was able to relieve his dad of his wallet prior to the point of impact because he knew his father would be furious if his wallet and identification were to get wet.

As the juveniles predicted the incident brought much laughter to the occasion, although it was short-lived. Larry's dad got out of the swimming pool, and for some unknown reason he didn't share in the laughter. Uncle Walt decided to share his portion of entertainment with Joe and he was beside himself with laughter. Uncle Walt's laughter directly into Joe's face was the icing on the cake. Joe hauled off and hit Uncle Walt with a right hook that knocked him to the ground flat on his back. Upon witnessing what was done to an innocent bystander, the boys ran for the hills. Joey became a one-man posse and quickly caught Larry and his two older brothers in the family kitchen.

The noises that came from that house instantly sucked the laughter as well as the oxygen out of everyone's lungs. Larry's older brothers were both ex-Marines and very well versed in the art of self preservation; they were scrapers to the end. Larry's mom came running to the seen, and upon witnessing her kitchen table, chairs, and two oldest sons being tossed around like rag-dolls, she decided to have a fainting spell in the doorway. Aunt Helen next rolled upon the scene in an attempt to rescue Larry's mom, and she proceeded to drag the deadweight into another room. Since Joey was extremely busy, and many automobiles were blocking the family car, an ambulance was called to escort Arlene (Larry's mom) to the emergency room for an evaluation.

Larry was devastated by the fact that his graduation party was so abruptly cut short, and also very surprised that his other immediate family members would show their true colors while they were entertaining guest. Well, the physical altercation came to a halt and the name calling and verbal altercations began as Joey and the boys scrambled to their cars so they could chase the ambulance to the emergency room. No seasoned member of the clan seemed to fear the worst for Arlene because she was very good at keeping her fainting spells under control and only using them at opportune times when they were absolutely necessary.

As Arlene was being brought through the emergency doors with her eyes clinched shut, Joey and his sons were only a few footsteps behind. The emergency room charge nurse took one look at Joe and his rag-tag crew, and demanded to know the extent and cause of their injuries. Joe's response to the inquiry was "leave us the F alone were with her," pointing to Arlene.

I came to two great revelations that day: the first is that I would quit high school the first chance I got, and the other is that I realized Joey lied about never having any money, because I'm Larry's younger brother who held on to dad's wallet when he was lifted from the party. There is no great moral to this story except that the boys agreed that Genesee beer on tap would not be a good choice for future events.

• Tim Dougherty
comic
Zone

1. Hey Chon, do you like my new Halloween costume?
2. Well, that depends, I guess.
3. Are you "Cyclops" or Geordi LaForge?
4. What's a "LaForge"?

Scott Tofte

bum massager.

My butt hurts...
I'll massage your butt for you.
.....
I'll remove your testicles.

Ashley Inglis
Returning to college can be a challenging decision for anyone but it can be especially challenging for middle-aged or older adults.

Most people attend college to enhance their career opportunities and in our rapidly changing technical world many adults are faced with such decisions. Many of our manufacturing jobs have moved to other locations or other countries entirely. The USA is the first country to become a post-industrial nation, and many intellectuals are not quite sure where this will lead. One thing that is for certain is that we are changing to a services oriented society.

My motivation for returning to school was not unique. I was laid-off from work, and I wanted to enhance my chances for future employment since opportunities in my trade were becoming increasingly limited. My wife suggested that I take advantage of the circumstances and go back to school to get a degree in a more marketable career. My heart sank when I heard the words “back to school.” I was forty-five years old and I didn’t think I could handle it. I was sure that I’d be called back to work, but as it turned out, the company I worked for could not sustain more than three toolmakers.

For me, the biggest obstacle to overcome was the fact that I hated elementary and high school. I found myself at a crossroad and a decision had to be made. I visited our local community college and signed up for classes starting the following semester. To my surprise, I thoroughly enjoyed going back to college. My fear of failure quickly melted away as I successfully accomplished my first few assignments. Before I knew what hit me, I was on stage at MVCC receiving my associates’ degree. The decision to go on for my bachelors’ degree was much easier and a trip to SUNYIT was in the works.

I found SUNYIT to be a bit more challenging than MVCC but the challenge was tolerable. I majored in sociology and found that the required classes were very interesting. All of the faculty were very accommodating and worked with me to overcome my limitations. Most returning adult college students don’t have the luxury of putting the rest of their life on hold while they go back to school, and I was no exception. I still
have to work, help with the household chores, and play the roles of husband, father and grandfather. The biggest obstacle for me was dealing with my own procrastination; do I cut the lawn or do my homework, should I watch TV with my wife or study for my exam?

The support and encouragement from my wife, loved ones and friends proved to be my greatest asset. Whenever I felt overwhelmed by my circumstances my wife would remind me of other obstacles that we overcame together. Hearing my oldest son say, “I’m proud of you dad,” or being challenged by my stepchildren as to who would have a better report-card. My closest friends helped greatly by supplying me with social distraction.

How do I take credit for something when I know I couldn’t have accomplished it alone?

To those of you who may be considering pursuing another career or returning to college, I’d say go-for-it. There are financial considerations to make, but the returns on the investment can be enormous. The most important element to consider when deciding to return to school is the time required to attend and successfully complete college. Aside from these tolerable commitments, for me, the entire experience was very rewarding and pleasurable. Remember that not making a decision can sometimes favor making a wrong decision.

I’d like to take this opportunity to thank all those who supported me in pursuing my bachelor’s degree. To all of my charming and charismatic professors; I’d like to say thanks for putting up with me and my stupid jokes, especially to Dr. Mazlen and Dr. Murphy who both had to tolerate me for three long semesters. I humbly and submissively want to thank my wife, Ayla and my family for all of their love, support and encouragement. I want to thank my son Tim for his undying love and respect. I also want to thank my friend Patty for supplying me with much of the required ingredients for more than a few of my assignments.

- Tim Dougherty
Assuming you have read my past two articles you now are aware of how to become who you want to be (whether it be an emo kid or not), and how to make friends. Since you now have friends wouldn't you like to have a title within your group? I think I know exactly what you are thinking; you want to be the social coordinator. Yet again it is fairly simple to do it yourself!

What exactly does the social coordinator do within a said group of friends? Well it involves a variety of different things, being outgoing, having connections, fake to the point you get what you want (i.e. being a suck up and doing close to whatever it takes), and planning events. Each of these specified actions takes skill, talent, and when all else fails practice.

Being an outgoing person sometimes is not an easy thing to do. If you are generally a quiet more reserved person, now is either the time to come out of your shell or give up your dreams of becoming the social chair. Just a reminder you can always be whoever you want to be, change isn't always a bad thing. So if you
are a bit of a hermit and want to come out of your shell and hang out with a lot of other shell-less crabs you're well on your way.

We can work with those of you who are on the not so outgoing side by doing a few experiments. We will start off by spending a day at the mall, baby steps remember, purchase at least one thing and when you are at the cash register start small talk with your cashier and smile while doing so. Even if you have an angry cashier, it makes their day on the inside that at least one person was nice to them. What this does for you is gives you confidence to talk to anyone you want and become more confident. Secondly you can go back and read my previous article on how to make a new friend and carry on from there.

Now you are confident to make friends and talk with people, next step, connections. In order to be a good social coordinator you need to know lots of different types of people. Within this endeavor you will meet the good, the bad, and the sketchy. The good are the easiest connections to make these are the people whom are basically mutual friends. By having a lot of friends fake or not you will know a lot about what is going on. Make sure they are a diverse group of friends they need to come from everywhere to ensure you know about everything going on. The next group is the bad these are the people who know about a lot of unpublicized activities. These activities may not always be legal so make sure to get details so you know exactly what is up. You don't want to end up at a club where the cops are going to break in and bust the place for drugs (that would be bad). Finally, the sketchy, these are the people you usually avoid on the streets and in dark alley. Seriously though not all of the sketchy people are shady like that. The best ways to describe the sketchy people are those who acquire things, get you and your friends in places, and have discounts everywhere 'NO' questions asked.

Next step, become superficial, fake, and whatever it takes to get what you want. For some this is easy and they don't even need to try. Others you may be genuinely nice, or at least you like to think so. Then some of you just aren't charismatic and have no idea how to work people. Pretty much all that needs to be done is to suck up to people and work like their little minion, to get something you want. This works for a lot of people but for those this doesn't work on you need to be tricky get something they really want/need so they come to you. This is basically a glorified game of blackmail.

Finally, planning events. It is all about options, you need to have several options for your crew to decide on it makes everyone feel important if there are an abundance of things to do. As long as you have a ton of things lined up your job is done and it is up to your group of friends to decide on where the night will take you.

Gaining the social chair in your group may not be the easiest of jobs at first with meeting people and finding the hot spots. However, after a while people will start coming to you and letting you know what is going on and you don't even have to do any work. The best part everyone knows you by association and yes you are cool by association.

• Kelly Jendrzejewski
First off a superhero that was eco friendly and was summoned by the powers of the elements, earth, wind, fire, water, and also heart. Captain Planet and the Planeteers is the cartoon I am talking about! This cartoon began in 1990 on the TBS channel created by Ted Turner. The basis of the show was to show the viewers how to become environmentally conscious in the world today. All of the characters came together because of the earth spirit Gaia. Gaia gathered together kids from all around the world to form the Planeteers and gave them each and element. Kwame from Africa was given earth; Linka from the Soviet Union was given wind, Wheeler from the US was given fire, Gi from Asia possessed water, and Ma-Ti from South America was given heart. There as also a monkey named Sushi. When these kids came together and put their ring powers together they could summon Captain Planet and he would come to help make the earth more environmentally conscious by fighting off the evildoers such as Verminous Skumm and Sly Sludge. However, Captain Planet did have his weaknesses, which were environmental hazards like pollution and smog. All in all Captain Planet was a great show, even though it seems lame now, it ran from 1990 to 1993. After The Planeteers version several different variations of the show sprung up. Also a comic was made however the comic only ran from 1991 to 1993, these comics are collectors items based of the short print of the series.
The first ever Nickelodeon made cartoon was Doug. Doug was the story of a middle school student who just moved into a new town. We watch Doug grow up and go through all of the trials and tribulations of the new kid in town. Doug had a best friend Skeeter, a crush Patti Mayonnaise, and the bully Rodger Klotz and we can’t forget Doug’s dog Porkchop. Doug aired in 1991 and ran until 1996. After this times period Disney took over and produced new Doug episodes from 1996 until 1999. Doug literally grew up through the 1990’s. Within the show there was also a band called the The Beets who played their hit song ‘Killer Tofu” any chance they had, this was also Doug’s favorite band. During the run of Doug the show was nominated for four daytime Emmy awards a great accomplishment for any cartoon show.

In 1994 the cartoon world was shocked with something they have never seen before, the first dramatic series cartoon, Gargoyles. Gargoyles only lasted three years but had a great impact on the cartoon world. The basis of the show was a group of gargoyles that were cursed to be trapped in a stone coma forever. Then the sentence was lifted when the gargoyles were brought to New York City to sit atop the 23rd Precinct of N.Y.P.D building. The gargoyles then decided it was their duty to defend the lives of the New Yorkers and protect them from evil. During the shows running Marvel comics released the Gargoyles comic series. There were 11 issues in the series, there were supposed to be twelve but it never happened. The comic series was a more dramatic and daunting then the cartoon. In 2006 there was a new comic under Slave Labor Graphics this is written under the series creator Greg Weisman. In 1995 there was also a video game started and released under Sega Genesis, you are Goliath the leader and it is your job to prevent the world from being destroyed. This was a rather old school game you played on a side scrolling screen and terrible graphics.

Finally who can forget the show which had a great impact on American culture, stemmed other shows, and will forever have people saying, “I am cornholio”. Beavis and Butthead began in 1993 and ran into 1997 on MTV. The show was created by Mike Judge and gained him years of recognition. The show was vulgar, relatively useless but was full of entertainment value as according to the number of teens who watched the show. The main characters were Beavis and Butthead (obviously), Beavis was blonde usually wore a blue Metallica t-shirt and Butthead had brown hair and wore a AC/DC short, both had the most obnoxious laughs known to man. The shows purpose, still unknown to me, but they mainly walked around their town of Highland, Texas and watched music video and made fun of them. All they seemed to be interesting in where “hot chicks”, heavy metal, fire, and destruction. Without a care in the world Beavis and Butthead are the definitions of social deviance. From Beavis and Butthead the spin off show Daria began in 1997. This show was not affiliated with Beavis and Butthead only the Daria character was used in the show. Daria was a show about a sarcastic, angst ridden female. Which continued into 2002. Also King of the Hill was said to have been a spin off created by Mike Judge, but it was decidedly not. The main character Hank Hill just happens to look and talk exactly like Mr. Anderson from Beavis and Butthead.

So travel back to your childhood or teens download, actually purchase the DVDs sets, or wait for reruns. The nineties were super times don’t let your favorite cartoons fall by the wayside.

*Kelly Jendrzejewski*
Destroying the Earth is harder than you may have been led to believe.

The Earth is built to last. It is a 4,550,000,000-year-old, 5.973,600,000,000,000,000-tonne ball of iron. It has taken more devastating asteroid hits in its lifetime than you've had hot dinners, and lo, it still orbits merrily.

This is not a guide for wusses whose aim is merely to wipe out humanity. This is a guide for those who do not want the Earth to be there anymore.

6.) Blown up

YOU WILL NEED:
1,300,000,000,000 tonnes of antimatter.

METHOD:
This method involves detonating a bomb so big that it blasts the Earth to pieces.

This, to say the least, requires a big bomb. All the explosives mankind has ever created, nuclear or non-, gathered together and detonated simultaneously, would make a significant crater and wreak the planet's ecosystem, but barely scratch the surface of the planet. There is evidence that in the past, asteroids have hit the Earth with the explosive yield of five billion Hiroshima bombs - and such evidence is difficult to find. It is, in short, insanely difficult to significantly alter the Earth's structure with explosives. This is not to mention the gravity problem. Just because you blasted the Earth apart doesn't mean you blasted it apart for good. If you don't blast it hard enough, the pieces will fall back together again under mutual gravitational attraction, and Earth, like the liquid metal Terminator, will reform from its shattered shards. You have to blow the Earth up hard enough to overcome that attraction.

How hard is that?

If you do the lengthy calculations* you find that to liberate that much energy is equivalent to the complete annihilation of around 1,246,400,000,000 tonnes of antimatter. That's assuming zero energy loss to heat and radiation, which is unlikely to
MOTORCYCLE Safety Tips

- Check your headlight, brake lights, and turn signals to make sure they're working properly.
- Check tire pressure.
- Always wear safety glasses or a DOT approved face shield.
- Be careful for gravel build-up at intersections.
- Always leave a four-second delay between your motorcycle and the vehicle in front of you.
- Don't drink alcohol or use mood altering drugs while operating a motorcycle.
- Always use the left lane or left side to pass another vehicle.
- Reduce your speed and be very cautious while crossing a steel deck bridge.
- Never ride your motorcycle in the center of your lane, because fluid spillage from other vehicles can cause slippery conditions.
- Always drive defensively, and never presume that other motorist will give you the right-of-way.

be the case in reality: You'll probably need to up the dose by at least a factor of ten. Once you've generated your antimatter, probably in space, just launch it en masse towards Earth. The resulting release of energy (obeying Einstein's famous mass-energy equation, E=mc²) should be sufficient to split the Earth into a thousand pieces.

Greg Bear's novel, "The Forge Of God", contains an interesting refinement of this technique. Here, the antagonist instead generates antimatter in the form of a "slug" of anti-neutonium - superdense material massing a billion kilograms per cubic centimetre. This is fired into the Earth's core. Neutonium passes through ordinary matter as easily as a ball flies through the air, so the anti-neutonium slug doesn't annihilate immediately; rather, it builds up a protective sheath of plasma around it as it plunges downwards towards the Earth's core. It's then followed up by a slug of regular neutonium, which also falls into the core, at a time calculated to meet the first slug head-on at the exact centre of the Earth, where they annihilate themselves, and

soon afterwards, the Earth itself. Highly space-efficient, and with the added bonus of all the energy being released at the Earth's core, where it can do the most damage. In the book, the antagonists simultaneously detonate nuclear warheads in certain oceanic trenches, to weaken the crust and allow the planet to be blown apart more easily.

Rearranging Earth into two planets - which, provisionally, is sufficient according to my current criteria - would take slightly less energy, but considerably more finesse.

EARTH FINAL RESTING PLACE:
A second asteroid belt around the Sun.

COMMENTS: I still think that antimatter is crazy s**t, i.e., wouldn't want it on my flapsacks

FEASIBILITY RATING:
4/10. Just about slightly possible.

SOURCE: http://www.qntm.org/data
By Sam Hughes
Re-published with permission.
So what couldn’t I do while I was healing? Knitting, typing, writing, video-games...basically I sat on my bed, watched movies, and went to work and class. It may seem cool, having a reason not to do work, but there’s only so long that you can watch movies and still feel amused. Three weeks is well beyond that.

So...I decided to try voice recognition software, to see if I had an option so that I could get things done, stay in contact with people, and stop me from hurting myself. I did a Google search and came across e-Speaking Voice, which is a free voice recognition software. Honestly, most are probably very similar, regardless of whether or not you paid money for it. It may be more accurate, but for the length of time that I would need it? Not worth the money.

I installed it, plugged in my headset microphone (a nice Logitech one), and got to work. The first thing I had to do was read a passage. This was to help the program recognize the way that you speak. I read the passage and a couple more before I got to read the fine print. Even if I read all of the passages (quite a few of them and rather long—they could get a good 15 minutes each to read), the program would only be 95% accurate. On a test, 95% is great. But when you’re speaking/writing, that 5% can make an enormous difference. It’s akin to losing 5% or your vocabulary randomly. And it’s not always the same words. Frustrating? Let’s just say that I think my painkillers were working more on my headache than my wrist. And the program doesn’t insert any punctuation, either.

Oh, and if you have an accent? Forget it. Strange pronunciation? Hah! Let me give you an example. I’ll be reading the first paragraph of this article into the e-Speaking Voice.

As was mentioned in my column back to school, and I gave myself a good taste of tendonitis. I was given a good load of painkillers, an x-ray, and an Ace bandage. 

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ASHLEY INGLIS
ASCE Student Submission: Use of Academic Buildings

So many things to say about this school, so little time... I'm one of many civil engineering students at this school, also a member of the ASCE (American Society of Civil Engineers) Club/ASCE Steel Bridge team. I'm not writing this by myself, or with the help of others, but I've been adding things said by the engineers surrounding me. This is a letter describing to everyone how much work a student has to go through to get something done around here. While this is meant for everyone, I'm hoping that Faculty and Staff will read this.

During the course of the FALL '06 - Spring '07 semesters, the Steel Bridge team has designed, fabricated, painted, tested, and have constructed and deconstructed the bridge dozens of times; Some of you may have seen us in action, and I thank those of you who were there and have supported us! We're all new to filling out event forms, and getting the University Police to open and close building behind us as we have ended our work and activities at 1:00 - 2:00 AM several days in a row these past few weeks. I'm sure some of you are aware of what has to happen for students to use Donovan Hall on a Sunday, but for those of you that don't know; I'll share the process with you!

The ISET office is where our journey begins. We have to get a form from them basically saying we have permission to use a building that should be open anyway.

Donovan was the building we needed for after-hours use. This form also has a spot for ours (the student's names), time slots for when we need the building (preferably all hours of the day, but they won't let you fill it out for all hours of the day. Also on this sheet are 4, yes 4 spots that need to be signed, one for us (again the students), one for the Dean of our curriculum, who commented on how we filled out the form and said and I quote, "the times you put down from when to when are bullshit, you need to change them," a signature from our advisor, and finally a signature from the Chief of University Police. All is fine and dandy but when you put 2 and 2 together, something doesn't add up. Our quest to get all of the signatures taken care of begins.

The University Police off was thankfully opened at 1:30 PM on Friday, unfortunately the Chief was not there. We waited patiently as the Chief came back to campus from his home to sign the sheet for us. Now we're not by any means complaining about this, we're just saying how this process came about. Something has to be done about this. What if he lived further away and wasn't willing to come back? I would have thrown a fit had he not come back... First of all, Donovan should be opened to ALL students at all times. I've heard about how things are stolen out of the labs and everything which is bullshit, if you're a student stealing stuff then just go hang yourself, why do you have to ruin this for everyone else who's honest? Secondly,
There's camera's in certain areas, I think cameras should be set up EVERYWHERE, in all computer labs, and everywhere that has expensive equipment. For those of you who take things like hard drives or disk drives out of computers, if I ever find you I'll deal with you myself.

As I was saying prior to the rant, more of something needs to be done, whether it be more cameras, more swipe-entries on doors, and finally some sort of computer log system so when you swipe a door, people know who logged in and when, that way when something goes missing, you check the computer and say "this person was there, we check them out to see if they stole something." The funny part is if I bring this up to an SA meeting, or anyone like a President, then the idea will be sat on till I'm long and gone. If this school hired its own engineer students to do work for them, it would be done already. Not that I don't mind running back and fourth because it's good exercise, but it really dampers my day when I have to go to 10 different places, that and being Friday when most of our things happen, teachers and Administration check out before 4, what's that all about? Those of you who aren't, I thank and appreciate all of the hard work and help you put in for your students. Thankfully all of our teachers are dedicated to us, and by us I mean the ASCE students (engineers).

Using the building during off-hours isn't the only problem. When we tried to get the Dinning hall to construct this thing so we could practice... Here's our second journey: Having never done an "event," I was hesitant about where to go so I ran into members of SA and they graciously pointed to the office I needed to go to. I grabbed an event form and from there it was about a 10 mile marathon. I fill out the form and give it to Student Activities, who thankfully helped us through most of this process. I got the sheet signed by them, and was told I needed the head of food services, thinking "cool, its right downstairs from me, as I'm in the campus center." I get there and wait for about 10 minutes to have someone come out and tell me he's in the Kunsela Café, so I say "ok" and head over. I get there and explain to him why we need the Dinning hall and everything was A-OK so he signs my sheet. I go to the lower level of Kunsela to find the Event Coordinator, thankfully she was there. I straightened everything out with her with no problems and was out in a few minutes, Thank you Connie for your time.

Afterwards, I return to Student Activities to find out I need to go to the University Police... again... I walk over there passing by the U.P. car with the officer sitting inside, enter the new office and try and work things out with them. The Chief had just left for lunch. Keeping in mind that it's now coming on 2:00
PM, and I've been going at this for about an hour and a half, I waited another half an hour for him to get back to sign my sheet. Bring the paperwork back over to the Campus Center, get my copy and we're set... almost 2 and a half hours later. Again I don't mind the running around because that's how it is in life, you do these kinds of things, especially if you're in engineering, there's A LOT of paper work to go through. What I'm saying is there need to be an easier way; especially due to the fact that all of this is for academic reasons. Offices need to be consolidated, and people need to be specific about who's who and where to go because I was pointed in several wrong directions along the way. If things weren't hectic enough with labs and homework, now I have to worry about members of Administration not being on campus after 1:00 or 2:00 PM.

Does it really need to be like this?

An informal thank you to all of the parties involved in making our lives easier and helping out as much as you could with such last-minute things. We're representing our school at this competition which will have taken place April 14, 2007, and those of you who made everything possible for us.

Thank you!

Sincerely,
ASCE Members and the 2007 Steel Bridge Team!
• Edward Turkow

A gentleman enters the lounge at a Holiday Inn and walks up to the bar to order a drink. As he's enjoying his beverage, he notices a group of beautiful women gathered at a table in the lounge. One of the woman approaches the bar to order a drink for herself. The gentleman noticed that she was wearing a nametag and presumed that her name was Nan. He looked toward her and said "hey Nan can I buy you a drink?" To his surprise she simply appeared to ignore him. He then decided to raise the volume of his request and again stated "hey Nan can I buy you a drink?"

When the woman realized that the gentleman was addressing her directly, she responded with "oh I'd love a drink but my name isn't Nan, it's Marcy." The man's response was "if your name is Marcy, then why are you wearing Nan's nametag?" She replied "the nametag represents the name of our organization, The National Association of Nymphomaniacs." The man then asked why they were there and she responded that her organization was conducting a seminar for the weekend.

Gentleman "Marcy what's the topic of your seminar this weekend?"
Marcy "Oh were studying the sexual habits of the American Indians and the American Jews."
Gentleman "Oh that's great Marcy, can I buy you another drink?"
Marcy "Yes thank you, and by the way, what's your name?"
Gentleman "Who me! I'm Tonto Berkowitz."
DEAR SHARON,

I have a problem. I'm trying to find a place on campus where I can smoke, and this kind of smoke I can't bring outside or I will have a bigger problem. Any suggestions?

Sincerely,
Deprived Smoker

DEAR DEPRIVED SMOKER,

Well that does seem to be a small problem. It seems that you are addicted to an illegal substance. My first advice to you would be that you have to take control. Admitting your addiction is the first step to getting help. There are many people on this campus that can help you. If you need to, talk to an RA that you trust, and they can write you a project help form and get you in to talk to the school counselor. If an RA is not the route that you want to take, talk to your RD. I am sure they will be very understanding of the issue at hand and will be more than willing to help you in your predicament to seek help. If this is still not a route that you want to take, taking a trip to see the school counselor yourself might be a better option. The counselor here is very accepting and willing to help anyone who is willing to admit that they have a problem. Worse comes to worst and you really don't think that you can go to the school counselor for this problem; you should try and see the health center. Not only will they tell you the risks and dangers of this illegal drug use, but also they will be able to assist you with options to help you avoid the risk factors of the drug. I am really glad that you are willing to admit that you do have a problem, and I would hope that your search for places to smoke on campus leads you straight to quitting. As you said, this drug does come with a complex problem if you don't seek help as soon as possible.

Sincerely,
Sharon R. Payne

DEAR SHARON,

I have spoken to several of my friends who you have helped before and I am amazed at the results. These individuals, who were previously perpetually depressed, masochistic, schizoid outcasts, are now rehabilitated as socially active, fully functioning college students. I want to know what inspires your work. Where does this healing wisdom's source reside? Please enlighten me, oh enlightened one.

Sincerely,
Curious Moe

DEAR CURIOUS MOE,

Well I am honestly humbled by your compliments. Considering that the source of wisdom is simply advice and not the result of a PhD in medicine or psychology. I do the best that I can with the rather serious issues that are sometimes posed, as for your friends, I am really glad that the advice I have given them in the past has made a change in their lives. I am here to help whenever these issues come to fruition and although the advice may not be the best in the world, I stand behind all of the advice
that I give, and would not give it unless I knew that I would use it had I had the same problems. I welcome all letter from anyone, and am simply elated when the advice works with positive results. The healing wisdom source however, I have no idea where it comes from. I think it is simply just the desire I have always had first and foremost to think not of myself, but think of how I can help others in their lives. It makes me happy to see that people do take the advice and are doing better because of it.

Sincerely,
Sharon R. Payne

DEAR SHARON,

What's poppin', just wanted to know what's good in the hood. Hopefully you steering clear of them badgers. Any who, I was wondering if you could do me a favor of trying to set up some sort of music concert just for students on campus who actually make music. It should be like a contest to see who is a good musician, like SUNYIT's version of American Idol without the singing, just any genre of music. If you could make this happen then it would be hot.

Sincerely Yours,
Marcy P. S.

DEAR MARCY P. S.,

Everything is just peachy here! I have yet to see a badger, however you are not the first one to speak of them. (Someone mentioned in a letter to me that they had a badger tooth in their dining hall food!) This however leads me to wonder if you might be having the same hallucinations that the person writing the letter to me about the penguins had. But I think I have a solution to that problem. I don't know why the badgers are bothering you, but for what I know of badgers they eat stoats (the female version of a weasel), field mice, groundhogs, and occasionally have been known to eat a woodpecker or two. If you are harboring any of these animals in your suite it is a likely source as to their existence in your midst. I would rid myself of these items and most likely you will rid yourself of this badger issue. For More advice on what badgers eat go to this website, http://www.whatbadgerseat.com/eat.htm, they have easy to understand information on what exactly badgers will and will not eat.

Now on to the entertainment mentioned in your letter. If you would like this issue to be addressed, I would not be the person to ask. Not because I am not qualified at putting together such an event, but I would have no idea where to start. Campus Activities Board however would probably be a much better place to start. With events they put on all semester every semester, they have the know-how to put on such an event, and are more than willing to listen to advice posed to them by active students on campus. Also if you are a resident on campus, I would go to a Residence Hall Council Meeting. They have a fund that residents can access to put on programs and events on campus. If you talk to your RA, you will be able to get more information on when these meetings are held. Good luck with this, I hope things work out for you!

Sincerely,
Sharon R. Payne

Q: Why don't bananas like to sunbathe?
A: Because they have a tendency to peel!

Q: What do Lazy Dogs do for fun?
A: Chase parked Cars

Q: What do Sea Monsters eat?
A: Fish and Ships

Q: Why was the baby ant confused?
A: All of his uncles were ants.

Q: What gets wetter the more it dries?
A: A Towel

Q: If a fire hydrant has H2O on the inside, what does it have on the outside?
A: K9P

Q: What occurs once in a minute, twice in a moment and never in a billion years?
A: The letter M

Q: What is so fragile that even saying its name can break it?
A: Silence

Q: What 11 letter word does everyone pronounce incorrectly?
A: Incorrectly

Q: What goes, ha ha ha plop?
A: Someone laughing their head off.
So in the last issue I mentioned that I would teach increases and decreases in this issue, and so I shall.

But I need to have the typical blathering at the beginning that we're all used to. Why? Because you can look online and find out how to knit, but they aren't as wonderfully random as I am. You can only get that from me.

If you get serious about knitting, you'll end up like me - odd skeins of yarn with no project set for them; you just bought them because you liked the color or you liked the price. This is called a yarn stash. I have a large one, but I'm working on whittling it down with random projects. One thing that each knitter should have is a row counter. Otherwise you'll have to use a scrap of paper to keep track of your rows, and then be out of luck when you lose that paper. I don't know what I did without one.

So...increases and decreases. There are several increases that I know, but I'll only teach two (you'll usually only need these two). I only know of one decrease, and I haven't come across a need for anything other than that one.

The first increase is called a yarn over. Yarn overs are the easiest increases to do, but they do leave a small hole in your finished product.
How to do a yarn over:

knit up to the place in your project where you want to do an increase. Wrap the yarn once, clockwise, around the right-hand needle and proceed to knit the stitch as normal. Repeat as necessary.

The other increase is called the bar increase. It is called that because there will be a slightly noticeable bar when you use this increase. It is a bit harder.

How to do a bar increase:

knit up to the place in your project where you want to do an increase. Insert the right-hand needle, as if to knit. Wrap the yarn once, counterclockwise, around the right-hand needle and draw the loop on the left-hand needle, but do not drop the stitch off the needle. Insert the right hand needle into the back of the loop on the left-hand needle, wrap the yarn counterclockwise around the right-hand needle, draw that through the loop, and drop one stitch off of the left-hand needle. And there you have it. Told you it would be tougher.

The one decrease that I know can be used with knitting or with purling. It is knit (purl) 2 together (abbreviated as k (p) 2 tog). It is just as simple as knitting and purling.

How to k2tog:

Instead of knitting the first stitch on a needle, knit the first two. Insert the right-hand needle knitwise into the second stitch on your left-hand needle and continue up knitwise through the first stitch on the left-hand needle. Wrap the yarn once, counterclockwise, around the right-hand needle and draw the loop through the two stitches, allowing them to drop off of the needle.

How to p2tog:

Instead of purling the first stitch on a needle, you will purl the first two. Insert the right hand needle purlwise into the first stitch on your left-hand needle and continue through the second stitch on the left-hand needle. Wrap the yarn once, counterclockwise, around the right-hand needle and draw the loop through the two stitches, allowing those two stitches to drop off of the needle.

Now, if you’ve read the other “Back to Spool” articles, you should be able to knit several sorts of things now, even if they need seaming. Seaming is best not taught by me because I know that I’m terrible at it. • Ashley Inglis

Row counter: a smallish device, usually able to slide onto the end of a needle, used to keep track of how many rows you have done.

Seaming: the process of attaching separate knit pieces together (like the seaming of arms of a sweater to the torso) i.e. the thing that Ashley sucks at.

http://www.knittinghelp.com: videos on how to do knitting stitches and beyond, beginners to experts.

http://www.knitty.com: many, many, many free patterns, including a binary scarf and a womb (no, I’m not kidding).
This semester has gone by much faster than usual, wouldn't you agree? It feels like winter break was just a few days ago! And now, as the year comes to a close, there are a few team members of the Factory Times who will be moving on to bigger and better things. That's where you come in!

We need people to join our ranks and help to create one of the more unique college publications around. Have some good writing pieces that you want to share with the public? Are you a graphic designer who's willing to collaborate with writers to help set the mood for an article? Want to have something to put on your resume so you have that extra edge when looking for a job or an internship?

What are you waiting for? Oh...well, it might help if we gave you some contact information!

Just send an e-mail to staff@factorytimes.com and give us your name, contact information, and what you're interested in doing (writing, graphic design, or both). Even if you're only slightly interested, please don't hesitate to send an e-mail!
Earth's Sister

“Venus might have an earth-like surface.”

If you've had the chance to look at the evening sky lately, you may have noticed one particularly brilliant star; it demands attention as it shines with more strength than all the others. Actually, it's not a star at all. That's Venus, also known as Earth's sister planet.

It is a good year to keep an eye on Venus, she will be showing a lot of herself. She has been in the evening sky since January and will be until the middle of August. For that reason she is often called the Evening Star. The planet has been relatively easy to locate due to its brightness and predictable location. For now, you can spot Venus during the evening, in the west. As the year progresses it will climb higher in the sky then eventually appear to pass over us toward the East.

Even now, it is passing by us, little-by-little each night due to its tighter, faster revolution around the sun.

That's not all Venus has to show us this year. Starting in late August we will be referring to her as the Morning Star. At that point, you'll need to get up at dawn and look to the Eastern sky if you wish to see more of her. For now I count myself blessed that my window faces the west. As I'm working at my desk I feel it delightfully easy to turn my head and take a nice long look. I notice how each night it changes its position slightly in my window.

As I sit staring, it occurs to me how magical it must have appeared to ancient peoples. All through history people have been looking up; they would have noticed Venus, a brighter than usual star that wonders across the heavens at will. Because it appeared sometimes in the evening and other times in the morning, ancient cultures naturally believed it to be two different objects. Today of course, we understand them to be the same planet and call it Venus after the Roman Goddess of Love and beauty. The Greeks called it Aphrodite, and the Babylonians called it Ishtar. Both are equivocal names relating to love, or a Goddess of Love. The planet probably got its title because of its qualities of superior brightness and its apparent wandering.

People have been studying Venus for many centuries using nothing but the naked eye. A lot was learned from such observations, but nothing more than the thick cloud layer that encapsulate the surface would allow. Even later with the help of telescopes, Venus still kept her secrets locked inside. It was less than a half century ago when we first stopped looking and sent an explorer. Since the early sixties we have been sending spacecrafts to Venus to learn more about her shrouded secrets. One of them was Venera 7 which became the first un-manned craft to land on another planet and transmit information back home. Later was Venera 9, which gave us our first pictures of Venus' alien surface. Currently, a spacecraft called Venus Express is orbiting the planet taking detailed mappings and readings.

In astronomical ways, Earth and her sister are very similar. Venus is roughly the same size as Earth, only slightly smaller and with slightly less mass. However, the similarities stop once you penetrate the thick clouds. It was once believed that Venus might have an earth-like surface, which would include the possibility of life. But now that scientists have peered through the clouds they see that Venus is very different than Earth. Today it is thought of as being the least hospitable place for life in the solar system; but it's still a cool place for your mind to wander.

If you find yourself out side on a clear evening take a look around and see if you can spot Venus for yourself. There is nothing desirable about its appearance; it looks no different than a star, other than its brightness, but there is just something about seeing it and knowing it's no star at all. I gaze up at it from time to time and marvel. Our sister planet, so mysterious and magical that people have been moved to write about her in literature and poetry, even back when they thought she was just a star.

• Rob Graves
A Heart's Travels
by Mark Joslin

Woke up this morning with a terrible rash
I was riding horses and traversing skies
6,000 troops died in my frontline
Blindly idolizing my commanding sash

I conquered six countries and built a palace of gold
My citizens cheered, but I only felt the babies' cry.
Everything never brought you any closer to my side
Amongst all the cheer, I swear I heard your voice.
I scanned the crowd, no; no I just turned and sighed

Walked the streets for a dream or two
Trying to formulate how I felt about you.
A light had burst into the pale sky;
Enveloped in it, I thought I saw your face

No... no, I quietly sighed at a broken street light
I remember running from the police.
They said stop but I hadn't an idea what that meant.
I watched bullets fade in and out of my body.
They failed to comprehend my unwillingness.
To ever be taken in.

Memories of you flashing in and out of my head.
Each dream more random than the next.
Until the last one began to show a little sense.

You and I were sharing one last kiss.
When you said Baby I have to go.
And like that, you had dissolved into the air.

To leave me breathing in every last memory of you.

With that, I began to ran.
I navigated dream to dream.
Thinking I would find you there.
From Brooklyn to Tokyo.
Where had you gone?

I finally came to an end and wept near a garbage can.
To suddenly wake with a pain I couldn't associate.
I went to the mirror and saw a rash running through the middle of my heart.

The memory of you like poison to my heart.
Lead me to conjure an antidote that
Hopefully in nine stanzas, you will see.
That where ever your heart beats, it belongs with me.

For Diana
Too Far In
by Kelly Jendrzejewski

Rivers will flow and the wind will continue to blow. They will and always had left each other be. Again and again, does the river havoc my envy. "In time," I say to myself, "I will become thee." And forgive this wind for blowing so cold. In these frost bitten days...

Cupid's Love (Poison)
by Mark Joslin

Time has become but a river to us. You are just water to fill the otherwise empty void. Flowing down your path in and out of each torrent. Relentless and unsatisfied do you always seem. Always seeking to control time's current.

And above you, there I will forever be. A brittle leaf blowing and tearing. A victim to the wind's eternal brutality. Observing the rivers of possibilities and opportunities. Trickle down the mountains, through valleys and trees. And finally forming their way into the final sea. A place, I cannot be.
Hotel Dusk is another mystery adventure where you play as "Kyle Hyde" a former NYPD detective, now on the job as a traveling salesman. You arrive at this rundown looking hotel called: "Hotel Dusk". But this is no ordinary hotel. As the game progresses, the player learns about Kyle's past and present, and also has to solve the secrets behind the hotel's other guests and employees. This is a riveting game with definite replay value. With unique sketch like characters, a non-stop suspenseful storyline, and some dry humor, this is another game that is a must have.

**Hotel Dusk**
*Room 215*

Trace Memory is a mystery game where a young girl is out to find her estranged father and mother before her fourteenth birthday. She meets different people throughout the game, including a spectre named: "D". As you the player travel through this mysterious adventure, you have to solve different puzzles, stories, and other tasks to continue on the quest. As the game progresses, you find out clues and comparisons to both the girl's life and the spectres. This game has a great storyline and is a must have for the active gamer.

**Trace Memory**

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Hotel Dusk: 9.5/10
Trace Memory: 8.5/10
Beginning in the nineties Tool has established themselves as a well-known rock band among the general public. Tool is known for their long, almost never-ending songs with great instrumentation.

Their newest album 10,000 Days came out last April in 2006. Off this album there have been two singles, a third is planned to be released within the near future. A friend lent me this CD and at first listen I figured it would sound like every other generic rock band out today, I was definitely wrong. Not being a diehard Tool fan I was rather skeptical about listening and reviewing this particular album. However, I ended up really liking this album and have a newfound appreciation for Tool.

The singles off this particular album were “Vicarious” and “The Pot”. Each of these songs is unique and both have a different sound. “Vicarious” is more of what I think a typical Tool song to be, an almost eerie sound with driving beat pushing you through the song. The lyrics are mainly about living a life vicariously and watching everything around them die and essentially being unhappy with this life.

“The Pot” sounds like a more mainstream rock track and quite typical of being radio worthy. The singers voice is a bit higher than in most of their songs giving it a different feel and soul. The guitars and bongo drums are what pull you into the song and build you up for what else goes on within the music.

Tool has been an influential band within the music realm and an icon to many newer rock bands. Tool’s sound has attempted to be replicated but no one band has been able to do so. The uniqueness of their music is unable to be reproduced even by the best. The covers of Tool songs do not have the same emotion and feeling put into the songs. Only the originals in this care are able to prevail over all.

Kelly Jendrzejewski
QUALITY

LISTENABILITY
This is a great album to sit and listen to the whole thing. The songs are well arranged and not overly full of the heavy metal sound you may associate with a rock band. The extended intros and solos are what really make these songs. They set you up for the song and really get you into the heart of what the artists want you to experience when listening to their music. 28/30

MUSIC
The music is what you really listen to Tool for, not so much the lyrics. The band is a typical hard rock band except more melodic. The music seems to flow much better than other bands of Tool's caliber. Every instrument flows well with one another and compliments each of the other parts that are simultaneously playing. The drums are by far my favorite part of Tool. They are deep and are the movement of the songs bringing them to life. The guitars and bass are what give the songs individuality, separating them from one another. 29/30

LYRICS
The lyrics are few and far in between. Tool is known for their extended intros, ridiculously long drum breaks and solos.

Although when there are lyrics they are generally quite thought out and meaningful in some ways. There seems to be a spiritual undertone to some of the songs. However, these lyrics are not necessarily meaningful but they deserve mention. The lyrics are dark and edgy giving them a unique sound as opposed to the generic happy songs of today. 24/30

ADDICTIVENESS
If you are a hardcore Tool fan this CD is pretty addictive. However, if this is one of your first times listening to Tool it may seem pretty boring and not addictive in the least. You have to like the lack of lyrics and enjoy raw melodic instrumentation. 7/10

LISTEN TO WHEN YOU ARE
Anytime you want to zone out this CD is perfect for tuning everything else out. Since there are not a lot of lyrics, it is easy to concentrate on other things. This is also great to listen to when you are driving on a long trip, to fully enjoy the whole album at once.

RATING 88%
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