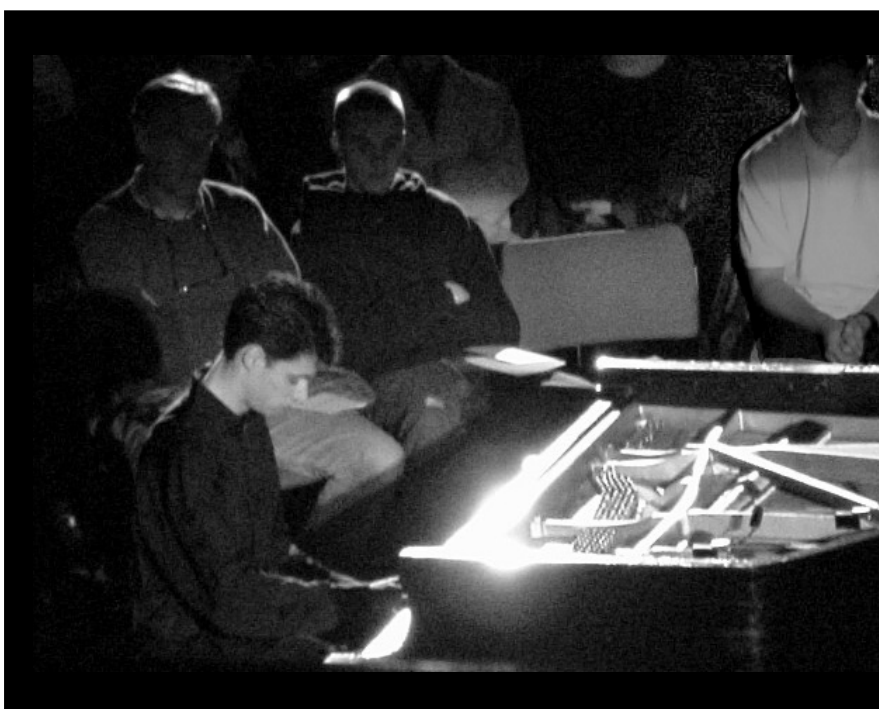




Tues: Chance of flurries. High around 30.
Wed: Chance of snow. High 20 to 25.
Thurs: Snow showers likely. High 20 to 30



Piano Man

Last Saturday night, WPI freshman, Sergio Salvatore held a concert in Alden Hall. The darkened hall shimmered with the spotlights beaming down on the open piano as the artist played improvised lyrics to the audience.

President wants \$3 billion for new science research

Courtesy of
The Associated Press

PASADENA, Calif. (AP) _ President Clinton said Friday he wants to add nearly \$3 billion to federal science and technology research, a broad effort that he said has already fostered amazing changes in American life and national wealth.

The proposed increase in next year's budget would add nearly \$1 billion to information technology-related computer research.

Although he struggles with computer technology himself, Clinton speaks with enthusiasm about the wonders technology has wrought.

"It is changing everything about the way we work and live and relate to each other," Clinton said of the Internet, saying the computer network is a major reason for the nation's continued economic growth, which is on pace to break all previous records next month.

His own administration also should get credit for managing a changing economy well, Clinton told students and faculty at the California Institute of Technology. But he acknowledged that to a degree, what the government did best was stay out of the way.

"The real reason this thing keeps going on and on and on is all we did in the government was to set

the conditions and provide the tools for the American people to succeed," Clinton said in his address.

"The real reason is the exponential growth in information technology and how it is rifling through every other sector of our economy," creating jobs no one had heard of a few years ago and reinforcing other scientific advances, he said.

The president also cautioned of the dark side of scientific and technological advances.

"The same genetic revolution that can offer new hope for millions of Americans could also be used to deny people health insurance, clone a human being," he said.

Scientists and public servants must make sure that science serves humanity and not the other way around, Clinton said.

"Just because we can do something doesn't mean we should," he said.

Clinton came to Southern California, a major recipient of federal research dollars, to detail his plan to add \$2.8 billion to the federal budget for science and technology research _ benefiting studies of cancer, diabetes and AIDS as well as

See SCIENCE continued to page 2

IU considers student background checks in wake of July shooting

Courtesy of
The Associated Press

BLOOMINGTON, Ind. (AP) _ Prospective Indiana University students could be denied admission if they have a criminal record or history of disciplinary problems at another institution, under new language proposed for the academic handbook.

If approved, the new policy would require all student applicants to disclose if they have engaged in behavior that resulted in injury to other people. The prospective students also must give the university permission to access criminal records, if such records exist.

Those with serious problems could be denied admission, or their access to campus facilities and events could be limited.

"At the moment, from a purely technical point of view, we are not authorized to deny admission to students on the basis of previous criminal or social behavior because these matters are not discussed in the academic handbook," said Don Hossler, vice chancellor for enrollment services, in a report to the university trustees.

The new policy also states a student who withholds information or provides false information will be ineligible for admission or subject to dismissal if already enrolled.

The new requirement stems from a hate crime forum conducted in September by university trustees to discuss the July 4 shooting death of graduate student Won-Joon Yoon, 26.

Yoon was gunned down by avowed white supremacist Benjamin Smith, an IU student who came to the Bloomington campus after withdrawing from the Univer-

sity of Illinois before he could be expelled for disciplinary problems.

Smith killed one other person and wounded nine others before taking his own life.

Smith was not enrolled in classes at the time of the shootings but had been distributing racist leaflets around the city during the 1998-99 school year.

Federal law prevented IU from receiving more information about Smith from the University of Illinois when he applied to the Bloomington campus. The law has changed since

then.

Under the proposed IU policy, when prospective students indicate a criminal or disciplinary history, the director of admissions will look at the matter and determine if the offense warrants review of a specially appointed committee.

The committee will have authority to deny admission, grant unconditional admission, admit the student without the privilege of living

See SHOOTING continued on page 2



PHOTO COURTESY OF JENNIFER COOPER
 Marc Cryan prepares for this weekend's performance.

Well of Horniness, Clit Notes aims to entertain

Don't let names of M.W. Rep productions intimidate

by Debbie Shea
Features Editor

Riley Commons is about to undergo some changes.

In the next week, the usually calm lounge and meeting place will be transformed into a theatre housing two funny, irreverent plays by local playwright Holly Hughes.

Don't let the names of these plays intimidate you, though; *Clit Notes* and *The Well of Horniness* are aimed to entertain, by any means necessary.

Clit Notes, a 24 page monologue telling the story of the liberal playwright's upbringing in a highly conservative atmosphere, emphasizes her never failing recognition of her individuality.

The Well of Horniness, a parody of the old radio murder mysteries, takes the audience on a whirlwind jaunt through the perversities of human life.

Although the subject matter of the plays differ somewhat, the directors, Heléne Andersson (*Clit Notes*) and Kim Belli (*The Well of Horniness*), make it their goal to have the audience come away from the productions

entertained, and with an understanding of the absurdities of human existence.

The basis of each of these plays is simple: it is good to be able to laugh at yourself and the people around you, and being different is a valuable (as well as funny) asset.

Clit Notes and *The Well of Horniness* will be performed January 27-29 at 8pm in Riley Commons. Cost is \$3 WPI/\$5 non-WPI. For any additional information, go to <http://www.gweep.net/~mwrep>.

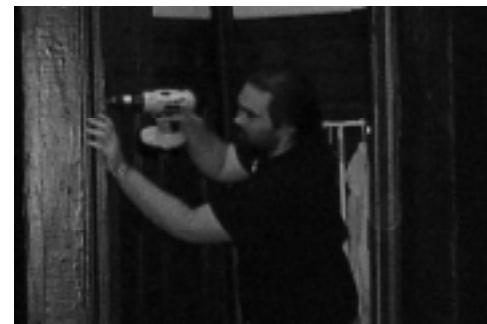


PHOTO COURTESY OF RACHEL COPELAND
 Set crews prepare Riley Commons for *Well of Horniness* and *Clit Notes*, M.W. Repertory's winter production.

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What's Inside...

Worcester to get Logan overflow

"Worcester's airport growth is expected to pour more than \$200 million into the local economy over the next several years, and give more than a million residents of greater Worcester an alternative to flying out of Boston."

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Q*bert

Old game, new platform

"A trend that began in the Nineties continues in the year 2000, as developers, lacking original ideas, offer old games in new formats. Fortunately, some classics deserve a second look, as Hasbro Interactive aptly demonstrates with Q*bert, for Sony PlayStation."

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The Cheese Caper

Police Log

"10:37pm - Complaint: From Morgan Hall custodian, 4 students seen stealing cheese from Burger King, alcohol smelled and cigar smell."



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NEWS

■ SCIENCE *continued from page 2*

computer technology, among others. California, with about 12 percent of the nation's population, draws 20 percent of federal research dollars.

The president later played golf with actor Jack Nicholson and then made two rounds of Democratic fund raising among Hollywood supporters. Clinton was staying at the home of film producer David Geffen.

Also Friday, administration officials said Clinton, pursuing his goal of connecting all Americans to the Internet, will propose federal subsidies to narrow the "digital divide" and help millions of low-income families go online. He has said Internet access and usage should be as commonplace as the telephone.

A draft proposal calls for spending as much as \$100 million to provide computers and Internet access in perhaps as many as 9 million households. Clinton has not yet determined the exact size of the proposal, said administration officials who spoke on condition of anonymity.

The president is expected to announce the proposal in his State of the Union address Thursday.

That speech is also likely to mention some details of the package he announced Friday, including:

—The National Institutes of Health would get an extra \$1 billion on top of an existing budget of nearly \$18 billion.

—The 56-year-old National Science Foundation would get a 17 percent increase — its largest budget boost ever. The \$675 million would augment an existing budget of \$3.9 billion.

If approved by Congress, the new money would increase total U.S. spending on basic scientific and technological research to about \$43 billion in 2001, the White House said.

University research spending is popular in Congress, in part because it spreads

dollars outside Washington. But Republicans are already warning that ambitious new spending packages face rough sledding this year.

The GOP-controlled House Budget Committee estimated that before the latest science and technology proposals, the White House had called attention to about 50 new initiatives costing nearly \$29 billion that it plans to include in the upcoming budget.

The Clinton university research plan reflects an emphasis on biomedical and so-called lifestyle research as opposed to more traditional basic research into mathematics and physical sciences.

"University-based research provides the kind of fundamental insights that are most important in any new technology or treatment," Clinton said. "It helps to produce the next generation of scientists, engineers, entrepreneurs, and we intend to give university-based research a major lift."

■ SHOOTING *continued from page 1*

on campus or grant conditional admission restricting student access to areas of campus or to specific campus activities or events.

Any violation of the campus disciplinary code could lead to immediate disciplinary actions, including suspension and expulsion. The policy also establishes an appeal process.

The Bloomington Faculty Council's agenda committee already agreed on the principle behind the handbook change.

The full BFC may suggest minor changes in wording of the policy but it is expected to be implemented.

"We hope this will catch some of the problem people," said IU trustee Ray Richardson. "But we know it won't catch everybody."



Winter is back with a vengeance

Left: The WPI campus has been hit at least twice a week with snow fall since the start of the semester.

Below: Freshman Carmina Jackson makes her way to campus in the bitter cold with a little help from her warm winter clothes.



Newspeak is looking for a few
good writers

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The Student Newspaper of Worcester Polytechnic Institute NEWSPEAK

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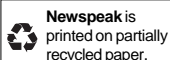
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All articles should be typed and include the author's name and box number. Copy may be sent to Student Activities or brought to the Newspeak office. Articles may also be submitted via e-mail. All copy is due by 5:00 pm on the Friday preceding publication. Letters to the Editor must contain the printed name of the author as well as the author's signature, telephone number and box number for verification. Students submitting letters should put their class after their name. Faculty and staff should include their full title. Letters deemed libelous or irrelevant to the WPI community will not be published. All Club Corners must be submitted via e-mail and be 275 words or less. The editors reserve the right to edit all copy for correct punctuation and spelling as well as appropriate content.

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WORLD NEWS

Mexico's student strike drags on despite faltering public support

*Courtesy of
The Associated Press*

MEXICO CITY (AP) _ The university directory calls it the Jose Valdano classroom, but to the band of students who have been living here for the last nine months it's "the Igloo."

"The light doesn't come in through the windows fully and it gets cold," says Alejandro, a 30-year-old architecture student who won't give his last name for fear of criminal repercussions.

Administrators, faculty members and students at Latin America's largest university voted overwhelmingly Thursday in favor of ending the strike. But the radical students who have occupied the main campus at the National Autonomous University are living just as they have for the past nine months _ and don't plan to go anywhere.

Alejandro stretches under the blankets spread out on the classroom floor and rubs his eyes. Down a couple of flights of stairs in the philosophy department's kitchen, Oscar Castillo helps a group of students make an early lunch of eggs and tortillas.

"The administration has a majority of the support," concedes the 29-year-old philosophy student. "But it's a passive one. We are the active minority, and what happened (with the voting) won't change that."

Last April 20, the mammoth campus _ buttressed on one side by a stadium built for the 1968 Olympics and on the other by the foothills of the mountains that ring the Mexican capital _ exploded in a rebellion that saw thousands of students barricade

their school's entrances with wire fences and debris and declare the university and its affiliated high schools closed until further notice.

Those were what the students here now call the good old days.

The strikers' main demand was clear: Scrap an idea to raise tuition from a token few cents to the equivalent of dlrs 150 a year.

A lot has happened since those spring days when revolution hung in the air.

In June, university President Francisco Barnes de Castro agreed to make tuition optional. In November, with a resolution nowhere in sight, he resigned. Soon after, his replacement Juan Ramon de la Fuente suspended the tuition increase altogether.

Nothing moved the strikers.

In January, de la Fuente also offered not to pursue criminal charges against the strike's ringleaders and create a university-wide congress of administrators, faculty members and students to rewrite the university's bylaws. Again, the strikers didn't budge.

Gradually, most of the hundreds of students camped out on campus abandoned the cause. Only a few dozen increasingly radical leftists remained. Public opinion steadily turned against the strikers.

The voting Thursday merely confirmed what most Mexicans already knew: Most people at the 268,000-student university want the strikers to move out and let things get back to normal.

To the students holed up on campus, however, the vote was no more than a blip.

"I can't say I'm not tired of this sometimes," says 28-year-old Joquin Escobar as

he mopped the floor of the philosophy department, his home for nine months. "But it's not lonely here. We are not as alone as the government would have you believe."

The administration is increasingly sour over what it sees as a group of career students whose demands have escalated each time officials have offered concessions.

The latest demands center on an open-admissions policy for students from university-affiliated high schools, greater student control of the curriculum and no time limit for finishing a university degree in a country where being a 32-year-old undergraduate is not uncommon.

"It's a paradox because it's no longer an economic issue but a quest for political integration and profound change," says

Can Gates the businessman turn into Gates the innovator?

*Courtesy of
The Associated Press*

REDMOND, Wash. (AP) _ Bill Gates and the company he co-founded, Microsoft, are known for many things, but in the technology community, innovation is not one of them.

For 25 years, Microsoft has been built on software products that, while useful and popular, have not been cutting edge. Many, like the Windows user interface and the Internet Explorer Web browser, were ideas developed somewhere else.

Now, however, Gates has adopted a new role as Microsoft's "chief software architect," handing off his chief executive du-

Mario Guzman, a striking philosophy student. "That doesn't have a definite end and won't end because of a vote like (Thursday's plebiscite)."

Guzman says he's content to continue the stalemate until after national elections in July. Mexican officials, so far at least, have appeared to share similar sentiments. Weighing heavily on their collective consciousness is a 1968 massacre in which the army opened fire on demonstrators, most of them students.

"The tensions are rising on both sides," says a 30-year-old literature student who didn't want to give her name. "But it's clear that the public would never support the use of force to end this or any strike, and the government knows that."

ties to company President Steve Ballmer. After making his mark as a businessman, Gates wants, figuratively, to head back to the garage _ in his case, a 40-car parking structure _ and tinker again.

"My guess is that Bill Gates simply doesn't have anything to prove any more, and he found out that the last few years haven't been all that pleasant," said Linus Torvalds, founder and chief architect of the rival Linux operating system. "My guess is that that he's really found out that he can do more interesting things."

Microsoft's rise from a dorm room discussion to become the highest-valued

*See GATES
continued on page 9*

WORLD NEWS

Regional airports absorb overflow from Logan

Courtesy of
The Associated Press

BOSTON (AP) — Passengers aren't the only ones who think crowds and delays at Logan International Airport have gotten out of hand.

Even the people who run the airport are working to route passengers to once-ignored regional airports in Worcester, Providence, R.I., Manchester, N.H., and elsewhere to absorb some of the 26 million passengers who pass through Logan every year.

On Saturday, the Massachusetts Port Authority took over Worcester Regional Airport from the city in an effort to rejuvenate an airport that serves just 40,000 passengers annually, but could be accommodating more than 800,000, said Jose Juves, a Massport spokesman.

Starting next month, Delta Air Lines will fly from Worcester to Atlanta twice daily. By springtime, American Airlines will offer flights between New York and Worcester three times per day.

Worcester's airport growth is expected to pour more than \$200 million into the local economy over the next several years, and give more than a million residents of greater Worcester an alternative to flying out of Boston.

"There's simply no reason they should weave their way through Big Dig construction and Logan modernization projects when they can fly out of Worcester," Juves said, speaking of the \$11.6 billion Central Artery project that has thrown downtown Boston into chaos.

And with predictions that 20 million more passengers will fly into New England over the next decade, Massport is looking to Hanscom Air Force Base in Bedford, Manchester Regional Airport and Pease Airport in New Hampshire, T.F. Green Air-

port in Warwick, R.I., and Bradley Airport between Springfield and Hartford, Conn., to shoulder some of the burdens.

As part of a move to get passengers to the regional hubs, plans are underway to widen Route 3 to Manchester. Officials are also considering a commuter rail link to the Providence area, to accommodate the nearly 5 million passengers who fly in and out of T.F. Green Airport. Nearly half of those travelers are from Massachusetts communities more convenient to Providence than Boston, said Patti Goldstein, an airport spokeswoman.

Massport is also considering a shuttle bus service to Worcester Airport to depart from the same Framingham depot that serves a shuttle to Logan.

The airport development doesn't please everyone, however.

Residents in Lexington and Bedford

have protested at Hanscom Field against Shuttle America, claiming the carrier's flights cause noise and air pollution.

State Rep. Jay Kaufman, D-Lexington, said Hanscom neither wants, nor needs, to be a regional air hub.

"Providence and Manchester actively sought to expand air traffic and have made road accommodations consistent with that," said Kaufman, adding that the new flight schedules have clogged some local roads with traffic. "This is not the case at Hanscom. The communities are firmly against it."

Activists in Worcester are also opposed to a state plan to level 40 homes and build an access road from Interstate 290 to the air hub.

But others are happy at the prospect of having an alternative to Logan, said Sue MacDonald, a spokeswoman for Pease Airport in Portsmouth, N.H.

At Pease, a former Air Force base, passengers can take daily flights to Sanford, Fla., and Gary, Ind., and by next month, Pittsburgh, Pa.

MacDonald said Pease, about an hour from Boston, is close to Interstate 95 and offers no-wait customs and baggage claim.

"You could be in your rental car and gone, before you could even land at Logan," she said.

She said the airport's next move is to woo charter operators, cargo flights and other commercial business.

Passengers seem willing enough to consider regional airports, but it's those in the travel industry who are slowest to change, MacDonald said.

"Travel agents should start giving their clients an alternative to Logan. Airlines need to be educated too. ... Passengers really want ease of travel."

MSA, ACC mourn death of former student

by Naif Al-Sudairy
President of
Muslim Student Organization
and Arab Cultural Club

On behalf of the MSA and the ACC:

In the name of Allah, Most Gracious, Most Merciful.

"Say: "It is Allah Who gives you life, then gives you death; then He will gather you together for the Day of Judgment about which there is no doubt": but most men do not know."

(Sura 45: Al-Jathiya (The Kneeling), Aya 26, *The Holy Qur'an*)

On the afternoon of Monday, January 17th, one of the most innocent of souls joined its creator. On that tragic day, we lost a friend and a brother who is very dear to us all. Adam El-Khishin was one of the

few people that left remarkable imprints on his community.

Guided by a pure Islamic spirit, he was able to reach through to the souls of people who knew him. He was passionate, caring and loving for the people who sought his friendship. He was considerate and giving to the people who sought his advice. He was the model of modesty, intelligence and reliability for the people who had the opportunity to work with him. His personality and demeanor have always received our awe and admiration. It is just too remarkable and noble to be contained in simple words.

Throughout the four years we have known him, Adam excelled in all his work. He earned several honors for his outstanding academic performance and most importantly the respect and admiration of his

teachers. Marking some of his honors and achievements, he received the sophomore of the year award in 1997/1998, he was elected member of the National Engineering Honor Society, and last but not least he was first year medical student at Washington University in St. Louis, Missouri. With his lively spirit and outspoken personality, he was active in a number of organizations, in which he left remarkable traces. Among these organizations are the Muslim Student Organization, Arab Cultural Club and the International Student Council.

With such achievements and characteristics, a person can only be noticed and remembered by all who knew him. We ask you to join us in the reminiscence of Adam El-Khishin, May Allah Bless His Soul.

INTERNATIONAL HOUSE

India celebrates Republic Day

by Hajira Begum
Class of '02

India, the world's largest democracy, celebrates its Republic Day on January 26th, 2000, marking the 50th anniversary of the adoption of the Constitution of India in 1950. Celebrations in all the State capitals are colorful but the highlight of the day is the Republic Day Parade held in Delhi, the nation's capital city. The Republic Day celebrations have rightly become world famous as one of the greatest shows on earth drawing thousands of eager spectators from all over the country and from many parts of the world.

This parade takes place on the Rajpath, literally the Royal path, in downtown Delhi, beginning very early in the morning and proceeding until mid-day. The President of India, the Commander of the Armed Forces, presides over the entire event, along with other political and social dignitaries from all over the country and world.

Before the event begins, the President pays a floral tribute to the "Amar Jawan Jyothi" (Flame of the Martyrs), a memorial at the famous India

Gate. The event formally begins with the President receiving a 21-gun salute from the defense forces, followed by a magnificent parade of the army, navy, air force and paramilitary contingents from various sectors of the country. What makes this procession

unique are the multi-colored and vibrant camel battalion, cavalry and personnel wearing uniforms that hint at the heritage of a particular province. The stupendous display of weapons, artillery and defense capability and air force drills are breathtaking. Amongst all this splendor and pageantry, is the solemn introspection that occurs in everybody's mind as the President gives away the Ashoka Chakra gallantry awards (most of them posthumously) to several defense personnel.

This is followed by a spectacular array of floats featuring cultural, social and economic individuality from the country's provinces and other social organizations. Youth from schools and universities from different parts of the country present performances in physical, musical, and dance and vocal abilities in picturesque costumes marking the cultural diversity and unity of India. One of the most awaited segments of the parade is the brave Indian youth, who have displayed extraordinary courage, mounted on camels and elephants.

No other country can draw on such wealth of tradition and culture, so many regional forms of dance, music and dress. And, no other country in the world can parade so many ethnically different people in splendid uniforms as the Indian Armed Forces. But they are all united in their proven loyalty to their nation and in their proud traditions and legendary gallantry.

Impress your sweetie this
Valentine's Day
with a personals ad from Newspeak

Do you want to win a palm pilot?

*by Tom Balistrieri
Student Development
& Counseling Center*

That ever popular game show, DO YOU WANT TO WIN A PALM PILOT?, along with hosts Vanna Van Dyke, Kelly Lee Gifford and Regis Balistrieri, is coming to WPI this February 14th. All WPI students are eligible to be contestants. Cash, small prizes and a Palm IIIe are up for grabs.

If you would like the chance to be a contestant you must complete the application form (below) and send to Bev Loomis at West Street House or e-mail your name, WPI ID number, and e-mail address to loomis@wpi.edu. Applications must be received by Wed., Feb. 9. All applications will be placed into a fish bowl with contestants selected at the game show the night of February 14th. The grand prize winner could walk away with \$100 and a Palm IIIe. All contestants could win as much as \$100 in cash. There will be opportunities for

audience members to win prizes as well.

What is the topic, you ask? Categories include: Sex, drugs, drinking, sleep, exercise, and nutrition. All questions will be multiple-guess with the game-show format following the basic guidelines (sort of) of the Regis Philbin television game show. Modifications and rules will be explained the night of the 14th.

Bring your WPI ID card (required to be a contestant), your flashlights, your knowledge about living a balanced life, and a sense of humor to Riley Commons at 7:00 PM sharp on February 14th. You might also bring knowledgeable friends (one may be picked as your designated "lifeline" helper, the others may help as part of the audience poll "lifeline.") DO YOU WANT TO WIN A PALM PILOT is brought to you by The Academic Resource Center, The Health Center and The Student Development and Counseling Center.

Send in your applications today and WIN A PALM IIIe.

DO YOU WANT TO WIN A PALM PILOT?

Hosted by Regis Balistrieri, Kelly Lee Gifford, Vanna Van Dyke

APPLICATION TO PARTICIPATE
MONDAY, FEBRUARY 14, 7:00-8:30 PM
RILEY COMMONS

NAME _____

E-MAIL ADDRESS _____

WPI ID NUMBER _____

(At the game show, contestants must present WPI ID card.)
Complete this form and mail or deliver to West Street House,
157 West Street, or e-mail above information to loomis@wpi.edu
by Wednesday, 2/9/00.

please recycle this paper :-)

A&E

Bare Wire has suicidal sound

By Sarah Walkowiak
Associate Editor

This is one of the most unusual CD's I've heard in a long time. Not so much unusual in its content or lyrics, I've listened to some pretty bizarre stuff in my time, but unusual in the sense that it's not the kind of thing I usually listen to. Simone Grey, the single artist behind the name Bare Wire, has been compared to Tori Amos, but since I'm not familiar with her work I don't feel qualified to make that comparison. My best approximation of her sound would be as a creepy yet inviting ambient droning that draws you in. Her voice is similar in tone to Emma Townshend, though I'm sure many aren't familiar with her work either, as is often the irony of unusual music. However, the similarities end there. The name "Bare Wire" is an appropriate pseudonym, as the press kit came packaged with a warning label cautioning about its suicidal sounding contents, and the simple fact that if you take the time to listen and read the lyrics and the message, you will notice that Simone herself is the bare wire, leaving raw emotion exposed for all to see and interpret. Although I cannot relate to all of the emotions expressed, I respect her for sharing thoughts so deep and personal, as so few musicians are able to get past "safe" superficial emotions. Delicatessen is obviously the creation of an artistic mind, as it can be interpreted on multiple levels. It seeks out to express not only a feeling, but a whole emotional world of one person's mind, the process of falling into despair through broken relationships. The lyrics are simple and concise, and the album is relatively short, only about thirty minutes long, but is arranged like musical poetry. Although it is not mentioned in the songs themselves or the liner notes, the website describes the theme of the album, a delicatessen. Creating a metaphor of helpless animals led to the slaughterhouse, the songs as the remains of the carcass. Sounds harsh? It is, but the album has a way of creating small moments of beauty even around such harsh themes, making it all the more tragic by incorporating a sense of loss. I thought it was a little disappointing that the album itself or the liner notes did not have more of the story included somewhere, as it aided my own understanding of the themes.

One of the albums' strengths is that although it is expressing pain, it still retains a human quality, that there is a still a struggling person somewhere behind these emotions. Instead of pushing the audience away with the shock value of describing graphic or violent situations it describes the emotions themselves and invites the listener in to explore their own mind and even to leave if they choose. I noticed this with my own reactions to the CD. I didn't like it at first, but there was something about it that made me give it another listen or two. I set it aside and went back to it several times before forming a concrete opinion. I can't say for sure if I would recommend this album, as that would depend on whom I was recommending it to. It's one of those albums you have to be in the mood to listen to if you're not currently depressed, unless you don't pay attention to it and leave it as ambient background noise — but it's still not for the top 40 crowd. Depressed or not, I would certainly recommend it to those interested in artists that experiment with the boundaries of music as an art form. To learn more about bare wire, check out <http://http://www.eristikos.com/barewire.html>.

ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

Q*bert a fine example of an old game in new platform

By Ken Gagne
Class of '01

Name : Q*bert Platform : Sony PlayStation
Publisher : Hasbro Interactive
ESRB Rating: Everyone Game Rating: 8.4

A trend that began in the Nineties continues in the year 2000, as developers, lacking original ideas, offer old games in new formats. Fortunately, some classics deserve a second look, as Hasbro Interactive aptly demonstrates with Q*bert, for Sony PlayStation.

Q*bert has its roots in an arcade game of the mid-Eighties, which featured an armless, trunk-nosed, orange character (Q*bert) hopping about pyramids of 3D blocks, changing their colors. Players would avoid the falling balls and spiteful snakes to try to change all the blocks to a new color and go to the next level.

The PlayStation version has three modes of play. Classic mode will be a strong attraction for arcade veterans. This mode

features an identical version of the coin-op original, with two-player mode, score rankings, and an optional, updated graphics mode.

The new Adventure mode has over a hundred strangely-shaped rounds, with themes from cityscapes to arctic icecaps. As in the old days, Q*bert jumps about the isometric plane to change the color of each block, some of which require multiple jumps or an odd number of jumps.

Head to Head mode lets two players compete on a single board to be the first to change all their blocks and make it to the exit. This mode features thirty-six unique levels and special blocks.

Though the gameplay remains faithful to the original, don't think you can play blindfolded, or last for twelve hours on one quarter. Old foes and new will corner Q*bert in a variety of uncomfortable positions. Clever players will barely escape, while the best will work bad situations to their advantage to drop snakes off the

board and come out ahead, point-wise.

Hasbro has provided four control options to accommodate Q*bert's diagonal movements. Players can orient their controllers normally and push the diagonals, hold it 45 degrees clockwise or counterclockwise so the D-pad points diagonally, or use the four shoulder buttons. Regardless of which is chosen, it becomes second nature after a few rounds, though the occasional, suicidal mistake can still occur.

But there is an unnecessary oddity in the setup. Before playing can begin, both controllers (if plugged in) must be configured. This is bothersome to a single player, who is told to configure the second controller, and it wouldn't even be necessary if the game automatically loaded saved data. Instead, game data must be restored manually.

Graphic quality is high, but presentation is sometimes flawed. Due to varying board shapes and camera angles, it can be difficult to discern where certain blocks are in

relation to Q*bert. Some backgrounds seems out of place - geometric shapes swirling against psychedelic backdrops. Huh? However, various enemies and icons are easily discernible, while bonus levels are hidden in plain sight.

Sound effects are the audio highlight. The music doesn't change from world to world (one world is about twenty-four rounds), though it is neither irritating nor significantly noticeable. But the constant hopping sound that accompanies Q*bert's travels, the "boing"ing of a coiled snake, and other effects recreate the arcade experience perfectly.

Unlike with Frogger and Centipede, Hasbro has finally done justice to a classic game, with an update that preserves the original's spirit while presenting it in a fresh way. Arcade veterans and those experiencing Q*bert for the first time will be pleasantly surprised by this update.

Newman Club keeping busy

by Father Peter J. Scanlon
Catholic Chaplain

Tonight we start the famous Fr.Ss supper again. So during the next few weeks keep an eye on your mail box as you may be getting an invitation to join us at the chaplain's table. This tradition in our club has been going on for over 35 years and we are happy to report that no one has died or even got sick yet from Father's cooking. This past Sunday our Executive Board did some community building by going snow tubing and from all reports it was a terrific time. This Friday night we are having pasta at 5:30 PM at the Religious Center followed by a trip to the Trappist Monastery in Spencer, MA. to hear the singing of Compline. Also our faith and discussion groups meet on Monday and Wednesday nights at 8:00 PM. So you can see we have

plentiful activities this week. We also received a letter of appreciation from the officials of Saint Francis Nursing Home for our Christmas caroling which took place last December.

In addition to present activities we are planning a trip to Wright's Chicken Farm (that is a restaurant in Rhode Island) on Friday night, November 11th, and a Day of Retreat on Saturday, February 19th. On Friday night, February 25th we will have a video and pasta night. Already Peter Vitello and John Richardson are planning our Appalachia in Worcester Day, which is on March 14th this year. You will be reading more about these events in future editions of Newspeak.

If you want to go to the Trappist Monastery this Friday night and you have not signed up yet, please e-mail Jennifer Cooper (jcooper) or Father Scanlon (priest) at once.

■ GATES *continued from page 3*

American company is the most stunning business story of the past quarter century. While the company founded by Gates and Harvard classmate Paul Allen in 1975 created new software in the mid-1970s for the Altair computer _ a kit computer assembled at home that used punch cards for programs _ it purchased or copied many of its more famous products.

The Windows interface, for example, looked quite similar to the first versions of Apple's Macintosh software, and used similar ideas for menus and icons. The two companies were involved in a long, bitter patent dispute over the software from 1988 until 1997, when the two sides settled and Microsoft invested \$150 million in the then-ailing company.

Microsoft was nearly a latecomer to the Internet party as well, allowing Netscape Communications Corp. to develop and market the first software used to browse the World Wide Web. Microsoft reversed itself in 1995, buying a license for third-party technology in order to quickly bring its own browser, Internet Explorer, to market.

The company does have its share of innovations _ the recently announced ClearType technology for easier reading on computer screens, its line of visual software development tools, parts of the Windows NT operating system for businesses.

However, Microsoft's marketing and business deals _ some would say ruthless deals _ brought Internet Explorer to prominence, and brought the company to the attention of the U.S. Department of Justice. The DOJ and 19 states are now considered to have the upper hand in their antitrust suit against the company.

"All of this stuff required him to be hands off on the software," said Drew Major, chief scientist for Novell Corp. and the primary author of the company's

NetWare operating system for servers. "I think he's always going to be in charge, but I think he wanted to go have fun."

Gates has admitted that the company's antitrust battles have been straining, and Microsoft's success has required him to be a full-time CEO. He started handing off day-to-day management of the company in July 1998, when he appointed Ballmer president. That transition was completed Thursday, though Gates will remain chairman.

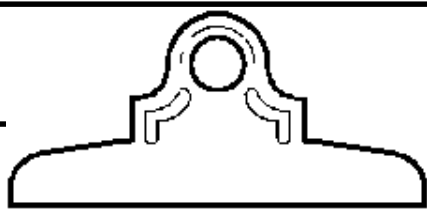
"The bigger question here is how does Microsoft transform itself," said Michael Gartenberg, vice-president of the Gartner Group research firm. "Bill can be the visionary for this transformation, now that he has time."

Microsoft's new vision of a world appliances and computers connected via the Internet is not entirely new, however. Sun Microsystems, one of Microsoft's most bitter rivals, has long evangelized the use of the Internet to transmit data to a variety of devices. With the slogan, "The network is the computer," Sun has promoted technologies that would allow computers, printers, servers, cell phones and nearly any electronic device to communicate via a network.

The difference in Gates' vision is that the personal computer _ the source of Microsoft's longtime dominance of the industry _ still plays a major role. Sun would scrap the PC entirely, replacing it with data stored on servers outside the user's home.

It will be up to Gates, as Microsoft's new visionary-in-residence, to bring Microsoft's vision to reality.

"I can only say, 'Have a ton of fun, Bill,'" Torvalds said. "Not just because I think that's what he wants, but because I think that that's the way to do new and interesting things. After all, he certainly has the resources to turn fun stuff into reality."



The Crimson Clipboard

Attention all undergraduate 2000-2001 financial aid applicants:

This letter is to inform you that a financial aid application packet for the 2000-2001 academic year will be placed in your WPI mailbox during January, 2000. These application materials need to be completed in order to apply for financial aid for the 2000-2001 academic year

Financial aid application packet includes the following:

- 1). WPI Upperclass Financial Aid Application (Purple Folder)
- 2). CSS (College Scholarship Service) Basic PROFILE Application
- 3). Checklist of application requirements (yellow sheet)

Please Note:

In addition to the above materials, you will also be required to complete a 2000-2001 Renewal FAFSA in order to apply for financial aid. The Federal Department of Education will be mailing the FAFSA or EAC (electronic access code) directly to your home address between November, 1999 - January, 2000. The FAFSA or EAC will be mailed to the address that was reported on your 1999-2000 FAFSA.

Deadline Notes:

The deadline for the 2000-2001 Upperclass Financial Aid Application is March 27, 2000. The FAFSA and PROFILE must be filed no later than April 1, 2000 with the results due in this office no later than May 1, 2000. Photocopies of Federal 1999 tax returns, W-2's as well as all applicable schedules for both you and your parent(s) must be submitted to this office no later than May 1, 2000.

WPI Office of Financial Aid

SocComm Presents

*Sunday, January 30th 6:30 & 9:30 pm
Perrault Lecture Hall
\$2 Admission*

CLUB CORNER

Legal and Social Issues

At this year's first meeting, we discussed another speaker for C term - possibly a criminal lawyer or someone involved in computer forensics. Will be hosting our annual movie night on February 16th, time and place tba. We will also be participating in Quadfest and SocComm's \$.50 club movie night.

GAEA

In the first meeting of 2000, members were introduced to the projected agenda for the year. Some items on the list included group activities such as a hike or whale watch later in the season. Also, our website needs updating and we would greatly appreciate anyone who is interested in helping out. We will be joining some national organizations such as Sierra Club or World Wildlife Fund. Letters will be sent to all local papers regarding Clinton's initiative to preserve 50,000,000 acres of roadless forest and we will be setting up a dedication to the new campus center with the planting of a dozen or more flowering trees. There's lots more on the agenda so if you want to see what we're about, come over to Morgan B every Wednesday at 5:15. Hope to see you there!

SMAS

There are plenty of activities planned to keep the C-term blues in check, both on and off campus. Some SMAS-sponsored events include: another trip to Higgin's Armory, to see a WPI IQP project on display; a talk by an eminent expert Prof. Singman; an armor-making session; and a movie night.

We're also aware of several events sponsored by other groups. The SCA has both a medieval faire and a ball scheduled for February which are a lot of fun. The middle eastern dance class will also be holding their first recital in February, which is a must-see.

Dates for all events will be announced in due course. Meetings are Tuesday nights at 7pm in Founders basement. Middle eastern dance follows at 7:30pm. Fight practices are Monday and Thursday nights at 7:30pm in the lower wedge/gym. Email the officers (realms@wpi.edu) with any questions or suggestions.

Newman Club

We had a very productive board meeting and will be looking for Newman members who want to become Eucharistic or Liturgical Ministers and have more of a leadership role in the club. This Friday night we are going to have a Video and Trappist night. The Trappist are a group of monks and we will be hearing them sing their evening prayer after scrumptious Italian dinner at the Religious Center. Later this term we have our day retreat on Feb 19. Never too early to sign up. As always we have mass at 11:30 on Sundays with choir rehearsals anytime before that. Come and celebrate with us!

**What has your club
been doing?
Let everyone know.
newspeak@wpi.edu**

Have an opinion?

**Write a letter to
the editor about
any of the issues
you feel strongly
about.**

newspeak@wpi.edu

Your weekly horoscope

Januray 23-January 29 2000

ARIES: (March 21-April 20) Your manner is quite pleasing and others see you as being accepting - don't let them down. This week will probably showcase your determined spirit; when you have something to fight for you win. A close friend needs advice without criticism.

TAURUS: (April 21 - May 21) Follow your hunches regarding money matters, especially those situations you have no real experience with. Be candid in your relationships, it looks as if the lines of communications are a bit snagged. It's time to discuss your plans for the future.

GEMINI: (May 22 - June 21) You tend to worry about money and would be better off being careful how you spend discretionary income. Think big this week. Your charming self will open new doors for you - everyone wants you around, because everyone likes to feel good. You'll accomplish alot.

CANCER: (June 22 - July 23) You need to get things done, but nobody else seems to want to go along with the program - looks like you're on your own. Pay attention to a close friend who gives you some truly constructive suggestions on how to handle your finances. Home is your refuge - you'll be spending more time there.

LEO: (July 24- August 23) Your ability to be objective will help you to resolve a fairly sticky situation between two co-workers. Romance is in the air - your love life couldn't be any better. Guard against intense feelings of jealousy, there really is no cause for such strong reactions.

VIRGO: (August 24 - September 23) Disappointments in your love life are painful, but you realize that you are not at fault for what happened. Don't drive yourself too hard at work week, because you won't receive the credit due. You are indecisive by nature, and tend to go along with plans already made.

LIBRA: (September 24 - October 23) Keep yourself busy this week and don't think about depressing things. A change is coming in the near future. Concentrate on maintaining harmonious relations with those you love - try to spend more quality time with them. Your sense of humor is infectious to others.

SCORPIO:(October 24 - November 22) However hard it may be, try to be charitable to those who give you a hard time. Your warm and understanding personality will shine through, and those around you will respond favorably. You have a flow of creative energy that needs to be channeled into a worthwhile project.

SAGITTARIUS:(Nov. 23 - Dec. 21) Finish up old projects at home and in the workplace, before starting new ones - or everything will catch up with you. You'll accomplish alot and people will be caught up in your enthusiasm. If you have been quarreling with family members, its time to set things straight.

CAPRICORN: (Dec. 22 - Jan. 20) There will be plenty of variety, so there's little chance of being bored. Both friendship and group endeavors will dominate - your ability to cooperate comes in handy. Any goals you set will be achieved. Are your expectations in romance realistic?

AQUARIUS: (January 21 - February 19) Spend time working on routine matters, and you will be surprised how well the week will go. It's possible that you may be under pressure in the workplace, but that never slows you down; continue at your own pace. Ask a close friend for financial advice.

PISCES: (February 20 - March 20) Family issues are most on your mind. Older people depend on you for certain feedback. Your thinking maybe just a bit fuzzy, and you are inclined to go off on flights of fancy - it's okay to do so. Your jealousy of a mate is tacky, keep your cool.

IF THIS WEEK IS YOUR BIRTHDAY: It seems as if you are working harder than ever lately. And that each task requires twice the time and effort it would normally take. There is alot of pressure on you, both in the workplace and at home. Take the extra time to look after yourself.

By Miss Anna

COMICS

Dilbert®

by Scott Adams

CLASSIFIEDS

MI SCELLANEOUS

Phone Room Supervisor Needed! The Annual Giving Department is looking for graduate students to supervise undergraduate employees in the student calling room. 2-3 nights a week, with occasional Sundays. Interested applicants can inquire at 831-5697 or dlp@wpi.edu for more details

Spring Break 2000 Cancun * Jamaica * Nassau space is Limited Call Today!!! 1-800-293-

1443 www.StudentCity.com

PERSONALS

To the quack-quack boys, oink-oink.

Ducks don't stay around in cold weather, but niether do pigs.

Ducks have more imagination. They fly south for the winter while pigs get turned into bacon.

P. S. The duck was a girl, no wonder pigs can't get chicks.

Newspeak will run classifieds free for all WPI students, faculty, and staff. Free classifieds are limited to six (6) lines. Ads of a commercial nature and ads longer than six lines must be paid for at the off campus/commercial rate of \$5.00 for the first six lines and 50 cents per additional line. Classified ads must be paid for in advance. No information which, in the opinion of the Newspeak editors, would identify an individual to the community will be printed in a personal ad. The editors reserve the right to refuse any ad deemed to be in bad taste or many ads from one group or individual on one subject. The deadline for ads is noon on the Friday before publication. All classified ads must be on individual sheets of paper and must be accompanied by the writer's name, address and phone number.

Name _____
Phone _____
Address _____
Total Enclosed \$ _____

Allow only 30 characters per line

POLICE LOG

Monday, January 10, 2000

3:22 am - Malicious mischief: Call from Salisbury St. reporting subject in front of house discharging paintball gun, fled east on Salisbury St.
 3:25 am - WPD advises received report of above subject on Salisbury St., officers responding.
 3:30 am - Officers clear Salisbury St., subject gone upon arrival. No damage observed. Officer responding to Higgins Labs escort.
 4:41 am - Library entered, custodian. Alarms out of service.
 5:31 am - Alarm: Custodian reports audible alarm in lab next to Higgins Labs 124.
 5:35 am - Officer clear, alarm had silenced prior to arrival. Area checked & OK.
 9:21 am - Alarm: Higgins Labs 031.
 11:45 am - Assist: Coke a Cola needs access to library loading dock.
 4:35 pm - Lock out: Morgan 4th.
 7:00 pm - Lock out: Hackfeld.

Tuesday, January 11, 2000

2:02 am - Noise complaint: Founders, loud music.
 4:43 am - Library entered, custodian. Alarms out of service.
 10:21 am - Assist: Truck guided up service road.
 5:46 pm - Access: Harrington on Sound Booth.
 10:18 pm - Alarm: Intrusion CCC Fuller Labs.
 10:25 pm - Code 5: Officer, CCC employee in, all set.

Wednesday, January 12, 2000

3:42 am - Library entered, custodian. Alarms out of service.
 5:03 am - Intrusion alarm: Fuller Labs level 2 CCC I/O & Machine Rm.
 4:19 pm - Pick up from office services.
 7:32 pm - Alarm: Fire/Sprinkler Trowbridge Street, Officer responding.
 7:35 pm - Code 5: Officer from fire alarm, burnt food on stove.
 10:37pm - Complaint: From Morgan Hall custodian, 4 students seen stealing cheese from Burger King, alcohol smelled and cigar smell.

Thursday, January 13, 2000

12:05am - Suspicious Noise: Elbridge St. somebody ringing doorbell.
 12:08am - Code 5: Gone on arrival.
 12:35am - Tow: disabled MV, Becker PD.
 12:20pm - Advised: Three males sledding down the library hill into traffic, advised to cease.
 1:48pm - Advised: Above (12:20pm) party advised a second time regarding same.
 4:26pm - Mv Lockout: Trowbridge near Highland St. car running w/ keys in it.
 4:43pm - Mv Lockout: Stoddard Lot, another vehicle w/keys in it, car running.
 5:54pm - Complaint: no heat in Harrington Gym, Watchperson responding.
 5:55pm - Code 5: Watchperson said heat is fine, it can be adjusted in the morning.
 5:58pm - Advised: Several students sledding down the hill on service Road.
 11:22pm - Lockout: Fuller Apts.
 11:30pm - Report: Institute Hall SHD reports exterior door on Boynton St. damaged by snowball. Extra check will be made.

Friday, January 14, 2000

8:49am - Report: WPD advises parked vehicles obstructing intersection of Salisbury and West.
 10:14am - Alarm: Morgan fire/sprinkler 4th floor storage.
 10:35am - Code 5: alarm secured at Morgan.

What's Happening: January 25-31

25 1:00pm - Workshop. African Music – Prof. David Locke. Holy Cross, Brooks Concert Hall
 7:00pm - Women's Basketball at Springfield, Springfield MA
 7:30pm - Men's Basketball vs. Clark
 7:30pm - Poet. Nicole Cooley reads from her new work "The Afflicted Girls." Clark University, Higgins University Center Grace Conference Room, 950 Main Street
 8:00pm - Coffeehouse. The Nields w/ opener Erin McKeown. Alden Hall.

26 11:00am – 7:00pm - Blood Drive. Assumption College, Hagan Campus Center
 3:00pm & 8:00pm - Film. "American Beauty." Holy Cross, Kimball Hall Theatre
 6:00pm - Jazz Workshop and Combo. Clark University, Fuller Music Center
 7:00pm - Wrestling at Plymouth State, Plymouth NH

27 7:30pm - Men's Basketball vs. Coast Guard
 8:00pm - Theatre. "Clit Notes" and "The Well of Horniness," Riley Commons
 8:00pm Duo Pianists Concert. Alanna Rantala & Brett Maguire. Holy Cross, Brooks Concert Hall
 9:00pm – Concert. Robin Steiger Group. \$4, Gilrein's, 802 Main St., Worcester
 Concert. Max Creek. Paradise, Boston MA

28 8:00pm - Theatre. "Clit Notes" and "The Well of Horniness," Riley Commons
 Concert. Guster. Palladium
 10:00pm Concert. Amy K & The Soulcasters. \$5, Gilrein's, Main St., Worcester

29 11:00am - Metro vs. NE Conf. Tny. Bristol, RI
 1:00pm - Men's & Women's Swimming at Clark
 2:00pm - Men's Basketball at MIT, Cambridge MA
 2:00pm - Women's Basketball vs. Wellesley
 7:00pm - Concert. Cro-Mags, All Out War, Shutdown, Right Brigade. Palladium
 8:00pm - Theatre. "Clit Notes" and "The Well of Horniness," Riley Commons

30 11:30am - Catholic Mass, Alden Hall
 6:30pm & 9:30pm – Flim. "Three to Tango." FLAUD

31 Concert. M-Pact, Sonia Crush. Paradise, Boston MA

3:00pm - Alarm: Intrusion at the Fluid Dynamics Lab in Higgins.
 4:00pm - Trespass: Strange male 25-30 y/o seen walking around Daniels Hall selling T-shirts to students.
 4:22pm - Code 5: Officer, no one found.