



Frosh get a new "insight" on life here at WPI through new program

by Farah Syed
 Newspeak Staff

Do you remember all of the people you met during freshman orientation? Do you remember any of them? During orientation you meet many students from your class, but once orientation is over everyone goes their own way. Until now. This year WPI initiated the Insight Program. It's a pilot program that put all of the residents of Stoddard A in the same orientation groups. That way once orientation is over those people are living near each other.

The goal of this program, is to improve the retention rate of freshman and also to increase the number of students that stay until they graduate. According to Dale Snyder, Director of Academic Resources Center, "A major influence on retention rate is the first year college experience."

Students that selected Stoddard as their first choice for housing were enrolled in the program. Stoddard was chosen be-

cause "it's conducive to communal living," says Ms. Snyder.

The program is geared toward making students bond with WPI and feel a sense of community. Ms. Snyder says, "During orientation, the orientation group provides support for new students. If we could keep the support structure there it would make it easier for students to bond." She also says, "It's not an elitist program. It's meant to help students make a connection to WPI and ease their transition into college."

It is setup so that the Orientation Leaders spend time on the floors with the group. Each group is also assigned a faculty consultant that they meet with once a week. Each of these meetings has a different theme. The faculty consultants and OL's also tell the groups all of the activities and events taking place at WPI and are ask them to select those that interest them. Once they express interest the OL's handle the rest in terms of signing them up. Ms. Snyder says that sometimes students will be interested in some-

thing and don't want the hassle of having to go somewhere to sign up. "We're offering all of these things to them, they just have to reach out and grab it." This way the students become aware of all the different activities on campus. Once they attend the activity they discuss it with their faculty advisor to see what, if anything, they got out of it.

The cost of the program is currently unknown. It is being funded by a three year Davis Educational Foundation Grant and partly by WPI. Planning for the Insight Program started last May once the grant was approved. The Insight Committee met all summer and includes members from all aspects of the WPI community. The future of the program is uncertain and depends on the feedback given by the pilot groups. The hope is that future freshman can be part of the program if they want to.

"I think it's a great program and I hope that students will think so too," says Ms. Snyder. "Our hope is that these students will get insight into the community."

What's the cost of cutting a class?

Photo not available

PHOTO COURTESY OF WPI COMMUNICATIONS GROUP

Professor George Phillies burns the equivalent of what missing one class would cost the student.

Worcester, Mass. – George Phillies, professor of physics at WPI, wanted to impress upon new freshmen what it costs to "cut a class." At the end of his first class of the academic year, Physics 1111, Principles of Physics Mechanics, he assembled his class outside and visibly demonstrated the monetary cost of missing one of his classes.

He piled 28 one dollar bills on a grill, added lighter fluid, and set the money on fire. The amount was based on \$13,500 total yearly average tuition after financial aid for 12.25 courses divided by 40 times the course meets during the year.

Free toys and opportunities for the future at Career Fair '99

by Emily Reynolds
 Newspeak Staff

This Wednesday, September 15, the CDC will be hosting a Career Fair from 1-5, in Harrington Auditorium and Alden Hall. As in the past, numerous, widely known companies will be in attendance. Some of the more popular industries include Andersen Consulting, Lucent Technologies, GM, and Xerox.

Not only do you get to see the senior class dressed in the latest corporate fashions, but the career fair also provides an enlightening experience for all undergraduates. Freshmen and sophomores are given the opportunity to learn about future careers in their majors. By talking with representatives who work directly in the field, undergraduates are able to take away a true knowledge of the skills and expertise that companies are looking for. Company representatives can help students learn about co-op options, summer employment, and opportunities for future employment. The greatest experience of the career fair is that everyone can learn from it. Whether you have the resume of Bill Gates or me, you can still go to the career fair and learn exactly what your WPI degree is getting you into. Many

companies also send WPI alumni to the career fair. Therefore, students can learn not only about the direction that their education is going, but more specifically their education from WPI.

With more than 90 companies making an appearance, this year's fair could prove to be the best yet. What this means for students is

that besides getting free drinking glasses, the potential is there for free frisbees, and free lobster key rings. With no pressure or tension, the career fair provides a relaxed atmosphere where students can begin to learn about their futures'. The earlier that students understand corporate america, the quicker the Dilbert nightmares will dimin-

ish. The career fair can help to make that job search a lot less painstaking.

If students would like to learn more about the CDC sponsored fair, they can visit the website at <http://www.wpi.edu/Admin/CDC/Careerfair/cf99.html>. Questions or comments can be directed to the Career Development Center which

is located in the Project Center. Or if you are like many students who are uncontrollably adhered to the computer screen, you can email them at cdc@wpi.edu. The career fair has opportunities for everyone. Whether you are looking for a job, or maybe some free pens, the career fair has what you are looking for.

WPI to break ground on new Campus Center in October

by Joe Frawley
 Newspeak Staff

The students, faculty and staff of WPI have been quite aware for a long time that WPI is about to have a Campus Center. This building will serve the entire community of WPI, not just the student body. The groundbreaking for the Campus Center will be at 11 a.m. on October 29, 1999. At that point the planning and design that began in 1993 will slowly become reality.

The Campus Center project will cost 17 million dollars. This building will be 68,000 square feet, and will sit behind the Alumni Gymnasium. The location of the Campus Center will allow it to have easy access from both the Quad and West Street. The building has been designed by the firm Shepley,

Bulfinch, Richardson, and Abbott. This Boston architecture firm has designed buildings with similar functions for Bucknell University and Lafayette College. The fund raising for this project is part of a larger fund raising effort, the Campaign for WPI.

The new Campus Center will be three floors, with two floors visible from West Street and the Quad. The ground floor, also known as the Garden Level, will only be visible from the side that Higgins House faces. The ground floor will have the new mail facility, a game area, and a new dining area for the students on campus. This dining area will be called Profiles in Good Taste, and will feature various different types of foods. The ground floor will have an exit out towards Higgins House and a terrace by that exit.



An artist's rendition of what the future Campus Center will look like.

The second floor will also be known as the Quad Level. The Quad level will feature an expanded bookstore, a café, a lounge area, an ATM, as well as several office ar-

reas. These areas will be for the Student Life Office and the Minority Student Affairs Office. There will also be an area for student publica-

See Center, continued to page 2

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What's Inside...

Computer Animation

"The Worcester Art Museum is currently sponsoring a lecture series on various topics in Computer Animation. There are a total of four lectures in the series; one offered each month from September to December 1999."

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Internet Shopping...

Where do you spend your money?

"Once its popularity began to rise, people quickly realized that the internet was perfect for making money, partly because of the immediate access to a wide variety of potential customers and partly because of the lack of regulation and tremendous supply of fools just waiting to part with their money."

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Male Initiation

The reason for the article...

"Young men and women are being led to believe that women are not equals and are simply sex objects. Too many young men have not been taught how to respect themselves or women."



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NATIONAL NEWS

Kerry, Kennedy say minimum wage raise needed for housing

by Melissa B. Robinson
Associated Press Writer

WASHINGTON (AP) — Sens. Edward Kennedy and John Kerry, D-Mass., want the high cost of housing to compel the Republican-led Congress to pass an increase in the minimum wage.

Citing a new report from the National Low Income Housing Coalition, the senators, Rep. David Bonior, D-Mich., and U.S. Housing and Urban Development Secretary Andrew Cuomo all called Thursday for an increase in the \$5.15 minimum hourly wage.

"Our proposal to raise the minimum wage by \$1 over the next two years will enable more people to participate in the economic well-being of the nation, and help more people to afford better housing," said Kennedy, who has successfully led past efforts to raise the minimum wage.

The lawmakers calculated that minimum wage workers who work 40 hours a week, 52 weeks a year, earn only \$10,700 annually.

Cuomo said the report "makes a very blunt, bold, accurate statement, which is

that affordable housing is out of reach for many Americans."

In Massachusetts, workers would have to earn at least \$15.26 per hour, nearly three times the current minimum, in order to afford a two-bedroom apartment at 30 percent of their income, according to the report.

The necessary wage would be even higher in the costly Boston metro area: \$17.42, the report said. It said 48 percent of renters in Boston can't afford the fair market rent for a two-bedroom unit.

Nationally, Boston ranked as the 8th most expensive metropolitan area for housing. Among states, Massachusetts ranked 5th, behind Hawaii, New Jersey, New York and the District of Columbia.

"Nowhere in the United States, in no state, metropolitan area, county or New England town, is the minimum wage adequate to afford the two bedroom" fair market rent, the report said.

Affordable housing is looming as a major issue in Washington. A House committee has recommended an increase in HUD's budget of \$2 billion over this year's \$26.1

billion budget, far less than what Cuomo and others say is necessary to provide adequate housing assistance to lower-income people.

Meanwhile, HUD has also taken steps, and Congress is considering solutions, to stem affordable housing losses as landlords in hot real estate markets, such

as Boston's, drop out of a HUD program for low-income families, disabled and elderly to seek higher rents on the open market.

On the minimum wage, Senate Democrats are eager to attach an increase to legislation that Republicans have crafted to overhaul the nation's bankruptcy laws.

Reebok to cut more than 600 jobs worldwide

by John McElhenny
Associated Press Writer

STOUGHTON, Mass. (AP) — Reebok International Ltd. said it plans to lay off 10 percent of its 6,600 workers worldwide in an attempt to cut costs and restructure its business.

The cuts include 120 jobs out of the 1,200 people that work at the company's Massachusetts headquarters. Further details on the job cuts will be announced over the next few weeks, company spokeswoman Nancy Moss said Thursday.

Once a close competitor to No. 1 athletic shoemaker Nike, Reebok has been fighting falling sneaker sales and losing market share to competitors Adidas and New Balance.

Reebok's U.S. market share has fallen from nearly 25 percent in 1991 to just over 10 percent this year, according to industry statistics by the securities firm First Securities Van Kasper.

During the same period, Nike's market share rose from just under 25 percent to 45 percent, the securities firm said.

Josie Esquivel, a footwear industry analyst at Morgan Stanley, said Reebok's decline in market share had a simple explanation.

"Product, product, product," Esquivel said. "The name of the game is to have a cool product that consumers want to buy.

They don't seem to have gotten the formula right."

Reebok President and CEO Carl Yankowski said the company would seek to focus more on women's athletics, where the company held an advantage in the early 1980s, and on footwear styles for leisure athletics rather than for professional athletes.

To that end, the company has ended many of its endorsement contracts with professional athletes, such as basketball's Shaquille O'Neal, though it plans to maintain its deals with tennis star Venus Williams and basketball player Allen Iverson.

The goal, Yankowski said, was to appeal to people who enjoy athletics for fitness, rather than producing products for professional athletes and then trying to reach the public through those athletes.

"What I don't want to be is a Nike-chaser," Yankowski said. "Nike has done a good job with sports marketing through personalities and athletes."

Yankowski also said the company was in the process of drastically cutting its number of shoe styles in order to strengthen the Reebok identity.

In July, Reebok reported quarterly net income of \$4.6 million, or 8 cents per share, down from \$6.1 million, or 11 cents per share, in the same time period last year.

Two arraigned on drug charges following MIT student's death

Courtesy of
AP Wire Service

CAMBRIDGE, Mass. (AP)—An MIT senior and a recent graduate pleaded innocent Friday to drug charges stemming from an investigation into a fatal laughing gas overdose on campus.

Susan Mosher, a Massachusetts Institute of Technology brain and cognitive science major, and Rene Ruiz, were arraigned on charges tied to illegal drugs and paraphernalia, including laughing gas, discovered in their dorm room, where Richard A. Guy was found dead Aug. 31.

The charges, which carry a maximum penalty of more than 20 years in prison, do not establish a direct link between the suspects and Guy's death from nitrous oxide inhalation.

No charges were read aloud in court Friday because the suspects waived any reading of the facts. Innocent pleas were entered into the court docket.

The suspects, both 22, were released on personal recognizance and ordered to appear in court Oct. 15. Cambridge District Court Judge Severin Singleton said they cannot return to the MIT campus without an MIT police escort and cannot leave Massachusetts without court

permission.

The charges include possession with intent to distribute nitrous oxide, hallucinogenic mushrooms, amphetamines and marijuana. They also are charged with conspiracy, possession of hypodermic needles, and cruelty to animals, a cat.

Police said they found drug packaging supplies, a scale, a nitrous oxide tank and other drug-related items in the dorm room the two shared. Although Ruiz had already graduated, he appeared to have been living with Mosher in her dorm room in East Campus, the same building where Guy also lived.

Mosher and Ruiz declined to comment to reporters as they quickly left the courthouse Friday.

Guy, a 22-year-old junior physics major from Mission Viejo, Calif., was the second student to die of substance abuse at MIT in two years. In 1997, freshman Scott Krueger died three days after he was found in an alcohol-induced coma on the floor of a fraternity.

His death prompted MIT officials to require all freshmen to live on campus, starting in fall 2001. The fraternity where Krueger partied was indicted on criminal charges, but the case was ultimately dropped because no one from the fraternity appeared in court.

■ CENTER *Continued from page 1*

tions on the Quad level. The Quad level features entrances from Alumni Fountain that will give access to the building from West Street and the Quad.

The third floor has several meeting rooms, a lounge, several large multi-purpose rooms, and more offices. These offices will mostly serve student organizations. The Student Activities Office, Student Government Office, Social Committee, International Student Council, Interfraternity and Panhellenic Council, and the Community Service Office are among those who will use these offices. WWPI will have a

new sound booth on the third floor of the Campus Center.

After the groundbreaking ceremony, this building will begin to physically take shape before our eyes. This building will help foster a sense of community here at WPI, which will not just aid the student body, but the entire WPI community. This project has gotten to this point because of a large commitment by many people. When the Campus Center is ready to open by the spring of 2001, the efforts of those people will have created something all of us in the WPI community can enjoy.

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All ads are due by 5:00 pm on the Friday preceding publication. Late ads will not be accepted. Ad copy that is not proportional to its ad space will be charged an additional \$15.00 fee. Classified ads must be prepaid. The decision on whether a submission is a public service announcement or an advertisement lies with the editors.

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NATIONAL NEWS

Study looks at minorities in charter school, district choice

by Robin Estrin
Associated Press Writer

BOSTON (AP) — Massachusetts charter schools are serving a higher percentage of minority students than their traditional public school counterparts, a new study found. And the state's relatively small interdistrict choice program is increasing racial diversity in some of the host districts.

The study commissioned by the Pioneer Institute also found that school districts can pay a heavy price when a charter school opens nearby. Six Bay State school districts, Somerville, Hull, Nauset, Williamsburg, Up-Island Regional and Tisbury, have lost more than 5 percent of their students to charter schools.

The report by the conservative think-tank was blasted as "junk research" by the state's largest teachers union. And a review of the study, commissioned by the Pioneer Institute itself, by two University of California-Berkeley researchers ques-

tioned the "flawed methodology."

The study, released today, picked up where a previous Pioneer Institute examination left off in 1996.

Both looked at charter schools, which began in 1993, and the interdistrict choice program, which began in 1991 to let students attend a neighboring community's schools. The number of participating host districts has grown from 32 in 1991 to 109 last year. Nearly 250 districts send students to those neighboring hosts.

Susan Aud, a Ph.D. candidate at George Mason University in Fairfax, Va., looked at the race and poverty characteristics of 7,100 students who participated in interdistrict choice and the 9,930 students who attended charter schools last year.

Overall, a disproportionately high number of minority students participated in both programs, she said.

But interdistrict students tend to be predominantly white, 88 percent, and more affluent, compared to the statewide population, the study said. And some white stu-

dents are leaving predominantly-minority districts for schools that are already mostly white. On the other hand, Aud said, many minority interdistrict students help make their new schools more racially diverse.

The minority population in Avon schools, for example, increased from 6.9 percent to 14.1 percent, the result of Brockton students transferring.

Overall, she said, charter schools are about 48 percent minority, compared to the 25 percent figure for the state as a whole.

The study also said that districts that had lost large numbers of students to the choice program made changes to woo them back.

The same appears to be happening with districts that have lost large numbers of pupils to charter schools, said Jim Peyser, the Pioneer Institute's head and chairman of the state Board of Education.

Bob Snow, assistant superintendent for curriculum instruction in Somerville, said his district must now vie for students.

"The entrepreneurial capitalistic compe-

tion for the marketplace is very much a reality in public education," he said.

When a child leaves a public school for a charter school, the state funding follows him there. But the funds dwindle over four years for that pupil, and then stop altogether, leaving districts with a financial loss.

Bob Duffy, a spokesman for the Massachusetts Teachers Association, said the study by the Pioneer Institute, long a booster of the charter and choice school models, is "more about rhetoric than research."

The MTA said its analyses have shown that charter schools often have lower percentages of minority students than the communities surrounding them, and frequently have lower percentages of bilingual and special needs children, who are cost more to educate.

The interdistrict choice program, Duffy said, has been a Robin Hood in reverse, taking students and money from poorer districts and giving them to richer ones.

Big Dig's high marks on worker safety means state in line to get refund

Associated Press
Wire Service

BOSTON (AP) — The Big Dig is due an \$800 million refund from insurers when the job is finished because of an excellent worker safety record, project

officials said.

While there have been two fatal accidents and two serious injuries since the Central Artery Project began in 1992, the state will receive the refund because estimates of injury-related losses have been lower than previously predicted.

"That's remarkable, take it from me," said Philip Colleran, a Chicago-based safety and health consultant who lectures on construction safety. "I've been in this business 28 years. That's amazing."

The Occupational Safety and Health Administration is investigating the Aug. 16 death of Fook Choi Kan. Kan, 56, of Springfield, fell 15 feet into a pit.

Steelworker John Hegerty of the city's Dorchester neighborhood died in a March, 1998, accident in a pit. Allied Pile Driving paid an \$11,500 fine as part of an OSHA settlement.

A variety of devices are used to protect safety, from old fashioned brass tags assigned to keep track of people entering underground sites to modern electronic devices that automatically record employees entering and leaving restricted work areas.

Through June of this year, the rate of injury on the Big Dig was 3.2 injured workers per 100 workers, Andrew Paven, a Big Dig spokesman, told The Boston Globe. The national average is 5.4 injuries per 100 workers.

About 5,000 full-time workers were employed on the Big Dig project this year.

'Freebies' draw students to events

by Gena Kittner
The Post (Ohio U.)

(U-WIRE) ATHENS, Ohio — Free food is not the only thing attracting students to campus-sponsored events.

Some colleges and universities have gone as far as to offer free tuition and books to students who attend a certain number of campus events.

Students attending eight school-sponsored events per semester at Southern Illinois University at Carbondale, get a chance for free books or tuition.

At Texas Christian University, students keep track of their attendance to social, academic and religious events. Once enough points are accumulated, these points can translate into a notation on the student's transcript as evidence of the student's extracurricular activities.

But Ohio University's approach to attracting students isn't that extreme.

"We are aware of what some other schools are doing," said Mike Sostarich, interim vice-president for student affairs. "We are aware that we need to offer more activities on the weekends than we have in the past."

But OU President Robert Glidden said in an e-mail message that OU student participation in campus-sponsored events is good. He said schools that offer "freebies" to increase campus participation do not have near the student involvement OU does.

Glidden said although it cannot be proved, he believes OU is the most "student engaged campus in Ohio."

Even without elaborate incentives, many of last year's campus-sponsored activities were well attended, said Terry Hogan, interim dean of students.

Another perk of increased student in-

volvement is a possible alternative to alcohol.

"We're going to see a reduction in high-risk drinking over time," Hogan said.

Of the 2,000 to 3,000 events, most were held on the weekdays, Hogan said.

This year there is a push to get more activities in evenings and on weekends, he said.

"The goal is to provide more opportunities and more choices," Sostarich said.

Several factors are involved in increasing the student involvement in campus-sponsored events.

It takes both incentives and the right programs to get students to go, Sostarich said.

"We're more apt to offer entertainment at no cost as opposed to tuition or something like that," Sostarich said.

Recently Student Affairs received additional funding and the ability to fund social events they could not fund before. New programs were started Sunday and will continue throughout the quarter.

These new programs were made possible because of increases to the Student Activities Commission of the Ohio University Student Senate, the University Programming Council, Campus Recreation and Student Affairs, Hogan said.

"Our first attempt was Sunday. I was thrilled with the turn out," Sostarich said. "We were pleased."

The new programs were created by utilizing student feedback.

Methods including listening to students at forums that offered the incentive of free food, Hogan said.

Hogan said Student Activities are trying to decrease reliance on advertisement to spread the word about programs, and instead try to appeal more to student groups, like residence halls or Greek organizations.

Pan American Airways introducing service from Portsmouth to Orlando, Fla.

Associated Press
Wire Service

PORTSMOUTH, N.H. (AP) — Pan American Airways has released details of its scheduled passenger service from Portsmouth to Orlando, Fla.

Dave Fink, president of the renewed Pan Am, said Thursday that flights will begin on Oct. 7.

The new service will be based at Pease International Tradeport, site of the former Pease Air Force Base. Pan Am began fly-

ing in 1927 and had been one of the world's largest air carriers.

The airline plans to use reconfigured Boeing 727s, and will market itself as a convenient alternative to the busier airports in Boston, Portland, Maine, and Manchester.

Fares to Orlando will begin at \$108 each way. Other destinations are expected to be announced soon.

Pan Am shut down in 1991 following the terrorist bombing over Lockerbie, Scotland, that killed 270 people in 1988.

SPORTS

Patriots to discipline Rutledge

Associated Press
Wire Service

ATTLEBORO, Mass. (AP) — Patriots tight end Rod Rutledge faces criminal charges of leaving the scene of an accident, operating to endanger and speeding after an early morning crash Friday on Interstate 95, police said.

Rutledge, 24, suffered only minor injuries in the accident that occurred around 12:30 a.m., said state police spokesman Lt. Paul Maloney.

Rutledge was driving in the center lane of I-95 northbound when he attempted to pass a car on the right while speeding, police said. He lost control of his car, skidded off the highway and crashed into two tractor-trailers parked in a rest area, Maloney said. The trucks' drivers were sleeping at the time and were not injured.

After the accident, a second car apparently traveling with Rutledge pulled into the rest area, picked up Rutledge and left the scene, Maloney said. The Patriots identified the driver of the second car as Patriots tight end Ben Coates.

Rutledge, a backup in his second year with the Patriots, surrendered at the state police barracks in Foxboro at 3:30 a.m., police said.

Witnesses said there was another car traveling at a high rate of speed at the time of the crash, police said. It was not clear if the other car was the one Coates was driving.

A witness told police that the cars were racing, The Patriot Ledger of Quincy reported. Maloney said police had not confirmed the report.

"It would be pure speculation that they were racing," Maloney said.

According to print and broadcast reports, the players were returning from the Foxy Lady strip club in Providence, R.I.

The Patriots said Rutledge would face internal disciplinary measures, but did not elaborate.

"Team officials have met with Rutledge to discuss the matter, which is considered conduct detrimental to the team, and expressed their disappointment with behavior which endangered him and others ...," the team said in a press release.

Patriots spokesman Stacey James declined to say whether the team will discipline Coates.

Both players would be permitted to play in Sunday's game against the Jets, James said.

Rutledge will be summoned to Attleboro District Court at a later date, Maloney said.

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ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

Game review: Sonic's back bringing with him the new Sega Dreamcast

by Ken Gagne
Newspeak Staff

Name: *Sonic Adventure*
Platform: Sega Dreamcast
Publisher: Sega
Rating: 8.8

The world's fastest hedgehog is back, and he's taking gaming to the next level. When the Sega Dreamcast game console launches today on an alliterative 9/9/99, Sega's flagship title will be *Sonic Adventure*, a 3D action-adventure game.

The story revolves around six characters as they try to stop the evil Dr. Robotnik from awakening Chaos, the god of, well, chaos. Old friends Sonic, Tails, Knuckles, and Amy are joined by new characters Big the Cat and E-102 Gamma; each has unique objectives in every stage. Sonic, for example, must merely reach the stage goal, while Knuckles must find three emerald fragments, and Big must go fishing to catch his friend Froggy. The individual storylines are disjointed; only by playing all six characters does the story become coherent.

The Action Stages are separated by Adventure Stages, in which players ex-

plore, talk, and discover. The game's duller moments, Adventure Stages are misfits next to the high-speed action Sonic is known for. You'll spend as much time finding an action stage as you will tearing through it.

Fortunately, those moments of extreme velocity are bliss. *Sonic Adventure* is the fastest platform game ever, with Sonic sprinting through loop-de-loops, outrunning avalanches, and soaring through the sky.

Only a few graphical problems keep *Adventure* from being perfect. The camera is severely flawed, occasionally leaving Sonic out of the picture entirely and unable to find the path or fend off any attacks. Hit detection errors can cause the blue hedgehog to pass through a seemingly-solid wall or floor and fall to his death. These bugs crop up irregularly, but are extremely frustrating.

Though graphical presentation is flawed, graphical quality is not. Sonic lives (and dies) in a colorful world that looks as good upon close inspection as it does zipping by at jet speed. The frame rate is smooth, the color lush, and the characters

lively. Better examples are sure to come, but Sonic demonstrates the graphic capabilities of the Sega Dreamcast well.

A rocking soundtrack accompanies Sonic's escapades. During cinematic events, a unique theme song heralds each character's appearance and exit, while high-speed sequences have their own pulsing rhythm. The voice acting is fun to listen to, even if the dialogue is corny and the lip-syncing is terrible.

The challenge is variable depending on your goal. Each character can clear their assigned Action Stages three times with increasingly-difficult objectives. It's your choice whether to perfect the current stage or continue to the next. A Trial mode on the main menu allows access to any previously-cleared Action Stage, bypassing the Adventure Stages.

There are several mini-games, though

the focused-on one is the virtual pet. During his adventures, Sonic may come across Chao (pronounced "chow"), little smurf-like creatures that he can raise and race. Chao can also be downloaded to the Virtual Memory Unit (VMU) memory card and sent on a Tamagotchi-like Chao Adventure. Competition or cooperation can arise when two VMUs are connected or when Chao are uploaded to the Internet, for the purpose of trading, battling, and mating. The purpose of it all isn't clear, but it is entertaining.

Sonic Adventure sets a new standard for fast-paced platform games. Lackadaisical adventure stages and severe graphical bugs bog down the gameplay, but the number of stages, characters, and mini-games will keep you coming back for more.

Accessible Animators at WAM

Sarah Walkowiak
Features Editor

The Worcester Art Museum is currently sponsoring a lecture series on various topics in Computer Animation. There are a total of four lectures in the series; one offered each month from September to December 1999. Last Saturday's lecture was the first in the series, a presentation by Salvatore Raciti of Animation Café Studios in Plymouth, MA.

The lecture began with a brief history of computer animation technology and some of the older methods used through the years (film and digital) including x-y tables, that are physical tables used in film animation with knobs for adjusting the x and y axes. The camera serve as the z axis, and each frame is captured by taking a "picture" of each frame. Salvatore began as a film animator, and made several comparisons between creating animation by hand and on the computer throughout the lecture.

He showed a great deal of interest in the technological aspects of animation while concurrently emphasizing the importance of the artistic concepts expressed by the

technology. By discussing a few of his projects, he presented the notion of "conceptual animation," which reduces the central idea of an animation sequence to a single concept. This concept is used as a starting point and as a theme to link elements within a story. A visual concept is a powerful tool as it allows the artist to unify visually expressed ideas without words.

In addition to this conceptual power, Salvatore discussed the endless possibilities of animation as a medium. "We haven't seen its power yet," he stated. Nearly any phenomenon which would be impossible in reality, such as walking through a wall, is technically possible with current animation tools, but the conceptual and artistic capabilities have yet to be exhausted.

During the middle and the end of the lecture, Salvatore showed a few short videos with clips of his work. Still images from the second video are available to the Animation Café website at <http://www.animationcafe.com>.

The next lecture in the series will be presented by Mike Taylor of Northeast Animation on October 9. Call the Worcester Art Museum for more details at 799-4406 ext. 3007 or ext. 3056.

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ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

Film review: Mononoke Hime (Princess Mononoke)

*By P.J. Stevens
Newspeak Staff*

Usually I write articles on movies coming out on video, but I had no time to watch the movies coming out on Tuesday, September 7th. I did have the wonderful treat of watching a screening of Miramax's release of Mononoke Hime (Princess Mononoke). Before I get into that, the movies that came in on Tuesday were *The Other Sister*, *Urban Menace*, *Twin Dragons*, *Southie*, and *Sometimes They Come Back For More*. *Twin Dragons*, *Southie* and *The Other Sister* look appealing.

Princess Mononoke is Miramax's release of the most popular Japanese Animation of all time. It came out in Japan 2 years ago and will be hitting our theatres in October 29 (I think). It is the most expensive movie made by Japanese, surpassing *Akira*. It was the highest grossing movie in Japan, until *Titanic* hit its shores. Fortunately, Miramax won't be cutting any parts to this movie. It will be shown as its suppose to be.

Mononoke Hime was written and directed by Hayao Miyazaki. One of the greatest writers and directors of Anime (Japanese Animation). *My Neighbor Totoro* is one of my most favorite movies of all time. He has become Disney's gateway to Anime. Disney, under Miramax, will be in charge of distributing Miyazaki's works in the U.S. Miyazaki makes beautiful stories for children with adult themes. The animation is always to notch and the story line has a way of growing in you.

Mononoke Hime follows the story of a boy, Ashitaka, and his quest to remove a curse that is upon him. He got the curse by killing the Boar God, Tatari Gami, who full of hate and revenge has become evil. The curse is a mark on his hand that causes him much pain. Ashitaka is part of a tribe

of "rejects" living away from society and with the land (presumably).

Ashitaka's quest leads him to Western Japan (I wonder, The West???) where he finds the problem. On this journey the curse has grown and he finds that it thrives on anger and hate. It gives his hand super powers. Unfortunately he sometimes loses control when there is hatred in the air and he kills bad guys by shooting arrows through their throats.

In the West he finds Eboshi Gozen. She is in charge of Iron Town, a humanized descent society, where it doesn't matter what your past is, and your disabilities, everybody is human. The humans work together in harmony. Not to make humans too glorified, there is also the government, which portrays the people as killers.

Iron Town has a lot of wonderful humanizing ways, but they have forsaken the Earth. Gozen plans to kill all the Gods and destroy the forest in order to get more iron. One of the Gods, wolf God Moro, has a human adopted daughter, Princess Mononoke. The two sides have extreme hate for each other. This is the cause of Ashitaka's curse. Ashitaka works toward getting them to stop the cycle of violence.

The movie has an excellent story, A+, with great visuals A+, and sharp images A+. The best part are what I call the "Totoro trolls of the forest." They are funny and yet mysterious. Unfortunately, the detail is missing, A-. It looks like *My Neighbor Totoro*, where there is not much detail. Overall an A movie, a definite must. Please place movie as the first word of the subject.

Mononoke Hime was beautifully done. I cringe when I think of American Animation and how far they have to go. Princess Mononoke was made with adult content in mind. It is not for 5 year olds, maybe at ten (last I heard it will be PG13).

The issues that are being dealt with are serious. American Animation have't done enough adult issues in their movies. I hope Disney, under Miramax would create at least one PG13 or R rated cartoon with a great story line. Animation allows the Japanese to create fantastic worlds and events. Having huge Animal Gods would pose problems for live action. Another thing are "camera tricks" which Japanese animators do. Camera tricks for animation, are you crazy PJ? Japanese animators realized that by add-

ing problems related to filming, the movie has a more realistic feel to it. Examples are when the sun is at the top left, when filming you get a cascade of dots of light, or when moving a camera fast you get certain visuals that aren't in real life. Japanese Animators incorporate these into their movies. I wish the Japanese and Disney animators would get together and create a great epic. Disney artists are talented, but not used to their fullest extent. If you have any questions or comments email me at pj@wpi.edu.

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OPINION

On-line shopping tips: A few hints on how not to get scammed

by Matthew Lug
Newspeak Staff

Four years ago I was first introduced to the internet, a vast unfamiliar realm of educational institutions, computer enthusiasts, scam artists, and adult entertainment entrepreneurs. Today the internet, primarily the World Wide Web, is home to countless businesses, including a seemingly insane number of the previously mentioned porn sites. The internet is no longer primarily used for research and information sharing. Once its popularity began to rise, people quickly realized that the internet was perfect for making money, partly because of the immediate access to a wide variety of potential customers and partly because of the lack of regulation and tremendous supply of fools just waiting to part with their money. The internet is also not as unfamiliar to people as it was several years ago. I would guess that almost all freshmen this year had at least heard of the internet before arriving here, and that most had used it at home or at school sometime prior to their arrival. If you're reading this, then chances are that you have no trouble operating a web browser or sending e-mail. Add to that the fact that many college students have credit cards, and you have everything you need to purchase items on-line. Almost.

Let's say you're sitting in your room, eating a slice of last night's pizza and washing it down with a warm can or bottle of your beverage of choice. Now let's say you're looking around on the web and you see an ad for something that looks interesting. You click on it and are brought to the web site of a company you've never heard of that's selling something you might want to have at a price that doesn't look bad to you. What do you do? Do you reach for your Visa/MasterCard/American Express/Discover Card and complete the transaction? Or do you forget about it and click on the link that promises "Sarah Michelle Gellar Nude!" or some such nonsense?

While both of the above options could seem reasonable depending on how conscious you are at the time, it would probably be a good idea to resist the impulse buy and do some research instead. You can find a lot of good deals on the web, but you can also get ripped off in more ways than most people could ever imagine. You should first familiarize yourself with a web search engine so you can find review sites, price trackers, and other useful information. There are so many such sites that it would be impossible for me to list them all for you, and you would need to use different ones depending on what you are interested in purchasing.

Security

The first concern of most people who are new to web shopping is, and definitely should be, usually about security. After all, you'll be sending out your credit card number and other personal information through an electronic path that isn't that difficult to tap into. So what's keeping your information safe? The answer is cryptography, but all you really need to know is that when your browser indicates that the connection is secure (usually with a lock or key symbol, consult your browser's help for the exact details), it is difficult for anyone between you and the web server to decrypt the information being sent. Professor Paar or any of the students in the CRIS lab on the third floor of AK can probably explain all of the technical details to you if you are really interested in cryptography. People looking for easy money are more likely to try to pick up wireless telephone conversations on a police scanner to get credit card numbers than attempt to intercept and decrypt random internet data, simply because it is much easier to take advantage of people who use insecure wireless phones for credit card transactions.

Ready, Set, Shop?

Now that you're convinced of the safety of on-line shopping, you're ready to start

spending, right? Wrong. You still need to know what you're going to buy. With all of the products available on the web and countless companies willing to sell them to you, it can seem like an impossible task to find what you want and buy it without getting the feeling that you got a bad deal. However, with some time and a little effort, you can make on-line purchases and still get that feeling of being smarter than the guy down the hall who always pays full retail price for everything.

Specifications

The first step for any purchase is to figure out what you want. Figuring out exactly what you need from a product will help to keep you from paying extra for features you don't want or getting something cheap that doesn't meet your needs. You should figure out exactly what you need the item for now, what you will likely need from it in the next year or two, and the most that you could never need in the future. Now figure about how much you are willing to spend. All of this will be your list of specifications that will be used in the next step.

Product selection

Now that you know what you are looking for, you can start looking up information on products that fit your needs. Don't worry about individual prices yet as long

as everything is in your price range. Many web sites have reviews of commercial products, especially computer-related products. These reviews often list the features of different products, their prices, and how they compare with each other. The manufacturers' web sites will also contain information that will help you here. Another option is to find someone who knows about the kind of product that you're interested in and ask questions that will help you narrow down your choices. As a last resort you can always go to a local retailer and see what they have to offer. However, keep in mind that retailers want to sell what they have, so employees may be a bit biased toward what is in stock.

Where to buy

You know what you're buying, now you just need to find someone who will sell it to you. This is the most difficult part of the entire process, so be prepared to put in a little effort here. You can begin by searching for companies that have the lowest prices on the product you're looking for. There are more price tracking web sites than I would even care to know about, so you have many choices. If you try out several different ones, you can usually get a feel for how each price tracker works and what products each one is best for. Some will give you prices on specific models and some will list all models of a type of prod-

uct within a specified price range. After trying several of them, you should be able to decide on one or two that you prefer. You should then be able to find a list of web companies that have what you want at a decent price.

What to watch out for

Now that you've found where to buy the item, you just pick the place with the lowest price, right? Not quite. First you need to see if the item is in stock. Don't always trust what it says on their web site - if you need something right away be sure to call and confirm that the item is in stock. Smaller companies usually have discounts for web orders, so you might not want to order the product over the phone after checking on the stock. You should also check the company's policies on shipping, returns for defective and non-defective products, and refunds. You will usually be stuck with a restocking fee if you return a non-defective product, so be sure what you're ordering is exactly what you want. Check the listed part number and compare it with the manufacturer's part number if there is any doubt. Also, watch out for used, refurbished, and OEM products. These types of products usually do not have the same warranties as retail products, and may not contain everything that is included with the retail version. Used

See Shopping, continued to page 9

Advertisement

WEST STREET HOUSE

Male Initiation part two

by Tom Balistreri
Student Development and
Counseling Center

The Native American story I shared and the article I wrote, "A Male Initiation Story", that appeared in last week's Newspeak has evoked quite a bit of negative and positive commentary. There are those who felt the story should not have appeared in a student newspaper. There were women who were offended as well as men. There were those who felt the Director of Student Development and Counseling is the last person from whom such a story should emanate.

There are also men and women who found the story interesting and insightful. I have had students stop by my office to

tell me that groups of young men and women have been discussing the story in the hallways of the residence halls and in the food service. Others have e-mailed telling me it was an important message.

To those of you whom I offended, I sincerely apologize. I would never purposely do anything to offend this university or its population. I hold this place and our students in the highest regard.

Allow me to explain the story and my intent. Our country has a problem. Far too many of our young men treat women as toys, as objects to be had. Jung states that at the first level of male development men "see" women as only "sluts or goddesses." If older men and women do not teach young men how to see themselves and women differently they will, forever, think

of women in these terms. You don't believe that? You feel that this statement is an exaggeration? Then simply take the time to look at the magazine racks at your local grocery store. On the covers are nothing but airbrushed pictures of "gorgeous" goddesses or half-dressed women. Television, movies, and so much of our media portray women in this manner. Over 30,000 porn sites fill the Internet. Young men and women are being led to believe that women are not equals and are simply sex objects. Too many young men have not been taught how to respect themselves or women.

That is what the story is all about. It is a story that is designed to be bizarre. It is meant to move your soul and your emotions. It is a story of a young man out of control. It is the story of a young man who injures women, his people and himself. It isn't until the elders, the community, get together that a solution for the problem is found and the MAN BECOMES WHOLE AGAIN. The young man is put back in his place and has learned a lesson. Hopefully

that man will not rape others, the earth or his own self-esteem ever again. It is a story that, when read, evokes emotion. It is a story that needs to be considered if it is to be understood.

Why did I choose to make my point in this manner? Because when I write articles about sexual harassment or violence no one listens. No one cares. I NEVER get a response. Stories move people because they are so different, because they take time to grasp, because they are intended to move the spirit of the listener or reader. As the Director of Student Development and Counseling I feel it is my place, my responsibility, to get young people to develop and to be moved.

With that said I can only, once again, apologize to those I offended. The story probably was outside the boundaries of our cultural understanding. I can fully appreciate that. My intent was not to harm....it was to move people to recognize and deal with the issue.

Sincerely,
Tom Balistreri

EDITORIAL

A woman's perspective on "Male Initiation"

I'm writing this in response to Tom Balistreri's article this week and his article last week. Newspeak received quite a few responses to his article, and most of them were of a negative nature. There is such a thing called censure in a free country such as the United States is, but personally, not on behalf of the editorial board, I'm glad that Newspeak chose to run the article last week. I don't believe in censorship, but I do believe that something needs to be done about the way women are treated, even on this campus.

Many of you now must be thinking, oh great, another women's rights activist, but I'm not really. My issue is that I believe a great deal of women are raped and abused because of the misconceptions men have about women. Just sitting in the cafeteria at night, I can hear the loud voices of men speaking disparagingly of women. Most people just roll their eyes and don't give it a second thought, but being a woman it scares me to think that some men really think of all, or at least most, women as an item they need to possess. Yes, many women I know like to be pampered and loved by their significant other, but a woman is a person too, not a piece of clothing.

Even I on occasion jokingly say something like, "Men!" classifying all males into one group. Men do it too. But it's when the joking stops that the awful occurrences tend to happen. A few males like to think, that if they please one woman, the next would just want to fall right into his lap, and in a couple of cases that I've heard of, women end up being beaten, or even raped because they are unwilling to do what another may have. When it comes to sexual intercourse, a woman means no when she says no. Sometimes even, women are too scared to say no because of what may happen to them if they do. This too is rape.

I'm not classifying men as a whole here, I'm just saying a few men are like this. I, like many of the women at this school, have mostly male friends, and I would never believe any one of them capable of doing horrible things to women. I'm just hoping that Tom Balistreri's articles allowed some people to see the errors of their ways. Actions speak louder than words, but words do have a large amount of influence on what we believe as a society.

Jessica Morgan
Graphics Editor

INTERNATIONAL HOUSE

Summer ends...What's next?

by Hajira Begum
Class of '02

The summer reprieve officially ended with the Labor Day Weekend. The attention now turns toward textbooks, lecture notes and heavy bookbags. From a laidback and relaxing summer to a hectic, fast-paced college routine, the real transition took place over last week. The initial excitement of meeting up with old friends and making new ones and, in some cases, the dread at coming (back) to school has mellowed into a wistful complacency. Slowly but surely, coursework threatens to overcome every waking minute of one's life. Oh, well!

For the moment, take some time off and read what some international students did; share their summer experience. Several international students returned to their countries for a much needed holiday. In most cases, the need to revisit "home" and rejuvenate the native spirit is all that matters. Rabih El-Khoury, returned to Lebanon this summer; the highlight of his trip was a sojourn to spiritual tranquility 9400 feet above sea level, atop the highest peak in Mount Lebanon. There are several students who experience variations of this emotion and returned to WPI recharged and focused on making the best out of the new academic year.

Others preferred to spend their summer gaining real-life work experience in their chosen fields of study. Felix Rieper, from Germany, remained in the Worcester area and helped to develop several software products at Data General, to be launched

into the commercial market later this year. He was accompanied by Sharad Bhojnarwala, another Computer Science enthusiast, from India, who learned about System Administration—something overlooked at WPI.

Pallavi Singh, from the United Kingdom, had a rewarding work experience at Massachusetts General Hospital, where she conducted clinical research with HIV patients. Many peers also participated in some very constructive and productive projects that I believe have made a small but significant contribution to their fields.

And, finally, I (Hajira Begum) had a most enjoyable term at WPI, taking three courses (in relaxed and fun classes with fewer than 10 students each!). I had my first constructive research experience in Professor Hobey's biomembranes lab. (Wish you could have been there!)

So, does the fun end with summer and is it all work from now on? "NO!" say the members of the International Student Council (ISC) who brought back some of the summer fun over the Labor Day Weekend, on September 5th, with an excursion to Boston. The trip, sponsored by the ISC and Residential Services, turned out to be a blast with 45 people joining us in the fun-filled exploratory trip. Fashionable Newbury Street, historic Faneuil Hall, intriguing Quincy Market and touristic Harvard Square were just a few places the group stopped.

Get ready for a Bar Be Cue with a sports oriented theme on the weekend of midterm week. Look out for more information and contact the ISC for further details.

Humanity takes backseat to politics

Staff Editorial
The Collegiate Times (Virginia Tech)

(U-WIRE) BLACKSBURG, Va. — The United Nations and the international community is full of empty promises when dealing with East Timor.

The people of East Timor, located in Indonesia, had a referendum last month was sponsored by the U.N., in which 80 percent of the population voted for independence.

However, Thursday, when things began to heat up in East Timor, the U.N. packed up and moved out, leaving the people unprotected from the wrath of Indonesian militias.

The international community has sympathy for the East Timorese, but is not willing

to get involved with the conflict after promising protection.

The economic importance of Indonesia to world leaders is outweighing the worth of the lives of the East Timorese.

The Indonesian government is apparently staying out of the conflict although rumors have floated that they are sponsoring some of these militias killing the people of East Timor.

Given the general anarchy reigning in East

Timor and promises from the U.N., the international community needs to offer its protection

to the East Timorese and begin peace talks.

Indonesia has made it clear foreign troops will not be welcome in their country, and it is becoming increasingly more evident the government is not going to help the plight of the East Timorese.

There are many reasons for the international community to not want to be involved with the conflict.

First, unlike Serbia, Indonesia is a long standing ally of NATO countries.

Second, the fact that the East Timorese victims are not European makes the Western countries less passionate about their plight.

Third, there are economic considerations involved with Indonesia.

We believe humanity should outrank sovereignty in international relations.

People are being chased out of their homes and killed because they are fighting for independence.

Independence should have special meaning for the citizens of the United States.

Throughout history, the U. S. has fought for independence and freedom either for our country or another, but now when humanitarian laws and ethics are broken, the United States and the international community as a whole turn their backs.

Western countries worry an international movement on Indonesia would end the current democratic tendencies beginning to take place and they also do not want to encourage any secessions from the state.

However, the bottom line is that innocent people, entire families, are being displaced from their homes and turned into refugees or corpses.

Given what the U.N. is supposed to stand for and the ethical principles the United States government claims to have, a person would expect these gross crimes against humanity would be stopped as soon as possible.

SHOPPING

Continued from page 8

and refurbished items may also be less reliable, so factor that in with the cost. Finally, ask around about the quality of the company. Some companies can offer low prices because they have little or no customer support and are of little help if something goes wrong with your purchase. Some companies also charge your credit card before the item ships - it is best to avoid these companies. After checking all of this, you can find your total cost by adding the cost of shipping to the price of the item. High shipping costs can offset low prices, so check a few different companies before making a decision.

Place your order

That's it. If the seller's web site has a secure order form you can place your order on-line right away. It may take some time for the order to be processed, but you should receive an e-mail to confirm your order. Depending on the shipping method you choose, it could take a few days for the item to arrive. When it does, be sure to

immediately check to be sure that you received the correct item and that it is not damaged. If there are any problems, contact the seller immediately. If all goes well, be sure to check your next credit card bill to see if you were charged the proper amount.

Final comments

If all of this seemed a bit complicated, that's because it is. It takes some work and some experience to keep from running into problems with web shopping. Even experienced shoppers can have trouble when dealing with incompetent employees and problematic computer systems. No matter what you do, you still have to face your credit card bill, so don't buy things you don't need just because they're cheap and easy to get. These tips will only help you if you are responsible with your money in the first place. Remember, just because you have a balance on your checking account doesn't mean you have to spend it.

Advertisement

FRATERNITY FORUM

In each edition of Newspeak the Interfraternity Council will be highlighting two chapters. This week we are proud to bring you Alpha Chi Rho and Sigma Pi. If you have any questions about the Greek system at WPI, please feel free to email Tracey Pakstis-Claiborne, WPI's Greek Advisor, at tpc@wpi.edu or Jeff Bayko, IFC president, at bayko@wpi.edu.

Zeta Psi

by Patrick Saggal
Zeta Psi

The Pi Tau Chapter of the Zeta Psi fraternity has been a prominent figure on the WPI campus since 1976. Our brothers are actively involved in many activities both on and off campus. Our brothers are resident advisors, orientation leaders, MASH leaders, and members of the Skull honor society and Student Alumni Association. We have strong representation in varsity, club, and intramural sports teams with brothers on the Baseball, Soccer, Volleyball, Hockey, Track, Cross Country, Wrestling, and Rugby teams. We are also active in our community, participating in the Worcester City Cleanup and donating out time to the Mustard Seed soup kitchen.

We Zetes are united in our diversity. Each feeding off of the other's differences, we make ourselves a stronger union. Basically, a body is only as good as it's members and if a member fails, that isn't beneficial to anyone. So, we do our best to promote a healthy learning environment that contains just right mix of schoolwork and fun. Plus, nothing beats the idea of having someone to help you with your work whenever you need it. There is always someone around that is either in your class or has taken the class before. However, when the schoolwork is done then the fun begins. Whether we are taking road trips to other schools, organizing group activities, or just

hanging around, we're having a good time.

Since our founding in 1976 we have been moving in a positive direction. As a recent example, we won the Most Improved Chapter Award in '92 from our Grand Chapter. Since then, we have won the Outstanding Chapter Award in '95 and '96 and the Most Outstanding Chapter Award in '97, '98, and '99. We have also won the National Ritual Award in '97 and '99. This past year we initiated a pledge class of 21, the largest we've ever had. We are always looking for an excellent addition to our brotherhood. So, if you're interested come and check us out. If you're not sure if fraternities are for you, remember that many doors will be opened to you while you're here at WPI. You shouldn't rule anything out until you've given it a decent thought. All in all it's an experience you won't want to miss.

We are located at 32 Dean St. If you have any questions, please feel free to call 753-9843 or email zetapsi@wpi.edu.

Sigma Alpha Epsilon

Courtesy of
Interfraternity Council

The Massachusetts Delta Chapter of Sigma Alpha Epsilon at WPI has strong roots both nationally and locally. The national fraternity was founded at the University of Alabama on March 9, 1856. The Massachusetts Delta Chapter was founded March 10, 1894. Many of its founders and initiated brothers are recognized names on our WPI campus: Higgins, Riley, Morgan, Gompeii Kuwanda, Harrington, Perrault, Gordon, and Robert H. Goddard. The Chapter house, which is the oldest house in the world built specifically for fraternity use, was constructed in 1896. At the end of this academic year, our house will be undergoing an \$800,000 expansion and renovation process, to ensure exceptional housing well into the next millennium.

The brothers of Sigma Alpha Epsilon come from a variety of places and back-

grounds. Our brothers hail from regions as far as Texas, Ohio, and the all way to Europe and Asia. Members of our house are involved in countless different activities on campus. We are brothers who are members of the hockey, lacrosse, and crew teams, just to name a few. However, our involvement goes far beyond just athletics. For example, brother Seth Sienkiewicz is a PLA in WPI's math department. In addition to this, we have several members who perform in different musical groups on campus. Every person in our house is involved in some activity or organization.

Though diverse, these gentlemen live and work together in the closest bonds of friendship. They are guided by a code of conduct entitled "The True Gentleman". Phrases such as "Whose deed follows his word", and "who thinks of the rights and feelings of others rather than his own" guide our brothers in their day to day life. In following this code of conduct, the brothers are servants to the community, not only in the Worcester area, but also in the national scope. The Massachusetts Delta chapter is closely involved with the Friendly House, an organization for underprivileged children. Each year, the brothers of Sigma Alpha Epsilon team with the sisters of Phi Sigma Sigma to host a Halloween party, a toy drive, and a holiday party. Sigma Alpha Epsilon has recently become affiliated with the Children's Miracle Network. The Brothers are working with the Boston affiliate: Genesis Fund-National Birth Defects Center, and are helping to raise money through raffles and donations. Our annual alumni event, Car Rally, benefits a different charity each year. Past charities have included the Friendly House, the Leukemia Foundation, and the local shelter for victims of spousal abuse.

Academic Achievement is very important to our brothers. The national bylaws of Sigma Alpha Epsilon require a minimum grade point average to become and stay an active member. The brotherhood as-

pect of Sigma Alpha Epsilon continues into the classroom, whether it is taking classes and studying together, or an upperclassman lending a hand to a younger brother. In addition, we have text books and/or text files for nearly every class imaginable to aid in our studies.

This past summer, the chapter sent five delegates to Sigma Alpha Epsilon's 64th Annual Leadership School in Chicago, Illinois. The chapter won the following awards: the Chapter Achievement Award, the Outstanding Financial Management Award, the Outstanding Chapter Housing Award, the Outstanding House Cooperation Award, The Outstanding Risk Management Award, The Outstanding Chapter Advisor Award (Richard Hooker), and the Outstanding President Award (Joseph Watson). Stu Clemons was given the Besser-Lindsay Award for Outstanding Senior. In a Regional Leadership School, held at the University of Connecticut, our chapter won the Province Alpha Zeal Award, the highest award given to a chapter in the New England region. Massachusetts Delta has a long history of success and numerous awards on its chapter room walls, including the Sigma Alpha Epsilon John O. Moseley Award for Fraternity Zeal won in 1994, which is the highest award a chapter can receive.

Our rush committee has scheduled events that give each individual an opportunity to get to know the brothers and to have fun in a relaxed atmosphere. If you'd like to know anything concerning the chapter, or rush, please feel free to stop by, especially during lunch or dinner, which are prepared by our own private cook, Anne Baver.

The Massachusetts Delta Chapter of Sigma Alpha Epsilon is a strong house with its roots deep in tradition, history, scholarship, community service, and the ritual of Sigma Alpha Epsilon. Call us at (508) 757-1767, or stop by 6 Humboldt Avenue if you have any questions. Also, check out our web page at <http://www.wpi.edu/~sae>.

Advertisement

**Students and advisors who feel they
have completed outstanding**

Interactive Qualifying Projects

**this past academic year should submit
their projects for the**

**1998 President's IQP Awards
Competition.**

**Deadline for Submission of Applications
for the 1998 President's IQP Awards**

Competition is:

Monday, October 8, 1999 at 4 P.M.

**Applications are available from Betty
Jolie in the project center.**

**Final judging is in Higgins House,
December 2, 1998.**

CLUB CORNER

Glee Club

Hey singers! We've rehearsed only a few times so far this year but the sound is already shaping up nicely. Good work, especially to all new members. And hey, what a weekend at Riverside, eh? Don't forget that this weekend is Parents' Day Weekend; we'll be performing Saturday in Alden Hall. This will be our first concert of the academic year so be sure to show up for rehearsals this week. Stay tuned to the mailing list for more details.

Interstate 8

Can I hear an "ILOVE A CAPPELLA!!!" Congratulations to Malia Aull, BJ Boettcher, Jes Caron, Amanda Egan, Julia Jones, Diane Jordan, Sarah Lovell, Andrea Madeiro, Heather McCusker, Jillian O'Toole, Adria Rizzo, Dre Sereny, and Jen Waite! Thanks to all who tried out, everyone was really talented. We are going to get right into the swing of things with a concert on September 18th at 8:00pm in Alden Hall for Family weekend. Also performing will be Alden Voices, WPI's female vocal group, and other groups from the music association. Come show your support! Also, our first CD is scheduled to be released in early October, and will hopefully be on sale in the campus bookstore. Be sure to pick up your copy early, as to avoid those sold out blues!

Newman Club

What a turnout we had at video and pasta night. The cook, an unnamed priest, ran out of his famous bread and Italian sauce. Our worthy advisor, Greg Macleod, is

claimed that would never have happened if he was in charge. The video, Dead Poets' Society was a great choice. A tip of our hat goes to Jen Cooper and Jen Hardy for picking out that video. Even our doctoral student, Tom Vogtman approved. Father S's famous Wednesday and Thursday nights suppers have been a great success and allows the members of the class of '03 get to know Father S and find out that his bark is not as big as his bite. Some of our new arrivals can not believe a priest can cook. Becky Dowd claims that she and Theresa have taught him well. Actually we can report that really John and Ian do the cooking with Father S giving the orders. No matter who cooks, we can assure you that it is a great supper, so keep your eyes open for your invitation in your mail box.

Our Faith and Discussion group meets every Wednesday night at 8:00 PM in the Religious Center. It has grown so much we are thinking either having two different groups or the group meeting twice a week. The group will decide that or hope to decide that at this week's meeting. Come on down and join us.

The club is looking forward to Parents' Weekend this weekend. We have invited the parents to join us for Sunday Mass either at the 11:30 AM Mass in Alden or the 5:00 PM Mass in Founders. Hope to see you there also.

Science Fiction Society

Well, gaming weekend was fantastic. It was also two weeks ago, but it was fun, wasn't it? For those of you who missed it (gasp), we'll be throwing another one sometime next semester. Keep your eyes, ears, and antennae open.

For those of you interested in science fiction, the WPI Science Fiction Society has something new. After each weekly meeting, a bunch of members are hosting a SF discussion forum. Want to talk about your favorite SF books? Show up.

The SFS meets weekly, on Wednesdays, at 7:12pm, in Olin Hall, room Be there or be mundane.

SMAS

At our last meeting we set dates for our various activities this term: Purgatory Chasm will be either Sat 9/25 or Sun 9/26 in the afternoon; King Richard's Faire will be Sat 10/2. We will go to Higgins Armory in B-term when it gets colder. Garb, armor, and weapons making sessions will be scheduled soon for this month. The newbie night quest is scheduled for the end of this month in place of a Thursday fight practice.

Bellydancing classes have also started up on Tuesday nights 7:30 to 9:30 in Founders basement. New people are always welcome, so come try something new and different!

Our meetings are Tuesday nights at 7pm

in Founders basement. Fight practices are Monday and Thursday nights at 7:30pm on the lower fields. Email the officers (realms@wpi.edu) with any questions or suggestions.

Student Alumni Society

Homecoming is Saturday, September 25th! Everyone should be psyched for all of the fun activities planned and an appearance by the goat. To prepare for the big day, SAS will be having a meeting on Wednesday, September 22nd in the Higgins House Library at 5pm. SAS would like to congratulate Liz Amaral for being our new Goat's Head Committee representative. Everyone should read the Goat's Head Rules published in this week's edition of Newspeak. We would also like to give a special thanks to Stephanie, Fred, Andrea, and Dennis. The event at the Boston Museum of Science was full of fun, food, and mingling with young alumni. Everyone is encouraged to go to our next meeting as there will be plenty of opportunities to help with our spirited activities. See you all there.

Advertisement

COMMENTARY

Your Weekly Horoscope

by Miss Anna
Associated Press

Aries: (March 21-April 20)

Any family squabbles may come as a result of tensions. Be at your best and don't let anyone spoil your upbeat mood. Once harmony is restored, turn your attentions to making plans with a few good friends. You are inclined to be jealous and possessive of a mate. Stay cool.

Taurus: (April 21 - May 21)

Think before you speak. That temper of yours may flare without any provocation. Your idealistic side usually wins out, so try real hard to follow your dreams. Hopefully something that has been bothering you for the last several months is now gone for good.

Gemini: (May 22 - June 21)

A friend of yours has a serious problem and is relying on your help to come up with a solution, so think fast. The week will go by pretty smoothly for it will have plenty of variety. At least you won't have to worry about getting bored.

Cancer: (June 22 - July 23)

It's time to take a serious look at the romance in your life - and ask yourself if your expectations are realistic. Try not to take life too seriously and have fun with those you love. You tend to accomplish a lot and everyone around will catch your enthusiasm.

Leo: (July 24- August 23)

This week brings a welcome relief from recent pressures, so spend time with those

you love. Your strong ego may get you in hot water with a mate, and those old feelings of whether you've made the right choice or not are going to surface again. Your plans for the future are very realistic.

Virgo: (August 24 - September 23)

If you feel that your friends have been difficult to deal with lately, perhaps you should take a good look at yourself. Listen to what a loved one has to say about your personal life, there is more merit there than you are willing to admit. Start improving things on the job.

Libra: (September 24 - October 23)

People close to you are charming and agreeable, but not very good about keeping promises, so be realistic at all times. Share some of your more creative ideas with someone who can take them one step further, in a practical way. Keep an eye on the food you're eating.

Scorpio: (October 24 - November 22)

All you want this week is peace and quiet, but it seems like everyone needs to speak or be with you. Find time to sneak off on your own. Your feelings for a lover are intense, so try and remain as realistic as possible. Concentrate on organizing family matters that need your attention.

Sagittarius: (November 23 - December 21)

The focus is on your private life for the next month or so. This time you may find it easier to sort out old misunderstandings. Don't take any risks with your money right

now, you may regret it. You can accomplish a lot if you move ahead with confidence and grace.

Capricorn: (December 22 - January 20)

Finish up with routine projects at work or at home as opposed to starting new ones. You will do best with what's familiar right now. You tend to worry about money, so just be extra careful about how and where you spend. With your delightful charm you may get just what you need.

Aquarius: (January 21 - February 19)

Even though you try your best to please everyone, you won't be very successful. Maybe you should try to please yourself. You are going to be more thoughtful and introspective than usual. Let your thoughts move to spiritual matters. You have a strong need to help and serve humanity.

Pisces: (February 20 - March 20)

The people you care about are very receptive to your ideas right now. That's the kind of support you really need. When it comes to your homelife, things have been going in ten different directions, it's time to get organized. Get out and mix with new friends.

If This Week Is Your Birthday:

Now's time to review projects and former decisions. Re-structuring will be important at this time. It's also ripe for wise investments and business dealings. Some of your most cherished beliefs about security may be tested in the coming year.



The Crimson Clipboard

Writing does pay

Have you ever reached into your filthy pants pockets, emptying them of all miscellaneous debris, and discovered, much to your delight that you had an extra ten-dollar bill wadded up—almost as if the Tooth Fairy had put it there for you? Imagine reaching into your pocket and instead discovering a FIFTY-dollar bill!

Ah-ha! You really could find a fifty-dollar bill if you won this year's writing contest. But to win, you must first submit an entry either poetry or prose (using 500 words or fewer) describing "What is writing?" or "Why do I write?"

Entries should be typed and double-spaced. We at the Writing Workshop (Project Center, Upper Level) would be much obliged if you'd also attach a separate cover sheet with the following information: your name, major and year (i.e. class of 2000). Essays will be judged for creativity, clarity, specificity, and eloquence. We'll even make it easy for you; you can submit your entry electronically by e-mailing writing@wpi.edu. If you prefer, you can add some pizzazz and drop by the Writing Workshop yourself (M-R 10-5; F 10-3). This will give you an excellent opportunity to meet this year's writing tutors.

Wait! There's one more important detail. The deadline. If you're anything like me you'll drop your jaw... May 1, 2000. But just because the deadline has three zeros in it doesn't mean you have to wait until New Year's to start. If I were you, knowing fifty green smackeros waited at the flick of my fingers across my keyboard, I'd get started now.

Hall of Fame welcomes new members

Six individuals will be inducted into the WPI's Athletic Hall of Fame on Friday, September 24th, in Alden Memorial. The evening will begin with the reception at 6 p.m., Hall of Fame Banquet followed by the induction ceremony at 7 p.m. The year's inductees are Kenneth B. Adrian '65 (golf); David V. Berthiaume '91 (cross country and track and field); Bruce J. Carbone '85 (swimming and diving); Allen H. Hoffman '63 (cross country and track and field); John A. Roy '93 (wrestling); and Michael P. Shebek '53 (football and basketball and baseball). The 17th annual event will also honor the Class of 1954's undefeated football team. For more information, call ext. 5243.

In Pursuit of Greece

What are you doing for Spring Break? Join the WPI Instrumental groups for our trip to Greece! Read on for all sorts of great info about this excursion. Members of these groups will continue to sell raffle tickets to provide a FREE ticket to one lucky winner. The drawing will be held at the end of September - so get 'em while they last!

Not convinced that you should come along on the trip? This will prove to be an amazing adventure. Athens is full of amazing sights. We will be sightseeing in and around Athens, visiting places like the Acropolis and the towering columns of the Parthenon. We will also walk through the National Archeological Museum, home to an extensive collection of classical works of art of all types from excavations throughout Greece. A full day cruise is included which will travel to the Saronic Gulf Islands, Aegina, and the fascinating Hydra Islands.

Do you enjoy shopping? We'll do that too! Sightseeing will also include the ancient marketplace of Agora! More modern shopping will be nearby at the Monastiraki, a group of flea markets and shops with a wide variety of gifts and trinkets. With such a wide variety of amazing experiences waiting in Greece, you can't go wrong by sharing in this excursion with the WPI Instrumental groups.

At a total value of \$1450, this trip includes airfare, some meals, hotel accommodations, and sightseeing including all the areas above and MORE! All this could be yours! For just \$5 you can enter to win this trip, or get 5 chances to win for only \$20! Tickets will be on sale in the Wedge and by participating members of the Band, Jazz, and Orchestral groups. Thanks for the support in this matter! Don't forget to get your raffle tickets for your chance to win a \$1450 value trip to Greece! Don't go home, or to somewhere silly like, Myrtle Beach or California. Come to Greece with the Band, and experience the world! And for one lucky winner, all this for just \$5!

Unfortunately, because of some logistical problems, the first major fundraiser, the Quartet-a-Thon, had to be postponed until the beginning of B-term. Keep an eye out for further details. For more information about the band, the raffle, or anything related, send email to band@wpi.edu and we'll be happy to respond! Good luck and have fun! Avtio! (that's Greek for "SEE YA!")

*Newspeak's weekly meeting will be held tonight
at 7pm in the Goat's Head Pub*

Advertisement

CLASSIFIEDS

WANTED

Internet Start Up Opportunity: I am a local business owner who has developed a system that will revolutionize the way the Construction Industry does business on the Internet! I am looking for a partner who has the computer software knowledge including (HTML & JAVA) to work with me to develop this website. Call Michael at (508) 792-9586 or jan-mike@ultranet.com

SPRING BREAK 2000 with STS - Join America's #1 Student Tour Operator to Jamaica, Mexico, Bahamas, Cruises, and Florida. Now hiring on-cam-

pus reps. Call 1-800-648-4849 or visit online @ http://www.ststravel.com

Free Baby Boom Box + Earn \$1200! Fundraiser for student groups and organizations. Earn up to \$4 per MasterCard app. Call for info or visit our website. Qualified callers receive a FREE Baby Boom Box 1-800-932-0528 ext. 119 or ext. 125 http://www.ocmconcepts.com

MISCELLANEOUS

The Relationship Maze— 1st of 4: What do you want/ need in a relationship? Fri., 9/ 17, 12-1:00 PM, West St. House, 157 West St. ext. 5540. OK to bring lunch.

Save Pedler

Submissions to the Life Lines, Newspeak's Poetry column, are being gathered as we speak. Please send yours to newspeak@wpi, or stick one in our box in the Student Activities Office

PERSONALS

Hark! Me thinks I hearest people on the roof!

So tell me is it September or Spetember?

If Adam Sandler can write about penises, then why can't... nevermind

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

COMICS

Chaos® by Brian Shuster

Dilbert®

by Scott Adams

Pearls Before Swine

by Stephan T. Pastis



off the mark® by Mark Parisi

Crossword Companion

Newspeak Trivia

Who created the Newspeak logo, as it is now?

POLICE LOG**Thursday September 3, 1999**

11:24pm Malicious Mischief: Caller states Cranberry Blazer driving by shouting obscenities out window

Friday September 4, 1999

4:07pm Alarm: At-Water Kent rm.315, Plant Services in cleaning
6:28pm Lockout: Morgan Hall
7:57pm Lockout: Riley 2nd Floor
9:58pm Lockout: Riley 1st Floor
11:56pm Alcohol Violation: 3 subjects in front of Institute Hall

Saturday 5, 1999

12:00am Arrest: Disorderly person and open container of alcohol
12:18am Transporting above subject to WPD
2:12am Disorderly Persons: Officers spoke with 2 subjects in front of 39 Dean St., sent on their way
3:36am Assist/fire alarm: Alarm Central reports fire alarm at Montclair Drive
4:19am Altercation: Report of possible altercation between male and female. Subjects sent on their way
7:05am Intrusion Alarm: Alarm Central reports a burglar alarm at Montclair Dr
2:47pm Trespassing: Complaint of skateboarders between Washburn and Stratton
10:40pm Lockout: Morgan 4th
11:47pm Medical Response: Institute Hall, chin laceration
2:13pm Assault and Battery w/Dangerous Weapon: Assault in progress at Dean St. & Highland St., victim down and subjects fleeing scene. Worcester EMS and PD notified
2:45pm 2 subjects under arrest by WPD relative to incident
3:09pm Disorderly Persons: Disorderly persons in library lot
3:35pm Suspicious Person: Subject rummaging through FIJI dumpster
3:40pm Disorderly Persons: Additional disorderly persons in Library lot
3:42pm Noise Complaint: Salisbury Estates, loud music
3:54pm Assist: WPD advises responding to fight at Highland St. & Dean St.
8:53pm Lockout: Institute 2nd
8:56pm Lockout: Daniels 4th
9:34pm Suspicious Persons: Young children attending Armenian Church function removed from tree by Fiji on Boynton St.

Sunday 6, 1999

12:04am Lockout: Daniels
8:53am Alarm Clock Ringing: Complaint that alarm clock was ringing for 1/2 hour in Morgan Hall
9:03am Code 5: Could not find alarm that was ringing
11:12am Workorder: Locks and chains for gate at Park and Institute and both gates by Higgins House and softball field are missing. Gates were unlocked on Saturday for football.
12:00pm Assist: Student at World House, keys not left at CP station, student was left into room and given number and people to see on Tuesday. Room, name, and ID verified.
12:05pm Lockout: Daniels
1:02pm Lockout: Stoddard
3:15pm Lockout: Founders
5:40pm Intrusion: Fuller Labs CCC, office area
7:06pm Lost Dog: Sigma Phi Epsilon, Siberian Husky named Cody, medium build, approx. 40 lbs.

Tuesday 7, 1999

12:44am Odor: Daniels RA reports possible smell of burning rubber in vicinity
1:15pm Auto Accident: On Quad in visitors
7:28pm Medical: 44 West St., man injured, no other information given
8:10pm Alarm: Intrusion Higgins Labs 236
8:23pm Alarm: Higgins Labs 236
9:35pm MV Listing: Vehicle check comes back stolen

What's Happening: September 14-20

14 1:00pm - Women's Tennis vs. Wellesley College, AJ Knight Courts.
5:30pm - WOWI @ The Boynton.
7:00pm - Coporate Interviewing Panel, FLAUD.
7:00pm - Women's Volleyball vs. MIT, Harrington.
7:00pm - Women's Soccer vs. Tufts, Alumni Field.
8:00pm - Coffeehouse. Peter Mulvey, Quad.

15 12:00pm - 4:00pm - 7th Annual Career Fair, Harrington & Alden.

16 Career Development Fair

17 11:00am - 1:00pm WBOS on the Quad
12:00pm - 1:00pm - "What do you Want/Need in a Relationship?" West Street House, 157 West St.
1:00pm - Field Hockey vs. Westfield State, Alumni Field.

18 Parent's Day/Family Weekend
10am - 4pm - Tour, Salisbury Street Sampler
1:00pm - Women's Tennis vs. Wellesley College.
4:00pm - Family Weekend Concert, Alden.

19 Family Weekend
11:30am & 5:00pm Catholic Mass, Alden(am) & Founder's Study(pm)
6:30 & 9:30pm Film. "Big Daddy," FLAUD, \$2.

20 7:00pm - Men's Soccer vs. Anna Maria College

9:36pm IN ROUTE: Vehicle in sight
9:45pm ARREST: Both the driver and passenger are in custody

Wednesday 8, 1999

12:42am Noise Complaint: 85 Salisbury Street
12:51am Noise Complaint: 9 & 11 Dean St., loud music
3:38am Check on Welfare: Subject passed out on front steps of 28 Trowbridge
11:49am Medical: Goddard Hall, male student with finger cut while cleaning
11:50am Theft Report: Higgins House, kitchen area
4:30pm Lockout: Locksmith on campus notified. Student key not working
6:53pm HVAC: Forke Conference Room in Harrington Aud., AC not working. Heat is blasting. HOT
7:23pm Flagged Down: By a citizen that could not find their vehicle. Called WPD, asked if they did a tow, they did not
7:24pm Found: Found car on Boynton St., across from Founders Hall
8:00pm Alarm: ROTC Rm. 35, door found ajar
8:12pm Window Open: In Washburn Hall. Window will be monitored all night
9:10pm DMV: Called in by student, there is an older white car on the corner of Boynton and Highland flagging cars down asking for a tow or money.