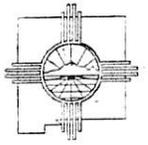


PAYDIRT



Volume 20, Number 3

New Mexico Tech's Newspaper

Wednesday, October 16, 1991

Administration drops plan to sue Concerned Fellows

by Chuck McCutcheon
ALBUQUERQUE JOURNAL

New Mexico Institute of Mining and Technology officials have dropped plans to pursue legal action against an anonymous group that mailed letters to parents of incoming Tech students last year, the college's President said.

The group, Concerned Fellows of New Mexico Tech, cited a lack of concern for students' rights and environmental problems on campus in its letters.

Officials at the Socorro college denied the allegations and said last year they would sue for libel and interfering with school affairs. Several parents cited the letter as a reason to withdraw their children, they said.

But Tech President Laurence Lattman said that Tech's regents are satisfied they have made their point without suing the group.

"We don't plan to do anything more," Lattman said. "If [Concerned Fellows] doesn't cause any more trouble, this is going to go away."

The college filed a lawsuit in an attempt to learn the group members' identities. The group said in its letter its

members would not sign their names because they feared retaliation from Lattman.

After a court battle that went all the way to the state Supreme Court, Tech succeeded in obtaining the names of people who rented a mailbox belonging to the group. But Lattman said Tech's attorney is the only person connected with the school who knows the names, which were given in a deposition.

Albuquerque attorney Denise Glore, who represented the Fellows, called Tech's decision not to continue its legal action "the correct and professional thing to do."

"The law supports the Concerned Fellows' activities," said Glore, who had argued the group's actions merited First Amendment protection. "If [Tech] had continued to take action... it would have been a waste of legal resources."

Glore also said the group, which she said is made up of students, is continuing to monitor the Tech administration.

[Ed: Reprinted with permission from the September 24 Albuquerque Journal. Dr. Lattman has declined further comment on the subject.]



Save your money for the Garter Auction, Friday night!

Strange and Complex Answers to seemingly simple questions

by Tom Jones
PAYDIRT STAFF REPORTER

While many students are affected by the one-wage per student rule described in the first part of this series, fewer are restricted by the limitation that students may only work 20 hours on campus.

Of six students contacted about this policy, four stated that they have no direct complaint about it. Leann Giebler states that she would work "in all my spare time" at her library job if she could.

The final student of the six, Steve Cook, stated that, for the past two semesters, he had been working 25 or 26 hours a week for the Tech Computer Center and Information Systems, until they caught him this past Monday. While he will receive no penalty for breaking the rule, he has been prohibited from working over 20 hours per week in the future. He will also continue to work approximately ten hours each Saturday delivering furniture in Santa Fe. "I think if a person is able to work more than twenty hours a week, and be passing his classes, he or she should be able to work as many hours as he wants. Having the extra hours allows me to buy needed things, like food."

Dr. Frank Etscorn, Dean of Students, stated concerning the policy, "I can see the wisdom in [it], but I can also see the problems students might face trying to make ends meet." He emphasized that

some students may be short of money and need to work more than twenty hours per week to cover their expenses.

Many students and others involved with student work have the impression that the 20-hour rule is a federal law. This is not the case. The current edition of the *Encyclopedia of Student Financial Aid*, a guide published by the National Association of Student Financial Aid Administrators, states that "The regulations no longer limit the number of hours per week a [College Work Study] student may work. The institution may, however, set a limit." There are no federal restrictions on non-work study hours, as the federal government does not pay toward those positions.

The current policy dates back to when the federal government *did* place a maximum of 20 hours per week on work-study students. This policy dates back many years, and was always extended to apply to part-time (non work-study) students as well. Bill Hemenway, Assistant to the Vice-President for Administration and Finance, stated that the policy has "been that way ever since I've been here, and I've been here twenty years."

The 20-hour policy is stated in the current Tech catalog on page 27, "Work is limited to a maximum of 20 hours per week." The catalog states that the rule applies to both part-time and work study

students.

The statement in the catalog dates back to before the federal government eliminated its 20-hour restriction, which took "some place in the 1980s," according to several Tech administration sources.

When the federal government stopped regulating hours for work-study, the policy continued as it had been, because it was listed as official policy in the catalog and would have required the approval of various departments to change it.

Twenty hours is not a hard and fast rule. Some students can, on an occasional basis, get around it. Dr. Dan Lopez, Vice-President for Institutional Development, has overseen and approved such exceptions.

One prominent exception was applied when the library was being moved early this semester. For one month, students were allowed to work more than 20 hours per week, as long as they had sophomore, junior, senior, or graduate standing, and had a 2.50 grade point average. This exception was granted in order to re-open the library in its new building as soon as possible.

Another exception was made this semester for a grader who wanted to work more than 20 hours a week for the duration of this semester. While initially denied, the request was approved after

the supervising Professor appealed directly, stating that there was no one else qualified to perform the job.

A third exception was granted for a student who needed to work more than twenty hours for his own financial reasons.

However, after exceptions started becoming common, Dr. Lopez states that "the policy needed review."

Currently, exceptions to the 20-hour rule are granted only in the most important of circumstances.

However, jobs at which students are not paid by the hour do not count to the 20-hour rule. These include Resident Assistants and the President and Vice-President of the Student Association, all of whom receive salaries for their work.

Tech's policy also has no effect on off-campus jobs; students who work in town can work as many hours as they want, irrespective of any campus jobs.

Other schools in New Mexico have policies similar to Tech's. At the University of New Mexico in Albuquerque, a similar rule is in effect; students can only work more than 20 hours during breaks and summer sessions. However, exceptions for non work-study students are not uncommon; a Financial Aid employee estimates that "out of about two thousand student employees, a couple hundred" are

Continued on Page 2, Column 1

Student employment restrictions Part II: Why students can only work twenty hours per week on campus

Why students can only work 20 hours a week on campus

Continued from Page 1, Column 1
likely to be granted short term extensions for a few weeks during the semester. Most of these exceptions are caused by the office at which the student works running short on workers, or having an extra amount of work to perform.

At Eastern New Mexico University, Financial Aid employees stated that all students can only work 12 hours per week on-campus. However, two students encountered in person stated that they can work up to 40 hours per week.

Attempts were made to contact the Financial Aid office at New Mexico State University in Las Cruces, but the phone line was repeatedly busy.

In a memo to Academic Affairs Vice-President Carl Popp, Dr. Lopez stated "In a few words, a student's immediate financial convenience may result in the student's long-term academic failing. [Tech President Laurence Latt-

man and] I agree that exceptions to this policy, no matter how meritorious, will lead to incalculable problems in trying to administer a sound student employment program."

Dr. Lopez stated that any policy that did not specifically outline exactly when students could work what number of hours would lead to administrative problems when it came time to decide each case. A hard and fast rule is far more effective at allowing administration of a policy than a vague and flexible policy.

When asked if a policy allowing students with above-average grade point averages to work for more than 20 hours would be acceptable, Dr. Lopez stated that such a policy would be thoroughly considered by the Tech administration. Students who are interested in such a policy change, he said, would most effectively direct their concerns through the Student Association in an organized way.

Student Senate remains active

by Eric Wagoner
SA CORRESPONDENT

The Student Association last met on the evening of October 7 in the SAC Conference Room. The meeting began at approximately 7:00pm with the appointment of a new SA Secretary. Leann Giebler, Secretary since the beginning of the Summer term, stepped down and Freshman Roberta DeMory was appointed as Leann's replacement. Roberta's term will expire at the end of the semester. President Tom Jones also reported that the SAC projector was now in focus, and that the phone in the election booth is now operational.

The Committees then gave their reports. Among the highlights: the Library committee reported that a typing room exists in the new library, and then recommended that new typewriters be purchased for it; the Food Committee announced that it was working chieftly with the Director of ARA, Mohamed Hossain and the Director of Auxiliary Services, Rhonda Savedge St. George to plan special events for the rest of the semester, also, the bidding process for the food service project has begun, and the first cuts are to be in November; the Finance Committee said that several clubs came to the previous Finance Committee meeting, and more funding was given to several of them (the Senate later approved the additional funding); the Pay Guidelines Committee presented its recommendation that persons performing specific Senate related tasks should be board at least minimum wage (this was mainly in response to the request that Supreme Court Justices be paid for running the elections); the Recycling Committee is continuing to investigate a campus-wide recycling program, and the Committee announced

that P-Plant would pick up a variety of recyclable; and finally, the Student lounge Committee reported on the progress of the attempt to locate a student lounge in campus.

In other business, the Cooney Mining Club asked for funding for its 49ers events, and their request was granted. Also, the Rugby Club was given a \$1,000 loan for a 49ers T-shirt project. Door prizes were awarded — Earl Tomander won a large bag of Skittles, and Bob Appelt won \$5.00. After that, the meeting was adjourned.

Some interesting things that occurred at previous meetings and may still be in progress are:

- The SAC Committee is currently working on a new key policy for the SAC. Since the re-keying several weeks ago, there have been access problems. These problems should be ironed out soon.

- Senatorial elections for the Spring term will be held on October 24. To be decided: half of the Senate seats and whatever Constitutional Amendments get proposed.

- Dr. Etscorn is working on a report for the Board of Regents entitled "Why Do Students Stay at Tech?" Any comments on the subject would be helpful.

- Amy Stoklas was appointed to the position of Supreme Court Justice.

- A third Graduate Representative position on the SA was proposed to be added to the previous two. The proposal is a proposed Constitutional Amendment, and will appear on the October 24 ballot.

The next SA meeting is scheduled for Monday, October 21, at 7:00pm in the SAC Conference Room. Everyone is encouraged to attend.

They Might Be Giants may be coming to Tech

by Mike Donnelly
PAYDIRT STAFF REPORTER

A few weeks back, Auxiliary Services sponsored a poll asking the students of Tech, "Would you be willing to pay a fee of \$5 to have *They Might Be Giants* play on campus?" While some of the freshmen might not have heard of this unique sounding group, those who have been at Tech for what seems like forever (i.e. at least a few months) will recognize this band. Indeed, two of their songs, *Istanbul* and *Particle Man*, have been aired on *Tiny Toons*, a television program viewed by a large college audience.

The results of the poll may interest

some people. Auxiliary Services received a total of 118 "yes" and 27 "no" answers. This response may not seem large, but considering there was no return address on the mailings, it seems to show a great interest in having *They Might Be Giants* perform at Tech. Auxiliary Services agrees with that sentiment and has tentatively agreed to pay one third of the cost for having the band here.

This reporter would like to point out that this doesn't translate to, "*They Might Be Giants* will be coming to Tech." A lot of details need to be worked out still, and its just as likely they won't be coming. I apologize for raising hope and then dashing them, but this is Socorro.

SA Senate elections October 24: We're looking for a few good students

by Thomas Jones
PAYDIRT STAFF REPORTER

49ers is coming up in just a few days. You have mid-terms until then, and maybe a few more next week. The future beyond that is irrelevant.

Perhaps not. On Thursday, October 24, the Student Association will be holding a Senate election. Of the twenty seats on the Senate, eighteen will be up for grabs. (The others, and the offices of President and Vice-President come up for election next semester.) No doubt some incumbents will run and win; but there will be an enormous amount of new blood flowing in at the beginning of next semester. Maybe your blood should be part of it.

Normally, only ten Senators would be elected this month. However, due to Senators graduating and leaving for other jobs, there are eight extra seats available.

What does it take to be a Senator? First, you have to be an undergraduate. Freshmen are as eligible as anybody else. (Graduates have their own elections for the Senate.) Second, you need to be in good academic standing, i.e., have a gpa of 2.0 or above. If you fit these requirements, you can almost certainly be an SA Senator.

What do you have to do if you're elected? Starting next semester, you'll need to show up to SA meetings, currently held on alternate Monday evenings at 7:00 pm. And, yes, you'll end up serving on some committees. The committees get most things done. The Food committee works with the cafeteria to see that the cafeteria is as good as can be. The Dance committee selects and books the bands and DJs that present student dances. The Movie committee chooses and shows the weekly student movies. Other committees are involved in virtually every facet of student life.

If you become a Senator, it'll probably take between two and five hours per week, depending on how involved you get. You'll end up involved in the decisions that affect all students.

To run for Senate, you need to pick up a Declaration of Candidacy from Student Services in Wells or the SA in the SAC, fill it out, and turn it in to one of those two offices before 5 pm Thursday, 17, one week before the election.

While you're thinking about 49ers, think about the people who bring you 49ers and other student activities. Good people are needed to keep these things going.

PAYDIRT

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The official newspaper of the New Mexico Institute of Mining and Technology

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Staff Reporter	Dawn Thatcher

Paydirt is published approximately every three weeks during the spring and fall semesters, with most issues being distributed on Tuesdays. Copies are distributed free-of-charge to all on-campus student and faculty mailboxes, and to most on-campus offices, with additional copies available in the Student Union, Student Services Office, Library, and certain other locations in town. Mail subscriptions are available for \$8.50 per academic year, domestic United States mail. Unsolicited articles, photos, drawings, ideas, and commentary are happily accepted, although the editorial staff reserves all rights pertaining to what is printed. Refer to *Letters* policy. *Paydirt* is financed by Student Association funds and advertising revenue. Individuals interested in *Paydirt* employment should contact the Editor-in-Chief. Opinions expressed in *Paydirt* are solely those of the author, and unsigned editorials are the opinion of the editor-in-chief, and not necessarily anybody else.

The 49ers Photo Contest!!

Paydirt's 49ers Photo Contest is offering the following prizes for first, second, and third place winners:

1st prize	\$25
2nd prize	\$15
3rd prize	\$10

Winning photos will be printed along with the runners up in the November 11 edition of *Paydirt*. Photos will be returned if requested, contrary to what was previously printed in *Paydirt*.

Fainting goats aid medical research

COLLEGE PRESS SERVICE
PRESS RELEASE

It sounds odd, but Tennessee fainting goats one day may provide crucial information about muscle diseases in humans.

Just what are fainting goats, and why would university researchers want to study them?

Although myth has it that they faint, the goats really just fall over. Their muscles freeze, causing the ungraceful ones to hit the ground sideways. The rest just stand rigid for a few seconds.

According to Tennessee folklore, fainting goats were discovered when a farmer went out to shoot a goat for his dinner and the rest of his herd fell over, too.

Scientists are a bit more skeptical. They've been trying to figure out the real cause of the goats' muscle defect—called myotonia—for more than 30 years.

While their quest for information continues, animal rights protestors argue that farmers who raise fainting goats shouldn't be trying to scare them stiff.

In Millington, TN, a Memphis suburb, an annual "Goat Days" festival includes a fainting contest. Prizes are awarded for the goats that go down quickest and the ones that stay down the longest.

One animal rights activist told Associated Press, "They get some goats in a pen and make loud noises trying to make them faint. The goats go into a panic."

The festival-founder's response: "It's very limited what a goat is good for. You either eat him or you look at him."

Several scientists would beg to differ. They aren't just looking at the goats, they're studying their muscles.

And so far, animal rights activists haven't taken their complaints to the researchers' doors just yet.

Primarily the result of inbreeding, the goats developed a condition that causes delayed relaxation of muscles. The same condition exists in humans in various forms. The ailment most closely related to myotonia is Thomsen's Disease.

Scientist Shirley Bryant of the University of Cincinnati says myotonia also show signs of dystrophy or weakness.

An example of myotonia (without dystrophy) in humans is shaking someone's hand and not being able to relax your grip for about 20 seconds.

Bryant has studied myotonia in humans and in the goats since 1957. In his years of research he has found that the myotonia in the goats is caused by an inability of the muscle fibers' membrane to absorb chloride.

This lack of chloride causes the muscles to become extremely sensitive to electrical charges. Overstimulation leads to repeated firing by the muscle.

So, Bryant says, the fainting goats fall over because a sudden stimuli, like a loud noise, causes the muscles to receive a charge, but that the charge continues for a prolonged period of time.

All of this information had led researchers to begin studying the genetics of myotonia in goats, humans, and mice (in Germany, where the little myotonic creatures are again the result of inbreeding.)

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Corporation sells Bond insurance

COLLEGE PRESS SERVICE
PRESS RELEASE

In order to meet equipment and building needs that could cost \$100 billion over the next decade, a government-backed corporation will begin insuring bonds issued by academic institutions.

The College Construction Loan Insurance Association's operating subsidiary, known as Connie Lee, was established by Congress to complement federal grant and loan programs.

Oil company supports Petroleum Engineering

PUBLIC INFORMATION OFFICE
PRESS RELEASE

Representatives from Mobil Oil, Inc., recently presented a check in support of New Mexico Tech's Petroleum Engineering Department.

On hand for the check presentation

were (pictured left to right): Dr. Robert L. Lee, Assistant Professor of Petroleum Engineering; Dr. Stephan Miska, Associate Professor of Petroleum Engineering and Chair of the department; Chris Buchwald, a New Mexico Tech graduate now with Mobil Oil, Inc.; and Bill Kastler of Mobil Oil, Inc., Midland Office.

Run for office!
SA Senate candidacy forms are due this Thursday.

from the desk of Tom Jones

Remember from the perspective of somebody who's been there and isn't quite sure why.

On-campus or off?

Mandatory meals, leaky showers and landlords

One of the fundamental decisions that most any student at any college is forced to make is where they will live. Since everybody has to live *somewhere*, the only people who get out of making such a decision are those who are forced to live in a particular place.

Unconfirmed word has it that, some time in the 1960s, when there was a surplus of housing, all Tech students were required to live in campus housing and be at the total mercy of the Housing department. Fortunately, that is no longer the case; students can live anywhere they want (maybe even in Macey Center). Some have heard of the horrors of U-Hall, a makeshift dorm consisting of some trailers on the athletic field. Word has it that, after the well-anticipated removal of U-Hall in 1984, "on-campus" housing included the old Socorro hospital next to the big dip. It has also been reported that U-Hall is currently a cheap motel in west Texas.

All Tech students are faced with the big decision of whether to live on- or off-campus. The big advantage with living on-campus is that you don't have to go anywhere to get to classes, professors' offices, student movies and dances. No cars or long walks are needed to go anywhere at Tech, unless you're going to P-Plant or Campus Police, and even those relative hikes are pathetically small compared to the average commute from a UNM parking lot to any given classroom. Living on-campus is perfect for the lazy and non-car-owners.

A major problem that occurs particularly lazy students who move off-campus is that, due to the extra effort involved in going to classes, their attendance plummets and they flunk out within a year.

Of course, with Socorro as small as it is, there are a lot of off-campus students who live quite close to campus anyway.

If you live on-campus, you're required to eat at (or at least pay for) the cafeteria twice a day. People who live off campus often say that their food is infinitely better than what they could get in the cafeteria. When you live off-campus, you get exactly what food you want, when you want it. Upon visiting these people, however, it becomes evident that some only like their own food because they cooked it themselves, and there's nobody to complain to when it's terrible. Some people are happier living off-boiled oats for every meal that they burn themselves, rather than steak and potatoes perfectly cooked by somebody else. People who have Cordon Bleu roommates, on the other hand, are the most likely to celebrate their own dining arrangements.

Off-campus, if you go to Albuquerque some weekday night, you don't lose

money for not eating a meal you've already paid for. You even have the ultimate economy option of living on beans, tortillas and rice for next to nothing.

The reason currently cited for Mandatory Meals is that idiotic students manage to start fires if they cook in their rooms, which sounds like a reasonable explanation. However, one must bear in mind that microwave ovens were prohibited until two years ago because they were supposed to be a fire hazard. I was told then that microwaves were prohibited because they took so much electrical power that they could overload the dorm electric circuitry. This would seem to have been total bunk, as most hair dryers consume more electricity than microwave ovens. The only real effect of the no-microwave ovens policy was that everybody except Resident Assistants (RAs) had to hide their ovens. (RAs, of course, could and did flagrantly display their own ovens.)

And speaking of RAs, they're something else that one must put up with after deciding to live on campus. During my sophomore year, I was "written up" by my RA because my bathroom floor was damp. She refused to pardon me on the basis it was damp because it was still drying from two days prior when the toilet had decided to disgorge ten gallons of water. But I haven't had any recent experiences with RAs along these lines.

If you live off-campus, you deal with your landlord almost exclusively, no matter what subject matter it is. The fun thing at Tech is that residents deal with the RAs on most subjects, but RAs don't set the policies; the head honchos at Auxiliary Services do. For those who don't get their housing problems solved elsewhere, you're probably more likely to have Jimmy Hoffa show up at an appointment than the Director of Auxiliary Services.

At many colleges, Housing is viewed as a good thing because it is simpler for students to deal with one school department than dealing with real-world electric, gas, telephone and water bills. On-campus, you pay one fee and use as much of these utilities as you want for the entire semester.

Tech's housing department seems to have caught on to this inequity, in that they now charge virtually everyone who doesn't live in an all-girls' dorm an extra \$20 or so "cleaning fee."

But housing does get more complaints than they deserve about many things. Students at other schools are amazed when they hear that we have phones, air conditioning, and cable TV in every room. (Of course, if you just stick up an aerial antenna on your TV set in

Socorro, you're lucky if you can see *anything*.) Unless you live in West Hall, you have a sink in your room. Of all my high school friends who went to different schools, Tech's dorms rank #1, especially in size. (In parking, too, but that's another matter.) We also get carpeting in many rooms, a luxury at many schools.

Being in charge of dorms at any college is an annoying job; even Mr. Rogers' Neighborhood would dislike Mr. Rogers if he were their landlord. With finite money, there's always some decision to make that annoys people.

If you live off-campus and pay phone fees (especially those \$75 charges to flip switches upon installation), cable fees (\$20 or so a month), water and electricity, you'll soon realize how much expense for utilities your housing fee covers.

Most people who used to live on-campus but now live off say that the main reason they're happier is money. A lot of people, especially those living in subsidized housing, save an enormous amount of rent by moving off campus.

At many campuses, I'm told, it's substantially more expensive to live off-campus, but people do it because the facilities off-campus are much bigger and better. Things seem to be the opposite here; campus has better facilities than many houses in town, and most people move off-campus to save money.

This situation may be temporary, though. Since Socorro is small, rental prices are subject to enormous fluctuation as the economy changes. One new contractor at Tech or big project at White Sands is enough to hike up rates as demand increases and supply doesn't. As the dorm price remains comparatively constant, more people may move back on campus.

In fact, some people view Tech students as currently segregated into broke off-campus residents and well-to-do on-campus residents. True, there are a lot of less expensive places to live in town, but to save the most money you have to live in a cockroach-infested slum. I've known people living in real dumps, and you can recognize somebody who lives in a dump because they hate their landlord. "My faucet's been leaking for the past three years and my ceiling has a hole in it from the Meteor of 1923," they tell you.

On the other hand, on-campus it took nearly a month this semester for my leaky shower to get fixed, and a few years ago it took P-Plant three weeks to flip a circuit-breaker to turn my air-conditioning back on, so such claims must be viewed in context.

In general, on-campus, you get the same old problems. Off-campus, new and exciting problems are liable to pop up at any moment.

If you live off-campus, you've often got to supply your own furniture and appliances. For people who live out-of-state, this can be quite a challenge.

Of course, if you try to get by in South Hall with the regulation-issue 47-watt light bulb double fixtures, your eyes will be gone before mid-terms; slow conversion of South's light sockets is currently underway. Everybody buys their own light fixtures and stuffs 100-watt bulbs in the dorm sockets, until the sockets don't work anymore. P-Plant then comes and replaces the double fixture with a single one, leaving the poor resident in a room about as well lit as a Turkish prison cell.

While you'd probably buy an infinitely better mattress than you're sleeping on on-campus, you'd also have to find a place to stuff the darn thing during summers.

When you live on-campus, they throw you out immediately after the last final. This means that instead of studying for that final, you have to pack, especially if you have as much junk as I do. (Graduating students have the luxury of staying until five hours before their graduation before being evicted, one final gesture of good will from Housing.) We should probably be thankful; at many schools, they throw students out of the dorms for Thanksgiving and Spring Break. If you live off-campus, you can stay through the end of the month with no problem. But if you can't find trustworthy sub-lesors, you may end up paying for your housing for the summer months even if you're not in Socorro. Some apartments even require you to stay for the summer, which for some people is a worse prospect than having to leave.

If you live on-campus, you might have to put up with a random room-mate, and if you live off-campus, you get to pick them. But off-campus, you're usually financially responsible if a room-mate turns out to be a bum who won't pay his fair share.

One final consideration that must be made is that some off-campus facilities will let you have pets. On-campus there are no such tolerances, at least officially.

Basically, the binary choice of living on- or off-campus is a complex function of various variables: money, pets, laziness, whether or not you'll be here during summers, and whether or not you can cook food worth eating.

Dr. Wilson named distinguished lecturer by AGWSE

PUBLIC INFORMATION OFFICE
PRESS RELEASE

Dr. John L. Wilson, Professor of Hydrology and coordinator of the hydrology program at New Mexico Tech, recently was named the 1992 Henry Darcy Distinguished Lecturer by the Association of Groundwater Scientists and Engineers (AGWSE) Board of Directors.

The Henry Darcy Distinguished Lecture (HDDL) series honors Henry Darcy's 1956 discovery of the basic law governing water flow. AGWSE presents

the HDDL annually to colleges, universities and national laboratories to foster academic interest and excellence in groundwater research.

For the 1992 lecture series, Wilson will present "Visualization of Ground Water Flow and Transport Through a Microscope." His lectures will include results from a variety of experiments using special tools, such as etched glass micromodels, to visualize flow and transport phenomena which occur in the saturated vadose zones of ground water systems.

Wilson is a BCE graduate of the Georgia Institute of Technology and

holds MS, CE and PhD degrees for the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT). He taught ground water courses at MIT for eight years, and then spent a year with Intera, Inc., before joining the hydrology program at New Mexico Tech in 1984.

Wilson's current research interests include the fundamental fluid mechanics of permeable media flow and transport, primarily using flow visualization tools and mathematical modeling. Through this work he has been examining the movement of non-aqueous phase liquids and colloids in porous and fractured media.

Wilson's other research efforts are directed toward well-head production, flow through heterogeneous media, and the geological characterization of aquifers.

Wilson had authored many publications and is a member of a variety of professional committees and panels. He recently returned from a sabbatical at the Waterloo Center for Groundwater Research in Canada's University of Waterloo, which is collaborating with Tech on well-head production field experiments aimed at defining pumping well capture zones.

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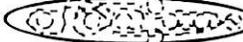
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Student lounge

by Leann M. Giebler
PAYDIRT STAFF REPORTER

Afshin Rahmanou contacted the Student Association on September 23 with the proposition of a student lounge in the old library/new Computer Center. His proposition included plans for a lounge that would be open 24 hours and would have cappuchino and espresso machines as well as regular coffee and soda machines. This lounge would be a study area for the exclusive use of students, not another SUB. At the SA meeting Afshin stated his case, and was made the head of a temporary committee that would investigate the cost of remodeling the library and determine the popularity of the proposition.

Upon further investigation, Afshin found that the old library was unsuitable for the lounge as it had insufficient plumbing and had no space available for the 30 or so people he anticipated to use the lounge at one time. Afshin now feels that the SAC is the best place for the proposed lounge. The coffee machines can be installed on the inside walls next to the bathrooms so that plumbing won't have to go through the cement floor — a great reduction in cost. Further, the SAC is already a student building, and the old library will be years in remodeling.

Some problems may be encountered if the Student Lounge Committee proposes to place the lounge in the SAC. A major problem would be security. A few months ago, the SAC was re-keyed to prevent theft and vandalism in the SAC offices and in the SAC first floor rooms. Auxiliary Services and the Student Association are presently working on a policy for who is authorized to have keys. This increase in security procedures may make the SAC unsuitable as well.

If you have any questions or comments on the proposed student lounge, there will be a Student Lounge Committee meeting on Monday, October 21 at 8:00pm in the new library's conference room. If you cannot make it to the meeting, you can contact Afshin at Box 3209.

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the
69th
49ers

This weekend.
It all starts Thursday.
Don't hear how great it was from somebody else.
Check out the schedule in this issue of Paydirt.



the
69th
49ers

"Autumn"

Summer has gone
Autumn is come
With its calico colors
the leaves on the trees
Twirl with the breeze
With the crystal blue sky
And the sun-smiling high
What wonder God brings to my eyes
But now the winter winds
begin to blow
The colors of Autumn
Will no longer show
Autumn has gone

—by Dorothy Colpitts

OPINION

Editorials, Commentary, and Letters to the Editor

Mail letters to: *Paydirt*, Box GG, Campus Station (Socorro, NM 87801). Computer e-mail is also accepted at paydirt@nmt.edu. Letters are welcome from students, faculty, staff, and other concerned persons. All letters submitted for printing *must* include the author's name and telephone number, although names will be withheld on request. If the identity of the author cannot be verified, the letter will not be printed. *Paydirt* reserves the right to edit all letters, and to decide which letters are printed. Letters should primarily concern a current or recent incident or situation related to Tech. Letters regarding controversial, previously unprinted topics will not be printed in the last issue of any semester, in order to permit timely responses from other concerned individuals.

Police Blotter

by Jason Coder
POLICE CORRESPONDENT

On September 26, a bicycle was reported stolen from Baca Hall. A report of the incident was taken. On September 27 an unsecured bicycle was found in the SUB courtyard. The bicycle was taken into property by campus police. Early on the morning of September 28, a bicycle was reported missing from the area of South Hall. The bicycle was later recovered and returned to its owner by campus police. On the morning of September 29, campus police recovered four traffic and road signs in the area of South Hall. The signs were returned to the proper agencies. Also on September 29 a window was broken on a vehicle parked in the SUB parking lot. The owner was notified, and a report was made. Later that same day campus police were advised of an alarm going off at the post office. Officers stopped and questioned four individuals in the post office box hallway. The individuals were released and the case is still under investigation. On October 6 campus police received a report of two juveniles fighting at the duck pond. The fight was broken up by an older juvenile. A report of the incident was taken. On the morning of October 7 an unsecured bicycle was found at the swim center parking lot. It was taken into custody by campus police, and was later recovered by the owner. Later the same day a vehicle was broken into while parked in the athletic field parking lot. An AM/FM cassette deck was taken from the vehicle.

Physical Plant Report

by Jason Coder
PHYSICAL PLANT CORRESPONDENT

The biggest news since last issue's deadline is the opening of the new library, which opened on schedule at the end of last month. If you have not been in it yet, go give it the once over, at least enough to orient yourself for when you really need to use it. When you enter the new library make sure to check out the art work hanging above the doors. Speaking of the library's doors, some of the outside doors are going to be automatic, so when you leave the library you can pretend your on the Enterprise.

The road west of South Hall that leads to faculty hill and married student housing is open again. Drivers will no longer have to worry about hitting the "Toad Closet" signs. The two ruts where the culvert passes under the road leading toward "M" mountain and the pro-shop have been repaired as well.

The parking lot on the south side of p-plant and campus police has been paved.

The gas co-generation plant at Lattman Well has been started and the

natural gas engine bid has been awarded.

Work on the chiller plant for the new library, the old library, and MSEC has begun. Hopefully this project will not be delayed any more because of inclement weather, as we are now past the monsoon season.

If any student, faculty, or staff member has a question concerning p-plant, suggestion, or complaint about

49ers is back for its 69th performance

Its that time of year again. The 69th annual 49ers celebration is back to tempt old and new Techies alike to participate in the debauchery. "What's wrong with debauching?" a friend of mine asked me last week. "I do it all the time."

To be totally honest, 49ers fills me with mixed emotions. I, like most Techies, could seriously use some debauching. But how much debauching can you do without the monster beer truck from hell? This year, Tech Club is sponsoring a bar in Macey's Copper Room which will not only serve beer but mixed drinks as well. Although this is a joy for those few that aren't huge fans of beer, it undoubtedly makes for an expensive 49ers. It'll probably be the most expensive 49ers I've ever attended.

Don't get me wrong. 49ers is a celebration you don't want to miss, with or without the beer truck. And, sad though it may seem to those who have graced Rugby and Yacht Club parties of the past, I suppose we really don't need beer to have fun. 49ers in itself should be reason enough. Most Tech students are over the age of 21 and can take care of their own "needs," as well as the needs of those who aren't fortunate enough to be old enough to buy alcohol.

In a surprise move, the SA Senate voted last Monday to require all Bordello members to wear chastity belts. The devices, which have been purchased for \$45.19 each, include a 20,000 volt electrical charge system to discourage removal without the key. The devices will be fitted onto both male and female Bordello members. As a fundraiser, the SA will raffle off the keys.

Is anybody reading this? If you are, write in and let us know!

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Tech Pygmies

take third in collegiate division of High Desert Classic Tournament

Student Association funding guidelines **STEPHEN SMOOGEN'S HOROSCOPES**

by Nik Chawla
PAYDIRT STAFF REPORTER

At the first budget meeting of the Student Association this semester, honor societies that had submitted a budget to get funding from the SA were told that the SA Supreme Court decided that honor societies were not eligible for funding from the SA since they have "closed membership policies;" that is, only students with high grade point averages and/or exemplary character are allowed to join an honor society in their major field of study, so it discriminates against other students who do not achieve these standards. "The money that students put [into the SA] should benefit everybody. The Finance Committee is not worried about [honor societies] getting their proper recognition. That is not part of our jurisdiction. Our only concern [in funding the honor societies] is whether they exclude students or not," said Amy Koerner, SA Vice-President. According to SA President Tom Jones, "Students that have paid the activity fee should have the ability to attend events funded by that fee;" however, if honor societies were funded, then students would be paying for events that they could not attend unless they belonged to the honor society holding the event.

Article IX, section V of the SA Constitution says nothing about not funding organizations that have "exclusionary" policies. It states that "the eligibility of organizations for Association funds shall be determined by the Supreme Court. Organizations devoted to the advocacy of religious or political doctrines shall be ineligible for Association funding."

So why did the SA axe funding for honor societies? Karl Tonander, Chairman of the Finance Committee in charge of funding clubs, explained that his committee had already allotted funds for all the honor societies, but it was the Supreme Court that ruled that exclusionary organizations should not be funded by the SA. Pamela Fisher, President of Tau Beta Pi, the National Engineering Honor Society, says that every year at the budget meeting, the SA would fund the honor societies but it would say that it was to be the last year. "In effect," she continued, "they were really bypassing the rules until this year when no warning was given and the funding was stopped."

The way for honor societies to be funded from the SA is for the society to join a club on campus and allow all students to attend their picnics, seminars, and other functions. Koerner cited the example of the Biology honor society, Beta Beta Beta, which is in conjunction with the Biology club and gets their money from one pool of funds. Members of the club are allowed to take part in all of the honor society functions, but they are not part of the honor society itself. Fisher counters that this is exactly the type of double standard that is occurring. On paper, there is only one club, but in reality the honor society still has closed membership and is getting funding in a dishonest manner. She explains that the societies losing on this deal are societies such as Tau Beta Pi, whose engineering

(Paydirt accepts no liability for the content of these horoscopes. Cast your own if you like.)

(Note from the editor: Due to unusual stress from planetary bodies hitting Mr. Smoogen's head, he has been temporarily unable to finish this introduction. Instead we have included some letters that you readers have written to him, and some comments he has made while in recovery)

Dear Illustrious Astrologer,

How is it after all this intense proof for astrology that you have written in the past three years, that you haven't been given a department at Tech yet. I would of at least thought that you would be allowed observing time at the VLA to check out your theories on Radio Astrology and their true effects on humanity.

Perturbed Patriot of Astrology

Dear PPA,

While it would be nice for the people at the AOC to give me an office, and it would be excellent for the the school to give me an entire department for teaching this subject. However, I have found that I would not have the time to answer these letters, or write these articles. I will just have to suffer here, knowing that the world is marching into such archaic subjects like quantum mechanics when they could go for the 00's with the stylish science ASTROLOGY.

Dear Magnificent Prognosticator

I was wondering what you looked like, if you were married, and what I had to do to get a photo of you.

Lonely Lass on Luna

Dear LoL,

As I have said before in past issues, I am in my late twenties with medium length blonde hair, piercing green eyes, and a Warren Beatty jaw. I contribute my muscular 250 pound build to the fact that I work out four hours a day on my Doloflex machine. Sadly enough I am currently single, but have found that this leaves me plenty of time to spend gazing at the stars every night. For a photo you can send a SAE to the Stephen Smoogen Phan Club, buy this years Hunks of the Stars (I am Mr. November), or order a wall sized poster (although my agent has said these are almost all sold out.)

(Editors note: After reviewing these letters given to us by Mr. Smoogen, we have grave doubts as to who wrote them. Once Mr. Smoogen has returned from his sabbatical in Tahiti, we will get to the bottom of this problem.)

Aries (March 21—April 20): A check that fell behind your bed last month comes in handy as your friends decide that it is your turn to buy the keg at 49'ers. Beware of Friday as your math professor decides that this would be a perfect day for a test, even if classes are out. A dance at midnight Saturday may find you a happy new relationship as long as Mercury agrees.

Taurus (April 21—May 20): Taking a trip away from Socorro may be dangerous, as you are held up a rest stop by six men wearing bandana masks and riding black horses. They kidnap you until a posse of gunfighters rescues you from their clutches. They hand you a six pack of silver bullets, and ride away in a cloud of dust and hearty "Hi Tech ho"

Gemini (May 21—June 21): Be careful Saturday night when you decide to mix seven different types of alcohol and start slamming drinks down. Your friends decide you have had too much when after putting on a lampshade you decide a nude rumba across Turtle Bay bridge is in order. Tests may be grim on Monday due to high amount of toxins left in your system.

Cancer (June 22—July 22): Look for numerous hassles this week as every professor decides that you should be having fun instead of intense studying. After locking yourself in your room over the weekend, you finally decide on Sunday evening that there may be something to this fun thing but when you arrive there is no one there. Uranus rules your sign this week.

Leo (July 23—August 22): Your hunting instincts come alive as go on the prowl this weekend. Wearing your hottest clothes, you take off to the Saturday night dance to stalk for easy prey. You find someone suitable and after a short chase bring it down on the dance floor. A low growl keeps the hungry jackals away, as you have a most delectable evening.

Virgo (August 23—September 22): Bad John says this town ain't big enough for the two of ya and tells ya ta leave by high noon. Ya check ya pistol, and head out the saloon to take care of this sidewinder. The street clears, ya walk slowly, hands poised to unleash hot lead. His hand twitches, and ya get the drop on him. A small kid runs after ya calling ya name.

Libra (Sept 23—October 22): Careful examination of your weekend plans reveals that you have forgotten to plan for the celebrations. After a quick shopping trip, you come back with a surf board, tanning oil, and beach clothes. As you race towards the surf of Turtle Bay you realize that your selection of items are one semester off. At least your prepared for Spring.

Scorpio (October 23—November 22): A test on Thursday goes ok, if it weren't the constant gunfire going off in the background. Mars gloats. A date on Friday night goes extremely right, and you get to watch the sunrise before heading home. By calling your self a beer truck on Saturday, you pass out root beer to some very drunk people, and make a large profit.

Sagittarius (November 23—December 21): An exam on Tuesday goes well due to your studying efforts. On Friday look for you winning several contest, and a card game or two. A lonely weekend is averted, when you go to a dance on Saturday. Look for several gunslingers to shoot it out over who can have a dance with you. Don't worry, they're mostly blanks.....

Capricorn (December 22—January 19): The conjunction of Jupiter and Venus brings great power into your life. You win six events at the Cooney mining competition. You get a royal flush four times running at the poker game letting you get enough money to you win the best person at the Saturday night auction. Look to a big headache on Sunday, however.

Aquarius (January 20—February 18): Look for lots of action this weekend, as lots of people drink a lot, dance a lot, and have a lot of fun all over campus. Careful planning can bring about lots of votes at the election if you promise people to hold a bigger party if you win. Neptune has plans for you so don't go too near Turtle Bay or you might end up swimming.

Pisces (February 19—March 20): Look for something silver this weekend, when seventy cases of beer are shipped to your room. After the beer comes a band, some can-can dancers, a horde of bordello people, and a mob of drinkers, all thinking that you live at Macey Center. They all disappear by Saturday afternoon when the beer is gone.

ethics code forbids them from changing their constitution and making the honor society open to all students regardless of grade point average and exemplary character.

Under the current guidelines, the wording in the Constitution is ambiguous enough so that the SA Supreme Court chokes not to recognize honor societies. These societies have the option of getting funding from other sources such as academic departments, but this problem will not be resolved until an adequate funding source can be found.

OOPS

The last issue of *Paydirt* stated that the wood replaced in the gym was from the basketball goal to the 10 foot line of the volleyball court. The wood replaced was actually 14 feet from the goal and did not extend to the volleyball court.

OOPS

The writer of the Charles Steir interview was Nik Chawla. Sorry for the error Nik!

The CSC wishes to thank

Mel, Diane, Jim Schaffner, and the P-Plant staff for their work on the CSC field. Your help and cooperation on the field development have greatly increased the playing options of our teams.

Star Trek: The Next Generation

Next week will be seen on Sunday at 4:30 pm due to 49ers activities. It will be shown on the 16-foot screen in the Student Activities Center.



1991 New Mexico Tech 49ers Schedule



Unless otherwise specified, all events are free.
Times shown in *italics* are approximate.

Thursday, October 17:

- 4:00pm-4:45 **Opening ceremonies** at the Athletic Field. Features a Hanging with fiddlers.
- 4:45-6:00 **Powder Puff game**, on the athletic field after the hanging. A classic competition featuring the Freshwomen versus the Upperclass Girls at flag football, with guy cheerleaders for assistance.
- 5:30-6:30 **Dinner** on the athletic field. Campus Dining meal consisting of chicken fajitas, Texas chili with meat, corn on the cob, refried beans, cornbread, dinner rolls, cherry pie. Available to meal-plan participants and those who purchase 49ers meal cards from the bookstore for \$7.00; no single-meal tickets available.
- 6:30-7:15 **Facades** open at Macey Center. Concessions, 49ers t-shirts and other items will be available.
- 7:00-9:00 **Movie: *Blazing Saddles***, classic western comedy outside Macey Center.
- 7:00-midnight **Tech Club Bar** at Macey Center Copper Room and adjoining patio. \$1.00 per day cover charge includes snacks. 50¢ draft beer; bottled imports, domestics, and mixed drinks will also be available.
- 9:00-1:00am **Dance: *Steele Justice***, outside Macey Center. Reggae.

Friday, October 18:

- 10:00am **Balloon rides** on the athletic field, sponsored by United New Mexico Bank; free. Will end when wind prevents further liftoffs.
- 10:00am-noon **Intramural Golf Tournament** at the Golf Course. Four-person scramble, \$3 entry fee per person, 12 team limit. For more information, contact the Golf Shop at -5335.
- 12:30-1:30pm **Lunch** outside Macey Center. Campus Dining meal consisting of hamburgers, knockworst, hot dogs, chips, brownies. Available to meal-plan participants and those with 49ers meal cards only.
- 1:00-5:00 **Band: *Vibratux*** outside Macey Center. Blues, jazz, and rock.
- 1:00-5:00 **Tech Club Bar** in Macey Center Copper Room and adjoining patio. \$1.00 per day cover charge includes snacks. 50¢ draft beer; bottled imports, domestics, and mixed drinks will also be available.
- 1:30-4:00 **Quick Draw Contest** outside Macey Center. Sponsored by the Combat Simulation Club (CSC). 25¢ per person to use CSC equipment for a single duel. \$2.00 entry fee for elimination contest; first place wins 80% of fees received, second place wins 20%.
- 2:30-4:30 **Hunker Hausen** contest outside Macey Center. "A tug of war on tree stumps." Prizes will be \$25 for first place, \$10 for second place. Judging by Scott Madison.
- 3:30-4:30 **Big Enchilada and Hot Tamale contests** outside Macey Center. Win by producing the most provocative innuendo answers to leading questions.
- 4:00-5:00 **Chile Addiction** talk inside Macey Center, given by Dean of Students and noted Chile expert Dr. Frank Etscorn.
- 4:30-5:00 **Beard Growing Contest** judging by the Bordello girls outside Macey Center. Prizes will include razors and t-shirts and other special items.
- 5:00-6:00 **Dinner** outside Macey Center. Campus Dining meal consisting of Baby back BBQ ribs, beans & franks, grilled potatoes, corn on the cob, corn bread, biscuits, apple pie. Available to meal-plan participants and those with 49ers meal cards only.
- 5:00-6:00 **Happy Hour**, inside Macey Center with chile-tasting and jalapeno-eating contests. Contact Alumni Office for more information.
- 6:00-7:00 **Tropical Roast Pig Dinner** at Macey Center. \$10 tickets available from Alumni Office.
- 7:30-9:00 **Yomo Toro y au Conjunto** inside Macey Center. Caribbean fusion performance. Part of the Tech Performing Arts Series; \$6.50 general admission, \$3.50 under 12 or over 65, free to Tech students with full-time ID.
- 8:00-midnight **Tech Club Bar** in Macey Center Copper Room and adjoining patio. \$1.00 per day cover charge includes snacks. 50¢ draft beer; bottled imports, domestics, and mixed drinks will also be available.
- 9:00-10:00 **Dance: *Carnival Art*** opening act, outside Macey Center. May be delayed due to Yomo Toro concert conclusion inside Macey.
- 10:00-1:00am **Dance: *Mary's Dantsh*** outside Macey Center. National "college" band seen on MTV. The first big-name popular concert at Tech for quite some time.

Saturday, October 19:

- 9:00-10:30 am **Bloody Mary Breakfast** at the Capitol Bar on the Plaza. Special prices on Bloody Marys for those brave enough to make it.
- 10:00 **Balloon Rides** on the athletic field, sponsored by United New Mexico Bank; free. Will end when wind prevents further liftoffs.
- 10:30-noon **Booth Set-Up.** Clubs and other organizations selling food or other merchandise should have their facilities set up at the plaza by noon.
- 11:00-noon **Parade** starts at Sedillo park, will follow California St. and circle Plaza for judging.
- noon-4:00 **Shuttle** available between Driscoll Hall and the Plaza. No questions will be asked about the level of intoxication of the riders. Will stop when there is nobody wanting a ride.
- noon-4:00 **Gold Rush Golf Tournament** on the Golf Course. For more information, contact the Alumni Office.
- 12:30-3:30pm **Band: *Eclipse***, at Plaza. Country music.
- 12:30-4:00 **Cooney Mining Competition** begins, on lot between Plaza and California Street. Will start following parade. Individual and team events: jackleg drilling, timber sawing, hand mucking, hand steeling, gold panning, track laying. Teams from Tech and other schools will be participating. For more information call the Mining Department at -5345. T-shirts will be available.
- 1:00-1:30 **Pie eating Contest** at Plaza. First place is \$15 cash and a 49ers t-shirt; second place is a t-shirt. Interested contestants should apply at contest table by 12:45.
- 2:00-2:30 **Chili Cook-Off** judging at Plaza. Judging by Frank Etscorn and others. Contest sponsored by the Alumni Office. Prizes will be special pottery trophy plates.
- 2:30-3:00 **Most Authentic Dress Contest** judging at Plaza. Western and mining outfits will be judged by popular opinion. Prizes will include authentic western items.
- 5:00-7:30 **Casino** opens at SAC. Students showing ID will be given "money" to play craps, roulette, poker, blackjack and other games, and can buy prizes with their winnings.
- 6:00 **BBQ Dinner and Casino** at Val Verde Steak House. Tickets are \$13.00, available from Alumni Office, 835-5525. Prizes will include framed serigraph by Doug West, custom-made silver belt buckle.
- 7:00-9:00 **Garter Auction** at SAC. Bordello girls and others will be auctioning off garters to be removed by any reasonable method by the highest bidder.
- 9:00-1:00am **Dance: *The Mutz*** at SAC. Rock/Reggae. Will start following Garter Auction. One of their

Information supplied by SA 49ers Coordinator and Public Information Office. Graphic by Tom Jones.