



"I don't think we can absorb anything that has staples in it."

Helpful Hints in Planting Family Trees

Incest.

The word is charged, ripe with culturally explosive power. I remember trying to explain to a friend that I saw nothing wrong with a father and daughter being lovers, as long as both are willing (and able). They were absolutely horrified, but would watch Star Wars and The Empire Strikes Back without ever batting an ethical eye-lash.

Incest isn't just a popular concept in movies. Look at the Dukes of Hazzard. Darn-near everyone in the Duke family did Daisy (I'm sure even Flash and Cooter got in on the action). Why do you think the the doors didn't open on the General Lee. Then again, she wouldn't want to get out....

But there's a definite line between consent and force. Take for example the case still fresh in the news of the couple arrested on charges of drugging their children with cocaine and then repeatedly raping them: how does a couple get started doing this? One night at dinner, over a plate of vegetarian pasta, one says to the other, "So, Hunny, I was thinking...you should have seen what I did with the kids today."

Strange.

If you are an open minded individual and are up for some interesting family trees, you can be your own uncle; that's easy...just marry your mother's sister! But here's a challenge: become your own nephew by blood relations. Give up? Here's the solution (we asked around): You need help from the previous generation. Convince your father[¥] (hey Dad, I need a favor. No, not the car this time) to impregnate his daughter (insert "Dueling Banjoes" here). Of course this may be easier to do with some fathers than others.

So anyway, once your sister delivers you, you are your sister's son, i.e. your nephew. As a special treat, in this scenario, you are also your mother's brother, i.e. your uncle. Congratulations (by the way, your father is also your maternal grandfather, but beyond that we got too muddled trying to get the answers out of our informants, what with their huge speech impediment from their uniteeth).

There are a few advantages to being born into an incestuous family:

- Easier to get a date (Hey sis, wanna watch a movie? I got a new box of Jerky Chews....)
- Saves gas on traveling to family reunions (where ya gonna go?)
- Buying cards is a simpler task (You're more than just a sister to me...thanks Mom.)
- No argument as to who you look like: "You look just like Grandma Fred, and Grandma Giblet."
- Less people to split the inheritance with.
- Saves cost on funerals (on the down side, you lose half your family when one person dies).

Another Helpful Hint™ from GDT.

[¥] Our informants had not considered this a feasible possibility because of the temporal displacement difficulties involved in bargaining with your own father before you are born. Luckily, most of the staff of Hell Inc. and its subsidiaries do not deal with time in the standard human linear concept of it. Linear time (that which happens first causes the effect, which becomes the cause for later events) is simply not a convenient practice when you have to deal with so many different entities, not all of which are living at the time you need to speak with them. So, for the sake of economical business, the staff of Hell Inc. uses a mode of relative, dimensional time. To you (as a human) time most likely seems linear, one dimensional. To us it is three dimensional. It is not the fourth dimension of space, or whatever other nonsense your physicists might tell you, but it is a mode of travel all its own, with three dimensions all its own. Actually there are more than three, but we find that the situational possibilities encompassed by three dimensions of time and three of space are sufficient for our transportational needs. If you are satisfied with your feeble, unwieldy four-dimensional reality, then we won't force you to accept more (until it suits our purposes) but we highly recommend multi-dimensional time; it's much more fun and the dimensional rates are much better. The problem is that you have to use a Heisenbergmobile and every time you look down at the chronometer, you get lost get lost.





Gracies Dinnertime Theatre
(founded 1995)

Co-editors:

Kelly Gunter
Sean T. Hammond

Layout:

Kelly Gunter
Sean T. Hammond

Writers:

Kelly Gunter
Sean T. Hammond
Troy Liston
Mark Nowak

Contributors:

B.J. Leopold
Heather Danielson
Robert MacKay
Dan M. Newland

Staff Illustrator:

Marc Trzepla

The Melancholy Predator
(founded 1996)

Editor:

B.J. Leopold

Layout:

B.J. Leopold

Writers:

B.J. Leopold
Mark Cicero
Victor S. Graydon

Contributors:

Steve Antonson
Heather Danielson
Mack Manning
Jim Nemesh

Staff Illustrator:

Heather Danielson

News from the Kitchen

Ladies and gentlemen, I'd am pleased to welcome you to a new look for GDT and the Melancholy Predator. This is a first in a number of ways; it is our first eight page publication, as well as our first visit to the University of Rochester.

That's right. As far as we know, this publication has become the first intentional inter-collegic reader supported publication run by students. Give yourselves a hand...your hate mail has made all this possible (thanks Reporter).

A Special Note for readers at the Rochester Institute of Technology:

In January of last year, the founding Triumvirate of Gracies Dinnertime Theatre tried to bring a little spice to the Reporter, but were rejected (as a side note, is your "Opinion" section an attempt to achieve a tamer version of GDT?)..

At first, we were bitter, which prompted us to begin printing in earnest. Looking back on all that has happened in a year, I'd like to take this time to thank the Reporter; if you had not rejected us, we would be under your control. None of this would be possible. No web site, no Dr. Cy. Kosis, no Melancholy Predator.

Now we are getting bigger, and need the support of RIT fans more than ever. We're entering unknown, possibly dangerous territory by expanding to the University of Rochester.

In the past, getting feedback from the stereotypically apathetic students at RIT has been like pulling teeth. Well, here's your chance to show readers at other institutions that those at RIT can do more than use a slide rule.

-GDT editors



BEST IS BROUGHT TO YOU
BY JERRY CHIPS, A FAMILY
TRADITION FOR AS LONG AS WE
CAN KEEP TRACK...

A Special Note for readers at the University of Rochester:

In the past, the students at the U of R have had the Norm, though only three times a year. We found this amazingly prudish. To supply your weekly humor, satire, and creative needs, we offer ourselves like the literary whores we are.

In a year of publishing, Gracies Dinnertime Theatre (GDT for short) missed its deadline only once. We appeared the next day and GDT stood for "Got Delayed Today." For as long as we appear on the University of Rochester, we guarantee weekly issues (at least that is the policy of the current staff).

Between you and us, the students of RIT are an apathetic bunch; we rarely receive submissions. With your experience with the Norm, you should be able to dazzle us.

Send us your submissions and show those techy-nerds what real humor and creativity is.

-GDT editors



Martyr of the week

by Troy Liston

Hey there sinners, welcome to the column that put the huh? back in cHURcH. This week is jam packed with morsels of Martyrs so let's dig in! The Martyr of the week for **Feb. 4-10** is **St. Dorothy (Feb 6)**. Dorothy was a beautiful maiden who refused the marriage proposal of the provost

of Cappadocia. She was jailed after converting the two sisters of this official who were sent to convince her to reconsider. During her time spent in jail she survived unscathed being thrown into burning oil and stretched on a gridiron over a fire (whilst being fed in the meantime by angelic hosts). On the way to her beheading a sarcastic bystander asked her to send fruit and flowers from her "heavenly garden." After her death an angel in the form of a child brought apples and roses to the unbelieving heckler (Theophilus). With one bite from the apple he was converted and was subsequently jailed, beheaded, chopped into pieces and fed to the birds.

Other Martyrs of note this week include **St John de Britto (Feb 4)** (beheaded in India by Hindu clergy after converting a local rajah and convincing him to give up his youngest wife)), **St Agatha (Feb 5)** (Sicilian virgin whose breasts were cut off after she refused the advances of a Roman Senator. Miraculously her mammaries were restored by St Peter who rubbed a celestial ointment on them. She then survived, chastely, time spent in a brothel and an attempted burning at the stake, so they chopped off her head.)), **St Peter Baptist (Feb 6)** (tortured, maimed and then crucified by the Japanese in Nagasaki after the Shogun Hideyosi banned the practice of Christianity)) and **St Apollonia (Feb 9)** (was attacked by a pagan mob, which ripped out her teeth with forceps, for harboring Christians. She then leapt of her own volition into a fire rather than deny Christ)).



Remember, refusing the advances of a Roman suitor can be hazardous to your health.

Colloquial Contest

GDT's first, and possibly last contest. For the next few weeks we will be printing up several common colloquialisms which have been reconstructed in a more verbose manner. The winner of the contest will be the person capable of deciphering more of these colloquialisms than anyone else. The prize will be fifty dollars (cash, none of this "the card" crap), and if the winner chooses, they may also become privy to the secrets of "Cafe Diablo" the most diabolical coffee in the world and the official drink of Hell Inc. The winner's name will be posted in the first issue of volume 4. All answers must be sent to GDT by Reading Day (February 21st 1996) at the end of the quarter. GDT bids you good luck.

This Week's Colloquialisms:

19. Exclusive dedication to necessitous chores without interlude of hedonistic diversion renders John a hebetudinous fellow.
20. A revolving lithic conglomerate accumulates no congeries of small, green bryophitic plants.
21. The person presenting the ultimate cachinnation possesses thereby the optimal cachinnation.

Send answers to STH8884@ritvax.rit.edu, or send replies to: GDT, 438 Clay Rd. Apt. C, Rochester NY 14623

If you should happen to miss any of the issues from volume 3, you may find them on our web site, or alternatively you can purchase hard copies through our fan club.

GDT Colloquial Contest Rules and Regulations:

This contest is restricted to only those people registered as students at the RIT campus. Others may send answers, but may not be counted among the winners circle.

Additional...

...all GDT staff members are prohibited from entering this contest, as well as any of their family members, lovers, pets, or body parts. Any GDT staff member caught leaking information to the public at large will be given their choice of five delightful hideous executions, in addition to having to make a batch of Cafe Diablo for the staff.

From the Corner

Water and It's Effects

Kelly Gunter

Water is essential not only for the beginnings of life (ie. the primordial sea from whence we came), but also for the continuation of life. Without the unique trait of water becoming most dense, not at it's freezing point, but a couple degrees above, the life on this planet would have been severely limited. All forms of life on this planet are not only carbon based, but water based as well ("Ugly bags of mostly water...").

Okay the spiel is over, you all know it is important, now I'm going to tell you just what is in that life giving water that is now slowly turning towards life taking water. According to a study done by the EPA, 77 billion pounds of hazardous waste are generated each year in the US alone, ninety percent of this material will be and has been improperly disposed of. That material that has not been directly dumped into water will eventually leach into it. This amount of material is equivalent to 19,192 pounds of hazardous waste per square mile of the entire US, over land and water, including every state of the union. There are at least 181,000 man made lagoons in industrial and municipal locations around the country, many of which are placed within a mile of other water supplies or wells, seventy five percent of which remain unlined. Around forty trillion pounds of waste, industrial and postconsumer, make their way into the sea each year. And every year, over one hundred billion gallons of liquid hazardous waste become absorbed by the already diminishing ground water supplies.

As for the water we expose ourselves to every day, the water that has first been run through treatment plants for our own protection, the hazard seems to be about the same. According to research conducted at Ralph Nader's Center for Study of Responsive Law, drinking water in the US contains more than 2100 toxic chemicals. Some of these contaminants are known to cause cancer or inflict other types of damage to internal organs such as the kidneys, liver, brain, and the cardiovascular system. Further studies produced by the EPA in 1988 came to the conclusion that many of the ingredients added to the water, such as chlorine and fluoride, to help reduce the growth of harmful bacteria are actually causes of certain types of cancers as well. When chlorine is mixed with any type of decaying vegetation or algae, toxic organic materials can be formed which have been linked to cancer, high blood pressure, and anemia. This mixture can produce chloroform and bromodichloromethane.

People become exposed to pollutants, not primarily via digestion of said water, but mainly as it becomes absorbed through the skin. One source cited that a fifty pound child can absorb up to ten times the amount of contamination by swimming in a pool for one hour that that same child would incur from drinking a quart of liquid. Another common method of contamination come from vapors emanate from streams of running water. Some common symptoms of water contamination can include headache, rash, or fatigue. However more serious contamination can become evident usually years after the fact by higher cancer rates, birth defects, growth abnormalities, infertility, and nerve and organ damage.

Because of water and other similar contaminations we receive on a daily basis, the human body is steadily rising in toxicity. Several studies I have become privy to during senior seminar have show a disturbing trend. Much of the breast milk being fed to infants today has a higher toxicity than milk drawn from cows imbibed with bovine growth hormone. The male sperm count is now half of what it was in the early nineteen hundreds and there is a greater propensity for those sperm that do exist to be malformed. Probably most disturbing is the fact that upon the time of death the human body has become so saturated with toxins it can be considered hazardous waste material.

If you wish to curb the tide of contaminates you are taking into your system, you are provided with some alternatives, although none of these can remove all hazards. There are many different types of water purification equipment that can be sold. It might be a good idea to do a little research before buying a water purification system to be sure you are getting what you desire. If you can not manage much and would still prefer to drink cleaner water, don't buy pure spring water from a plastic bottle; the plastic will contaminate the water with plastic vapor, as can be expected from all plastic containers, and which can be quite harmful.

My sources for this information came from: *Nontoxic, Natural, and Earthwise* by Debra Lynn Dadd and *Alternative Energy Sourcebook* edited and published by John Schaeffer (this is mostly a compilation of advertisements for earthwise products)

I suggest you look around, there are many good source books to peruse through for the information you need.

Ever been in a bar drinking souls with Lord Vadar?

No?

That's OK.

GDT wants you, baby.



We're looking for new staff, contributors, columnists, whatever.

Send submissions and responses to GDT care of
STH8884@RITVAX.ISC.RIT.EDU

or 438 Clay Rd. Apt. C., Rochester NY 14623
Gracies Dinnertime Theatre reserves the right to

reprint any correspondence received

Check out GDT's web site at:

<http://www.rit.edu/~sth8884/gdt.html>

Dr. Cy Kosis™

"Insightful answers to life's petty problems."

Dear Cy,

My wife and I have been married for about two years. i am allergic to cat hair and she has a cat who sheds a great deal. i have talked until I'm blue in the face, trying to convince her of the physical discomfort I feel as a result of the exposure to the cat.

I know she loves me, but she loves the cat too, and while I realize that one of us has to go, I feel like a jerk making her choose between us. i just don't know what to do at this point. Help!

Signed,
Catastrophe

Dear Catastrophe,

Obviously, you're frustrated with this situation. You can't live with the cat, and at the same time you're worried that if the cat goes, your wife will resent you for having caused her loss. Even though it's your allergies creating the choice between you or the cat, you're correct in assuming the loss of the cat could potentially cause subconscious resentful feelings within your spouse. In today's worlds, chances of your marriage succeeding with a cat lover are slim enough without this added challenge. Open lines of communication are the best way of avoiding a potential catastrophe in your relationship.

While communication is important, it would be easier to communicate if she could first understand the actual physical discomfort that you feel. To accomplish this, quite frankly, nothing works like cat hair. Start today, without your cat knowing, to put one cat hair in her food. Tomorrow, put two, the next day four, and eight, etc., until she complains, then cut the number back by half but keep putting them in without her knowledge. You may even put a few in your own food just so she doesn't suspect you as the culprit. Go to the pet store and buy a frozen mouse (yes, they do sell them), defrost it and leave half lying around somewhere conspicuous. Go to the cat box and extract several moist chunks of "kitty surprise" and place them in the middle of your wife's favorite bed spread. And finally, pick out your wife's favorite piece of furniture and take a wire brush to the corner of it. Suddenly, your wife will begin to look at the cat differently while you, instead of the cat, are snuggled up next to her on the couch.

Need advice? Ask Dr. Cy Kosis.

E-mail: drcy@netzone.com

Written address:

**Dr. Cy Kosis
632 N. Redrock
Gilbert, Az 85234**

©Copyright 1995-1996 by Dr. Cy Kosis™

ask BFG

Dear BFG,

Ahhh, what exactly was meant by the quote on the front of last week's GDT ("Officer, you show me the yellow line, and I'll show you my dick.")? Is there anything you'd like to tell us?

-A Concerned Member of the Staff

Dear Concerned Staff Member,

In biology being female is commonly referred to as the "default" setting on humans. If in doubt, it will probably turn out to be female, this will also sometimes occur even when an individual possesses XY chromosomes. In fact, many of the female athletes who preform in the Olympics actually have XY chromosomes. They are merely men who probably did not receive a dose of hormones at the right time and thus did not develop the usual male organs.

You may be asking yourself at this point, what does this have to do with the superfluous organ I flaunted in last week's quote?

The answer is, not a whole hell of a lot. From what research I've done, it seems to be just a parallel temporal anomaly stemming from the fact that I was a tomboy at age 11. My doctor assures me that the disfigurement will disappear within a few weeks and that if I just pluck the chest hair for a while it too will eventually clear up.

Thanks for your concern,

-Bare Foot Girl

Do you have a question for the Bare Foot Girl? Send them to kkg8006@ritvax.rit.edu



In the beginning...
...when Gracies Dinnertime Theatre was nothing more than a catchy name for a hypothetical radio show, Robert MacKay shared an idea that has since grown very dear to me: the God file. Those of you who actually read the issues we printed for "Religious

Marathon Week" last year may remember the concept. Well, as an introduction to various theological musings, here's a shortened, revised version. Enjoy.

In recent years there have been a deluge of self-help books dedicated to the concept of positive thinking. "Think yourself rich", "Think yourself to a better career." You get the idea.

The problem with all these books is the authors have simply cashed in on a very old concept. What the books call "positive thinking", religions call "prayer" and children call "wishing." They're all examples of the same phenomena.

The human mind, you see, is set up sort of like the desktop of a Macintosh computer (or maybe an IBM compatible running Windows '95... minus all the backward compatibility problems), with all the cutesy little icons representing rather complicated programs. That's how we think. We think in terms of abstract images which go together to make bigger, even more abstract ideas. One of the many programs that each human desktop comes installed with (including Instinct 7.5, which includes the same features as Instinct 1 through 7: Eat, Sleep, Run-When-Scared-Or-Punch-It, and Mating...though Instinct 7.5 lets the user multitask) is The God File.

The God File is more like a program than a file, and it has many names; God, Jehovah, Brahmin, Allah, Santa Claus, whatever you may address your wishful

thinking to. The God File is tied in with all of your subconscious inits that you have running all the time. Freud called them the super-ego. I don't think that there is a human alive that can justify everything they do all the time, and that's because of all the stuff we have running in the background. Little things we picked up as children which we aren't even aware of.

Anyway, The God File alters your everyday actions in subtle ways, according to whatever was sent to The God File. Let's say, for instance, you really wanted to do well on a test. That desire would be sent to The God File, which would alter your subconscious behavior and make you want to study more. "God helps those who help themselves."

Unfortunately, The God File can not distinguish between "good" and "bad" wishes. This is the "power of negative thinking." Every time you think badly about yourself, that concept is sent to The God File, which then does its job. Your behavior is altered so you really do act like a loser; it's a self fulfilling prophesy.

On top of all this, everyone's God File is linked together. Not only is your behavior being altered in minor ways to help you achieve the goal you have sent to your own God File, other people's behavior is also altered to help you achieve your goal.

What this all boils down to is what the self-help books have been saying: it's all in your hands. If you want a life of depression and misery, go ahead and think about one. Think of the worst one you can...because it will come true; you'll make it come true. If, however, you want a life full of joy and childhood whimsy, think humorous thoughts, learn not to take things so seriously.

No one intentionally buys a faulty product, so why choose to live a shitty life?

Do you have a theological topic you'd like to discuss or simply have some thoughts on God? Send them to The God File c/o: sth8884@ritvax.rit.edu



letters

28-JAN-1996

I would rather cut sports, because kitten-juggling is a sport, and I don't really approve of that.

I would rather give my mother a dildo, because while hickeys fade with time, a dildo is forever.

That's it.

(dave)

GDT Survey-week 3

I wasn't kidding last week when I said this survey is going to stay here (damnit!) until we receive at least 20 responses. To date, we have received one. One response. These are important issues, people. Inquiring minds want to know...

"Would you rather cut sports programs or art programs in Public Schools?"

"Would you rather give your mother a dildo or a hickey?"

Send replies to GDT care of tbl2788@ritvax.rit.edu

Send submissions and responses to GDT care of STH8884@RITVAX.ISC.RIT.EDU or 438 Clay Rd. Apt. C., Rochester NY 14623

Gracies Dinnertime Theatre reserves the right to reprint any correspondence received
Check out GDT's web site at: <http://www.rit.edu/~sth8884/gdt.html>