Striving student teachers a large part of GSU curriculum

by Mark Fitzpatrick

Student teachers are assuming an increasingly big part of the teaching load at Governors State University. Future teachers are learning the basic elements of what the profession is all about.

As today's society shows us, many young kids are in need of a certain direction in their lives. They need that certain person to help them realize what opportunities are out there and how to have the willpower to go after them. At GSU, students in Education are being taught how to prepare themselves for teaching by becoming student teachers themselves. By experiencing this, they learn the planning, organizing, and how to instruct pupils within a regular classroom throughout a 12-week period.

"The most important thing I try to teach my students is to respect other students' capacity to learn and to respect your duty as a teacher," said Dr. Rashidah Muhammad, University Professor of English and Secondary Education. Muhammad's students usually go on to teach grades six to 12.

"Students who want to teach must have a complete ability to convey love of literature and have an appreciation for the artist," said Muhammad.

Several requirements must be met before student teaching is available for students:

1. Completed at least 42 hours of general education requirements with a Grade Point Average of 2.75 or higher in courses taken at Governors State University.

2. Completed professional education course requirements, except EDUC499, including 100 hours of field experience with a GPA of 3.0 or higher, completing all courses with a grade of 'C' or better.

3. Have no more than six hours remaining to be completed in the major in which he or she is enrolled.

4. Met all state qualifications applicable to areas of student teaching assignments as outlined in the Illinois Program for Recognition of Schools, Part I, Subpart G: Staff Qualifications.

Dr. Muhammad, who spent eight years at Michigan State University before coming to GSU, stresses to her students the importance of English, grammar, and literature. "You must know your context area, you must have knowledge of American and Western literature and have a cultural appreciation," she said.

Governors State University has also been approved by the Illinois State Board of Education (ISBE) to allow study programs for the preparation of receiving a Teacher Certification. Special requirements to receive a teaching certificate are the following:

1. Have earned the required degree from an institution recognized by the ISBE for teacher education.

2. Have acquired requisite experience for the Administrative Certificate.

3. Have completed a Governors State University state approved program leading to the desired certificate.

4. Have passed the university examinations in writing and basic mathematics for Early Childhood, Elementary, or High School Certificate.

5. Be at least 19 years old.


Once becoming a teacher you must accept certain roles within the school that you are working for. Depending on who and how old your students are, roles such as mediator of learning, disciplinarian or controller of student behavior, parent substitute, confidant to students, judge of students, controller of student behavior, and an organizer of curriculum are all principles of becoming a teacher."

Pacifica caught in struggle

by Cindy Kansoer-Schneider

A lawsuit shadows Pacifica Radio Network's celebration of 50 years on the air, as the Pacifica Foundation is accused of violating the principles on which it was created.

Lewis Hill originated Pacifica Foundation in 1949 when KPFA-FM first aired on April 15th in Berkeley, California. It is the non-profit parent company of Pacifica Radio Network, comprised of KPFA, Berkeley, KPFK, Los Angeles, KPPT, Houston, WBAI, New York, and WPFW, Washington DC. Pacifica Radio Network is the world's first listener-sponsored radio.

Pacifica was founded by a group of conscientious objection objects that sought a way in which to speak out against the military force of World War II. Their mission has four objectives: to promote cultural diversity and pluralistic community expression, to contribute to a lasting understanding between individuals of all nations, races, creeds, and colors; to promote freedom of the press and serve as a forum for various viewpoints; to maintain an independent funding base.

Due to their broadcast of open perspectives, Pacifica has received awards and grants as well as being investigated by the United States government and, on occasion, labeled 'subversive.' A few of their history's 80 plus highlights are:

1950: Opponents to the Korean War are among the minority viewpoints given free dom of speech.

1951: Pacifica received continued on page 2
Neighborhood bully?

by Cindy Kansoer-Schneider

The popular view of the United States—at least with its populace—is that it is a super-power. If that means having the ability to out-produce most, if not all, other nations and the resources to amilibate people in the name of humanity, then the U.S. is a super-power. However, I wonder if the persona of this nation isn’t more of a bully with an inflated ego.

I find it incredible that billions of dollars have been spent to destroy a country that is not producing significant amounts of funds invested in rebuilding what has been destroyed. It was only recently that war-torn Bosnia-Herzegovina has been invested in and at present, many homes still need roofs and/or walls. Sarajevo’s Zeta, the site of the 1984 Olympic Games, is seeing much activity as it is being restored, but the incentive behind the restoration is not one of humanity. Zeta is the site for the International Summit, and the diplomats must have a place to meet and talk. Hopefully, these diplomats will discuss the fact that approximately 30,000 NATO troops remain in the region to enforce the Dayton Peace Agreement, an estimated 50 percent of the population is without jobs, as much as half of the pre-war population of 4.6 million people remain refugees, and the devastating effects that the recent war against Kosovo had on the economy that was already in shambles.

Meanwhile, peace-keeping forces in Kosovo are kept busy and frustrated as the boundaries are now turned and civilian Serbs are fleeing the region as their neighbors are murdered while trying to scrub out a living for their families.

I find it unbelievable that Clinton and his cohorts did not take the time to realize that they were dealing with an ethnic battle that spans centuries and prepare properly for the consequences of interfering in someone’s domestic strife.

Thus, the few peacekeepers are faced daily with the task of people seeking revenge on their one-time neighbors. This has become an excellent excuse for not investing funds in the rebuilding of the area, along with the claim that the costs of reconstruction were not met by Milosevich to bring about the U.S. and the world will not invest one penny in the area.

As the U.S. spends megabucks on deploying forensic specialists to the region to examine massacre sites, the same region has gone untreated for the contaminants that have been spilled into the water supply and absorbed into the air and soil. The electric grids have not been restored to full capacity, many of the buildings are uninhabitable, and the roads and bridges used for the transport of goods remain impassable. The debris from the bridges is blocking the river’s traffic. The promised humanitarian efforts to make the area livable are slow in coming to say the least. Though the Albanians now have the right to decide if they wish to live in the region, it would be nice if the decision could be made regarding an area that was habitable. The entire area economy continues to suffer due to the impassable river and the U.S. fuel embargoes that threaten sanctions. Zoran Biljica, the official designated to prepare Bosnia-Herzegovina’s bid to join the World Trade Organization, is skeptical of the U.S. interests and involvement in aiding Eastern European countries. He compared Clinton’s international aid dole to the Plan following World War II, pointing out that the $13 billion dollars dispensed by the U.S. in the 1940s and 1950s was clearly designed to further U.S. foreign policy interests.

Though the U.S. has been assisting Russia since the Soviet Union’s collapse, the slow coming aid seems to be more of a political shackle than it is a courier of improvements in the lives of the Russian people.

With this type of track record, the U.S. is beginning to have as much credibility as the neighborhood bully does. The U.S. seems to care more about the fate of oil or gas than once by nations choosing to ignore the Iran-Libya Sanctions Act. The Act clearly stipulates that the U.S. will impose severe penalties against any foreign company who invests more than $100 million in the oil or gas sectors of Iran or Libya. Most recently, the Italian oil conglomerate, ENI, struck a $5.5 billion deal with the state oil group of Libya, National Petroleum Corporation, to develop offshore oil and gas reserves.

In March of this year, a Franco-Italian consortium signed a 10-year contract with Iran that will invest nearly $1 billion dollars in Iran’s oil industry. Though this view was as blatant a smear of the U.S., any sanctions against the consortium were considered to be in direct violation of multilateral trade rules, thus, no moves were made against France or Italy.

Last year, President Clinton agreed that sanctions would not be levied against the French oil company, Total, who defied the U.S. Act in 1997 when it invested $2 billion gas exploration contract with Iran.

Though many European nations have lifted economic sanctions, at least in part, from Iraq, the U.S. only recently is allowing exports to Iraq and contracts with Iran that will invest nearly $1 billion dollars in Iran’s oil industry.

I have to agree with this perception. It would appear that it is time for the U.S. to step back and participate in globalization in a different manner. The billions of dollars spent on war would be better spent on assisting countries out of their economic woes and, perhaps, thereby averting the aggression in aid to Belgrade, trade with Iran, and human rights.

Stepanish warned of the dangers of one nation presuming to serve as the world’s policeman and cautioned against any nation assuming itself the guarantor of freedom and/or human rights. He stated, “It’s very dangerous for the United States, which has deep domestic problems of its own with which to deal, to assume such a role.”

I have to agree with this perspective. It would appear that it is time for the U.S. to step back and participate in globalization in a different manner. The billions of dollars spent on war would be better spent on assisting countries out of their economic woes and, perhaps, thereby averting the aggression in aid to Belgrade, trade with Iran, and human rights.

When asked the question, why do you think students choose teaching? Muhammad hoped that it is for the moral value; to be able to help kids and listen to them when they have a problem. Many kids are growing up in a single parent family and they might need someone to talk to. Since the money is relatively low at the start, people are turning to teaching to help younger children out.

Student teachers are a vital part of the future, and as we move on to the 21st century because more kids are going to need some kind of positive person to point them in the right direction.
The G I o ba I Village Bard

The Global Village Bard

by

Geoffroy de Laforce

Monday, August 9, 1999 3

For all practical purposes, the civil war continues to rage in this beleaguered corner of the Balkans, even while the European Commission and the World Bank convene "the peace conference" in Brussels to attract foreign investment for reconstruction. And because the United States is opposed to allowing the reconstruction of Serbia proper, the victimization of Serbs is bound to continue on all fronts, fueling nationalist resentment, possibly nourishing future criminal "acts of revenge."

How, in this context, can the masterminders of the whole operation in Washington possibly claim to have "won" in Kosovo? Why isn't debate raging throughout the United States on the outcome of the war and the future of the Balkans in general? Have we not, as a société interested in ensuring that our wars produce outcomes with which we can live?

As Europeans mull over the stalemate in Yugoslavia, and the haunting prospect of an "ethnically homogenous", durable Western protectorate in Kosovo, Uncle Sam's leadership and judgment have come under close critical scrutiny. And, to make matters worse, public opinion is unanimous in its fury over the recent imposition of American commercial sanctions. The United States' recent decision to send United Nations troops against the European Union in reprisal for its ten-year old ban on importing hormone-enhanced beef products. In what, to ordinary Europeans, seems like a flagrant abuse of unchecked economic and financial power, American lobbyists obtained a World Trade Organization authorization to impose a 100% tax on European imports such as Roquefort cheese, truffles, shallots, chocolate, truffle, tongue, ham, Italian tomatoes and countless other "luxury" products exported to the United States. Why Roquefort cheese? Because producers of goat milk and its derivatives in France believe the use of American-made, genetically altered organisms in producing feed for their animals, as a means of public health and a means of guaranteeing the traditional mark of quality.

This may seem like a trivial tale of tit-for-tat, commercial arm wrestling among culturally estranged lobbyists who don't realize how silly they are. From the European vantage point, however, what is at stake is the right of the European Union to democratically determine its own public health standards, and to encourage competitive food production by allowing small-scale farmers and agriculturalists in rural bastions to preserve their hard-earned "luxury". The "productivist" ideology of large-scale industry in the United States, which stimulates so much research on genetic and hormonal alteration of foodstuffs, does not have to be shared by the entire world - or does it? Whose interests is the World Trade Organization protecting? If you add to this widespread perception of American arrogance and profit-mongering, the widely-held belief among Europeans that culinary traditions are a core of national identity and a factor of immense cultural pride, it becomes easy to understand why a bitter, defensive language of anti-Americanism is suddenly becoming fashionable again, across political divides and throughout the continent. Beyond the question of cultural survival and respect for tradition in Europe, however, shouldn't we, here in the United States, be lending a citizen's ear to international controversies surrounding our food processing technologies, and the comparative viability of different standards of public health? Are we in agreement with total deregulation and full corporate control over the production and worldwide marketing of altered foodstuffs?

Bab, why should we care about what those people are saying? We won the war in Kosovo and we should be able to sell our hormone-enhanced beef anywhere we please. Should there really be a debate about any of this? Judging by what our media tells us, perhaps, indeed, not. Well, I disagree. I'm French, and I applaud Lance Armstrong.

When, after battling back from cancer and winning this year's edition of the Tour de France, Lance Armstrong rode his bicycle down the Champs Elysees in Paris, most Europeans at high-noon hailed his great medical and athletic feat as an astonishing triumph of the human will. Yet the victory of an American outsider, in what is perhaps the most quintessentially French popular sporting event, stirred up a considerable amount of odd debate in the host country. Nothing in the mainstream United States media provided me with any clues as to why some distinctly staunchly anti-language found its way into parts of the French media coverage of Armstrong's achievement. If there were ever a truly displaced manifestation of party pooping nationalist rhetoric, I thought, this might very well be it.

Before long I found myself reflecting upon an entirely different issue. Why, I asked myself, in Paris, most Europeans at high-noon hailed his great medical and athletic feat as an astonishing triumph of the human will. Yet the victory of an American outsider, in what is perhaps the most quintessentially French popular sporting event, stirred up a considerable amount of odd debate in the host country. Nothing in the mainstream United States media provided me with any clues as to why some distinctly staunchly anti-language found its way into parts of the French media coverage of Armstrong's achievement. If there were ever a truly displaced manifestation of party pooping nationalist rhetoric, I thought, this might very well be it.

Bernard Kouchner, the French former leader of Armstrong's achievement If therewereever a truly disadvantaged issue is. Why, I asked myself, in Paris, most Europeans at high-noon hailed his great medical and athletic feat as an astonishing triumph of the human will. Yet the victory of an American outsider, in what is perhaps the most quintessentially French popular sporting event, stirred up a considerable amount of odd debate in the host country. Nothing in the mainstream United States media provided me with any clues as to why some distinctly staunchly anti-language found its way into parts of the French media coverage of Armstrong's achievement. If there were ever a truly displaced manifestation of party pooping nationalist rhetoric, I thought, this might very well be it.

Beyond Armstrong's unexpected victory in the world's oldest traditional bicycling competition came the muddle of a widespread crisis in the sport, triggered by massive evidence of substance abuse among riders in last year's edition of the race. The Tour de France had become so discredited in the public eye that Marie-France Buffet, the French communist sports minister, ordered unprecedented controls of athletes and triggered a civil libertarian controversy regarding the extent of a government's right to interfere with private sporting events. Participants in the race were often deemed guilty until proven innocent of illicit drug consumption, and this cloud hung over Armstrong's performance as well. In all the chaos, his underdog status added to the suspicion: how could a recovering cancer patient run away with the prize in such a physically trying event? Armstrong came to symbolize a kind of arrogant triumphalism, an unwarranted satisfaction with himself in victory: standing in the middle of a devastated battlefield, he seemed perfectly content to focus on the simple, happy fact that he had clearly and unequivocally won.

Personally, I find no reason to deprive him of that joy; and to seize on the pretext of his nationality to draw inferences of foul play is, quite simply, ludicrous. In the devastated battlefield of Kosovo, however, the country whose colors he carried was finding it even more difficult to prove to the world that it had truly been a victor. Testifying before the Senate Armed Forces Committee on July 20, Defense Secretary William Cohen blasted the United Nations for failing to establish order in the occupied Serbian province. This, in Europe, was perceived as a thinly veiled attack on the credibility of recently appointed U.N. chief administrator for Kosovo, Bernard Kouchner, the French former leader of "Doctors Without Borders" and an enthusiastic proponent of "humanitarian interventions". Indeed, from the outset, Kouchner and his civilian staff complained of the heavy-handed military tactics of NATO military troops and their Kosovo Liberation Army allies in establishing order. There could be no triumphalism, Kouchner argued against the Clinton/Blair grain: all sides had suffered in the conflict, and repairing the fundamental social fabric would take much longer than rebuilding material infrastructure destroyed by weeks of NATO bombing.

The Mission of the United Nations in Kosovo (MINUK) was mandated by the peace agreement to lay the institutional foundations for multi-ethnic power-sharing and everyday peace between Slavic and Albanian residents of the (still) Serbian province. By Kouchner's own admission, the "allies" have not proven capable of enforcing disarmament and curtailling the civil war, and the U.N. is constantly undermined in its "democratic" institution-building efforts by an aggressively nationalism KLA. Hashim Thaci, head of the provisional KLA government, and Agim Ceku, who leads the armed KLA soldiers currently being trained by NATO for deployment as a police force, are both influential opponents of MINUK's efforts to guarantee the presence of Serbs alongside Albanians in public service. Of the 200,000 Serbs who lived in Kosovo prior to the NATO attacks, only 40,000 remain - 15,000 of them in an ethnically homogenous enclave in the north. Kouchner recently characterized their everyday lives as "unimaginable and unacceptable." Serbs and Greeks have been confined to their homes, harassed, murdered, their property damaged, threats made against them by neighbors, cars sabotaged, trains derailed, food supplies denied, and children kept out of school. The execution of fourteen Serb farmers in Gracko, which triggered a formal condemnation by the U.N. Security Council, was only the most visible of a series of tragic "acts of revenge" which the NATO occupation forces are ill-equipped to prevent.

It is strange to hear the American Defense Secretary blame the civilian U.N. mission for this debacle. The unilateral NATO decision to bomb Yugoslavia was taken without consulting the United Nations or the Security Council, and Minuk was brought in as part of a compromise with the Milosevic regime to create the political and social conditions for an end to the civil war. A ground invasion was thus avoided, and Kosovar refugees were allowed to return home. Because the Serbs were not militarily defeated, however, the province remains technically part of Yugoslavia, and the failure to protect Serb citizens in Kosovo can be construed by NATO adversaries as a blatant violation of the peace agreement. Hence the pro-independence KLA is free to take virtual control of a territory that the West is theoretically bound by law to preserve for Yugoslavia. The U.N. mission, meanwhile, has set out to enforce a "multietnic" peace that neither side is yet willing to respect. What have we, as a society, done thus far to create long-term conditions for peace, prosperity and reconciliation? Essentially, we have bombed.
Pacifica continued from front page

was imposed.

1997: Pacifica went so far as to tar-

1996: Citing broadcasts of

1995: Pacifica/Radio News
government.

1994: The Seattle Bureau

1993: Gold targets KPFA

1992: KPFK was the only public

1991: The controversy over the

1990: The staff of Pacifica

1989: Pacifica was accused of

1988: Pacifica admitted it had

1987: Pacifica's Board of

1986: The Federal Communications

1985: Pacifica broadcast its first

1984: The Federal Communications

1983: The lab sniffs you

1982: The lab looks at the man and

1981: The lab turns over to the

1980: The lab turns to the

1979: The lab turns to the

1978: The Pacifica Radio News

1977: The lab turns on the

1976: The lab turns on the

1975: Pacifica/KPFK won its

1974: Pacifica/KPFK was

1973: Dated Pacifica's radio

1972: In the summer of

1971: Pacifica's President

1970: KPFT in Houston goes to

1969: Pacifica announced a

1968: Pacifica was never

1967: After months of

1966: KPFT in Houston goes to

1965: Pacifica announced a

1964: The Soviet Union

1963: The lab turns on the

1962: KPFT broadcasts

1961: The lab turns on the

1960: Citing broadcasts of

1959: Pacifica/KPFK was

1958: Pacifica/KPFK won its

1957: Pacifica/KPFK won its

1956: Pacifica/KPFK won its

Business and Technology

by Cindy Kanso-Schneider

The United States ranks third in the world's Best Places To Live survey, conducted by the United Nations Human Development Report. Canada, for the sixth consecutive year, ranks first places and Norway rank second.

The report also states that the world's top 5 countries according to how people live, factors in health care, life expectancy, education, and income are

1. United States
2. Canada
3. Norway
4. Australia
5. Sweden

The most widespread discrepancy was in the average income in all countries Canada slid to fourth place on this list, and the United States in eighth place on the gender empowerment index. The 20 highest countries were Norway, Sweden, Denmark, Canada, Germany, Finland, Iceland, the United States, Australia, the Netherlands, New Zealand, Austria, the Bahamas, Switzerland, Luxembourg, Britain, Belgium, Portugal, South Africa, and Ireland.

Laughter to tears

A man runs into the vet's

Laughter

The cat sniffs the body, walks from head to tail, poking and sniffing the dog's body and finally looks at the vet and meows. The vet looks at the man and says, "I'm sorry, but the lab thinks your dog is dead too." The man is still unwilling to accept that his dog is dead. So the vet brings in a yellow lab, the lab sniffs the body, walks from head to tail, and finally looks at the vet and barks. The vet looks at the man and says, "I'm sorry, but the lab thinks your dog is dead too." The man finally resigned to the diagnosis, thanks the vet and asks how much he owes. The vet answers, "$560. "$650 to tell me your dog is dead?" exclaims the man. "Well," the vet replies, "I only would have charged you $50 for my initial diagnosis. The additional $600 was for the cat scan and lab tests."
Success in threes for The Center
Fifth anniversary: A mix of diversity, dance, and tradition
by Jane Passaglia

When the original "Smart Center" for Performing Arts opened in 1995 under the direction of Richard Kordos, the Daily Southtown affirmed that GSU was now "ready to expand its reputation as a pioneer telecommunication facility." A year later, Jeffrey Ortman, interim director of the re-named Center for Arts and Technology, pledged to "bring to the Southland area... exciting performing arts groups from all over the world and present a diversity of local professional groups." The third season saw yet a third name revision, a third director, and a third goal.

Now, as the (finally) Center for Performing Arts prepares to celebrate its fifth anniversary season, CPA board president Karen Reid might agree that success seems to come in threes for the impressive state-of-the-art theater. Although she firmly believes that all three directors have made unique and valuable contributions to the theater's evolution, she places special "blame on [current executive director] Burt Dikelsky for continuing to take us in the right direction.

Dikelsky may be hoping that there is indeed the magic number as he puts the finishing touches on the fifth season, which coincides with a year later, Jeffrey Ortman, interim director of the re-named Center for Arts and Technology, pledged to "bring to the Southland area... exciting performing arts groups from all over the world and present a diversity of local professional groups." The third season saw yet a third name revision, a third director, and a third goal.

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Living literature

Robin Hood but no ‘merry men’

by Cindy Kansoer-Schneider

Strange as it may sometimes seem, literature comes alive in contemporary daily life as it had in Seoul, Korea. Apparently, ‘Robin Hood’ had been on the loose for two and a half years, before police finally caught up to him. Shin Chang-won, 30, was taken to the police station for questioning, along with a bag of cash and a jewelry case believed to be stolen. Shin gave thousands of dollars to poor and handicapped students, which made him a hero to the Korean working class, who called him ‘Robin Hood’ and ‘friend of the poor.’

After slipping through police dragnets seven times, dozens of police officers were dismissed for failing to trap him, and authorities were driven to offer a reward of 50 million won ($42,000) for his capture. Shin was captured after a trip-off to the police led them to the apartment where Shin lived. It was announced that he would be taken to the detention center in the southern city of Pusan. However, that is the facility that Shin had been incarcerated for life and, ultimately, escaped. It can be conjectured that ‘Robin’ may surface again in the future.
This 'n That

Crossword 101

"College Teams" By Gerry Frey

11 ACRROSS
1. The Hawkeyes
2. Forms 1040 tax
3. Venetian blind part
4. Ball in Gold
5. Single
6. Tonight's host
7. Pages of note
8. Bows
9. Colonel's insignia
10. Singer Vaughan
11. Corset
12. Women's associations
13. Lawn tennis
14. Prank
15. Cubic motor (French)
16. Hats
17. Disagreeable sound
18. Monetary unit
19. Liquid body substance
20. Church part
21. Bilz...Cornell team
22. Crimson Tide
23. Actress Ryan
24. Computer memory
25. Dolphin
26. Encouraged
27. Author Runyon
28. Double curve
29. Approaches
30. Package type
31. Eagle next
32. Apportion
33. Again
34. Mrs. Kennedy
35. Mardi Gras, e.g.
36. Shoe part
37. Small island
38. Sulfuric acid solution
39. Boston theater
40. Bikini for one
41. Computer Init.
42. Legumes
43. Moreno & Hayworth
44. DOCTOR's group
45. Tronze players
46. Chemical suffices
47. Medical measurement
48. Word with 'er or comic
49. The Hurricanes
50. Chief Justice Warren
51. Towel word
52. Word with lime
53. Corsair
54. Modest word
55. Spirit in The Tempest
56. Colgate's team
57. Mark McGwire, e.g.
58. Sea eagles
59. Pipe
60. Relative
61. Heroes
62. President Adams
63. At all times
64. Buck
65. Meld oash
66. Cum laude
67. Broadway backer
68. Business transactions
69. Parrot
70. Glide
71. Japanese city
72. Globule
73. Lion's pride
74. Basketball's Hereshier
75. Mr. Speaker
76. Needle part
77. Filthy place

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OFF THE MARK

by Mark Parisi

"Education is the ability to listen to almost anything without losing your temper or your self-confidence."
...Robert Frost

The POLYGON PUZZLES

by Dennis Lee Thom

Hello everyone. Today’s puzzles are about coins and Ping-Pong balls.

1. Some of Denmark’s coins have holes in the middle of them. Suppose we have a copper coin with a small hole in the middle of it. The coin is heated making the copper expand. The size, or the diameter of the hole, will then:
   A. Stay the same
   B. Get smaller
   C. Get larger

2. Here is a problem that may seem very difficult to solve, but actually is very easy to solve. There is a large barrel with 99 Ping-Pong balls labeled 1 to 99. Three of them are drawn out, one at a time. What is the probability that the numbers on the three balls come out in order, smallest to largest?
   A. 1/99
   B. 1/30
   C. 1/9
   D. 1/6

Polygon answers

1. C. Get larger. The same thing happens with donuts.

2. D. 1/6. The number of Ping-Pong balls we start with does not matter. What matters is that we draw out three of them. There are only six ways to order the three numbers. Suppose we had the three numbers 2, 4, 6. The only possible orders would be 2, 4, 6; 2, 6, 4; 4, 2, 6; 4, 6, 2; 6, 2, 4; and 6, 4, 2. So we have one chance in six of them being in the correct order.

CHESS

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Don't give up! Most people never look at anything more than a mate in two. But a mate in 10?

Take another look. There’s a certain logic inherent in the positions. The Black king is going nowhere. The only concern is stalemate.

Your first try, the obvious, is 1. a6-a7, 2 b4. Ok, stalemate. Okay, okay. So we don't promote to a queen! Bishop? No! Rook? No. Ah, the knight: 1. a6 a7 2. b4! Forced! The stalemate.

2...cxb4 3. cxb4 d5! 4. e5?!...

3...cxb4 4. a6 b3 5. a7 b2 6. a8 b1

...55...a6 66...b1 67...a2

68...b2 69...a1 70...b1

Ok, our last try. A2. 4. 1. b7 b7 2. a8 a8 3. b7 b7 4. a8 a8 5. b7 b7 6. a8 a8 7. b7 b7 8. a8 a8 9. b7 b7 10. a8 a8

Fun to try on your friends. At what point do you think they will catch on? -Peter Tarnovsky

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