

Solar, from page 5

larger outer box foiled on one side only. Insulation, such as crunched newspapers or styrofoam, was placed between the boxes. A foiled reflector was propped up to bounce sunlight into the box. Inside the box, a black metal try was used to absorb heat. Black covered pots were used to heat and cook the food.

With modifications of the contest guidelines, the students of MET 420 designed several unique cooking ovens. Some of the ovens were quite large, while others were about the size of a large microwave oven. Amazingly, the cooking temperatures for these ovens ranged

between 150 F to 270 F. The amount of temperature was based on the amount of reflection and insulation.

The "Calcutta Cooker" designed and built by the team of senior SDCET majors, Nick Holtz, and Cory Osborne, MET senior Scott Berkhermer, MET junior Dennis Maloskess, ENVET senior Greg Knight, and consultant/ENVET senior Frank Dallam, was capable of reaching temperatures around 250 F. Team Calcutta Cooker featured pizza as their entry in the cooking contest.

The team of Todd Lester (MET senior), Tom Wernier (SDSET senior), Dave Capper (MET junior) and Joe Ruccolo (MET senior), "unofficially sponsored" by

beer companies prepared baked lasagna. Their team won the E.F. Schumaker Award.

Mike Zambito, MET junior, was the contest's only non-MET 420 entry, built his oven with cardboard boxes. Zambito, the winner of the Rube Goldberg Award, used a solar dish made of aluminum foil to reflect sun light into a solar cooking box.

Solar cookers work most efficiently when the sun is high in the sky. It is hard to overcook foods, a blessing for some people. It is also not necessary to move the box to follow the sun. However, if you wish to use higher temperatures or larger amounts of food, the box will have to follow the sun. Half-cloudy days and lower sun angles are other factors

which will affect solar cooking.

As for how long it takes to cook, the length of time varies with different amounts of food, type of pots used, and the amount of sunshine available.

Lau said this was the first solar contest at the campus.

"This is an enjoyable and educational event for all the students," he said.

Later in the day, the students participated in a volleyball match against the science, engineering and technology faculty.

Capper concluded, "I think everybody should build one."

Wernier supported Capper, adding that, "alternative fuels are the cheapest source of energy." Wernier and Capper said they'll both have one in their backyards.

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Reader barks at Wolf's ideas

Editor:

In regards to Terry Wolf's Op-ed piece in the March 30, 1992 edition. Wolf's logic is that:

A. Adultery, homosexual behavior, and perhaps even "wear [ing of one's] grandmother's dresses" are putatively proscribed by some religions.

B. Therefore these behaviors on the part of the presidential candidates are outside the proper sphere of concern of American voters since they are protected by the separation doctrine.

C. Promiscuity and other "sinful" behaviors have "...absolutely nothing to do with [one's] ability to be the president of the country."

The conclusions are as defective as the logic is flawed. Wolf's logic would exempt from voter scrutiny all behaviors of political office seekers if they, like immorality, are also fidelity is much more than a religious fetish. It reflects commitment and loyalty, characteristics essential to a national leader.

The Constitutional prohibition that "Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion..." does not mean that the voter may not consider the moral character of those seeking public office. Nor can such apologia as Wolf's save the moral behavior of candidates from voter scrutiny.

Jay C. Mumford

Baseball team earns praise

Editor:

The following is a letter sent to me from Michael W. Mould, director of athletics at the College of Misericordia.

"A note to compliment your baseball coach and the members of your baseball team for their very great concern and the assistance displayed toward our baseball coach, Chuck Edkins, during his trying search for our lost travel funds."

"As you probably know the funds were eventually located by Mrs. Nikki Dohner, who returned them to Chuck. Needless to

say, we were grateful to her and to the members and coaches of your baseball program. They have truly represented your institution in an exemplary manner, and we appreciate it."

A follow-up phone call from Dr. Mould also credited Chuck Alesky, coordinator of Police Services, and our department secretary, Virginia Horst, for their help and cooperation.

Duane Crider
Coordinator, Recreation and Athletics

Headline seen as misleading

Editor:

The headline, "PSH faculty opposes school choice bill," on page 6 of the March 30 issue was incorrect. The reporter gave us no evidence that the PSH faculty opposes school choice. The three education professors quoted in this article only spoke for themselves when they stated their opposition to school choice. I am a faculty member who favors it.

As an economist I favor school choice because it would force schools to be accountable for their performance and it would use a free market mechanism to let parents make optimum choices about the best way to educate their children. Currently local public schools have virtual monopolies in supplying education to a captive student population.

This monopoly leads to inefficiencies, duplication of special services, and almost complete lack of need to demonstrate effectiveness in providing educational services. The local monopoly school is not necessarily the best one for every child that happens to live within the district it serves.

The corporate opinion of the entire faculty on school choice, or on any issue, can only be determined in one of two ways: (1) someone could conduct a survey of the entire faculty, or (2) our Capital College Faculty Organization can poll its members and express a position. Neither of these occurred.

Jacob De Rooy
Associate Professor
Managerial Economics and Statistics

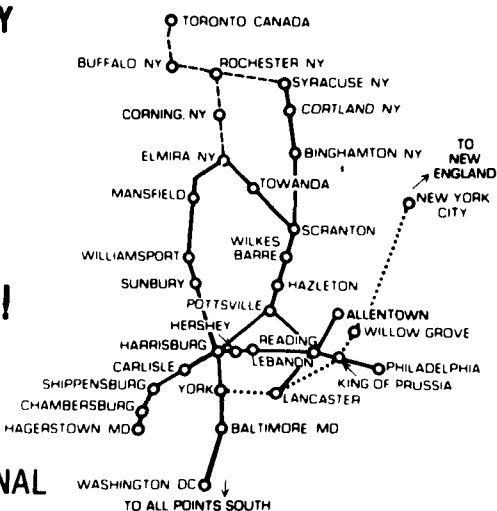
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