



The Mockingbird

The Wit and Wisdom of the Primate World

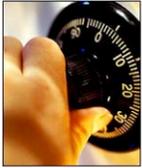
Friday Volume Two, Number 5

Exercise for Readers

Can you determine which portions of the Mockingbird are written when and where? Choices include: Standing in the shower; during the Theme Talk in the morning, over the lunch table, or in the Pub at night. Put your deductive powers at work!

Kowalski Kode

For what reason was our theme speaker seen roaming the halls of Manning last evening, bearing a pillow? Searching for a turtle stone, perhaps?



Need Supplies?

A new scholarship program promises to help SI campers improve their social position and gain friends.

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Lorem Ipsum Dolor



Si duae res sufficient ad ejus veritatem, superfluum est ponere aliam tertiam rem. Let the Telescope staff make of this what they will.

Overheard at SI

"I think SI is turning into band camp..."

"Have you tried the SI Cocktail? Put one shot of every liquid served in the lunch line in a glass together..."

Numerology

What did zero say to eight? "Nice belt." What did zero say to infinity? "Nice bra." What did zero say to one? "Nice diet."



Kowalski Decoded

Ill-Advised Plot for SI 2007 Program Discovered, Disaster Averted. Plans called to a halt. Series Conclusion...

Wait a minute. Cardinals; Turtle stones; Keystones; Rhododendrons. These symbols neatly outline the four states represented by the Ohio Meadville District itself! The



focus of the Kowalski Code appears to deeply involve the OMD, and Summer Institute directly.

Other concordances seen this week include (we are not making these up). Official attendance figure announced Wednesday, 542. Young Adult registration figure announced Thursday evening at vespers, 42. Answer to the question of Life, the Universe, and Everything: 42. Coincidence? **We think not!**

Second keystone found in fallen tree

Alert woodsman Buzz "Knotty" Pine noticed sparks when the crew began cutting up the damaged oak tree outside Rosse Hall the other day. Upon opening the rotted hollow chamber within the trunk, he discovered a large keystone within. This stone must have been placed within the tree 342 hundred years ago and the tree grown around it since. Perhaps this weakness caused the tree to fail in the torrential downpour earlier this week. [The SI Fairy wishes to state she *was not* flying from a late evening at the Pub toward Hanna when this tree split]

Mr. Pine turned the keystone over to our investigators for a reasonable fee, and we gently opened it with the key from crypt number 42. It contained another strip of paper, bearing the message, "Seek

ye where the spirits rise, songs are sung, truths and lies." At first, we thought this referred us to the chapel, but closer reading, particularly the last words, directed us back toward Philander's Pub.

Secrets Beneath the Floorboards

The flooring in the old Pub, favorite haunt of SI campers in past years, showed signs of decay, ostensibly due to the "extra weight" of SI campers cited by Kenyon College officials. Careful examination with our ultraviolet lamp, however, revealed one spot in the floorboards, approximately in the location where the band formed by the infamous G. I. M. Narley often set up.

When we pried up these floorboards, we encountered a chest, engraved with septagrams and mysterious runes (similar to the dashboard markings seen in the Kowalski spacecraft). With the assistance of Hogwarts Professor Swizzlestick, we lifted the lid of the chest. Within was a large leather-bound book. The binding appeared old, but the paper within looked fresh, smelling

slightly of Xerox toner.

Within, under seal of the Department of Homeland Security, no less, was an entire outline of the 2007 Summer Institute program, subtitled, "*the Armageddon Experiment*." Suddenly the trials plaguing Caples residents were revealed to be a trial run of a much larger project, a collaboration between the United States government and an obscure group of Cardinals calling themselves the "Spanish Inquisition," what ever that may be.

It seems that DHS and the Spanish Inquisition have banded together to test the "Theory of Natural Rejection," a complementary theory to Big Bang cosmology, and simultaneously rid themselves of (a) a troublesome group of religious liberals believing in inconvenient concepts such as free education and tolerance, and (b) a pesky group stealing the coveted initials "SI" without the permission of the much-older institution.

Implicated in the conspiracy is the leader of the Summer Institute Main Planning-Like Entity, Mr. Bob "Biggie-Wiggy" Aardvark, whose signature was found on many pages of the document. Mr Aardvark has been asked to resign his position during the closing ceremony. SI 2007 is saved!

New Scholarship Program Underway

A truly sad story has come to the attention of the Scholarship Committee.

It appears that SI camper G.I.M. Narley does not own enough underwear to last a week at SI. In the UUSI spirit, a new scholarship program is being formed, but they don't want your money. Rather, they're asking SI campers to donate one pair of underwear so Mr. Narley can have enough of his own. With 542 SI campers this year, Mr. Narley could obtain enough undies to get him through next year's SI. Scholarship Committee Chair Fill Smythe will be collecting your underwear donations during the closing ceremony.

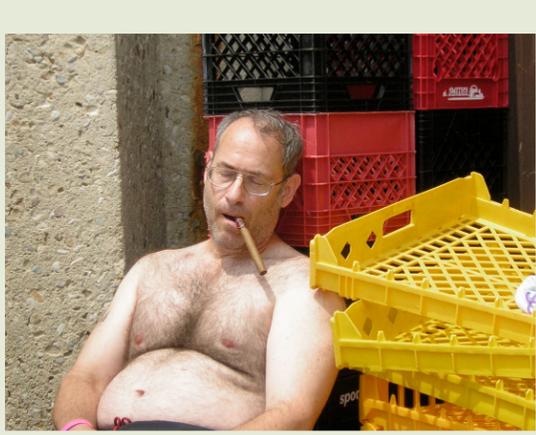
The Parables of Octavia Butter

Oh, ye of little faith: The Summer Institute brochure does not make typographic errors.



Though some may have assumed that the workshop was about Octavia Butler, noted Black woman science fiction author, it was in fact a study of eight parables involving Real Butter.

Among the parables discussed, the Parable of the Sow ended in buttery ham. As good UUs, the group reinterpreted this to derive meaning, while at the same time honoring the sensitivities of vegans, animal rights activists, and those interested in cardiac health. In the process, the group discovered both a new religion and a new food group.



Concerned, anonymous male reader --vile photo

Men and Women

Louis Leakey, well known lover of paleontology, women, and women paleontologists, chose three women to study primates in the wild. Men and women have different types and ways of knowing. Women have wisdom, and men have something else. The major primatologists are women, and two of them had not been corrupted by the patriarchy of the University. Women make better observers than men. This oppressor can relate. My wife can tell you what color every room in our house is, and she also can tell you the children's names when she sees photographs of them. Women make better observers of primates for another reason; namely they won't get into macho based "pissing" contests. I do not know if that is true, but any great ape that beats me in arm wrestling gets a banana on me.

-- Anonymous Male Reader

Kenyon Athletic Complex Plans Unveiled

Our reporter for the Mockingbird, Howard Cosine, has had an exclusive interview with the head football coach at Kenyon College. He told this reporter that for far too long the Kenyon football team has been an embarrassment to the manly game of football. They are now going to recruit football players first, and students well maybe fourth or fifth down the list.

To accommodate this new winning attitude, the college has built this multi-million dollar sports facility with up to the minute strength and conditioning equipment, and a certain fountain (he would not say where), where you can get some water that has a nip of the steroid in it. The coach said that we should look for Kenyon to be in the Rose Bowl next year. He also said that he looks for the team to be unbeaten this year against such tough opponents as: Vassar College, Smith College, Julliard School of Music, The Columbus School for the Blind, and the always tough University of Chicago.

We've become such a big and prestigious customer that the fierce SI CEO, Robert "My Way" Aardvark, got them to add on that new Quiddich Field on the north end of the complex. Rumor has it threatened takeover of the Kenyon campus by Professor Swizzlestick of the Hogwarts school prompted the building's addition.



New Morning Workshop for 2007: Cloning Fun!

Can't attend all the events you want at SI? This may be the workshop for you!

The Summer Institute Eminent Non-Creationist Educators (SIENCE) group announces a new workshop proposal for the 2007 season. Participants will attend the Monday morning workshop and get started. On Tuesday, campers can attend the Cloning Fun workshop and one other of their choice. As early as Wednesday, they can attend a total of four workshops simultaneously!

One possible application of this technique might really help campers who have expressed guilt attending the Nap Workshop; send in a clone! Participants can attend all the Nap Workshops scheduled, even in the intensive 24/7 schedule.

Separate Friday evening vespers will be scheduled for clone campers, likely at the Athletics field.

Mess Hall Mess

Cafeberia Assistants Gone Wild

An alarming and shocking report is spreading across the chambers of Gund Cafeberia. Our team of investigative reporters has uncovered a series of disturbing incidents of over zealous conduct by some newly trained "Cafeberia Assistants." It appears that the irrational behavior can be traced to several disgruntled participants of the LOVINGKINDNESS - An Introduction to Buddhist Practice.

The first incident occurred during breakfast on Tuesday morning when first time attendee, Beth (not her real name), a mother of two, two year old twin boys, was told that eggs and bacon were not being served and that her options were cold oatmeal or dry toast. "My first reaction was that she was joking. I laughed and told her, "But I can see the eggs." Then it was just creepy. She stood there, with those tinted sunglasses and pointed to the oatmeal. She said the eggs were not for first year people and that I had to find inner peace before I could eat any eggs and that I better hurry before she took the oatmeal away."

Later that morning, a blurry eyed youth complained that his bowl of Coco Puffs with chocolate milk and his donuts were removed from his trays and replaced with a banana and a bowl of yogurt. There was also a hand written note in large red magic marker ink on his tray; "You are what you eat. Meditate on this !!!!!"

The irrational behavior continued through during lunch when a suspiciously handwritten note stating, "Out of Order - Cows Are Human Too" was discovered on the soft serve ice cream dispenser. Kenyon kitchen staff were perplexed by the posting and could not explain why the note kept appearing on the machine.



Kowalski Kode Conspiracy

The Kowalski Code inspires readers to try their hands at interpretation.

Rev. Kowalski told stories about baby monkeys. Was it a trick to get us to think about the rigid rules of child-raising when people thought you should not hold the baby too much, or feed a kid before the schedule came around? Would we be supposed to think about World War II orphans who died because no one picked them up and cuddled them? Could he be trying to conspire to think about how the monkey experiment shows that when we take care of nature, we have to take care of our children? To love nature, we have to love our own species, too.

-- Member Offering Mindfulness

Dear MOM,

Of course we love our species, although I'm not too certain about individual members. Speak with any member of the SIPPYCUP organisation, and you will see the regard SI campers have for children (although the annual Into the River afternoon workshop had to be cancelled this year over the objections of parents, even though they had been warned of hazardous water conditions).

-- Editor

Electronic Copies of the Mockingbird

Can't get SI out of your mind? Need to show the skeptics how much fun Summer Institute is?

The online home of the Mockingbird is at www.pitalabs.com Links from the home page will bring you to every issue of the Mockingbird ever produced (once I get back home to add Volume Two, of course).

The super-special Saturday edition of the 'bird will *only* be published online, look for it!

Acknowledgements

Once again, the Mockingbird owes a debt of gratitude to a number of people, without any of whom this series wouldn't have been half so much fun. Out of consideration for their protection from libel suits and slander charges, contributors wish to remain anonymous. We extend special thanks to Pat for lifting the steam and alcohol powered turbo laser printer into Mather Hall, and to everyone appearing in these pages against their will, especially Rev. Kowalski, many many thanks for being good sports while we pilloried you all.