

Notes (continued)

Dick Dailey - Class of '88

A Cool Story

During my four years at KSU I noticed a particular phenomena amongst those students working on their project and report. They were the people working in the terminal room at all hours of the day and night. Aside from Friday nights, they never took a break. People who had been my friends in years past I only saw at a few meals. The rest of the time they were nowhere to be seen. They all seemed to be so dedicated and intentional about their work. What motivated them so?

That fourth and final year at KSU I did my project and report. In no way did I consider myself nearly as motivated as those "Seniors" of the past who I had seen working so hard.

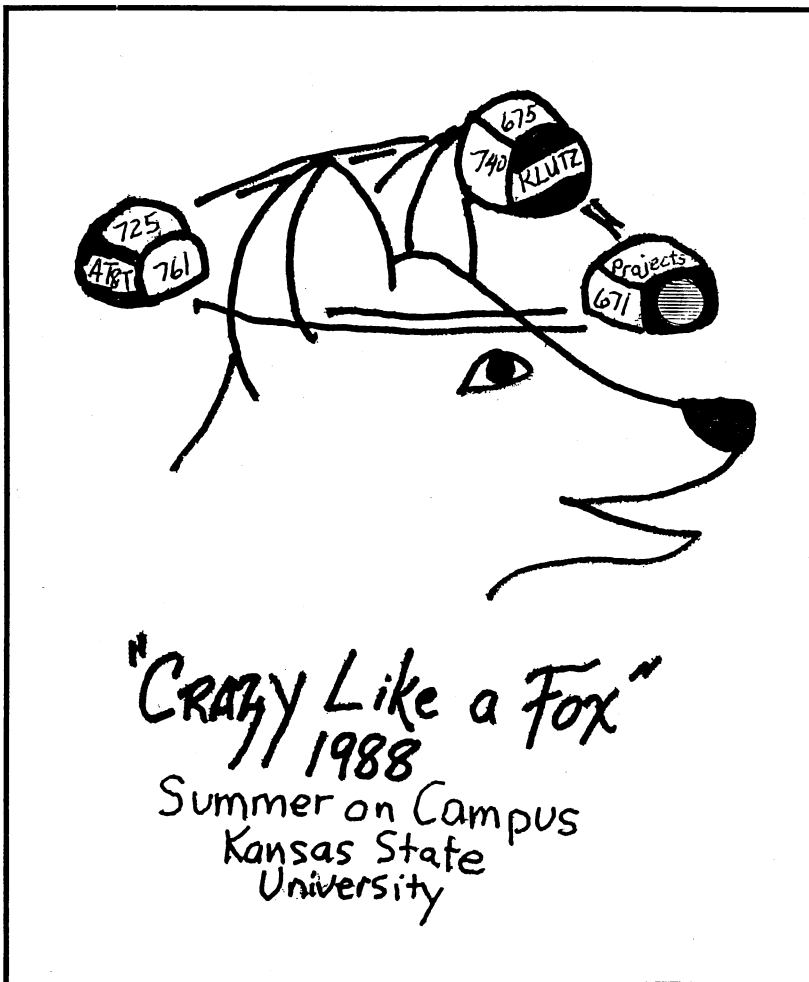
As I sat in my room, my air conditioner and I discussed what long hours I was putting in. It dawned on me that I too might appear to be a motivated student.

And now I know why all of those students were so highly motivated. Some of it comes from the fellow students, a lot has to do with the faculty and staff who provide so much support, and many thanks to both of those groups. A great deal comes from having a solid major professor you can work with.

But in the end it comes down to one thing. Wanting to get away from the air conditioner. In Kansas, you can't live without them. But after 5 weeks of prodigious intellectual effort in your room with only an air conditioner for companionship, you find you can't live

with them either.

(I am eternally grateful to live in Colorado where swamp coolers are effective cooling devices. My condolences to my friends in Ohio, Illinois, the South, and everywhere there are Freon-blooded air conditioners. They are out to get you!)



Notes (continued)

Sue Ranft - Class of '89

Do I Remember?

It is difficult to accurately describe a past experience. One tends to mentally block out those that caused fear, frustration, high anxiety and pain while only remembering those that created enjoyment, excitement, and fun. There are many events in one's life that may have been a mixture of the above feelings, yet still while recalling that event, one only remembers the good feelings associated with that event. For instance, one's visit to the doctor's office as a child. You probably don't recall the anxiety waiting for the doctor to enter or the pain of the vaccination but what about the excitement of receiving that cherry sucker the doctor gave you. The same mixture of feelings are associated with Summer On Campus at KSU.

I don't recall being exhausted from staying up all night to complete a lab assignment or to study for an exam. I don't recall any high anxiety before taking one of Dr. Pittman's exams, or the frustration after taking one of Dr. Maria Zamfir's. I don't recall headaches sorting through Dr. Elizabeth Unger's notes, nor finger cramps from preparing crib sheets for Dr. David Gustafson's class. I don't recall the confusion of NP-complete problems I encountered during Dr. Austin Melton's class. I don't recall the recurring sore throat caused by continuously saying "slow down" in Dr. Masaaki Mizuno's class. I don't recall the agony of defeat while preparing for my orals.

What I do recall is the enjoyment of meeting new

and becoming reacquainted with old friends at the picnic. I recall the fun times of late night swims in the lake and river. I recall the energetic evenings at Aggie's and the thrill of going to the zoo after hours. I recall the amusement that Masaaki's pants and strawberries provided. I recall the laughter at the wine parties. I recall the pleasurable moments of juggling and running in the park's treadmill. I recall the excitement of getting even with the faculty at the banquet without the fear of losing a designated driver. And last, but not least, I recall the thrill of success due to the support and advice I received from the staff, faculty, and students.



Notes (continued)

Cindy Shetter - Class of '90
New Challenges

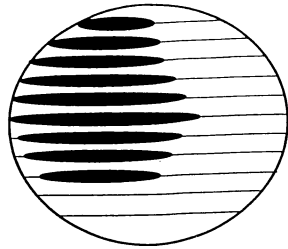
The Summer On Campus program provides a unique means of acquiring a Masters Degree. Participants receive considerably more than a formal education. Leaving work, friends, and family behind, everyone learns to

make new friends, live without the comforts of home, and accept many new challenges.

I have many unforgettable experiences about the program. Some experiences were great (getting an "A" in a class) and some were not so

good (sleepless nights studying for tests); however, my overall memories are pleasant ones.

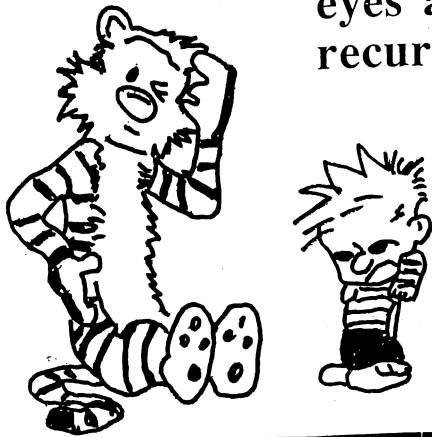
When I am questioned about the program, my response is that I highly recommend it. Both AT&T and the schools that participate greatly benefit from the program; however, it is the students who receive the most. My thanks to AT&T and the KSU Department of Computing and Information Sciences!



AT&T

KANSAS STATE
SOC 90

**Just close your
eyes and be
recursive. Sure!**



Top 10 Contest

In a future issue, we want to have a list of the 10 most humorous things that have happened in the SOC program (shades of Late Night with David Letterman). We will award an appropriate prize to the person who sends what

we consider to be the most humorous. Entries will be arbitrarily judged by a select committee of CIS faculty. Send your entries in a plain wrapper to Virg. Thanks?!?!

Generous Support from Current SOC Students

Current students in the SOC program for 1988 and 1989 have donated funds to CIS totaling over \$7000. This is the only program I know of where the current students support the Department with their own money. These funds have been used to provide additional equip-

ment for the Summer On Campus students. All of us associated with the program at KSU are grateful for their help. It is through this sort of caring students and alumni that we hope to continue offering a quality program in the face of dwindling funds from the State of Kansas.

Summer On Campus in the 90s

It is very simple. We like the Summer On Campus program and the student-professionals (remember that's a different connotation than professional student) it brings to our campus; and we hope to continue the program through the turn of the century (Wow, what heavy stuff!). Please give us some feedback on improvements that would make the program more meaningful and effective. Also please send us information on your memories of the SOC so that we can continue the Alumni Newsbrief; and if hypertext becomes available for most work stations we could publish an electronic newsbrief.

The 90s should see the realization of the long awaited global village; in such an environment the SOC program will surely not be the same as the 80s rendition. Computing and communications technology will certainly enhance our capacity to deliver graduate level computing coursework and improve our ability to conduct joint research projects. The goal is to extend the definition of on-campus to include the workplace. KSU's satellite center is currently being constructed with classrooms and satellite uplinks. We hope to use these facilities to broadcast courses over

the academic year to work sites. If we supplement this instructional technology with computer graphics and voice technology, we should be able to deliver high quality graduate courses which apply toward graduation requirements. For those who can take the time during the year, an MS is possible with only three summers at KSU. (Our loss is your family's gain.)

The faculty expertise at KSU will also change with the times. We will continue to emphasize the fundamental nature of computing in the areas of programming languages, data systems, software engineering, and algorithms. In addition, we will enhance distributed computing, knowledge based systems, and computing networks. However, we are not able to accurately predict the direction of computing in the 90s because the technology will continue to be the single biggest catalyst to change in our discipline. And the diversity of new applications will astound us.

It is going to be fun moving into the new millennium in the University/Corporate Partnership we have established through our SOC graduates. Hang on folks, "You ain't seen nothin' yet."

Faculty Impressions and Thoughts About SOC

Dr. Beth Unger

The return of the T-shirt fans of the AT&T Summer On Campus program bring with it the return of friends, heightened activity levels, lowered sleep levels, great questions in class, and generally lots of fun.

The students arrived back this year in early June and it was interesting to hear of the promotions, the travels both business and pleasure, and of course the reasons that the MS reports weren't further along.

Although the hacky sacks don't seem prevalent some of the established activities seem to remain, visits to Aggieville for ice cream (or so I'm told), trips to the whirlpools in Council

Grove, hamburgers at the Calico Inn and one student even reports that the air conditioner in his dorm room has taken up conversing with him as it has for so many others who were writing up their reports. This five weeks is also a time of learning for me, as the current problems that these AT&T employees are encountering on the job in data base design and use are discussed in and out of class.

It is now the end of the fifth week and I recall my Grandfather's statement, "Love to see you come, love to see you leave." This program is valuable to me as a learning experience and a fun one to participate in, but it is intense!



Dr. David Gustafson

Teaching software engineering to AT&T students has been an educational experience. Teachers always learn more than the students. Students always keep the teachers intellectually honest. AT&T students do this with much intensity. AT&T students come into software engineering classes with many expe-

riences in software engineering and diverse opinions about what is practical and what is not.

It has been a challenge, a tremendous opportunity, and a satisfying experience to teach and interact with the AT&T students over the last 10 years.

**Memories of the 1990 Summer On Campus:
Cold Showers and Warm Beer**

By Virg Wallentine

Late 89 seemed ominous for next summer
Earthquakes and hurricanes sure were a bummer
And the network disaster called the January Glitch
Meant Summer On Campus 90 was to be a bitch
But the January Glitch could not alter K-State's fame
Cause our Software Engineering was not to blame
Early in the year the students were given hope
That luxury living would help them to cope
Rumors were spread through valley and glen
They were to be stabled in the University Inn
They salivated at the prospect of edible food
Close proximity to labs would also be good
Having a swimming pool sure would be swell
After all, they were of the lineage of Bell
But luxury came at a premium price
Dashing hopes of what they thought was right
Their new accommodations were in an old college dorm
Since they had no memory of the '85 storm
Goodnow was to be their luxurious new home
With excessive accouterments like bedpan and phone
Luxuries abounded in their new condo
With the Goddess of Goodnow their head honcho
They had always heard about the "Bible Belt"
And they knew that beer did not make you svelte
But they had yet to meet their new nemesis
She said "one beer and you are off the premises"
Prudish is the only word to describe
The attitude they faced when they tried to imbibe
Their acceptance of this was true cooperation
For these were the terms of their incarceration
Classes convened late in May
So they had to travel on Memorial Day
Flights through Kansas City had been curtailed
So travel to OZ seemed to have been derailed
Off campus classes were dictated by the Regents
So MCC treks were made by their legions
We struggled to keep their interest with hype
Though facilities countered with the fix of a pipe
When power went down they marched to the dorm
To find the showers were cold and the beer was warm
They quivered and shook as their luxury diminished
Two days of cold showers and boot camp was finished
They settled into the coursework rhythm
Thinking of just the correct algorithm

Memories (continued)

Developing graphics to make things look pretty
Some looked very good and some looked . . . not so good
Programming languages were studied in-depth
As they engineered software far from inept
Summer on Campus, a 5-week vacation
Is highlighted yearly by project frustration
We always see things done as a lark
Like the late night police protecting the park
Or the impact of student academic sedition
Which led to the off hours zoo expedition
To all the students of 90 we are grateful
For "mixed greens" funds you gave by the plateful
To the final year students whose presence we'll miss
Call on us often as you reminisce
As grads of K-State you'll feel an elation
Punctuated by request for an alumni donation
Thank you for sharing your lives with us now
We're a Summer On Campus family somehow
As this diatribe comes to a timely end
I want to say thank you, for being a friend.

Summer On Campus Alums: Where are you?

One of the most rewarding things about the Summer On Campus program is the personal networking that goes on. It really is a Summer On Campus family. Since this is our first Alumni Newsbrief and we have not yet heard from some of the family in several years, our records may be out of date. Thus, if your address is wrong or you know of someone whose address is wrong, please fill out the information form on the next page. Also, we would like to use the Newsbrief to keep you up to date on happenings within the SOC family. Please include important professional and personal happenings on the form and also drop us a line anytime during the year. Photos are welcome also. We would like to include these major events in family member's lives in future editions of the Alumni Newsbrief.

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