

(continued from page one) "I don't know where we're going to put all you people this year." Disgruntled SIMPLE

representatives were heard to complain bitterly about the building shortage, and the simultaneous scheduling of SI, the Mine Safety Institute, and the Knoxville Soap Box Derby for the same week of July seemed particularly aggravating.

As a service to the Summer Institute community, the Mockingbird reprints here the newly-revised schedule of workshops and their new locations.

The Theme Talk remains scheduled for Rosse Hall, as usual, with the Nap Workshop in the rear, where the soothing sound of jackhammers from the parking lot may provide the background noise they require.

Yoga Workshops have been moved to the basement of First Unitarian in Pittsburgh. Workshop starts promptly, so don't be late!

Art Space will be held in Jamestown, while Folk Music will



Pierce-Dempsey Construction Project. Experiences Slight Delay.

have to make do with the hall at the First Universalist Church in Kent. Evening Seance and the Ghost Walk will meet at East Shore in Kirtland, while Monte Carlo Night will be held in West Shore. The Nursery is in Marietta, while morning childrens' groups will meet in

Ascension as usual. Middle School Youth programming takes place in Columbus, while the older Youth program will be held in Slippery Rock. Morgantown will host the Young Adult space this year.

Bike trips will depart from Wheeling, of course, while other afternoon entertainments are scheduled for Bowling Green. The UU Christian group will meet at the First Universalist Church of Lyons. The afternoon float trip and canoeing will take place on the Rocky River; meet in the West Shore parking lot.

Lunch will be potluck, with a different church hosting the meal each day. If all the Pittsburgh congregations share, that's a

Contributors

FRIED CAL, EDITOR



I want to serve God, but in an advisory capacity.

C. LAVORIS, REPORTER

Do Lipton Tea employees get to take coffee breaks?



B.M.O.C., YA REPORTER



Last night I played a blank tape at full blast. The mime next door went nuts.

Why did the UU cross the road? To get to the coffee pot.

church for each day in one convenient place.

We hope you find this information useful. Shuttle flights depart every fifteen minutes from the Mount Vernon airport. Good luck, and have fun at SI in 2008!

The Mockingbird

Construction Woes Play Havoc With Kenyon Conference Schedule



With so many buildings closed, SIMPLE has to get creative

-- **Wierd A Fugawi**, staff reporter

As is often the case, reality comes to blows with Kenyon's overambitious construction schedule, and again the Summer Institute Main Planning-Like Entity (SIMPLE) must make accommodations. With the campus torn up and orange barrels scattered throughout, many SI

campers are confused, thinking they are still somehow back on the Interstate, miles away from Kenyon College and their SI destination.

"The College Facilities staff simply forgot about summer conferences this year," confessed nervous College spokesperson Mel Lingerer, who wished to remain anonymous.

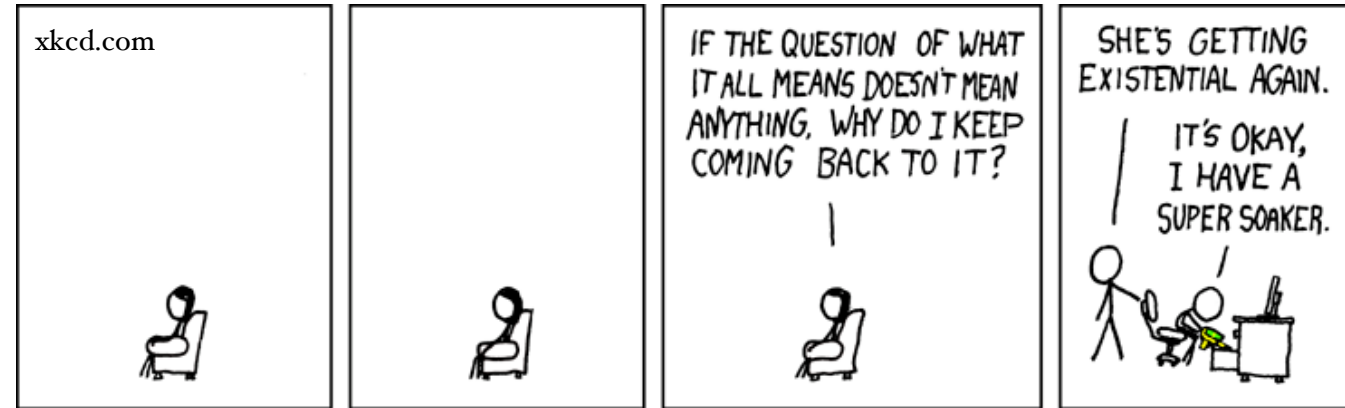
(continued on page four)

Olympic Opening Ceremony Wows Crowd

The SI Olympic Opening Ceremony was held yesterday evening in Mossy Hall, amid much hoopla and fanfare. After the lighting of this year's Olympic Chalice Flame, more than 25 churches participated in the parade of banners, always an emotionally moving event. This year's parade theme, A Tribute to Felt, brought tears to most in attendance.

Rounding out the ceremony was some singing and 132 announcements. Prizes were announced for the following coveted SI awards:

- Sloppiest Paper Registration Form Award
- Most Bikes on a Minivan Award
- Most Luggage Award



TEE CEREMONY WORKSHOP

What a ripoff! I brought one of my favorite T-shirts along, thinking that I could learn the proper ceremony for selecting and wearing them properly. When I entered the workshop room, however, there were cups and things all about, but not a decent cup of coffee to be found.

SOMETHING OF A DISAPPOINTMENT



Instead, I found a somewhat imposing bald man welcoming me to the "Shuck-high" or something like that. I know we're down here in the middle of nowhere, but I'm not interested in peeling corn, even if under the influence of intoxicating beverages. I sure hope tomorrow's workshop works out better.

DEITY CUSTOMER SATISFACTION SURVEY, 2008

God would like to thank you for your belief and patronage.

In order to better serve your needs, S/He asks that you take a few moments to answer the following questions.

1. How did you find out about your deity?

- Newspaper
- Bible
- Torah
- Television
- Book of Mormon
- Divine Inspiration
- My Mama Done Tol' Me
- Near Death Experience
- Near Life Experience
- National Public Radio
- Burning Shrubbery
- Other: _____

2. Which model deity did you acquire?

- Jehovah
- Jesus
- Krishna
- Father, Son & HG [Trinity Pak]
- Zeus et al. [Olympus Pak]
- Odin et al. [Valhalla Pak]
- Allah
- Satan
- Gaia/Mother Earth/Mother Nature

3. What factors were relevant in your decision to acquire a deity? Please check all that apply.

- Indoctrinated by parents
- Needed a reason to live
- Needed focus in whom to despise
- Imaginary friend grew up
- Hate to think for myself
- Wanted to meet girls/boys

- Wanted to piss off parents
- Needed a day away from work
- Desperate need for certainty
- Like organ music
- Need to feel morally superior
- Thought Jim Dobson was cool
- My shrubbery caught fire and told me to do it

4. Have you ever worshipped a deity before? If so, which false god were you fooled by? Please check all that apply.

- Baal
- The Almighty Dollar
- Left Wing Liberalism
- The Radical Right
- Amon Ra
- Beelzebub
- Bill Gates
- Barney The Big Purple Dinosaur
- The Great Spirit
- The Great Pumpkin
- The Sun
- The Moon
- Jenna Jameson
- Elvis
- A burning shrub
- Other: _____

5. God employs a limited degree of Divine Intervention to preserve a balanced level of felt presence and blind faith. Which would you prefer (circle one)?

- a. More Divine Intervention
- b. Less Divine Intervention
- c. Current level of Divine Intervention is just right
- d. Don't know...what's Divine Intervention?

6. God also attempts to maintain a balanced level of disasters and

miracles. Please rate on a scale of 1 - 5 his handling of the following (1=unsatisfactory, 5 = excellent):

- a. Disasters:
- flood

- famine
- earthquake
- war
- pestilence
- Florida elections
- Spam

- b. Miracles:
- rescues
 - spontaneous remissions
 - stars hovering over the east
 - crying statues
 - water changing to wine
 - walking on water
 - getting any sex whatsoever

7. From time to time God makes available the names and addresses of His followers and devotees to selected divine personages who provide quality services and perform intercessions in His behalf. Are you interested in a compilation of listed offerings?

- Yes, please deluge me with religious zealots for the benefit of my own mortal soul
- No, I do not wish to be inundated by religious fanatics.

She/He/It/They/We thank you for your time and devotion.



ALTERNATE ENERGY WORKSHOP ELECTRIFIES ATTENDEES



Above: This car will be converted to electric motors by the end of the week
Below: Be prepared for serious work

New to Summer Institute this year is an ambitious morning workshop on Alternative Energy for the handy Unitarian-Universalist, led by Olmsted's own Mr. Wizard, Spark Middlin.

"It cost me nothing to drive down to Summer Institute," says Spark, "my car runs on sunlight and candle wax. I was so excited by the conversion I just knew I had to run this workshop at SI. Too bad we have to use the garage in Westfield Center, but the insurance rates are better."

Mr. Middlin has long been interested in alternatives (naturally, he's a UU!) and last year discovered how to partially fuel his car on candle wax and stubs left over from Joys and Concerns. With the addition of a hefty bank of batteries salvaged from old cell

phones discarded by his congregation's youth and a photovoltaic array mounted on top of his van, he's achieved the ultimate in low-cost transportation.

This week, Spark will lead workshop participants in the conversion of a car selected at random from the SI parking lot into a wax-electric hybrid. You may be the lucky winner!

Workshop participants need no mechanical aptitude, says Spark, claiming "they can pick that up as we go along!"

Kenyon officials have stated that no vehicles may be left behind past Saturday, so I hope this works out for the best.

Due to variations in battery manufacture, local topography, driving habits, vehicle weight and weight of occupants, your mileage may, indeed, vary.

WORKSHOP LOCATIONS LIKELY TO CHANGE DAILY--WATCH THIS SPACE FOR UPDATES!

This space declared off-limits by Kenyon College personnel. Stray toddlers may be claimed at Security.

Youth and Young Adults likely to be found here during rainstorms

The Summer Institute exercise program begins after each meal, as you climb back up scenic Mount Ernst.



ADA Accommodations will be offered in Mount Vernon this year, Bike lanes on routes into Gambier may be used for wheelchair traffic.

Town residents may be found in this area. Don't ask for directions, they don't have a place to stay, either.

Afternoon orienteering workshop to be held in this woodlands.



Z CEREMONY WORKSHOP IN THE SAME PLACE AS ALWAYS...

Sorry for the confusion; the "Z workshop" is not held in the same place as the other letter workshops. The Z workshop, formerly known as the "Nap workshop" is held before the other workshops in Rosse Hall, at the same time as the Theme Talk as always but now continuing into Morning Workshop schedule, requested by the 24/7 committee.

It was noted that last year, Moo Goo Gai Pan did an admirable job of leading the Nap workshop while at the same time leading the Theme Talk. Now that he's free to focus his entire energy each morning, the Z workshop should be better than ever.