



# THE DILATED TIMES

## Version 4.0

The newsletter of the Drew University  
Society of Physics Students

November 1993

### Schedule of Upcoming Events

Friday, November 5.....Science Day

Sunday, November 7.....Trip to Liberty Science Center Depart at 12:30, Return at 5:30

Tuesday, November 30.....4:00 PM In HS-244 Dr. David Kohn - "Thermodynamics - a Historical View"

Sunday, December 12.....Taco Party

Saturday, March 26.....S.P.S. Hosts an Official Zone Meeting

### Ballistic Quotes From the Past

- Imagination is more important than knowledge. -Albert Einstein.
- With the addition of *general* relativity, the situation becomes even worse. - Kenneth Krane (Author of the Modern Physics Text Book).

Dr. Supplee:

- On length contraction, "Top question asked about special relativity, 'Is it *really* shorter?'"
- On time dilation, "Now let's not use clocks, so let's use ... clocks!"
- If you can't solve an equation put a box around it and it's alright.

Dr. Carter:

- If  $v+w$  in the desert outside Utopia, you no longer have a vector space.
- Perry (Author of the Linear Algebra book) has a golden opportunity to do this right, but he doesn't.

(Note From The Editor. Keep your ears open to catch some of your teachers catchy quotes. Submit your quotes over E-mail to MLEFAND.)



## Notes on the 1993 S.P.S. Council

### Meeting

Amy Perkins

As Zone Councilor and Associate Zone Councilor, Dr. Fenstermacher and I attended the 1993 S.P.S. Council Meeting held in Washington, D.C. The council convened Thursday night September 30 and was adjourned Sunday afternoon October 3. We represented SPS chapters of schools in New Jersey, Delaware, and eastern Pennsylvania.

The council began with a discussion on JURP (the Journal of Undergraduate Research in Physics). There have been some problems reported by chapters concerning the lack of response from the editor after student papers had been submitted. Some students were discouraged by not receiving any notification as to the status of their research papers. A motion was passed to investigate this problem.

The American Institute of Physics announced its 1994 theme: "Study physics in order to be a non-physicist." It was stressed that there are many reasons to major in physics. It is an exciting major (as we all know) and it provides valuable skills that can be applied to areas other than physics.

It was reported that unfortunately some 900 SPS members (myself included) were "lost" due to a computer problem. These members have not been receiving Physics Today nor JURP. The problem is currently being corrected by the National Office.

As in years past, one of the main topics concerned ways to get SPS chapters to be more involved and communicate among each other. The idea of small regional meetings in which a couple of nearby schools would participate was suggested. This type of meeting would be smaller than a zone meeting and might be easier for a school to pull off. Not as much time and planning would be needed as to throw together a full scale zone meeting. The idea was to encourage the chapters to **do SOMETHING!** It does not matter how large a meeting is as long as chapters are getting involved and interacting. The "hot topics" of discussions for meetings were

found to be graduate schools, career opportunities, and student research.

While I am on the subject of zone meetings, Drew is going to host a zone meeting in the spring (tentative date is Saturday March 26). Planning is currently underway for this event. The schedule as it now stands includes student paper presentations, a panel on careers in physics, and a well-known physicist as a speaker.

## Mike Judge: The Creator of *Beavis and*

### *Butt-head*

Mike Lefand

In keeping with the new theme set by the American Institute of Physics that Amy stated above, comes the creator of MTV's top rated show, *Beavis and Butt-head*. Not many people who watch *Beavis and Butt-head* realize that the creator, Mike Judge actually holds a degree in physics. I came to realize this when I came across it in a magazine I was reading. Mike Judge doodled his way through high school in Albuquerque, New Mexico, and then picked up a physics degree from the University of California-San Diego. After two unhappy attempts as an electrical engineer in California, in 1987 he retreated to Texas and got married.

For a while, Mike Judge worked as a blues bassist, but in 1990, he attended an animation festival, in Dallas, that left him all fired up with ideas for his own cartoons. Remarkably, after he produced just three animated shorts, MTV called and signed Judge up for 30 episodes last year. Now living in a New York City suburb, Judge claims that some of his shows are autobiographical. Like his cartoon buddies, he once worked in burger joints, and like Beavis, the renowned pyromaniac, Judge admits he too was "kind of into fire."



### S.P.S. Zone Meeting in the Works

Set aside March 26 on your calendar because a Zone meeting is coming to Drew. That's right folks, Drew University's very own S.P.S. is currently planning a Zone Meeting. Now you're probably going to ask what is this zone meeting. The zone meeting is where S.P.S. members from colleges and universities in New Jersey, Pennsylvania, and Delaware meet and discuss ideas, student papers, and other related topics. Thus far, the future date of the event will be Saturday, March 26, 1994. The tentative schedule of events include: morning registration, a key note speaker possibly Dr. Freeman Dyson (to be announced later), student papers, a lunch, and a panel on graduate schools. Further information concerning this issue will soon be made available as details develop.

### The Third Time's a Charm

Erik Slagle

The third time's the charm, so the old proverb goes.

I signed up for Physics. Why? God only knows.

I'd struggled through two years of this stuff before,

But to fill a requirement I came back for more.

Physics was never my strong point, you see.

It was ugly to mix Kinematics and Me.

But it fell on my schedule. The future looked grim

Till along came the class and a teacher named Jim.

He dove into Vectors, then Motion and Force

And I felt really glad I had taken the course.

I'm not sure how it happened, but son of a gun,

I can look at the class and think "Physics is Phun!"

You may think it's crazy or slightly bizarre,

But I look forward to class in HS 244.

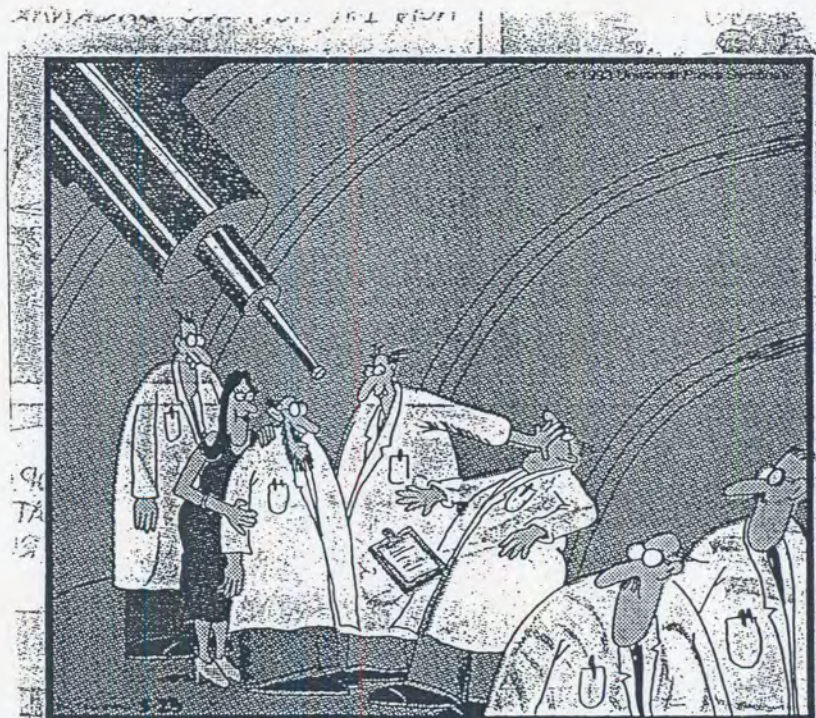
I can follow Projectile Motion and Work

And do stuff at the board and not look like a jerk.

For me, these events are quite an affair.

I just have one question:

Dr. Supplee, why'd you cut off your hair ?!!!



All day long, a tough gang of astrophysicists would monopolize the telescope and intimidate the other researchers.