

## More Short Takes

### HE'S NOT GOING TO TAKE IT ANYMORE!

**NORMAN, OKLA.** — Professor Robert Shalhope has always brought his Civil War musket to his history class at the U. of Oklahoma. But he may think twice about it from now on.

In February, after several people reported seeing a man with a gun in Shalhope's building, word got out that a sniper was on campus. Shalhope was unaware of the alarm until he returned home. "I was at home watching Jay Leno when [a newscaster] came on TV saying there was a sniper in the building," he says. The professor called off the alarm.

"I guess I should have realized as a historian that times have changed and people are a little more jumpy about guns these days," he says.

### CONTEST WINNER CRIES FOUL

**TALLAHASSEE, FLA.** — Florida State U. senior Bill Dills could hardly believe it when he sank what he thought was a half-court shot for a promotional contest at a December FSU basketball game.

But the biggest shock came when officials for the Tallahassee Ford/Powerade Hoop and Holler Contest told Dills that he would not receive the \$10,000 prize. Officials say a videotape shows that Dills shot from in front of the half-court line.

Dills isn't sure if he was ahead of half court, but he still thinks he's entitled to the prize, and he's considering suing the university and the car dealership. "[The shot] was still about 44 feet away. It's not like that's a shot even Michael Jordan can hit regularly," Dills says.

**PULLED OVER:** The Oscar Mayer Wienermobile, a 23-foot-long hot-dog-on-wheels [*U. Magazine*, January/February 1994], in Los Angeles for allegedly failing to display a front license plate. But no ticket was written, and according to driver Chad Gretzema, the policeman was mostly interested in getting a closer look at the mobile frank.

"We do get pulled over an average of once or twice a month by officers who just want to see the Wienermobile," Gretzema says. "They want wiener whistles or something."

### RETROGRADE

*U. Magazine* wishes to correct information in its story "Who Makes the Grade?" [January/February 1994].

**Lead...or Leave:** The membership grade was raised from a C to a B, as Lead...or Leave has 180 campus and community chapters, not 100 as was originally stated.

The funding source grade was raised from a C to a B, with the exception of a \$12,000 donation from Ross Perot. Lead...or Leave has taken no money from politicians or political groups.

The level of activity grade was raised from a C to a B. Therefore, the overall GPA was raised from a C+ to a B-.

**Third Millennium:** Since Third Millennium takes only private, non-politically affiliated donations, their funding grade was raised from a B to an A. Therefore, their overall GPA was raised from a C- to a C.

*U. regrets the errors.*

### Dressing for success:

## Students raise produce and college funds

A new salad dressing goes on the market this month, and if you buy some, you might help a high school student go to college.

It all started after the 1992 riots in Los Angeles, when a couple of residents saw two seemingly unrelated problems they wanted to tackle.

"Youths in Los Angeles felt a lack of empowerment and a lack of ownership," says Melinda McMullen. "And the city was suffering from a lack of fresh-grown food."

McMullen and her partner, Tammy Bird, a biology teacher at Crenshaw High School in Los Angeles, set out to solve both problems with Food From the Hood, a program designed to teach high school students to grow and

sell their own produce. Their goal was to give students a sense of achievement while earning money for college.

The first year, Food From the Hood sold 75 percent of the produce they grew and gave 25 percent to the needy. Although they made a profit of \$600 and fed 300 people, the money didn't put a dent in the scholarship needs of inner-city students.

Then, with the help of West Coast salad dressing guru Norris Bernstein,



High school students turn home-grown produce into scholarship money.

local manufacturer Sweet Adelaide and investment bankers Luther, Young and Small, the group concocted their own brand of salad dressing to be sold in local grocery stores. McMullen projects \$100,000 to \$150,000 in profits for the coming year.

"We're learning how to run a real business, and we're getting a real advantage over most other high school students," says Mark Sarria, a senior at Crenshaw and chairman of the company's board of directors. "We're still

learning after school is over."

Food From the Hood awards scholarships to participants based on their academic achievements and their efforts in the business. For those who fall behind in the classroom, tutoring and counseling are available.

"Sometimes I can't get these guys out of the classroom," Bird says. "They see college as a reality." ■ **Drew vanEsselstyn, The Breeze, James Madison U.**

## Researchers defend use of cadavers in auto crash tests

Before leaving your body to science, you may want to ask what it will be used for.

At the U. of Virginia, the Medical College of Wisconsin and Wayne State U. in Detroit, human cadavers donated for "medical research" are used in crash tests to perfect auto safety. And the families don't always know about it.

For the tests, cadavers are strapped onto metal sleds that crash at speeds of around 35 mph.

"In order to build a [crash test] dummy, you need the data to make one," says Albert King, director of the Wayne State Biomedical Engineering Center. King views the tests he conducts as legitimate and necessary.

For every test done with a cadaver, hundreds of computer simulations and dummy tests are performed, says U. of Virginia Public Relations Director Louise Dudley.

Nonetheless, these tests caused some controversy after

the Roman Catholic German Bishops' Conference protested the crash research at Heidelberg U. in Germany.

"It's no different than any other testing. It's far more destructive to dissect a body one strand at a time as in anatomy classes," King says.

But there has been some question as to whether families should know what the bodies are used for. Each of the American universities has handled this issue differently.

At the U. of Virginia, Dudley says, "If a particular cadaver is suitable, the people in our lab contact the family to tell them specifically what it will be used for."

At Wisconsin and Wayne State, families are only informed of the specific use if they ask. Wisconsin lists this research in its informational brochure on the anatomical gift registry.

As a result of these tests, not only have more realistic dummies been designed, but better seat belts, interiors, air bags and other safety devices have emerged.

According to King, "It's the only injury prevention methodology that's really working." ■ **Liz Washburn, Daily Trojan, U. of Southern California**

## Student's trip back home fit for a king

When Emory U. doctoral student Anthony Ephirim-Donkor went to visit his mother in Ghana last fall, he got an unexpectedly enthusiastic welcome.

Ephirim-Donkor was in his mother's home when it was surrounded and seized by the locals. They paraded him through the town and took him to a secret location, where they placed him on a throne three times, symbolizing he had become king of Gomaa Mprumem, a small farming community of about 1,000 people.

Being crowned king has always been a possibility for Ephirim-Donkor, whose royal name is Nana Obrafo Owam X, because he's from a royal family. But, he says, "I've been trying

to avoid it for years because it takes away personal freedom."

As king, Ephirim-Donkor will be expected to observe certain rituals. He must never walk alone or speak to an individual in public, he must always use an interpreter, and when outside he must never allow his bare feet to touch the ground.

"When a vacancy occurs," Ephirim-Donkor explains, "the queen mother and the elders of the community come together to find who is the best candidate from the royal family. They then get input on the candidate from the people." Being seized by the people is the last step in the coronation.

Although he was hesitant about becoming king, he plans to take his

position seriously. "It's a sacred office," he says. "I am accountable to those who made me a king and my predecessors."

Ephirim-Donkor's responsibilities range from making everyday decisions, such as deciding who can build houses, to long-term planning, such as implementing ideas for elementary and secondary schools.

But for now, he has returned to the United States, where he originally came 11 years ago to become a minister, and he plans to stay and work here indefinitely in the Methodist Church. In his absence, Ephirim-Donkor says he has entrusted elders in Gomaa Mprumem with his kingly responsibilities.

"I will go home when I have to go home," he says. ■ **Marcy Lamm, The Emory Wheel, Emory U.**