

CREDIT CARD CAPER

U. of Arizona

A Kappa Alpha fraternity member learned a hard lesson when his new American Express card was stolen from the frat house mailbox while he was out of town for the weekend. (Guess he shouldn't have left home without it.) The thief wasted no time and charged \$450. All evidence points to one telltale suspect: a weekend house guest who bought and consumed an astonishing amount of pizza. Way to cover your tracks, buddy.

BIRTHDAY BOOZE BANNED

U. of Nebraska, Lincoln

Students can no longer expect free birthday drinks at Lincoln bars. Thirty-seven establishments are trying to clean up their pavement (commonly referred to as "the most puked-upon stretch of concrete in the United States"). Bar owners say they're concerned about birthday bar crawlers who stop in for a free drink at every pub on the strip, consuming as many as 20 shots of liquor, sometimes to the point of alcohol poisoning. "We're not trying to poop on everybody's fun," says one owner. "This way, hopefully, people will run out of money before anyone gets in trouble." Looks like that crisp \$10 bill in the birthday card from Grandma will be put to good use after all.



HEADS UP

Colorado State U.

Those Frisbees from hell must be stopped. Complaints about flying discs hitting windows, cars and pedestrians prompted administrators at Colorado State to move the disc-golf course off-campus. Students really need to work on their wrist action and follow through. At least 70 windows were broken in one year thanks to the deadly discs careening off-course.

QUICKIES

ILLUSTRATIONS BY MIKEY GIBA, NORTHERN ILLINOIS U.

PIGSKIN VOODOO

California State U., San Jose

Blessing your lucky jock is one thing, but hiring a professional to put a curse on your competition? Well, that's exactly what the San Jose State football team is looking to do. The team is searching for the whereabouts of Josephine Canicatti, a Sicilian *malocchio*, or "evil eye," who is said to be capable of putting spells on sports teams. In 1955, before the World Series, Canicatti was hired by Brooklyn to curse Yankee manager Casey Stengel. Not only did the Yanks lose, but Stengel lost \$200,000 in a real-estate deal later that year.



THE PEPSI CHALLENGE?

Shoreline Community College, Wash.

A 21-year-old business student at Shoreline is suing PepsiCo Inc. for alleged breach of contract,

fraud, deceptive and unfair trade practices and misleading advertising. You see, he saw an ad saying he could win a Harrier fighter jet for 7 million

Pepsi Points. (That's 16,800,000 cans of Pepsi.) Believe it or not, he managed to collect the points. Now he wants his jet, but Pepsi says it was all a joke. Looks like the joke may be on them.

PENNY FOR YOUR THOUGHTS

U. of New Mexico

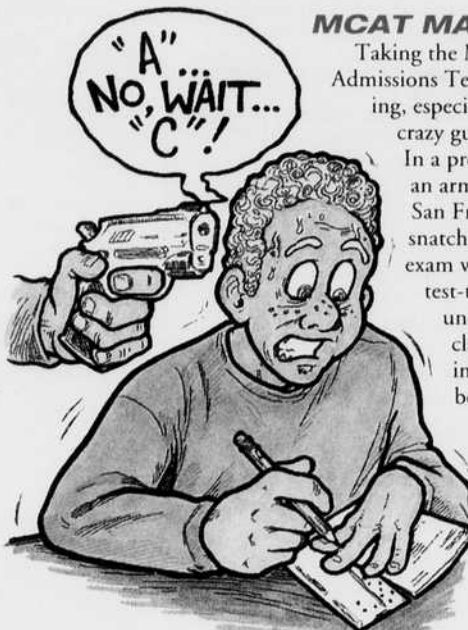
A man filed a civil complaint against two university psychology professors who refused to acknowledge his "gift" for mental telepathy. After asking one professor to design an experiment to sci-

entifically prove his telepathic abilities, the man was miffed by the outcome, which (surprise, surprise) showed no evidence of mystical powers. The chair of the psychology department wrote the man a letter describing his delusions as "unrealistic and irrational." The man is now asking \$5,000 in damages for grievous violations of his civil rights. Hmmm. We had a feeling he'd ask for that much money. Don't know how we knew. It just kind of came to us....

HIPPO HAVEN

George Washington, U.

To honor the incoming Class of 2000, the university's president used his personal funds to buy a large hippopotamus statue, which is now prominently displayed on the corner of the D.C. campus. As legend has it, the mighty hippo was said to be George Washington's favorite animal. The university president is encouraging students to rub the animal's nose for good luck before exams, ballgames or any other chancy endeavors.



MCAT MANIAC

Taking the Medical College Admissions Test can be nerve-racking, especially when there's a crazy gunman at your side. In a premeditated incident, an armed man stormed a San Francisco test site and snatched a copy of the exam while more than 100 test-takers crouched under their desks. He claims he was trying to invalidate the test because his friend scored poorly on it. Maybe he just wanted to check their reflexes.

DOUBLE WHAMMY

U. of Minnesota

A student riding his bicycle in the bike lane near campus was struck by a Nissan Pathfinder. Ouch. It was the second time the biker had been hit by a motorist. As if that weren't enough trauma, the motorist got out of the car and proceeded to assault the bicyclist for no apparent reason, hitting him on the back of the head with his fist. The assailant then fled the scene of the crime, giving a whole new meaning to the term "hit and run."

STRIKE UP THE BAND

Alabama State U.

A fight broke out after Alabama's football team beat Jackson State U., Miss., 40-0 in the Labor Day Classic. No, it wasn't bitter players or frenzied fans embroiled in the brouhaha. The skirmish involved the two schools' marching band members, who took their fight songs to heart. The brawl began as the two bands, with about 200 members each, were boarding their buses for home. As the fighting spread, musical instruments were used as weapons. Talk about hitting a sour note.



REQUIEM FOR A STUDY AID

U. of California, Berkeley

A dozen medical students paid their last respects to two unnamed cadavers they dissected for their anatomy class. Floral arrangements, incense, Bible verses and music — Elvis Costello to be exact — added warmth to the cold laboratory setting. The memorial was meant to help fledgling doctors learn to deal with death and dying. Maybe the final exam should be canceled to give mourning students a chance to grieve and heal.