



The STING

Southern Technical Institute

Marietta, Georgia 30060

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DISCO'S DYING

By: Terry Drayton

According to popular beliefs, a fashionable trend and contemporary fad slowly disappearing into oblivion. It was once chic is now naive and unsophisticated. What was once faced with London and exploited delirium, has now come to a state of detachment and indifference. Namely, I am speaking of our obsession with and rejection of disco. Disco is slowly being replaced by rock and new wave.

The first "official" disco record was released in 1973 by the Hues Corporation titled 'Rock the Boat'. Thereafter, it was almost nonstop. Literally thousands of disco recordings have been made, but only a few of the artists survived the onslaught. Donna Summer is one such artist. She has had at least six top 40 hits in the past year. Some artists only had a single release which either made them a 'star' or did not.

Disco was being packaged and pushed like hamburgers and french fries at a fast food restaurant. Many new discos opened and some closed. Many became traditionally known such as Studio 54 in New York, the Galaxy in Chicago, Sandals, Los Angeles and Atlanta's Backstreet which incidentally had a disco song written about it).

As the change in disco took place, so did people outside the realm of that type of music. Radio formats were changed to include an array of disco music since disco at some points dominated the arts. With disco being popular as it is, it is no wonder artists who were known in other areas of music decided to do disco. The process is called 'cross-over'. This is where an artist, who has been consistent in say jazz, soul or rock decides to 'jump on the band wagon' and do a disco song. The most successful group to do this was the Bee Gees. They had at least three number one disco singles, and a number one disco album. Even Rod Stewart, a stalwart in rock music, tried his hands (or his mouth) in disco with "Do You Think I'm Sexy". Disco's ultimate triumph probably was with the discoization of rock music which was evident in hits by the Rolling Stones, Wings, and Peter Dinklage. Some notable jazz artists got caught up in the trend. Herbie Mann with the 'Super Ann' album, Quincy Jones, George Duke, Mothers Johnson and Herb Albert with 'Rise' were among those who caught disco fever. The most extra ordinary and unusual offering to disco has been the albums released by Ethel Merman (singing disco, blasphemy) and the one by Walt Disney Productions which includes such unmemorable tunes as 'Macho Duck' and

'Disco Mickey Mouse'.

Disco had its good points and bad ones. It helped perpetuate the 'one' attitude. Everyone wanted to be a star and at the discos they were just that. Narcissism grew along with inhibited macho self-assertiveness. Aside from that, disco brought youth of all ages together and it was a form of recreation. Out of the era came movies such as 'Saturday Night Fever' and "Thank God It's Friday". We also got revived touch dancing and intricate as well as trite dance movements. Disco also brought back other trends and fads such as roller skating which is a story within itself.

Now that disco is on its way out or has reached its demise, some of the people associated with it are quick to acknowledge that disco is not on its way out, but has evolved into something totally different and new called 'dance oriented music'. But, it still has that infamous beat and recognizable rhythm track. The beat goes on.

Disco music has become known as electricized or computerized music. The music is mostly engineered rather than performed by musicians. Sometimes disco music is a recorded orchestration, but most times, the procedure is to record each instrument on a separate track. Since the foundation of the music is the rhythm track, drums and percussion are done first. Then, strings, woodwinds, brass and vocals are added, mind you each capable of being edited in or out or made to produce a different kind of sound through electronics. Lately things have been changing. More emphasis is being placed on the vocalist and the live performance of the musicians, and what we are getting is dance oriented music rather than disco.

To show that disco is slowly leaving us, the music rating charts lately have been dominated primarily by ballads from the Commodores, Captain and Tenille and Rupert Holmes. The new wavers or rockers have also claimed a large portion of the top 40 spots with the likes of the Knack, Led Zeppelin, Blondie, Fleetwood Mac, Pink Floyd, Cars, the Fabulous Poodles and Devo. The number one album for the past five-six weeks has been the rock album 'The Wall'.

Though disco music is still getting air play, rock music is slowly gaining back its position as the force that influence lives as it did in the late 60's and early 70's. Disco has taught and brought many new ideas and started new trends. Though the demise of disco is imminent, it was fun while it lasted.

"TWO CULTURES"

Professor Becky Coppinger
English department

Students in three English 102 classes have been reading C.P. Snow's essay "The Two Cultures." Speaking from his experience at Cambridge University in England, Snow took the position that society, especially the society of that university was divided into two groups that barely spoke to each other. If they did speak, often members of one had a hard time understanding the other. The two groups were made up of people who concentrated their interests in science and people who concentrated their interests in the arts.

Freshmen at Southern Tech must take English and history as well as their technical courses, so they are exposed to two specialized groups. But are there really two entirely separate cultures here? To what degree are the two groups at STI able to communicate and cooperate? What do literary/historical types and technical types have in common? To answer these questions, the students interviewed fellow students and faculty last week. After they report their findings and compare notes, they will arrive at some conclusions which may be eye-opening and thought-provoking. We'll let you know what they come up with.

WHODUNIT??

The Cobb Community Players will be presenting "Night of January 16th" a comedy-mystery by Ayn Rand on March 27, 28, 29 at 8:00 P.M. at the Southern Tech Student Center. The play is a courtroom drama which centers around the murder trial of a young woman accused of killing her employer/lover. A unique feature of this production is that the jury is chosen from the audience and must decide the fate of the defendant. There are many interesting and humorous twists to the plot, which guarantees an exciting evening of theater.

Southern Tech students will be admitted free with ID, and their spouses for \$1.00. Tickets may be purchased at the door.

NEW LAW; NO ANSWER

by Alan Beck

Alcoholism, especially among teens has been growing rapidly in this country for some time. There is a definite need to reduce drinking among high school students and to get it out of the schools. The Georgia Senate Consumer Affairs Committee agreed to legislation that would raise the legal drinking age to nineteen.

This bill would not do much to remedy the alcohol-related problems of teens. What it will do is deprive young adults the right to full citizenship.

My first reason for opposing the bill is that it would penalize the wrong group of people. Why should the right to drink be taken away from the eighteen-year-old simply because drinking cannot be controlled among sixteen-year-olds? I agree, whole-heartedly, with a column written in March of 1979 by Lewis Grizzard in which he states, "Also, I find it terribly wrong to ask an eighteen-year-old who can vote, pay taxes, and reproduce the species, to give up his or her right because we can't convince a sixteen-year-old to wait a couple of years." The problem lies, not with those eighteen, but with those younger. What is needed is legislation that would control the drinking of those under the age of eighteen.

One of the more common reasons for raising the drinking age is that, according to a study done in Michigan, alcohol-related automobile

crashes have increased in the 16-18 year age group since the drinking age has been lowered to 18. However this evidence has been deemed inconclusive by the National Institute of Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism. There have also been states in which no increase in alcohol-related accidents occurred.

The only way to cut down on alcohol related accidents is to enforce a stiff penalty for driving under the influence. The penalty for driving under the influence of alcohol is already quite severe. The enforcement of the law is the area that needs more attention.

My last, but probably most important, reason for opposing the bill is that it will not solve the problem of drinking among teenagers. The problem goes much deeper than being legally able to purchase alcohol. For one thing, it will not stop that. It is far too easy to obtain a fake ID or bribe someone into buying some.

Alcohol causes problems with teens, but the way to control it is not to punish eighteen-year-olds, but to get some good solid rules of enforcement and many programs to deal with the threats of alcohol.

As Georgia State Senator Pierre Howard put it, "The General Assembly could better spend its time working on alcoholism treatment programs instead of passing laws like this one that are not going to have any affect anyway."

LETTERS ...

Dear Editor,

Friday night I was all fired-up to watch the U.S. vs. USSR hockey game. I took special precautions not to watch TV or listen to the radio so as not to hear the score. With my enthusiasm to reach a peak, with the score tied 3-3 in the third period, on comes an 11 Alive Newsbreak. John Pruitt tells of the dramatic American upset in Olympic hockey. Well, for one time I wish I was Linda Blair, so that I could vomit all over him. This inappropriate timing had me totally disgusted. How could they have been so inconsiderate, especially since Jim McKay continually said on TV how they wouldn't announce the results so those who didn't watch the news could enjoy the game as if it were live.

I am sure channel 11 was flooded with complaints over the telephone, mainly because it was constantly busy when I was trying to call, but I hope such a thing wouldn't happen again.

It really gave me a great feeling that they were able to upset the Russians, especially with the world situations as they are. Too bad all world problems couldn't be solved in this way. The best of both countries doing battle, without the devastation of war. I mean wouldn't it be great to check an Iranian. Think of all the people who would learn to ice-skate. Well, I doubt very seriously that it will ever happen, but it is a nice thought.

The pride this team has brought to americans is great. And now that the medal round is over, the American team has showed that what they started, they could FINISH.



STUDENT

SGA Elections of the 1980-81 Representatives and Officers will be held on March 5 and 6. Potential candidates for departmental representatives, cop representatives, representatives at large, Vice-President, and President should begin campaigning now. To qualify for any SGA position you must have a minimum 2.0 GPA and 36 hours cumulative at STI. The offices of president and vice-president require a minimum 2.5 GPA plus 36 hours

ELECTIONS

cumulative at STI. To become a candidate file a petition with the office of the SGA Vice-President. Petitions can be found on Student Government Office doors. Fill one out, slide it under the Vice-President's door and you will be notified upon its acceptance. Gain worthwhile administrative experience and play an important part in developing plans for a "New" Southern Tech!!



WANTED

STING STAFF EDITOR, ASSISTANT EDITOR, AND WRITERS

AN ALL NEW STING STAFF IS FORMING. TAKE AN ACTIVE ROLE IN YOUR SCHOOL NEWSPAPER AND IN YOUR SCHOOL. SUPPORT THE STING AND BEEF UP YOUR WRITING AND RESUME CREDENTIALS.

ALL POSITIONS ARE OPEN. MANY WITH FINANCIAL SUPPORT INTERESTED? WRITE A LETTER TO DR. CAROL BARNUM IN THE ENGLISH DEPARTMENT OR TO DON WINGO, CURRENT EDITOR

SOUTHERN TECH'S STING NEEDS YOU

ORGANIZATIONS

Sigma Nu

The Sigma Nu saloon party was great this past weekend. Everybody looked great in their cowboy (and cowgirl) outfits. Thanks to all the brothers and little sisters for helping with the party. It was a credit to the social committee and we will look forward to it next year.

Congratulations to all the new brothers. The winter pledge class was a great one. You've worked hard to become a member of the Legion of Honor. We wish you continued success in Sigma Nu.

Gamma Phi Beta

Don't forget about the 50's dance on Friday, March 7, at 8:00 pm in the ballroom. Get out your bobby socks and get ready to jitterbug. Admission is only \$1.00 so be there and bring a friend. Check with a sister for tickets.

Composites will be taken Tuesday, March 4, from 11-1:30. So sisters put on your Sunday best!

Don't forget that finals are just around the corner so study-hardy!!

WSTB-1280 AM, soon to be WGHR-102.5 FM, is looking for disc jockeys to fill air shifts. Learn the World of Radio Absolutely Free. WSTB serves the campus of Southern Tech and soon will serve the surrounding area. Come by the station, downstairs in the Student Center, for more information.

HEY OUTDOOR PERSONS

Don't forget. An organizational meeting for a Southern Tech Adventure/Outing Club will be held at Noon on Tuesday, March 4, in Conference Room B of the Student Center. All interested parties in the Southern Tech community are welcome.

TICKET OUTLET

Student Center Office and is open during the following hours:
Monday to Friday 8:00 A.M.-
7:00 P.M.

Tickets Available:
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Well another quarter is coming to an end. Make sure if you are going to Ft. Lauderdale or need help before finals to contact Stacey Scott for assistance. If you want to help with Greek-Week, the leukemia Drive, rush or getting another mixer with Georgia State contact Lee Pickard. Get ready for softball and volleyball because we will take these trophies this year. Keith Sands also needs help with the bathtub.

We would like to thank those responsible for putting together the IFC party. It turned out fantastic and everyone had a great time. We also think that it was an excellent idea to have a bus, and

Sigma Pi

once again we wish to say, "Thanks".

For all of those poor, unfortunate, uninformed people, our meetings are now held in the Student Center on thursday at noon. We also wish to congratulate Jim Craig, a close friend to the fraternity, and the rest of the U.S. hockey team for a fine showing in the Winter Olympics. You have made us very proud and are hopefully, an example of the rest of America.

We believe in God, Mom, John Wayne, apple pie and now hockey. Congratulations.

We would also like to pledge our support for Dr. Castellucus. What Congress needs are more EE's.

TKE

TKE would like to thank everyone who helped with the bathtub race. The work of our brother was well appreciated.

I would like to congratulate Karen Milam and Kathy Kelly who were both initiated little sister. The both of them are a great asset to this fraternity. TKE would like to send there best wishes to Karen Milam and brother Tommy Stapleton who will be wed in June.

The winner of the TKE gas free for all was James Kinslan, ticket #10. Charlie Mix sold the most tickets with 41, Karen Milam second

with 38 tickets, and Tom Monti sold the winning ticket. I would like to thank everyone who supported the raffle it was well appreciated.

TKE officers for 1980-1981 are:

President - Craig Sloan
Vice-President - James Wascher
Secretary - Lanier Gramling
Treasurer - Steve Pochynok
Chaplin - David Hansard
Historian - Andy Smith
Educator - Richard Anderson
Sargeant at arms - Charlie Mix

TKE would like to congratulate all these men and know that they will fill there positions to the fullest.

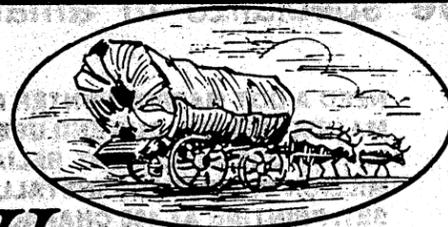
ATTENTION

Those students who wish to apply for a short-term loan for spring quarter, must do so before March 1st.

Anyone graduating this quarter and desiring a PHT (putting hubby/her through) degree for his wife/her husband, please see Mrs. Meadows in the library.



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SPORTS

Stormy Petrels Slip by Hornets

By Ken Shaw

Last Tuesday night at Berry College, Southern Tech met Oglethorpe in the second round of the conference tournament. The game was one for mostly coaching strategy and the Hornets loat, 80-78.

Southern Tech did not play very good defense at the start of the game and got behind by five points. The Hornets started playing defense and tied the score at the half, 41-41.

In the second half, the Hornets jumped out to a five point lead behind the shooting of Baxter Thomas and Cyrus Hunter. But the Stormy Petrels fought back and with six minutes left, had their own five point lead. That's when coaching paid off for Oglethorpe as they went into a four corners stall. Southern Tech could not handle the stall and despite the excellent shooting by Steve Jackson and Billy Bromell, the Hornets could not come any closer than the final two point margin.

Black Panthers Cause No Uproar

By Ken Shaw

LaGrange, who had lost twice previously to the Hornets, could not break their losing streak in the first round of conference tournament on last Monday.

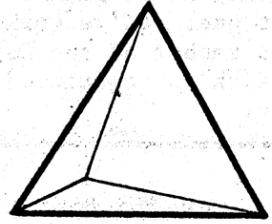
Southern Tech played good defense to deny LaGrange good shots in the first half. The Hornets went out to ten point lead, but could only hold on to a six point lead at the half.

The second half was predominated by excellent shot selections by the Hornets. Baxter Thomas and Billy Bromell put in most of their fourteen points during a spree of shooting which saw Southern Tech go up by seventeen. At the end, LaGrange had to foul and Cyrus Hunter shot ten for ten at the line for a total of eighteen points. The Hornets won by twelve with final score of 78-67.

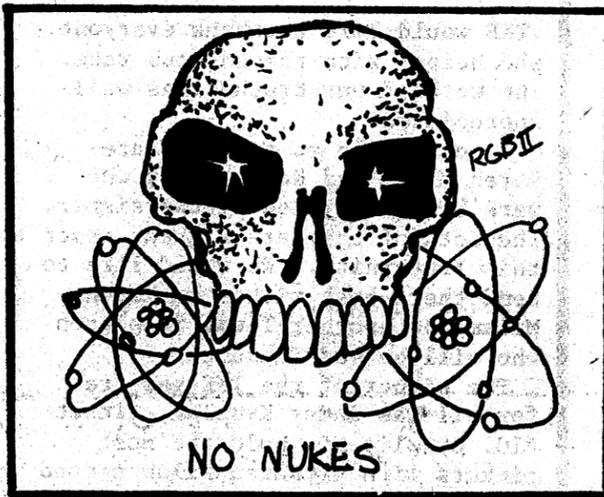
STINGERS

from de Caux

Greg Phillips is the only person I know of to solve STINGER #6 (and I know some faculty who tried). Well done! This week's problem is for surveyors!



All three sides of a flat triangular field are of equal length. From a point in the field a surveyor measures the distances to the three corners to be exactly $2\sqrt{21}$ miles, $3\sqrt{7}$ miles and $\sqrt{21}$ miles. Exactly how many miles of fencing are needed to fence the field in?



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