

2-7-1992

NEWS AND NOTES 1992, VOL.2, NO.20

The Rockefeller University

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The Rockefeller University, "NEWS AND NOTES 1992, VOL.2, NO.20" (1992). *News and Notes 1992*. Book 8.
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Expatriates at RU feast and fete to usher in lucky new year

By Mika Ono

Billions celebrated the Chinese New Year last Tuesday, both in China and around the world. Among the celebrants were some members of the Rockefeller community.

"The New Year in China is a major holiday like Christmas or Thanksgiving," said Ran Jia, a student in the Hanafusa lab from Beijing. "New Year's Eve is spent with close family and New Year's Day is spent visiting with other relatives and friends."

Although traditions vary within different regions of China and among Taiwan, Singapore, and Hong Kong, where the Chinese New Year is also celebrated, food plays a major role in all the festivities. Hong Du, postdoc in the Roeder lab from Sichuan, China, describes the New Year's Eve meal as "the kind that lasts for two or three hours over much conversation." Food is even left out for the ancestors, although the living feel free to eat what remains after the ancestors have had their fill.

According to Kathy Wang, a postdoc in the Roeder lab from Taipei, Taiwan, the holiday is the most fun for children: "Children love the New Year. They are allowed to stay up late on New Year's Eve and parents and grandparents give them money in red envelopes." (The envelopes are red to scare away the monsters that may want to steal their contents.)

Thirteen out of one hundred and

three Ph.D. candidates at The Rockefeller University are Chinese or Taiwanese citizens. According to Jia, this percentage is typical for graduate schools across the United States. "Most graduate student bodies here are about 10 percent Chinese," he said. "America is still the best place to study science in the world. The science is advanced, opportunities for financial support

See *Expatriates*, page 2



Rockefeller's Kathy Wang, Chen Zong, Hong Du, and Ran Jia (left to right) give the traditional gesture of New Year's greeting.

Software pirates beware; copyright law may rock boat

By Olivia Gushin

It's like jaywalking. You're in a hurry—so you just do it. You're tired of your screensaver or you need a new program. You copy the disk. But like jaywalking—or more to the point, like robbery—copying computer software is illegal.

Big Brother is not only watching, he's cracking down. A recent article in *The Chronicle of Higher Education* reported that the University of Oregon paid a \$130,000 fine for illegally copying computer software and computer manuals. As Arlo Guthrie sang in *Alice's Restaurant*, the University of Oregon had to pay the fine and "pick up the garbage." The settlement requires the university to conduct an education program on the lawful use of copyrighted software. Eight other colleges and universities that are part of the

Oregon State system of higher education will offer similar programs.

But what exactly is illegal? Do users risk going to jail for making back-up copies? The following points are made in a brochure distributed by the Software Publishers Association, the organization of software manufacturers which enforces software copyright law:

- Software is protected by copyright law, which dictates that users cannot make copies without the permission of the copyright holder. This protects software companies' investment in manpower, time, and creativity.
- Those who pirate software are liable for up to \$50,000 in fines, jail terms of up to five years, and civil suits.
- Users can make one backup copy if none is included in the box.

• Users who allow their software to be copied in violation of the software's license agreement are breaking the law.

• Receiving an upgrade does not give the user the right to sell or give away the earlier version.

• Corporations, schools, and institutions are bound by the same copyright responsibilities that apply to individuals. A good rule of thumb is that there must be one authorized copy of a software product for every computer upon which it is run.

Next time an instructor in a Rockefeller University computing class advises the participants not to copy programs, they would do well to pay attention. Not even the deceased are immune from the long arm of the copyright law. Six hundred and seventy illegally copied applications were found in a nine-hour raid on several of the late Robert Maxwell's London newspapers. Eight major U.S. software developers have filed copyright infringement charges; the Maxwell Newspapers contest the allegations.

RU sends letter to community board

The Rockefeller University sent a statement to the Environment and Sanitation Committee of Community Board 8 Wednesday in response to concerns that the university plans to incinerate radioactive waste. The letter reads as follows:

"In recent days attention has been focused on a petition made by The Rockefeller University to the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) regarding disposal of low-level radioactive wastes.

"This letter is to assure the Board that the present administration of this university, which came into office on January 1, 1992, has no intention of pursuing the petition. The petition has been inactive since

the NRC deferred action on all 'BRC' (Below Regulatory Concern) petitions in July 1990, pending release of the NRC's own BRC policy statement. The NRC deferred indefinitely action on its policies on May 10, 1991, in order to conduct a 'consensus building process.'

"In the event that the university decides it must change its current practices, we will inform and consult with the Community Board beforehand.

"In light of this, I ask that the Board defer further action on this matter.

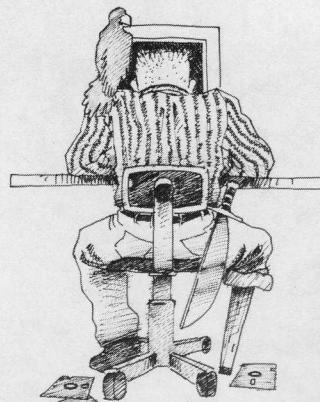
Sincerely,
Torsten Wiesel, President"

2 Programs check for computer viruses

3 RU vans hold key to joy, frustration



4 Following the paper trail



A software pirate at work.

Programs protect Macs, PCs from computer viruses

Updates to two anti-virus programs, Gatekeeper 1.2.3 and F-PROT 2.02, are now available to the Rockefeller community. According to Computing Services, these two programs are among the best of the virus protection programs available. They are easy to use, constantly updated to protect against new viruses, and free to individual users.

Those with Macintosh computers may be interested in Gatekeeper 1.2.3. This program is copyrighted but distributed free of charge. According to Chris Johnson, author of the software, the program "continuously monitor[s] the operation of your Macintosh,

watching for operations that are commonly carried out by viruses as they attempt to spread." In addition to checking for viruses, Gatekeeper can often remove them.

Gatekeeper 1.2.3 can be picked up from the public Macintosh in the Users Area (Smith Hall B7), or it can be downloaded from the /mac+pc/mac archives available on rb and r8, in the Public/VirusProtect directory. Additional free, public-domain software that removes viruses from the Macintosh is available from Computing Services.

Those with PCs may be interested in F-PROT. Like Gatekeeper for the Macintosh, this program can find virus infections and eliminate them. In addition, this software can often restore infected files to their

original state. F-PROT comes with a supplemental program, VIRSTOP, which scans each program for viruses when the computer is turned on. According to the manufacturer Frisk Software, International, F-PROT "is free of charge for any individual using it on his/her personally owned computer which is not used for commercial purposes." For those who plan to use the software at work, site licenses are available from the manufacturer for \$1 per computer, with a 25 percent educational discount. F-PROT can be downloaded from the /mac+pc/pc archives.

For further information about the programs or for help in obtaining them, contact the computer consultant, x8940.

Expatriates usher in new year

(continued from page 1)

are plentiful, and there is a tradition of accepting foreigners."

In addition to the students, about 50 faculty, postdocs, or guest investigators at the university come from countries celebrating the Chinese New Year.

Although many of Rockefeller's expatriates marked the Chinese New Year by going to parties, eating good food, and calling their relatives, most agreed that celebrating the Chinese New Year in the United States was just not the same as at home.

"Even though I've been away for eight years, I do miss the atmosphere of bustle and excitement," said Wang. "I also miss the preparations—shopping with my Mom, cooking many different dishes, and cleaning up."

While Jia agreed that celebrating the New Year here did not live up to the standards set in his home country, New York's Chinatown helped provide some of the excitement he missed. "I went down to Chinatown last weekend," he said. "There were many street festivals, parades, and bands like in China."

According to Jia, the Chinese calendar, based on lunar cycles, consists of 12 months of 29 or 30 days. As the calendar ends up being shorter than one orbit of the earth around the sun, an extra month is added every few years. The Chinese New Year falls sometime between mid-January and mid-February on the Western calendar.

This year, 4690, is The Year of the Monkey. The Year of the Monkey is considered very lucky—although, as Chen Zong, student in the Hanafusa lab, pointed out, every other one of the years in the 12-year cycle is lucky as well.

Letter to the editor:

I wish to thank everybody for helping to make my retirement party held on January 30 such a wonderful event. Also, I would like to thank those who could not attend in person, but who were nonetheless there in spirit.

Finally, I thank you all for the beautiful gift, a camcorder.

Sincerely,
Krikor "Gregory" Tomoian
Electronics Shop Supervisor

A taxing question: where to find forms

Members of the Rockefeller community in need of a 1991 tax form should walk over to Founder's Hall. All the basic forms are provided on a table across from Room 215. The federal and state forms, and their schedules, will be

restocked on a daily basis until the April 15 deadline. As supplies are limited, individuals are asked to take only as many forms as they need. Those who need a specialized tax form should contact Deborah Sousa, x8345.

Corners



A window in Abby Aldrich Rockefeller Hall looks out onto Flexner Hall

News&Notes is published each Friday throughout the academic year by The Rockefeller University, 1230 York Avenue, New York, NY 10021. Phone: 212-570-8967.

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The Rockefeller University is an equal opportunity employer and has an affirmative action program to increase the employment of women and members of protected groups at all job levels.



On the road again, RU vans hold key to joy and frustration

By Mika Ono

Americans have been said to carry on a love affair with their cars. Perhaps that's why Rockefeller University's two Dodge Caravans are so popular among students, postdocs, and faculty.

"When the vans are not in use for official trips to meetings and conferences, they are in constant use for personal outings—shopping, moving furniture, and sight-seeing," said Jill Inverso, who was a postdoc in the G. Cross lab in charge of the vans' maintenance until last week. "In the summer, the vans are taken on trips to the beach and other excursions; January through March is ski season; October is the month to see fall colors. The vans are a great perk," she continued.

Students, postdocs, and faculty can reserve the van up to eight weeks in advance by signing up in an appointment book in the Deans' Office. Early—sometimes very early—on a Friday morning, groggy individuals can be found on the steps of Founder's Hall, tired but determined to be the first in line to reserve a van for the weekend when the office opens at 9 A.M.

"Personally, I've stood outside the Deans' Office at 4 A.M. to be sure that I was the first in line," Inverso recounted. "I've also gotten there at 5 A.M. only to find two people already waiting. Considering that it costs \$80 per day to rent a car in New York, the vans are worth losing a little sleep over."

Lining up for a van is not without its pitfalls. Once, a student arrived outside the Deans' Office at 2 A.M., but left to get a cup of coffee around 7 A.M. By the time he returned, someone else had arrived, claiming his place. Bonnie Platt, administrative assistant in the Deans' Office, recalled the incident, "They argued about it for a long, long time, but eventually—after they left the office still arguing—they reached a compromise."

Vanguards...guard vans

Overseeing the rules and regulations of using the vans is not usually as problematic as on that day, nonetheless, a second volunteer—or "vanguard" (i.e., van guard) as they are called—is responsible for that task.

"The basic rules for driving the vans are very simple—to bring them back clean and with a full tank of gas, to fill in the log book, and to notify the maintenance vanguard immediately if there is a mechanical problem," said Firdaus Dhabhar, vanguard and student in the McEwen lab. "We want to take care of the vans and extend their lives as long as possible. Given the university's fiscal situation, we can't expect new ones every year."

The rules also stipulate that individuals limit personal use of the vans to ten days per year and four days per month. Dhabhar keeps track of the number of days each user has accumulated, and sends out notices when the yearly limit has been reached.

"The data entry is pretty painful," Dhabhar admitted, "but dealing with people can be tough, too. The one thing I've learned as vanguard is to keep my cool when someone is yelling at me. That way most disputes can be worked out."

While the administrative vanguard has a tough job, the maintenance vanguard faces challenges as well.

"The demands haven't been so bad lately—mostly routine oil changes, tune-ups, and minor problems like flat tires," said Inverso, whose duties were taken over by Vern Carruthers, postdoc in the G. Cross lab, last week when she left Rockefeller to take a job as an assistant professor at Cornell University. "But before the university purchased two new vans last summer, my duties as vanguard were incredibly disruptive. Every week I would get a frantic phone call from someone stranded by the side of the road."

Apple and Woody

The logbooks of the two old vans—a red car dubbed "Apple," purchased in September 1987, and a grey one with wood paneling nicknamed "Woody," purchased in August 1988—tell volumes about the joys and frustrations offered by the Rockefeller vans.

The first comments in Apple's logbook—written next to the obligatory name, date, and mileage—express great appreciation for the new vehicle. "Wonderful idea," "Happy skiing!" "Van handles great!" enthuse the first drivers. Soon after, though, the comments begin to record day-to-day complaints: "Somebody drove van about 160 miles without signing in—they also left the gas tank totally empty..." and "Car is in a disgusting state. Christmas tree needles all over. Paper napkins with all sorts of brown-black dirt in the back seats & on the floor."

As the vehicle aged (and it aged quickly with 3,000 to 4,000 miles driven each month), the logbook records a growing number of breakdowns. Chronic, minor mechanical problems began to haunt the van. The cassette player ate tapes. The gas gauge worked sporadically. The gear shift began to stick. The fluid warning light flashed regardless of fluid levels.

'Fish fish fish fish fish'

Minor mechanical problems, however, were often overshadowed



Jill Inverso, Firdaus Dhabhar, and Vern Carruthers (left to right) check one of the Rockefeller University vans.

by another aspect of the van: the chronic odor of fish.

"Someone in the Fish Coop had a spill on the way back from the fish market," Inverso explained. "The Apple van smelled like fish forever after. We tried cleaning the carpet, but nothing seemed to help. The odor was pretty nauseating—so bad that someone suggested we rename it 'Salmon.'"

According to the logbook, the fateful fish accident occurred in January 1990. Around then the entries started running like this: "WHO DRENCHED THIS VAN IN FISH OIL? Or did they drive it into the East River? This van will never have heart problems" and "Fish Fish Fish Fish Fish Fish Fish /Clean up the dead albacore. Took the van to the Jersey Shore. Caught Marlin. Left it here. Love, Fish Coop." Over a year later, the odor—and the commentary—lingered stubbornly. "Saw a dead deer on the side of the road. Wanted to roll the van in it to get rid of the fish smell," wrote one driver in February 1991.

Great van Calypso sets sail

A few months before Apple was retired at 137,127 miles, the logbook records a tribute to the old van, and to the spirit of future ones. Written in a pseudo-French accent parodying marine biologist Jacques Cousteau, the entry excerpted here chronicles a road trip to Boston:

"Day 1. 'Ere on ze Calypso, my trusty assistants Fredrique & Pierre prepare to load ze van with rotten feesh. Ze sea abounds wid life and ze Calypso gas gauge isn't working. Ze brakes cauze ze great van Calypso to wobble when pressed hard. Ze inside of our vehicle is littered wis débris. We sight our destination against ze setting sun. Ze steering is fine, our vessel she functions well in ze squall. Our chests swell wis ze pride as we guide our trusty Calypso into a hidden inlet, at last arriving at zee destination we seek—ze seaside town of Boston.

"I make yet anozzer entry into ze logbook. Ze wheels of ze glorious Calypso are seriously misaligned and ze Calypso, she vibrates strongly

when ze brakes are applied.... 'What shall become of our glorious, crippled Calypso,' we sink as she hobbles into ze ocean parking lot. Serious reparations will be needed to bring her back to ze glorious vessel she once was. I radio ze vanguard on ze shortwave station near Boston for spare parts to be flown to us as zoon as possible....

"Ze tape player over 'eats, possibly rooning ze tape inserted. She is in a sorry state, truly, our lady Calypso. What shall become of 'er, we all wonder? We scrape ze barnacles from 'er undersides, gently preparing 'er for overhaul, our tears mixing wis ze salt water below. Ze crew is 'eavy 'earted as zey check 'er over looking for more problems. Pierre, ze 'ead diver, examines ze propeller on ze submersible in preparation for tonight's dive, clearly wishing to dive in ze ocean 'e loves and forget Calypso's pain, if only for a brief while....

"Day 2 in Côte Boston. We 'ave found zat ze gearshift of ze lovely Calypso tend to stick in ze "park" position. We 'ave also found ze lever tends to go to second gear affair being put in drive, Sacre bleu! Ze Calypso she is a shambles! We restrict our research to ze shoreline area so as not to strain ze lovely lady any furzer. Quelle damage! I, ze capitain Jacques, feel ze 'eaviness of 'er pain in my 'eart. Ze sea she is a cruel mistress.

"Day 3—Ze return of our voyage to Boston. Ze washer fluid light ees constantly flashing we fill 'er when we return. We 'ave taken on 2 new members of ze crew, Drs. Siegal et Moorefield. Specialists in marine ecology, zey will be 'elpful turning ze final part of our mission—namely ze 're odorizing' of ze van Calypso wis ze oil of rotten feesh and ozzer odoriferous marine organizemes. Soon we will be in our 'ome port of Man'attan, safe and zecure from ze cruel vicissitudes of our beloved ocean. Ze Calypso, she bears up well under 'er 'eavy usage, a solace to us all; a comfort... A bien tôt, Jacques.

"P.S. We fill ze Calypso wiz unleaded superbe upon our return to ze barbarian island of Man'attan."

Following the paper trail

'Unseen force' spirits away trash

Where does Rockefeller's trash go after it leaves office and lab waste paper baskets?

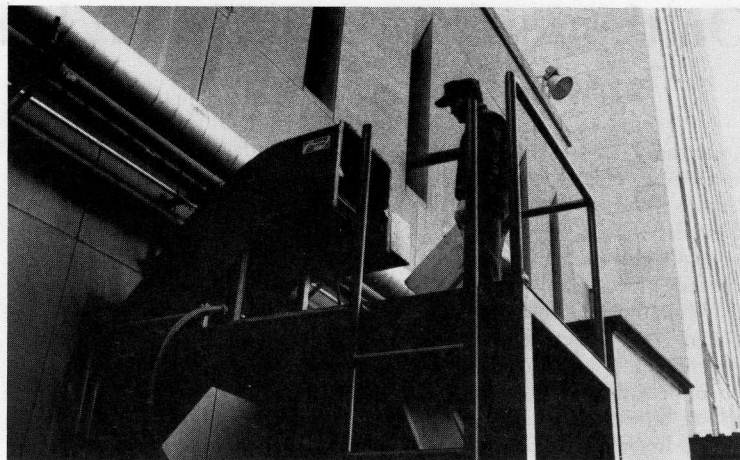
According to Thomas Mineo, supervisor of Custodial Services, ordinary trash is collected and processed every weeknight by custodial staff. Three trash removers collect the university's garbage from individual bins and deposit it into yard-long containers, which they then wheel to a central area in Plaza level B. Here, other members of the custodial staff separate the heavy items, like steel and telephone books, from lighter material. The lighter material is then fed into a mechanized shredder and compactor, reducing its bulk by about one fifth.

"The night staff receives very little gratitude," said Mineo. "To most people on campus, they are an unseen force that cleans the office and takes out the trash. People see day staff making deliveries, moving furniture, and setting up functions. The night staff, on the other hand, seems to converge like spirits after most people have gone home."

One member of the night staff, who wished to remain anonymous, said: "I like my job. The people who work late get to know me and expect me. Some say that if I don't come by when I usually do, they don't realize when it's time to go home."

Every Tuesday, The New York City Department of Sanitation picks up the waste which the custodial staff has collected, separated and processed at the Plaza receiving area. The trash will be transported to Staten Island's Fresh Kills Landfill, the largest in the world.

Recyclable material (currently metal, glass, and plastic) follows a different route than regular trash. Recycling Monitor Peter Cassidy collects recyclables from bins at eight stations around campus, rotating on a regular route unless he is notified that a particular bin is full. Recyclable material is taken to a different part of Plaza level B, and left in the 64th Street parking lot. The City picks up this material every 10 days to be processed and then sold.



Armando Rosas of Custodial Services checks the trash compactor outside Plaza level B.

Custodial Index

Thomas Mineo, supervisor of Custodial Services, supplied News&Notes with the following statistics:

Tons of waste removed from The Rockefeller University each day: 3.5
 Number of rest rooms on campus cleaned each night: 104
 Square feet of space cleaned each night: 500,000
 Number of square feet the new lab building will add when filled to capacity: 100,000
 Number of years ago that Custodial Services' longest-working employee began to work in the department: 45
 Number of Custodial staff: 55
 Average turnover in the department per year: < 1%
 Hours in a day that Custodial Services has staff working: 24
 Percentage of Custodial staff who work at night: 76.4

Potpourri

Memorial ceremony

A memorial ceremony in honor of Edwin C. "Jack" Whitehead, a member of The Rockefeller University Council since 1976 and a member of the Board of Trustees from 1971 to 1976, will be held at the New York Academy of Medicine, 2 E. 103rd St., Thurs., Feb. 13, at 3:00 P.M. An industrialist who made his fortune developing scientific and clinical equipment, Whitehead founded the Whitehead Institute for Biomedical Research, now affiliated with the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, in 1981. He died of a heart attack last Sunday.

African violet, bake sales

The Children's School will benefit from the proceeds of the sale of baked goods and African violets in Tower Lobby from 8:30 A.M. to 3:30 P.M. today (Feb. 7).

Tri-Institutional Noon Recital

Pianist Hélène Jeanney plays Schubert, Chopin, Brahms, and Dutilleux at Tri-Institutional Noon Recital today (Feb. 7), in Caspary Auditorium. The recent winner of several prestigious awards, Jeanney will make her New York recital debut at Carnegie Hall's Weill

Recital Hall on Feb. 11. Today's recital is open to the Tri-Institutional community.

Sunday Film

Lolita (1962, Stanley Kubrick) will be shown in Caspary Auditorium, Sun., Feb. 9, at 7:30 P.M. Based on the novel by Vladimir Nabokov, the film stars James Mason, Shelly Winters, and Peter Sellers. Admission is free and open to the Tri-Institutional community.

Lunchtime Film

Shackles of Tradition: Franz Boas. Considered the founding father of American anthropology, the German-born Franz Boas taught at Columbia for 50 years and encouraged his students to live and work with the people they studied. This documentary surveys his life and work, focusing on his studies of Eskimo and Northwest coast Indian cultures and his role in challenging prevailing American stereotypes regarding racial inferiority. This 50-minute film will be shown Wed., Feb. 12, at noon, in Tower 305.

Traveling faculty sought

The Admissions Committee seeks faculty members traveling abroad between now and April 1 to

interview promising foreign applicants to the Ph.D. Program. At this time, the committee is particularly interested in finding faculty going to Rio de Janeiro or Mexico City. However, other important destinations may arise as the admissions process proceeds. Faculty members willing and able to participate should contact Susanna Ander in the Deans' Office, x8088.

Book published

Former Rockefeller president Frederick Seitz has published a book of essays, *The Science Matrix: The Journey, Travails, Triumphs* (Springer-Verlag: New York, 1992). Seitz traces the development of science and technology from ancient Greece and Rome to modern society. He also discusses how our perceptions affect the understanding of science, the relationship between "big science" and "little science," and the role science and technology can play in alleviating environmental concerns.

Research studies

The Rockefeller University Hospital requests that all inquiries relating to volunteering as a subject for hospital research studies be forwarded to Candice Scheiner, x8477.

Appointments

Research Associate: Srinivasan Vijayasarany, G. Cross lab.
Postdoctoral Associates: Pamela Hoodless, Darnell lab; Hirokazu Inoue, Hanafusa lab; Padmaja Juvvadi, Merrifield lab; Christopher Roman and William Sha, Baltimore lab.
Postdoctoral Fellows: Marcelo Magnasco, Feigenbaum lab; Lyle Najita, Konarska lab.
Guest Investigators: Rahel Huch and Roland Boni, Kappas lab; Amitahba Chakrabarti, Roeder lab; Thomas Martin, Hayre lab; Eliane Volchan, Wiesel lab; Jonathan Wagg, Gadsby lab; Yibing Yin, Tuomanen lab.
Scholar-In-Residence: Theresa Richardson, Archives.

Departures

Assistant Professor: Anuradha Ray, Tamm lab.
Adjunct Faculty: Jean Claude Courvalin, Blobel lab.
Postdoctoral Associates: Marlene Bouvier, Merrifield lab; Richard Briere, Greengard lab.
Guest Investigators: Catherine and Jean-Philippe Defoort, Merrifield lab; Tadahihiro Oshida, Tomasz lab; De-Xin Wang, Merrifield lab.