CQI comes to Drexel as "Wild Bills' improving billing process

MICHAEL J. LEIBEDZINSKI
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF
QIT, TQM, CQI. What does it all mean? The recurring letter in these acronyms is Q, and it stands for quality. And that is what Drexel is trying to improve upon through the use of Continous Quality Improvement (CQI). The comptroller's billing process is CQI's first guinea pig at Drexel.

If everything goes well, says Carol Stanley, director of the Office of Student Information and Records, CQI will be used to improve other student services at Drexel. Stanley is a member of a quality improvement team (QIT) called the "Wild Bills," which was formed to streamline the billing process at Drexel with the aims of improving cash flow and better informing students of their financial aid.

As part of the process, the QIT created an elaborate flowchart, identified problem areas in the billing process and made recommendations for improvement.

The QIT's report found that Drexel would overhaul almost $400,000 if it only revised 30 percent of 2,000 freshman financial aid applications.

By analyzing each part of the billing process, and identifying areas which cause delays and dissatisfaction, the QIT was able to make recommendations on how to improve the process.

Among the recommendations are creating two separate budget lines for uppertier and freshman students, and the implementation of a new tuition revenue concept. The Wild Bills also identified several "Process Improvement Points," or PIPs, designed to eliminate redundant paperwork. Susan Whelan, Drexel's CQI coordinator, says that teams have already been formed to streamline other administrative tasks such as third party scholarships, facilities management, including utility bills and telephone protocol. Drexel's billing process, the Office of Computing Services' service delivery system, and services in the comptroller's office and the library.

It's a "paradigm shift, a cultural change," says Whelan. "It's fun, it's neat and exciting. Drexel is looking to put the customer first, and students are the customers.

According to Whelan, provisons were made in the strategic plan, approved by the Board of Trustees in January, to roll out CQI throughout the University. As a result, Whelan's team plans to offer a four- to six-hour awareness training program twice a month. Students are invited to attend the training.

Some students have already involved themselves in CQI. Dr. Hazem Maraghah, an assistant professor of quantitative methods, taught a senior business statistics course in which a group of students developed a survey to find out what students did not like about Drexel.

Whelan said that the students found the course to be a "proufind experience. It was really the teamwork. When a team of students can go into a cabinet meeting and make a presentation, the power is in the team work.

There are two key elements to the success of CQI: acceptance by management who will implemen the changes and the staff who will actually carry out the work involved in the changes. Whelan said CQI at Drexel has been very well received.

Students from one of the Learning By Doing classes are involved with Stanley on a CQI project to improve student satisfaction with Drexel.

CQI has some history in the United States, but originally came from Japan. Whelan said that a four-hour lecture was not even enough to explain its history. Developed in post-World War II Japan, the techniques of CQI have helped Japan become the "quality giants they are today.

Students can use CQI knowledge in industry. CQI ideals stress "fixing the process, not blaming," said Whelan. "Students who go on co-op will definitely use Total Quality Management (TQM) and CQI principles. Employers will expect them to know.

There are two classes in the College of Business and Administration which will be offered on some techniques of TQM and CQI, such as quantitative analysis and business statistics. Whelan said that more specific courses are planned. Students can attend the awareness training seminars by contacting Whelan.

Security details hiring screens

CARA SOLDOMNI

At the time of the 1984 murder of Drexel student Deborah Whipple, Susan Groff was responsible for Drexel's security system. With the approaching fall semester, the former security guard charged with murder, Pinkerton and Investigations. Most security officers receive acceptable evaluations, but some require further training, which is called a disciplinary procedure.

Entering the disciplinary procedure, the employee is counseled on performance, and explanations are offered on proper conduct. If the situation should recur, a one- to two-day suspension and final warning is issued to the employee. If the employee should progress to the final step of the disciplinary procedure, it may involve transferring the employee to another Pinkerton site, or possible termination.

"If we see someone who is not acting in the best interest of Drexel University, we request that Pinkerton replace the individual," said Jim Powell, director of security.

In the case of David Dickson, the issue of mental health is being questioned. Definition of a "clear mental health" image for the individual must be done before screening can begin. Candidates are not screened for mental disorders unless their background records indicate such screening is needed. Each case of mental screening is handled on an individual basis.

Therefore, determining those particular traits which are identifiable with mental cases is very difficult. Official screening for mental health is conducted outside of Drexel and Pinkerton.

One issue associated with mental health testing is that of the subject's privacy. This complicates the determination of a candidate's acceptance or rejection. Evidence pertaining to an individual's history regarding mental disorders must be present in order to determine acceptability in that area. A candidate cannot be rejected for employment without proof.

According to a Drexel representative, Pinkerton and Investigations has worked closely with Drexel to ensure the safety of the students.

There are 80 security guards on campus covering the three shifts, and other changes have been made to hire qualified candidates.

New WLax, Softball coaches named

SPORTS DEK

The restructuring of Drexel's athletic programs has continued as two new head coaches were named on August 3. Former Drexel assistant coach Patty O'Neill has been named head softball coach, and Susan Groff will assume the head coaching duties for women's lacrosse on a part-time basis.

O'Neill, who was an assistant softball coach at Drexel from 1987 to 1991, has been an assistant at Temple since May of 1991. She was twice an All-ECC pitcher at the University of Delaware while an undergraduate.

O'Neill holds an undergraduate degree in health and physical education from Delaware and an master's in education from Temple.

O'Neill replaces former head coach Joyce Maudie, who compiled a 55-50 record in her two seasons here. The Lady Dragons were 21-29 last season.

Groff, a former member of the United States national women's lacrosse team, comes to Drexel after completing assistantships at West Chester University. She was also an assistant coach at Penncrest High School and a j.v. coach at Conestoga High School. As a player at Longwood University, she was a three-time USILA All-American and a Brine All-American.

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Duers, under new leader, continue

The Triangle

Drexel's Learning by DUing class, now led by Dr. Hazeen Maragha and Professor of Information Systems Dr. Andrew Versillz, has continued its activity over the summer months.

A group in the class has been assigned to advise the University in helping to guide the careers of students after the freshman year. The group has been working hand in hand with their counting professor John Flemming, who is organizing the final steps of the new business school curriculum.

As well as working with Flemming, they are involved with extensive information searches through the Internet dealing with the same retention problems as Drexel.

Another group has been assigned to a project entitled "West Philly buys West Philly." Their objective is to help institutions in West Philadelphia area find suppliers for their needs who are also located in the West Philadelphia area, and to connect them, therefore keeping millions of dollars every year within the area.

They have been receiving considerable cooperation from Bill Payne who is director of Presbyterian Hospital in Philadelphia. He assisted the group's efforts as well as a full-time employee to help the students.

The group is in the process of compiling a database of organizations that would apply to this project, with the eventual goal of creating a database available for any organization. Such a tool would greatly simplify the process of finding specific vendors for specific needs.

Calif. college starts service program

Williams to be new Triangle Editor

The Managing and Sports Editor will take over after the last issue this term.

Joe Massina is the new Triangle Managing and Sports Editor. Scott Williams will replace him as Editor.

The two-time captain and four-year letterwinner led Drexel to its ninth consecutive 20-win season and second place in the North American, maintaining a 3.96 GPA.

She received the honor from Champion Products, who presents the $200,000 summer community service grants. Young women who shoulder such a heavy burden and work so hard deserve this recognition, according to Champion.

These grants are given to both undergraduate and graduate students who plan to return to Drexel for the next academic year.

The student has the opportunity to choose the summer projects they want to work on and receive a $200,000 grant for the community service work they do.

Other recipients included students from Harvard University, University of Pennsylvania, and Stanford University.

Williams was chosen from the four finalists for the award and will receive a $1,000 scholarship at the end of her last year at Drexel.

She is the first student from Drexel to receive the award.

Williams will attend as Editor-in-Chief of the Triangle for her last issue of the summer quarter. Her term will be six months and will expire after winter term.

The Triangle

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The Triangle is free to members of the Drexel community. A membership fee is limited to one issue per person.

Membership may be ordered for $20 for six months. Display and classified advertising may be placed at the editor's expense.

The Triangle

239 & Chestnut Streets, Philadelphia, PA 19104

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THE TRIBE • August 19, 1993

NEWS IN BRIEF

Former Triangle Editor makes electronic guide to the All-Star game

A computer multimedia newspaper special edition about Major League Baseball's All-Star Game, put together in less than one month by the Baltimore Sun. The edition was the brainchild of former Triangle Editor-in-Chief Gary Rosenweig.

The edition required about 119 of the 1,000 available hours of time that 20 multimedia editors at the Sun spent creating content for the edition. The edition was the brainchild of former Triangle Editor-in-Chief Gary Rosenweig.

The edition required about 119 of the 1,000 available hours of time that 20 multimedia editors at the Sun spent creating content for the edition.
Datebook

Every Monday
- The Drexel Anime Club meets in 4011 MacAlister Hall to watch the best in anime.
- Aerobics - P.E. Center 5:00p.

Every Tuesday
- The Triangle staff meeting in 3010 MacAlister Hall happens at 3:30p every week.
- Aerobics - P.E. Center 5:45p.

Every Wednesday
- CAB Flicks every other Wednesday in Stein Auditionum, Nesbit Hall.

Every Thursday
- Aerobics - P.E. Center 5:45p.
- If you have a recurring event, send it in to list right here.

Every Friday
- We hear there are really cool events happening in many places. But we haven't been able to get ahold of the details yet.

Thursday 12
- Put your announcement here.
- Remember it really should appeal to Drexel students. That means - nearby, cheap, interesting to people 18-25ish or 30's - 50's (faculty).

Friday 13
- Join Alpha Phi Omega the National Service Fraternity.
- Remind your significant other that you love them today.
- Kick your roommate in the butt (Unless he/she is your significant other).

Saturday 14
- Mass at St. Agatha-St James Church 38th & Chestnut 5:30p.
- Greenberg Great Train & Dollshow in Philadelphia Civic Center 11a to 5p. Admission $2.00.

Sunday 15
- Mass at St. Agatha-St James Church 38th & Chestnut, 10a, 11:10a, 5p.
- Greenberg Great Train & Dollshow in Philadelphia Civic Center 11a to 5p. Admission $2.00.

Tuesday 17
- Chestnut Cabaret - featuring "The Best of USA Live Talent Contest." Call for details 382-1201.

Wednesday 18
- CAB Friday Night Flick "Ghost" 8p, Stein Auditorium, Nesbit Hall. Watch the females dance.
- The Drexel Players present "Out Of Sight ... Out Of Murder, A Mystery Comedy by Fred Carmichael, from Aug 18 to Aug 21 in Mandell Theater, 8p. Student & Senior tickets $3, All others $5.
- Alice, Happy 27th Anniversary.

Thursday 19
- Chestnut Cabaret - featuring "Authority." Call for details 382-1201.
- The Drexel Players present "Out Of Sight ... Out Of Murder, A Mystery Comedy by Fred Carmichael, from Aug 18 to Aug 21 in Mandell Theater, 8p. Student & Senior tickets $3, All others $5.

Friday 20
- Chestnut Cabaret - featuring "Bluestime Featuring Magic Dick & Gefis." Call for details 382-1201.
- The Drexel Players present "Out Of Sight ... Out Of Murder, A Mystery Comedy by Fred Carmichael, from Aug 18 to Aug 21 in Mandell Theater, 8p. Student & Senior tickets $3, All others $5.

Saturday 21
- Mass at St. Agatha-St James Church 38th & Chestnut 5:30p.
- The Drexel Players present "Out Of Sight ... Out Of Murder, A Mystery Comedy by Fred Carmichael, from Aug 18 to Aug 21 in Mandell Theater, 8p. Student & Senior tickets $3, All others $5.
- Watch Star Trek, the best show on television.

Sunday 22
- Mass at St. Agatha-St James Church 38th & Chestnut 10a, 11:10a, 5p.
- The Drexel Players present "Out Of Sight... Out Of Murder, A Mystery Comedy by Fred Carmichael, from Aug 18 to Aug 21 in Mandell Theater, 8p. Student & Senior tickets $3, All others $5.
- Mass at St. Agatha-St James Church 38th & Chestnut, 10a, 11:10a, 5p.
- Greenberg Great Train & Dollshow in Philadelphia Civic Center 11a to 5p. Admission $2.00.

Monday 23
- Watch Northern Exposure and join the fan club started by a Drexel Graduate. Write to: An Oasis, P.O. Box 42433, Phila., PA 19101.

Tuesday 24
- Almost FREE Boating and Seanship Lessons from the U.S. Coast Guard. Call Murat Lewis - Florida Commander (215) 299-0114 for more info. You must sign up by Sept 3.

Wednesday 25
- Almost FREE Boating and Seanship Lessons from the U.S. Coast Guard. Call Murat Lewis - Florida Commander (215) 299-0114 for more info. You must sign up by Sept 3.
- FREE advertising in the DATEBOOK, just drop off the date, time, and location of your event at The Triangle by Monday, 5p.

Thursday 26
- Put your announcement here.
- Remember it really should appeal to Drexel students. That means - nearby, cheap, interesting to people 18-25ish or 30's - 50's (faculty).
- Chestnut Cabaret - featuring "Fatburger" call for details 382-1201.

Serve the students better with free advertising for student organizations in The Triangle. There are only four spaces each week and they go fast. Ads are 5 inches wide and 3 1/2 inches tall. Advertising must be the right size and ready to print. Call 895-2585 for more info.

Welcome Back!
The Triangle is already working on plans for it's annual Welcome Back issue, and you're invited!
If you're interested in being part of a great organization and welcoming students back to campus this fall, give us a call and we'll make you a part of our plans.

news writing, photography, advertising design, sports writing, page layout, copy editing, advertising sales, computer problems, entertainment writing, office management, computer solutions, classifieds management, comics, special features, page proofing, fun, editing, volleyball, work study, research, column writing, problem solving, games, management skills, incredible stress

The Triangle • 3010 MacAlister Hall • 895-2585
As we see it...

Waiting until the end of the term

What do Drexel students and the U.S. Congress have in common? They both usually wait until the end of the term to do anything constructive.

College students, Drexel's in particular, do most of their heavy duty studying in the last few weeks of the term. Well, it seems that this habit may have been learned from watching Congress.

Congress, in the process of gearing up for a vacation, passed a few laws recently, the most publicized of which was Clinton's budget. But the budget will have little effect on the average Span.

Waiting until the end of your term isn't that bad as long as you get your work done. Congress and Drexel students usually come through, especially when vacation is around the corner.

But let's take a look at the process that led to a budget which will spare the middle class, but spare the moneymakers, and continue to spoonfeed the special interests of those who gulp money by the billions.

Congress yelled for spending cuts. But cut the space program, social services, welfare, congressional salaries? No way! It sounds like Drexel students complaining about apathy and no school spirit as they chisel "Drexel sucks!" in their desks, or a single mother of seven on welfare deciding to have another baby, or a thief who breaks into a fraternity house on a Tuesday night gets arrested, and two days later breaks into another fraternity house. Collectively, society is adversely affected by all of these abuses.

Sometimes we perceive we might be affected by something, and we try temporary, superficial solutions. So we students rush to the Quad with gallon jugs of fresh water and send them off to the Midwest, and the government sends millions of dollars to help freedom fighters the world over.

But we can't quite muster support to do anything about things that really affect us directly: for instance, jobs lost in the global response is usually, "What's in it for me?"

Until the sacrifice is greeted with instant gratification, the response is usually, "What's in it for me?"

So you ask, how will I be affected by a 43 cent gasoline tax increase, or to under-...
Asses make it to newsstands in the Daily News

Petty, petty, petty ... that is about all I can say in regards to our fellow citizens of the City of Brotherly Love. My mouth is made up on this petty observa-
tion after reading the August 6 issue of the Philadelphia Daily News; mainly page 27.

Letters From The Editor
KEVIN ELIASEN

The cover shot of this issue was three cops carting off a person, and a shooting at a Locust Street pub on August 5 that left one guy dead and four others in various states of consciousness. I never used for a demolition). I record for the most dynamite explosive, I would say, 18 tons of TNT used for the demolition of Liberty One. Did New York’s territo-
ry street reach down here, emptying the explosive capacity of Liberty One? Or did the Daily News just publish a picture that was not accurately infor-
mation? Did my penn’s campus wearing the falsed emperor’s clothes, a signature in the presence of a con-
fused three-year-old girl.

You guessed it ... “twas the night before Christmas” in New York. Some of these letters were amusing, such as Mr. Rus-
sell Dillig, who wrote: “If that was my daughter and I was standing next to her, you would have had a real good front from me with an ambulance and two dirty asses to the hospital.” Ed Galing asked: “Why not a

Dissolving Van R will hurt U

Back in the mid-1970s, the land that Atlantic City Land-
mark made a tremendous mis-
take. They decided to demolish it. The landmark was the Try-
semore Hotel, a gigantic domi-

tome structure that dominated the Atlantic City skyline. The Try-
semore Hotel was well-known in a spectrum of colors to make it one of the most popular viewing spots on the east coast. Its resen-

terease to the Taj Mahal was far better than Donald Trump’s ver-
sion today.

Guest Column
JOE MESSINA

I remember watching it blow up as a child (it is a world record for the most dynamite ever used for a demolition). I asked my parents why they were destroying it and he said, “The city’s dying.”

A few years later, casino gambling was legalized in Atlantic City, and the owners had lost a great attraction in Atlantic City. Atlantic City conceded a valuable piece of its history.

Today is talk of demolish-
ing Van Rensselaer Hall, the prime location “green space?” Why can’t we have more of it? Why can’t we have more of it? What terrible, horrifying, shocking, mordid, hell-raising
even spark this much reac-
tion from the city of Philthy-delphia? Was it a project being burned down? Was Mayor Ren-
telf the reason there was a heroes-

ious rooms that include sinks,

nance“ and “cost problems.”

After living in Van R my fresh-

man year, to me this idea sounds

I cannot but wonder what other nations, when we are trying to maintain a leadership position, will think of the above. I’m told by Baily: “And people wonder what is wrong with our country.”

Aww, come on, people! Get seri-

ous! To the Todays, Ladies, Dorothys, and Holins out there: wake up and join the world! First of all: everybody, including the three-year-old girl, has genitalia of some sort. It is nothing new.

Secondly: nobody’s life was in danger, unlike most front page

covers. Third: the newspaper only reported an event of note in the community.

It did what a newspaper is supposed to do! Something out of the ordinary happened; a pho-
tographer was there; it made the paper. If indecent exposure laws were broken, that was done on the part of the streakers, not the paper. Nobody wrote to com-

plain. “You guys can tell them even though there were the ones that publicly flashed a kid. Helen and Lanie, your com-
sents are so downright silly that I am seeing aside a whole para-
graph for you.

Most of the nations that we are competing against happen to be more open with the body than we have ever been. Coinciden-

tely, they have notably lower rates of all sex-crimes ... espe-
cially involving violence. Is this cover truly showing the base of American demerit? Aren’t you more concerned that the cover of the paper you appeared in showed a living soul lost to crime and violence? Isn’t that more indicative of what is wrong with this country? I would say that sign of our internal turmoil are kids getting killed in basket-

ball court shoot-outs and cops being gurneysed by motorists, not somebody letting Mr. Huppy come out and view the world.

The cover on July 27 was one of the best covers the paper has had recently. Nobody died. There were no drugs. The only “shooting” that could have hap-

pened would be a hell of a lot easier to clean up. The daily dis-

play carnage was interrupted by, at worst, a couple of people making fools of themselves. Why can’t we have more of that?

I wholeheartedly agree with Stephen Pakradowi, who pro-

claimed in his three lines: “Thumbs up to Managing Editor Brian Toolan. Nice to see some-

thing other than dead bodies and burnt out houses!” Thumbs up to you, too, Stephen, for being a voice of reason and pointing out what everybody seemed to miss.

Let’s face it: page 27 was the

real publishing of nuts and asses in the Daily News.

Ionic, Corinthian, Doric
You, too, can make an

architectural statement in

The Triangle

Make a column of your own.

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two locations

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Diana Dale in the Office of the Dean of Students 895-2506
**CAPTAIN HERO**

**THE ONLY SUPERHERO WHO SUCKS**

**JOHN GRUBER**

**OPEN THIS UP FOR ME, SORRY, AND I'LL POKE SOME MORE IN YOUR DRESS**

**THAT ROUND-HEADED KID SHOULD GET PEPPERONI PITY ROTTED ON THE HERE AND GET HER DRUNK**

**YOU KNOW I JUST SEE WHAT I THINK I SAW?**

**WHAT IF THE BOTTLE HAD BROKEN IN ITS JOURNEY**

**SON, THE ONLY THING I VALUE MORE THAN A HEALTHY SALT**

**CROSSWORD**

"Star Double Cross" By GERRY FREY

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**Handicapped Access...**

**...City Style!**

**RENEGADE**

**JOHN BORE**

**WHAT I MISS MOST ABOUT THOSE SUMMERS OF YESTERYEAR FOR THEIR FAMILY VACATIONS...**

**JERSEY SHORE WHERE I COME...**

**WHEN MY BROTHERS nonstop HOPES PLAY IN THE BACK SEAT OF THE CAR...**

**THE PACE I HOPED WOULD ACCOMMODATE THE ASKINGS OF EVERY FIRST ROAD RESTAURANT...**

**HEY DAD... THERE'S A KNOCK!...**

**A BURGER KING...**

**WHEN EVEN THOSE BURGER LITTLE POLLUTION PROBLEMS COULDN'T PUT A DAMPER ON MY FUN...**

**WOW COOL... A LARD FISH.**
Classifieds
August 13, 1993

Historic Powelton Village

APARTMENTS AVAILABLE

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BEAUTIFUL APARTMENTS IN GRACIOUS, RESTORED
VICTORIAN BUILDINGS

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EXCELLENT SECURITY

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one bedrooms

costs $495

sold out

two bedrooms

sold out
	hree bedrooms

sold out
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sold out
	hree bedroom house

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2 - B - DOUBLE-SIZED BEDROOM
3 - B - LIVING ROOM (GOOD FOR 4 PEOPLE)
4 - B - BIG ROOMS 1 (GOOD FOR 6 PEOPLE)
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With ‘Sex and Religion’ it’s time to ask, “Vai?”

To be a guitar hero in the grunged-out ‘90s such is the plight of Steve Vai. Call it a case of artistically being in the wrong place at the wrong time. After being nurtured by Joe Satriani, cutting his teeth with Frank Zappa, and putting in an assist with a couple of hard-rock “supergroups” with obnoxious lead singers named Dave, Vai finally was able to unleash his artistic vision on Passion and Warfare, an album that fixed his place, in terms of both composition and virtuosic, as the reign­ ing god of electric guitar. But that was 1990, Here in 1993, Steve Vai has attempted to perpetuate that same vision with a new band named VAI and a new album titled Sex and Religion. Unfortunately, very few people give a damn. This is the post­ Nirvana age—less is more, simpler is better. Musical ability is looked at with distrust at best, disdain at worst. Nobody is looking to hear blazing 128th-note solos or a dozen orchestrated rhythm guitar parts.

Not that it would matter to Vai at all. He really only knows one way to write songs: complex. The soaring leads, the meticulous vocal harmonies, the countless overdubs — that’s just the way he hears it. And the truth is that Steve Vai is a pretty brilliant musician, so he can successfully accomplish his vision. Nowadays, though, it just sounds so out of place.

VAI’s vision also works against him when it comes to trying to record a “band” album. Though he has surrounded himself with incredible players (fellow Zappa alum Terry Bozio on drums, session ace T.M. Stevens on bass, and the heretofore unknown but amazing Devin Townsend on vocals), Vai gives them no room to breathe. Every note, rhythm, and lyric has been manufactured by Vai. The results sound very much like the tracks on Passion and Warfare, which was very much a solo album. Only Townsend really shines here, injecting the songs with a good dose of emotion from his powerful voice. This comes despite Vai’s way too spiritual lyrics and his obsession with layering harmonies. Not that the songs on Sex and Religion are unlistenable, or even bad. As a band, VAI does have a powerful sound, and Vai is an accomplished songwriter. Perhaps it’s just that the band’s a little too polished.

Maybe VAI won’t really hit their stride until they perform live. In that set­ ting, Stevens and Bozio could get a chance to truly groove. Townsend’s manic vocals, now right in your face, would only intensify. Songs like “Still My Bleeding Heart” and “Sex and Religion,” without lush production, would really hit their mark. And Vai’s playing, already beyond hyperbole on the album, will only reach new levels.

But for now we only have Sex and Religion: an album that lacks both the restraint from overdubbing that would bring out its musical brilliance, and the audience to appreciate that musical brilliance.

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Wow, The Triangle is great!
We know, thanks.
In her Three, Hatfield finally becomes what she is

Ah, geez, how am I going to explain to this everybody? One of the situations, check this out. This Juliana Hatfield chick, right? Singer, bassist, guitar­ist from Boston, OK? Did you notice that time in a combo up there called Blake's Babies. Yeah, stupid name anyway, right? Anyway, this Hatfield puts out some albums with this band of babies she’s in. Mainly light, trippy stuff, you know? Well, I'm guessing, actually; never heard them, just know what I read. Seems their big hit disc — uh, Sunburn, yeah, another silly name — pulled in, like, tons of good press from all over the place. And just when they’re getting hot, that’s when the chick decides to break up the band.

She wants to go out on her own, she says, find her musical self or some other crick. So she gets a few of her friends, right, and this hippie boy Evan Dando from this band the Lemonheads or the M&M’s or something shows up to play, and she puts out this thing called Hey Babe on Mammoth Records.

All the songs and imags say this Hey Babe record is pretty cool, this weird mix of "down" lyrics about being ugly and unloved wrapped around this like punk rock or something, see. She gets a few of the tape and into your ears, you know what I mean? I heard off of that Hey Babe disc sounded kinda bland, see, but this time through the great sound however they recorded the blessed thing. Parts of it sound like you’re standing right from the floor at CBGB's, right?

And her voice — well, she'll still be singing, you know what I mean? Something new and every now and again. But I think this time she finally got a kick out of life, why? Hatfield’s alternate rules to the game, you know, so she ends up singing about “five minutes in the closet with you” and a guy with cold feet, you know, she don’t wanna fuck her. That song and her first single, that suicide track “My Heart’s Really Not Here” to sound like she’s going through puberty, OK? Primo decision.

But the thing that I find most charming in some tunes about soft spots in her heart, getting protective and lie–—doey–—in “Super­model,” “For the Birds,” “Feelin’ Massachus­sets,” see? You know, with tracks on this album like “Mabel”—this girl has no lack with names — and “I Got No Idea” she’s gonna end up thinking at least a bit, see. And when she riffs the way she does in “My Sister” and “A Million Dogs” on this song about a rapper? I tell you, I’ll be damned if she can’t get a good track to do it.

So, like the Hatfield chick’s album is a kinda straight. Weird that I didn’t see her coming, actually. You know how that voice can turn out fire. This girl is a woman now? Well, this babe is a woman now, too. Seems like it’s about time, don’t it bab?

**Voivod’s high point 'The Outer Limits'**

**Voivod from page 12**

enriched, cybernetic cybernet­

ical with some stats at their own traditions.

For the first time, a Voivod album does not include an intro­duction. Previously, an album would always start with some sound effects, as on Angel Rat, radio static or something which would provide a lead-in to what was bound to be loud and fast. The **Outer Limits**, however, just starts off loud and fast.

The first song, “Fix My Heart,” has deep drums and stringing guitars that lead into the main beat of the tune beauti­fully. When “Deck Belanger’s vocals and guitar enthusiasm will notice right away that the smoothness he found in Angel Rat has been replaced by roughness; he sounds melodic, yet garbled and serious. The clarity returns occasionally, but not to excess. He seems to have found the vocal sound which suits him and Voivod best.

Denis D’Amour also wrote all of the bass lines on The **Outer Limits**, which were played by session bassist Pierre St. Jean. The last I heard, Voivod had not yet acquired a full-time bassist, and that missing link just might delay a tour.

The drums of Michel Lange­vin are thunderous and exciting. I place him high on the list of the best drummers of all time. His creativity in his artwork is trans­ferred to his rhythms. He plays what is necessary and adds his own distinguishable style to the Voivod sound.

Most of the songs are between four and six minutes long with the exception of “Jack Lamo­nious,” a seventeen-plus-minute epic. It tells the story of a man who can see that a society is being run by someone who is brainwashing them, and he helps them become free. That tale is typical of concepts explored by previous Voivod songs. The tune itself has so many changes that it never gets boring, and will start to seem shorter because of its brilliance.

It’s difficult to describe these songs in great detail because Voivod’s style is such that each song includes many changes. The musical changes are not distrac­tive — Voivod just pulls them off very well.

In honor of one of their main influences, Voivod has once again covered a track by Pink Floyd. The first was “Astronomes Domini,” which appeared on 1980’s Nothing/ness. On The **Outer Limits**, they put the “Nile Song” through its paces. It is another, perhaps another example of how Pink Floyd was often ahead of their time, as the song was loud and heavy even before Voivod remade it.

Voivod has evolved through each of their six previous albums. They started out as a forceful, heavy, vomit­voiced thrash band. Through the years, laser precision has replaced the power chords and directed emo­tion which had replaced blind anger. They may have mellowed out a bit with The **Outer Limits**, but Voivod has certainly made their mark in the music industry.
The Triangle’s News Editor comes out of the closet, dragging his Dig Cartridge and piddles out with him.

ANNE ROSS
You can take your Super Nint-

The Nintendo Entertainment System and Game Boy. When the 2600 was no longer home video gaming, the Atari went into the closet. But if you’re looking to get back into the game, there’s a small but growing community of people who collect games from the pre-Nintendo era of the '70s and the early '80s. A recent newspaper called "rec.games.video.classic" has been created to discuss the old video games. Right now, there are a lot of fun people playing and discussing. One of my favorite games, for the first time, is the Atari 2600. It’s really hard nowadays to find cartridges and consoles for the likes of the Odyssey 2 or the Mattel Intellivision. It will be a bit harder if you don’t already have a system buried in a closet, although Atari probably has some 2600 Jr.s, stashed somewhere.

The most likely places to find old video games are flea markets, yard sales, and thrift shops. Used toy stores are a good place. I’ve heard that pawn shops are also good, too, although I haven’t checked this out yet.

One of the questions people ask is how much this hobby is worth. Cartridges have gone up to $25. OK, three of them were Donkey Kong, but hey, I can trade them. There’s nothing like stum- bling across that cartridge you’ve spent months looking for.

I’m not the only one, either. There is a small but growing community of people who collect games. Since diving into this hobby, I’ve dug out the Atari and even Centipede, two of my favorite games, for the mid-'80s down to as low as a few dollars nowadays. I have a memory of $4.50 for a cartridge since diving into this hobby.

The history of home video games is pretty interesting. The first was the Odyssey, released in 1972, followed by the Atari 2600 which white dots up on the screen. You taped over the TV screen to play Atari, and there were no errors. Something was done wrong. That was quickly followed by about fifty million different video game systems that did nothing but play the classic Pong. Oh sure, they called it "tennis" or "handball" or even "basketball," but rest assured, it was Pong.

In 1975, I was able to install Channel F, the first pro- grammable home video game system. "Programmable," meant that it could play lots of games by changing cartridges. The system was a commercial failure, and consumers didn’t understand why they had to pay twice as much for Channel F as they could pay $50 and play Pong. (I’m sure most of the Pong-only systems wound up in the closet a few months.)

Indeed, Atari ran into problems with their new "system" (also called the VCS) when they introduced it in 1977, for pretty much the same reason. It took a few years and an enhanced Space Invaders cartridge for the system to catch on. But when it did, it really took off.

In fact, the 2600 was too successful for its own good. A glut of Atari software in 1982 caused what’s now known as the "video game crash" of 1983 and 1984. A series of marketing blunders prevented them from cashing in on this new fame and gave rise to the video game re- revival, led by Nintendo.

When my family got an Apple Macintosh in 1984, I stopped playing video games and the Atari went into the closet. But I was still interested in the history of video gaming. Many newsgroups on Dredds’ mainframe, where they talked about the new Voivod album, eyes will perk and ears will perks up. Perhaps Voivod lose our enthusiasm. Perhaps the frustrat- ing delay of the new album, originally due out in May, caused those of us who would not care. Tower Records weekly, "Is it here? Is it here?"

Whatever the reason for the lack of interest in the new Voivod album, eyes will perk and ears will perk.

I find it a little bit of a loss that, after seven full-length albums in a decade’s time, people still manage to stuggle, unknowing looks when I show them that the new Voivod is finally out.

Perhaps front page recognition and high praise in magazines failed to earn this Canadian trio their due. Perhaps the lack of enthusiasm from their fans has been a direct result of their work. Unfortunately, without the help of a magazine for no news, there’s been no coverage of the band’s latest release. But what of the music, you ask? Right.

"The Outer Limits" features a guest appearance from... See VOIVOD on page 11.