

# Where is S.H.E.?

# Snow Caves Made Easy

Sean Gooding

An Open Letter to the Colorado School of Mines:

The purpose of this letter is to inform you that the Colorado School of Mines will not be participating in the Where is S.H.E. campaign.

We consider the 1<sup>st</sup> Colorado Student Leadership Summit a success in the fact that it began the process of cooperation between several public institutions of higher education and illustrated that we all are concerned about the future of public higher education in Colorado.

The general consensus at that meeting was that all efforts should be coordinated through the Where is S.H.E. campaign because it already has established name recognition and has dedicated leadership. During the summit, much discussion was dedicated to the idea of a joint legislative and grass-roots attack to the problem. The legislative effort would concentrate on finding solutions in bills currently in the State Legislature while the grass-roots effort would concentrate on increasing voter awareness of the issue. Most schools at the meeting concluded that it was best to leave politics out of the equation and to focus on crafting general statements rather than supporting specific legislative actions.

We, the Associated Students of the Colorado School of Mines, respectfully disagree with this assessment. We feel that, due to the extremely limited amount of time left for public funding of higher education in Colorado, it is imperative that

we seek immediate solutions to this problem through legislative action. There are many bills before the legislature that attempt to deal with this very problem, and we are optimistic that, with sufficient student support and interaction with individual legislators, the problem can be addressed during the current legislative session.

The Associated Students of the Colorado School of Mines are not experienced lobbyists and do not have access to the resources available to a group like the Where is S.H.E. campaign, but we feel that we are in a somewhat unique political situation at our school. We will work through our administration and our contacts in the state legislature to advance our goal: securing public funding for higher education in Colorado. We would rather make the mistake of overestimating our influence than compromise our autonomy.

We would like to reiterate that we are not denouncing the Where is S.H.E. campaign; in fact we consider you our allies in the fight for higher education appropriation from the state coffer. We are merely taking the action that our Student Government feels is prudent.

Thank you very much for your time and we wish you luck in all your endeavors.

Sincerely,

Emil D'Innocenzo

President of the Associated Students of the Colorado School of Mines

So, on February 11 I'm sure everyone is aware of the snow dump that occurred in the Golden area. Well, frustrated with classes for the day, out of sheer boredom, I decided to put my years of engineering experience to the task of building a snow cave. Now, the idea of this snow cave was born out of an article I read recently explaining the steps for said construction.

Unfortunately, it was a rather long article and I decided to scan through it; as a student at mines, I figured it wouldn't be too hard. The steps for constructing a snow cave are as follows: First, you want a hell of a lot of snow. Second, you want to make a pile at least eight feet in diameter and about three to four feet high. Now, depending on the quality of the snow (i.e. water content) you might need more snow.

The third step is to compact the snow as much as possible either with a snow shovel or by stomping on it. Continue piling the snow and stomping on it until you've fashioned a reasonably sized snow packed mound. If at all possible avoid powdery conditions; I spent three hours packing the powder mass until something usable was fashioned.

With your snow packed mound, begin tunneling out a hole. Believe me, if you've packed the snow enough it'll be pretty tough to get through so using every sharp implement in your arsenal hack away at your mound. I tried using a small trowel and a snow shovel, but I think a snow or ice pick would work better. Keep tunneling removing the snow from within the cave and placing it on top of the mound essen-

tially turning the mound inside out. Hollow out the mound making a comfortable cave to sleep or camp in.

Make sure, while hollowing out your cave, you make the walls as smooth and round as possible. This will enable any melting ice to flow along the walls and not in your face. Once completed, you will want to make a hole in the wall about the size of a fist to breathe out of. Light a candle within the structure to begin melting the walls, so they begin to ice up around you making a protective shell.

After a few hours of constructing your very own ice cave, you too will have a rewarding structure standing in your backyard many days after the snow melts.

## On Irony

Originally written for  
www.TJMonkeys.com

It was unseasonably warm and a man was eating an ice cream cone of Breyers Vanilla ice cream. It melted in the summer air.

I saw the man, and I said, "Is that good?"

He looked at me for a moment. "I love ice cream. I could eat it by the ton."

The trees rustled in the breeze. "If you ate a ton of ice cream, you'd die. Wouldn't it be ironic to be killed by the thing you loved?" I said suddenly.

He considered his Breyers ice cream for a moment. "Yes," he said, "It would."

We stood for a moment in silence and listened to the faint jangling of the ice cream truck's bell.

Suddenly, the man was stabbed to death by the CEO of Breyer's.

I looked at the CEO for a moment. As the ice cream melted on the pavement, I said, "I don't think that was quite as ironic."

He looked at me sadly.

The ice cream bell jangled again. Somewhere, an angel got his wings.

John

## On Astrology

I broke up with my girlfriend.

I did it because I just got this astrology book, and I looked up our signs, and they just weren't compatible, Zodiac-wise, you know.

You see, I'm a Sagittarius. She's a Bitch.

Apparently, I'm a free spirit and prone to take chances.

She enjoys sucking the life and happiness out of people.

Yep, that's what the ol' book said.

Well, I mean, you gotta read between the lines with this stuff.

Porter

# Who Moved My Girls?

Hans Dawson

Every economy has turbulent times, and good businesses or organizations must be prepared to survive, or even succeed. In a dynamic economy, market conditions can change as customers switch preferences, consume less, or otherwise make the suppliers' job more difficult. To cope with this inevitability, several rules for suppliers are offered as a way to survive these tough conditions:

1. Complain endlessly about the lack of customers and the customers themselves. Customers will respect this and realize they aren't consuming enough, therefore changing the market conditions.

2. Don't be concerned with the quality of the product line offered. Customers in a tough market aren't able to choose the best product. They make decisions at random and improving the product will be useless.

3. Become bitter and consider closing the business permanently.

Customers admire this and will reward disenfranchised companies accordingly.

4. Be shortsighted. Recent market trends will likely continue forever. Devalue the company based on what has happened recently, as customers appreciate this optimism.

5. Pester customers. A customer who repeatedly rejects the product only needs more attempts to accept the same product.

6. Don't ever move to a different market. Customers in difficult markets appreciate a persistent effort, and will eventually consume the product.

These six simple steps will help those facing tough market conditions achieve their dreams of financial success. Revenue will increase and the company will have a bright future. If adherence to these six steps does not immediately result in higher earnings, be persistent. Do not give up and do not change. Customers always appreciate this.

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