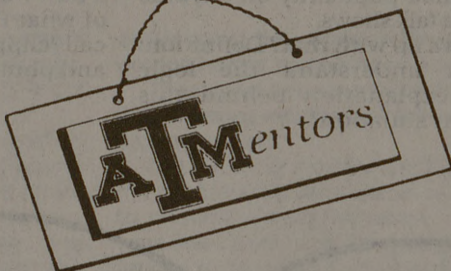


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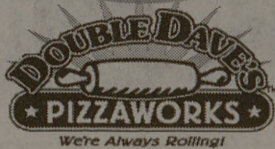
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70's Night

March 21st

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SLANG

Continued from Page 3

-How cool is that? Definition: That is cool. This is a rhetorical question, and students who hear it are not expected to give an answer, such as, "That is very cool. Thank you for asking." The phrase achieved full Generation X status with its inclusion in the Weezer song "El Scorcho": "I asked her to go to the Green Day concert / She said she'd never heard of them / How cool is that?"

-Random. Definition: Strange, odd.
-The bomb. Definition: A very cool thing or person. Despite the destructive, murderous power of its namesake, the phrase "the bomb" is a compliment.

Although such words are en vogue now, whether they will survive the test of time is debatable, Ferrara said.

"Many youth speech patterns filter upward," Ferrara said. "Some, like 'cool' stick around. Others are ephemeral, they come and go like butterflies."

Many slang words and phrases — like "the bomb" or "all that and a bag of chips" — appear to have their roots in the African-American community, Ferrara said.

"The phrase 'That's bad,' meaning 'That's good' — that definitely came from the black speech community," she said. "That's a big source of language."

Another important source is the oft-mocked "Valley girl" community — or, as Ferrara phrases it, "upwardly mobile white females."

"There's something called up-speaking," she said, "where you make a declarative sentence, but the intonation goes

up, so it sounds like a question.

"It's very frequent with women. They would say an announcement like 'We're going to have a party with the SAs?' But it would sound like, 'Is that all right with you?'"

Another speech pattern that may have originated among "Valley girls" is the "be-plus-like phenomenon," a topic about which Ferrara wrote an entire journal article.

This phenomenon occurs when young people use a form of the verb "to be" with the word "like" to substitute for such forms as "he said."

The phenomenon represents a change in the grammar of the English language, Ferrara said, and is therefore significant to linguists.

Although students today might be, like, "We use slang," many words and phrases will die out later in their lives, she said.

"People may use a form during a period of their life and then discard it," Ferrara said. "The heavy use of slang may be an age-graded thing."

It also varies regionally, she said. "I remember when I first heard the term 'mugging' to mean 'kissing,'" she said. "My daughter said it, and I was thinking, 'What does that mean?'"

In other words, it is unlikely viewers will hear Chandler on Friends say, "Could this espresso be any more red-ass?"

The use of slang and clipped words is a predictable trait of college students, Ferrara said.

"They're developing their interests," she said. "Developing new fashions, music and new forms of speech."

"Slang is frequent in the field of vocabulary. New words come and go all the time."

C&W SHOW

Continued from Page 3

Green said his band's music appeals to college kids because it was not too long ago that he himself was in college.

"We love playing to college kids," Green said. "That's our favorite thing to

do. It's when everyone

the most fun in life."

Both Green and Morrow agree they love playing Aggies.

"Playing in College is the best," Morrow said. "The crowds are a lot of them make a lot of noise, have a good time. College has been the best for us thus far."



Cory Morrow is opening for Chris LeDoux at Hurricane Harry's tomorrow night. Pat Green and Highway 6 will also perform.

Breakers push for Bibles instead of beer

PANAMA CITY BEACH, Fla. (AP) — Temptation is everywhere. Bars beseech students to drink all day for \$5. Bikini-wearing women beckon. Thong-clad boys cajole.

Into this Gomorrah wades the Baptist Student Union and the Campus Crusade for Christ with a weapon of their own — pancakes and beach games.

"We're not going to push God down their throat," said Rachael Elrod, 19, a sophomore at Campsville University in Kentucky.

It can't hurt to grease the skids with flap jacks.

Baptist students spread across the hot beach sands of this spring break mecca every day inviting students to a free pancake breakfast.

As they eat, they listen to talk about the Bible and Jesus in the hope they will leave with more than just a full stomach.

About 3,000 young adults, some former spring break sinners, offer succor to the estimated 500,000 college students who annually make the pilgrimage to Panama City Beach. Called "Beach Reach," it preaches without getting too pushy.

"It's a confrontational type of evangelism, but it's done in a way that it's not confrontational," said the Rev. Darren Tipton, of Nashville, Tenn.

Tipton, a student evangelism assistant with the Southern Baptist Convention and leader of "Beach Reach," said revelers need a little reminder of morality.

"They are confronted with something they thought they left at home, a lot of them, or that they didn't expect to find on the beach," he said.

Traditional spring breaker Rob Pavis, 23, a University of Buffalo senior from Staten Island, thought he would be drinking his breakfast.

Instead, he found himself eating pancakes and talking religion with William Stacy, a Baptist sophomore at the University of North Texas.

"I pretty much believe what they believe and I think they believe what I believe," said Pavis, a Roman Catholic. "It's nice to meet good people."

Stacy, 20, of Kerrville, Texas, said he's just trying to point people in the right direction.

"I'm not trying to convert anyone," Stacy said.

The Baptist students also offer free rides to students, hoping to get in a little talk along the way.

One van crew had difficulty getting its message across to a handful of University of Louisville students, some of whom appeared drunk. After playing a game of guessing when the van arrived at its destination before any mentioned religion.

As the students got out they were invited to pancake breakfast the next morning at an amusement park parking lot.

Pancakes are not the only way to draw a crowd. The Campus Crusade sponsors volleyball tournaments and each evening its members gather in a huge blue-and-white striped tent for singing, Bible lessons and Christian rock and roll.

Jason Holbrook, 24, a 1995 University of Kentucky graduate, used to head to spring break for the reasons. Now he's with the Campus Crusade.

"Drinking a lot didn't make me happy, just whole party lifestyle, I guess, chasing girls and kind of thing," Holbrook recalled.

"You'd party and spend all your money on spring break and just wake up hung over and miserable," Holbrook said. "I kind of grieve for these guys because I remember how I felt."

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