

COMING THURSDAY...

Contraversial Topic:
RU486

Lifestyles

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THE REBEL YELL

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photo by Joseph McCullough

McCullough took this photograph from his office in the English building at Polytechnic University in Athens in 1985. A riot began outside the university's chemistry building when anarchists put a bomb under a police van and then retreated to the chemistry building where they began making Molotov cocktails to hurl at police.

No cellular phones, guns, beepers or late entry

by Richard Munson

English professor Joseph McCullough has co-written Jerry Tarkanian's biography, slept in Mark Twain's house, traveled the world and instituted a few rules to ensure students of attending and listening in his classes.

To begin with, there are no cellular phones, guns or beepers allowed in his classrooms. All of this stems from prior experiences in his classes. One guy in his class received a call from his girlfriend, the two had just been in a fight. While class was going on, the student decided to patch things up and make a date with his girlfriend.

In another strange experience, a student, a police officer, came to class after he was off duty but still armed and dangerous. McCullough always wondered what would have happen if he would have given the officer a bad grade. From that moment on, no guns have been allowed in his class.

The ubiquitous beeper has become the latest annoying distraction in the classroom McCullough said.

He said he doesn't think that beepers are needed in class unless the student is a doctor or someone called for emergencies.

The latest rule he has instituted, is that there is no late entry. McCul-

lough has found that, with his casual, sometimes "anything goes" teaching style, some students were coming to class when they felt like it. Since this rule change, nearly all of his students are on time and rarely are classes missed. This isn't set in stone. Students do show up late but the rule does give them a reason to be on time.

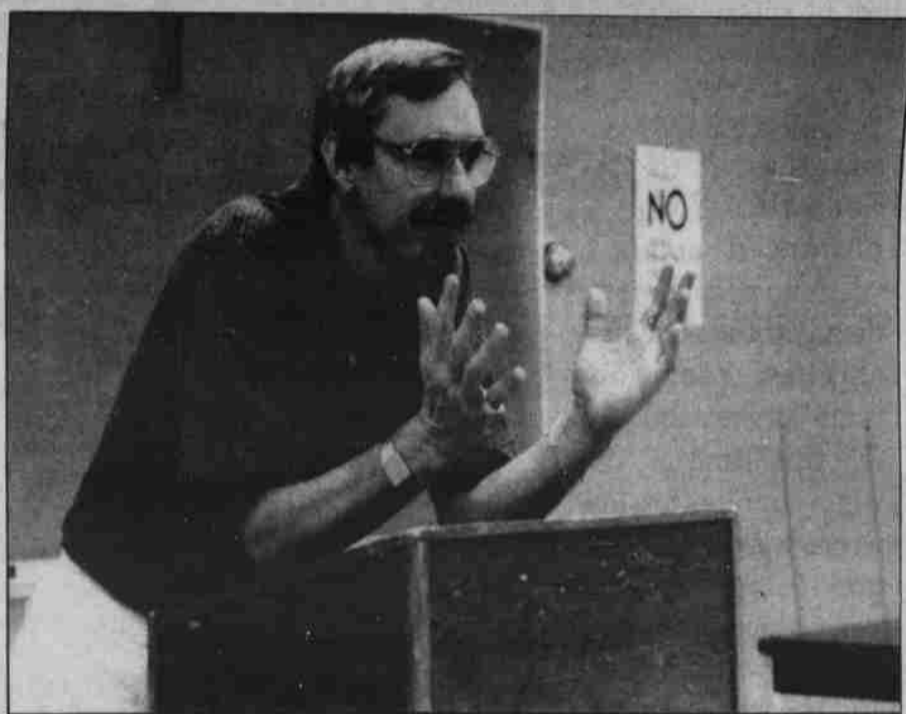
"One time I had a student call from her car phone saying 'I'm circling.' I didn't know if she was in a plane or the parking lot," McCullough joked.

McCullough has spent time teaching in Europe and enjoyed being overseas.

"I love to look at American life from another point of view, from the outside," McCullough said.

He has been the recipient of two Fulbright scholarships that have allowed him to teach at the University of Helsinki in 1980, and the University of Athens, in Greece in 1985. While teaching in Helsinki he was able to get away and teach at the University of Rome. Now he is expecting his third Fulbright sometime within the next two years. Two is a rarity, and three is almost unheard of.

While teaching at Polytechnic University in Athens, McCullough was caught in the middle of a riot. Anarchists had put a bomb under a police van and blown it up. Immediately they ran to the university for safety since the



English professor Joseph McCullough has received two Fulbright scholarships.

police could not do anything while they were on campus. Soon there were 1,000 armed police surrounding the campus. Then 10,000 people showed up to surround the police. Meanwhile, the students had locked themselves in the chemistry buildings where they made Molotov cocktails out of the chemicals in the building.

McCullough was in the English building which was next to the chemistry building while the police were shooting tear gas into it. While this was taking place, the students were throw-

ing more chemicals out.

"I went to the head of the English department and asked what I should do and he said to keep working. So I told him, 'I'm willing to spill blood over Mark Twain but not Anne Bradstreet' (a minor early American poet)," McCullough said.

McCullough, an authority on Mark Twain, is now completing "The Bible according to Mark Twain," with another writer. The book contains unpublished material written by Twain during the last 10 years of his life.