

ENERGETIC SELF-STARTER /1/ PERMANENTLY LOATHED

*Timothy Benson, 27, a **self-described "fast learner and motivated self-starter," showed up for his first day of work at Williams & Broderick Accounting Monday eager to get started, instantly earning him the undying hatred of his new co-workers.***

"He walks in here, and **the first thing he does** is hang this poster **above** his desk that **says**, 'What Can I Do To **Make** This Company The Best It Can Be?'" said Lance Douglas, a 14-year veteran of the firm. "Then he introduces himself to everybody in the office with a big smile and a hearty **handshake**, and **offers to** take his **department head** out to lunch **so 'we can get to know each other** better.' God, I hate him."

Though Benson **has not even been** at Williams & Broderick a full week, he has already reorganized the company supply closet with a simple **color-coding** system, offered to **take on** some **extra** projects **over** the weekend and **purchased** a birthday gift for office manager Thom Heffernan's five-year-old son, **guaranteeing** that he will be **permanently** loathed by **virtually everyone else** at the company.

"Oh, excuse me, Mr. Spivak, can I help you with these forms?" **mocked** co-worker Ellen Carper, repeating Benson's words **from earlier in the day** in a **high-pitched, obsequious-toady** voice. "What a friggin' **kiss-ass.**" **"I've been hauling my tired old ass** into this **hellishly** sterile office for 22 **goddamn** long and **miserable** years, **planting myself** here at this same windowless cubicle and **cranking out** the same **meaningless** forms **'til I'm blue in the face,**" said William Richelieu, 51. "The last thing I need as I'm trying to **hold on to what little of my sanity remains** is some young **son-of-a-bitch running around trying** to increase productivity and **get me to encourage** 'team spirit.' If he doesn't **quit running** to the fax machine every time it **goes off**, I'm going to go to his house in the middle of the night and **slash his tires.**" "Then we'll see who **shows up** 15 minutes early," Richelieu added.

So far, Benson has **picked up** several new **skills** outside his **job description**, teaching himself how to change toner cartridges, **un-jam** paper **trays** and replace the **jugs** on the office water cooler. He has sent out five **separate** memos **offering tips on how things could be done** more **efficiently**, and has even brought **homemade cookies** for "the whole **staff.**" "He should get cancer," said Janice Mulrone, who two years ago, in recognition of her 20th anniversary **with** Williams & Broderick, received a gift certificate **good for** dinner for two at a local Red Lobster. "Every day I **curse** this **hellhole.**"