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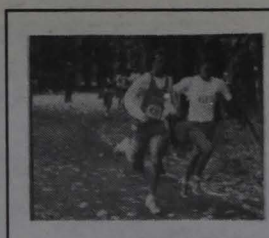
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**Pre-Registration
Begins Friday!**

The Mercury

The student newspaper of Glenville State College

**Don't Delay,
Prepare Today!**

Volume 67, No. 11

November 9, 1995

Fisher Reigns as Miss WV 96

*Sandra Gibson
staff writer*

Regina Dawn Fisher was feeling quite nervous when she was the last young lady to be called in the five finals. She was feeling even more anxious when she and two other ladies were left standing after the first and second runners up had been chosen. But when she was named Miss West Virginia, she must have been in a temporary state of shock.

"I could hear screaming and cheering, but I felt totally helpless. I simply froze as the crown was being placed upon my head and the banner was placed around my torso. Suddenly, I was walking (floating) down the runway, carrying a bouquet of roses and trying to balance the crown atop my head. It was positively, a breathtaking experience!"

Fisher has been crowned Miss West Virginia U.S.A. 1996 and will represent our state in the Miss U.S.A. pageant in South Potre Island, Texas this February. Excitedly she comments, "I look forward to the Miss U.S.A. Pageant. I am going to work very hard to represent West Virginia."

Fisher is one who indeed understands hard work. She is

the daughter of a single parent and has worked on campus throughout her college years to help pay for her education. Her recent victory does not over

support I needed in order to achieve."

Her sponsors for the pageant are as follows: Terry Ellyson and family; Chenoweth Stables; Larry S. Whited, Attorney at Law; Jones Chevy Olds, Tim Moore State Farm Insurance, Holbert's Self Service; Dave's Auto; Pursley's Furniture & Appliance; Garland's Grocery; Attic Images; Smith's Self Service; Tom Collins; John F. Oshoway, Attorney at Law; Tony Morgan, Attorney at Law; Michael Motors; West Virginia Horseman's Report; Jeff's Exxon; Drake's Auto Sales; Harshorn License Service; Town & Country Beauty Shop; Johnson's Tire and Wilma Mace.

While serving our region proudly, she plans to give attribute to our college as well, although her duties as Miss WV will limit her to a part-time student status for the Spring Semester.

"GSC is not only where I plan to complete my education, but my mother and my sister are alumni from here also. My roots are deep here and therefore, I hope to represent my region to the best of my ability."

Fisher is the daughter of Connie Fisher of Glenville and Clifford Fisher of Normantown.



Regina Fisher, Miss West Virginia USA 1996

cloud those who she feels merit the honor.

She modestly acknowledges her mother, a teacher at Sand Fork and her many sponsors as being responsible for helping her win. "I would like to thank all those people who sponsored me and gave me the moral



Nancy Wemm is very proud of Lori Crouder and Wanda Roff, Forensic Team Winners

Roff and Crouter Earn Public Speaking Honors

*J. Jeremy Dean
staff writer*

The GSC Forensics team traveled to Marietta College last weekend for competition.

Wanda Roff won honors there in two public speaking events. She won first place for an after dinner speech, and fourth place, with partner Lori L. Crouter, in the partners category.

Roff's after dinner speech was entitled "How to Have Happy Healthy Feet in Corporate America."

"It made an important point through humor," said Nancy Wemm, the advisor of the GSC Forensics team.

When asked to comment on her victory, Roff stated, "I was shocked." Then she added, "I think it was all those orthopedic shoes the judges

were wearing."

In the category of oral interpretation, the team of Roff and Crouter took fourth place for their interpretation of a scene from the play "Mama Drama." In this event the participants are not allowed any movements except facial expressions, and movement of arms. The idea is that the scene must be "acted" out with the voice rather than with movement.

Also participating in the competition were the teams of Jeremy Burks and Chris Gravely, John Park and Stephanie Johnson, and John Barton giving a persuasive speech. There were 16 schools represented at the competition. Among these were California PA, West Virginia Wesleyan, and Fairmont.

"There were a lot of bigger schools there," Wemm said, "I was very surprised."



From the Editor's Desk

Sandra Gibson

Recently, I was enlightened at a family gathering. My niece who had gained a considerable amount of weight while away at college, was being taunted as to "how much she had gained". She retorted, that she didn't know, but she could assure those inquiring minds present that she wore size seven. She then proceeded to reveal her tag. Sure enough, the jeans were SIZE 7. Now, her mother, a nice 110 pound woman, who was also chiding her daughter about her weight, confided in secret, that her daughter has purchased the jeans at a speciality store for a speciality price. Yes, now the size 13 who longs to be in a size six, can do so, with the only loss coming from the bank account.

Hey, I'm not knocking this. In fact, I love the idea. It will save the time I use ripping out those tell-tale clothing tags with the risk of loosing the laundry instructions. In fact, I'd even like to launch a campaign to promote this as a common identifying factor on driver's license. This also eliminates those guilt feelings, caused from me having to leave weight info the same year after year. (Actually, I do update every 15 years or so.)

In fact, at the time of my last update, I was disappointed (upset) to realize that the picture looked out of line with the info. So I proceeded to correct this on my own. I steamed, I pried, I used a razor, and I finally removed the recently taken photo. Proudly, I replaced it with one that best reflected my reflection of me. Now, my son who had been observing all this time, finally spoke up.

"It's only a picture Mom and besides isn't that illegal?" (Imagine, this is the same son who hogs the bathroom space and tells me, that no one needs to see anyway.)

Sure enough, just two days later, Mom was pulled over by a nice police officer who wanted to remind her to turn her headlights on during a rainstorm. Sneering from under those sunglasses, while I apologized for the mangled license, he kindly advised me that I may want to apply for a lost license and get a new picture.

You see, it just goes to prove, we all understand this greater power called VANITY. I mean, it's just the American way or in the words of an ancient king and a very wise man who was a noted authority on the subject, "Vanity of vanities.... (Solomon, Ecclesiastes 1:2) What I look ten years younger? I'll take a dozen."



© 1995 Art by Kurt Williams

Dear Editor:

I am writing in concern of the letter written last week about the Resident Assistant problem. I am a Resident Assistant in Pickens Hall and like the person mentioned, we do have a lot of responsibilities and it can be tough at times.

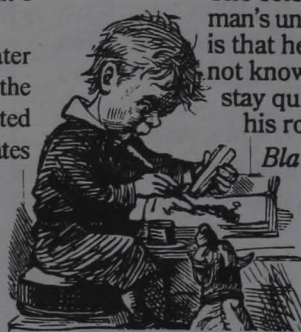
I would like to remind the students living in the dorms that if you are having a problem please discuss it with the R.A., or if you are not comfortable with speaking to an R.A. then we have two qualified House Directors in the Residents Halls who I am sure would be willing to hear your problem. Before running to the newspapers, try speaking to an authority (House Director) and work out the problem. I believe we can resolve things much quicker this way!

R.A.s are working to ensure your protection and well being. If you have a problem, please come let us know and hopefully we can come up with a solution. If you don't speak up to us, we don't know what troubles you.

Sincerely,
Robin Scudder
R.A.

The sole cause of man's unhappiness is that he does not know how to stay quietly in his room.

Blaise Pascal



-Russian Proverb

Dear Editor:

Male prisoner on Death Row at the Arizona State Prison would like mail from anyone that would like to write. I am 35 years old, without family and have been in this cell for almost a dozen years already. I would like correspondence from anyone who has the time to write letters and would enjoy receiving letters from me in return. This life has been a hard and lonely one and I would be grateful for any company anyone would care to give. I will answer

all letters written to me and to those who do write, please feel free to talk about or ask whatever you are curious about. Being a condemned prisoner, I am kept strictly isolated and locked in my cell. I am not allowed to work to get money for stamps, so if you could send some it would be a big help to me. Anyone interested please write: Michael Correll #51493, Arizona State Prison, P.O. Box 8600, Florence, Arizona 85232. Sincerely,
Michael Correll

A Different Point of View

Kaoru Morikawa
contributing writer

Hi, "Konnichiwa"! I'm Molly. My true name is Kaoru, but I adopted my nickname because I liked it and it's easy to say. There are big differences between English and my language, Japanese; grammar pronunciation and letters (words).

I'm learning English from my friends (I call them my English instructors). And I realized that there were so many ways to say things in English. "Konnichiwa" means hello in Japanese. I cannot think of other words for it. In English, however, there is not only one way to say hello; there are also, good afternoon; hello, hi, howdy and ya. These are all I know of so

far.

Well, I have been learning normal and textbook type of English but now I have to learn different English, like slangs and hillbilly (I learned these words from my English instructor). I'm very interested in learning English slang because I think it will help me understand American cultures better.

In Japanese there is also slang. Here's some I'll share with you: "you're stupid"-"baka" and "shut-up"-"damake" (My instructor says that's enough for now.)

In upcoming issues, you'll be hearing from me and some of my friends. We'll be sharing some of our culture with you and hope that you'll enjoy it as much as we enjoy sharing yours.

Slang is a language that rolls up it's sleeves, spits on it's hands and goes to work.

-Carl Sandburg

Mercury Photo Requests

The Mercury Photography staff asks Glenville State College faculty and organizations to write requests for photographs one week in advance. This is in order to schedule a session. Also photographs will be sold by the Mercury office. The prices will be \$2 for an 8x10, \$1.50 for a 5x7 and \$1 for a 3 1/2x5. Thank you.

Gene Breza, Photo Editor

The Mercury Staff, Vol. 67

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Dear Editor:

I'm sorry! I need to apologize to Lisa Belknap for not including pictorial illustrations to go along with my article. As I was writing that particular letter I did consider "drawing pictures" for those folks whom I knew would totally misinterpret the entire meaning of it.

While Lisa conveniently overlooked every point that I had made concerning the Farahkan/Nation of Islam racism and hypocrisy, she made sure that I was criticized for the factual analogies that I used to make my points. I tried to keep my terminology on an elementary level so as not to confuse or mislead people of Lisa's calibre!

She even went as far as to accuse me of "labeling how black men should act". I abso-

lutely resent that! I resent her accusation because I certainly made no statement in my letter that would even suggest that.

Where did she come up with some of that stuff anyway? Even a couple of black (American) students whom I asked to read my article were in no way offended by it. Moreover, they believed that her statements may have been a hasty response due to some personal insecurities.

One of the students felt as though Lisa had left out the element of tact when she wrote about the late Dr. King "kissing up to white men who beat blacks". I guess Miss Belknap just decided to not read my letter open-minded and objectively...she forgot to take off her blinders. It almost appears as though she is dwelling

in the past and holding grudges!

One thing is for certain, she could possibly be hired by Farahkan as a public relations person provided that she is not white (which is made worse by the fact that the Nation of Islam receives public money to support its cause)! By the way editor, as I read Lisa's letter (which in no way addressed the Farahkan issue) I could faintly hear violins playing softly in the background...could you?

Although I disagree with Lisa's analysis of my letter, I do commend her for standing firm and voicing her opinion. I wish more students would stand up for what they believe in. There's nothing wrong with healthy debate every now and again.

Todd Longanacre



Conversational Green

Jeffery A.

Cold

The snow is falling outside the window. I see the people bustling about, bundled from head to toe, covered up with their winter wear. Hidden behind a warm wall of wool.

Cold, that's what I am on the inside, when I'm on the outside. All I want is to be inside looking out at the bleak bitter blur of blinding nothing. Wrapped up in my blanket of protection, my big fuzzy multi-colored comforter. I don't know where it came from, and I don't know who will have it when I'm gone, but I pray it will always wrap around me when I need it. When I'm chilled to my very bare bones.

When the chills run rampant up and down my spine, and the shivers creep under my skin, I know that nothing will provide my relief except...

What? What can warm the ice that forms in my chest, when I breath in those frigid darts of air. Frozen shards of oxygen giving life, and yet cutting the very lungs that demand them.

My Mommie would bundle me up as a child, and put a hat on my head. She would let me go play in the cold, in the snow, and I would love it. Sliding down hills on a steal runner sled, and building a snow man using a carrot for the nose.

Now that I'm older I only want to be warm. I complain about the freezing tundra that invades my landscape every winter, and I detest the slippery slopes that I used to adore. The meanings have changed and I want them to return, but how can I ever love the cold again?

How can I look into the eye of the impending storm and say I desire this frozen earth to return to me again and again and again. A continuous cycle of freezing, thawing, and freezing again. The cycle of blinding blue ice, the cycle that freezes the very soul of human kind, and gives us all the hope that some day we may be warm again.

When I look upon my realizations of all the dreary desolate winter daze I've lived through, and when I feel the chill that resides now in my heart, my mind tells me there will be cold days ahead. I pray every evening before I drift off to sleep, wrapped in my warm blanket, that I may be wrong.

Don't be afraid to make a mistake, your readers might like it.
-William Randolph Hearst

Is your boyfriend or girlfriend being a jerk? Are your parents driving you absolutely nuts? Or do you just need some good old advice? Well, we've got some answers.

Beginning next week, *The Mercury* will bring you a new advice column, "Just Ask J," written by Copy Editor, Jenifer Frame.

Send questions to Jenifer Frame, C/O *The Mercury*, GSC, Glenville, WV 26351 or just drop by *The Mercury* office. Hope to help you soon! We'll be anxiously awaiting your questions.

Questionnaire

What do you like most about *The Mercury*?

What do you like least about *The Mercury*?

Do you feel that we are adequately addressing issues important to you?

Are we allowing you enough space for you to voice your concerns?

What would you like to see added to *The Mercury*?

Please sign with an X in the appropriate reader status box.

☐ Student

☐ Staff

☐ Faculty

☐ Other (please explain)



© 1995 Art by Kurt Williams

WE'VE MADE A MISTAKE!

Didn't Tell You...
Boxes for the questionnaires are in the following locations, 1st floor in AB building, Heflin Center Lobby, and the library



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Why can't somebody give us a list of things that everybody thinks and nobody says, and another list of things that everybody says and nobody thinks

-Oliver Wendell Holmes



Movie Review

Kenneth Wilkins

"Fair Game"

Have you ever gone to a movie theater and watched the movie all the way through even though it made no sense to you? That was my feeling this past weekend as I sat through the big screen opening of "Fair Game".

Cindy Crawford make her move from the modeling industry to the movie industry a fashionable one as she stars in the movie as civil attorney Kate McQueen. McQueen's quiet life of luxury is turned upside down as one of her civil suit cases soon turns out to be more than she planned for.

William Baldwin ("Backdraft") co-stars in the action/thriller as detective Max Kirkpatrick. What started out as a normal day of work soon turns to hell after Baldwin is assigned Crawford's accidental shooting case. Before long, both of the actors find themselves the target of the Russian mob and are soon on their own as they don't know who to trust.

Baldwin and Crawford's performances as the running duo is average, even though the script is poorly written. The support cast does an okay job of relief to help make the movie go along.

The Russian mob actors are still the same old mean villains you find in every other movie that involves the Russian mob. The only difference with this group is the neat little electronic gadgets they get to play with.

I liked the action and suspense found in this film, but the script part of the movie is terrible. There's no plot! You are left wondering what the heck is happening as you are thrown into the middle of the action with no lead up to what is going on.

So, if you are looking to go see Cindy Crawford's movie debut, I would definitely take a pillow, for you will be bored all through the movie.



208 East Main Street
Glenville, WV 26351
(304) 462-8055

WEEKLY SPECIALS

Monday--Horror Movies 2 for 1
Tuesday--2 day rental--due on Thursday
Wednesday--2 for 1 rental
Thursday--Rent any 3 movies for \$5
Friday--Sci-Fi & Westerns 2 for 1
Saturday--2 day rental--due on Monday

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Evans, Lloyd Recitals Enjoyed

*Ken McWhorter
staff writer*

The Senior Recital of Darlene Evans, soprano voice, and Tracie Lloyd, flute, was well received Tuesday. Lloyd performed pieces by Ernest Bloch, C.P.E. Bach, and Claude Debussy.



*Tracie Lloyd
Photo by Gene Breza*

Lloyd's applied instructor, Phillip Rossano explained that the "Suite Modale" by Ernest Bloch contains Hebrew themes. Rossano went on to explain that Bloch had also composed a piece called "Schelemo" for symphony and cello and that it is one of the most beautiful pieces of literature you could hear.

Another piece in Lloyd performance, "Syrinx" by

Claude Debussy, is, according to Rosanno, named after the sound producing mechanism in the throat of a bird.

Lloyd stated that she has been preparing for this recital since last spring. She enjoyed the pieces and thought the Bach piece went very well.

Lloyd is a member of MENC (Music Educators National Conference) Kappa Delta Pi, band, choir, woodwind ensemble and was recently crowned homecoming queen. She would like to find a job in elementary music or middle school and then move on to high school, taking graduate classes while working.

Evans sang songs by Alessandro Parisotti, Benedetto Marcello, Claude Debussy, Sergei Rachmaninov, Michael Head and W.A. Mozart. When asked about her vibrant, joyful appearance on stage, Evans explained, "I really enjoy singing and it's the best way I know to express my feelings to other people."

Evans went on to say that she grew up singing in church and became particularly interested in it through her lessons

with Keith Haan, voice instructor and chairman of the Fine Arts building.

Evans explained that she first heard the piece, "Batti, Batti o bel Masetto," by W.A. Mozart, while attending the opera. "Don Giovanni" with other members of the choir. Ever since then she has been inspired to perform it.



*Darlene Evans
Photo by Gene Breza*

"Vocalise" by Sergei Rachmaninov was, according to Haan, originally designed as a vocal exercise. Haan stated, "I was pleased with Evans' recital and the fact, she did a lot of different styles."

Evans is a member of MENC, choir, band and chamber singers. She wants to attend graduate school some time in the future with vocal emphasis.

Students Prepare for Brass Ensemble

Amy Jo Rowan

Members of Glenville State College's music department are anxiously preparing for the college's annual Brass Ensemble Concert. The event will take place on Tuesday, November 14, at 8 p.m., in the Fine Arts Auditorium. Admission is free.

The ensemble is being directed and coordinated by Professor Harry Rich. The performances will include trombone, horn, tuba/euphonium, brass quintet and brass choir.

Rich explains that these

performances are extremely important because they stress individual effort and responsibility. "These ensembles give the performers a chance to play pieces that rely on individual effort where each person is very much responsible for playing a specific part. It gives them all a greater sense of reading ability and individual musicianship."

Performers for the event include: Ken McWhorter, Christy Halstead, Cris Gravely, Tina Kirby, Gene Greathouse, Leah Welsh, Aaron Casto, Jeremy Rodriguez, Jamie Atkins, April Estep, Valerie Mullens,

Sarah Smith, Luke Whitehair, Mike Frame, Kerri Vanhorn, Chris Simpson, Jim Flesher, Chris Brown, Allen Bearfield, Allegra Richmond, Bridget Bowen, Tonya Dalton, David Austen and Christy Austen.

In addition to practicing for the Ensemble, Rich noted that his students are also busy preparing for a brass workshop to be held in January.

He hopes to see a vast turnout at both the Ensemble and the workshop concerts. As he concluded, "These performances are both professionally worthy and fun."

Love seems the swiftest, but it is the slowest of all growths. No man or woman really knows what perfect love is until they have been married a quarter of a century.

—Mark Twain

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Music Fest '95 Dazzles All



Music Fest '95 was a hit!

Photo by Chad Samples.

Jenifer Frame
contributing writer

On Thursday, October 2, 1995, talent was in abundance on the stage of the Fine Arts Auditorium. With the Brass Ensemble, Concert Choir, Chamber Singers, Woodwind Ensemble, Jazz Band, Percussion Ensemble, and Marching Band all performing, the evening

proved to be a very entertaining one for audience and performers alike.

Although each group performed with equal talent, enthusiasm and electricity, the audience seemed to have its favorites. The power of the Percussion Ensemble, Jazz Band

and Marching Band kept the audience moving and they were all awarded with a standing ovation.

Everyone did a fantastic job, and many people are anxiously awaiting another wonderful evening of entertainment next fall at Music Fest 96'.

Fine Arts Gallery Displays Levine's Work

Jena Ellyson
staff writer

The Glenville State College Department of Art and the Cultural Affairs Committee are proud to present the mixed media works of Jessica Levine in the gallery of the Fine Arts Building from November 6 through December 7.

Levine, a resident of Greenbrier County, has one eight-year-old son, Jullian.

In fact, he is the inspiration for one painting on display at GSC entitled "A Fire Pot for My Son."

Although her love for art seems to have always existed, the young artist explains that there was a point it became "real" to her. "I remember looking through a book of abstract modern art when I was about my

son's age," she commented. "I recall thinking, 'Wow! I understand this.' It was so thrilling and exciting."

While acquiring her B.A. in anthropology, Levine also enjoyed several college art classes.

Curiosity overwhelming her, she chose to continue her education at the Pennsylvania Academy of the Fine Arts where she earned her masters degree.

"I respect anyone who puts energy and passion towards art," she stated. "Art is for everybody. It fills a need for everyone. It's a way to express oneself; to be engaged in a productive way."

She currently teaches art courses at the College of West Virginia. Levine is also proudly engaged in working on ceramic tile murals at the present time. The artist also does crafts and

makes creative foods in her "spare time."

"My friend has always said 'art is the center of the world'," Levine explained. (Certainly, art is the center of her hectic world.) "If you look at the world from that perspective, everything you see is material for art."

Jessica Levine's colorful and creative artwork is available for viewing in the gallery from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., as well as, one hour before scheduled evening performances in the Fine Arts Auditorium. Levine, herself, will also host a gallery talk on December 7 at 1:30 p.m. Art majors and minors and the general public are welcome.

"These paintings are like my children," Levine said. "I don't really have a favorite; I love them all."

Roff and Flowers to Direct Plays

Sandra Gibson
staff writer

November 15th and 16th, two students will be behind the scenes bringing our campus three one-act plays.

Wanda Roff and Ezekiel Flowers have been working diligently with Instructor Dennis Wemm in their first major debut to theatre directing.

The plays represent a wide variety of dramatic material ranging through comedy, suspense, drama and relationships. Roff will direct "Trifles", while Flowers will be directing "Beached", and together they will direct "Teeth".

A large array of new faces as well as some familiar ones, will be gracing the

stage performing these plays. These include Amy Jo Rowan, Joni Cutlip, Chris Hopkins, Rick Pheubus, Jeremy Burkes, Christian Gravelly, Lori L. Crouter, Gerry Johnson, Stephanie Johnson, Chris Kenna and Chad A. Nichols.

Mary Grace Gainer and Lee Ann Flowers will be backstage managing while Roff and Flowers hope to win you over with their great renditions of these plays.

They hope as many of you as possible can join in the fun. They would like to extend a special invitation to President Simmons, as well as all those many other lovers of literature.

However, be advised that some strong language may be used in some of the scenes.



One of Jessica Levine's colorful works!

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Campus Happenings

Tutoring

Need a tutor or want a tutor? Contact Brenda Wilson in Clark Hall or at ext. 304. Any student eligible for any subject.

Computer Lab

The Computer Lab in Clark Hall will be opened during the following hours: Mon. 9 a.m.-1 p.m., 1:30-4 p.m.; Tue. 9 a.m.-1 p.m.; Wed. 9 a.m.-11 a.m., 1-3 p.m.; Thurs. 1-3 p.m.; Fri. 1-3 p.m.

Baptist Campus Ministry

BCM meets weekly in the Verona Maple Room on Monday nights at 8:30 p.m. Everyone is encouraged to attend an evening of great fellowship.

Wesley Foundation

The Wesley Foundation serves lunch on Tuesdays at 12 p.m., followed by Chapel Services at 12:40 p.m. Bible Study is held on Thursdays at 8 p.m. followed by a movie at 9 p.m.

GSC Game Room

The Game Room is open daily during the following hours: Monday-Friday, 10 a.m.-10 p.m. and Saturday-Sunday, 5 p.m.-10 p.m. Come and check out the fun!

Fellowship of Christian Athletes

FCA meets weekly on Tuesdays at 8 p.m. in the P.E. Building, room 207.

Mary Kay Party

Delta Zeta is sponsoring a Makeover Party on Thursday, November 9 at 6:30 p.m. in the Verona Maple Room. Everyone is welcome.

Horror Picture Show

Delta Zeta is sponsoring the Rocky Horror Picture Show on Tuesday, November 14 at 8:30 p.m. The cost is only \$1. Everyone is welcome to attend.

GSC

Get into the action... and support the Pioneers!!

Saturday, November 11, 1995

GSC's Pioneer football team hosts Livingstone (NC) in our final game of the 1995 regular season at 1 p.m.

Let's Go Pioneers!!

GSC Student Teachers to Complete Practicum



Row 1 (l-r): Misty Cochran, Susan Hutchinson, Tonya Stanley, Holly Rockhold, Jill Hanshaw, Sundie Boothe, Dawn Hymes. Row 2 (l-r): Ben Price, Anita Jarrett, Stacy Waybright, Kim Vanscoy, Patsy Buckles, Claudette Greynolds. Row 3 (l-r): Lori Couter, Brian Lucas, Eric Rader, Heather Sodaro, Melinda Losch, Tina Knight, Christi Fitzwater. Row 4 (l-r): Anna Rose, Clarice Burns, Jared Hughes, Linda Minigh, Peggy Mühlbach, Janet Morton, Melissa Riley, Debbie Blake, Charlotte Miller. Row 5 (l-r): Tim White, Murray Mace, Kelly Sovine, Jackie Schimmel, Jackie Harris, Keith Jean, Yvonne Holcomb, Todd Graham

Clean-up on the Little Kanawha

Chad Samples
staff writer

Glenville State College students recently participated in efforts to clean-up the Little Kanawha River. Although there is still a lot of work to be done, the recent work is considered a success by coordinator Dr. Carl Armour.

"What the college people did is a splendid example of what college students can do to better the community," says Armour. Students from the environmental technology classes and the GSC Pioneer Football team assisted in the clean-up.

According to Armour, several tons of debris were removed from the banks of the river. Students tore down a burned out trailer that had sat along the river for years. The efforts were videoed by GSC Public Relations director Mark Loudin for future reference.

"We still have a long way to go," says Armour. "It's just so massive that it's going to take years to clean it up."

Plans are being made to resume clean-up work in November. Dr. Armour would like for other student organizations to get involved with future efforts.



Photo by Gene Breza.

Each semester, Professors Zane and deRosset join together with students to help broaden minds and share view points through works of literature. "You are the same today as you will be five years from now except for two things. . . The people you meet and the books you read."

-Charles E. Jones

Literary Society Holds Second Meeting

Amy Jo Rowan
staff writer

On Monday, November 6, the Literary Society held its second meeting for the semester. The novel discussed was Stephen King's Salem's Lot.

The Society meets an average of three times a semester to analyze and discuss a range of novels from classic to contemporary. It is directed by Professor Wayne de Rosset in cooperation with Dr. Nancy Zane.

It is an informal gathering worth one credit hour (though it may be voluntarily joined without credit by anyone at any time).

The first novel discussed this semester was Shirley Jackson's We Have Always Lived in the Castle. The final novel, Ernest Hemingway's In Our Time, will be discussed on Monday December 4, at 4:15 p.m., in AB 308. Both de Rosset

and Zane encourage any interested parties to read the novel and drop in for the discussion.

de Rosset added, "I find the Society to be a very positive seminar, in that it gives the students a chance to open up and talk about the literature. It is a very non-threatening atmosphere."

Zane further explained, "We leave it up to the students to lead these discussions and to decide where they want to go with them."

The Society has been growing in recent years. de Rosset and Zane hope to see this continue. The explain that to insure this, "they try to choose novels that will appeal to a broad base of students' interests."

Sophomore Chris Hopkins summed up his feelings on the society: "This is my second semester in the Literary Society, and I feel it is the perfect thing for avid readers like myself."

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Campus Professor Presents Foreign Policy Document

Lisa Belknap
staff writer

On October 27, Michael Smith presented a paper on 'The New Republican Congress and U.S. Foreign Policy' to the members of West Virginia Political Science Association.

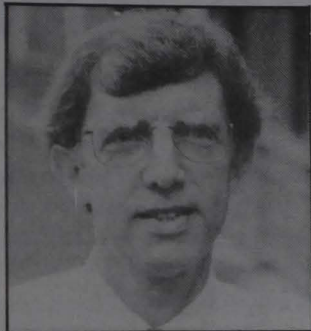
Smith was just last year voted President of the association.

The basis of Smith's paper was "...to examine what the Republicans have talked about and attempted in their efforts to re-shape U.S. foreign policy."

The paper sited several areas of Republican concern: defense spending, the nation's deficit, distrust of international institutions and antipathy to communist and formerly communist countries.

He also provides evidence that they cannot exclude the moral issue of abortion from foreign policy.

The feeling of the presentation is that Republicans while concerned with balancing the budget and fearful of spending too much money on foreign aid, are still willing to appropriate \$7 billion more for weapons and



Dr. Mike Smith
Photo by Gene Breza.

weapon development than the President asked for.

Smith feels that the Republicans haven't reached the point of real battle yet; they are mainly demonstrating to the President what they feel he needs to be addressing. He also speculates that the Republicans are directing their efforts toward domestic audiences in an attempt to "...set up the next Presidential campaign."

Smith notes the Congressional Quarterly as his primary source of information. He says he would be happy to hear from anyone with an interest in "observing the role Congress and the President play in the democratic process of formulating and implementing U.S. foreign policy".

Students Nominated for Internship

Jena Ellyson
staff writer

Four outstanding students have been nominated by Glenville State College for the Frasure-Singleton Student Legislative program. T.J. Drake and Tim White are the traditional student nominees while Janet Ferrell and Teresa McCourt-Cutlip are nontraditional student nominees, acquiring most of their classes through the Nicholas County Center.

"All four are dedicated students with good records," Mike Smith, coordinator of the program on campus explained. "Each one is well qualified to represent the college and serve

the state in a legislative internship."

The Frasure-Singleton program grants students the opportunity to work for a legislator for one week while the legislature is in session. It is available to full-time sophomores, juniors and seniors in colleges and universities throughout the state.

Last year, two GSC students, Tim Derico and Holly Wilkewitz, were chosen to participate in the Frasure-Singleton program.

"We had two excellent representatives last year," Smith commented, "and I expect we will be similarly well represented again this year."

The Continuing Crisis

Theodore A. Webb
staff writer

"NOW THEREFORE LET IT BE RESOLVED BY THE GLENVILLE STATE FACULTY SENATE:

that the Senate censures James Lowell Peterson, Vice-President for Academic Affairs of Glenville State College, for not involving division faculty in the selection of four new division chairpersons for the 1995-96 academic year; and,

that the Senate censures William K. Simmons, President of Glenville State College, for failing to insure that the Vice-President for Academic Affairs involve division faculty in the selection of four new division chairpersons for the 1995-96 academic year and for not taking steps to rectify this omission after it was called to attention by the Senate."

This resolution was ap-

Mr. Peck responded to President Simmons' September 19th letter.

"As you are aware, there are two issues involved concerning 'the disposition of division chairs at Glenville State College'," Mr. Peck writes. "The first issue is your decision not to reappoint the former chairs of the fine arts, land resources and social science divisions. The second issue concerns the lack of involvement of division faculty in the appointment of new division chairs in the fine arts, physical education, land resources and social science divisions. While the two issues are historically related, they appear to us to be logically separate."

In the letter, the Senate agrees with Simmons in regard to the first issue, not reappointing the division chairs. The Senate agrees that the "resolution lies in the presentation of evidence and the conclusions of the court."

"It was and remains our perception that a successful resolution of the second issue goes to the very heart of the question of developing and maintaining an authentic system of shared campus governance at Glenville State College," the Faculty Senate explains.

proved by the Faculty Senate on August 31, 1995 and amended September 7, 1995. On September 19, 1995, GSC President William K. Simmons responded in writing to the Faculty Senate's Resolution #6.

"Since the matter had and has legal ramifications through the grievance process and the court system, it would have been inappropriate for me to comment on any details regarding the matter," Simmons says in his September 19th letter.

"It appears that you are willing to draw conclusions based upon only one side of the issue to this point. Since the matter is now in court, it seems to me that the resolution lies in the presentation of evidence and conclusions of the court."

The September 19th letter was addressed to Mr. Paul Peck, President of the Faculty Senate.

Ten days later, on September 29, 1995, after being reviewed by the Faculty Senate,

However, the Senate does go on to address the second issue, the issue concerning what the Senate believes to be the lack of involvement of faculty. "It was and remains our perception that a successful resolution of the second issue goes to the very heart of the question of developing and maintaining an authentic system of shared campus governance at Glenville State College," the Senate says. "For the reasons carefully spelled out in the resolution, we believe that it had already been established that the selection of new division chairs was a decision in which administrative prerogatives would be tempered by consultation with faculty.

That this understanding--an understanding which was even formalized in a college policy published in the Bluebook--could be so lightly brushed aside disturbs our confidence in your willingness to maintain a system of shared

campus governance. This seems especially unfortunate when viewed in light of some other areas, such as review and comment on the Strategic Plan and development of a comprehensive faculty pay policy, where appropriate consultation is currently taking place.

Therefore, we regret that you will not discuss the second issue with us."

DZ News

Amie Sparks
contributing writer

Delta Zeta had a fun filled week last week. We had our annual Halloween Party and exchanged names there (getting lots of Halloween goodies). We did a bit of community service on Wednesday by helping to clean out the County Store. On Thursday, we had our Bid Sis ceremony and a turtle talk.

Delta Zeta has come a long way this year. Our membership is still increasing.

This Thursday at 6:30 p.m., we are sponsoring a Mary Kay Makeover Party. Sharal Robinson will be coming to Glenville and showing us the best procedures to put on makeup and making over a few volunteers. Everyone is welcome to attend.

We are also sponsoring the "Rocky Horror Picture Show" on next Tuesday at 8:30 p.m. in the commuter snack bar in the Heflin Center. It is also open to everyone. The cost is only \$1. Bring your toilet paper, water guns, noise makers, rice, bread and party hats and party with the DZ's and Rocky himself.

Wanted

One Athletic Supporter for the sports page of *The Mercury*. Answers by the name Ernie Shreve. Managing Editor

Government Debt

When you think of the government debt the next generation must pay off, it's no wonder a baby yells when it's born.

Attention Poets

The National Library of Poetry has announced that \$24,000 in prizes will be awarded this year to over 250 poets in the North American Open Poetry Contest. The deadline for the contest is December 31, 1995. The contest is open to everyone and entry is free.

Any poet, whether previously published or not, can be a winner. Every poem entered also has a chance to be published in a deluxe hardbound anthology.

To enter, send ONE original poem, any subject and any style, to The National Library of Poetry, 11419 Cronridge Dr., P.O. Box 704-1942, Owings Mills, MD 21117. The poem should be no more than 20 lines, and the poet's name and address should appear on the top of the page. Entries must be postmarked by December 31, 1995. A new contest opens January 1, 1996.

The National Library of Poetry, founded in 1982, is the largest poetry organization in the world.

WCHS-TV to Salute Teachers

WCHS-TV will continue its salute to teachers beginning in November with the A+ Golden Apple Awards, according to Channel 8 News Director Tim Sharp.

"This was a program we began in February under the name 'Teachers Who Get Results,'" Sharp said. "We received so many nominations we had to continue the program."

The reports will concentrate on three teachers during the week of November 13, to coincide with National Education Week, but will continue throughout the year as nominations are

In The News-- Looking Back

Lisa Belknap
Staff writer

Israel's Prime Minister **Yitzhak Rabin** was killed Friday after delivering a peace inspired speech. Rabin was shot three times.

As he was fighting for his life, Right-Wingers were lined up outside of Tele Aviv's Ichilov hospital--chanting "murderer."

Manila, a small town in the Philippines, was hit by it's most powerful storm since 1984. **Typhoon Angela** has taken 240 lives--so far--in Manila alone. The town has run out of coffins. They are wrapping the bodies in plastic bags and piling them in a cemetery.

Russian President Boris Yeltsin was hospitalized on October 26 due to heart trouble. This marks his second bout in four months. Russian officials insist Yeltsin is still in full control of his presidential duties and is recovering well.

Bob Dole has stated that he would propose a voucher system which will give parents incentives to send their children to private schools.

Some education groups say that Dole's system would drain money from the public school system.

The latest in **AIDS drugs** are now being tested. **Hoffman-La Roche's saquinavir** is the first release in a drug series called **protease inhibitors**. So far the FDA is

being very optimistic.

Citizens of Iran began their Saturday morning by burning American flags and singing "Death to America." They were celebrating the storming of the U.S. embassy back in 1979.

As the **House and Senate** work on touching up the 'balanced budget bill', **Bill Clinton** has repeated threats to veto it. Among his latest grievances are the slashes in environmental spending:

"This budget will mean dirtier water, more smog, more illness and a diminished quality in our life...protecting our environment can't be sacrificed to balance the budget."

Colin Powell has reached a public decision on whether he will be running for the presidency. It had previously been heavily speculated that he may--if running as a Republican candidate--be able to draw black people towards the Republican party. In the past, the party has been regarded as having primarily "white interest" at heart. By removing that barrier, some believe more people would feel comfortable identifying with the Republican ideology. Still, Wednesday Powell announced he would not be running for president during the 1996 election year. However, he also commented that perhaps after a second Clinton term or four year's with Dole, the year 2000 could possibly be the year for a potential President Powell.

made and awards are presented monthly.

"Again, if we find we have more nominations than we can handle in the time we've allotted, we'll expand the program further. It's just that important," he said.

The series will air November 13-15 on WCHS-TV's "News 8 at Six."

For more information contact Dan Flaxer at WCHS-TV (800) 646-5358.

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Accounting Conference to Be Held at GSC

The Fifth Annual West Virginia Student Accounting Conference sponsored by Glenville State College Division of Business and Student accounting Society is slated for Tuesday, November 14, 1995 in the Heflin Center.

This event is organized annually by Cheryl Fleming McKinney, CPA, Associate Professor at GSC in an attempt to assist accounting majors statewide in "bridging the gap" between the world of academia and the real-world of professional accountancy. In 1994, more than 100 participants representing seven West Virginia Colleges and Universities attended the day's events.

The Conference is designed to help give accounting majors throughout WV a better look at the various options available in the accounting profession and to network with other students and accounting professionals.

The program includes a series of speakers, a 'networking' luncheon and a display/exhibit area for firms and vendors. Also

assisting with the Conference preparations are Mary Armentrout, Chair of the GSC Division of Business, Sherry deRosset, Division of Business Secretary and GSC Student Accounting Society Officers Richard Accord, Wanda Hofer, Mark Starcher, Kaoru Morikawa and Loretta Currence.

Speakers schedules to appear for the day's program include:

Barry Burgess, CPA, tax manager with the accounting firm of Somerville & Co. in Huntington

Edward Cokeley, CPA, Vice-President and Trust Office Manager with United National Bank in Charleston; formerly a Senior Tax Manager with the Charleston office of Ernst & Young

Dorothy Yeager, CPA, Audit Manager with the Charleston office of Deloitte & Touche

Marti Riggall and David Chambers, Business Services Directors of the Charleston based CityNet (Internet and Technology Service).



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Pioneers Crush Rams; Win Share of WVIAC Title

GSC Sports Info

Scott Otis threw for 350 yards and three touchdowns in leading Glenville State to a decisive 40-10 victory over Shepherd in WVIAC action Saturday in Shepherdstown.

The win, coupled with Fairmont State's upset of WV Wesleyan, gave the Pioneers a share of their third consecutive West Virginia Conference crown. In doing so, GSC became the first team since the Concord Mt. Lions of 1977-79 (and only the third team ever) to have a hand in three straight league titles.

Otis, who also ran for a season-high 61 yards while earning WVIAC Player-of-the-Week Honors, got the scoring bonanza started when he scrambled in for a 10 yard touchdown that gave GSC the lead. Sophomore Robbie Buffington drilled the PAT to make it 7-0, Pioneers.

After the Glenville defense forced a stop, the offense took the ball at their own 15 yard line and methodically marched 85 yards in 11 plays to add to the lead. The score came on an eight yard pass from Otis to senior running back, Juan Hartsfield. Buffington's kick made it 14-0 with 2:22 remaining in the opening quarter.

The Rams answered with a score of their own as kicker Joe Carter booted a 37 yard field goal to cut the Pioneer lead to 14-3.

Following a Pioneer fumble, Shepherd wasted no time in striking paydirt on a 27 yard pass from Chad Broadwater to Kelvin Stephens to make it a 14-10 game.

That proved to be, however, the past points

that the Glenville defense would surrender on the afternoon.

The Pioneers responded by putting together a lengthy 81 yard drive that culminated in Hartsfield's 10 yard touchdown jaunt with 1:56 left in the first half of play. The point after failed, and the score remained 20-10 at the intermission.

Glenville State opened the second half with yet another long scoring drive that was capped off by a nine yard pass from Otis to sophomore Carlos Ferralls. Ferralls, the WVIAC's leading receiver (also #2 in NCAA in yards per game), added to his pace-setting totals with 130 yards on eight receptions. Buffington's extra point put the Pioneers up, 27-10.

With 4:25 remaining in the third quarter, Otis struck again on a 10 yard TD pass to Hartsfield. Buffington's point put the score at 34-10.

The Pioneers' final score came on Hartsfield's fourth touchdown of the day, a 20 yard run that put the proverbial nail in the coffin. The point after failed, leaving the final at 40-10 in favor of GSC.

The victory at Shepherd concluded the Pioneers' 1995 WVIAC schedule. For a third consecutive year they posted six wins, but one defeat within the league on their way to a share of the championship.

The regular season, however, will not draw to a close until this Saturday when the Pioneers battle the Fighting Blue Bears of Livingstone College (North Carolina). It will serve as the last collegiate game in the careers of the most successful senior class in Glenville history. Kickoff is set for 1 p.m. at Pioneer Stadium.

Basketball Exhibition Game to be Held

On Saturday, November 11, 1995 at 7 p.m., the Glenville State Pioneer men's basketball team will be hosting the Charleston Sportsman AAU squad in an exhibition basketball game. The game will take place after the Glenville-Livingstone football game. Admission will be \$2 for adults and \$1 for children.

The Charleston Sportsman Club roster will include former WVIAC,

WVU and Marshall players. Roster members of note are Keith Tyler and Tony Gordon of Charleston, former WV State players Dwayne Robbins and Wayne Casey, Willie Coleman of Salem-Teikyo, P.C. Greene (WVU), Tink Brown (Marshall) and others. Some or all of these former collegiate stars will be on hand to provide quality basketball and an early preview of the 1995-96 Pioneers.

Cross Country Goes to New York

Ernie Shreve staff writer

The NCAA Division II Northern Regional championship was held in New York State on the fourth of November. The WVIAC was represented by WV Wesleyan, Wheeling Jesuit, Alderson Broaddus, West Liberty, Bluefield State and Glenville State College.

The Northern Region is considered one of the toughest regions going into the national qualifier. Only the top two teams out of the 45 competing can qualify for the national meet. The top 20 individuals made the all-region team.

Though Glenville failed to have a runner make all-region, the team managed to finish an impressive 22nd place. Daniel Edgell ran a 33:23 over the 10 kilometer course, a time that landed him in 27th place over-

all. Sterling Beane placed 114th, Jimmy Galloway 128th, Mike Bee 158th, David Bee 167th, Nathan McKee 198th and Chuck Dunbar 207th.

West Virginia Wesleyan was able to capture sixth place overall in the team standings. The Bobcats were able to place two runners in the top 20. WVIAC Conference champion Eric Chandler ran an impressive time of 32:17, good enough for sixth place. Teammate Bill Carney finished close behind in 18th place.

This meet marked an end to a great season by the Pioneers. Look for the team to be just as effective next year with all but one runner returning. With the addition of a recruiting class and the addition of pure born Ohio native, Lee Petty, the Pioneers will look to improve on their 22nd place and possibly qualify for the nationals next year.

Lady Spikers in for a Showdown

Kevin Lake staff writer

This weekend Coach Kenny Osborne will take his guns and mosey down to Summersville to take aim at the WVIAC volleyball championships. He'll be facing such outlaws as the extremely powerful WV Wesleyan Bobcats, the wiley cardinals from Wheeling Jesuit and all the other dirty dozen or so teams from the conference. The Pioneers have been impressive at times throughout the season so they'll be ready for any type of rucus any of those other side winding

spikers are willing to rustle up.

Oz's stable includes two-gun Cheryl Stout up front who can always be depended up on to kill more balls than a coyote kills cattle. She has consistently led the team with kills this season, being trailed by no more than a horses tail by Mad Manda Simmons, and at times Jodi "Jack Rabbit" Beale.

Perhaps the sharpest six shooter in Oz's tribe of renegades is Michelle "Record Shattering" Smith. She has broken and rebroken the school assist record several times. Ain't no one strong enough to contain this varm'it. She has defi-

nately blazed a trail for many to follow. Her legend is quickly spreading toward the border and it's likely that her name will not be shot down for some time to come.

Oz also has a tribe of younger guns as well. Sophomore Becky Cheveront is nothin' to be taken lightly. That girl has more spirit than an Indian burial ground. Freshman Carrie Kirkpatrick is another regulator who can always rise to the cause like the worm from the bottom of the bottle.

"Salem's gotta play

Continued to page 11



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In politics as on the sickbed people toss from one side to the other, thinking they will be more comfortable.

—Goethe

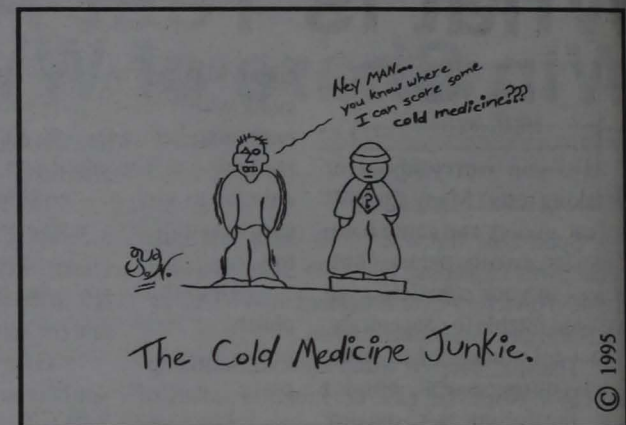
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What is Test Anxiety?

Melissa Tanner
staff writer

Do you worry about or fear taking tests? Many students do. Test anxiety can cause mental blocks, sweaty palms, "butterflies" in your stomach, even make you unable to concentrate. Almost all students feel some anxiety during a test, but for some, the feeling is so intense that it seriously affects their performance. Some students see an exam as a way to show what they know, while others fear that they will fail, due to past experiences. A student experiencing test anxiety may even know the material better than a student who is able to control their anxiety.

What causes us to have test anxiety? Pressure? Past Experience? Fear of Failure? What can I do to help with anxiety? Some suggestions to help improve your study habits and to make them more effective are:

1. Set the right atmosphere
2. Make the most of your notes
3. Develop a schedule
4. Create learning aids
5. Prepare yourself and
6. Be kind to yourself

First, find a place where you can concentrate without interruption and study in that same place each day. Don't sit in an easy chair. Sit at a well-lit table or desk. Don't study when you're over-tired.

Second, take efficient notes and spend a few minutes reviewing your notes after class; and make sure you review your notes each week instead of trying to go over them all at the last minute.

Third, make yourself deadlines and put these on a cal-

endar. Make several review sessions with yourself rather than cramming before the test. Realize how much material can be covered in each session. Make sure to schedule some free time, too.

Fourth, make yourself charts or flash cards to help break information into smaller parts.

Fifth, attend all classes, ask questions, listen for key phrases such as, "The three main reasons are..." and get help on the material that you have trouble with. And last, treat yourself right, eat and sleep well and never use drugs or caffeine to stay up. It may seem fun to stay up all night cramming for a test but it only makes you tired, irritable and distracted at test time.

For short answer exams, try to budget your time, do the easiest questions first and answer each question, even if you don't know the complete answer. Use all of the time allotted to you and review answers, make corrections or add more information.

For essay exams, read all of the questions first and underline key words like "explain," "compare," or "discuss." Start with the easiest questions, be realistic and make the answers short, simple and to the point. Leave the more difficult questions for last. If there is any time left, review your answers and if necessary make legible changes.

When given an objective test; solve in the order given, circle skipped questions and come back when you have time. Read each choice carefully and beware of confusing words such as "always," "sometimes" and "often." Think about the ques-

tions as you read them.

Multiple choice questions sometimes tend to be tricky. Make sure you understand what is being asked of you. Use the remaining time to finish the exam. Narrow down choices and make an educated guess.

For standardized exams, such as SATS, get a guide. Study guides are available for most standardized tests. Be realistic. There probably will be questions that you cannot answer. Don't worry about them and return to them if you have time.

Everyone can learn to control test anxiety. Think about why you are nervous and afraid. Realize that some thoughts are negative and self-defeating, and take those negative thoughts and turn them into positive ones. "I'll never pass this test," to "if I study a little every day, I will be able to do it."

Learn to relax. Wear comfortable clothing. Do relaxation exercises, starting at your toes, tighten the muscles and hold for ten seconds then release. Move slowly up your body contracting and relaxing muscles as you go. If you feel that you're having a mental block during a test; close your eyes, take a deep breath, release, repeat until you are feeling more relaxed then return to the test.

Before pressure has a chance to build, get help. Talk to a counselor, instructor or your parents. Your future isn't going to be ruined because of one test. Don't rely on drugs, don't have low expectations of yourself and don't try to compete with others. You can beat test anxiety by believing in yourself. Now breath in, breath out, breath in, breath out.

Lady Spikers Continued from
Page 9

Wesleyan Friday evening and then we play Salem Saturday morning (9:00), " stated Osbourne. "After playing Wesleyan you come out feeling pretty good or pretty bad."

So in other words, it'd be worth bettin' your last dropp'a water in the Mexican desert, that Wesleyan's gonna take Salem to the wood shed. That would give the Pioneers pretty good odds of woopin'em Saturday since they're gonna come into it with their tails between their legs already.

One target Oz is settin' his sights on is makin' it outta pool play. "We've never made it out of pool play during the conferences." With the talent he's rounded up to form this year's posse, makin' it out of the pool might be highly likely.

One thing's for sure, there will be much anticipation Friday as Coach Oz and assistant coach Chup "Rough Neck" Robinson roll into town to start action just after the break of dawn Saturday morning. The smoke will be rolling clear past high noon and into the evening on Saturday. When the smoke clears who will be standing?



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Gary Dale Morrison: Taking a Step Towards Overcoming Obstacles

Jena Ellyson
staff writer

Do you remember your senior year? Eighteen years old. Eagerly awaiting graduation. Attempting to decide what to do next. Even through all the changes and decisions in your life, you felt on top of the world. Dating. Enjoying parties. Simply enjoying finally being more than an underclassman.

Gary Dale Morrison was a graduating senior at Braxton Co. High experiencing similar emotions. He'd recently been named All American Vocational Student in WV. The sandy blonde seemed to have a natural talent in carpentry and therefore was considering furthering his education on the subject after high school.

It was one of the coldest days in October. Definitely not a day for motorcycling. However, he'd already made plans to get his senior pictures taken on the bike. If he tried to reschedule, who knew when he'd have gotten another appointment. The senior gradually forced himself out of bed and dressed.

Kelli Shafer, his high school sweetheart, and her aunt were going to travel with him. He and Kelli were planning to ride on the motorcycle, following behind her aunt's car.

As with all protective mothers, Patricia Morrison informed her son on his way out the door to "be careful." He turned to her and said, "If something happens, it happens." He hopped on the bike not looking forward to battling the bitter wind.

Unfortunately, the previous transportation plan was destined to change. Thanks to his short term memory, he forgot Kelli's helmet. She had no other choice but to ride with her aunt. Gary Dale was forced to ride alone.

Upon arriving at the studio, he realized he'd also left his money for the photo shoot at

home.

As the saying goes, if his head weren't attached, he'd probably have forgotten it too. Just the average teenager.

After getting their pictures taken, the couple borrowed some money from her aunt and decided it was time to go. Once again, the senior strapped on his helmet and started his bike, heading for home.

Kelli received the phone call hours after arriving at her own house. It was Gary Dale's mom. He'd been in an accident. She'd pick up on her way to the hospital. It was pretty bad.

Gary Dale suffered a busted kidney and spleen. His hip was shattered. He had a severe concussion and numerous cuts. Still, the worst was yet to come. His leg was skinned from the knee cap to the ankle. Although it was still intact, "it was pretty messed up." There were no other options. It had to be amputated.

"It wasn't like I woke up from a really bad dream," Gary Dale explained. "Gradually, it sunk in."

"I remember everyone crying and bawling in the waiting room," Kelli commented. "His parents were really upset. But when we went in to visit him, we tried to be strong for him."

Unbelievably however, he conjured the willpower to overcome his tragedy. His kidney and spleen healed themselves. The doctors pinned his hip. They took "a layer or two of muscle out of his back" and a "skin graft from his hip" and rebuilt his knee.

"I was on a morphine high," he said. "I don't remember much. One time though, I can recall being awake three days straight from the pain. It hurt."

Still, the young man never gave up. He endured physical therapy as well as antibiotics and pain medication that constantly



Gary, just hours before the accident

made him drowsy.

"When I was moved out of the intensive care unit," Gary Dale recalled. "I remembered that Kelli was supposed to be on that motorcycle with me. I was pretty thankful for my short term memory that day."

For nearly six months, the once active teen was forced to stay at home. He describes himself during that time as contrary and a real pain. His family, friends and Kelli continued to stand by him.

"Trust me," he explained. "Cabin fever is a real thing. I was such a grump. I don't know how they put up with me."

On June 2, 1995, Gary Dale Morrison walked through his graduation ceremony at Braxton Co. High. He literally walked! As he accepted diploma, the audience and his classmates rose to their feet and cheered.

So long as there is breath in me, that long will I persist. For now I know one of the greatest principles of success; if I persist long enough I will win.

-Og Mandino

"I guess they were mad at me because I about died on 'em," the smiling man commented. "It was so unreal."

Not only did he graduate, but Gary Dale had another major day that summer. He proposed to his high school sweetheart. He and Kelli are now engaged to be married.

Plus, he accomplished the unexpected. He "hopped on" another bike.

"It felt great," he said. "I thought I'd never get to ride again. I can't remember the accident, so I wasn't scared. Dad didn't think much of it, but Mom wasn't too happy about it."

"That's an understatement," Kelli added.

Gary Dale and Kelli currently attend Glenville State College together. Majoring in forestry, he admits his biggest challenge in life now is "passing Dendrology II."

"Now I have to rely more on my mind than my back," he explained. "Getting an education is even more important to me now."

According to the victim himself, the tragic accident hasn't changed his life too much.

"I just keep trying," he explained. "Before, things just came easily. Now I have to work a little harder. I know now there's nothing I can't do."

"Some people would've just thrown their hands up and quit," Kelli said. "He wanted to but he didn't. All the support helped him."

Throughout his ordeal he's come to understand what is really important in life...friend and family.

"I don't really know why this happened to me," he commented. "Sometimes I think it's a test. Then sometimes, I wonder if it's so I can be a witness to God's miracles."

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