

John Clise.



Pioneer Basketball...



and the Lady Pioneers...

Inside this issue	
Commentary	page 2
News	page 3
Arts and Entertainment	page 4
On Campus	page 5
Sports	page 6
Funnies	
Extras	page 8

It's a New Semester!

# The Mercury

The student newspaper of Glenville State College

Welcome Back!!

Volume 67, No. 14



Jason Daniels gets a face full of snow while sledding down the hill

Photo by Chad Samples.

## Memo From the Gilmer **County Road Service**

By I.C. Rhodes

This is just a short note from all the fine folks down here at the Gilmer County Road to let you know we're going to be on the ball this winter. We've had quite a few complaints the last few years about our methods of keeping the roads safe for all the people of Gilmer county, but this year is going to be different.

The first thing we're going to do is clear all the straight stretches in the roads. That way you can make up the time you will lose pulling your car out of the ditches along side those ice covered curves.

We also plan to leave as much ice on the hills as we can. We figure this way you can make up even more time by sliding quickly to the bottom rather than relying totally on your en-

your gas mileage because not as the spring thaw.

much will need to be burned to get you there.

This is also a positive environmental move because the faster you can get where you're going the less pollutants you send into the air, not to mention the fact that a totaled car puts out no pollutants at all.

We will also be piling as much snow along the sides of the roads as we can. It is our belief that by doing this we will be able to cover the majority of the driveways in Gilmer County, thus forcing most of our residents to stay home days after the rest of the state is up and running. As for those who are able to dig themselves out, they will have a nice snowy cushion to crash into.

So as you can see we're doing everything we can, planning ahead, to keep all of you safe and happy this winter. Be careful, and remember if we This will also help improve don't dig you out, there's always

## The Blizzard of '96

Mother Nature has already played a cruel joke on us this year, as she dumped more than two feet of snow on most of the East Coast. Buried in snow, West Virginia was under a state of emergency for about a week, delaying students' return to

Although most GSC students were trapped in their homes by the white stuff, many found ways to enjoy their extended vacation.

"I liked it," says freshman John Justice. "It gave me time to play in the snow, and see my little brother and Mom while they were off from school."

Lora Conrad, also a freshman, said that she enjoyed the blizzard because, "It gave us a bit longer vacation. I was stranded at home," she continued, "so I sat around the house."

Junior Steve Ruppert had only one complaint about the weather. "There was too much snow to go sleigh riding."

Not everyone was thankful for this year's first big snow, however. "It sucked when I was at home," said freshman Mike Lipscomb. "I was stuck at the house."

Heather Bland, a sophomore, simply stated, "I hate snow." She did however admit to having a little bit of fun. "I went sled riding with my little brother, and we built an igloo," she added.

After returning to GSC, many students took advantage of the snow, before classes resumed. Snowball fights and sleigh ridding took place both on and off campus.

January 18, 1996

"Well, it was kind of nice, except for being thrown in the snow, and breaking my ribs," said Cassie Collins.

The snow-related adventures were not restricted exclusively to students.

Dr. Nancy Zane, professor of English at GSC, was stranded while vacationing in Virginia, as the state did not have adequate snow removal equip-

Although there was a lot of fun to be found in the snow, it will most likely not be missed as it melts away.



## Commentary



#### From the Editor's Desk

Sandra Dileson

With the passing of '95, I once more was able to place some more books back on the shelf where they will likely remain the duration of their life (or at least mine). Now they can have a rest and will most likely only have to come out for occasional dusting or for reference. I was also able to use my highlighter to mark off some classes bringing me a little closer to that degree goal.

You know what really amazed me? All the things that I learned in my growing process that I didn't even plan for. Thanks to the media I was enlighted on all types of issues and witnessed many major changes.

We witnessed the fall of a great sports hero, O.J. Simpson. (Whether innocent or guilty, he will likely remain as tainted as Lizzy Borden to eternity.) We were finally able to see peace among the Bosnians, Croats and Serbs and see a new map drawn on the once country of Yugoslavia. (Hopefully, now I will try to find a penpal from there who used to write my daughter before the war. Her father was a coach who once travelled to the U.S. for the Olympics. We were never able to contact her after the war broke out.)

There is no doubt that '95 had its share of world tragedies in the face of bombings, assassinations, earthquakes, murders and plane crashes. However, it also ushered some hope and peace for many along the way and as life has taught me, that's what it's all about, triumphing over our tragedies as well as our victories by what we achieve through our learning process. I, therefore, look forward to one more riveting year at GSC and the world in general. Welcome back to all our loyal patrons at GSC while we look forward to placing more books away in tidy places.

#### The Mercury Staff, Vol. 67

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The Mercury is published weekly during the school year, except for holidays and final exams, with two summer session issues. Second Class Postage paid at Glenville, WV 26351. POSTMASTER: Send address changes (PSFORM 3579) to: The Mercury, Glenville State College, 200 High Street, Glenville, WV 26351. Subscription rate is \$10 per year.

#### **Mercury Editoral Policy**

We welcome letters to the editor and opinioned commentary, so long as the letter does not discriminate on the basis of sex, age, race, religion, or creed or is not libelous or slanderous without truth or accuracy. If duplicate letters are received on a topic, it is possible that your letter or column may not make a publication date, or may be shortened, due to limited spour. The Mercury editorial staff reserves the right not to publish questionable, offensive, unethical or libelous material which could be rendered illegal by Associated Press and National Student Newspaper guidelines (New York Times Co. v. Sullivan, 376 U.S. 254; Curtis Publishing v. Butts, AP v. Walker, 388 U.S. 130, Milkovich v. Lorain Journal Co., 497 U.S. 1). All letters and opinions must be addressed to the editoral staff or to an editor, typewritten, signed, doubspaced and include a telephone number (work or home). The Mercury cannot, by law, print letters addressed to other parties. The Managing Editors reserve the right to edit letters for legal and ethical guidelines, style, grammar, space constraints and punctuation. The editors also reserve the right to postpone an editoral's run, or not run it at all.

Dear Editor:

It has been fifty years since the dropping of the atomic bombs on Japanese cities. Earlier this year, there was much controversy about the Enola Gay exhibit at the Smithsonian. The reason for the controversy is that documentation has been discovered by historians that indicates the United States bombed Hiroshima and Nagasaki after knowing that the Japanese were willing to surrender. Further evidence is that this was done to intimidate the Russians and show them the terrible destruction wrought by nuclear weap-

There is nothing surprising about this to me. It corresponds nicely with the fact that the United States and every other capitalist nation on earth invaded Russia after the Bolshevik revolution to destroy the incipient rise of socialism and the threat that posed to the wealth and power of the ruling class in every capitalist country.

Also, it corresponds with the atrocities committed by the United States, either directly or through proxies, in Vietnam, Guatemala, El Salvador, Angola, Mozambique, Chile, Indonesia and East Timor. This tremendous carnage, involving the violent deaths of millions of people and the starvation deaths of millions more, was done to stop the spread of socialism and ensure corporate access to cheap labor and natural resources.

The idea of several hundred thousand Japanese dying, and thousands of others suffering from radiation poisoning, for the same reason is very consistent with history both before and after World War II!

Sincerely,
Gary Sudborough
Bellflower, CA
P.S. This letter should in no
way be considered a condemnation of the sacrifices of American soldiers who fought against
fascism in World War II. I have
the greatest respect and admiration for them. The same is true
for those forgotten American
soldiers who fought against fascism with the International Bri-



# In My Opinion

Contrary to popular belief, arriving at the balanced budget agreement is a big deal. Currently, with all the local, state and federal taxes that we must deal with, we work for approximately three months of the year for free. Just think of how much we would be required to pay in taxes twenty or thirty years from now if the Nation's debt continues to reach astonishing proportions! Being governed by an entity which is more than three-trillion dollars in debt is a big deal; big enough to warrant some big changes and probably some radical ones.

After several decades of a congress that has liberally spent our tax dollars, our generation is now faced with flipping the bill. Finally there is a new Congress in town that is "fed up" with the tax and spend philosophies of the past. They've been called radical right-wingers as if it were abnormal to believe that radical changes are needed; as if it is bad to think that enough is enough!

On the other side you have an executive administration that has finally admitted that too much money has been spent over the years on non-essential "pork" programs. Therefore, this administration is also wanting to make some changes to arrive at a balanced budget; or at least it appears as though they want these changes. Nevertheless, each time some needed changes (call them radical if you want) are drawn up and passed in the Congress, the administration vetoes. Why is this happening?

The answer is as plain as the (Pinocchio) nose on Clinton's face... He cannot allow the Congress to be victorious. He alone must be able to take full credit for whatever agreement is reached! After all, we are in a Presidential election year. In addition, the administration struggles with the problem of attaining a solid, reliable plan of their own that will actually balance the Nation's check book. So what is it that the administration is doing to thwart the productive attempts of the Congress?

Haven't you heard? The Republicans are anti-American, greedy, cold-hearted people who may be likened to Hitler. They hate old people and kids and will not rest until these groups are living in the streets in cardboard boxes and eating dog food or just lined up and shot (even though we produce more food in this country than any other in the world and even though everyone can grow old, even Republicans). They want to throw us college students out into the streets and not let us complete college (although ablebodied students can earn their own money for college; work or GI BILL or both). They want to totally destroy the environment and poison our streams and air (as if Republicans must be stopped before there is no government at all and society, as we know it, collapses into a total chaos and barbaric Hades (as if Republicans enjoy disorder and destruction).

Folks, if you believe any of this liberal rhetoric I must say that I have some great ocean-front property in Calhoun County for sale and you're quite gullible! In my opinion Pinocchio-nose Clinton should stop the lies and sign, into law, the budget amendment. If he did so we could experience the same economic success that Germany has experienced since implementing its own balanced budget plan; that is, our Government wouldn't have to raise its revenues through higher taxes and interest rates would decline; Wall Street would be bouncing off the walls and dancing in the street!

gades in Spain. They are heroes to me. This letter simply questions the morality and the reasons for the use of the atom bomb.

'Tis a maxim of the wise to leave things before things leave them.

—Baltasar Gracian

#### The Week In News-

## **Looking Back**

Lisa Belknap staff writer

Des Moines Iowa was the scene of a heated Republican presidential debate Thursday. Senate Majority Leader Bob Dole is holding strong as the Republican favorite; however, he managed to leave the battle unscathed while second place runner Steven Forbes endured most of the heat for his famous "flat tax" plan.

Bill Clinton has been extremely busy. The Blizzard of 1996 hit especially hard in Maryland and Washington D.C. Clinton has declared the two states a Federal Disaster; there will now be xital resources made available to their local governments.

The president, in response to a Money magazine report, stated that he and his wife Hillary are "probably broke"

due to a surplus of law bills-with the Whitewater and Paula Jones issues topping the list.

The government shutdown could very well last until election time next November. Although Clinton seemed anxious to reach some form of compromise--even if it meant policy issues would have to wait--House Speaker Newt Gingrich felt it would be "very, very hard" to reach any compromise at all. He feels it would be best to let voters decide come election '96

So, what's this doing for the economy? Stock and bond prices plummeted after Gingrich's announcement. Not to mention the plans GOP leaders have of making dramatic cuts in Government spending-cuts that USA Today's Bill Montague reports will be substantiality lower than the cuts needed for a long-term budget

## Birthday of a Saint--A Time to Protest?

Lisa Belknap staff writer

Certainly the most moving event to transpire last week would be the 67th birthday celebration held in honor of the late Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. at Ebnezer Baptist Church in Atlanta--King had served as pastor for the church before his assassination in 1968.

Attending the ceremony, in addition to King's son Dexter Scott and daughter Coretta, was President Clinton, who feels that if he were alive today the civil rights leader would be happy with the progress made so far but would tell Americans it's "not merely enough." Also attending the observance was civil rights activist/comedian Dick Gregory who lightened the mood teasing Bill Clinton that by making Newt Gingrich a "Negro for the day", referring to the trip on Air Force One to prime Minister Rabin's funeral in which Gingrich was made to sit on the back of the plane and use the

back door, he had caused Gingrich's streak of bad luck. Gregory added, "Thank God you didn't make him a Negro for a month." Clinton laughed until he was blushing.

While other Americans were celebrating, Habitat for Humanity aided by 70 high school students in Philadelphia celebrated King's birthday by helping to rebuild abandoned homes in a "slum" neighbor-

Martin Luther King's birthday became a holiday in 1986; still many white supremacists and the state of New Hampshire have refused to accept it as such. USA Today reported four white supremists took a stand outside of the state house in an effort to down-trod Dr. King, affirmative action and civil rights.

San Francisco Mayor Willie Brown, the city's first black mayor, responded to Governor Pete Wilson's efforts to end affirmative action saving. "Those who would deny that there is still racism in this country are not true followers of Martin Luther King, Jr." It would definitely appear he is right; a point proven to the nation on Monday by a small group of white supremacists.

## Hillary--The Scandal

Lisa Belknap staff writer

Even the most casual of news watchers have heard something unfavorable about First Lady Hillary Clinton. Jokes have been frequently made that she is President Clinton, while more serious accusations have been made criticizing her roles in the Whitewater real estate deal--where she and her husband reportedly lost a good amount of money. She has been accused of using her position working with a savings and loan bank to influence a securities commissioner. To say nothing of reportedly firing seven White House travel office workers in 1993 due to financial mismanagement.

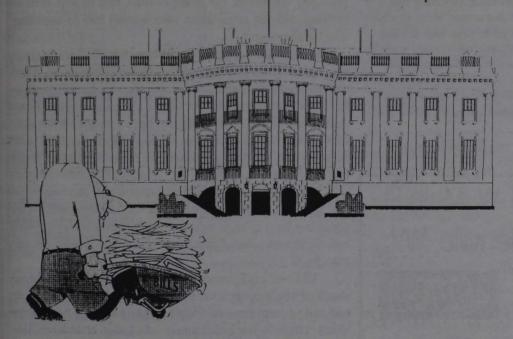
In the past, Mrs. Clinton has staved somewhat silent to these and other criticisms. Last week she apparently had enough. Whether it was the testimony of Rose Law Firm's junior member Richard Massey or the very personal blow given her by New York Times journalist William Safire, Hillary Clinton sat for 30-minutes in the Map Room of the White House conversing with journalist Susan Page

Mrs. Clinton commented to Page that it "is hard to see people that you care about being...questioned harrassed...it makes

sad...angry...and a little frustrated." She maintains that a White House aide-not her--fired the seven workers, saving in a memo that Clinton had ordered it when in fact she had just voiced concern over the financial mis-management of the office. She says she now realizes that she is the president's wife not just "Hillary Clinton" and people are going to react differently to what she says because of it. "I think that I have to certainly bear some of the responsibility...but not all." She says when discussing the Whitewater matter, "The bottom line is we lost money in a real estate deal, we did not get any money from a savings and loan channeled to us in any way. I did a minor amount of work for an S & L, there was no improper influence of any kind exercised by my law firm on the securities commissioner."

Mrs. Clinton has agreed she may have to go before the Whitewater Senate committee even though she feels it will be the equivalent of going to the dentist "to have your teeth drilled."

"I believe Americans are fundamentally fair. They'll make up their own minds" she finished. For now, she is making rounds to promote her book It Takes a Village: and Other Lessons Children Teach Us.



## WV Assistive Technology Revolving Loan Fund Bill

Modern technology has are expensive. West Virginia is created new possibilities for people with disabilities. Computers, assistive devices and home modifications can help them participate more fully in work, school and family activities.

one of several states which do not have a loan program for purchasing assistive devices, says Beth Smith, a parent of a child with a disability and Chairperson of the WVATS Board. Beth is working with West Virginia But many of these devices Assistive Technology Systems (WVATS), a federally-funded project at the University Affiliated Center for Developmental Disabilities in Morgantown.

"The West Virginia Legislature considered this proposal last year, but it didn't make it on

continued on page 8

## Wheeling Symphony to Perform at GSC

The Wheeling Symphony Orchestra will perform Wednesday, January 24, 1996 in the Glenville State College Fine Arts Auditorium. The performance will begin at 7 p.m. Ticket prices are \$5 for adults and \$3 for students. College students will be admitted for \$1 with their student I.D.'s.

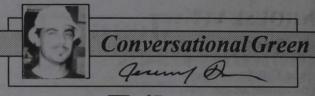
This concert is made possible with the generous support of the Claude Worthington Benedum Foundation Outreach Fund of the Wheeling Symphony and the National Endownment for the Arts Challenge Program. In addition, special thanks to the West Virginia Department of Culture and History, Arts and Humanities Division

The performance will feature the works of Beethoven and American violinist Anne Akiko Meyers. Ms. Meyers has been heralded by critics and audiences around the world. She has performed on four continents with such orchestras as the Boston Symphony, the Los Angeles Philharmonic, the New York Philharmonic, the Philadelphia Orchestra, the Royal Philharmonic in London, l'Orchestre de Paris, and the Jerusalem Symphony. Ms. Meyers toured Japan with the Moscow Philharmonic, and she toured Australia with the Australian Chamber Orchestra.

Highlights of Ms. Meyers' career include a performance as the only classical artist before an

audience of 300,000 at a gala celebrating the Australian Bicentennial in Sydney, a national PBS telecast with John Williams and the Boston Pops Orchestra, and a performance on National Public Radio with the Japan Philharmonic simulcast in Japan, Russia and the United States

Born in San Diego in May 1970, Anne Akiko Meyers began her musical studies at the age of four and made her debut as a soloist with orchestra when she was seven. At 14, she came to New York to study at The Juilliard School of Music. Ms. Meyers performs on a 1736 Guarnerius del Gesu violin. She makes her home in New York City.



### **Tribute**

HOBBES: I Love Fall. I like the cool days, the smell of leaves, the low sunlight. . . and the sky looks even more blue when the trees are yellow and red!

CALVIN: I dunno. . . I think autumn is melancholy. Summer is over and in a week or two everything will be hunkered down for the long bleak winter. Nothing lasts. Fall is just the last fling before things get worse. HOBBES: If good things lasted forever, would we appreciate how precious they are?

CALVIN: (watches a leaf fall) I like to have everything so good I can take it all for granted.

HOBBES: I think the brisk air makes apple pie taste better too! MM-MMM!

I had just settled down for that "long bleak winter." The blizzard of '96 had just hit, and I was relaxing with a hot cup of peppermint tea. I picked up the funnies and flipped to the center section where, to my surprise, I found No "Calvin and Hobbes."

At first I was outraged. Why would the Charleston Gazette cut "Calvin and Hobbes?" I soon found this was not the case at all.

As of January 1, after a ten year run in the syndicate circus, Calvin and Hobbes were retired. Why did this happen? Bill Watterson, the strip's creator, said he was tired of fighting with his syndicators who wanted him to merchandise his characters.

According to Watterson, "When cartoon characters appear on countless products, the public inevitably grows bored and irritated with them, and the appeal and value of the original work are diminished." In "The Calvin and Hobbes Tenth Anniversary Book," he writes that he has fought his syndicators for the past five years over this issue, to no avail. And now the cartoon that has become an American icon in just a few short years is finished.

Finished but not forgotten. Do you still remember the first time you heard of the infamous "noodle incident?" Who could live long enough to forget the monsters under Calvin's bed, or the snowball fights with Susie. Two words: Spaceman Spiff!

All I ever really needed to know I learned from Hobbes' pearls of wisdom, observations of a world that first of all isn't his, and, except for one little boy, doesn't even believe he exists. Hobbes, the embodiment of all that childhood wisdom and creativity that we so willingly shrug off in exchange for a few bucks, and a nice car.

It's no wonder a man with the values and vision Watterson possesses chose to save his children from the limbo of corporate merchandising. To do this thing would be a slap in the face of everything he has written over the past ten years. God bless him for it.

"If good things lasted forever, would we appreciate how precious they are?" I don't think so.

I'm really going to miss you guys...

## **Upcoming A&E Events of Spring '96**

Ken McWhorter staff writer

With this past semester has come some very memorable music and art. In August we were astounded by John Mark Walkup's virtuosity at the piano in his annual recital. A month later, we were brought back to the excitement of the western frontier in the musical "Oklahoma." Other notable events entertained us including; "Prelude to a Kiss," the Caribbean Jazz Project concert which featured several of Jazz's most prominent figures, the Wheeling Symphony, Music Fest '95, the brass ensemble, senior recital and the GSC Marching Band.

In the art gallery, the War Memorial exhibit, the WV Juried Exhibition and the senior art exhibit by Jessica Levine intrigued us.

Obviously, there has been no shortage of good music and art at Glenville last semester. However, in case you were not able to make it to many of these events, you can look forward to this semester which will offer much more fantastic entertainment.

January 10th through February 2nd, there will be an inhouse art exhibit of Glenville art majors and faculty. Later on the 24th at 7 p.m., the Wheeling Symphony will return with a concert featuring the music of Beethoven and friends. "It should be pretty enjoyable," commented Fine Arts Chairman Keith Haan.

Events in February will include a traveling exhibition in the Fine Arts gallery, "Between Home and Heaven," Feb. 5th through March 8th, the play "Scapino," Feb. 21st-23rd at 8 p.m., the Annual All-State Choir Clinic, Feb. 15th and an audi-There will be a scholastic art

exhibition on the 18th, and the Percussion Ensemble will perform on the 28th and 29th at 8 tion day for prospective music students Feb. 27th.

Haan commented on the choir clinic by stating that it is the 2nd annual clinic in which we invite area high schools to bring students that are going to audition for All-State Choir.

On Mar. 5th, at 8 p.m., there will be a recital by music trumpet professor Harry Rich.

continued on page 8



## On Campus

#### "INHOUSE VI"

The Department of Art would like to remind our Glenille State College newspaper bout the current art exhibition INHOUSE VI" going on at the allery of the Fine Arts Buildng from now till February 2. 996. The show features the work of our art majors and miors from this past year, 1995. Some artwork of the GSC Art faculty is also represented. here are drawings, paintings and some pottery. Students who re participating in this year's xhibition are Julian Phares, ulie Ellyson, Gina Pethtel, latty Clay, Debbie Moss, hristi Keith, Ruth Ellen Wilon, Carl Wilson, Melissa lelmick, Kyoko Ishii, Sayuri maru, Mie Sakai, Micki Rose, uyuka Tadaki, Renee Ferrell nd Fred "Matt" Bassnett.

Gallery hours are 10 a.m.p.m. weekdays and one hour efore scheduled evening perfornances in the Fine Arts Auditoium. So come out to see " a how" before "the show" by The Vheeling Symphony on January

#### Fellowship of Christian Athletes

The regular huddle meetng of the GSC fellowship of hristian Athletes was held uesday, January 16th at 8:00 n room 207 of the PE building. short program on "Reaching our Potential in 1996" was iven by Coach James. Coach Burkhamer gave a report on the Mentor Program the group is oing to start this year as an utreach effort.

Pizza was enjoyed by all fterwards. Next meeting will be eld Tuesday, January 23 at Bob, Bear and L.R.'s place. A novie will be the program.

When one door of happiess closes, another opens; but ness closes, another opens; but often we look so long at the losed door that we do not see he one which has been opened

Helen Keller

## Jeanie Brown--Math Teacher and More

Melissa Tanner staff writer

Mrs. Jeanie Brown teaches intermediate Algebra and Math for Teachers at the Nicholas County Center. She has been at the center for 13 years. Her husband Mike Brown also teaches at the center. He teaches College Algebra and Developmental Math. They have two children; Wes, 27 and Jennifer, 22. Wes has a marketing degree from Fairmont State and Jennifer is a Graduate Student at WVU in wanted to give people the oppor-Communications.

Jeanie has a masters in Secondary Education and Computer Science through WV Graduate College. She did her undergraduate studies at WV Tech in Math and Social Stud-

While interviewing Jeanie, she told me that she choose to teach because of the example that had been set by her high school teacher, Rosemary Drennen. She also said that she

tunity to enjoy learning.

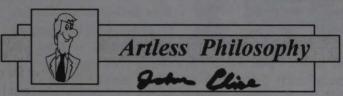
I asked Mrs. Brown why she choose to teach math and she replied, "I enjoy math." After teaching a few years she realized how much math intimidated many of her female students. During her masters program she researched math anxiety and specifically math anxiety in fe-

Mrs. Brown is most proud of her family. Her short story Joy Comes In The Morning being published also makes her very proud. She has a feeling of great accomplishment when she sees a light go on in a student. Knowing that she has a small part in making a student understand math really makes her feel good. What bothers her the most is when a student drops out.

Jeanie wears many other hats. She does the news occasionally, along with public affair programs for several radio sta-WCWV, WVAR, WMON, WZKM. She is also an Educational Counselor for the **Educational Opportunity Center** (EOC), based in Bluefield at Greater Appalachian Outreach,

This program is part of a Trio program funded through a Grant by the United States Department of Education. Through this center, she helps students by providing services to those who are dropouts, veterans, handicapped, unemployed, or incarcerated and would like to further their education through GED or vocational training; or to re-enter a program of Post-Secondary Education. Educational Opportunity Center (EOC) provides educational, financial aid information and career counselling to those interested.

When she has time to herself she likes to sew, walk, listen to gospel music, and to read. She has been accepted into a doctoral program in Women's Counseling and plans to do some writing in that area. Jeanie was one of the teachers at the center who was recognized as a favor-



Are you a bachelor? If so, here are ten questions to determine if you will ever marry.

- 1) Do you use a stack of pizza boxes as an end table?
- 2) Which is more important, the monster truck pulls or your girlfriend's birthday?
- 3) Would you choose a Godzilla film festival over your family reunion?
- 4) Do you refer to your living room as "the bridge of the Starship Enterprise?"
  - 5) Do you have 37 socks and none of them match?
  - 6) Do you have an Elvis on velvet painting hanging over
    - 7) Is there a mounted deer head hanging in your kitchen?
    - 8) Are all of your kitchen utensils plastic?
    - 9) Is your idea of security is pizza in 30 minutes or less?
- 10) Is your idea of commitment is taking the trash out when the can is full?

If you answered yes to any one or more of these questions, don't look forward to marrying anytime soon. Ladies, if you meet a man like this, stand clear, he can't be molded into something "good." Actually I am certain he can't be changed at all.

It is however all right not to be married, whether you are a man or woman. You can do what you want, live by your own rules.

Hey, nobody cares if you are sitting on your couch in your underwear at three in the afternoon watching an info-mercial about kitchen appliances that double as hand tools. Like the blender that doubles as a power drill, or the special can opener that doubles as a chainsaw. You seriously consider that purchase. Oh yea, did I mention you were also eating peanut butter with your finger.

Being single for life, you don't have to worry about combing your hair or brushing your teeth first thing in the morning. You don't even have to wear clean underwear if you don't want to.

You can be the awkward third wheel at parties. The kind of person who makes even the obnoxious drunk uncomfortable. This privilege is reward enough to choose the single life.

Besides you don't ever have to worry about the toilet seat being up or down. Nobody will be around to complain about it.

Just think how great it will be when you are 60 years old sitting alone eating your TV dinner. Who is going to stop you from burping at the cat at the top of your lungs.

But hey, I'm sure we can all find our own reasons for staying single.....

#### Glenville State College Wants You!

The Language division is looking for a "few good students" who would be interested in applying for GSC journalism internships.

Eligibility Requirements:

2.5 GPA or higher

Currently enrolled in, or completed, JOUR 321 & 322 "B" or better in ENGL 101 and 102

Prefer Lewis, Braxton, Calhoun or Nicholas County residents

Apply in person to Dr. Ed Palm, Chairman, Language Division AB 316

Any male or female interested in becoming certified in aerobics may receive certification after a two day workshop and written test. This workshop will be held at the Braxton County Wellness Center under the direction of Ms. B.J. Cavender on January 27 and 28 from 9:00 a.m. until 3:00 p.m. daily. Cost is

Experience is a terrific teacher, but she sends in terrific bills. -- Minna Antrium

I pay the schoolmaster, but 'tis the schoolboys that educate my son. -- Ralph Waldo Emerson

To teach is to learn twice. --Joseph Joubert

A learned man has always wealth in himself. -- Latin proverb

# Pioneers Upset Fairmont, Fall to West Liberty

Kevin Lake staff writer

Last Wednesday night the Glenville State Pioneers hosted the nationally ranked (5) Falcons of Fairmont State. Being the obvious underdogs, coach Nottingham's squad appeared to many to be in for a long night. However, Nottingham and his squad didn't see things this way.

Taking the floor with the confidence and determination of champions, the Pioneers proceeded to play what will definitely have to be remembered as one of the most exciting games of the season by season's end.

Led by Junior Jeff Brockell, who had an impres-



Photo by Carl Wilson.

sive 17 points for the evening, the Pioneers were able to go into the half riding a one point lead at 26-25. Realizing the Pioneers would not be intimidated, the fifth best team in

the nation came out in the second half determined to pull away. Once again Nottingham and his squad didn't see things this way.

As in the first half, the

Pioneers outscored the Falcons by one to win by a score of 60-58 in a dramatic ending that defined excitement. Senior duo Kenny Gross and Troy Sexton both hit double digits for the night with 12 points and 10 points respectively.

Riding the high from beating Fairmont, the Pioneer's then hosted the Hill Toppers of West Liberty on Monday. However, there were no recent wins clouding the minds of the Hill Toppers, only the task at hand. As coach Nottingham put it, "They came here with a purpose."

Their purpose: to beat the Pioneers, a team they haven't beaten in Glenville for 15 years and also a team who has knocked them out of the conference championships twice. They wasted no time taking an 8 point lead early and going into the half up by 13. Not a lucky number for the Pioneers.

Although the Pio-

half but don't make the same effort in the second half."

Lori Charnoplosky led the team with 16 points and Tanisha Brown racked up 11 points and 5 rebounds. Freshman Amy Thomas had 9 points and 5 boards and Mandy Ralston had 8 points and 5 assists.

neers were able to out score their opponents in the second half, they didn't do it by a large enough margin to win losing by a score of 59-50.

Nottingham noted that one of the main problems his team is facing is that, "They play the game like fans watch it..." He feels they place too much emphasis on either winning or losing and not actually playing up to certain standards.

He also stated that, "They (his players) got caught up in beating Fairmont. They patted themselves on the back all week and thought they'd just come in and beat West Liberty... When you're 3-6 you can't expect to show up and beat people."

When asked how he views the rest of the season, Nottingham said he feels they will struggle until the team can understand that basketball requires daily improvements regardless of the outcome. As he points out, "If you see a team make daily improvements you can live with whatever happens."

Every night is a new night... if you beat a nationally ranked team on Wednesday then turn around and lose on Monday, Wednesday means nothing.
-Gary Nottingham

## Lady Pioneer's Lose Two Straight at Home

Kevin Lake staff writer

Last Wednesday the Laky Pioneer basketball team hosted the Falcons of Fairmont State. It seemed as if Coach Harold's team was in for a big win for the night as they went into half time with a 39-21 lead. They were wrong.

Coming out in the second half, anything that could go wrong did as the Lady Pioneers were out scored 40-17 and lost a game in which they were up by 24 at one time by a final of 81-56.

When asked what basically caused the team to fall apart in the second half, Harold listed many factors. "We were 0 for 8 from the free throw line in the last 10 minutes of the game...three starters fouled out so we had to play the last four minutes



Photo by Chad Samples.

with six first year players...we could hit jumpers. What hurt us was our free throws and our youth."

Mandy Ralston led the team in both points and assists with 12 and 5 respectively. Tricia Swink and Marty Rose both had 10 points and 4 assists.

Monday, the girls were back in action hosting the Hill

Toppers of West Liberty. Once again the Lady Pioneers went into the locker room at half time with the lead at 31-29, only to come out once again in the second half to be terribly out scored to lose by 22 at 76-54.

When asked why the girls have such a problem in the second half, Harold stated that, "We concentrate the first



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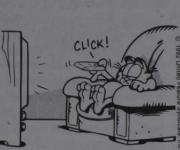
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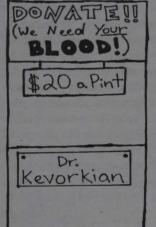




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Prairie dogs "kiss" by pressing their teeth against each other's

# The Old Coot Spouts Off Once Again

Allen Carr contributing writer

In the interest of journalistic integrity, the truth must be told. The old coot must resolve the mystery of the eerie light photographed on the front page of the Halloween edition of *The Mercury*. Apologies are extended to the para-naturalists who got excited about the haunting possibilities. What really occurred is almost embarrassingly simple. The powers-that-

# What's This World Coming To?

Lisa Belknap staff writer

It was Sunday, the day before Martin Luther King Jr.'s birthday. Motel workers -- at a so far unnamed motel -- called on police to investigate an alledged rape. Sameold, same-old? Not quite. A very sick, twisted mother exchanged her eight-year-old daughter for crack, knowing at the time that the disgusting individual she was handing her baby over to was going to rape the child. Nevertheless, Bertha Hill, 28, gave her daughter to Michael Cain, 31. The child was raped, police were called and the two "adults" were arrested. They have been jailed on a \$100,000 bond and the little girl is recovering in protective custody. As a mother (and a human being), when I heard this story, tears came to my eyes. How can children be treated this way? How could a mother do this to her child? If our children cannot trust us, they cannot trust anyone at all. It makes me sick...it makes me mad...it makes me want to cry...most of all it makes me hate the woman who will be screaming about her rights to a courtroom full of people who will sympathize with her, just like they sympathized with another sick mother last year.

be and his head henchman were walking with their heads together (possibly plotting another Simmons' Folly) and passed under a streetlight at the exact moment that the film was exposed. Sadly, the truth removes the aura of the supernatural striven for in the accompanying article, but there are enough other unsolved mysteries on the Glenville State College campus to provide titillation for the rumor mill. Like where did Mack disappear to? Where is the golf cart shed? Where is the trust of the faculty for the powers-thatbe? Where are the crosswalks (giving the pedestrians at least an illusion of safety) in front of the Student Center? Where did the head henchman graduate? The unanswered questions

Speaking of the head henchman, has anyone else besides the old coot noticed that in all of the advertisements for old GSC there seems to be a decided age bias? From observation of the campus, there appears to be a significant non-traditional student population. The ads; however, make it appear as if GSC has only eighteen year olds roaming its hallowed halls. There is a healthy trend (at least as the old coot sees it) of more experienced persons (the old coot is nothing if not tactful) returning to college to obtain or complete an education. A word of encouragement to some who secretly yearn to cross words with our learned professors might go a long way toward helping them make up their minds. Seeing that many others have made the same commitment might just increase GSC's enrollment again next year. "If that dad-blamed old coot can do it then I shore as thunderation kin" might become the rallying cry of a segment of the local Baby-boomers seeking enlightenment.

of course, there could be a down side to an increased number of non-traditional students. They might actually come seeking an education rather than just a good time. Shudder when you say that, pardner. They might

take an interest in issues involving the school rather than who is signed up for the feminine gender mud-wrasslin' contest at the local guzzle and puke emporium. Or who will be the first driver to achieve the status of ace for running down five students (not already on crutches) crossing the street on campus. Or who can afford a car stereo system that will be able to rattle windows on both ends of the Greater Glenville/Sand Fork Metroplex, simultaneously.

A number of complaints have already been registered in some classes against participation by non-traditional students because they actually study and receive grades above C-level and; therefore, have unfairly raised the grade curve for the "real students." The school may actually benefit from the collision of the "I paid my fee. I'll take a cee, give me a degree" crowd with a group who have already learned many valuable lessons in the "real world." The expectations of some of these underachievers may accidentally be elevated. Reversing the trend of lowering the standard of education to accommodate underachievers should be the goal embraced by this and any other institution of higher learning worthy of that title. Following the current trend of giving A's (and degrees) to all who can afford to pay the exorbitant cost of education for the six years usually required to attain a four year degree should go the way of the poodle skirt (the poodle skirt is really, really dead, isn't

If the powers-that-be are not doing everything possible to raise the standards of education here, then they should be. If that means actively recruiting nontraditional students, then do it. If that means cutting down on the turnover of good qualified instructors who have the audacity to hold opinions contrary to the prevailing wisdom of the powers-that-be, then stop the turnovers. If that means eliminating the time spent researching quasi-legal grounds to justify the turnovers, then learn to

live with the dissenters. There is nothing more important than providing the best possible education for the money invested here by the student. Any distractions, while welcomed by those here to party, are a dereliction of responsibility by those supposed to provide the best possible learning atmosphere.

By the way, the old coot likes to party himself. You are cordially invited to one doozy of a party--just as soon as the formal part of my education is completed. Priorities, priorities, priorities.

## Upcoming A & E continued from page 4

p.m.

The month of May will be very musically eventful including: a chamber singers concert on the 11th at 8 p.m., a choir concert on the 25th at 8 p.m. and Brass Ensemble on the 29th at 8 p.m. Beginning on the 9th and ending April 3rd, there will be a senior art show by Kim Hardman and Carl Hayhurst.

Concerning the concert choir, Hann mentioned, "I would like to do something with the choir." Haan went on to state, "If funds would permit, he would like to go to area high schools or perhaps even on a lengthy trip."

Haan went on to explain that the Chamber singers concert on the 11th will actually be a staged musical concerning the death of Abraham Lincoln and how it affected the lives of the

## Loan Fund Bill continued from page 3

the final list of projects they approved, Beth said. "We're hoping that this year it will."

Backers are proposing a \$250,000 revolving loan fund to be established by the state and operated by a board of consumers, including users of assistive devices.

"The idea is for people with disabilities to help themselves and each other," Beth said. "An individual could borrow up to \$5,000 for up to five years. As he or she pays back the loan, with interest, the money will go back into the fund to provide future loans for other users.

"Assistive technology devices help people become better citizens," she adds. "It's in all of our best interests to keep people active and involved in the community."

The West Virginia Assistive Technology Revolving Loan Fund Bill is expected to be introduced into the 1996 Legislature. For more information, call WV Assistive Technology Systems at 1-800-841-8436.

people. "The work centers on different people's lives," such as a country hoe-down and gospel service.

The month of May will feature the choir and band at commencement, beginning at 10 a.m. and a concert by the Percussion Ensemble performance on the 14th.

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