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Support the Pioneers!

The Mercury

The student newspaper of Glenville State College

Attend the WVAC Tournament.

Volume 67, No. 19

February 26, 1996

Spring Weather Visits GSC



For the first time in weeks, the sun peaked through the clouds above Glenville throughout last week. Students chose to bask in the fresh spring weather while it lasted.

Photos by Gene Breza



State Officials Seek Lower Blood Alcohol Level Limits

Jena Ellyson
staff writer

Tom had enjoyed several beers, a little Jack Daniels and something that blonde had mixed for him. He couldn't actually remember who she was...or what she put in his drink...but he was having a good time. The party was finally winding down and most of his friends were leaving. He grabbed one more beer for the road and stumbled into the bedroom to find his coat. On his way out the door, the blonde smiled and told him to call her sometime. Some stranger came up to him and offered to give him a ride home. Tom took another gulp, said he could handle it and started the car.

Six-year-old Sabrina and her little brother Michael were arguing in the backseat. Nothing unusual. Mikey always instigated trouble, whether they were in the car or at home. For the seventh time, he had to go to

the bathroom. Sabrina yelled at him, informing the pre-schooler that if he didn't hold it she was going to be late for her Grandma's birthday party. Of course, Daddy got mad at her for being loud while he was driving and Mommy said they'd stop at the next gas station.

However, they never stopped at the gas station. Sabrina didn't make it to her Grandma's party on time. In fact, she didn't make it at all. After that evening, Mikey never picked on Sabrina again. Daddy and Mommy didn't have to worry about their two children quarreling in the backseat.

Besides a few bruises and scratches, Tom walked away from the accident unharmed. He doesn't drink anymore..won't even go to any parties. It took a family of four to teach him that he "couldn't handle it "

Often times we attempt to separate ourselves from drinking and driving accidents. If we don't drink and drive, we don't need to worry about a collision. However, last year 360 people were killed and over 24,000 were injured as a result of motor vehicle crashes in West Virginia alone -- 139 of those in alcohol related accidents. Statistics proves that the majority of these fatalities were that of the innocent party. In other words, typically the drunk driver himself "walks away" from the mishap while the unsuspecting "family of four" pays for his mistake through the loss of their own lives.

During the upcoming 1996 session of the West Virginia Legislature, a bill will be introduced seeking to have the existing .10 BAC (Blood Alcohol Concentration) per se level reduced to .08 BAC. With such a reduction, individuals who have a BAC at, or above, .08 would be legally considered under the influence in terms of operating a vehicle.

Although .08 BAC sounds like an incredibly low amount, according to Gene Peterson, National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHSTA) regional administrator, it's much more than it seems.

"Most people don't realize how much alcohol a person must consume to reach a blood alcohol level of .08," Peterson explains. "We're not talking about two or three beers."

For example, the average 170 pound male would have to consume a little more than four drinks in one hour on an empty stomach to reach .08 BAC. Of course, several factors may affect a person's blood alcohol level, such as gender, weight and amount of food in stomach.

Still, according to laboratory testing, virtually all drivers are substantially impaired at .08 BAC. In fact, research shows impairment begins as low as .015, and by the time .08 is reached, even experienced drivers demonstrate significant basic driving skill impairment in areas such as concentrated at-

ESTIMATED % OF ALCOHOL IN THE BLOOD BY NO. OF DRINKS IN RELATION TO BODY WEIGHT

DRINKS	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
100 lb.	.038	.075	.113	.150	.188	.225	.263	.300	.338	.375	.413	.450
120 lb.	.031	.063	.094	.125	.156	.188	.219	.250	.281	.313	.344	.375
140 lb.	.027	.054	.080	.107	.134	.161	.188	.214	.241	.268	.295	.321
160 lb.	.023	.047	.070	.094	.117	.141	.164	.188	.211	.234	.258	.281
180 lb.	.021	.042	.063	.083	.104	.125	.146	.167	.188	.208	.229	.250
200 lb.	.019	.038	.056	.075	.094	.113	.131	.150	.169	.188	.206	.225
220 lb.	.017	.034	.051	.068	.085	.102	.119	.136	.153	.170	.188	.205
240 lb.	.016	.031	.047	.063	.078	.094	.109	.125	.141	.156	.172	.188

continued to page 12



From the Editor's Desk

Sandra Gibson

Extinction

Last week I witnessed what appeared to be an all time low for our GSC governing student body. Student Congress held their annual elections and aside from the near extinction of voters, there appeared to also be an extinction of candidates. I discovered that in most of the running categories, we were asked to choose one representative. This proved relatively simple even for a nonpolitical person as myself due to the fact that with two exceptions, we only had one candidate to choose from. In fact, in the commuter category, we were simply left with a blank space and a suggestion to write someone in.

First, may I make clear that I mean no ill intent for those of you who dared to become involved. I wish you well although your actions confirm that you will acquire this naturally. It's just that in a school with so many opinions, I find it hard to understand why so few wish to use this forum as an opportunity to voice their complaints. I'm sure that someone has a legitimate claim to who and where to pass the blame here. Perhaps, there was not enough previous advertisement, someone was controlling the affair, or who knows what? However, I can't help but wonder if the true blame doesn't lie in a generation that has grown so used to being spoon-fed that it can no longer feed itself.

True the campus of the nineties has undergone major transformation with the influx of commuters and non-traditionals and this does lead to different student life-styles in comparison to the ones of earlier years. I often hear this cry ring out when students are confronted with their laxity concerning extracurricular school activities. "I am here to complete my classes—nothing more. My main goal is to carry a good GPA. Why should I waste my time on attending frivolous things?"

I know first hand it is a self battle to live the commuter student life-style. Good GPAs are nice—in fact, they're very important. But if you demonstrate a lack of willingness to enter the world at this level, I'll have to tell you, you're missing a principle part of your true education. I'd like to credit Dr. Gillespie, professor of Fine Arts for being one of the first to point this out to me my first semester at GSC. At this time, he encouraged students to attend functions in FA department. At first I was disgruntled at the idea of driving an additional hour back (at night) to attend these functions. Why should I comply to such an on campus thing? It only took one time in attendance before I found the answer to my question. There is no comparison to learning fine arts through a personal approach such as watching a symphony rather than simply following a lecture on it.

If we adults are content to only be fed through the eyes and mouths of others, if we are unable to stand for our beliefs, and deal with our own complaints—then how do we propose changes when we keep our mass of superior knowledge tucked neatly away? Often is it not the very ones who complain the loudest, the most unlikely to come forward with action?

Oh—but you wouldn't make a difference anyway, you say. Unfortunately, you will probably never know. Meanwhile, almost effortlessly you may wish to join the new generation of critics who seem to breed disrespect for authority and punt at those who try. After all, this does seem to be the true American way of politics. Where else in the world can this happen?

Just ask



Dear J,

I have a male friend who is married. We've been good friends for a while, but lately, his "good natured" teasing has turned into flirting. I feel kind of uneasy about this but don't want a confrontation with my friend. What if I'm wrong about his flirting? What exactly is flirting?

Wondering

Dear Wondering,
The Webster's New World Dictionary defines flirtation as "1. a flirting, or playing at love 2. a frivolous or playful love affair."

I feel that flirtation is something that can be both correctly and incorrectly interpreted. However, what really matters is your interpretation of his actions and the fact that it makes you feel uncomfortable. If you truly believe that he is flirting with you, then you need to make a decision about how to handle it. My personal advice to

you is that you talk to him about it. Tell him that you feel that he's flirting with you and that it makes you uncomfortable because he's married. You are friends so you should be able to talk about this.

If you have been "wrong about his flirting", then you'll probably both get a good laugh out of the conversation. If you're right though, and he is sending signals, then it's up to you to put your foot down and stop it. It's your call...Good luck.

Love, J

Dear Editor:

It's no secret that I'm the unconventional, politically incorrect voice echoing in the valleys. It's well known that I, unlike many columnists, write a biased, one-sided perspective regarding an issue rather than sugar coating it to make everyone happy. I've never denied that. Can you imagine how boring the world would be if everyone concurred with everyone else? Yes, I do take a strong stand on certain social and political issues. I'm not a moderate and I don't compromise my beliefs and values to make the other side happy. I simply incorporate yet another opinion into the important arena of modern ideas.

Since I'm typically straightforward in my expressions, I expect to step on some toes and make certain groups angry. That's life! As you venture down its path, various obstacles and opposition arise to your front. I expected people to be pissed and write in venting their opposition; I accomplished my goal and I admire those who wrote for having the "nads" to do so. What I didn't expect was for a character to rebuke *the Mercury* staff for printing my article, simply because it apparently stepped on their toes!

How dare they even suggest that a very real, popular opinion not be printed, while at the same time offering their own mere opinion. Sounds like the epitome of hypocrisy to me!

Let's face reality, for someone to make an attempt to censor a column because its views may not be parallel to their own is pure stupidity; a clear double-standard. I must say, this person certainly deserves the "glittering jewel of colossal ignorance award"! Lay off of *the Mercury* staff, they do a great job putting together *your* college newspaper. If you feel assaulted by the views expressed in my column just remember, they're my views, not *the Mercury's*.

Be forewarned, in the coming weeks I have many more controversial articles planned. If you think you'll be offended by them (and you probably will be) don't read them! In closing, I must apologize to April Estep. No April, I do not have a chart laying around *the Mercury* office which contrasts normal and

abnormal activities. I based those generalizations solely on common sense. For example, if a *Leriodendron tulipifera* (that's a tree April) was found to be growing on a dry, south-facing slope that would be abnormal. And if *Bufo americanus americanus* (a toad) were found hopping around in the middle of January, in the cold snow, that too would be considered abnormal. Likewise, if two white-tailed bucks were scrogging one another in the McDonald's parking lot, even if it were under the cover of darkness (when nobody would see them), it would still be very abnormal, unnatural activity. I guess I could incorporate my analogy into chart or table form but I don't think most of the campus would need to use it!

Todd Longanacre

The Mercury Staff, Vol. 67

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Dear Editor:

I am interested to know if you read the articles that are put in your newspaper. Surprisingly enough, some people on the campus still do, but I am sure the numbers are decreasing daily. I happen to be one of the people who still take five minutes out of my week to read *The Mercury*. What bothers me is that I don't know if Mr. Lake takes that much time to think out his column. If he is the sports writer for *The Mercury*, then would it be at all possible for him to at least touch on sports issues during his column. I am not asking much, maybe a sentence or two. Even the previous sports writer could do that. If Mr. Lake is unable to delve into


the sports world occasionally in his article, then please stop insulting the intelligence of the readers of *The Mercury* by titling the column "Fourth and Goal."

As for the content of Mr. Lake's column, I felt, after the uproar over last weeks attempt at making unwanted pregnancy funny, some restraint would have been shown in this week's subject matter. Unfortunately, I was wrong. I think I have a fair sense of humor, and I am reasonably sure I fall into Mr. Lake's column rating of CLFARA30, but I still found the segment on shooting doves to be in extremely bad taste. With enough violence in the world, juvenile acts of shooting birds,

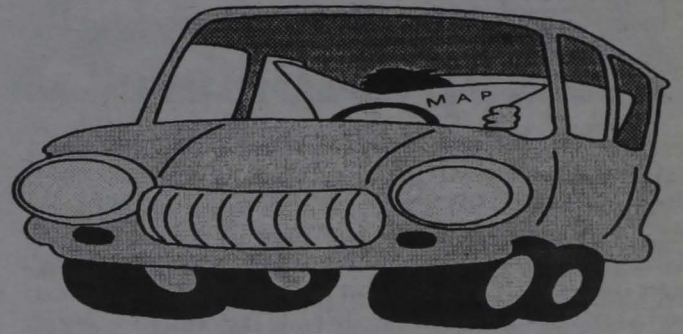
doves for that matter, do not need to be a source of humor. If Mr. Lake would like a model for writing a humorous article, maybe he should refer to Mr. Clise's "Artless Philosophy." Mr. Clise doesn't attempt to do anything else but provide a light-hearted column for his readers. He does not try to disguise his humor in any imaginary story line or cynicism.

The most discouraging aspect of this problem is that there seems to be no editorial guidance at *The Mercury*. I have always assumed that it was the editor's job to review all the articles in a newspaper before they go to

continued on page 12.



Conversational Green
James D.



Traveling Man

I have a theory on stop lights. As we all know green means go, yellow means hit the gas, and red means stop. This is my proposal, when you come to a light that is yellow, and the guy in front of you goes right on through, then you can go through too.

Think about it, if someone is driving through an intersection you're not going to broad side them, even if you have the right away. Therefore if the guy ahead of you makes it through, then you can too.

If a whole string of cars were to just keep on going through then nobody would ever have to stop again. A precedent would quickly be set, and I would guess that within a year, two years tops, red could become a universal symbol for go.

Can you imagine a world where both green and red could both mean go? There would be no need for breaks, because stopping would never again be a consideration.

Let me tell you about another traveling theory of mine. I believe that when you are in search of the road that is going to take you to your destination, you must always turn down the next one.

It doesn't really matter what road that is, just pass the one you are coming up on, and turn down the next one. Of course when you actually get to that road, you still have to pass it up. Wait, and turn down the next road you come to. If you continue to do this long enough, eventually you will come to the road you need to turn down, and you will realize it was the next one all along.


If you are tempted to turn down a road that is not the next one you should really examine the consequences of that action. Suppose you find yourself somewhere you didn't expect to be. What if you look out the window and you see that your in a totally unfamiliar area? What if you have to explore new territory to find your way back home? What if you never get back home, and have to learn a whole new way to survive?

If you just wait on the next one you won't have to worry about those kind of problems. You will always be on the same road going to the same place. Nowhere.

Should women serve in combat positions? As you read this, I'm quite sure that you women libers out there will be 100% pissed off and, consequently, I'll be wrongly labeled a "sexist". As civilians it's very easy for you to sit back and try to make a connection between a civilian job and the infantry platoon of foot soldiers; although there is none. It's hard for you to comprehend what is actually involved in being a soldier in a line unit. I will; however, tell you why women shouldn't "fix" those bayonets for combat duties; especially as infantry soldiers.

There are two primary reasons why women shouldn't be permitted to serve in front-line units. First, it must be noted that every individual within that unit serves as an intergral "spoke" in this small wheel called the platoon. If one spoke is broken down it jeopardizes the overall mission of the platoon. If the mission has failed it's an indication that people have died. Every spoke needs to be in 100% trust of the spoke next to him. There can't be any animosity, friction or distractions whatsoever or the wheel breaks down; people die. It's hard enough to maintain total trust, confidence, morale and motivation in an all male platoon, much less a coed one.

Now imagine an infantry platoon that has been made coed. Yes, there are women out there who, if they tried hard enough,



In My Opinion
Todd Longman

could actually be men! Even so, the rest of the platoon are still men nonetheless. Three months in the field with little down time and nature begins to take hold. Some of the male spokes in this wheel are no longer looking at the female spokes as fellow soldiers, but rather as potential partners. It's not the woman's fault, although women also have needs, it's just nature running its course. Consequently, the platoon is now exposed to distractions and animosity; people will die.

The second reason is simply because Men are biologically structured different than women; both physically and mentally. Typically, men are more animalistic, barbaric and more violently natured than are women. Properly governed, these are three male traits which are advantageous on the battlefield, where it's kill or be killed. Additionally, women have this other "monthly" ordeal which is not favorable when one may go as long as two months without a real shower! Yes, personal hygiene is a big deal in the field environment where microbes can wipe out many soldiers. Why do you think males must maintain a "buzz" haircut? Do not women also get attacked by parasitic organisms? Can you

say double-standard? People will die.

It's very misleading to hear that female soldiers can do everything that male soldiers do. For you see, in the Army, females don't have to meet the same standards as men when it comes to physical fitness tests. Female stamina and endurance test standards are considerably lower. Needless to say, a 98 lb. infantry rucksack (full of mission essential equipment) and an M60 machine gun don't get any lighter just because you're a woman! People will die.

Nothing affects the spirit of all soldiers (during a deployment) worse than low public opinion of their mission. I believe that public opinion of any operation will fall rapidly once our young female soldiers, more so than males, begin coming home in body bags. Consequently, the platoon will suffer even more morale problems...more people will die. In my opinion there are several other positions where women can serve and make the difference. Among these are logistics and support, administration, electricians, carpenters, field hospitals as nurses or docs and transportation to name a few. Just stay out of my airborne infantry platoon!

"Yikes, my nail--That does it!"

© 1995 Art by Kurt Williams



Movie Review

Kenneth Wilkins

"Happy Gilmore"

Imagine what would happen if you tried converting a hockey player into a professional golfer. You would end up with a professional golfer that could hole-in-one a par four hole and a golfer with a very short temper fuse. Now, combine the crazy mind of Adam Sandler to the mixture and you will end up with one of the best comedies on the viewing market today.

The ever so notorious Saturday Night Live star, Adam Sandler ("Billy Madison"), stars in the slap stick comedy as Happy Gilmore. Gilmore's dream is to become a professional hockey player, but he soon finds himself on the golf course hitting the living daylight out of a golf ball.

The only problem that Gilmore faces when he starts playing on the professional tour is his lack in putting ability and his short fuse temper that soon leads him to a hilarious fist fight with the "Price as Right" host, Bob Barker.

Carl Weathers ("Predator") co-stars in the comedy as the artificial handed "Bubba" Peterson, a one time professional tour golfer who lost his chance for the a players jacket to the teeth of a ball eating alligator in Florida.

"Happy Gilmore" is one comedy that will make you laugh from the time the opening credits start to the climatic ending. Adam Sandler's performance as the crazy hockey/golf player is outstanding and you will be rolling out of your seat all through out the movie. In fact, I think Sandler's performance in "Happy Gilmore" is much better than that in "Billy Madison".

So, if you are looking for a comedy that will split your sides with laughter, then I recommend that you see "Happy Gilmore" this weekend.

Appcon Lumber

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WINTERIZE YOUR HOME

We welcome school groups and
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Choir Clinic Prepares High School Students

Teresa Clark
staff writer

Last Thursday, February 15, the Fine Arts Department hosted roughly 70 students from high schools to prepare the students for All State Choir auditions which will be held March 8, 1996.

All State Choir is fun and an enlightening experience. High school students from throughout the state travel to a selected city in West Virginia. This year the city will be Charleston. The students, after the selection, will go through a series of rehearsals with a professional conductor. Finally on the last day, the choir performs the songs they've worked on for an open audience.

The students that participated in the 2nd All State Clinic seemed to enjoy their experience at Glenville and thought the sessions helpful. The directors, who

accompanied the students, seemed to find the sessions helpful as well. An added bonus to students was the opportunity they had to see GSC's campus.

Those who are interested in pursuing an education in music had the opportunity to get to know the Fine Arts building as well as speak to both professors and students. They got a good view of what the music education program is and what is expected of music majors.

The students who participated in the clinic had a long day. After a long drive down lovely roads to get to Glenville, they were greeted by several bright and eager music education students to help them register by 10 a.m. and find their way to the bandroom, where they were greeted by Keith Haan, the chairman of the fine arts division as well as the vocal instructor.

Haan worked on vocal

technique and worked through some of the music. After about one and a half hours of rehearsal, the students were lead to the cafeteria by a few helpful GSC students. Many of them complained about the hill. Does that sound familiar? After a great lunch in GSC's cafeteria, the students and directors were brought back to the bandroom and continued their rehearsal. After one more break, they sang through all of the music providing an opportunity for the directors to record the songs.

Then it was time for the All State hopefuls to leave and venture home.

As a former All Stater, I want to wish all the auditionees good luck and remind those students who are interested in coming to GSC that there will be music auditions on February 27, 1996. If anyone is interested, contact the Fine Arts Department.

The Musical with a Twist

Teresa Clark
staff writer

The Ripe Banana is a musical comedy with a new twist. The script and lyrics were written by GSC graduate Twila (Barnhart) Miller, and the music was composed and arranged by her husband Charles Miller, adjunct music professor at GSC. The production is a joint effort of the GSC Music Department and the Calhoun Theatre Guild which was found in 1995 by the

Millers.

Nearly all of the cast, crew and pit band members are or were students at GSC with graduation dates ranging from the 1960's to 1999. This endeavor gives both the former graduates and those of the future a sense of continuity in their musical lives.

The present students can see a real future for their hard work here at the college, and the graduates can witness a real, working legacy in this commu-

nity effort.

While the play does have some adult themes, there is really nothing that the whole family would not enjoy. The premiere performances in May of 1995 boasted standing-room-only audiences of all ages, and there was a clamor for a repeat performance.

You can see it right here in the Fine Arts Auditorium on March 1st and 2nd at 8 p.m. Tickets are available at the Fines Arts office or at the door.

SCAPINO!
SCAPINO!
SCAPINO!

The hammer has fallen on poor Scapino!

Editor's Note: See the review of Scapino by Eric Ware in next weeks' Mercury!

Photo by Gene Breza.



SPOTLIGHT ON ALPHA PSI OMEGA

Eric Ware
staff writer

"We have a twisted sense of humor," spoke Nancy Wemm, head of the Alpha Psi Omega, "but seriously, we all have fun as part of a large family." As an honorary family of actors spending much time and effort putting together performances at GSC, the Theatre Department prides themselves on the achievements made in the organization and by its members. With all the outstanding plays performed here at GSC, the organization recognizes those actors and skilled stage technicians that honorary Wanda Roff explains as "loyal, hard working, dedicated people."

Started 30 years ago, the GSC chapter formed for the purpose of recognizing achievements in the theatre. Reformed by Nancy and Dennis Wemm, the Alpha Psi Omega organization takes part in workshops and student directed plays, traveling to conferences where actors and technicians can learn from those with experience. At these conferences, such as the SouthEastern Theatre Conference (SETC), guest speakers like Woody Harrelson encourage and provide advice from past experiences. Also, those attending the workshops may find job contacts through SETC in various fields. Two such persons, Wanda Roff and Keith Miller, found jobs this summer and getting the "experience of a life time"

"I loved working this summer as a professional," replied Roff. As Business Manager of the Alpha Psi Omega, Roff has worked on and off the stage, as well as working at Lone Star Accademy for the Performing Arts this summer through SETC, in costume design and seamstress. "I would work 12 to 15 hours a day," Roff said, "it wasn't easy, but I had a great time!"

Honorary theatre student, Keith Miller, also found a job through SETC in Atlantic, Georgia in a professional theatre drapery manufacturer.

"This is a great chance...for drama students, "

Nancy Wemm replied, "each year, members of the Alpha Psi Omega ... (have) had a lot of great success(es) at the three day workshops... and the experience is good for all members."

Working with experienced members of the SETC, theatre students learn more about set design, sound design, achieving character, stage performance, and other techniques on and off the stage.

This year, the SETC will be held in Louisville, Kentucky where a clown expo will be presented by the Barnum and Bailey Circus. "Working through SETC is a good place to find jobs," Roff said, "these workshops (find) contacts... in acting."

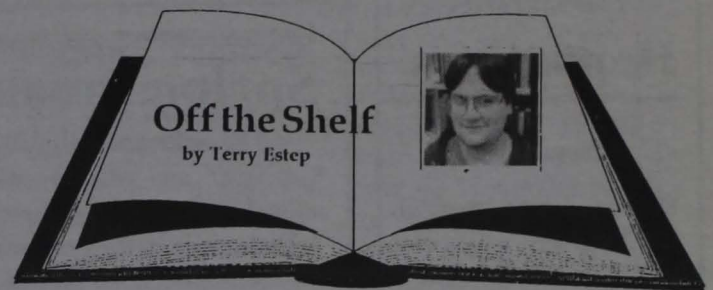
Just like the rest of the departments at GSC, the Theatre Department has their own sense of family and teamwork. And as a team, laughter is the biggest part of binding them together. Whether it's the back-stage antics of the actors winding down

-- if that is possible -- or Dennis Wemm's on-stage stunts that seem to "bring the house down" (literally), the Theatre Department prides themselves of the achievements made by all its members.

"We have a really good group of people...and I enjoy working with them and having fun", Nancy Wemm muses. "We keep track of all our members...and people (who've) graduated from here... come back and help each other...(we) have a loyalty to each other."

Alpha Psi Omega members include: Nancy Wemm, Dennis Wemm, LeeAnn Flowers, Ezekiel Flowers-President/Director, Jeremy Burks, Wanda Roff, Jackie carter, Holly Riley, Allan Bearfield, Chris Simpson, Debbie Starcher, and Joshua Bonnett.

Pledges include: Chris Gravely, Chris Hopkins, John Park, Rich Phebens, Chad Nickles, Stephanie Johnson, and Mary Grace Gainer.



Something of an *Enigma*

During World War II, German U-boats created a hazard for Allied ships. The Germans used an encryption code, called Enigma, that prevented the Allies from locating the U-boats. Cracking that code meant safety for supply and passenger ships. Failure meant the loss of hundreds of lives. The new Robert Harris novel, *Enigma*, is set against the backdrop of the British effort to crack the code.

As the novel opens, Thomas Jericho is recovering from a nervous breakdown. He is a semi-brilliant mathematician who had been able to get through Enigma by using weakly encrypted German weather reports as a key. The constant stress of his work, coupled with a failed relationship, lead to his breakdown.

It soon becomes clear that someone has leaked information to the Nazis. The Germans change the weather encryption code, creating an intelligence blackout for the Allies. To compound the problem, a major Allied convoy is expected to reach the danger zone in four days. Jericho is called back to duty.

His ex-girlfriend disappears, leading to suspicions that she may be the spy. Soon, no one is trusted, and Jericho must try to clear her name.

Harris researched this period heavily for his earlier works. His last novel, *Fatherland*, was an alternate time-line novel in which Hitler was never defeated. Indeed, it is his attention to detail that makes *Enigma* such a wonderful historic novel. The power blackouts, ration booklets, and the stress and energy of being in a think-tank are well-rendered. The codes used in the novel are the same ones used by the Germans during the war. If war novels are your cup of tea, go and get *Enigma*. You'll feel like an insider.

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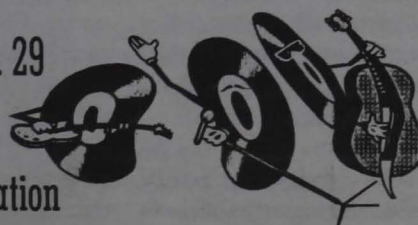
MUST COME IN FULL 70'S DRESS
(OH, COME ON IT'LL BE FAR OUT)

When:

8:30 p.m. Feb. 29

Where:

Wesley Foundation



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Campus Happenings

Computer Lab

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

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 8p.m. followed by a movie at 9 p.m.

Fellowships of Christian Athletes

FCA meets weekly on Tuesdays at 8:30 p.m. in the P.E. Building, room 207.

Baptist Campus Ministry

BCM meets weekly in the Verona Maple Room on Monday nights at 8:30 p.m. Everyone is welcome to attend!

Tutorial Services

If interested in information about becoming a tutor or receiving tutoring services contact Brenda Wilson in the Education Department located in Clark Hall, Ext. 304.

Game Room Named

The winning entry for the *Name the Game Room* contest was selected on February 16, by a committee.

The winning name, "Pioneer Alley," was submitted without a corresponding name or address. It is assumed that the submitting party wished to do so anonymously. The selection committee would like to offer congratulations to the winner, and to thank all other entrants.

Spring Break Check-Out

The residence halls will be closed on Friday, March 8, at 5p.m., and will re-open on Sunday, March 17, at 12 noon. Lunch will be the last meal served on Friday, March 8. Dinner will be the first meal served on Sunday, March 17. Classes begin on Monday, March 18.

Students leaving the residence halls must unplug everything in the rooms and turn out all lights. Curtains and windows should be closed. Lock doors and windows.

Remember: the college is not responsible for any item stolen from the rooms. Rooms will be checked to see that students have complied with the procedure.

Around the Bend: Can't Breathe Anywhere!

Eric Ware
staff writer

Sometimes people just don't get the point at all. Laws were passed to keep smokers out of public buildings in reply to nonsmokers and the Surgeon General's warning about the harmful affects of secondhand smoke. Not only did I agree with this, I applauded!

Working within the grocery business, smokers tend to forget their manners and have no regard to those around them (for some, the mannerly few, there are exceptions), smoking in front of children, pregnant adults, elderly people, workers who coughed out loud when the stench steeped their way.

When the bill was passed I applauded for the very same reason non-smokers applauded... we could finally breathe.

However, now I have to walk through a small congregation of smokers blowing their smoke right into my face. In cold weather like this it's

hard enough to catch your breathe.

I'm not condemning anyone. We all have our habits, but I'm pleading to those out there in the smokers circle to make a small, conscience effort to think about those around them. After all, some of us like to breathe.

Red Johnny and The Round Guy

Chad Samples
staff writer

Comedians Tim Reagan and John Di Maggio, otherwise know as Red Johnny and the Round Guy, brought laughter to GSC students on Thursday, February 15. Their performance was a hit. An audience member, Joe Hughes, was quoted as saying, "They were pretty damned funny."

Originally from Connecticut and New Jersey, the duo met while attending the Mason-Gross School of Arts at Rutgers University. They became friends and were soon to be a hit. They

now reside in New York.

They have appeared on comedy shows such as: MTV's "Spring Break Special," "Caroline's Comedy Hour," and A & E's "Evening at The Improv." Reagan stated about performing on MTV "That was one of the best experiences we ever had." "The perks were kick-ass, but



Photo By Chad Samples.

the job was hell!" added Di Maggio. He added that that MTV is notorious about limiting their artists' creativity.

Red Johnny and The Round Guy said that they enjoyed the Glenville audience because they seemed very responsive.

The Coot Speaks Again

Allen Carr
contributing writer

The loyal followers of the old coot (all both of them) will exult with great jocularity at the return, with yet more wisdom, of the purveyor of sarcasm. There will be wailing and gnashing of teeth, however; among those who had fervently hoped that the old coot had been devoured by swine. I understand from one of my anonymous sources that the powers-that-be and the head henchman were a little less than ecstatic with my last endeavor at enlightenment and entertainment. It is unclear to the old coot, though, whether their displeasure stemmed from criticism of their advertising policy or the veiled reference to their collective paucity of pate adornment of the hirsute variety.

If the criticism of the school's advertising policy caused their digestive juices to

sour or if the allusion to the feudal-lord-type mentality that has prevailed in recent dealings with faculty members and the annually increasing task of filling the vacancies has caused their knickers to bunch, then the old coot can offer no solace other than a quote from Imanuel Kant. Kant said, "Our age is, in especial degree, the age of criticism, and to criticism everything must submit. Religion through its sanctity, and law giving through its majesty, may seek to exempt themselves from it. But they then awaken just suspicion, and cannot claim the sincere respect which has been able to sustain the test of free and open examination."

If however, the allusion to personal appearance has caused anyone's ego to be bruised then the old coot offers this public apology. The intention of the article was to amuse in that droll, witty fashion so characteristic of the old coot.

No insult was intended. One's appearance has been ordained by a Higher Authority than the old coot and, since one is more or less stuck with the combination of genes ordained by the Authority, then far be it from the old coot to rub salt in an open wound. Just because the old coot was endowed by his Creator with what has been described as a boyishly charming smile akin to Tom Selleck is no cause for him to look with condescension on those not similarly blessed.

If one is prone to appreciate irony then this situation is rife with it. The old coot, due to a lack of feedback, either pro or con, had decided to retire this semester. The article published earlier was held over from the previous semester. However, since there has now been a definite reaction--well, the old coot is encouraged to continue. Thanks for the input, guys.

Come join Delta Zeta and be part of Spring Formal Rush!

Contact Shelly Rogers in Room 304 Williams Wing to sign up and for more information

Better Food, A Better You: Fact About Fat

*Eric Ware
staff writer*

"Cutting down, but not cutting out" is the recommendation doctors like Dr. Roy E. Vartabedian and nutritionist Kathy Matthews make in their book *Nutripoints* about the "intake of fat and saturated fat linked to heart disease." However, this hasn't come as a shock to most Americans with the uprise in the past several years of physical well-being and dieting. Yet, as Matthews points out, many Americans are least aware that home diets cut out essential vitamins and minerals, not knowing how to substitute a "good" food for a "bad".

While it's known that Americans, and college students as well, have reduced fat intake by 12% since 1987, there has been an increase in the intake of complex carbohydrates. While 80% eat healthier snack foods such as yogurt and nuts, the con-

sumption of salty foods have increased by 60%. The general feeling people have when dieting is dieting by selection, cutting out the essentials of good nutrition.

"Many diets today", as stated in *Nutripoints*, "take in consideration the negative elements in... eating patterns... avoiding fats, cholesterol, and sodium... however, a balanced diet and reducing these elements provide for improved health".

A healthier approach to better nutrition begins by reducing higher-fat foods and cholesterol. Every day, college students are depositing harmful cholesterol in their arteries, increasing the risk of heart disease. "From laboratory studies and clinical observations", stated *Parent's Magazine*, "eating too much fat leads to an increased risk of colon, rectal, prostate, breast cancer...heart attacks and stroke(s)".

However, researchers

found that cutting back on saturated fats and cholesterol can increase a probable five years to the life-span of an average middle-aged man.

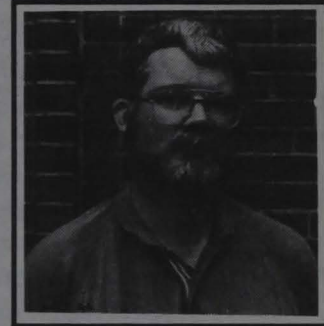
So, how much saturated fat is too much? According to the *Prevention Book of Health Facts*, researchers contend that for the consumption of 1,000 calories a day, eight to 11 grams is the average intake to maintain health--given with proper exercise. Foods low in fat and high in whole-grains such as breads and cereals or fruits and vegetables decrease the risk of heart disease and may help reduce the risk of cancer.

Taking steps towards a better diet in turn makes a better you. Cutting down doesn't mean cutting out, and face it, feeling good is important to everyone. So next time a bag of chips seem to scream out to you, reach to the produce section for an apple or two. It may save your life.

Dees Attends ASLET International Training Seminar

*Jena Ellyson
staff writer*

Visiting Instructor in Criminal Justice, Mr. Tim Dees, attended the 9th International Training Seminar of the American Society of Law Enforcement Trainers January 15th through the 20th. Hosted in Grapevine, Texas (the oldest city in the Dallas/Fort Worth Metroplex), over 700 law enforcement trainers, from 49 states and 9 foreign countries, attended the seminar. Boasting over 5,000 members, ASLET is the largest organization of police trainers across the world.



"This was my seventh consecutive seminar," Dees stated. "I have been a member of ASLET since 1989."

The seminar, according to Dees, hosts an interesting format. Eight or nine trainers speak in different areas at the same with each course lasting two to four hours. Each trainer speaks twice, allowing more options for the spectators.

"In essence, you get a capsule view of the professional topic," the first-year Glenville State College professor explained. "These guys are the followers in the field. They're very, very good -- probably the best in the world -- with a lot of experience."

While there, Dees presented the findings of various projects of the ASLET ethics committee, of which he is the vice chairman as well as the secretary, and attended a number of instructional presentations and

seminars. These included: "Making Your Presentation Skills More Effective," "Dynamics of the Plainclothes Armed Confrontation," "Use of Psychological Curriculum in the Pre-Service Academy," "Performance Problems; Supervision vs. Training," "Teaching Ethics: The High Road to Success," "Financial Investigative Techniques," "Building A Training Program From Scratch," "Civil Disobedience: Protected Speech or Criminal Conduct?" "Civil Disorder and the Police Response,"

"Bombs By Mail," and "Conducting A Training Needs Assessment." On one evening, Dees toured the high-tech production studios of the Law Enforcement Television Network, an encrypted satellite-feed service for law enforcement agencies.

"These conferences keep me current in my profession," Dees commented. "I get the latest ideas, what's working and what's not, and maintain professional contacts."

Dees also attended a workshop on the new technologies and efficacy of police body armor. He collected literature on community policing from Will Oliver, who is teaching a course on that subject and writing a textbook for it.

"It was a revitalizing experience," he noted. "You get charged up about the subject area...enthusiastic again. I came away with my 'spiritual well' filled, so to speak. I appreciate the college for its support in allowing me to go to ASLET again this year."

Student Addresses To Be Kept in Records Office

Beginning in the Spring 1996 Semester, the Records Office will assume the responsibility of maintaining student address files. Presently, much confusion exists about these files. This has come about for a number of reasons including student non-co-operation, the use of three address descriptors, and the failure to keep the files updated.

We will keep two addresses for each student: the PERMANENT and the LOCAL. The PERMANENT address for the student is the address the student first cites on recruiting materials or presents on the application form. All grades and most important college correspondence should be sent to the student at this address. The PERMANENT address may not be changed without documentation. All changes of addresses in Banner will take place in the Records Office. The LOCAL address will be used for those students who live on campus or live at a location other than the PERMANENT address. The LOCAL address will be updated on the registration form each time the student registers for classes.

Gun /Knife Show-----

*Brian Swisher
staff writer*

This past Saturday and Sunday, a traveling knife and gun show came to Glenville. From 9 a.m. to 6 p.m., people crammed into the community center looking to buy or barter knives, guns and assorted military items. There was everything from \$1000 handguns to 50 cent pocket knives.

More than a place to find a new rifle or skinning knife, the show was a place for people to gather, swap stories and socialize. It was impossible to walk down the aisles past the rows of tables without being tempted to exceed the maximum limit on all of your credit cards. I was able to keep my plastic in my wallet and my hands off the goodies.

This coming weekend the show will be moving to Clarksburg and then on to Fairmont. I found the show to be a lot of fun with plenty of interesting people to meet. My only regret is that as a college student, my urge to spend greatly exceeded my budget. It was the best two dollars I've spent in a long time.

*The Time Is NOW!!
Rush TKE!
For more information, call 462-8855.*

GSC Week: April 15-20

*Congratulations to Susan Hunter who submitted the winning theme and logo for this year's event. The theme is "Hog Wild" and our logo is a lovable pig-in-a-poke.

*Anyone interested in helping plan this best-ever GSC Week, please contact Chris Sedlock at Ext. 113.



Fourth And Goal Kevin Lake

It seems as if an article I wrote a couple of weeks ago raised some concern among some faculty members and administrators here at GSC. You may remember this article. I wrote of visiting my ex-roommate, getting a speeding ticket, and an incident involving my ex-girlfriend. I would like to take this time to apologize to those of you who were offended by this article. Believe me, when I finally figured out what she meant by "late," I became very concerned myself.

In all seriousness, I wanted to find out just how unsuitable for printing this article was. I took a copy of it home for my mother to read. Being a strict Catholic and sometime feminist, she would be sure to let me know. As she finished the article she violently threw the paper to the ground, looked me dead in the eye, and angrily yelled, "I can't believe you got another speeding ticket!"

Would you believe someone associated with the DNR called last week in regards to my shooting doves article? They informed my editor, Sandra Gibson, that I had violated both state and federal laws. It's a good thing I chose not to write about the eight-point buck I killed with my gun last year during bow season. Even I'm smarter than that.

Irish golfer John Moran requested that I write about the events that take place on Thursday nights at the Main Event in this week's column. As I sat down to do so, my advisor told me I'd better write about sports this week. So, to kill two doves with one stone, I slammed my bottle of "Pepsi Lite" onto my computer monitor and began writing about the sports that take place at the Main Event on Thursday nights. These include pool, foosball, and occasional coed boxing.

As most of us know already the goal of both pool and foosball is to sink your balls into a hole. (I wonder how many people will be offended by that line?) In foosball there is only one hole, where as in pool there are six to choose from. Oh, if only I could be the cue ball.

There's also plenty of halftime entertainment, which often includes Brian Green's version of "Show Girls". That nerdy girl from "Saved by the Bell" doesn't hold a candle to him. I still haven't heard how Mr. Belding reacted to that when she got back to school.

I would also like to point out to any of my teachers who may be reading this article that these are all things I've been told. I've never witnessed them. I stay home every Thursday night to study for your classes...and I bet you were thinking I get all those C's without even trying.

I would like to let everyone know how well the men's basketball team is doing. They have overcome a slow early-season start to fight their way to the fourth-ranked position in the league. Led by players like Jeff Brockell, Troy Sexton, and Tommy Reed, this is no wonder. Coach Nottingham has proven himself once again to be an excellent coach.

The women's team is coming on strong, too. They have now won a total of eleven games in two seasons! Coached by Steve Harold, this is no wonder, either.

Behind every great man is a woman who didn't marry me.

--Al Bundy

Pioneer Team Playback

Munir Ingram
staff writer

On Wednesday, February 14, the Pioneers of GSC took on the Bobcats of WV Wesleyan College. When the caliber of two such teams are matched, we understand the meaning of the game on both sides of the ball.

The Pioneers took control on the first possession, letting the Bobcats know they were the prey and the Pioneers were the predators.

The Bobcats tried to strike with their halfcourt pressure, but the Pioneers used teamwork to elude their opponent with a score of 44-33 going into the half. The Pioneers maintained their positive, unselfish attitude about

teamwork by allowing Jeff Brockell 22pts., Eric Contee 17pts., and Tom Reid 13pts., to make the scoring a team effort.

The team rebounders were Larry Snodgrass with seven and Troy Sexton with six rebounds, giving the Pioneers another chance at raising the score. The Pioneers played as a team on Wednesday, February 14, giving them a team win over WV Wesleyan College 77-62, raising their overall record.

The Pioneers had the team motto embedded in their work ethic, when they took on the Senators of Davis and Elkins College, Saturday, February 17. The Pioneers basketball team clearly showed what can happen when a team plays in unity. The

Pioneers' teamwork went on all day to give them command of the court going into the halftime 45-23 over Davis and Elkins College.

With the assistance of the team they contributed to Tom Reid's excellent game in scoring with 28pts. The player substitutions that were made by the entire coaching staff also showed excellent team work. The team rebounder for that day was Larry Snodgrass with 12 rebounds. The team-working Pioneers won 82-48, raising their conference record to 10-7 and overall record to 11-10, making it a winning record.

Free your schedule for the upcoming NCAA Basketball Tournament.

Lady Pioneers Surge; Win 2 of 3

Kevin Lake
staff writer

As this year's basketball season draws to a close, the Lady Pioneers are coming to life. They have not only won 2 of their 3 games in the past week, but have also won their last 4 of 6. Wednesday night February 14, the girls hosted Wesleyan and were defeated by a mere 5 points at 62-57. Leading scorer for the Pioneers was Freshman sensation Tricia Swink, an all-regional player from Kentucky with 18 points. Lori Charnoplosky had 12. Freshman Amy Thomas had 8 rebounds.

Then on the 19th, the girls traveled to Bluefield where they won a close one by a score of 56-52. Here the team overcame a 3 point halftime deficit to rally for the victory. Amy Thomas absolutely went off in this game leading the team in both points and rebounds with 15 and 11 respectively. Tricia Swink had 14 points and Tanisha brown was good for 12.

Thursday, the 22nd of February the girls stayed home to host the Mt. Lions of Concord. The Pioneers took a

fifteen point lead at one time during the game, nearly lost it at the end, but due to a last second missed layup by the Mt. Lions were able to hold on to win by 2 at 80-78. Amy Thomas had a great night offensively scoring 18 points to lead the team. Tricia Swink and Mandy Ralston both had 16 points and starter Tanisha Brown had 13. Senior Marty Rose had an amazing 16 rebounds.

This team may have come

in like lambs but their going out like lions. Regardless of what happens in the tournament, if this team can pick up next season where its leaving this one they will be a force to be reckoned with.

Head coach Steve Harold is finally finding that key he needs to be successful. This is perhaps the same key that won him numerous titles in track as well as coach of the year on several occasions.

TOURNAMENT
8
BALL

Monday March 4, 1996 at 6 p.m. at the Game Room

\$5 Entry fee with 70% of total entry fees paid back.

1st-50% 2nd-15% 3rd-5%

Pairings will be made by random drawing at 5:30 p.m. the evening of contest. If there are less than six players, the tournament may be canceled and entry fees refunded. We will use World Standardized Rules. We will play Best of 7 games and the tournament will be a

DOUBLE ELIMINATION

The News In Review

Lisa Belknap
staff writer

neth Starr, is continuing to investigate the possible illegal funneling of federal funds from Madison Guaranty Savings and Loan to Bill Clinton's 1984 gubernatorial campaign. The first lady was dead-set against having the independent prosecutor investigating the case. The president overruled her.

Bob Dole's extensive lead over his Republican running-mates has diminished. A USA TODAY/ CNN/ Gallup Tracking Poll has found Buchannon in the lead with 25% against Dole's 24%. There is a 4 point error margin.

Poetry Contest Open to All

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 March 31, 1996. 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 origi-

nal poem, any subject and any style, to The National Library of Poetry, 11419 Cronridge Dr., P.O. Box 704-1943, 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 post-marked by March 31, 1996. A new contest opens April 1, 1996.

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

Tax Help Provided

The senior students in the GSC Accounting Club will be helping students fill out their tax forms throughout the tax season. You can find them in the library seminar room between 4-6 p.m. Monday through Thursday.

To Your Health Fitness Center

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Another High-Profile Entertainer On Trial

Rapper Snoop Doggy Dogg Acquitted

Jena Ellyson
staff writer

Yet another famous entertainer has been acquitted of murder charges.

A jury found Snoop Doggy Dogg not guilty of murder in the 1993 slaying of a Los Angeles gang member. Declaring itself "hopelessly deadlocked" on a lesser charge of voluntary manslaughter and accessory-after-the-fact (because the couple fled the scene of the shooting), the jury of seven men and five women also acquitted Snoop's former bodyguard, McKinley Lee.

In returning the partial verdicts, jurors acquitted Snoop, whose real name is Calvin Broadus, 24, and Lee, 25, of conspiracy to commit assault of Phillip Woldemariam, an Ethiopian immigrant and gang member. The rapper, whose first album "Doggystyle" hit No. 1 in sales just months after the shooting, stared straight ahead as the court clerk read the verdicts.

"I feel very remorseful," Snoop later informed MTV. "But you know, I mean, God made the decision. And he did what he did."

According to the *Associated Press*, prosecutors claimed the two tracked Woldemariam down and shot him in cold blood

at a city park after the 20-year-old flashed a gang sign while shouting an obscenity in an earlier confrontation outside Snoop's apartment.

Defense lawyers labeled the shooting as an act of self-defense, claiming Woldemariam was going for a gun in the waistband of his pants. Lee then fired at him from a Jeep driven by Snoop.

Prosecutor Robert Grace disputed the self-defense claim, arguing that the victim was shot in the back and buttocks as he attempted to flee the suspects.

The L.A. district attorney's office recently experienced setbacks through a combination of contradictory testimonies and destroyed evidence. Judge Paul Flynn declared a mistrial on the manslaughter charges, and prosecutors stated they expected to announce on March 18 whether they would retry the two for manslaughter, according to the *Associated Press*.

"We're just gonna encourage everybody to keep praying for us and supporting us, fearlessly," the rapper explained. "We're keeping our heads up high, realizing everything's everything."

Still, the bad publicity apparently hasn't damaged Snoop's career, whose bestselling rap albums portray the street-gang

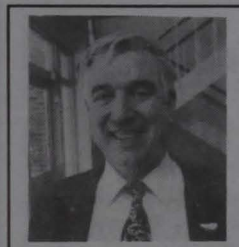
lifestyle of sex, drugs and violence. Though criticized for its offensive language and degrading references to women, the album became one of the biggest sellers of 1994 with more than four million copies sold. In addition, Snoop received the male artist of the year trophy in 1994 at the Billboard Music Awards.

Snoop isn't the only famous entertainer to run afoul of the law. His producer of "Doggystyle," Dr. Dre, who real name is Andre Young, served a five-month work-release sentence for violating probation on a 1993 assault that left a man with a broken jaw.

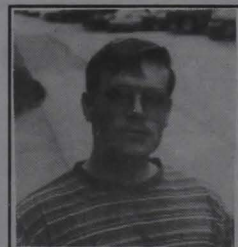
Tupac Shakur, who attended Snoop's trial last week to offer support, was convicted of sexually abusing a fan in a New York City hotel room three years ago. He is currently free on \$1.4 million bail pending appeal. Shakur was also charged with carrying a loaded weapon after being stopped for speeding in L.A. in 1994.

Nonetheless, the case against Snoop is simply the latest in a string of high-profile cases lost by Los Angeles prosecutors, including the O.J. Simpson murder "trial of the century," the Menendez brothers' first murder trial and the state trial of four officers accused in the beating of Rodney King.

Are high-profile celebrities given certain "breaks" and special considerations in the judicial system simply because of their fame?



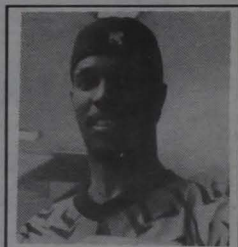
"I sure think they do."
-Dr. Peterson,
Dean of Academic Affairs.



"The rich and the famous get special treatment."
-Ron Crihfield,
student.



"Yea."
-Amy Bailey,
student.



"Yep! I think they shouldn't get special privileges, just like O.J. did."
-Reshawn Jones,
student.

Photos by Gene Breza.

FREE LUNCH

By Brian Cano



National Student News Service, 1996



Artless Philosophy
John H. Clise



My Dog, My Friend

I had a dog named Babar (like the elephant only cuter). He lived to be 18 years old. Since he was so cute, I used him to pick up women. I always got the same questions,

"He's so cute. When does Babar have to be home?" or "It's too bad you aren't as cute as your dog."

When the dog was 15, he had a stroke. It wasn't bad. The veterinarian said he would recover much as a human would. So we went to doggie physical therapy every day. He could almost stand before he fell, so I kept helping him up, over and over again.

He had no control of his kidneys, which was okay because he always waited until therapy before he "lost control" and it was always on me.

Babar had a ferocious bark until the stroke. Afterwards it was more of a cross between a squeaky rocking chair and a baby throwing up.

He would stare at me from across the room with his tongue hanging out and saliva dripping off until I would take him to the hospital to visit with the nurses.

This was okay because he was my friend, my only friend. That is probably why I didn't have him put to sleep.

All through his recovery he got cards from all over the world (from women of course). Beautiful cards with things like "hugs and kisses", "we'll always have Paris", "love ya' stallion", "love you, but lose that jerk John."

He did recover in about three months and was back at his loving ways. As we were leaving the animal hospital for the last time all the nurses came out, "Yes, they like me." I thought -- but only for a moment and the moment was gone.

"We are having a party this weekend," they stated as they asked, "Could we have Babar's phone number to invite him?" "Sure," I said, after all he was my only friend. Besides, sometimes he'd let me go with him if I was quiet and didn't eat a lot.

GARFIELD®



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Cloud 9



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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 (PS FORM 3579) to: The Mercury, Glenville State College, 200 High Street, Glenville, WV 26351. Subscription rate is \$10 per year.

In Celebration of Black History Month: Business Still Booming

Sandra Gibson
staff writer

According to the *Wall Street Journal*, C.H. James & Co. may be the oldest black-owned company in America. It's been in business 115 years and has been guided for four generations of the same family. Much of its ability to survive is that it has continually reinvented itself as it passed from generation to generation.

C. H. James got his start in the mountains of West Virginia where the 19-year-old parterred pictures of President Garfield -- who had recently been assassinated -- for vegetables from the cupboards of cash poor coal miners.

Three generations later, C. H. James III is fourth in a line of executive officers to run the business. In 1988 at age 36, he bought the business from his father and has made the most radical changes so far, by moving the headquarters from Charleston, W. Va. to City of Industry, California. He also made a restructuring move that will make the company a major supplier to McDonald's Corp. James III cited his reasoning on his change as a belief that it is equally important to know when the time for change is-- before your competitor does.

James III's great-grandfather began as a peddler with his three brothers in West Virginia. As their business blossomed, they were soon able to buy two mule drawn wagons. He then went out on his own and built a thriving sole proprietorship selling produce to local farmers and miners. After twice growing out of his store space, he eventually ended up with a big storefront on Charleston's main retail street.

Discovering that the retail business has its limits, Mr. James invited his son to join him as a partner in 1916. Together they

decided to abandon the retail business and go wholesale. They also expanded into fresh fruits. The new name for their new enterprise, C.H. James & Son promised a new direction.

This new marked growth not only placed C. H. James from a respected local merchant, but it made him a national contributor to the debate on race and commerce. He firmly held to the belief that rather than work for whites only, blacks should endeavor to own and operate their own businesses. This brought him the respect of President Theodore Roosevelt who addressed him in a letter, "I think I have spoken of you at least a hundred times, pointing to you as a man who actually is by his actions and not merely by his words solving the race problem in this country."

The elder James entrusted his son with the business in 1927 but two years later, the Depression sent the company into bankruptcy. In one engulfing moment, the family's 22-room living space, the nanny, cook, driver, and cleaning lady were gone as well.

The crush of the loss fell on the shoulders of E. L. James, whose pride would not allow him to rest or ease the guilt he felt over losing the family fortune. Buying a truck on credit, he shifted the business from produce to selling poultry and eggs, using his truck as a storefront. During the Depression, it was unthinkable to get a bank loan to jump start a bankrupt produce business but desperate for sales, poultry farmers agreed to extend credit without collateral.

By the mid-thirties, the rebuilding was complete with a store front once more. When 1941 rolled around, James Produce Co. had ten employees and four trucks. However, E. L. was still haunted by the memories of depression and fi-

nancial ruin and he was too slow in making changes that were vital in order to remain competitive in the business world. He was also determined to hold tight to what he had salvaged and therefore, he held his control until he fell victim to an auto accident at age 74.

Since 1967 his son C.H. II, who for four previous years prodded his father to make changes, took over the business. With a Wharton business degree, he was the first in the family to obtain a college degree. He introduced accrual accounting, refrigerated trucks, computerized purchasing, and inventory control systems to the business.

"I think I have spoken of you at least a hundred times, pointing to you as a man who actually is by his actions and not merely by his words solving the race problem in this country."
-- President Theodore Roosevelt

Sales continued to rise from \$1.5 million in 1969 and peaked at about \$4 million in the early 80's but in the mid-1980's sales declined to \$2.6 million. That's when C.H. James III joined the family business with his newly acquired mas-

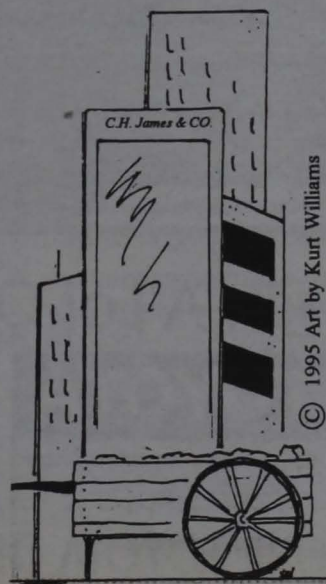
ters degree in business from Wharton. He was determined to make his first goal of getting C.H. & Co. certified as a government contractor. Accomplishing this, the company did \$10 million of canned goods business with the army during Desert Storm.

In 1988, C. H. III asked his father if he would be interested in selling out to him. His father obliged but was quick to let him know--it must be a square deal--no paper jazz. The quenching deal cost "between \$500,000 and \$1 million in cash, which C.H. III was able to have financed.

Since this time, he has acquired 51% of closely held North American Produce, the

California supplier of 15% of all the lettuce and onions for McDonald's restaurants nationwide. Recently, the company completed another deal with McDonald's which links to helping supply chains in Australia, Singapore, Malaysia, Hong Kong, and Southern China. Last year in WV, produce sales alone were about \$12 million and the partnership with North American had sales of \$15 million.

Things may continue changing for this business but it is unlikely that a total leave from the family is one of them. C.H. II is now completely retired and working as an administrator at a local college. He's completely satisfied with his radical son at the helm of things and with the recent move to Southern California, C.H. III feels that it's not only the weather that is looking mighty sunny for this four generation business. "The future is clearly here," he states.



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St. Mark's Episcopal Church
607 West Main Street, Glenville
Worship Service 10:30 AM Sunday
For more information, call 462-5800 or 462-7455.

February 19-28, 1996

Kiss-A-Pig Contest

sponsored by the SAACS

Collection jars can be found in the lobby of the Heflin Center and outside of the Records Office in the Administration Building.

Final voting is noon on Tuesday, February 27th. Winner to be announced on Wed., February 28th at 1 p.m. in the amphitheater. Bring your cameras!!!

The candidate who raises the most money wins the opportunity to Kiss-A-Pig. If he/she does not wish to kiss a pig, a donation may be made to the SAACS and a member of the SAACS will kiss the pig!!

Blood Alcohol Level Limits continued from page 1.

tention, speed control, braking, steering, gear changing, lane tracking, judgment, and reaction time.

Of the five states where .08 laws are currently in effect, a NHSTA analysis showed significant decreases in alcohol-related fatalities in four of these states.

Too often we choose to ignore traffic safety as a critically important issue because we view the tremendous number of crashes, fatalities and injuries that occur as inevitable. What we fail to recognize is that, in large measure, these events are preventable. The Criminal Justice and Highway Safety division has solid research and evidence to support certain measures as effective in saving lives and dollars if we simply choose to employ them.

Not only will this measure, in conjunction with the state's ongoing public education, assist in saving our lives, it's also a ma-

ior ingredient in West Virginia's DUI enforcement effort. Its loss would severely impact our DUI Countermeasures program. If our state refuses to adopt the .08 BAC law in 1996, West Virginia will lose its eligibility for NHSTA Alcohol Incentive funds amounting to approximately \$300,000 annually.

In addition to lives and dollars, this proposed bill will have significance on health care costs, Medicaid payouts, rehabilitation expenses and related costs -- much of which is supported through state revenues.

James Albert, director of the state's Criminal Justice and Highway Safety division, claims the purpose of the proposed legislation is to deter people from driving while impaired and to save lives. "Our concern is not drinking, its drinking and driving," he adds.

Apparently, the public support for the .08 BAC is strong. A *West Virginia Poll* conducted last year proved a public approval rating of 77 percent.

No other issue debated by

the Governor or Legislature in 1996 impacts life and death on a scale of traffic safety. After all, we are not discussing statistic anymore; we are talking about real people. These are our neighbors, friends and family members who are killed or seriously injured each day on our West Virginia roadways. Many of whom die preventable deaths.

"We would not be complacent about 139 children being killed in a school fire," Albert comments, "or 139 people dying in a plane crash. We should not accept losing lives to drunk driving either."

Fellowship of Christian Athletes

The regular weekly huddle meeting of the GSCFC met in Room 207 of the PE building, Tuesday, at 8:30p.m.

A short program entitled "My Twelve Loves" was led by Coach James. Prayer partners were exchanged. Dave Masto will be our guest speaker March 5th at 8:30p.m.

Best wishes to all athletes and to the Pioneer Powerline Dance team as they perform this week. Go for it gals!

Dear Editor continued from page 3.

print. If that is the case, then not all of the blame should be directed towards Mr. Lake or any other columnists who have been attacked recently on the letters to the editor page. If there is some responsibility taken by the editor to monitor what is being submitted in her/his paper, then maybe some communication will take place and some learning will occur. If the editor is unwilling or unable to discuss the subject matter of columnist's articles, then is there any need for an editor. I believe *The Mercury* has already proved that anybody can write a column.

Sincerely,
David Rich

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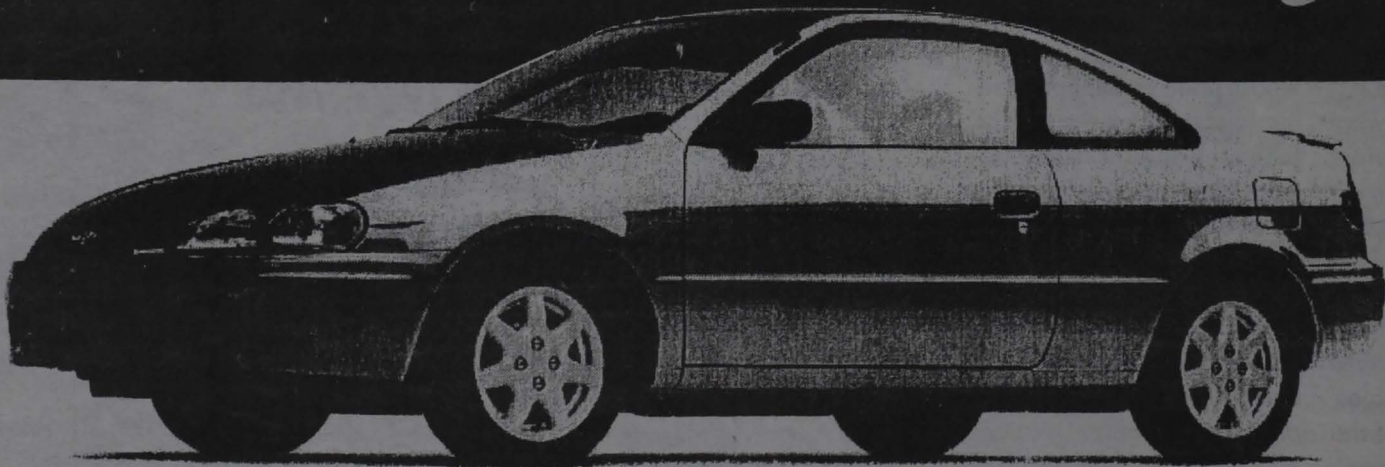
Due to circumstances which were not in my control nor the control of others on *The Mercury* staff, a decision was made to not have a paper the week of February 19th. However, beginning this Monday, February 28th and each Monday throughout the semester, we will have papers available by 12 p.m. If I am notified of any difference in this change, I will give notice as soon as possible.

Sandra Gibson
Managing Editor

As soon as a man climbs up to a high position, he must train his subordinates and trust them. They must relieve him of all small matters. He must be set free to think, to travel, to plan, to see important customers, to make improvements, to do all the big jobs of leadership.

-Herbert N. Casson

It Doesn't Take A Math Major To Reduce The Coefficient of Drag to .31



(And Do It With A Lot Of Style.)



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