

Senator Rebecca White ...



Dr. Gillespie ...





Cheslka...

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Don't forget to turn in your financial aid renewals!

The Student newspaper of Glenville State College

Volume 68, No. 17

February 6, 1997

Last day to apply

for graduation,

Feb. 7!

Ruggiero's Goal: Lead Glenville to NCAA D-II Title-

By John G. Miller, Sports Editor Clarksburg Exponent-Telegram

Warren Ruggiero didn't waste any time when he was selected as Glenville State's new football coach. The 30-year-old, first-time head coach already has the Pioneers' primary goal in place. "People talk about advantages and disadvantages (at Glenville), but we have a goal to reach the Division II National Championship," said Ruggiero.

That may seem like big talk, but Ruggiero's background lends credence to his ability to accomplish such a lofty goal. He was the coordinator of the NCAA Division II No. 1 scoring offense at Clarion and his unit was a pivotal factor in the **Comedians**

school's drive to the Division II Final Four this past season.

"Rich (Rodriguez, the former Glenville coach who left to be offensive coordinator at Tulane) built the program up to where it was outstanding," said Ruggiero after being officially named the head coach by the school's president, Dr. William K. Simmons, during Tuesday's news conference at Damon's in Clarksburg. "We want to pick up where he left off and get us to the next level."

Simmons believes Ruggiero can accomplish that goal.

"I believe, in looking at the field of candidates and the ex-

Continued on page 4.



New Head Football Coach Warren Ruggerio signs Contract with Glenville State College.

By Eric Ware

The night roared with laughter and cheers when comedians Tammy Pescatelli and Michael Cheslka, sponsored by the Pioneer Program Board, performed Tuesday night in the Fine Arts auditorium for a captivated crowd.

It took no time for these two comedians to start the ball rolling with musings about life, death, family, and stupid people (i.e. the general public) to keep the laughs pouring.

Pascatelli to the crowd: "Are there any Italians here tonight? (Silence from the crowd) Well, that just proves the witness protection program really works!"

An Italian origianly from the north coast of Ohio, Pascatelli moved to Cleveland after working as a co-host of a



Comedian Tammy Pescatelli.

morning radio show in Illinois. It wass then that the lure of comedy took her to the stage, opening acts for Rosie O'Donnell, Pauly Shore, *Evening at the Improv*, and also appearing on the shows Up All Night, The Susan Powter Show, and The Danny Bonaduce Show.

Using her life as background for her material, Pascatelli talks about religion, family, men, and friends that, in one way or the other, inspired her.

"I talk about things I know. Things that make me laugh," she says, including her Italian-Catholic heritage, sports, and relationships. "I just want to be funny."

The second act that night came from another Clevelander, Micheal Cheselka. Even though the comedian started off with an interesting slow start, it didn't take long for laughs to fill the theatre.

Photo by Carl Wilson

Cheselka to the crowd: "There's so many stupid people in this world. Line-dancing, what's that? Line-dancing is only the white man's attempt to take back the dance floor!"

While teaching high school at the Los Angeles' Landmark West School, Cheselka used his talents in theatre and improv performing to develop a curriculm to teach dyslexic children.

After deciding not to further persue law school, he began his stand-up comedy acts attracting long-time, and well-known comedian Sam Kinison and his Outlaws of Comedy.

"I'll always be proud to

Continued on page 9.

Page 2

Commentary

The Mercury



I will admit to a certain amount of reservation about the concept of school-to-work. The idea of placing career emphasis on students and their studies seems harmless enough on the surface, but I wonder about the long-range implications for society as a whole. Keep in mind, they want to start these programs as early as first grade.

I'm one of those evil "Liberal Education" people. I believe that students should be given a little bit of knowledge about everything and the ability and disposition to explore areas that interest them. I know there are plenty of college students on this very campus who ask "Why do I have to take Biology? I am never going to dissect a frog in the Real World, so what's the point?" Look at the big picture. A good liberal education program should be about making connections. Some knowledge may have no practical application (shock runs through the crowd! How can that be?), but if it illuminates a concept or changes your outlook even a little, it has worth.

School to work reminds me of the novel *Brave New World*, which depicts a "utopian" world where mass production and consumerism have gone mad. We live in a capitalistic society where the Almighty Dollar holds sway. If we as teachers impart knowledge, the idea lurks in the back of the mind that the knowledge must be useful for accumulating more Almighty Dollars. Earning potential is measurable, while self-fulfillment is not.

That's a dangerous and intellectually limiting idea, and I fear that school-to-work programs will shuttle (notice I said "shuttle," and not "tracking," which is illegal) students into programs where they are not nurtured into being well-rounded individuals, but are simply trained to perform a job. The image I get is the person as a cog in the heart of the machine state, a drone straight out of Fritz Lang's *Metropolis*, trained to press the right buttons and utter the right pre-selected phrases to remain as orthodox as possible.

Is there no room for job skills in liberal education? Of course there is! A good liberal education, with emphasis on thinking skills and information gathering, can create a highly-adaptable individual capable of learning the skills needed in many different jobs. I understand that the system is designed to allow change if students desire it...but have you ever tried to switch majors? You have the option of changing your major course of study at any time, but you will have a lot of catching up to do.

Now, if I teach in a school where there is a school-to-work program, then I will comply with it. I will be wary of it and question it, and I will train my students around it when I can, but I will comply with it. Philosophically, I do not really believe that schoolto-work is about helping students develop as individuals who can find happiness and growth through the learning experience. I think it's more about creating interchangeable parts for the machine in a highly-mobile society. I mean, it's one thing to ask a five-year-old "What do you want to be when you grow up?" It's another to develop a course of study on the spot for him when he answers.

From the I Ching

The dark element opens when it moves and closes when at rest. The strictest reticence is indicated here. The time is dangerous, because any degree of prominence leads either to the enmity of irrisistible antagonists if one challenges them or to misconceived recognition if one is complaisant. Therefore a man ought to maintain reserve, be it in solitude or in the turmoil of the world, for there too he can hide himself so well that no one knows him. Dear Editor,

I've been talking about this in the paper and in my column. Now I'll repeat this in this letter, and I hope it gets immediate attention!

There is a hole the size of the Grand Canyon in the parking lot below the AB building. This is not only a potential hazard when a car drags over this hole, but looks very bad on the appearance of the campus. When, oh when will this hole be filled in. I sometimes feel as if I sink forever in this abismal thing!

So, to the maintanence department, please FIX THIS HOLE! How long could it take...five minutes, fifteen at the most!

The space in between parking lots is bad enough, now we have to contend with this!

FIX THIS HOLE!

Sincerly, Eric Ware

From the I Ching

If a man is free of vanity he is able to conceal his abilities and keep them from attracting attention too soon: thus he can mature undisturbed. If conditions demand it, he can also enter public life, but that too he does with restraint. The wise man gladly leaves fame to others. He does not seek to have credited to himself things that stand accomplished, but hopes to release active forces; that is, he completes his works in such a manner that they may bear fruit for the future.



Return of Star Wars

The same way in which parallel worlds resemble each other in science fiction stories, the comeback of the *Star Wars* movie trilogy is a reflection of what is going on in Washington. Just when you thought Darth Vader was dead, the force is back with a newly-named Star Wars missile defense system. Although it is the same project that President Reagan started, the Strategic Defense Initiative is now called the Ballistic Missile Defense, and 40 billion dollars later, the same contractors are still trying to build the ultimate monument to irrationality.

As a scam, the Star Wars project worked great; the old USSR (you remember the "evil empire"?) actually believed we were on to something and spent themselves into a grave by continually increasing Soviet defense spending. In truth, the ultimate defense program envisioned by the Reagan administration was never anything more than a pipe dream (a pipe filled with a very powerful hallucinogen). Even the Patriot missile, which were an offshoot of the Star Wars program, deserve some scrutiny in terms of being a sophisticated missile defense system. What most people do not know is that Patriots missed fair more Scuds than they hit over Saudi Arabia, and Scuds are a very slow, low-tech weapon compared to the types of missiles that Star Wars is supposed to defend against. Even so, last year Congress spent a reported 4 billion dollars on the Ballistic Missile Defense Program and increased funding this year 1 billion dollars over what even the Pentagon requested.

I realize we need a very powerful national defense, but continued spending on a missile defense system that has little chance of becoming a reality and to defend against a country that no longer exists seems a bit paranoid at best. And why does defense spending, in general, remain at Cold War levels seven years after the fall of the Berlin Wall? Whatever happened to that "peace dividend?" I don't suppose it has anything to do with the 3 million dollars in PAC money associated with defense contractors that was given to House members in 1995? Where is Luke Skywalker when you need him?

The Morenny is published weekly during the school year, except for holidays and final exama, with two summer session issues. Periodical Postage prid at Glenville, WV 25351, 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.

WV Higher Education Grants

All papers are to be turned in by February 15 and received by March 1 for processing.

Mercury Photo Requests

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

you. Carl Wilson, Photo Editor



February 6, 1997

Around the Bend: A Chess Player, I Am Not.-Studie leader

By Eric Ware

I've found out this past weekend that at chess I do surely suck. That's not an understatement. It's a good analogy. My brother, Al, has told me life is like a chess game.

I'm not to happy with his analogy seeing that my chess game is short of being anything but a game! I'm pretty much slaughtered in any match.

How did I come about this? It so happens that I bought a chess game for my brother Jason, who is fourteen years old by the way, and thought I could teach him a few chess moves.

It turns out that I was wrong.

Upon each match he would sometimes win in five moves. Five moves, for those who are not chess players, is like taking a fort by shouting "I've got bigger guns than you, so give up!" And pretty much, they surrender. In chess, that's good.

So, after being slaughtered in the game, I asked where he learned to play chess.

"I'm vice-president of the chess club," he replies.

"What does the vice-president do?" I ask.

"Beat the other players." "What does the President do?"

"He beats me."

So I've given up on chess and turn to pinball, which I'm a wizard, and let Al —he was in the chess club also— play against Jason.

So far, they're still playing and I've gone on to better things.

Leaders Sought

The Fund for American Studies is recruiting student leaders from colleges and universities to participate in its 1997 summer Institutes at Georgetown University in Washington, D.C. Undergraduate students will gain critical work experience through internships in public policy, politics, business, journalism, or international affairs and will earn credits through course work at prestigious Georgetown University. The final application deadline is March 15. There is no minimum GPA requirement, and students who have been active on campus are encouraged to apply

Scholarships are available to each of The Fund's three seven-week programs; the Engalitcheff Institute on Comparative Political and Economic Systems, the Institute on Political Journalism, and the Bryce Harlow Institute on Business and Government Affairs. Each of the Institutes includes internships throughout the city, courses at Georgetown University, and unique opportunities to meet and talk with international leaders at site briefings, lectures, and evening dialogues.

For brochures and applications, students contact The Fund for American Studies at 800/741-6964 or visit the site at www.dcinternship.org.



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Staff Editorial by Eric Ware

I've got to confess, when I heard about the idea of Ebonics I didn't give the idea a favorable response. The notion of making teachers learn this language let me believe that "proper English" was to be replaced by "slang English." I'm not saying that slang doesn't have its place in the English language--after all, many words today have derivatives from slang words. But I felt that, as a stickler for proper pronunciation and grammar, Ebonics was a nightmare.

I mean, what's next? Hillbonics?

However, in light of the situation, I've been able to discuss this with others and began looking at Ebonics from a different viewpoint. Ebonics, for those who don't know the meaning of the term, is the combination of two words --"Ebony" and "Phonics." This term defines the Black-American slang that has, essentially, taken a life upon its own in the streets of many of our cities.

So, my initial view of this situation stemmed from the idea that maybe Ebonics will recreate a separation that may recreate a sort of segregation. And not only would we, as Americans, fall back by this "hate" idealism, but fall prey to any effects in the future. To my thankful acknowledgment, many students have given me more insight on this issue.

So, here's my argument in favor of Ebonics.

If, as a nation, we rule English to be the official language of the United States then we would be hypocritical of ourselves. For the English language is multilingual, composed of French, Germanic languages, Latin, Greek, and other European languages. In a sense, English is not a language, but a device to "balance" all these existing languages. Slang has, essentially, woven itself into our "English."

So why not include Ebonics in our language? After all, we've included almost everyone else.

PATEN

Student Congress Candidate Profiles

The Mercury is making the 1997 Student Congress elections a priority.

* We will print candidate profiles written by the candidates themselves.

* We will print no more than 325 words. (Profiles any more than 325 words will be edited.)

*A candidate photograph will be printed beside the profiles for those who schedule an appointment with *The Mercury's* photo editor (Ext. 133, ask for Carl Wilson).

* The profiles and photos will be the same size.

* Profiles will be arranged on the pages in the order they arrive. (First come, first served.)

* We will accept the profiles until Tuesday, February 11, at 7 p.m.

Mercury Editorial 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 the publication date, or may be shortened, due to limited space. 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.. All letters and opinions must be addressed to the editorial staff or to an editor, typewritten, signed, double-spaced 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 editorial's run, or not run it at all.



Women Drop Two of Three-

After being down 26 at the half, the Lady Pioneers rallied back to out score the Lady Cardinals of Wheeling Jesuit University 40-31 on the road in the 79-62 loss.

Freshman Amy Thomas lead the way with 12 points and 8 rebounds. Tara Rutherford and Tricia Swink both contributed 11 each with Cary Friel pulling down 8 boards. Once again the pressure defense brought the ladies into the game but it was a little too late.

The following day in Johnstown, PA, the Pioneers took on the Lady Mountain Cats of Pitt-Johnstown. At the half down only two points, the Pioneers stayed close until the final two minutes in the 70-59 loss. Sophomore Trica Swink went 6-13 from the field and 3-6 from the line to lead the team in scoring with 15. Cary Friel added 11 and 5 boards.

Wednesday, February 5, the Pioneers were back home in conference play against the Lady Yellow Jackets of West Virginia State. Friel went 6-9 from the field, 4-5 from behind the stripe, for 16 and 6 rebounds with

Ruggiero continued

from page 1.

the individual that will continue

the program of excellence in Pio-

neer football that has been es-

tablished at Glenville State Col-

lege and that is such a source of

pride for our college and com-

years as offensive coordinator

under Malen Lake at Clarion.

Ruggiero served three

munity," said Simmons.



Photo by Carl Wilson

The pioneers will play at

Tricia Swink lines up her foul shot.

play.

Freshman Sarah Davis coming of the bench to add 13. The 79-44 victory puts the ladies at 7-13 overall and 6-8 in confernce

Before that he was offensive coordinator and recruiting coordicellent applicants, we selected nator at Defiance College (Ohio).

Ruggiero said that although he is an offensive-minded coach, he plans to concentrate immediately on the Pioneers' defense

"Defense will be my first concern," said the former University of Delaware quarterback. "I'm confident we'll be able to handle the offense and score home Saturday against Salem-Teikyo at 5:15

points, but we have to be able to stop people on defense to win."

Ruggerio's Clarion offense utilized the West Coast system that is popular on the collegiate and pro level.

"I've had a lot of experience with the pro-style, West Coast offense," he related. "We'll continue to throw the ball, maybe not the same percentage. Hopefully, we're going to bring some different personnel group-



Pioneer Playback-

Junior Kevin Herod went 6-11 from the field, scoring 15 in the Pioneers' loss to the leauge's top-ranked Cardinals from Wheeling Jesuit University. Frshman Jason Shields, recently finding himself in the starting line-up, contributed 14 while leading the team in rebounds with five.

In a game at home against West Virginia State, which was much closer than the final score would show, the Pioneers continue to look for the spark that will lead then to consistant play.

With five minutes left in the game the Pioneers were up by one and seemed to have the momentum in their favor but they could not stop the Yellow Jackets defensively.

Jeff Brockell lead the way with 19 points and 7 rebounds while Jason Shields continued to improve his play scoring 17 and leading the team with 10 boards.

The Pioneers will host the Tigers of Salen-Teikyo Saturday at 7:30.

ings into play."

The Pioneers thrived under Rodriguez using a run-andshoot, four wide-out attack. Glenville was 45-3&2 during the Rodriguez era and won four straight league titles. The offensive scheme allowed Chris George to become college football's all-time leading receiver and helped quarterback Scott Otis earn an NFL roster spot with the Baltimore Ravens.

Although Glenville will need to replace several key players, All-American wide receiver Carlos Ferralls and West Virginia transfer Wilkie Perez are primary figures on offense. Perez is expected to step in at quarterback with the graduation of Rodney Smith.

Ruggiero said he plans to meet with the current players and coaches as early as Thursday. He hopes to have a plan of action in place by the end of the week

"I'm not the kind of guy that likes to waste a lot of time, said the new mentor. "I want to make sure I have a staff in place, get the team in order and get re-



Photo by Carl Wilson

Jeff Brockell takes it to the hole for two.

cruiting going."

Ruggiero admitted there is pressure with the Glenville job because of past success. But, he said he was ready to accept the challenge.

"Pressure is something I handle on the job every day," related Ruggiero. "It's something you put on yourself. There is pressure (at Glenville), but I feel I work better in those situations anyway.

"I'm a competitive person and if you're not a competitive person, you won't succeed in my business. A competitive person enjoys the pressure, handles the pressure and sometimes thrives on the pressure. It's something I'm looking forward to."

While Ruggiero's selection was the main topic of the press conference, Simmons also took the opportunity to announce that Steve Harold, the assistant athletic director who has been serving as interim athletic director since Rodriguez left, will remain in that capacity for an undetermined period.

News

Town Meeting with Senator White

By Gene Breza

West Virginia State Senator Rebecca White introduced herself and then asked for the input of those attending with the words, "I'll hopefully represent the interests of the people, what you're feeling, what you're thinking." This public meeting was held Tuesday, January 28 at the Gilmer County 4-H Center of Sycamore Road.

"Unfortunately, those with the most lobbyists are the first to be heard," White, a teacher at Lost Creek Elementary School in Lewis Co., said wryly. Narrowing her focus, she said, "What is needed in Cabell County is not the same that is needed here."

The range of concerns voiced that evening stretched from compaints about Child Protective Services; to requests for changes in classified employee laws, to a repeal of authority of engineers to sign survey documents, to questions about dioxin contamination from the Flying W plasics plant, last spring.

"West Virginia Social Workers are, in many cases, in contempt of court," said Glenville resident Mary Bain in a fury over unfair practices in the state's Child Protective Services program. "Many times they (social workers) go against Constitutional laws, and children and parents are denied rights."

Bain argued her case with extensive documentation that many times, Child Protective Services "tear apart" families with "vague testimonies" and actions "taking out of context." She began her testamonial with an interview a Child Protective Service worker had with a young girl, wherin he continually led her with suggestive questions not based on what she was saying.

The conversation as well as the distortion was rather shocking to most of the people attending

"As a society, were not taking care of children," concurred Braxton resident Susan Black, "and it's in our best interest to make ourselves aware of this problem."

Senator White asked of Bain what she would have her do. Bain asked White to institute criminal penalties for social workers who break state law. She asked White to throw out juvenile court on the basis that if cases were tried before a jury, the judges could not get away with what they can at this time.

The subject of people who are anxious to take foster children for the money that is offered went the rounds when Bain made her last request above.

Representing the Advisory Council of Classified State Employees, Linda Camey expressed the need for legislative support for Senate Bill 547, the right to run for office, to be against "out sourcing" classified jobs to other states, and the need to move classified employees from out of Chapter 18 B of WV State Code to Chapter 5. Carney asked of White, "strong support on this issue," since she is, as an elementary teacher, an education advocate as well.

Wayne Richmond, a surveyor, asked for a repeal of the ideas set forth in the 1996 Senate Bill 381. That bill gave the authority to sign survey documents to engineers, thus depriving surveyors of work in their field.

"Are there any studies going to be done to measure how much dioxin fell out of the black cloud that came from the Flying W fire last year?" asked one

Respite Workers

Applications/resumes are being taken for Contracted Respite Workers in the Gilmer County area.

The Contracted Respite Worker provides relief services to program participants and their families within the family home. Respite workers must possess a high school diploma or equivalent.

Applications/resumes may be submitted to Human Resource Department, United Summit Center, Inc, #6 Hospital Plaza. Clarksburg, WV 26301 EEO/ADA county resident, this writer. "There's no studies about this," the resident went on, "and no figures listed anywhere...about toxins leftover from the fire."

Senator White replied, after considering some time, that she is afraid a bill proposed by the WV Manufacturing Association, known as the "Bubble Bill" will allow more chemicals to be permitted to be dumped close to a plant, in the bubble. Instead of measuring pollutants at their point of emission, the Bubble Bill" will allow measurements a considerable distance down wind of the plant.

"This bill has reared its ugly head," White concluded. "And we don't have David Grubb to beat it back."

Black addressed White about losing Jackson's Mill 4-H Camp as a community resource. White expressed that she had no problem in subsidizing the camp. She shared Black's concern when she said, "I recalled it in a sense of reverence."



Senator Rebecca White.

White mentioned in her closing that her office has been changed to 219 W. in the Capitol Building, but that this year there will always be somebody in the office to answer the telephone. She said whe would usually be in a commitee meeting but anybody can get a message to her by calling 1-800-642-8650.

Faculty Seminar Offers Menu-

By Theodore Allen Webb

Bring your lunch tray and enjoy the second annual GSC faculty seminar series brought to by the Glenville State faculty from the depths of their life experience.

All lectures except Dr. Gillespie and Dr. Hilgenberg's will be held at 12:30 in the Heflin Conference Room or the Verona Mapel Room close to the cafeteria and snack bar. The series will take place over a two and a half month period from February14 to April 29.

"This new series will help undergraduates learn exactly why subjects like history, fine arts, political science, psychology, and geography are important and meaningful," profers Holt. "So often, we as professors are so busy teaching the material, that we don't explain why learning these subjects is important."

Wetting your palette, "What's Fine about the Fine Arts," by Dr. Gary Gillespie will kick off the series Friday, February 14 at 12 p.m. in the Fine Arts Recital Hall.

Dr. Ed Palm will be "Bringing the War Home: Teaching Vietnam at Glenville," Tuesday, February 18 at 12:30.

Dolores Mysliwiec will cover "Sociology's Place in the Undergraduate Curriculum," on Thursday, February 20 at 12:30.

Dr. Mike Smith will dampen apathy by "Combating Cynicism: Citizenship, Democracy, and Undergraduate Education," Tuesday, February 25 at 12:30.

Dr. Charles Holt will place us in "The Context of History," Tuesday, March 4 at 12:30.

Dr. James Hilgenberg will give us "U.S. History and the Challenges of Modern Citizenship," Wednesday, March 26 at 2:30.

Todd Nesbitt will chart "Apocalypse Soon, Or Why Geography is Worth Doing," Thursday, April 24 at 12:30.

Jay Jackson and Brenda Lundy will round out the series with "Scientific Problem Solvers: Psychology's Role in the General Studies Curriculum" Tuesday, April 29 at 12:30.

The innovative seminar series is being coordinated by the Social Science Division under the direction of Dr. Charles Holt. The series will enhance undergraduate education at GSC and give the professors the extraordinary opportunity to share their expertise with the academic community.

According to Holt, the seminars began last spring with a series called "Teaching Excellence". The series was such a success that the Social Science Division decided to continue the unique program.

"The professors who are presenting the seminars are all volunteers," Holt emphasizes. "... they are spending their own time to share their interests and knowledge. Those faculty involved are the real strength of our effort. I admire and appreciate these people for encouraging a more balanced collegiate experience for students at GSC."

Student Life

GSC Faculty Seminar Series

Sciences Division, is slated to begin. With topics of interest to

students, faculty, staff, and the community, professors will ad-

dress the issue: "General Studies--Why What I Teach is Impor-

Arts." 12 p.m. Friday, February 14. Recital Hall, Fine Arts Cen-

ing Vietnam at Glenville." 12:30 p.m. Tuesday, February 18. Con-

dergraduate Curriculum." 12:30 p.m. Thursday, February 20. Ve-

ship, Democracy, and Undergraduate Education." 12:30 p.m. Tues-

p.m. Tuesday, March 4. Verona Mapel Room, Heflin Center.

lenge of Modern Citizenship." 2:30 p.m. Wednesday, March 26.

raphy is Worth Doing." 12:30 Thursday, April 24. Verona Mapel

Problem Solvers: Psychology's Role in the General Studies Cur-

riculum." 12:30 Tuesday, April 29. Verona Mapel Room, Heflin

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The GSC Faculty Seminar Series, sponsored by the Social

Professor Gary Gillespie. "What's Fine About the Fine

Professor Edward Palm. "Bringing the War Home: Teach-

Professor Dolores Mysliwiec. "Sociology's Place in the Un-

Professor Michael Smith. "Combating Cynicism: Citizen-

Professor Charles Holt. "The Context of History." 12:30

Professor James Hilgenberg. "U.S. History and the Chal-

Professor Todd Nesbitt. "Apocalypse Soon, or Why Geog-

Professors Jay Jackson and Brenda Lundy. "Scientific

Students are invited to bring their lunches to sessions held in

Reviving Dr. Chisler's Program-

By Lisa McCormick

Professor Dave Bradford, Glenville's Physics Instructor, wants to continue with the waste water testing program Dr. Chisler had going while he was the Chairman of the Science and Math Department.

There are currently four students involved in the program, two chemistry majors and two biology majors.

"The program allows for 'hands-on experience' for the students," says Professor Bradford. "We hope to analyze waste waters from all over Gilmer County."

Dr. Chisler had been getting waste waters from the Sandfork area, Glenville Utilities, and from some trailer parks. "Any area's waste water is required by the state to be tested," explains Professor Bradford. "The state considers Glenville State College to have the equipment and knowledge base to more than satisfy their certificaton requirements."

On a more extended note, the Land Resources Division may consider the possibility of opening a new four year course in Environmental Science. "Whether or not it may help the existing two year program expand into a second four year program, the advantage of our advanced laboratory course should help the Environmental Science course," exclaims Bradford.

A four-year Environmental Science course is a fledgling idea that has the program that Dr. Chisler started as its foundation; a prime example of how a man's ideas get carried on.

Need Help with Financial Aid Processing?-

It's that time again! Time to get out last year's tax information and reapply (or apply for the first time) for financial aid.

Most students who applied for federal financial aid for the 96-97 school year should have already received a renewal application at their permanent address. If one has not been received, then simply get a regular Free Application for Federal Student Aid from the financial aid office. Remember, only fill out one application!

Applying for federal aid is not as hard at it appears. Just gather your (and your parents' if necessary) 1996 tax information and fill out the form according to the instructions. Sign and mail the form in the envelope provided so it will be at the processing center by March 1 for best financial aid processing. Missing this deadline means you may have missed out on some types of aid but you may still apply after March 1.

This application allows students to apply for WV Grant, Federal Pell Grant, Federal Supplemental Education Grant (SEOG), Federal Work Study, Federal Perkins Loan, and all Federal William D. Ford Direct Loans.

Institutional scholarships and academic tuition waivers are applied for through the Admissions Office. Other outside scholarships are applied for directly through the agencies.

Then watch your mailbox for information, or requests for information, about your application. The GSC Financial Aid Office will notify students of their federal aid eligibility and the WV Higher Education Grant Office in Charleston, WV, will notify students about their WV Grant eligibility. You must respond promptly when requested to do so or your applications will be delayed. Read all letters you receive very carefully as they will give you useful information.

For "Internet Nuts," check out these addresses on the WWW. hffp://fmaid.org, http:// www.ed.gov.

The electronic financial aid application process called FAFSA EXPRESS is now available at the Student Development Center in the Heflin Center. Students may inquire at the Careers Office if the Student Development Center is not open. FAFSA Express will soon be available in the dorm.

The Financial Aid Office in Louis Bennett Hall is available during regular business hours to confidentially answer your financial aid questions. The staff members are Susan Persinger, Carla Coneley, Financial Aid Assistants; Melinda Radcliff, Financial Aid Counselor; and Karen Lay, Financial Aid Administrator.



By Dave Bragg

RUSH...the big topic this week. With rush getting ever closer, it's time to start recruiting. We have people that are rushing and we're always looking for more; if you think you have what it takes, then stop by our meetings every Tuesday at 4:30 in Room 206 of the Phys Ed building.

The Iota Omega Chapter of Tau Kappa Epsilon held a meeting February 4. Much of the meeting time was spend on fund raisers like the ongoing 50/50 raffle, gun raffle, softball tournament, and golf tournament. If you're interested in any of these, ask your friendly neighborhood Teke.

Remember, you only have so much time to decide if TKE is right for you. Pledging begins the first day after Spring Break. Rush...what else do you have to do? ACS Minutes

eight members and one advisor present.

II. Fund Raisers: A) Flower Sales - Carnations will be sold for \$2 each through February 6, 1997, with a choice of red, white, or pink. B) Kiss the pig contest.

III. National Trip to San Francisco.

New members are always welcome. Meetings are held on Tuesdays in SH400.

Sweetheart Candy Grams

The Delta Zeta Sorority will be selling Valentine Candy Grams from February 7 until February 13. For only \$1, you can send your sweetheart a bag of candy with a personalized message. The sale will be held in the Heflin Center Lobby during lunch and dinner hours. The candy Grams will be delivered February 13, after 5 p.m.

Energy Savings Performance Contract-

Initial steps have been taken to solicit contractor proposals to plan, coordinate and implement an Energy Savings Performance Contract for Glenville State College. The Performance Contracting concept has been around for a number of years, but has recently gained wider acceptance due to budgetary constraints in government, business and industry.

Very simply, GSC would hire a consultant to perform an

energy audit of the buildings, noting utility consumption and energy usage. This information is then used to identify areas or systems that are outdated or in need of repair or replacement to minimize our energy consumption.

The consultant would coordinate the design, construction and financial services necessary to execute the projects identified. The consultant would finance these projects, usually over a 3 - 10 year period. The consultant is then repaid using the savings realized in our utility budget. A "guarantee" provision would require the consultant to pay any costs over and above the projected savings.

The project should be under contract by this coming fall, hopefully with projects beginning in the spring of 1998. The first step has been taken with the installation of electric meters at each campus building. February 6, 1997

FCA News

The Glenville State College Fellowship of Christian athletes held their weekly huddle meeting on Febuary 4th at 8:30 in the Physical Education Building. "Bear" Burnside opened the meeting in prayer. The group listened to a message from J.B. Hurt's father entitled "Suffering through a Miracle." Our thoughts and prayers are still with J.B. in his recovery.

The huddle held a Superbowl XXXI Party at Coach J's house. Some of the winners (besides that city in Wisconsin) include Daryl Taffe, "Gargoyle" and Dawn Nolan. Congratulations!

The Glenville First Baptist Church will be hosting a Bible Bowl this Sunday February 9th at 2 p.m. There will be different age divisions. Members will also offer help in the nursery one Sunday a month until school is out.

Congratulations to Big George Randolph for his "Toughman" accomplishment. We had faith in you! Get well wishes are extended to Darlene Evans-Moore. We hope soon to hear your wonderful voice again

Next meeting will be held in PE Building, Room 206 at 8:30 on Febuary 11th.

New Lab in Social Sciences Division

By Gwen Harmon

The social science division has opened a new lab for faculty to interest their students to do further research on various subjects involving social sciences. Dr. Jdy Jackson is currently researching with four GSC students; Ron Crutchfield, Michael Coon, Heather Sharp, and Amy Wolfe. They are doing research on the concepts of social identity and social dilemmas.

Dr. Brenda Lundy is currently working on a video tape which involves the interaction of mothers and children. This video concerns the use of eye-to-eye contact between mother and child

There is a Tri State Psychology Conference coming up on April 25. "We would like to get interested students to come together and do research," Dr. Jackson commented, "so that we could submit something to the Tri State Psychology Conference; however, I'm not sure if it will be together in time."

The entire Social Science

division is involved with this research lab and would like to get more computers. Right now, they're trying to get statistical software (SPSS) which is important in psychology research.

Hopefully, with new prospects for the future, the social science division can get the funds and grants that they need to make a better lab.



Photo by Heather Ware Social Sciences Laboratory Faculty Jay Jackson and Brenda Tundu

Glenville Students Rank on DANTE'S List By Lisa McCormick

According to Dr. Michael J. Caulfield, an Associate Professor in the Science Division. Glenville students scored 10th out of 28 colleges and universities tested by the Educational Testing Services (ETS).

The test, called DANTE, was given to Dr. Caulfield's Algebra class last spring in order to help ETS find out if the test was an accurate way to measure a college student's knowledge of College Algebra.

"Different colleges and universities all over the country

were asked to participate in the testing," says Dr. Caulfield. "It was done like this so that a different sized mixture of learning institutions were considered."

Caulfield used Dr. DANTE as a final exam, and when he asked how the students felt about the test, the response was negative -- "The students didn't like the test," explains Dr. Caulfield. "The test had a lot of material on it that we didn't cover in class; of course, I only counted the problems that the students were familiar with."

Glenville tested along with

colleges from Shawnee, Oklahoma's St. Gregory's College, Titusville, Florida's Brevard Community College, and Atchison, Kansas' Benedictine College, and universites such as the University of Akron, Ohio, McMurry University, Texas, and Texas A&M University of Corpus Christi, Texas.

Overall, Glenville's students scored well and ranked above the majority of the participating institutuions. As for the test, it turns out to be a reliable standardize test, so some students may see it in the future.

Sherman signs internship agreement with town of Flatwoods-

By Theodore Allen Webb

GSC prelaw major and Pioneer football wide-receiver Trent Sherman recently signed an internship contract with Flatwoods mayor John Clise under the direction of political science professor Dr. Mike Smith.

The new internship began when Clise, who is also a GSC student, approached social science division chair Dr. Charles Holt with the idea that the town of Flatwoods could use a college intern to help do research while learning about local government.

"I've completed an internship in my degree program at The Glenville Democrat/Pathfinder," Clise shares.

"My experience influenced

me to help other students get intemships.

Since the Flatwoods intemship concerned the municipal political system, Holt referred the matter to Smith, who carefully searched through his political science advisees to find a suitable candidate.

"In many ways, it was better that John approached us about the internship," Smith states. "This means that John is likely to be more active with teaching an intern."

Sherman, a senior from Harrisonburg, Virginia, is currently in the very beginnings of his internship. Among other things, he's slated to attend a Flatwoods town meeting and participate in the city's May elections. In addition, the prelaw student will be working directly with Mayor Clise and other town officials to improve local government

"I thought that it would be pretty interesting," relates Sherman when asked why he wanted the internship.

"I've always been interested in politics and law, and the internship at Flatwoods will be a great opportunity for me."

Smith stresses that other political science internships are currently available. The political science professor may be reached at his 237 LBH office or by dialing extension 179 for more information.



on the 13th of February just in time for Valentine's Day. The size of the ad will be either I column by 2 inches or 2 columns by I inch. The cost will be 15 words or less for

\$1. They will be placed throughout the DADER AS SDACE IS AVAILABLE. Ads MUST DE IN by Monday, February 3rd at noon in order to dredare them for that weeks da-DER.



SEND A MESSAGE TO A LOVED ONE OR just a note to a friend through your student NEWSPAPER. DROP off submissions and

MONEY TO THE MERCURY OFFICE CARE OF Rick CONKLIN, Advisor.





Star Wars: The Legend Returns

Twenty years ago, the legendary saga began with the release of Star Wars. Friday, January 31, the classic returned for the next generation of fans to live the adventure on the big screen. Star Wars, starring Mark Hamill, Carrie Fisher, and Harrison Ford, was reissued by George Lucas. It has enhanced graphics, THX effects, and never-before-seen footage. Industrial Light and Magic outdid themselves with updating the 1977 film, changing the effects of lasers, explosions, and animated creatures. Watch for scenes involving star ships that have crisper images and wall-shaking sound. Added scenes include a moving Jabba the Hut walking with Solo, beautiful night scenery of the desert planet Tatooine, and new animated creatures in



Dr. Gillespie.

Dr. Gillespie Speaks On the Fine Arts—

By Carl Wilson

Friday, February 14, at 12 p.m., Dr. Gary Gillespie will be one of eight professors to speak in the second annual Faculty Seminar Series in the Fine Arts Building.

Dr. Gillespie will speak about the importance of fine arts in the seminar titled, "What's fine about Fine Arts." He said that it was "his responsibility to speak about the fine arts," and further said, "I regard this class, as of all classes, to help develop study skills."

"Fine arts helps improve, perfect, polish, and refine study skills," Gillespie said. It helps "us to use our ears as a learning tool...and [it's] a place to perfect our abilities and to organize."

Dr. Gillespie recognizes fine arts as an important part of a student's college career, even though it is a required course. It also gives us a "richer, fuller life of enjoyment and understanding," Dr. Gillespie futher says.

Gillespie concludes, "and most works of art is a value to some people...if we are able to understand this value, we are able to better understand them (artists)."

Mos Eisley. Three scenes in which I found the most enjoyment were the destruction of the Death Star, the approach of the Rebel fighters, and the Millennium Falcon blasting out of the Mos Eisley space port. Watch for a special appearance by the notorious bounty hunter Boba Fett.

When Star Wars first came out in theaters, I was only one year old and didn't get to see this film. It was a great honor to experience the legend on the big screen for the first time. Even if you did see it twenty years ago and have watched it on video cassette a thousand times since, fight the sold-out crowds to see this movie again. Mark your calendars for *Empire Strikes Back* on February 21 and *Return of the Jedi* on March 7. Both promise tons of new creatures and awesome space battles.

In The Zone

By David S. Weese

When you mention the name Wayman Tisdale, many people might say, "Oh, he's the guy who plays for the Phoenix Suns." And then they would probably launch into a heated conversation about his career as a professional basketball player with all the stats and scores, and eyewitness game footage. But what they probably won't tell you is that the man is also an accomplished jazz bassist.

The CD is called *In The Zone*. Mr. Tisdale not only plays bass and lead bass, but he also manages to write a few of the songs, which range anywhere from traditional to new wave jazz. But it doesn't end there; you've got a colorful mixture of groove, hip hop, and funk throughtout the entire album. You'll even find a beautiful remix of "Summer Breeze," originally done by Seals and Crofts.

Backed by an onslaught of keyboard, drums, horns, and a guitar, Mr. Tisdale has given new meaning to the word talent by being a vituoso on and off the court.

Here's a few more ideas for your CD collection: Sade-just go buy anything, you won't be disappointed. The Cure-All Mixed Up, Ultimate Dance Party 1997, and Jewel--Pieces Of You.

Catching Up to Robotech

Off the Shelf

Besides being terribly addicted to novels, I'm also a big fan a Japanese cartoons. Known as *anime*, animation in Japan tends to b an adult medium with complex storylines examining sex, techno ogy, fantasy, etc. Did you think *The Transformers* was a quair American cartoon concept about robots that turn into planes, train and automobiles? Ha! No, that show comes from the Japanese fas cination with reconfigurable machines called *mecha*. You can als thank them for *The Mighty Morphin(e) Power Rangers*, but that' another story.

In 1985, a producer named Carl Macek hoped to cash in or that fascination by translating an animated series and selling it to the American public. He chose a series called *Macross*, but there were too few episodes to get a good syndication deal. Macek looked at a few other *anime* series until he found two--*Southern Cross* and *Genesis Climber Mospeada*--that could be easily linked to *Macross* through a similarity of animation. Macek and a roomful of writers took the three series, chopped and channeled them, reworked storylines and dialogue, and created 85 episodes of a series that would become known as *Robotech* in the states. Yes, I'm a fan...I've shamelessly taped every episode.

In the first chapter, an alien spaceship lands on Macross Island in the Pacific. Humanity ceases its global war to learn as much as they can about the technology contained in the ship before the owners return to claim it. A war starts when the aliens known as the Zentradi pop out of hyperspace and say "Give it back." Earth is almost decimated by the assault, but an uneasy peace is established. In *Southern Cross*, the feudal society that developed after the Zentradi Rain of Death must contend with the Robotech Masters, a group of wizened old codgers who have come to finish the job and retrieve the ship before their enemies. *Mospeada* is the tale of the Third Robotech War, as the locust-like Invid invade earth after the Masters fail. The Invid are a hive culture who enslave the remaining humans and force them to grow the plants they need to survive.

There are great stories of heroism, action, and romance involved in this epic sci-fi saga, but creating transitions between the three main chapters of *Robotech* was sometimes overlooked. When *Macross* ended, it "jumped ahead" a few years with very brief exposition about the unseen events. When novelist Jack McKinney (a pseudonym for two authors, actually) was commissioned to novelize the episodes, he filled in the gaps between the three sections. So, instead of saying "Go out and read this novel," I'm saying "Go out and read this series. There are 21 novels. The latest, *Before the Invid Storm*, ties up the loose ends and creates one cohesive mythos sure to please any science fiction fan.

GSC Pictorial History Available Soon

By Gina Kerby

The 125th Pictorial History of Glenville State College is now being printed. The coffee table size book has over 200 pictures and approximately 164 pages--a little over a page per year. The book also contains narratives of the school's history and covers major events that happened at GSC.

The pre-delivery price is only \$29.95 plus tax and shipping. Orders must be received by February 15 to receive the book at this low price.

To order your copy of this limited edition book, please contact the GSC Foundation at (304) 462-4125.

The Mercury

West Virginia Literacy Foundation

The West Virginia Literacy Foundation, in cooperation with the West Virginia Literacy Council, is offering a scholarship program for state residents who have completed/passed the General Educational Development (GED) test for the External Diploma Program (EDP). The Foundation wants to help West Virginians become lifelong learners and prepare for jobs in the 21st century.

Adults passing the GED with a score of 250 or above or those completing the Advanced

Comedians continued from page 1.

have worked with Sam and the other Outlaws," Cheselka says. "Clubs give you the chance to do hands-on comedy."

The material, Cheselka suggests, plainly comes from just "stupid people do stupid things."

"Anybody who works with the public knows that it's more like 'The customer is lucky to make it back home alive," replies Cheselka.

"I still try to do the same thing in front of a club or an audience. Like David Bowie says, the future belongs to those of us who can hear it coming."

Academic Program of the EDP can apply for a \$1,000 scholarship

Scholarship funds will go directly to the approved university, college or technical education center of the winner's choice in \$500 per semester amounts. Applications must be submitted by March 1 to the West Virginia Literacy Foundation, P.O. Box 2987, Charleston, WV 25330.

Eligibility requirments: You must be a resident of the state of West Virginia; the institution (university, college or technical center) must be approved by the federal government to participate in federal financial aid programs, located in West Virginia or a state which has a financial aid agreement with the West Virginia Higher Education Grant Program; you must maintain at least a 2.0 grade point average to be eligible for the second semester's payment; complete and submit the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA).

For more information, call 304/558-6318 or 800/642-2670.

Clark Hall Tech Lab Hours

Mondays: 9 a.m. to 11 a.m.; 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. Tuesdays: 12:30 p.m. to 4:30 p.m.; 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. Wednesdays: 9 a.m. to 11 a.m.; 1 p.m. to 5 p.m. Thursdays: 11 a.m. to 5 p.m.





Photo by Carl Wilson. Comedian Michael Cheslka.

Main Event Sports Bar & Grille 101 W. Main Street 462-7098

Monday Mens Nite>Progressive draft specials for the men starts at 9pm!

Tuesday

Sunday

Mexican Food 5-10:00 A variety of dishes to choose from

Wednesday 5-12:00: .25 wings Mild> medium> Hot!! Beverage specials!!

Thursday Ladies Nite> \$1 cover for ladies before 10pm. (specials for the ladies). Dj and Dancing with Sean Davis!! 10-2 \$2 cover.

Friday (Specials change weekly)

> Saturday Dj and Dancing with Sean Davis 10-2 \$2, cover ford of 1 cov | some stored

Party Nite (starts at 7pm) variety of games to choose from! * 500 Club Dart Nite!!!

Open Tuesday-Saturday Bam-Spm 14 Foodland Plaza Glenville 462-5613 GLENVILLE FOODLA "Hardworking Low Prices."

Pedicures

Manicures



Mcdonalds announces a complete line of sandwiches!



It's McDonald's with a grown up taste.



February 6, 1996

Extras

Page 11

Dominion Appalachian Development—

Dominion Appalachian Development Inc., a major oil and gas exploration and development company located in Lewis County, West Virginia, recently contributed \$2000 to Glenville State College's Schol-2000 campaign. irship Dominion's President and Chief Executive Officer (CEO) is 1960 GSC graduate Stanley N. Pickens. Dominion Appalachian was created by the merger of Chesterfield Energy Corporaion, Gas Exploration & Development Company and Stonewall Gas Company and is a Dominion Energy Company.

The company is located at the former headquarters of Stonewall Gas Company in the Lewis County Industrial Park. Nine of its 46 employees have attended, are currently attending, or have graduated from GSC.

The recent merger resulted in a capital expenditure of one million dollars for the acquisition of land and construction of a state of the art facility with 10,000 square feet of office space. Additional land has been purchased with an eye towards possible future expansion.

CEO Pickens is a long time friend of Glenville State College and Gilmer County. He is a member of the board of directors of the GSC Foundation, Inc., president of the Job's Temple Association, and past president of the Normantown Alumni Association. He also has a lifetime of service to the oil and gas industry. As one of the founders of Chesterfield Energy, Pickens has served as President of the Independent Oil & Gas Association of West Virginia (IOGA) and Regional Vice President of the Independent Petroleum Association of America (IPPA). In 1988 he was honored as the West Virginia Oil & Gas Man of the Year.

Pickens is grateful for the education he received from

TKE RUSH

GSC. "My education at Glenville State College provided me with the foundation to be successful in life," said Pickens. "I also learned that it is important to give something back to the community and that means time and service as well as money" That lesson reflects the philosophy of parent company Dominion Energy which Pickens describes as a "community oriented company." "GSC is a special place and that is evident by the success its graduates have had all over the nation and world," said Pickens. Foundation Vice President, Ed Hamrick is grateful for the support "Stan Pickens and Dominion Appalachian are true friends of Glenville State College. We are fortunate to have their support" said Hamrick.

If you have questions, or need additional information, contact GSC Foundation, Inc. Executive Vice President, Ed Hamrick at (304) 4624125.

Kroger Extends Helping Hand

a much-needed helping hand again, says Carla Nardella, Executive Director of Mountaineer Food Bank. For every assist that occurred during the West Virginia University Mountaineers and the Marshall Herds basketball game on December 17, 1996, Kroger provided a \$60 gift certificate to Mountaineer Food Bank. A total of \$2,160 in gift certificates turned into 3,499 pounds of product to be distributed throughout 48 counties in West Virginia. Ms. Nardella says the Mountaineer Food Bank appreciates the continual support provided by Kroger Company, especially now, because the Food Bank is still trying to recover from the loss of over 160,000 of product due to a flood on July 31, 1996.

Kroger Company supports Mountaineer Food Bank's efforts to feed hungry West Virginians on a daily basis by donating products on a local and national level. Mountaineer Food Bank is

Kroger Company extends just one of the many food banks in the national Second Harvest network. This network is supported by many national donors like Kroger Company.

> Mountaineer Food Bank is responsible for providing food and other products to the nonprofit feeding programs in 48 of the 55 counties in West Virginia. These feeding programs are pantries, soup kitchens, senior nutrition sites, daycare programs, shelters and church pantries located in many communities. These feeding programs provide food to families and individuals who would otherwise go hungry.

> Support from manufacturers, processors, retailers and individuals is always welcomed by the Food Bank. No matter how large or small, the donation can always be guided to a place where it is put to good use and appreciated. If you are interested in helping the Food Bank, you can write to 416 River Street, Gassaway, WV 26624, or call 304/364-8150.

Reward Black and brown back-

pack. There were books inside: Cobol and Elements of Argument. Call 462-5711.

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February 5 - Heflin Center "Come and be a part of the TKE experience!"

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Graduating Seniors Caution! Deadline!

February 7, 1997 is the <u>last</u> <u>day</u> to apply for May graduation and diploma. Pick up your applications at the admissions office today if you plan to graduate. When you're finished filling out the application return them to the admissions office ASAP. Do not delay or you won't graduate in May!!

One More Hoop! Hear Ye Hear Ye! Below: just a friendly reminder

If, for any reason, you fail to qualify for graduation on the specified date, but expected to meet requirements for a future date, YOU MUST REFILE-- applications are <u>NOT</u> held over. "Hearts Afire" Valentine's Day Dance

It's not your ordinary GSC dance! Featuring D.J. Von. Sponsored by the Powerline Pioneers. Date: Feb. 13, 1997 Place: Ballroom: 8-11pm Price: \$5/Couple or \$3/Single Semi-Formal or Formal Queen and King of Hearts Nominations. Any organization or dorm can nominate a King or Queen for the "Hearts Afire Dance". Deadline for nominations is Feb.13. Nominations are \$1. Come and Join the Fun!

Nominations for Student Congress are now being accepted in the Student Services Office.

Deadline for nominations is Friday, February 7, 1997 at 12:00pm

Positions are:

President, Vice President, Parlimentarian, Secretary, Treasurer.

SENIOR, JUNIOR, SOPHOMORE CLASS REPRESENTATIVES

Election Time: Monday and Tuesday Feb. 24, Feb. 25.

Cumulative GPA: 2.5 required for Officers 2.2 for Representatives

Page 12

DATES

NO EXIT

Cards Spell Doom for Students

By Jessica Rojas, NSNS

We see them everywhere, enticing students sign up with their free T-shirts and entering the in raffles. But are credit cards a good idea for every college student to have?

1.1 billion credit cards are in the hands of consumers. 2.7 billion offers were sent out in 1995 with interest rates that exceeded 18 percent. Credit cards are the most profitable business banks have going for them today.

Sophomore Sandra Petrucci signed up for every credit card that set up a booth in Memon Union her freshman vear

"The only card I got was Universal AT&T an Mastercard," said Petrucci. "I maxed it out by Christmas. And I still haven't paid it off."

Currently, she owes \$1100 on her three credit cards. "Anything I wanted I bought. I just put it on the cards," she said. And, she won't be able pay them off any time soon.

"They're no good. Whatever I bought it's cost me twice as much to pay it off," said Petrucci

Joan Anderson, a family studies professor, teaches a personal finance class that covers a section on credit cards. "It's an important issue Anderson said. "People are entranced by the concept of credit."

According to Anderson, credit cards are useful to have but only if they are used on certain things

"Use credit cards for things that are going to last," said Anderson. Instead of using them for purchasing meals and entertainment, students should use them to buy books. "Use them to buy things that have a long term payoff," she said.

"One of the issues credit card holders should know is most major credit card issuers report information to a credit bureau." Anderson said.

Information about every time a payment is late or other problems you may have is given to the credit bureau. The strike can stay on the record from two to seven years.

So, when a person with bad credit goes to get a car loan or mortgage loan on a house, the loan officer can either deny the loan or charge a higher interest. "It will come back to haunt

you," Anderson said.

Although Petrucci's credit problems may seem to be average, or even low compared to some, she might have problems in the future if she ever needs a loan

If people are in credit trouble, Anderson advises them to cut up their cards.

"Paying them back is the painful part," Anderson said. "I think a lot of people buy stuff they can live without. People can get over their heads."

According to Anderson, the

Florai (304) 462-8378 239-4145 Betty Heckert Designs Inc OWNER a.m.-5 p.m. 16 Foodland Plaza Sat. 9 Florist" a.m.-1 p.m. Friendly Glenville, W 26351 Do you have a talent for public speaking? Do you have a love for team is looking argument? for a few good Are you persuing a career that will require either speakers! Anyone interested is of these? invited to participate. Tuesdays 6 pm-7pm It you answered yes to any of Room: 7.4 123

the above, Forensics is for you.

people who are in credit debt are dissaving," because they will be paying off something they bought or did years ago.

Anderson made an example of a friend who is still paying off her wedding, which she charged on her Mastercard, even though she is now four months divorced.

"They are dissaving," said Anderson, about the growing number of those in credit debt. "They have already spent their future.'

People who become so far in debt they can't see their way out can take legal action and go bankrupt. According to the American Bankers Association personal bankruptcy is at an alltime high and a projected 1.2 million individuals will declare bankruptcy this year.

Banks don't seem to be worried as they send more and more cards hoping customers won't be able to pay their balances once a month. Banks make more money from the "spread." They borrow from the government at five percent and the average card carries an 18 percent annual charge, the difference is the spread.

In addition, card issuers typically charge merchants around two to three percent of the amount of each purchase. Add in a late fee and the banks will hit it rich each time a holder doesn't pay off their balance each month.



The Mercury

© '96 Andy Singer

Don't let others decide tor you! **Meeting:** Participate in Every Tuesday Studient Congress! at 12:30 pm Student Centers Pose as Mini-Malls-

By Tricia Tomiyoshi, NSNS

Commercialization is sweeping our nations campuses, filling students with a sense that they are in a mini-mall, rather than a university.

Commercial chain restaurants are vying with independently-owned, student-run and cooperative businesses for spots on campus. And the commercial chains are winning.

While these corporations have been chosen to meet the needs of the masses, students are not always involved in the decisions to choose which corporations should be on campus.

At the University of California at Santa Cruz (UCSC),

students can voice their opinions through public meetings with the Student Center Governance Board, which decides what businesses belong in the student center

Tara Kraly, the UCSC Student Organization Advising and Resources Office Manager, said that their university allows room for student input and admits that it would be unlikely that a commercial restaurant or store would come to campus because commercialized businesses generally do not appeal to UCSC students. "The less commercializa-

tion the better," said Kraly.

"Students recognize these businesses offer certain services,

but we haven't received commercial bidders in the vein of McDonald's. Our students tend to like more small cafes and individual student enterprises. McDonald's would have a difficult time here.'

Do not put yourself

into chains!

The University of California at Los Angeles also has many commercial eating facilities such as Taco Bell and Panda Express. However, according to Nigel Benjamin, the UCLA Purchasing Director, the students do not take part in decisions for which businesses are on campus. Benjamin said that there is no advisory board or student organization for students to give their input.