



A new honor for Perez.  
Wilkie named Offensive play  
er of the year.  
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Forensics team set to  
perform for GSC on  
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# The Mercury

Volume 68, No. 12  
December 9, 1997

"Only a per-  
son who smokes  
crack would be  
desperate enough  
to steal money  
from children,  
right? "

--Lisa Belknap  
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## Inside this exciting issue

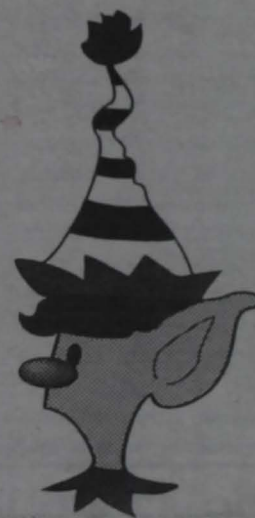
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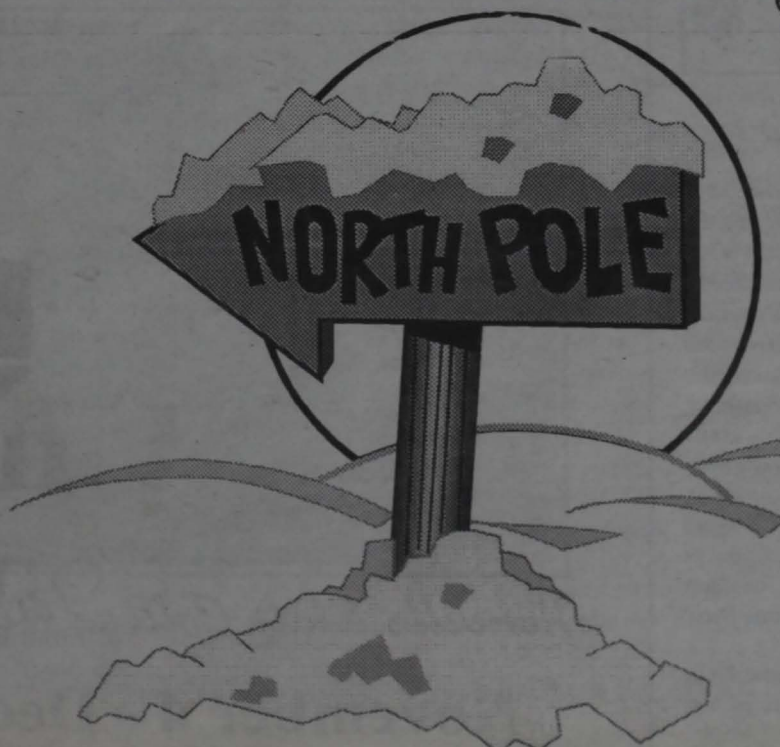
NCATE Explained...  
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## TOP TEN LIST

Things to do during the  
ZombieApocalypse



Settle in for finals...  
and your long  
winter's nap.





## Chi Beta Phi News

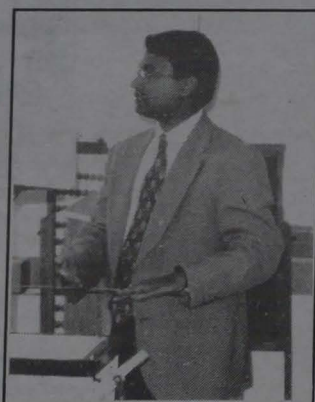
By BJ Woods,  
President Chi Beta Phi

Dr. Zubaer Dawlah, of Glenville, spoke to an audience of students and professors about food poisoning and food-borne illness on October 22. This talk was sponsored by Chi Beta Phi.

Dawlah spoke of various epidemics that have occurred in North America since approximately 1990. These are the major food poisoning epidemics caused by various bacteria. Dawlah spoke of how these bacteria are transmitted and how one can prevent the transportation of food bacteria. Some of the precautions are as simple as washing your hands.

He stated that many cases of food poisoning go unreported as people suspect they are suffering from flu-like symptoms.

Dawlah talked of some very common organisms that



Dr. Zubaer Dawlah  
(Photo submitted)

cause food poisoning and gave some of the symptoms that one would expect from these bacteria. He also named some common food sources where these organisms can be found, and told of ways that food can become contaminated and can even get cross-contaminated.

Chi Beta Phi would like to thank Dr. Dawlah for coming to speak for us.

## DZ News: New members and more

We would like to congratulate our new members for completing initiation on Sunday, December 7. We are voting for offices this week, and we would like to wish everyone luck. We will be having officer training Saturday, December 13. Our meeting was held Thursday, December 4, and we discussed many ideas for the next semester. We would like to recognize our new initiates: Allison, Tamara, Mistie, Brandy, Jo, and Lora. Congratulations on a job well done. We are proud of you.

Delta Zeta will be having RUSH in the Spring semester. We would love to have a large class next semester. We will keep information posted and in the *Mercury*. RUSH is when any girl can come to have cake and soda with the Delta Zeta members and get to know them. Then, if the girl is interested, they can keep coming to the meetings and RUSH.



Active Members -- (Back l-r): Sonya Blackhurst, Shelly Rogers, Arthur, Amanda Conrad. (front l-r): Margarita Tzoneva, Shannon Martin, Marsha Hagner, Shannon Martin. (Photo submitted)

We are also selling Santa letters for parents, grandparents, aunts, uncles, etc. We write handwritten letters to the children, and mail them approximately two weeks before Christmas. These letters are signed by Santa and discuss what they want for Christmas, and how Santa loves to stop by and leave that child's gift. The letters cost

\$3 and can be purchased from any Delta Zeta member. To order, have information about the child, their address, and \$3 per letter, and call Shelly at 462-4573, or Marsha at 462-5924. These letters benefit all the little children and the Delta Zeta sorority sisters. Letters are on sale now through finals. There is no limit.

## Nicholas County Spotlight: Mrs. Nola Browning

By Kelly M. Woods,  
Staff Reporter

Nola Browning currently serves as the Senior Administrative Secretary for the Nicholas County Center in Summersville. She (along with a very capable office staff) is the one who holds most of us together at NCC. Got a question? Ask Nola! She either has the answer or knows where to get it.

Mrs. Browning earned her B.S. from Concord College and her M.S. from Marshall University. Both of these degrees are in education. Nola came to the GSC campus in Summersville in January 1995. Prior to her arrival at NCC, she served as the Registrar/Director of Admissions for the College of West Virginia in Beckley. Before that, she was the Ass't Director of Admissions for Marshall University.

Nola and her husband, Barnard, reside in Summersville. Mr. Browning is the Director of Pharmacy Services at Summersville Memorial Hospital. This couple has been married for 35 years. They are the proud parents of two daughters and the very proud grandparents

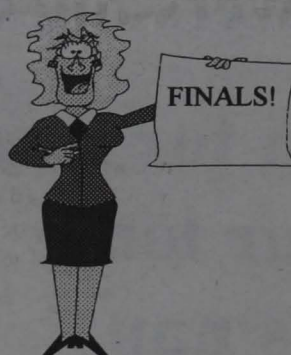


Nola Browning (Kelly Woods, Mercury)

of one granddaughter.

When asked what her hopes and dreams were for the Nicholas Center, she replied, "I would love to see us be able to offer more upper-level classes, especially in the sciences and education. I hope to watch the center grow in size and student population, with the classes needed being offered for the non-traditional student so that they may have the opportunity to get their education without having to spend so much time on the main campus and away from their families."

All of us who know Nola hope she will be a part of our campus for a long time to come.



### All classes meeting at:

8:00 M W F  
8:00 T R  
9:00 M W F  
9:30 T R  
10:00 M W F  
11:00 M W F  
11:00 T R  
12:00 M W F  
1:15 M W F  
1:30 T R  
2:15 M W F  
3:00 T R  
3:15 M W F  
4:15 M W F

### Will have examinations on:

Monday from 8:00 - 10:00 a.m.  
Thursday from 10:10 - 12:10 p.m.  
Tuesday from 10:10 - 12:10 p.m.  
Tuesday from 1:00 - 3:00 p.m.  
Wednesday from 10:10 - 12:10 p.m.  
Thursday from 8:00 - 10:00 a.m.  
Monday from 10:10 - 12:10 a.m.  
Tuesday from 3:10 - 5:10 p.m.  
Wednesday from 1:00 - 3:00 p.m.  
Monday from 3:10 - 5:10 p.m.  
Monday from 1:00 - 3:00 p.m.  
Wednesday from 3:10 - 5:10 p.m.  
Tuesday from 8:00 - 10:00 a.m.  
Wednesday from 8:00 - 10:00 a.m.



Glenville State College Fine Arts Gallery

November 4 - December 10



# Adopt-an-angel theft may ruin Christmas for five children

Lisa McCormick  
Staff Reporter

On December 4, money that had been collected for the Adopt-An-Angel program was found missing and believed to be stolen.

Jamie Atkins and Erick Griffin, residents of Pickens Hall, are the collectors for the five angels chosen from the Adopt-An-Angel Christmas tree.

The money was concluded to be stolen after an exhaustive search had been conducted. It was kept in a glass jar and was left at the Scott-wing office in Pickens Hall.

"The money had been collected from over a two weeks' time," Atkins states. "So, a great deal of money has been taken."

The objective of the Adopt-

an-Angel program, started by Jerry Burkhammer, is to raise money to help buy Christmas presents for needy children from the Gilmer region.

The five children chosen from the tree were between the ages of five and eight.

"We are trying to make something good come out of this bad, but we still have the obligation of those five children," Atkins explains. "In an attempt to recover or salvage the money, we are requesting that everybody give donations so that we may re-raise the money."

"Those children will be without gifts this Christmas if nothing is done to regain the amount stolen," he continues.

"If anyone wants to donate money for our angels, con-



The Adopt-an-Angel tree  
(File Photo)

tact me at Ext. #365 or bring your donations to the Scott-wing or Wagner-wing offices in Pickens Hall."

If anyone has an information about the theft, contact campus officer Sergeant John Moss.

The Fine Arts Division  
Oral Communications Department's  
Forensics Team  
presents

## THE VOCAL MINORITY

An evening of award-winning oral interpretation and public speaking:

Dramatic Duos  
Prose Interpretation  
Informative and  
Persuasive  
Speaking

Wednesday,  
December 10, 1997  
8 p.m. FA Recital  
Hall



# Education Division answers questions about NCATE

Eric Ware  
Staff Writer

A newly-formed procedure for assessment in education called NCATE, National Council for Accreditation for Teacher Education, is getting mixed responses from faculty and students.

Faculty in the education field are finding themselves crunching hours into a long process of paperwork to ready themselves for a complete evaluation in March 1999.

But for those in the Education Division at GSC, this program—currently under fire by other schools, colleges, and administrations—is regarded as a necessary evil to make sure all the educational programs meet the national standards.

"It's an ongoing process," replied NCATE coordinator Cathy Butler of the Education Division, "but the program is essential to GSC. It takes a look at the currency of programs in all areas and makes sure we are meeting the national criteria."

"It's a thorough process,"

stated Dr. Catherine Weitman, "but then we're ready for this. We have to adapt. It's a procedure necessary to make sure GSC is accredited for education."

### A necessary evil...

A thorough process, NCATE is a mountain of paperwork designed and conducted to answer questions about the education programs at all state schools and colleges. A team would arrive at the school and take part in a tedious week-long task of asking faculty, students, and alumni about the education programs at the college.

A two-part survey by officials answers questions concerning the effec-

tiveness of the education programs, course requirements and practices in teacher evaluation, and credit awards for classes.

This would provide an evaluation for another group to study and determine if the school or college is in regulation under NCATE.

Of the 1,500 West Virginia schools participating in NCATE, as much as 1,400 were accredited under NCATE. This figure shows that many of the participating schools are accepted without difficulty.

"What NCATE provides is a means to promote diversity in all the areas of education," stated Jiang JoAnn Lan in a paper presented at the Annual Meeting of the American Association of Colleges for Teacher Education.

"Despite the need for assessment, NCATE is a system to ask specific questions on how and what material colleges are providing in all fields."

West Virginia has

complied with accreditation requirements in the past, and as Dr. Kenna Seal stated in a forum for future educators at GSC in early October, he doesn't see any problems with NCATE on West Virginia School Systems.

"[West Virginia] has always met any requirements needed to further education," Seal replied. "We see NCATE as a check on higher education."

Glenville State College is one of the many colleges that has always been accredited since this system was established. As a critical process of evaluation, faculty do look forward to the results, yet find the means a long, entrenching process of gathering information, documenting everything, and coordinating into a file system effective for the team arriving in March of 1999.

"It's an overwhelming process," replied Weitman. In a small room in Clark Hall, she points out files and files of paperwork in large, labeled boxes. This room is set aside for NCATE files only. "People want to do the best job they can; that's why it is so frustrating. We're trying to prepare as much as possible. We don't know what ques-

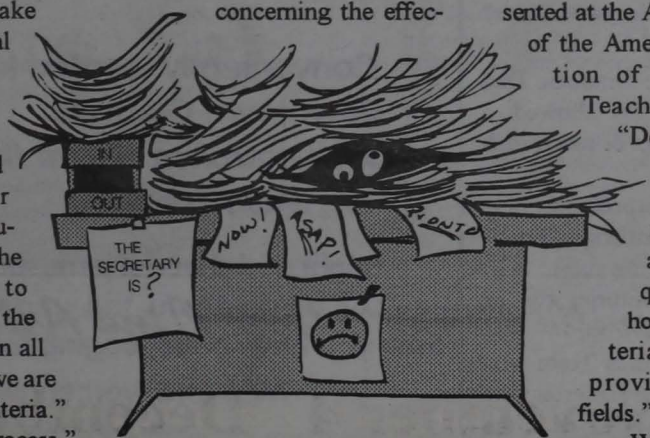
tions the team will ask."

However good the intentions NCATE is set up to have, school systems like Iowa University dropped their NCATE program showing problems with budgetary shortfalls, declining program quality, NCATE's "intrusion" into liberal arts domains, and negative attitudes toward education.

"Is it really necessary for all the time spent in gathering information?" Questioned James H. Sutton in the *Phi Delta Kappan Journal* "The problems dealing with NCATE is the process. It (NCATE) wants college systems to be absolutely thorough. That's impossible."

What NCATE provides for students in teacher education at GSC is a set standard of excellence that carries a prestige in any field. School systems see NCATE as a stamp of approval, and look for it in the job field.

It's a process the Education Divisions sees as necessary and good for the school. Even with the mountain of paperwork, Weitman replies that it's worth it. "We're living with it. It's part of our business in teacher education."





## GSC's lobbyist asks to up wages

By Lisa McCormick  
Staff Reporter

Dave Kennedy and 13 other professors at Glenville State College joined the West Virginia Higher Education Coalition (WVHEC).

"WVHEC's purpose is to lobby for pay-related issues and benefits," Kennedy states. "Also, this group takes surveys; one result from their surveys showed that West Virginia's higher educators' wages rank at a low 46 in the nation."

The fee to join WVHEC is \$60 a year. This money is used to hire a full-time lobbyist who works in Charleston advocating on behalf of WV's professors.

Contrary to the belief that WVHEC only benefits professors, Kennedy points out that it also works for the students.

"The lower wages West Virginia colleges pay their professors cause a recruiting prob-

lem for this state. That means it's harder to give students the highest quality faculty they deserve; this fact makes it a student issue as well as a faculty issue; that's why WVHEC is open for students to join at \$10 a year."

Though WVHEC has between 700-800 members statewide and is now starting to be recognized by the legislature, Kennedy--an WVHEC Executive Boardmember--is disappointed with GSC's low membership rate.

"We're not getting as much support here on campus as we'd like; we have only 13 members and we'd like to have more," Kennedy relates. "As far as the administration is concerned, I believe our goals are the same: providing students with the highest quality faculty possible."

The importance of this group and its focus involves more than wage issues, it also

gives higher educators a voice in the legislature. A voice that public school teachers already enjoy.

Since state employees (such as professors at state colleges) aren't allowed to represent themselves in the government, lobbying is the only way they have to voice their needs.

WVHEC's biggest victory came this past November 18th, when the state legislative committee (i.e., a pension committee) gave audience to them.

"Normally the legislature wouldn't invite us to hear them, and this is the first time that they ever heard from a higher education faculty group," Kennedy says enthusiastically. "This proves that we've increased our visibility."

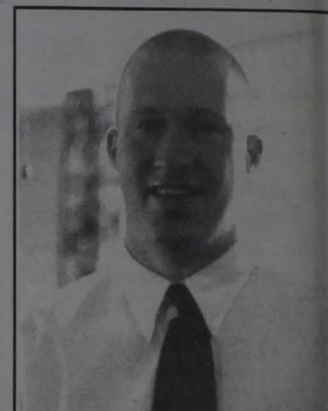
For more information about WVHEC or to join, contact Mr. Kennedy at his office in the Science Hall Division, room #300

## Sean Davis named Outstanding Teacher

By Eric Ware,  
Staff Reporter

In recognizing Sean Davis as GSC's Outstanding Teacher, a small luncheon was given Friday, Dec. 5 in the Verona Mapel Room by the Education Division.

"I'm real fortunate to have excellent placements," commented Davis. "The education division has been very supportive to the student's needs, and I'm lucky to graduate from a favorable institution."



Sean Davis (Eric Ware, Mercury)

## Santa Claus at North Bend

### State Park

CAIRO, WV - Santa Claus will be stopping by North Bend State Park's Lodge Lobby from 3 p.m. to 5 p.m. on Saturday, December 20. Pictures with Santa will be available.



## Forensics team to perform for GSC

By Terry L. Estep  
Staff Reporter

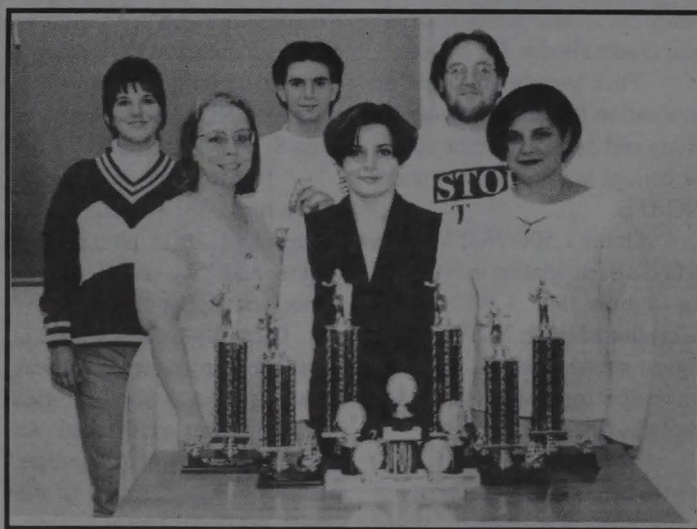
Glenville State's Forensics team will finish out the semester with an open performance on Wednesday.

The team will perform each of their competition pieces during the show, which begins at 8 p.m. in the Fine Arts Recital Hall.

The team's last competition--the 48th Annual Ruth A. Wilcox Forensics Invitational Tournament at Marietta College in Ohio in November--earned them six trophies in categories ranging from prose interpretation to persuasive speaking.

Amy Jo Rowan-Smith will give a persuasive speech on gay rights and an informative speech about Alanon. Her delivery of the two pieces brought trophies at a previous tournament at West Virginia Wesleyan a few months ago.

Rowan-Smith will pair with Cris Gravely for a Dramatic Duo from Christopher Durang's *Glass Menagerie* parody "For Whom the Southern Belle Tolls."



Forensics Team and trophies (l-r): Lisa Belknap, Nancy Wemm, Chris Kenna, Amy Jo Rowan-Smith, Cris Gravely, Margarita "Moe" Tzoneva (Heather Ware, Mercury)

Margarita "Moe" Tzoneva for "The Power and the Glory," about two women in a glass elevator who explore power.

Chris Kenna and Shannon Carr, who performed a piece from "The 'M' Word," about a possible romantic merger between two businesspeople, will give a repeat performance.

Audience members can expect a less formal atmosphere than is found at Forensics com-

petitions, where Dramatic Duo teammates are not allowed to make eye contact or touch each other.

Prose interpretation provides another challenge. Participants read a prose piece, 8-10 minutes long, featuring two or more characters.

The Forensics Team won 11 trophies this semester, the highest number achieved in the team's five-year history.

## NOW OPEN

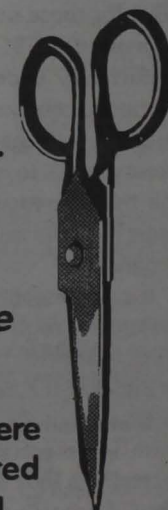
## A Cut Above Hair Salon

Walk-ins welcome. Appointments preferred.  
Former GSC student.  
Progressive and updated styles.

Conveniently located in downtown Glenville.  
Deck entrance above the Main Event.

Bright and cheerful atmosphere  
Let us give you the updated look you have been longing for!

Men and women welcome.  
462-8969





## Mrs. King's class visits Fahlgren

by Lisa McCormick  
Staff Reporter

What better way for future advertisers to see firsthand what the business is like than to visit an advertising company?

On November 18th, Mrs. King, the instructor for the public relations class, and 10 students--John Barnes, Meredith Bartlett, Erica Dreikes, Gina Lerby, William Kouns, Patrick McHugh, Cher Mishonih, Cheryl Stout, and Brian Topping--did just that.

They visited the Fahlgren Advertising & Communications, Inc., in Parkersburg, WV after a guest speaker, Anne Greene, suggested visiting the company to

the class. According to Mrs. King, the trip was a great success:

"It was a good trip; the students really learned a lot and seemed really pleased with it. I've taken classes there before, and they've always been courteous to our students. Students can always ask them questions and get reputable answers."

Upon arriving at Fahlgren, they were greeted by Marty Davis, an account executive in advertising. Mr. Davis showed the students Fahlgren's prize-winning ads, gave them a tour of the facility, and allowed them to talk to the heads of each department.

Mr. Davis also explained to the students about their shadowing programs that allow students to follow employees at work and to run errands.

"Shadowing usually lasts for a week; it's more or less a gopher program," King explains. "But it's a great way to experience what working for an ad agency requires."

"Fahlgren also accepts interns. It's only for a semester; and it's a viable means of getting your foot in the door," she further states. "They hire about five people a year and would consider hiring a former intern who would know first-hand about the kind of work they do."

## Science Hall receives expensive equipment

Students in the Bacteriology, Cell Metabolism, and Genetics courses can now do more extensive and detailed experiments. This came about thanks to the efforts of Professor James H. Meads II, Dr. Joe Evans and the Forma Scientific Comp.

The cause of this thanks is due to the acceptance of two incubators. They look like miniature refrigerators, and in a sense they are with the difference being that these refrigerators use carbon dioxide.

"The carbon dioxide we'll use in these incubators is essential to growing certain types of cells and tissues," Meads explains. "They (incubators) can also control the delicate temperatures and environments

needed to conduct chromosome studies or to grow specific bacteria that we formerly couldn't do."

How much did these incubators cost?-- "They cost nothing; in fact, they were donated," Meads further illustrates. "At the end of Forma's fiscal year they'll donate their surplus equipment to higher educators."

Both Professor Meads and Dr. Evans contacted the Forma Institute to see if Glenville State College can acquire any surplus equipment, and luckily they could.

The price of these incubators, if bought outright, would have cost the college \$4,021 each.

### IMPORTANT TAX CREDIT NOTICE

The Taxpayer Relief Act of 1997 provides the ability for students and/or their parents to take tax credits for Tuition and Fees under certain circumstances. This Act begins in January 1998 and is only applicable to payments made on or after January 1, 1998. You may be eligible for the Hope Scholarship Credit or the Lifetime Learning Credit, although not both during the same year. Because this is not financial aid, you may need to consult with a tax accountant to see if you qualify.



#### Hope Scholarship Credit

- Freshman or Sophomore only
- Enrolled at least half-time
- Up to \$1,500 tax credit\* for out-of-pocket expenses for qualified tuition and related expenses per eligible student in the family.
- To qualify for 1998 Tax Credits, your checks must be dated January 1, 1998 or later in 1998.
- Begins January 1, 1998.

#### Lifetime Learning Credit

- Freshman through Grad School
- Even a single course qualifies
- Up to 20% tax credit\* for a family's out-of-pocket expenses for qualified tuition and related expenses. Maximum of \$1,000 tax credit through 2002. Maximum of \$2,000 tax credit\* after 2002.
- Begins July 1, 1998

\* Tax credit amount may be reduced if income exceeds a certain threshold.

#### Information Common to Hope Scholarship & Lifetime Learning Credits

- "Qualified tuition and related expenses" means the tuition and fees an individual is required to pay in order to be enrolled at or attend an eligible institution. Amounts paid for any course or other education involving sports, games, or hobbies are not eligible for the tax credit, unless the course or other education is part of the student's degree program. Charges and fees associated with room, board, student activities, athletics, insurance, books, equipment, transportation, and similar personal, living, or family expenses are not qualified tuition or related expenses.
- Qualified tuition and related expenses paid with a Pell Grant or other tax-free scholarship, a tax-free distribution from an Education IRA, or tax-free employer-provided education assistance are not taken into account in calculating the credit amount. In other words, Pell, SEOG, and other tax-free tuition assistance may be subtracted from any tax credit you receive.
- Because this is not financial aid, you do not apply for the credits in advance. Taxpayers will not be able to claim the credits until they file their 1998 tax returns in 1999. Instructions accompanying the 1998 tax forms (for returns required to be filed in 1999) will explain how to calculate the credits and how to claim it on the tax return.
- Please contact your tax accountant for detailed information.

## Coffee House at the Wesley Foundation

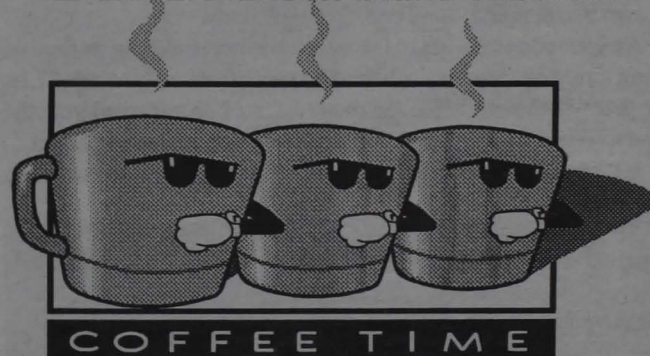
The Wesley Foundation is planning its first coffee house on Thursday, December 11, beginning at 8 p.m. Eclectic and nontraditional music from around the world will be featured, as students and faculty have the opportunity to enjoy premium hot cocoa, traditional and exotic teas, spiced apple cider, cappuccino, fine coffee, and even hot lemonade for only 50 cents a cup.

Marshmallows can be

roasted over an open fire, and peanuts will also be available. We invite the Glenville State Community to enjoy an evening of mellow talk, fellowship, and the chance to relax a little just before final exams.

We are also inviting interested students to bring a guitar and play a few songs of their own. Our game room will also be open, where pool, ping-pong, and foosball are available.

All are invited to enjoy a relaxing evening as the fall semester comes to a close.





# The Mercury

A member of the Associated Press  
Volume 69 - No. 12

Terry L. Estep - Editor-in-chief

Eric Ware - News Editor

Heather Ware - Photo Editor

Tamara Bennett - Advertising Director

Annie McCourt - Copy Editor & Layout

John F. Rote - Advisor

## Ringing the changes...



*Cristola, Terry, and a helpin' of Death (Heather Ware, Mercury)*

In the Tarot, the Death card signifies transition and change. As the *Mercury* winds up another semester, it's nice to take stock of the year. As your editor, I have gained a first-person perspective on what it means to be one of the "gate-keepers of information," as our advisor describes it.

We've seen our share of scandals, scares, fights and friends, but the crew at this paper remains dedicated to serving the needs of the Glenville community.

Does that mean we never made mistakes? We wish that was so. Mistakes were made—some were small and went (hopefully) below your radar without raising concern; others were disorganized blunders and temptations of epic proportions that serve to underscore the fact that this is a learning experience for the entire crew. Thank you for your patience (and your check is in the mail).

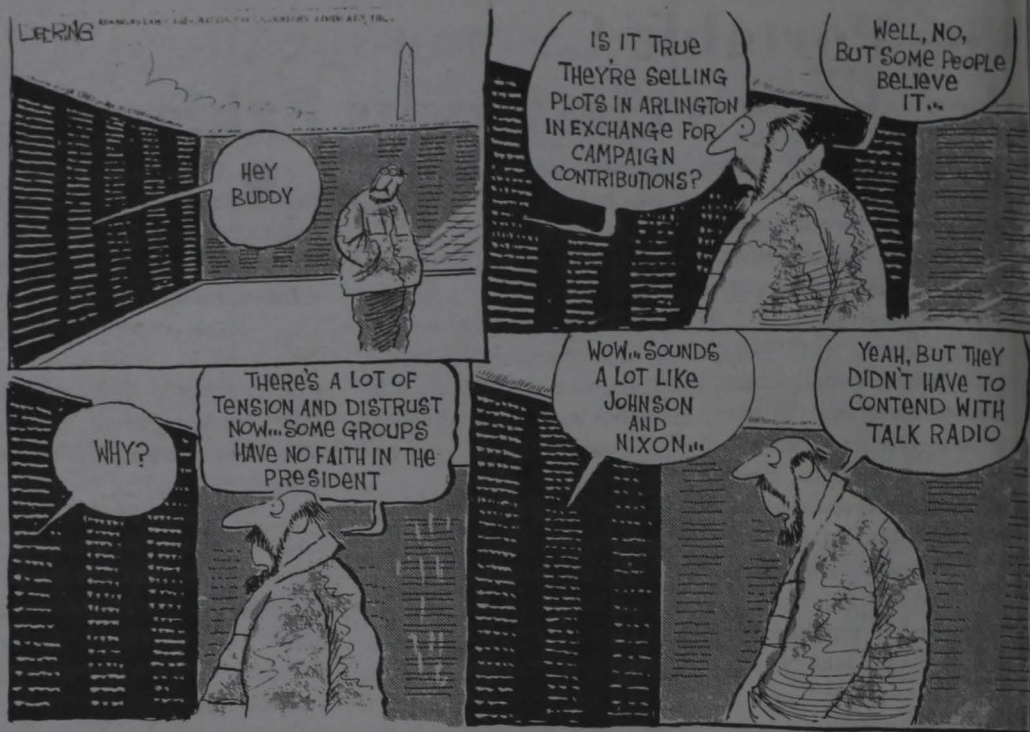
Changes are on the way that will make you look at your paper in a new way. You're going to like it. The addition of the Associated Press is just a stepping stone to that new level of greatness, and I would be remiss if I didn't thank Cris Gravely for turning me around when he saw the rocky road I was careening for.

If I've learned anything from Nancy Reagan, it's that having your own astrologer around can come in handy.

As your editor moves to his own transition (nothing as final as hopping a ride on a comet with the Heaven's Gate cult, so relax), he hopes that whether we offended or entertained or informed you, the *Mercury* served a useful function and gave you something to do.

It's been a fun semester, kids. We'll have to do it again.

The *Mercury* is published weekly during the school year, except for holidays and final exams, with two summer session issues. Periodical 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.



## Thief, how low can you go?

By Lisa Belknap,  
Staff Columnist

The world is a rough place to live in. People are desperate to survive. Individuals scramble and scrape to make it. The government is corrupt. People are starving. Children have no clothes. Parents buy crack instead of milk.

I guess it's part of the charm of 1997—we do whatever we want to do. I don't suppose anything should shock me anymore, but sometimes it happens.

On December 4th, someone is believed to have stolen money which had been collected by the Adopt-an-Angel program. The dollars were intended to help purchase gifts for five needy Gilmer County children.

There are many repul-

sive things in the world, no denying that. There are equally repulsive situations which lead to them and seem to justify them.

However, there is no excuse for any crime against a child. NO EXCUSE!! Our children are the only future we have. They have no one but us to defend them, clothe them, feed them and shelter them. They are innocent and trusting—they have no other choice. Yet, all a person needs to do is open *USA Today* and you can bank on there being at least one story about a child being raped, killed, starved or beaten. These are just the situations we can prove.

Are we sick?!? No, are you sick?!? What kind of a person steals money from needy children? What did it

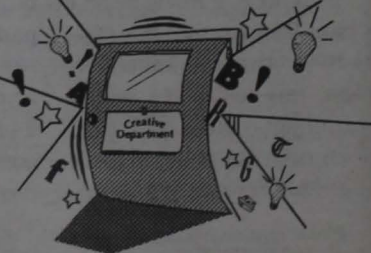
get you?? After stealing Christmas from five children, how did you invest it? Did you get a new jacket? Or maybe it just went for some beer and a dime bag? I'm sorry, it just dawned on me, no normal person would do this. Only a person who smokes crack would be desperate enough to steal money from children, right?

Please tell me you have a crack problem because in addition to your other recent accomplishments you have succeeded in making me aware of just how low human-kind can go without any motivation.

I'm rambling, so let me make it short: any person who violates the rights of a child is the equivalent of society sewage.

## The Mercury wants to hear from you!

Write to us at *The Mercury!*  
Box 207, Glenville State College,  
Glenville, WV 26351-1292  
All letters must be signed  
and include a phone number  
to be considered for publication.





# The Portable Curmudgeon: Why play the violence game?

By Annie McCourt,  
Staff Columnist

Thanks to a friendly insight from my all-knowing, all-seeing editor-in-chief I'm going to narrow my ramblings and ravings down this week and only bitch about one thing that really, really irks me.

Why do people commit acts of senseless violence? Maybe I'm from a different culture than most of you readers, but I was always taught that when you talk to someone about a problem, even if you still don't see eye to eye afterward, you achieve far more on the karma scale than you would coming to blows.

I understand that there is a need for self preservation. If someone is physically abusing you and you are frightened for your safety than a certain amount of action is tolerable, but to become violent for no apparent reason totally blows me away.

From the apparent scuffle in this office to the kid who killed his prayer group in Kentucky it all just seems so pointless. What did the offenders get out of it? Is there some glory in having someone else's blood on your hands that I just don't understand? Most of all, what the hell is the point?

I have stood my ground and got the shit kicked out of me

while preaching peace to a girl at a party. Maybe you think that is stupid, but afterward when her friends came up to me to talk about my beliefs, the respect they showed me was worth far more than a pat on the back for having blood on my hands would have been.

Is it television? Was Matt Dillon correct in "Drugstore Cowboy" when he said that we are perpetuating a nation of TV Babies? Kids that grow up with violence ingrained in their heads from every cartoon, comic book and video game they play. Maybe they see all this violence on TV and it becomes surreal to them, making them think that if they

pick up a gun, or a knife, or their fists and hurt someone the victim will just run to the makeup trailer and wash the blood off during a commercial break and everything will be A-OK.

Maybe people just get kicked around so much that they honestly feel that the only way to deal with other humans is through acts of senseless violence. I know this sounds like a bunch of left-wing, liberal, free love crap to some of you, and I feel sorry for you- I really do. I wish you could share in my life where hugs are worth far more than hits.

As human beings we have an ability for rational thinking

that our neighbors in the animal kingdom don't have. The problem is teaching people how to use it.

**One more thing:** Why don't college educated people know what the word **curmudgeon** means? My mom is only a freshman and she knew what it meant. Pick up a damn dictionary, you know what that is don't you. It's the rectangular thing with a binding on the left side and all those words in it that you're probably using to balance the shaky back leg of your couch with.

Oh! By the way, Happy Holidays, and watch out for frustrated reindeer.

## Gender "canyon": GOP battles for the hearts and minds of women

By David Ammons,  
Associated Press

PUYALLUP, Wash. - Jennifer Dunn, the highest ranking woman in Congress, for years has watched and worried as women voters flock to the Democratic Party.

Now, with the blessings of House Republican leadership, she hopes to do something about it, putting "a softer edge on the conservative message."

The gender gap has become a "gender canyon" for Republicans, pollsters say.

The GOP could lose its majorities in Washington unless the party can figure out some answers, says state Chairman Dale Foreman.

Democrats, who have a gender gap of their own with men, say the Republicans have only themselves to blame for their problems with women.

The GOP agenda--anti-abortion and tough on social "safety net" programs and environmental-protection budgets--scared many women, says state party chairman Paul Berendt.

Dunn and Foreman don't buy that. They say the basic conservative thrust--smaller, cheaper, less-controlling central government--shouldn't turn women off. But they concede that the gender gap is deepening.

In separate interviews, the two Republican leaders said at-

tention must be paid both to the substance and to how the message being communicated.

It's hard to overstate the issue's importance to the GOP effort to nail down majority status, they say.

"We recognize it's a big problem, a double-digit problem," says Foreman. "We have failed to adequately address education and the environment in many women's minds and I recognize we must have a plan in order to attract women voters. We are working very hard on this. We'd be foolish not to."

The GOP cannot afford to lose more than 10 seats in the U.S. House or the Senate. Democrats are not considered likely to win back the edge in the Senate, but the House could be a possibility.

### The GOP's problem...

Dunn says national pollster Linda DiVall has pegged the gender gap at about 19 percentage points when it comes to congressional candidates.

That's a "gender canyon, not a gender gap" and a "significant electoral problem" the party must face, DiVall says.

In the presidential election a year ago, President Clinton got 54 percent of the women's vote, compared with 43 percent of the men's. Women, who comprise about 54 percent of the voters, provided the winning margin for Democratic congressional can-

didates in some close races.

Says Dunn, "This is a huge political problem that needs to be solved. We send our Republican candidates into elections at a 19 percent disadvantage."

She says she has been tracking the problem since becoming state Republican chair in 1981. Due to the popularity of Ronald Reagan with both men and women, the GOP landslides of 1980 and 1984 and George Bush's coattail victory in 1988 masked the party's long-term problem with women voters, Dunn says.

Clinton's two victories brought the problem home.

### What's it all about?

Dunn has her theories.

Men in decision-making roles in the party and in Congress "have their own issues of interest and they sometimes forget the women or they forget how to do the translation of whatever issue they are working on so that it might connect most effectively with women," she says.

"We're beginning to realize that women think of government a little bit different than men," Dunn says. "Women, for example, see government as having a safety-net role. You won't hear that from men to the degree you do from women."

Much of the "Republican revolution" was couched in martial male terms and images--slash taxes, roll back the govern-

ment, cut welfare and so on, she says.

"You see men using all those sports analogies--I hear them all the time in Congress, and it's just not something women want to hear. Elizabeth Dole has a great line that 'For women, government is a mission field, not a battlefield.'"

Dunn, pro-choice on abortion, concedes the party's position turns off some voters, but says the GOP can respect all points of view and look for areas of possible overlap, such as parental notification in most teen-abortion cases, and restrictions on late-term abortions.

Like Foreman, she wants the party to do a better job of assuring women it is not anti-education or anti-environment. Economic issues, including welfare reform and capital-gains tax cuts, can pick up more support from women if explained from their perspective, Dunn says.

### So where from here?

Dunn is using her leadership post of Republican caucus vice chair to tackle the problem.

With the backing of House Speaker Newt Gingrich, she has engaged Richard Wirthlin, the former Reagan consultant who came up with the gauzy "Morning in America" campaign theme, to do in-depth polling.

Prime question: What do women expect from government?

Using the material Wirthlin's surveys provide, Dunn and others will begin refining suggestions on how to fine-tune the GOP agenda and how to do a better job of pitching it to women. Dunn will sponsor a national conference in Washington, D.C., in April and expects the strategies that emerge to "fan out to all 50 states."

### A Dunn Deal...

Dunn, 56, a single mother of two grown sons, has burnished a Reaganesque image as a great communicator. A recent profile in *National Journal* says she is "quickly emerging as one of her party's savviest spokeswomen" who "brings to the table a special talent that other Republican leaders admit they sorely lack--and ability to persuasively communicate with women."

The profile, written by a woman, calls Dunn "the GOP's new golden girl" and a potential successor to the speaker.

*Business Week* called her a "translator to women" and a conciliatory leader of top rank. A post-session analysis in *The Seattle Times* said she and Sen. Slade Gorton have emerged as the region's power players.

In the House leadership, Dunn is "uniquely positioned as the only one of the six who is well-liked and respected by a wide range of colleagues," the *Times* says.



## Perez, Ferralls, others honored

*Provided by the Sports Information Department*

Glenville State's sensational passing tandem of Wilkie Perez and Carlos Ferralls was rewarded for their stellar 1997 seasons by both being named last week to the Daktronics Inc. Division II All-Northeast Region Football Team.

The Northeast Region is one of four geographic alignments for Division II football. By being named first team All-Northeast, Perez and Ferralls will both appear on the final Daktronics Inc. All-American

ballot. Results of the final All-American balloting will be announced December 18.

Perez (6'2, 200, JR) set a pair of Division II single-season records for passing yardage and total offense. He finished the '97 campaign 308-of-470 (66%) for 4,494 yards and 46 touchdowns. A nine-touchdown, 642 yard performance against Concord at mid-season thrust him into the national limelight.

Ferrall, a 6'3 senior, was the top vote-getter at wide receiver. A returning All-American, Ferralls latched onto 99

catches for 1,644 yards and 19 touchdowns.

Three other West Virginia Conference players, Shepherd's Damian Beane and Bootsie Washington and Greg Dailer of West Liberty, were chosen first team All-Northeast in the balloting of college Sports Information Directors. Beane, a sophomore, was the WVIAC's top ground gainer with 1,590 yards.

Glenville State and Shepherd were league co-champions and Glenville went on to earn the conference's first-ever Division II playoff berth.

## Ask the Particle Man: What is the instant kill radius of a nuclear weapon?

*By Aaron Frame,  
Staff Columnist*

When a nuclear explosion occurs, the effects range from immediate to extended. This week's "Ask the Particle man" will deal exclusively with the immediate effects, or specifically what causes damage immediately after the explosion occurs. These so-called immediate effects include blast, prompt ionizing radiation, and thermal radiation. Each separate effect has its own specific instant kill radius. These effects will occur within seconds of the detonation of the nuclear weapon in question and the size of the radius of instant kill is determined by the size of the weapon.

Of the three immediate effects, the blast wave is the greatest releaser of energy in a low yield warhead (less than 100 Kt) with 60% of the bomb's energy released in this manner. This is true for a high-yield weapon (greater than 1 Mt) but the amount of energy released by the blast is at least 10% less than in the lower yields. When the size or yield of the weapon is small (2.5 Kt) the effects are roughly the same and all can cause the same amount of injury to immediate surroundings.

The radii of destruction for each of these immediate effects can be determined by the following equations: radius of thermal radiation =  $Y^{.41}$  \* thermal constant, radius of blast

wave =  $Y^{.33}$  \* blast constant, radius of ionizing radiation =  $Y^{.19}$  \* radiation constant. Expressing the variable "Y" in terms of multiples of 2.5 Kt will change all constants in the equations to ones and will give the desired radii in kilometers. For example, a 7.5 Kt warhead (which is  $3 * 2.5$  Kt) will have a blast radius of approximately 1.94 km, thermal radiation radius of approximately 2.28 km, and an ionizing radiation radius of approximately 1.47 km. All equations are based on optimum conditions for best detonation. Variance in actual data yielded may be due to any of the several conditions for optimum detonation not being satisfactorily met.

## Student Congress recognizes International Students Club

*By Eric Ware,  
Staff Reporter*

In a 22-0 vote, the International Students Club was recognized as an approved organization Nov. 18 at a regular meeting of Student Congress.

Club president Moe Tzoneva presented the constitution to the Student Congress for approval, stating that "the club would recognize international students and make friendly relations with American students."

The purpose of the club is to meet new and interesting



*Club president Margarita Tzoneva (File Photo)*

individuals from other countries and participate in activities that are fun and educational. The International Students Club meets every first Thursday of each month.

## THE MERCURY POLL

By Meredith Bartlett

**"Do you agree with the judge's decision to reduce the charge against Louise Woodard, the au pair, to manslaughter and sentence her to time already served?"**

72% YES      28% NO

## Charleston raps Pioneers

*Provided by the Sports Information Department*

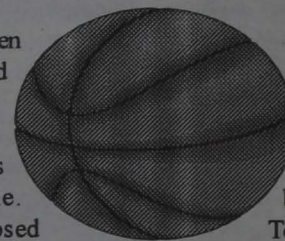
Glenville State's men's basketball team lost by 21 Saturday night at the University of Charleston, but 52 second-half points did provide encouragement for head coach Bob Williams, Jr.

The UC Golden Eagles triumphed 89-68 by jumping on top the cold-shooting Pioneers 42-16 at halftime. Glenville recomposed

after intermission, though, and shot 47.2% (17 of 36) during the final 20 minutes.

The Golden Eagles, who had a sizable advantage height-wise, were lead by Thadious Bonapart with 24 points.

Four Pioneers hit double figures, including Terry Clark (15), Jason Shields (13), Kevin Herod (12) and backup guard Tom Ewing (10).



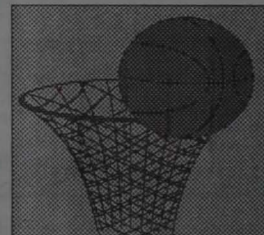
## Lady Pioneers 3rd at Shawnee State Invitational

Glenville State College's women's basketball team finished third at last weekend's Shawnee State Invitational in Portsmouth, Ohio.

In Friday night's tournament opener, the Lady Pioneers dropped a hotly-contested 67-64 decision to host Shawnee.

Saturday afternoon, though, GSC bounced back to defeat Geneva 59-51.

Against Shawnee, Cary Friel and Tara McHenry led the



way with 18 and 16 points, respectively.

McHenry also starred against Geneva with 24. Tanisha Brown chipped in 11 points and also pulled down 11 rebounds.

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## Cold-foul shooting leads to defeats

provided by the Sports Information Department

Poor foul shooting proved to be the culprit for both the men's and women's basketball teams as both dropped conference games last week at West Virginia Wesleyan.

Monday, the men led most of the way before stumbling toward the end in a 78-70 overtime loss. The Pioneers failed to convert 17 foul shots, 12 in the sec-

ond half alone.

Cameron Mack led the Bobcats with 24 points and 19 rebounds.

The Pioneers sported a balanced attack of Floyd Burgher (15 points), Kevin Young (13), Terry Clark (11), Kevin Herod (nine), Jason Shields (nine), and Henry Hurst (eight).

Tierre McNair came off the bench in his first "non-football performance" and pulled down

at a team-high 11 rebounds.

Wednesday, the Pioneer women suffered a similar fate, sinking only nine-of-26 free throws in a 70-55 setback.

Carla Curran was Glenville's top scorer, coming off the bench to score 15. Another backup, Amy Thomas, and Tara McHenry, chipped in eight each.

Wesleyan used the foul line to its advantage, cashing in on 21-of-26 opportunities.

## Perez named "Offensive Player of the Year"

In a balloting of league coaches, standout GSC quarterback Wilkie Perez has been named the West Virginia Conference's "Offensive Player of the Year."

Perez, a first-team selection at quarterback, was one of five Pioneers earning first team honors. The others included wide receiver Carlos Ferralls,

punter Rob Buffington, placekeeper Justin Barnes and defensive end Jeremiah Witherspoon.

Four more players were second team choice, offensive guard Jake Rollyson, defensive lineman Artie Rodriguez, linebacker Emerson Wallace and defensive back Tierre McNair.

Gamering special honor-



able mention were Brian Palmer and Robert Talley.

Larry Harvey received honorable mention.

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# Anastasia: Disney clone tries too hard to fit money-winning mold

By Dolores Barclay,  
AP Columnist

In the summer of 1918, as the Bolsheviks rooted their power in Russia, czar Nicholas II, his wife and children were shot and killed, their bodies hidden so there would be no ready reminders of the imperialist regime.

And with the executions came one of the greatest mysteries of modern times: Did the princess Anastasia die with her family? Or was she spirited away to safety?

20th Century Fox has its own answer in the glorious new animated feature "Anastasia," a lushly drawn, romantic adventure that suffers only from trying too hard to copy the Disney formula.

Fox's animators, lead by Don Bluth and Gary Goldman (both once worked for Disney), merge hand-drawn animation artistry with computer technology to produce the same richness in characters, action and set design that Disney so seamlessly achieves.

Just as Disney was able to simulate live-action theatrics with its wildebeest stampede in "The Lion King" and the ferocious squall in "The Little Mermaid," Bluth and Goldman have a runaway train episode that will put you on the edge of your seat.



Anya, voiced by  
Meg Ryan

It's lifelike, it's thrilling and it works.

But where the Disney formula really shows is in the selection of characters.

There's a spunky, non-nonsense girl with big, bright eyes, and an irreverent lad with plenty of courage and a twinkle in his eye. The lad has a clownish sidekick, the girl has a cute, cuddly dog. (Think "The Little Mermaid.")

Dogging their every move is the evil sorcerer Rasputin and his comic-relief minion, Bartok the bat.

"Anastasia" spins its fable not from history, but instead takes its cue from the 1956 Fox movie starring Ingrid Bergman.

In this fictional account, the evil Rasputin, who had been

exiled by the czar, returns to St. Petersburg as the Romanovs throw a magnificent gala to celebrate their rule. Rasputin curses the family, the Russian Revolution begins and the family is killed.

Anastasia and her grandmother, the Dowager Empress Marie, escape with the help of a kitchen boy, Dimitri.

With Rasputin hot on their trail, they try to catch the last train from St. Petersburg, but are separated in the swirling throng of people who have mobbed the city.

Rasputin drowns in the icy river, Marie gets on the train to Paris and Anastasia falls unconscious to the ground.

She awakens orphaned and alone. She is now known as

Anya, and her only mission is to find her family and her real identity. Anya's one clue is a key she wears on a chain around her neck, inscribed with the words: "Together in Paris."

Dimitri, meanwhile, has become a con artist. With his pal, Vladimir, he hatches a plan to present a fake Anastasia to the Dowager Empress and claim a reward.

He auditions several girls, none of whom will do. Then he stumbles upon Anya.

Fox must stray from history to milk a happy ending to this saga, but then, historic facts have nothing to do with "Anastasia." So forget reality and sit back and enjoy the movie, because it's an engaging romp.

## Game: Nightmare Creatures has thrills

By William Schiffmann,  
AP Game Review Columnist

You're lost in the bowels of Victorian London, stumbling through sewers and alleys as horrible monsters from your darkest dreams chase you with slaver fangs and needle-tipped claws.

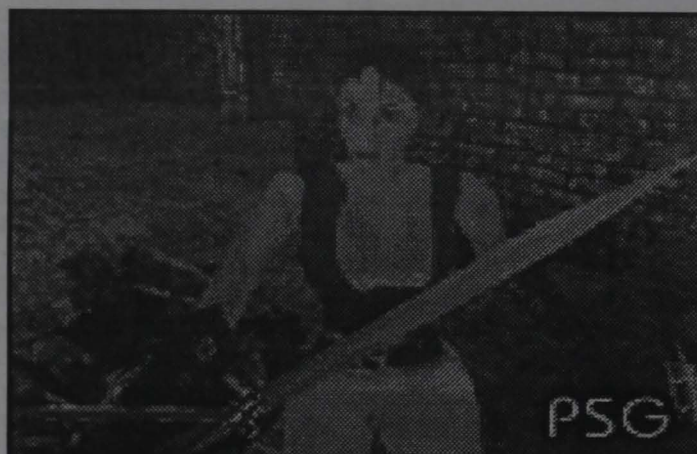
Sound appetizing? Well, it makes a better game than it does real life, that's for sure.

In fact, *Nightmare Creatures*, Activision's new PlayStation thriller, is an excellent game that combines the combo-fighting moves of a *Street Fighter* and the follow-the-hero perspective of *Tomb Raider* with a taste of corridor slaughter and horrible monsters a la *Duke Nukem*.

It's a familiar tale of a boy and his monsters, in this case the Brotherhood of Hecate and magician Adam Crowley, who's littering the streets of London in 1834 with a select collection of beasts, ghouls and goblins.

You can play either as Nadia, the daughter of a scientist murdered while seeking the source of the monsters, or Ignatius Blackward, a priest who has read the diary of a man who died two centuries earlier, when the Brotherhood first raised its ugly head.

Opposing our daring duo



Nadia sports a wicked sword, perfect for hacking monsters.

are the meanest collection of demons ever seen--zombies, werewolves, spiders, giant rats and hellhounds. And those are the friendly ones.

Of course, you don't go into this battle unarmed. In addition to Ignatius' staff and Nadia's sword, you have such goodies as proximity mines, dynamite, guns, a "freeze" spell and bottles of "repulsive smoke" which keep monsters at bay until the eerie cloud dissipates.

Although there are no continues, there is a password feature that is useful to get you back where you were when you died. Take the passwords down--you'll need them.

In this game, you die a lot. *Nightmare Creatures* has

been designed from actual maps and building designs to give the game a realistic atmosphere. You can almost smell the dank fog drifting by or hear the falling leaves rustling. This is one gorgeously subtle creation.

Control of your character generally is pretty good, with combo moves fairly easy to summon.

The sounds are perfect, with horrible cries, grunts, groans and growls raising your hackles.

Although the game does have a plot, it's basically an excuse to mash monsters. (As if you needed an excuse.) But for what it is--a beautifully rendered opportunity for mayhem--*Nightmare Creatures* is in a class by itself.

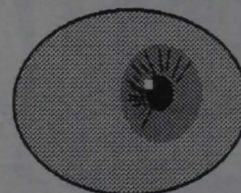
## Think you've got what it takes?

*Trillium*, the GSC Literary magazine, is now accepting submissions. Send poems, plays, photographs and stories.

Contact advisor Barbara Tedford (ext. 212) in the Language Division, or editor Terry Estep (ext. 133).



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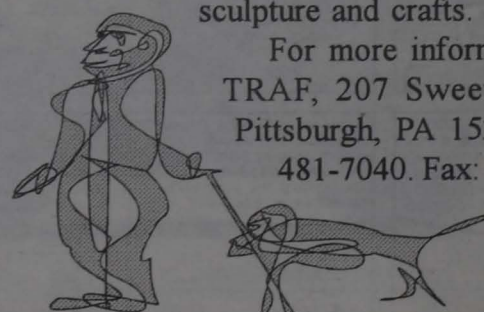
Show begins Jan. 7-23rd.

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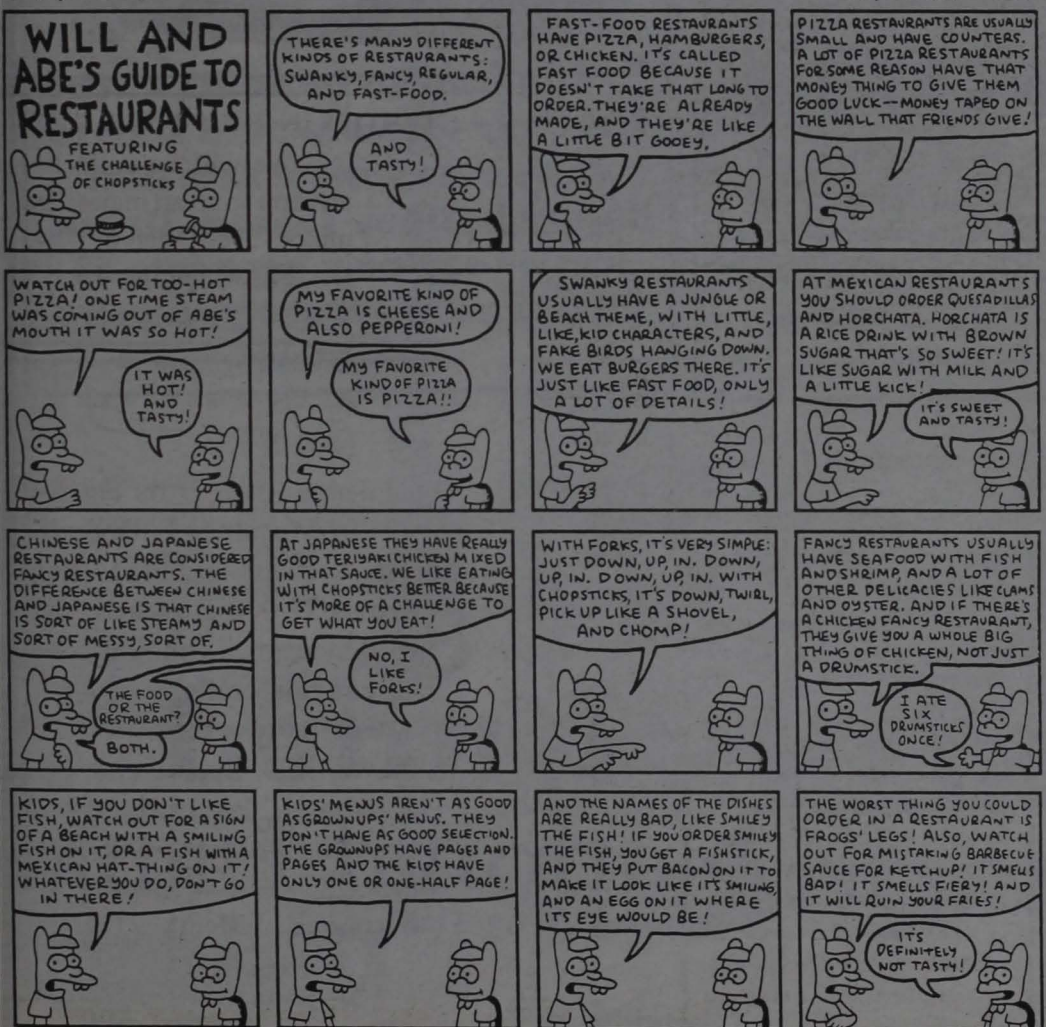
LIBERTY MEADOWS By Frank Cho



THATCH by Jeff Shesol



## LIFE IN HELL

By Criston Gravely,  
Staff Astrologer

**Aries (March 21 - April 19)**  
-- A decision about work must be made. Think carefully and weigh your options. Should you quit or stay?

**Taurus (April 20 - May 20)**  
-- Emotions run high this week. The potential is there for a new relationship, but you must make the first move.

**Gemini (May 21 - June 20)**  
-- You've taken on more than you can deal with. Too many worries and concerns are robbing you of your youthfulness and daring.

**Cancer (June 21 - July 22)**  
-- Prepare to be in the spotlight soon. Public recognition (possibly a promotion) comes with both an up side and a down side.

**Leo (July 23 - August 22)**  
-- Brush up on your social skills; to get what you want, you'll have to be tactful and diplomatic. Using strong-armed tactics won't help.

**Virgo (August 23 - September 22)**  
-- Time to take charge. Use your natural leadership abilities to generate change in your own life. Learn to be more fiery and impulsive.

**Libra (September 23 - Oc-**

Cristola's  
Magical  
Mystical  
Predictions

tober 22) -- An idea has started to solidify. There are good foundations and enthusiasm is high, but there is hard work ahead.

**Scorpio (October 23 - November 21)** -- Fulfillment and satisfaction are yours this week. A wish comes true, a sign of validation. Your commitment and hard work will pay off.

**Sagittarius (November 22 - December 21)** -- Develop your other skills. You have many talents and interests, but you must explore them all in order to find which one holds your future.

**Capricorn (December 22 - January 19)** -- Fear of consequences has made you unable to make a decision. Either choice leads to trouble, but you've made the problem yourself.

**Aquarius (January 20 - February 18)** -- Learning to think for yourself causes change in your life. It also causes conflicts, but solutions can be found by listening to both sides.

**Pisces (February 19 - March 20)** -- Get set for a sudden change of luck. Good or bad, you cannot change it. This happens in response to your need for a good dose of reality.

Things to do during the  
Zombie Apocalypse

By Terry L. Estep

- 10) Alphabetize books in the Library of Congress.
- 9) Practice head shots with the light gun and *Duck Hunt* cartridge from your old Nintendo Entertainment System.
- 8) Track down George Romero and scream "You got some 'splainin' to do!"
- 7) Muzzle the zombies and watch them try to bite you, then grab them by the waist and tell your friends you're dancing.
- 6) Listen to music by the Zombies, the Dead Kennedys, and White Zombie before it stops being fun.
- 5) Start a new world order with yourself as "Grand High Poohbah of All Creation."
- 4) Convert cowflop bingo by placing bets on where they'll drop their arms.
- 3) Domesticate zombies; put on a road show.
- 2) Try not to point out that Al Gore has been a zombie since 1990.
- 1) Watch *Night of the Living Dead* and take notes.





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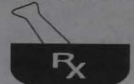
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