



Donkey Basketball...Page 7

The Mercury



Peer Gynt at GSC...Page 7

This issue: Pull-out election guide!

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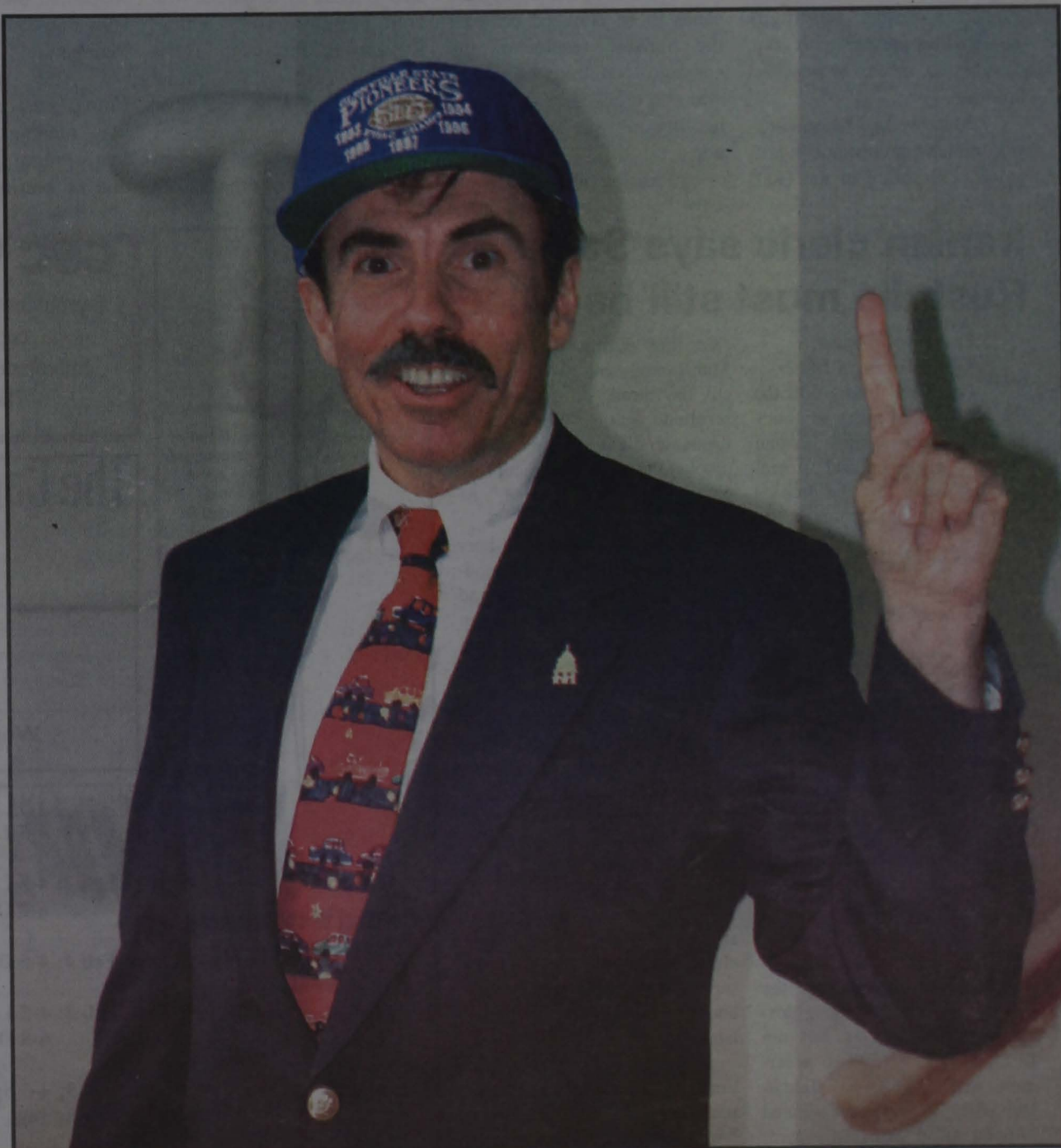
“If Particleman thinks ethics should not stand in the way of scientific research, he must be pleased with such sensible people as the Nazis who experimented on Jews...”

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A WISE DECISION AT GSC

France cautions against strike on Baghdad

PARIS (AP) -- The French government cautioned Wednesday against a U.S.-led military strike on Baghdad, saying Saddam Hussein could still bow to pressure during a visit by U.N. chief Kofi Annan and accept weapons inspections.

President Jacques Chirac was to receive Annan on Thursday evening when the U.N. secretary general stops in Paris before flying to Baghdad Friday. Chirac was expected to impress on Annan that France, a former and future key trading partner with Iraq, desperately seeks a peaceful solution.

Meanwhile, France's interior minister, an outspoken critic of U.S. policy in the Gulf,

criticized what he called "American diplomacy's will for war" and said the United States should have shown such resolve during World War II.

"Even in 1940, when the Germans were parading down the Champs-Elysees, they (the Americans) didn't go and see what was happening in front of Napoleon's tomb," said Chevenement, who quit as defense minister to protest the 1991 Gulf War.

"It's time for those who claim to be civilized consider the horrible results of the embargo" on Iraq, he added, referring to the U.N. embargo's hardship on the Iraqi population.

Pressing ahead with his

diplomatic efforts, Chirac called German Chancellor Helmut Kohl on Wednesday. The two leaders agreed that while diplomatic means were not exhausted, it was up to Baghdad "to seize the occasion" of Annan's visit to show flexibility in the standoff, Chirac spokeswoman Catherine Colonna said.

Iraq must make "the additional steps that will allow an agreement," she said. Over the next two days, Chirac was also to speak by telephone with U.S. President Bill Clinton, Russian President Boris Yeltsin, Britain's Prime Minister Tony Blair and other leaders.

Saddam "has backed down three or four times (since

the Gulf War)," French Foreign Minister Hubert Vedrine argued in an interview with radio network RTL.

"It's not absurd to think that, in extremis, he'll realize what's being said to him," he added, warning that military action would "create many more problems, and many more serious ones" in the region.

France turned up the pressure on Iraq's foreign minister, Mohamed Saeed al-Sahhaf, in talks Tuesday with Chirac and Vedrine.

After their meeting, Chirac warned that "time is now running out," and said Iraq's refusal to accept inspection of presidential sites sus-

pected of being hiding Iraq's biological and chemical weapons posed "extremely serious risks."

Under U.N. resolutions following the 1991 Gulf War that crushed Iraq's invasion of Kuwait, Baghdad is to dismantle its biological, chemical and nuclear weapons programs before a U.N. trade embargo can be lifted.

Following the regular Cabinet meeting, Chirac Wednesday convened separate government ministers for a special meeting on Iraq.

Afterward, Prime Minister Lionel Jospin expressed hope that a diplomatic solution could be found to the current crisis.

Iranian cleric says Salman Rushdie must still be killed

By Anward Faruqi,
Associated Press Writer

TEHRAN, Iran -- On the eve of the anniversary of Iran's death sentence against Salman Rushdie, a top judicial official said last week that the Indian-born British writer must be killed.

"The shedding of this man's blood is obligatory," said Morteza Moqtadaie, Iran's chief prosecutor.

In a *fatwa*, or Islamic decree, on Feb. 14, 1989, Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeini said Rushdie should be killed for allegedly insulting the Prophet Mohammed in his book, *The Satanic Verses*.

Since then, Rushdie has lived largely in hiding and under the protection of the British government.

"Any Muslim who hears an insult to the prophet must kill the person who commits the insult. It is better that those closest to that person try to kill him first," Moqtadaie said in a sermon last Friday at Tehran University. Worshippers shouted "Allahu Akbar," or God is great in Arabic, when he said "Rushdie must die."

Moqtadaie, a senior cleric,

said that during his lifetime, Mohammed sent two people to cut the throat of a man who insulted him. "What Imam Khomeini did is exactly what the prophet did, and this (death sentence) must be preserved," he said.

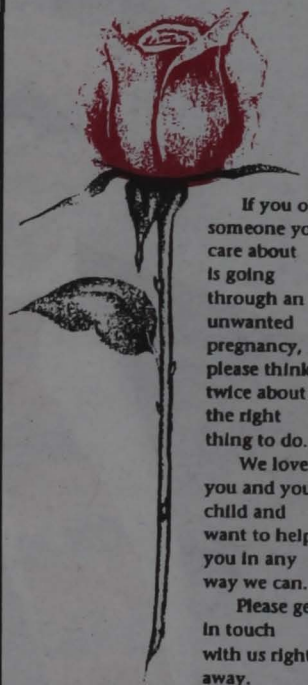
Moqtadaie is a hard-liner whose faction opposes the moderate president, Mohammad Khatami. Since he took office in August, Khatami has been trying to moderate Iran's foreign policy and improve ties with the West.

Khomeini, Iran's revolutionary leader, died of cancer four months after issuing his decree. Iranian leaders insist the *fatwa* cannot be revoked. The issue has long strained relations with Britain and other Western countries.

Also during Friday prayers at Tehran University, a leading cleric condemned the West for supporting Rushdie, who wrote a book "to cheapen the culture of Islam."

Ayatollah Mohammad Emami-Kashani said a double standard existed with respect to French writer Roger Garaudy, who is on trial in France for casting doubt on whether six million Jews died in the Holocaust.

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GSC Week Logo Contest

Design the logo that will appear on programs, posters, cups and other neat stuff. Be creative!

Submissions taken February 25 through March 23.

The winning entrant will receive \$25.

The Career Services Corner

Operation Native Talent
Marshall University
Wednesday, February 25

Tutors Needed
Minimum GPA 2.0
Former tutors need to reapply
Workstudy, some workshop available.

GSC Swimming Pool Schedule

Feb 2: 4-5 Lap Swimming

Feb 3: 4-5 Lap Swimming
6-8 Open Swimming

Feb 4: 4-5 Open Swimming

Feb 5: 4-5 Lap Swimming
6-8 Open Swimming

Feb 9: 4-5 Special Olympic
Swimming



PLEASE NOTE: ALL DATES AND TIMES ARE
SUBJECT TO CHANGE

Underwood objects to proposed Clinton agency

CHARLESTON (AP) -- Cecil Underwood has said he is against President Clinton's plan to duplicate the Appalachian Regional Commission, because he thinks it would move economic development away from West Virginia and into other states.

Clinton has proposed spending \$26 million next year to establish a Delta Regional Commission that would rely partly on the ARC's administration and staff. The new agency would assist seven states along the Mississippi River.

If the successful ARC partnership is ever considered as a model for other geographic regions, it should only be pursued

as a truly separate organization, entirely distinct from the ARC," the commission's chief executives wrote to Clinton in December.

West Virginia is the only state entirely within the region that spans 13 states, stretching more than 800 miles from western New York to northeast Mississippi.

Several other governors also are against the commission's duplication.

In West Virginia, the commission has spent \$257.2 million for child development, housing, research and other projects since its 1965 creation.

In addition, the Mountain State has received \$922 million

from the agency's highway program, making it the region's biggest beneficiary of road construction funds.

But Jesse White, federal chairman of the agency, told Underwood in January that a duplicated commission would not jeopardize West Virginia's funding.

Rep. Bob Wise, D-W.Va., also said Underwood should not worry about the creation of another commission, because he and Rep. Nick Rahall, D-W.Va., both are members of the House Transportation and Infrastructure Committee, which oversees the ARC's operations.

Commerce department approves free trade zone

CHARLESTON (AP) -- The U.S. Department of Commerce has granted West Virginia the authority to reduce or eliminate Customs duties on foreign products brought into the state for manufacturing, U.S. Sen. Jay Rockefeller said.

The establishment of the trade zone "will make West Virginia more attractive to business by reducing the costs of producing products with foreign materials on West

Virginia soil," Rockefeller, D-W.Va., said Friday.

Toyota Motor Manufacturing of West Virginia won approval to operate its engine plant in Buffalo, Putnam County, as a sub-zone of the West Virginia Economic Development Authority's general zone.

"The approval ... is very important to us because virtually all other automotive plants in the U.S. also operate out of a foreign

trade zone," said Dennis Cuneo, vice president of Toyota Motor Manufacturing, North America, Inc. "It keeps us competitive when it comes to construction and operational costs."

More than \$140 billion in merchandise moves each year through foreign trade zones, in which more than 200,000 U.S. workers are employed.

West Virginia had been the only state without a designated trade zone.

McDowell considered for prison

CHARLESTON (AP) -- McDowell County is under consideration for a federal prison, Sen. Jay Rockefeller and Rep. Nick Rahall said last week.

Rockefeller, D-W.Va., said the Federal Bureau of Prisons will build six prisons in its Washington, D.C., region by 2002.

He and Rahall, D-W.Va., whose district includes McDowell County, will meet with the bureau next week as site evaluation begins in the county.

"I'm optimistic that they can find suitable sites that meet the bureau's criteria," Rockefeller said. "No county in America needs this economic boost more than McDowell

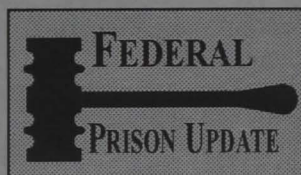
County does." McDowell County had an unemployment rate of 10.2 percent in December, the latest month available, compared with 6.5 percent for the state.

Rockefeller said community leaders back the effort.

Similar prisons have about 1,500 inmates, said Rahall spokesman Kent Keyser.

"Many states and many counties are competing to land one of the new federal facilities," Rahall said. "If the bureau is interested, we have a lot of work to do. Need for access roads, public utilities, water and wastewater will have to be addressed."

Other federal prisons in West Virginia are in Alderson, Beaver and Morgantown.



WV tops new business growth

CHARLESTON (AP) -- West Virginia led the nation in percentage of new business growth in 1997, according to a report by Dun & Bradstreet.

New businesses created 239 new jobs in West Virginia, a gain of 58.1 percent over the previous year, said Dun & Bradstreet, a New Jersey-based company which provides commercial credit,

business marketing and purchasing information.

Montana posted the second-highest new business job growth with an increase of 45.1 percent, the company said. Nationally, the new business job growth rate averaged 10.9 percent.

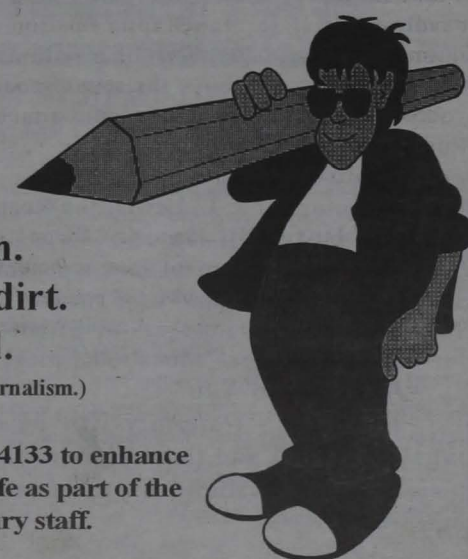
"I believe we are on the right path in our efforts to create an environment that appeals to business owners and man-

agers," said Gov. Cecil Underwood.

Other states, such as North Carolina, which added 25,464 new jobs, added more employment but trailed West Virginia in the percentage of job growth.

The number of companies that opened in West Virginia in 1997 actually dropped by 2.5 percent, from 569 in 1996 down to 555.

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ORGANIZATION NEWS

Students in Free Enterprise

S.I.F.E. is an organization that helps teach others about the free enterprise system. Members of S.I.F.E. also engage in community service such as the Adopt-a-Highway program, a food and clothing drive (which took place before Christmas), and Make-a-Difference Day, which consisted of hosting at-risk children to a GSC football game.

In addition to the community service activities performed by the S.I.F.E. members, the organization also attended a leadership conference in Cleveland, Ohio. Members are currently developing a marketing brochure and planning a magazine sales drive.

Another upcoming free enterprise education program is a visit to all the local elementary schools. This presentation will stress how the free enterprise system works and give the students a "hands-on" opportunity to operate their own business.

S.I.F.E. members are now preparing for their annual competition in Richmond, Virginia, where they received second place last year. They are writing up summaries for all the activities mentioned above.

The S.I.F.E. President is Drexell King, Vice-president is William Koons, and the Secretary is Christy Waller. S.I.F.E. currently meets every Thursday at 12:30 in room 101 in the Administration Building and welcomes people from all majors.

Fellowship of Christian Athletes

The Glenville State College huddle of Fellowship of Christian Athletes meets every Thursday at 12:15 in room 206 of the Physical Education Building. President: Bob Wible; Vice-president: Rashod Gillespie; Secretary: Sam Dowell; Program Coordinator: Dawn Nolan.

Delta Zeta News

Delta Zeta sorority would like to welcome its rushees and congratulate them on a great job they're doing. All the sisters are very proud of you and we encourage you to keep up the good work. For those of you who aren't rushing Delta Zeta, there's still time! We'll be rushing all semester and we encourage any girl interested in becoming a part of Greek life to come and see what we're all about. We currently have three girls rushing and we would love to have more of you. Our sisterhood knows no bounds...the more the merrier! Delta Zeta wants to meet you!

TKE News

Are you interested in joining an organization where you can learn leadership skills and increase personal development? If so, Tau Kappa Epsilon is for you. TKE is interested in strong individuals with high GPA's who are not afraid to stand above the rest of society. If you believe you have what it takes to become a member of Tau Kappa Epsilon, then RUSH!

If interested, please consult any member of Tau Kappa Epsilon, or J. L. Lewis, the Rush Chairman.

Chi Beta Phi News

We will continue to have speakers on every fourth Tuesday of each month. These speakers will be giving presentations of different areas of Science and Math. Watch for our signs of these educational presentations.

Alpha Rho Tau

The artist's fraternity will be having our meetings every first and third Thursday of the month at 3 pm in the little studio on the first floor of the AB building.

"You've got quite a racket going there..."



GSC students return from Ogleby Park in Wheeling, after the West Virginia Association of Health, Physical Education, and Dance Convention. L-R: Michelle Smith, Christy Lemley, and Janet K. Bae...

The Mercury's

Roadkill Recipe Contest

West Virginia lawmakers have given us the okay to eat roadkill. So, we need new ways to prepare food. Win some prizes!

FIRST PRIZE - A BRAND-NEW CROCK POT!!!

SECOND PRIZE - A TURKEY-HUNTING VEST

THIRD PRIZE - YOUR VERY OWN BUCKET AND SHOVEL

Send your original recipe to *The Mercury*, Box 207, Glenville State College, Glenville, WV 26351. Include your name, address, and telephone number, as well as a substitute-meats list. For example, one pound of hamburger instead of woodchuck innards.

Entry deadline: March 2 Winners announced March 16

*This contest is open to all GSC students, faculty and staff.
The Mercury staff is not responsible for illness, injury, damage to vehicles, or violations of hunting regulations.*

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Financial Aid Info available on the World Wide Web

Financial aid information is abundantly available on the internet. Students may find out the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) over the internet at <http://www.fafsa.ed.gov> and only mail in a signature page. Other useful starting points are <http://finaid.org> and <http://www.ed.gov>.

Student editors upset with university records policy

DAYTON, Ohio (AP) -- Student editors at the University of Dayton campus newspaper are threatening to sue the school over its policy of withholding information from student reporters key information in campus crime reports.

But university officials say they are simply following a federal law that requires the school to protect the privacy of its students.

Lisa Morawski, editor-in-chief of the *Flyer News*, and managing editor Jeff Brogan said the campus police department's practice of blacking out names, addresses and other information on the copies of crime reports sent to the newspaper prevents *Flyer News* from doing its job.

"We want to be as accurate and timely as we can," Brogan

The controversy represents the latest installment in a growing number of public-records disputes involving universities across the nation.

A similar case at Miami University in Oxford went to the Ohio Supreme Court. The justices' decision favoring disclosure--a ruling that goes against the federal privacy law--led to the U.S. Department of Education Department to sue Miami in federal court on Jan. 22 to try to block the release of names and other personally identifiable information.

A federal judge is expected to decide next month whether the disputed information can be released.

The 1974 federal Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act prohibits public or private

universities from releasing education records that identify students without the students' permission.

Schools that violate the provision face the potential loss of federal funds, such as student financial aid and research money. But a later amendment to the act seemed to specifically exempt campus police records from the privacy protection.

UD's status as a private institution with a police force that has its own authorization independent of other law-enforcement agencies complicates the issue, said John Hart, the school's director of legal affairs and university attorney. So does the fact that UD's police records are used not only for law enforcement, but also for student disciplinary hearing purposes.

Woman gets marriage proposal at *Titanic* screening

KENOSHA, Wis. (AP) -- A woman in Kenosha said her husband-to-be couldn't have scripted the proposal.

Elizabeth Vanderhoof went to the film *Titanic* for the first time on Saturday, Valentine's Day.

"I'm a hopeless romantic," she said.

The curtains parted and there was a message addressed to her on pink letters on a red background.

It was from her boyfriend Conforti, 23, who was with

her at the movie theater.

The message said he wanted Vanderhoof to be his eternal valentine, promised to love her always and asked her to be his wife.

Then Conforti got down on one knee, holding a diamond ring, and asked Vanderhoof to marry him.

"The whole theater went crazy," Vanderhoof, 21, said. "I was just floored. I started bawling and then I realized everyone was looking at me.

"He never did anything like this before. I waited five years for a proposal and it was worth the wait. It was excellent."

"I wanted to do something special," Conforti said. "I knew she was waiting to marry me. She and her mother remind me all the time--all in fun, of course. I told her we should go ring shopping after Valentine's Day."

Conforti and Vanderhoof are from Kenosha, and they both work at Hewitt Associates in Lincolnshire, Ill.

Partnership with local schools

By Lee Ann Moore, Staff Reporter

The GSC partnership with Normantown and Weston is a project that enables our student teachers to be actively involved in classes at these schools.

With Dr. Butler's help, we are in a partnership with Normantown Elementary School. Through Ms. Reale and Dr. Simon, we reach Weston at Robert L. Bland and Weston Central. With this program, GSC and these schools make even trades with each

other. They provide our students with the opportunity to be exposed to the classroom and we provide them with a number of services. We, for example, help them out with providing consultants for school contests, setting up new programs and workshops and for bringing in speakers to aid their students.

If you are a teacher education buff and want to find out more, contact any of the teachers listed in this article. I am sure they are eager to help you.

After 7 1/2 years on ice, frozen embryo develops into healthy child

LOS ANGELES (AP) -- A baby boy born from an embryo frozen for 7 1/2 years was being described as healthy and normal.

The 8-pound, 15-ounce (4-kilo) infant was delivered by Caesarean section Monday afternoon at Encino-Tarzana Regional Medical Center.

"The baby in the nursery the past 24 hours has done exceedingly well and from all indications will be considered truly a very normal, healthy newborn infant," Dr. Robert Bamhard said.

Despite the embryo's age, the birth was not a medical first. The Pennsylvania Hospital in Philadelphia said a baby born there in December was from an

embryo that had been frozen about four months longer.

"It's no big deal," said Dr. Alan DeCherney, chief of obstetrics and gynecology at University of California, Los Angeles.

The infant born Monday is the twin of a child that was conceived on the same day from a different egg. That boy was born in 1990.

The names of the child, his 44-year-old mother and 54-year-old father were withheld to protect their privacy.

The embryo was frozen in 1989 after the couple underwent infertility treatment at a different facility.



Pioneer Programming Board
Activities for OSC Students

ACTIVITIES COMING UP:
MARCH 18: Comedian, Eric O'Shea. 9 p.m.
MARCH 30: Co-Sponsoring with the Cultural Affairs Committee, Second Hand Dance Co., National Theatre of the Deaf

Want to see yourself in pictures?
Well we do, at the Yearbook!

Any organization or club that hasn't got their yearbook pictures taken for the new yearbook please contact the Yearbook office, at ext. #353.

We are waiting for your call, so act now!
 After all, wouldn't you want your mother to see you?

FELLOWSHIP OF CHRISTIAN ATHLETES

Reggie White will be speaking to the Glenville State College Fellowship of Christian Athletes on Thursdays at 12:15 p.m. in Room 206 of the P.E. Building, via a video-taped speech. All are welcome to attend.

Are you looking for a fun and rewarding summer job?

UPWARD BOUND POSITIONS

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SUMMER COUNSELOR (6/3/98-7/29/98)

Supervise Summer Assistants and high school students in a residence hall setting; assist the Summer Assistants with delivery of counseling, social/cultural activities and field trips. Must have at least a Bachelor's degree (Master's preferred) in counseling, education, social work, or related field; residence hall, camp, or similar experience preferred; experience working with teens required.

SUMMER ASSISTANTS (6/10/98-7/25/98)

Must have completed at least sophomore year of college; will live and supervise high school students in residence hall setting. Must be motivated, dependable, and academically successful. Great job for majors in education, social work, psychology, and related fields.

Please contact your career placement office for an application and more information or contact us at Upward Bound, Salem-Teikyo University, Salem WV 26426. (304) 782-5261. Application deadline: 2/23/98. USDE funded. EOE.

Cuttin' up rough

Terry Fisher (top) and Bernice Calhoun (bottom) display their sculptures (photos by Heather Ware)



Civil War Roundtable at GSC examines old battles through new organization

By Amy Smith, Staff Reporter

There is a newly found Civil War Roundtable at Glenville State College.

The Roundtable discussion group is sponsored by Dr. James Hilgenburg, but the idea for the club came from a student, Jim DeCicco.

There are many roundtables currently in existence as the Civil War was a war that greatly affected our nation and even local areas.

Glenville's roundtable is planning to have activities such as discussions, speakers, and field trips.

Dr. Bruce Flack from Charleston will be speaking at

the next roundtable meeting. Although the date has not yet been set, it will be immediately before or after spring break.

Dr. Hilgenburg says "I am very proud of our students for the interests, energy, and initiatives which have led to our newest campus organization."

Anyone interested may attend a roundtable presentation or discussion. It is a way for Glenville State College students to interact with the community and also learn about the Civil War. Plans are in the making for a trip to the Antietam Battlefield for its anniversary well as an excursion to Harper's Ferry.



Club organizer Jim DeCicco (Heather Ware, Mercury)

Junior Women's Club forms

By Amy Smith, Staff Reporter

Glenville now has a local chapter of the National Junior Women's Club.

The organization is for women ages 18 to 40 and is open to Gilmer County females. They meet the second Thursday of each month at 7 p.m., at Cambell's Insurance Agency located on Route 5 across from Ellyson Funeral Home.

Interested women do not have to be Gilmer County natives, as long as they reside in Gilmer County a few months out of the year.

This is not a social club based on tea parties and gossip. "This club is for younger women who really want to roll up their sleeves and do something," states Jill Harman.

The Junior Women's Club will get involved with the community. One of the clubs main

focuses will be on issues involving children.

Members consist of women in the community and familiar faces on campus.

There is a small membership fee. If you are interested in joining, contact Jill Harman or Kim Bennett in the Admission Office ext.128, Jenny Ruggeri in the Career Office and Evelyn McPherson at ext.101.

"We are looking for motivated people," Harman adds.

Student congress: 24-hour visitation delayed

By Terry L. Estep, Staff Reporter

The 24-hour visitation policy for the dorms has been delayed, Committee for Policy Improvement chairman Jack Beard told Student Congress during their Tuesday meeting.

After passage in its original form in Pickens and Louis Bennett Hall's respective governing boards, the policy has been modified slightly. The new version will face governing board votes within the next week.

The purpose of the new stipulations is to "put in black and white what was simply understood before," said Jerry Burkhammer.

One concern about the

policy in its current form is the disruption of guests coming in and going out at all hours of the night.

In its new form, the policy would specify that all guests staying after normal visitation hours must be signed in before midnight.

It was also stressed at the meeting that the restroom situation must be monitored carefully for the visitation policy to be effective. Currently, opposite-sex guests must be escorted to the restrooms while the host "stands guard" outside.

Preparations for the Student Congress Installation Banquet are underway. Student Congress elections will be held this week; new officers will be sworn in at the banquet.

A lower number of candidates for key positions has created concern in the Congress. Some students are running unopposed for positions. "[Some] will get elected by virtue of the numbers," stated advisor Al Billips, "but there'll be a race for president and vice-president."

Other topics discussed by Student Congress include getting a new large-screen television for the Pickens Hall Main Lounge. With the current television possibly beyond repair, it may prove feasible to simply buy a new one.

"The old television is at least six years old," Billips pointed out.

Student Activities Director and Pickens Hall

House Director Eric Poirier has been charged with finding a new television and putting together a price list for later consideration by the congress.

Commuter requests for greater variety in the snack machines were also addressed. Student Congress member Tammy Cogar informed the congress that the solution is as simple as asking the distributor to fill it with certain items. Commuter representative Eric Ware may be appointed to poll commuters for a snack "wish list."

The possibility of getting a vending machine which dispenses coffee, hot chocolate, and cappuchino was also discussed.

Margarita "Moc" Tzoneva

addressed the congress about the possibility of getting a smoke lounge for the dorms.

Billips held out little hope for such a change, stating "There's state pressure to close what we already have," referring to the smokers' lounge in the snack bar.

"We're holding out on that," Billips added. "You don't kick a smoking habit overnight."

The congress inducted a new member during the meeting. Jim DiCicco, who works in the Student Activities office, was sworn in as a dorm representative for Pickens Hall.

Student Congress meets every Tuesday at 12:30 p.m. in the conference room beside the campus book store.

National Theatre of the Deaf's Peer Gynt

By LeeAnn Moore,
Staff Reporter

If you missed, "Peer Gynt" National Theatre of the Deaf's performance on 2-15-98, you missed out on an amazing performance. The Fine Arts Division Chair, Mr. Haan commented that this particular group of people are incredible to work with. They were at Glenville State College with publicity pictures and information we needed regarding their program.

Then, there is their performance. Amazement and awe are general feelings about the show Sunday night. Mr. Haan and several others say that the performance was simply excellent. There was an element of confusion throughout. You had to concentrate on the show, but all at the same time you had to listen to a

translator. This took some adaptation skills, but it didn't take away from the show at all.

There is a little bit of bad news though. The National Theatre of the Deaf will not be back for probably three years. GSC was lucky to have had them here for more reasons than one. It is not only because of the rarity of their passing through that we are lucky. I am sure that I am not alone when I say that I'm simply overjoyed that GSC has taken advantage of the chance to expose this area to a different



Members of the cast conducted workshops.
(Heather Ware, Mercury)

lifestyle. Often we think of our lifestyle as the only lifestyle or take it for granted. With shows like this, we can hopefully open our minds and hearts to other ways of life.

I am sure that I am not alone in my appreciation for the wonderful hospitality on and off stage by this wonderful group of people.

4H CLUB MEETING

Attention students!

There will be a 4-H meeting on
March 4th and 16th at 6 p.m. in
the Fine Arts Building's
Room 216.

Everyone is welcome to attend!
"To make the best better."



A full crowd attended Wednesday's Donkey Basketball Game, which raised money for the Athletic department at Glenville State College (Eric Ware, Mercury).

Congressman Wise presents check



Congressman Bob Wise presents check to President William K. Simmons and interim Registrar Ray Boggs. (Heather Ware, Mercury)

By Eric Ware
Staff Reporter

Senator Bob Wise presented a check to Glenville State College President William Simmons and Ray Boggs Thursday for GSC's General Scholarship fund.

"I believe this money would be well invested into the future education for students," replied Wise as he handed the check to Simmons. "This gives any student the opportunity at a higher education."

The General Scholarship fund was established in 1983 at GSC as a means of allowing students to attend college and higher education. Senator Bob Wise donated into the fund when he decided not to accept an increase of pay in office and felt that students would benefit more from the funding.

"I wanted to give back to the community...and also to the students of West Virginia who wish to go on into higher education," Wise said.

Last Summer, the Congress began a number of financial aid programs geared towards "giving parents and students as much information as possible about those new programs," Wise commented at a forum at West Virginia Wesleyan College. He presented "what they are, how they work and how people can take advantage of them."

The HOPE Scholarship, that went into effect on January 1, will be important for West Virginians, benefitting 35,000 students and families.

"The number of West Virginians needing this scholarship is doubling," he commented to the press outside of the Administration Building. For people paying federal income taxes, the HOPE Scholarship will provide a tax credit up to \$1,500 for the first two years of college.

"In West Virginia, this is a wonderful tool," Wise explained.

"He's a great congressman," replied Mark Loudin, "he has always shown support for higher education at Glenville State College."

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Getting to Know the Net - Getting On-Line

Terry Estep

Believe it or not, but you do not need to own a computer to become a thriving member of the worldwide web.

You don't even need money to do it.

Becoming a web-master can be a painless process, provided you do a little research first. Before you can stake out your little section of the web, it would be a good idea to decide what your message will be.

Why should you have a web site? There are many possibilities. For one, a web site allows you to share your hobbies and interests with people all over the world. Movies, books, conspiracy theories--there are many web-based communities filled with people who will take you seriously, even if you're a member of some lunatic-fringe group that worships the mighty Star-Goat.

Without paying a dime, you can become a part of the

community. *Hotmail.com* is a free e-mail service that anyone can join. Any computer with access to the web can retrieve and send mail from the decentralized system.

Finding a server for your web site is also simple. *Geocities.com*, *Tripod.com* and *Angelfire.com* provide two to three megabytes of space for anyone with an interest. GeoCities has the easiest upload capability, but all three set guidelines for content--no nudity on your site!

These web sites have automated programs that create web pages for you. Angelfire simply provides a series of blanks in a form that you can complete. You also choose the background colors and designs through an automated interface that can be followed easily.

Armed with your passwords, you can alter your pages and draw great pleasure from them for a long time. You don't even need to own your own computer--just go to the lab and use theirs.

While you're there, say hi to the Star Goat.

Joining the OnLine Community

- 1) **ESTABLISH AN E-MAIL ACCOUNT.** Your campus may provide e-mail services, or you can try a free service. *Hotmail.com* provides free web-based e-mail accounts that can be accessed from any web browser.
- 2) **REGISTER FOR A FREE WEB SITE.** On-line communities such as *Geocities.com* and *Angelfire.com* provide space for web sites free of charge. These companies make money by selling demographic information to potential advertisers.
- 3) **REMEMBER YOUR PASSWORDS.** Joining the web is easy to do, but you will have many passwords to juggle. Write them down and keep them in a safe place. Change your passwords every so often.
- 4) **DETERMINE YOUR MESSAGE.** What is your web site about? Is there a show or actor you want to dedicate a shrine to? Do you want to post your resume to potential employers? Maybe you just want to design an on-line newsletter for distant relatives. Your options are limitless.
- 5) **DESIGN YOUR WEB SITE.** You do not have to have advanced knowledge of Hypertext Mark-Up Language (HTML) to create web pages. Several "What You See is What You Get" (WYSIWYG--pronounced "whizzy-wig") editors allow you to create the page on the screen and do the coding for you. Both *Geocities* and *Angelfire* provide basic HTML editors that automate many functions.
- 6) **CREATE TRAFFIC.** Search engines are programs that allow you to find what you want on the web by typing in key words or phrases. *Yahoo* and *WebCrawler* allow you to register your site so that others may find it. You can even send people you meet on campus to your site so they may learn more about your interests.
- 7) **ENCOURAGE FEEDBACK.** Many personal websites contain "guest books," so that visitors may leave messages for the author of the site. *LPage.com*, and *GeoCities* provide free guestbook services for websites. These books can be customized to ask specific questions.
- 8) **COUNT YOUR BLESSINGS.** Most on-line sites provide *counters*, those numbers usually found at the bottom of the page. These counters let you keep track of the number of people to visit your site.
- 9) **PROVIDE LINKS.** *Hyperlinks* can take you from one web page to another with a click of a mouse button. Provide links to sites that interest you.
- 10) **UPDATE YOUR SITE.** Every so often, it's a good thing to do.

In the line of duty: A tribute to Kevin Ritchie

By Kelley M. Woods,
Staff Reporter

Tragedy struck the Emergency Medical Services (EMS) field on Saturday evening, November 15, 1997. Kevin Ritchie, 34, a nationally registered Emergency Medical Technician-Paramedic, lost his life while responding to a motor vehicle accident call, at the Meadow River Bridge, on U.S. Rt. 19, at the Nicholas/Fayette county line.

While it has been determined what caused the accident, Ritchie fell from the bridge to the gorge below. Fire department and EMS personnel recovered the body and transported it to Summersville Memorial Hospital, where Ritchie was pronounced dead at 10:36 p.m.

Ritchie was originally

from Sistersville and began his EMS and firefighting career while still in high school. He had remained active in emergency services for over 16 years. In 1985, he became a certified EMT (Emergency Medical Technician) and a firefighter with the Sistersville Volunteer Fire Department.

He became a WV certified Mobile Intensive Care Paramedic in 1988 and a nationally registered paramedic in 1993. Ritchie was an instructor in Advanced Cardiac Life Support, Pediatric Advanced Life Support, and many other trauma/rescue courses for his fellow EMS personnel, as well as for physicians and nurses.

He was also an American Red Cross First Aid and CPR Instructor, and an American Heart Association CPR

Instructor. Twice during his career, Ritchie had received the very prestigious AHA "Phoenix Award" for the successful resuscitation of a patient who was in cardiac arrest. Ritchie was a paramedic with Jan-Care Ambulance Service with 8 years of service at the time of his death.

A full EMS "Honor Guard" funeral was conducted on November 19, 1997 at the Fayette County Memorial Building, in Fayetteville, WV. Approximately 450-500 people attended from all over the state of West Virginia. The burial followed at the High Lawn Memorial Park in Oak Hill. Fayette County E-911 Dispatchers sounded a "Final Call" for Kevin, and Health Net Aero-Medical Services provided "Final Hours" with a fly-by of

Health Net 2 helicopter out of Charleston.

Ritchie leaves behind his wife Gloria, two step-daughters, one step-son and three step-grandchildren, as well as his mother, one sister, one brother, and other family members. He also leaves behind hundreds of friends, co-workers and fellow Emergency Services "family". He will be sadly missed by all.

Writer's Note: Writing this tribute to Kevin has been very special to me. I not only lost a fellow emergency services "brother," I also lost a friend.

His death has brought home two very important personal issues. First, my oldest son was Kevin's partner on the ambulance, and it could have just as easily been a tragedy for my family. Second, this type of inci-

dent makes me consider my own mortality. Although I am considerably older than Kevin was, I am still actively involved in emergency services. His death was a reminder of just how fragile we can die.

Since the funeral, I've often asked myself why we do this job. I've done a lot of searching in the past few weeks. It is not just a job, nor is it just a paycheck. It is something deep inside a person that makes them want to do this type of work. Maybe, someday, I'll be there to make a difference in someone's life. I can only hope that when my time is up, I can leave this world with honor and pride like Kevin did. God bless you, Kevin, for being there when others needed you, and for being such a great friend.

Black History Month revisited

If one would ask why we celebrate Black History Month, then look at the stoplights on the street. An African-American invented them. Be thankful for Daniel Hale Williams, who pioneered human heart surgery. Be thankful for Charles Drew for creating the first blood bank. They are African-Americans.

Black history not only tells achievements made, but the struggles made to attain those achievements. We've all heard of Martin Luther King, Jr., Frederick Douglass, and Malcolm X, but there are others in history who are seldom named, such as Wendolyn Brooks, the poet laureate of Illinois who became the first black Pulitzer Prize winner in 1950 with a volume of poetry titled *Annie Allen*; or Mrs. Thune, founder and President Emerita of Bethune-Cookman College, founder of the National Council of Negro Women, and special advisor to Presidents Roosevelt and Truman.

We can not forget heroes like Benjamin (Pap) Singleton, who became a powerful leader in

the South after the Civil War, who persuaded former slaves to leave; or Harriet Tubman of the Underground Railroad. We must remember the countless millions of black soldiers fighting for freedom in all the wars.

"Among the myriad problems that demand our most serious concerns about the Black family nowadays," Alex Haley noted, "is that our Black youths have little or no knowledge, or — worse yet — no comprehension of the awesome strength, courage, and resilience of our ancestors."

Black History Month is credited to Carter Woodson, founded in the 1920's as a way to "build self-esteem" and "help eliminate prejudice among whites." In a speech at Hampton Institute in 1921, Woodson addressed the issue head on: "We have a wonderful history behind us. If you are unable to demonstrate to the world that

you have this record, the world will say to you, 'Who are you, any way?'" He showed the fundamental problems concerning the education of the African person. He also noted how Blacks have been educated away from their own culture and traditions, and how African culture is lost in European history.

"The thought of the inferiority of the Negro is drilled into him in almost every class he enters and in almost every book he studies," Woodson explains. "To handicap a student by teaching him that his black face is a curse and that his struggle to change his condition is hopeless is the worst form of lynching. It kills one's aspirations and dooms him to vagabondage and crime."

When the month of February ends, and as the one-month-a-year of festivals, lectures, exhibits, historical films and community activities fade away, the cultural festival often disappears for another 11

months. However, many Black historians, like Dr. John Hope Franklin, desire to see parents, teachers and the media to contin-

were their ancestors? What part of the country did their family come from?

"Many young people don't have a sense of an African-American tradition," says Dr. Robert I. Harris, Jr., associate professor of African-American history in the African Studies and Research Center of Cornell University. "And if history becomes real for them 12 months of

the year, maybe they will get a better sense of tradition."

Time and time again, Black historians emphasize the need to help children understand that the past not only affects the present but also the future.

As part of history, black history not only reflects a history of the United States and the struggles of achievement, but is also a reflection of ourselves as human beings. For within the struggles of those who fought for their individual rights, lies the reflection of our own struggles to be more as human beings.

"To handicap a student by teaching him that his black face is a curse and that his struggle to change his condition is hopeless is the worst form of lynching."

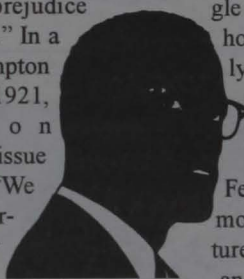
--Carter Woodson

ue to concentrate their efforts in celebrating Black History all year.

"There is no reason why [black history] should not be celebrated in other months besides February," says Dr. Franklin, professor of history emeritus at Duke University. "My great crusade is to de-emphasize February and to emphasize march and April and May and on to January."

In a 1995 *Ebony* article, educators and historians advise parents of all races to give their children a sense of personal tradition by talking to them about their own family history. Who

**Eric
Ware**



Malcom X

Famous Black Inventors

There are some inventors in history many are not aware of, such as:

*Garrett A. Morgan (1877-1963) who invented the first automatic traffic signal in 1923. He also invented the gas mask in 1911 which saved the lives of many U.S. soldiers in WWI.

*Madame C.J. Walker (1867-1919), regarded as the first self-made woman millionaire in the country by inventing the modern-day hot comb.

*Lewis Howard Latimer (1848-1928) created the incandescent light bulb with carbon filament in 1881 and supervised the installation of electric street lights in New York, Philadelphia, and London

Books for further reading

Maya Angelou, *Life Doesn't Frighten Me*, with paintings by Jean-Michel Basquait.

Poet, novelist, playwright and civil rights activist Maya Angelou writes about summoning the courage and faith in ourselves to overcome fear. Jean-Michel Basquait, who died in 1988 at age 27, painted a series of powerful and emotional drawings that

complement Angelou's book.

Virginia Hamilton, *Many Thousand Gone: African Americans from Slavery to Freedom*.

This 152-page book traces the history from early slave revolts to the growth of the Underground Railroad. This book also profiles many people in Black History.

The Autobiography

of *Malcolm X*. This book traces the life of the controversial Nation of Islam member who grew up and converted to Islam under the teaching of Nation of Islam leader Elijah Muhammad.

Malcolm X, who spent most of his life filled with hatred for the white population, eventually came to understand who all races could be united through Islam.

STUDENT CONGRESS

MARGARITA "MOE" TZONEVA FOR VICE-PRESIDENT

"A vote you can depend on!"

My name is Margarita "Moe" Tzoneva, and I'm an international student from Bulgaria. I'm running for Vice-President in Student Congress. I'm a sophomore, majoring in Accounting and minoring in Oral Communications.

Currently, I'm an international student representative in Student Congress. I'm a member of the Scholarship Committee and Baccalaureate Degree Curriculum Committee. Last fall, I founded the International Student Club of which I'm currently serving as president. I was also a Freshman Counselor in the Fall of 1997.

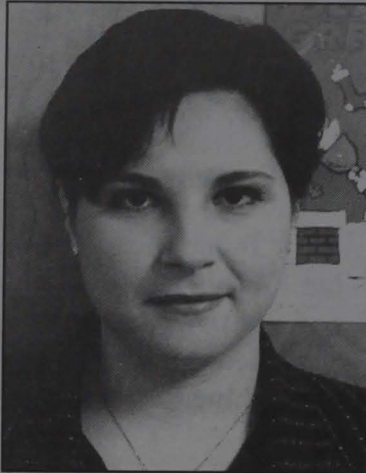
I would like to see Student Congress become more involved with the students. I think that the students at GSC should be more aware of what Student Congress is all about and what it does at its meetings. I would like to see the 24-hour visitation on weekends to become a fact. I would like to see the students becoming more involved with college life because in my opinion college is not only about learning in the classroom, but also about learning to be independent and how to deal with real life. I want to make Glenville State College a fun place for the students. I would also like to improve the facilities for the commuters. I would like to make the non-traditional students also a part of college life. I would definitely like to see the communication between the administration and the students improve.

I would like to improve the status of the international students and make them feel welcome at GSC. I would like to see more interaction between the American students and the international students. In my opinion, the International Student Club and Student Congress together can improve that relationship. I will have more activities that involve both groups and allow them to become more familiar with the different cultures represented at GSC.

I think that as an international student, I will bring more diversity and a different perspective on the issues discussed during the meetings.

If you vote for me, I will do my best to make all the projects mentioned above a reality. It is up to *EVERY ONE OF YOU* to make the difference. It is up to *YOU* to make Glenville State College a better place. *EVERY VOTE COUNTS! YOU CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE!* I would like to state that I *FULLY SUPPORT AND AGREE WITH THE PLATFORM OF JAMES ARNOLD, A CANDIDATE FOR PRESIDENT OF STUDENT CONGRESS.*

Vote for us! What do you have to lose?



James Arnold for President

Class: Sophomore

Major: Social Studies

Education (5-12)

Hometown: Paw Paw, WV

Party: Student Privilege



EXPERIENCE:

- Student Congress Parliamentarian
- Pickens Hall Dorm Representative
- Resident Assistant, Pickens Hall
- GSC Student Ambassador
- Athletic Board Member
- Student Life and Welfare Board Member

GOALS:

- Two days a week (Friday and Saturday) 24-hour visitation in dorms.
- Establishment of weekend computer lab hours.
- Improvement and encouragement of student attendance to athletic and cultural events
- Improvements for commuters and and "open ear" for commuters and their concerns.
- Filling the gap between traditional and nontraditional students.
- Work hand-in-hand with governing boards to establish internet access for dormitories.



**Denise
Moody for
Senator-
at-large**



**Brandy
Sandy for
Senator-
at-large**

MERCURY POLICY REGARDING STUDENT CONGRESS ADS

Appearance of any candidate's platform, picture, or campaign slogan in *The Mercury* should not be taken as an endorsement of that candidate. These ads appear as a public service to the students of Glenville State College. All candidates were given equal opportunity for placement in these pages. We have been fair until the very end. Anything you still can't cope with is therefore your own lookout. Thanks.

ELECTIONS 1998

Ernest Tingler for President



EXPERIENCE:
GSC Board of Advisors
GSC Student Congress
GSC Student Ambassador
GSC Freshman Counselor
Collegiate 4-H Club Treasurer
Chess Club Treasurer
Band
Choir
College Day at the Legislature
WVASPA
Pickens Hall Governing Board
Triple Major in Education: Math,
Music, and Safety

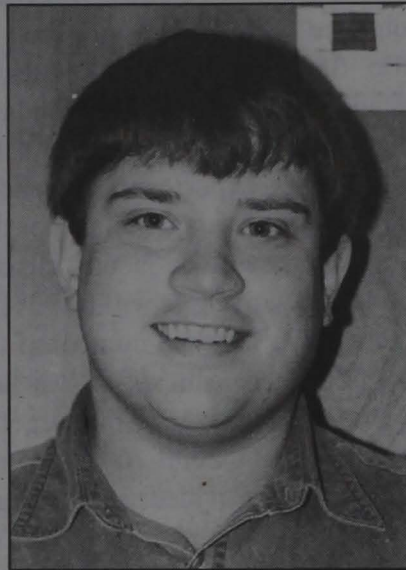
"I am tired that the students of Glenville State College don't know what is going on in Student Congress. If I am elected as President, then I will keep you, the student body, informed, because I believe that you have the right to know what is going on."

--Ernest Tingler

AMY NICHOLS FOR SECRETARY



Brian Jeffries for Vice-President



Hi. I'm Brian Jeffries, a junior here at GSC. I am running for the office of Vice-President of Student Congress. The reason I'm running is because I'm responsive to student concerns. I am currently a resident assistant in Pickens Hall. I have been involved in the Pickens Hall Governing Board as a floor representative, as well as an officer of the Pickens Hall Judicial Board. If elected, I will try my hardest to make life a little easier, as well as tackling the issues that never seem to go away for the traditional and non-traditional students here at Glenville State College

Matt Chambers for Senator-at-large



Matt Chambers is running for Senator-at-large for GSC Student Congress. This Parkersburg native is a freshman majoring in Business Administration.

Matt is active in GSC's Concert Choir, performing for Governor Underwood last fall and with the Wheeling Symphony in January. He recently became one of the Glenville State College Ambassadors.

Matt is concerned about improving student on-campus housing. Rooms need painting, bathrooms need repairing, carpets need replacing, and air conditioning needs to be considered.

Matt has a background of active participation and leadership going back to his high school activities. He graduated from Parkersburg South High School where he was active in the Music Department. He played trumpet in marching band and stage band. He played French Horn in wind ensemble and sang tenor in the Concert Choir.

During Matt's senior year, the Concert Choir was asked to sing for President Clinton's inauguration. The choir sang at one of the inaugural balls and received a first-place trophy in the Presidential Heritage Festival. While a student at PSHS, Matt also designed and built the set for the school talent show.

Matt has also been busy in church activities. He plays the piano for Merryl Chapel in Wirt County and teaches Sunday School for 6th and 7th graders.

Student elections are Monday and Tuesday, February 23 and 24, with polling places in the dorms and the Heflin Center. Be sure to vote. A vote for Matt is a vote for active, responsible leadership for the students at GSC.

Faculty Pay Policy

In accordance with the Campus Governance Structure, Section II, the following Faculty Salary Policy, as endorsed by the Merit Salary Review Committee, is being published.

The purpose of the Glenville State College faculty salary policy is to establish a fair, equitable process for determining the salaries of all faculty through the five-year planning period ending in 2000-2001. The goal of the salary policy is to bring the average salary of Glenville State College faculty to at least 95% of the SREB average salary for faculty in similar institutions. The policy addresses the method for determining the initial salary of newly hired faculty members, salary increase for promotion in professorial rank, a process for adjusting existing salaries to eliminate inequities related to years of experience and rank, a process for adjusting inequities in existing salaries which utilizes the market conditions that affect salaries, a base salary adjustment for all faculty, and a process for awarding faculty salary increases based on merit.

Initial Salaries - The salaries offered to the faculty at the time of hiring are based on the most recent National Faculty Salary Survey published by CUPA and upon the salaries of other institutional faculty with similar experience and qualifications. The minimum starting salary will be set by multiplying the appropriate salary factor for New Assistant Professors from the National Faculty Salary Survey by 90% of the SREB average (or projected average) salary for Assistant Professors. If the newly hired faculty member is appointed at the rank of Instructor, the minimum salary will be reduced by 10%. The salary may be set above the minimum initial salary to reflect special qualifications or previous experience.

Promotion in Academic Rank - A salary increase of 10% is provided by WV Code for each faculty member who is promoted in academic rank. This salary increase will be provided in addition to any other salary increase the faculty member may be eligible to receive.

Of the following (equity adjustments, mar-

ket conditions, base salaries) the largest salary increase will apply.

Equity Adjustments - A salary minimum is established for each faculty member based on academic rank and the total years of higher education experience. The target minimum equity salary will be based on an experience dependent percent of SREB Average Salary for the appropriate rank. For a given faculty member the percent of SREB average will be 90% plus one third percent of the total number of years experience in higher education. All faculty salaries will equal or exceed the target minimum equity salary by 2000-2001 with an equal proportion being provided each remaining year in the five-year planning cycle ending in 2000-2001.

Market Conditions - Salary inequities among the continuing faculty will also be determined using the salary factor from the three most recent CUPA reports and the projected SREB averages by academic rank. The minimum target salary for each faculty member will be 85.5% of the SREB average salary of the appropriate rank multiplied by the three-year average of the appropriate salary factor. If a faculty member has been consistently rated by student evaluations, by the peer review committee and the chairperson as satisfactory or better in teaching effectiveness, professional service, and professional development, adjustments will be made to bring his or her salary to the minimum target salary. The goal of this plan is that all market inequities identified will be eliminated in the five-year planning cycle ending in 2000-2001 with an equal proportion of funds being provided each year.

Regular Increases in Base Salaries - During the current five-year planning, SREB average salaries are projected to increase at a rate of 4% annually. That percent of salary increase should be provided to each faculty member at Glenville State College through the current planning cycle. For those faculty who are eligible for market or equity adjustment the non merit increases may exceed this estimated average increase.

Merit - The faculty at Glenville State

College may be recognized for meritorious service during the previous calendar year by supplemental increases in salary. There are four levels of merit salary adjustment at Glenville State College. Exemplary performance by faculty in (1) Teaching Effectiveness, (2) Professional Service and/or (3) Professional Development may lead to a recommendation for merit salary consideration. Because of the teaching mission of the college, excellence in teaching effectiveness will be a prerequisite to an recommendation for the higher level of merit salary increase. The annual faculty evaluation system will provide the basis for determination of excellence in performance. The initial merit recommendation is made by the Division Chairpersons/Deans. A campus wide Merit Review Panel will be established to review these recommendations and ensure equity and consistency across all divisions. Recommendations of the Merit Review Panel will be reviewed by the Vice President for Academic Affairs prior to final action by the President. For those faculty members teaching courses as a part of the efforts of the Community and Technical College, the Provost of the Community and Technical College will review recommendations prior to the Vice President for Academic Affairs. Merit pay increases provided to a faculty member because of individual accomplishments will become a part of that faculty member's base salary.

An academic unit may apply for merit recognition as well as individual faculty members. Any academic unit may elect to undergo unit evaluation which could lead to the merit recognition for all members of the unit. Any such merit awarded to members of a unit is not applied to the base salary of the faculty in that unit. The Vice President for Academic Affairs will provide the President recommendations for unit merit recognition.

If you would like to take out a full-page ad with your revolutionary manifesto, contact *The Mercury* at extension 353. Our operators are eagerly standing by to quote prices. If nobody answers, try and try again. We mean it. Really. We're gluttons.

Ask the Particle Man: WHAT IS THE SOUND BARRIER?

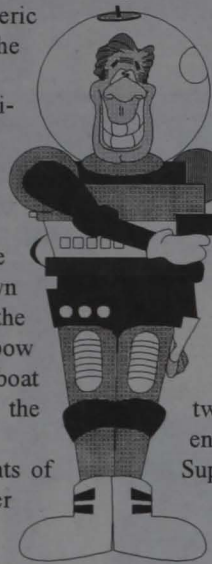
By Aaron Frame,
Staff Columnist

The sound barrier is the velocity that sound travels in a given medium, and is a variable that is dependent on the surrounding atmospheric conditions when the atmosphere of the Earth is the given medium.

Recently, out west, the sound barrier was broken for the first time by a land-bound vehicle. This achievement is a milestone in the area of engineering, mathematics, and physics.

When a source actually outruns the sound wave it is creating, an effect known as a shockwave. This shockwave in the atmosphere is similar to the waves the bow of a boat would make in water when the boat is traveling faster than the waves that the bow is creating.

Shockwaves contain large amounts of energy for their size. As they pass over someone who is listening, they have the form of a large boom termed the "sonic



boom." The shockwave consists of a cone whose apex is the front nose of the vehicle. It took very creative engineering to keep the vehicle on the ground for the energy of the shock wave would try to lift the nose of the vehicle off the ground continuously at faster-than-sound speeds.

The first man to travel faster than the speed of sound in an aircraft was a fellow West Virginian named Chuck Yeager. The first in a land bound vehicle was a British fighter pilot named Andy Green. The world land speed record of 763.04 m.p.h. was set in the Black Rock Desert near Gerlach, Nevada on Oct. 15, 1997. The car's two Rolls Royce phantom fighter jet engines were said to give the Thrust Supersonic Car the horsepower of 1,000 Ford Ecorts.

Send questions or comment to
a_frame@hotmail.com

Scientist: Wine reduces death from all causes by 30 percent

By Mort Rosenblum,
Associated Press Writer

PARIS (AP) — A French scientist who helped convince the world that wine is good for the heart has evidence that it may reduce the risk of dying from other ills as well.

In a study published today in the journal *Epidemiology*, he found a 30 percent lower than expected overall risk of death in men who drank two or three glasses of wine a day.

"I've always suspected this," said Serge Renaud. "Wine protects not only against heart disease but also most cancers."

Renaud's study of 34,000 middle-aged men living in eastern France supports what has become known as "the French paradox": Frenchmen who eat lots of saturated fat but still live a long time.

Results were the same for smokers, nonsmokers and former smokers, he said, and there were no differences between white collar and working-class drinkers.

Recent studies in the United States found that a drink of almost any alcohol can lower death rates by reducing the risk of cardiovascular disease.

Renaud, however, maintains that wine also acts against other heart ailments and cancers because of the antioxidant action of polyphenol compounds in grapes.

"Wine is a more diluted form of alcohol, which is important to the body, and if taken moderately at mealtimes it is easily absorbed," he explained.

After four glasses a day, Renaud warned, wine has an adverse effect on death rates. Although it still protects the heart, excess drinking raises the danger of cancers and liver disease.

Renaud set off a California wine boom in 1991 when he outlined his French-paradox theory in an interview on the CBS television news magazine "60 Minutes."

"It started a huge controversy," the 70-year-old researcher recalled, chuckling. "The U.S. Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms challenged me to show numbers. Well, here they are."

In fact, he had already made his case in a 1992 article in the medical journal *Lancet*. He reported that 20-30 grams daily of alcohol can reduce the risk of coronary heart disease by at least 40 percent.

Alcohol protects the heart mainly by acting on platelets in the blood to prevent clotting, he found. Subsequent studies elsewhere supported these findings.

In the *Epidemiology* article, Renaud reported a 30 percent reduction in death rates from all causes from 2-3 glasses of wine a day, a 35 percent reduction from cardiovascular disease, and an 18-24 percent reduction from cancer.

He plans a second article later this year with a more detailed analysis of his sampling.

Renaud, a cardiologist, works with the prestigious INSERM unit at the University of Bordeaux. His book, "Healthy Diet," is popular in France.

"Growing up around Bordeaux, you know instinctively that wine is good for you," Renaud said. "My grandparents, their friends, all lived to be 80 or 90. I knew there was some special reason."

During the 1970s, he began to work quietly to research the subject at the INSERM unit in Lyon.

He is a strong advocate of the Mediterranean diet, based heavily on wheat, olive oil and vegetables, with more fish than red meat. And, of course, Renaud adds, a healthy amount of wine.

Renaud laments a steady drop in wine consumption among many Frenchmen, who these days take less time for meals and relaxation.

"The Italians still drink a lot of wine," he said. "Maybe after time we will have to call it 'the Italian paradox.'"

The Virtual Librarian

By Ben Bruton,
Guest Columnist

No one likes the phone company, particularly towards the end of the month when the dreaded phone bill arrives and you realize just approximately how long your calls have been getting.

In the future, there may be yet another reason to hate the phone company— Internet charges.

Recently, a coalition of phone companies calling itself America's Carriers telecommunication Association petitioned the FCC to charge Internet users per-minute fees for Internet access.

Those of us with home computers, modems, and Internet service providers should be understandably outraged by this development. If we're already paying a service provider to dial in to the Internet, why should we pay a per-minute fee? After all, we pay our phone bills every month (well, at least most of us do), why is the phone company trying to gouge us for more?

The reason is simple: with the right software, you can now use the Internet to make long distance phone calls at no charge. That's right, throw away your phone, forget AT&T—with a PC, a modem, an Internet service provider like America Online, a sound card, speakers, and a microphone, you can turn your Internet connection into a no-charge long distance carrier. Chat for hours with your cross-country pals, ring up your distant cousin in Switzerland, or make prank

calls to Uruguay --suddenly the whole world is at your fingertips.

Obviously, the phone company isn't too crazy about these new Internet phones. Long distance service is the bread and butter of Ma Bell—suddenly, the fastest growing technology of the Internet is threatening to surpass the phone companies by stealing the services that they once offered exclusively.

Hence, a bunch of irate phone companies want to regulate Internet use and charge by the minute. Is it fair? I don't think so. The Internet is still new and constantly evolving. We should expect the Internet to grow and eventually take on other services such as telecommunications. New technology should be encouraged and developed, not regulated because the phone company can't control it.

So what does all this mean for regular Internet schmoees like you and me? Right now, ACTA's petition is being considered by the FCC, but no ultimatum has yet been reached. The phone companies may succeed in regulating Internet phone software, but it is hard to say if this per-minute charge will apply to all Internet users or just those with Internet phones.

Internet phones are still in their infant stage, and are used primarily in the corporate world. Time will tell if this new Internet capability really catches on.

In the meantime, I must admit I feel a little sorry for the phone company.....NOT!

Ernest Smith Technology Lab Hours

Sunday 2-10	Wed 1-10
Monday 5:30-10	Thur 12:30-10
Tues 12:30-10	Fri 10-12; 1-4

Marlins come to Washington

By Sonya Ross,
Associated Press Writer

WASHINGTON -- In a city where budget cuts are a way of life, the Florida Marlins fit in perfectly.

Nineteen Marlins greeted President Clinton in the East Room of the White House on Tuesday following an offseason of payroll purges. Twelve of the 25 players who beat Cleveland last October are no longer with the team, and just two of the former players -- Jeff Conine and Tony Saunders -- made the trip.

"There's no use going to Washington," said pitcher Robb Nen, who spent the day at Scottsdale, Ariz., practicing with his new team, San Francisco.

"It's not worth it to meet the president," Nen said. "If I was still with those guys, maybe. But now, I'm dedicated to this team. My goal now is to get ready for March 31."

As for the other missing Marlins, "they're all working on the '98 budget cuts," Bobby Bonilla told the president, who

burst into laughter.

Florida has cut its payroll in half this season, to about \$27 million, and even manager Jim Leyland acknowledges the Marlins have little chance of repeating.

"It may not be the precise same Marlin team that played the Indians last year that takes the field on opening day," Clinton said. "But if the players keep the same spirit, they'll be sure to be in the hunt again when the season comes to a close."

Players who did attend were thrilled.

"It's just so awesome to be able to get that close to the president ... and be able to give him a high five like that. I think that's pretty cool," said Bonilla, who gave Clinton a teal-and-white Marlins jersey with a No 1 on the back.

Still, there was a touch of nostalgia for the missing.

"I wish they were all here," Bonilla said. "It would have been that much nicer."

Leyland said every player was invited to attend Tuesday's

reception, but most already were at spring training with their new clubs.

"It doesn't get any better than this, obviously," Leyland said. "It's sad every player on that team that was celebrating last October wasn't here. But we had to cut back. We just don't have the luxury of the dollars."

Team president Don Smiley also joked about his financial juggling act, saying he could take a cue from Clinton's struggles to balance the federal budget.

"If I'm half as successful in balancing our budget as you were with America's, we will be back and we will win championships for years to come," Smiley said.

Saunders, taken by Tampa Bay in the expansion draft, was happy to attend the one-day reunion.

"This is still my team in my mind," he said. "It's good to see old faces."

Saunders said he didn't believe the other players stayed away out of anger. "This is their time to get themselves prepared to play."

Pitcher trying for long-shot starting job

BRADENTON, Fla. (AP) — This spring training is Sean Lawrence's first in the major leagues, but the 27-year-old pitcher has been around enough to know his chances of making the Pittsburgh Pirates' starting rotation are slim.

Lawrence is among six pitchers vying for one open spot.

But right-hander Jose Silva probably will get first crack at filling the vacancy created when left-hander Steve Cooke was released last December. Also ahead of the pack are left-hander Chris Peters and right-hander Kris Benson, the first overall pick in the 1996 amateur draft.

The odds are pretty steep for left-hander Lawrence, left-hander Jimmy Anderson and right-hander Elmer Dessens.

"I'm probably fifth or sixth in line ... but just to get a chance to be considered for the big-league team is very exciting to me," Lawrence said.

Lawrence has struggled for the opportunity.

As a high school senior in Oak Park, Ill., in 1988, Lawrence was considered one of the top scholastic pitchers in the country. But he missed most of the season after dislocating his collarbone while sliding into a base.

For two years at Texas A&M, he pitched only 46 innings because of his inability to throw strikes consistently. He transferred to the University of Illinois for a year, then finished his collegiate career at small-college power St. Francis (Ill.).

The Pirates selected him in the sixth round of the 1992 amateur draft. He was 22-34 in his first five minor-league seasons, and his career was in doubt in 1994 when he ripped apart his right knee while making a play at first base. The injury required reconstructive surgery.

"I have been on a real long road," Lawrence said. "But I think things happen for a reason. I think coming through the things I've been through has

made me a better person. You can get lost in wondering what if this hadn't happened or that hadn't happened.

"You never know when something can happen, when things can be taken away from you. That's why I take nothing for granted," he said.

Lawrence's career took an upward turn last season when he put together a solid season with the Pirates' Class AAA Calgary farm club. Lawrence was only 8-9 in 26 starts, but his 4.21 ERA ranked second in the hitter-friendly Pacific Coast League.

"I stayed consistent for the first time in my career," he said. "I went out with the same focus in every start. Before, I'd go four or five starts every year where I couldn't get anybody out. Last year, I only had one or two starts where I really didn't pitch well.

"It gave me a lot of confidence, and now I'm looking forward to showing the major-league staff what I can do."

Pioneer action on the courts



Henry Hurst makes a shot during GSC's game against Concord. Final score: GSC 72, Concord 67 (Eric Ware, Mercury)



Lady Pioneer calls out a play during GSC vs. Concord. Final Score: GSC 77, Concord 58 (Heather Ware, Mercury)

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AEROBICS:

MON.

2:45-3:45 Instructor Cheryl Stout

4:00-5:00 Instructor J. K. Bailey

TUES.

4:00-5:00 Instructor Erica Dierkes

WED

4:00-5:00 Instructor Cheryl Stout

THURS.

2:45-3:45 Instructor Erica Dierkes

4:00-5:00 Instructor J. K. Bailey

Located in old weight room across from the gym

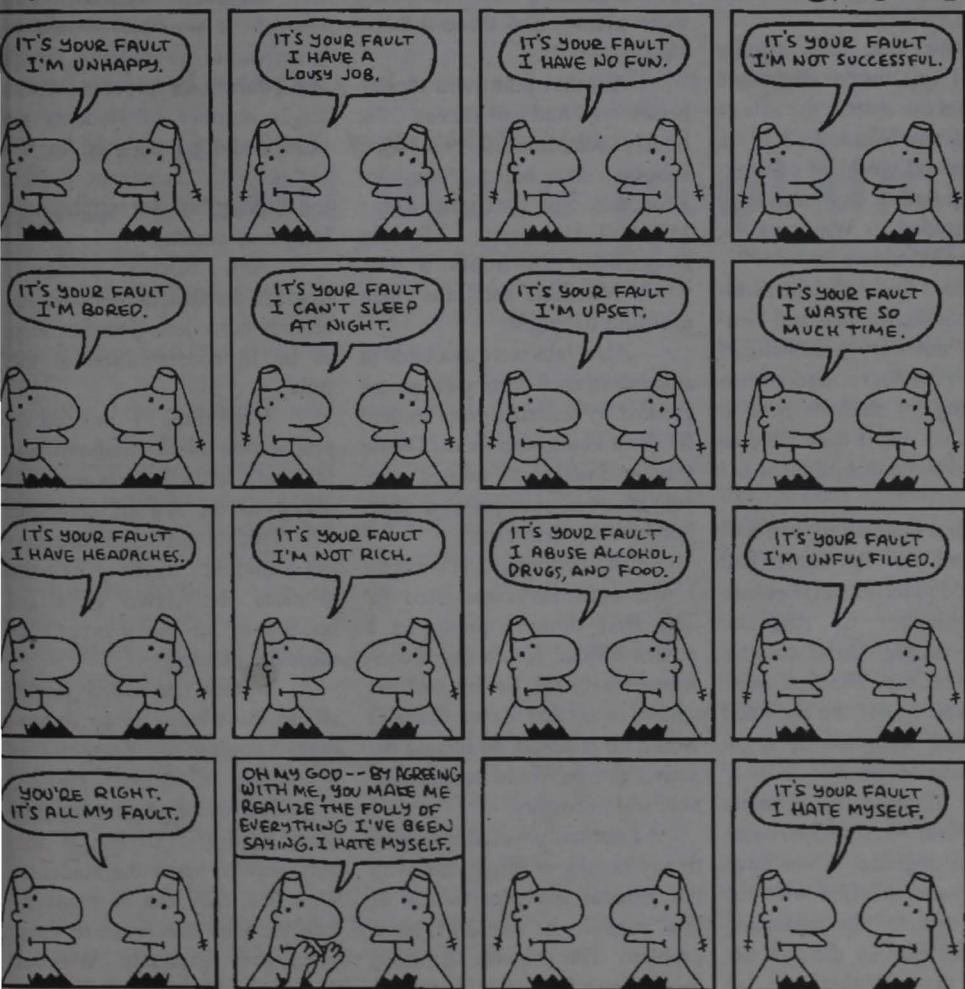
LIBERTY MEADOWS by Frank Chow



Match by Jeff Shesol



LIFE IN HELL



Cristola's Magical Mystical Predictions

Aries (March 21-April 19) — In a competitive world, you have to make your ideas and self better and more marketable. Find one project, stick with it, and develop the idea; with hard work, you will come out on top.

Taurus (April 20-May 20) — You are facing a tough decision this week. Use impartial thinking to make the final choice. However, take care—using only intellect could harm a personal relationship.

Gemini (May 21-June 20) — No one likes being hurt, but your holding so tightly to high ideals won't help. You tend to expect too much from others and therefore are seen as a cold, chilly person.

Cancer (June 21-July 22) — After a time of conflict and strife, this week will be a time of recuperation and introversion. Seek time alone and get your thoughts in order. This is necessary to face the future.

Leo (July 23-August 22) — Material things are a source of security, but do not let yourself be defined by them. You are not, usually, what you own. Give up something in order to gain something greater.

Virgo (August 23-September 22) — Boredom and depression mark your relationships this week, especially in love. Perhaps your expectations are unreal. Take a look at the relationship and challenge the past.

Libra (September 23-

October 22) — Sudden and disturbing changes happen this week. Someone will enter your life who is fascinating and disruptive, a catalyst for the changes to come. Keep an open mind.

Scorpio (October 23-November 21) — In a love relationship, you are content and will be for a long time to come. Realize that you are together, but still separate people. Do not try to become "one."

Sagittarius (November 22-December 21) — In a person who has relied on mind and not heart, this week will be a trial. Your intuition tells you one thing and your mind another. Trust your instincts, you'll be surprised.

Capricorn (December 22-January 19) — There is a situation you are refusing to face. The tense balance of maintaining the status quo will be upset anyway; face the problem and move on. You'll feel better.

Aquarius (January 20-February 18) — You have repressed your sensuality for too long. Learn to express yourself in this way and begin to find pleasure in life. Value your body; be strong, sensual, and self-indulgent.

Pisces (February 19-March 20) — At a time when you should be established on your career, you will begin to learn a new skill. Play the role of an apprentice; what you learn could lead to work or a fulfilling hobby.

Let's Ask Cristola...

Q. Do you think the United States will go to war with Iraq?

A. Uh...yeah! I got in contact with Ronald Reagan's psychic and we conferred. We both agree that the United States will go to war with Iraq; however, based on star charts, the end doesn't look too good for Hussein.

The Mercury

Volume 70 - No. 4

A member of the Associated Press

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Annie McCourt - News editor

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Taking the elect out of elections

Last year I saw one of the most impressive and talked about campaigns between Lisa Belknap, Jason Gordon, and Norma Stewart. The campus was pasted with campaign posters, plastered with pictures and large: VOTE FOR ME ads, and speeches given in the FA auditorium. It was one to be put into the history books as behind-the-scenes ordeals took this election into the student's lives. It was certainly looking like a close political race for the most of it, and the students were on the edge of their seats with attention.

But now, GSC Student Body elections seem no more than small potatoes to this campus. I don't see fireworks sparkling in the sky stating: VOTE FOR ME, or the endless candidate posters plastered on the walls, or the speeches, or even small behind-the-scene rumors that make elections more interesting. I really don't think anyone cares about student body government, and that's a shame.

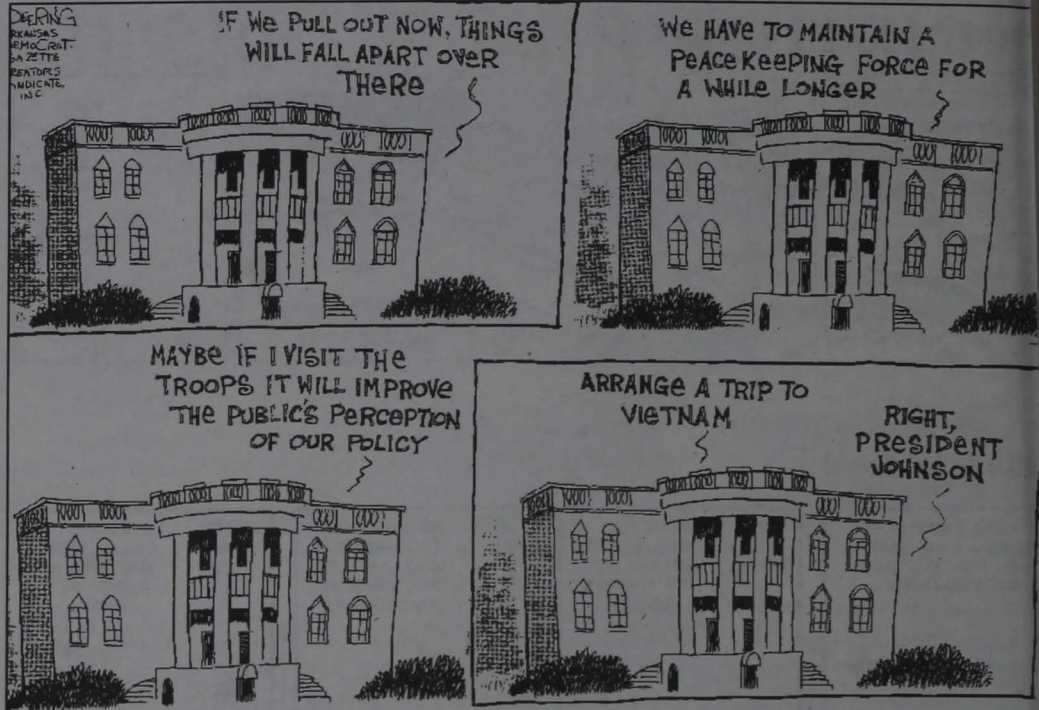
What the Student Congress does is far more than one imagines. Think about this, who help sponsors GSC Week, or the picnics on campus? Who strives to change campus life the betterment of the students? Student Congress is far more that one can really know because they take the time to fix what's wrong and listen to your needs.

And that's why I believe students should look more into running for student body government elections, not for you, or for the prestige of the thing, but actually wanting a change and to help change student's lives. Because that's where the campaign truly lies, it's in caring for what happens to others and finding a resolve to problems. It's knowing the issues and understanding the important features of those issues. It's really getting your hands dirty in the process of change, like cleaning house, fixing the mess some might get into and taking the chance to make those decisions. I would be nice to see soapbox candidates, but it seems everyone is on the couch watching soap operas. Maybe that's the real problem.

A word to everyone, vote for the candidate that can make the changes you want. Go out and vote today!



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Does not compute...well

By Stephen Rautner,
Guest Columnist

Recently, upon arriving at Glenville State College, I went to use the computers. To my dismay, the computer labs were not even available for the first month of school.

When the labs finally opened, I was further distressed to find that the system the school was using was Windows 3.11. In the fast-paced world of computers, this program has long since been upgraded to Windows 95, soon to be Windows 98.

Also, I found that the availability between the labs and location was not very promising. I decided to conduct a random survey among 50 students here at GSC to find out if they were as concerned about this problem as I was.

When conducting my survey I found that the dinner hall was a good place to start because of the number of students. Stopping people across campus worked well, too. The first question I asked was if the provided system was adequate or if an upgrade was necessary.

My findings were rather decisive with 41 students wishing for an upgrade. While three students were satisfied with the provided system, the remaining six did not care or did not use them. I thought this was an important observation and was

pleased to see that others had agreed with me.

The second question I asked was if more computer labs were needed. Forty-three were in favor of more labs, four expressed that three labs were plenty, and three did not care.

Another point was the lab hours. I had observed the hourly schedule of two other schools, one being Alderson-Broadbudd and the other being Marshall University. AB labs were open 24 hours a day, while Marshall had labs open morning till night.

Also, labs were available to students in each dorm with access granted by trading your student ID for a key to the room. Of the students I polled, 40 wanted more convenient hours, four were satisfied, and six didn't care.

The final question was one I was personally interested in. The first thing I predicted a school official would say if confronted with the findings of my survey was that extra finances would be required, so raising the activities fees would be unavoidable and necessary.

I normally would not agree to any raising of prices, but with the general inexpensiveness of this school, it wouldn't be a problem. The answers surprised me. When asked "Would you pay more for these services?" 17 of

the 50 agreed that the extra cost would be worth the improvement. Twenty-seven stated they did not want to pay any more money.

As it turns out, a large percentage of students wanted a better computer system. This change, if possible, would be beneficial to the students' morale and educational process. With a larger number of students not interested in paying more for this better system, an advancement in the current system might be a long time coming.

Any further plans to upgrade the system past what has already been done does not seem to be in consideration at this time.

One thing I noticed in preparation of this column was that the college library was added to the list of computer labs. This should help with growing student needs. At the moment, only two PC's are hooked up to the internet, but more are planned.

In this fast-paced world, where knowledge is so important, computer literacy is becoming a must! Having upgraded systems and having them readily-available is the only way to teach the students. With this, they can be ready to face the jobs they wish to have when they graduate. Without this, they will be left behind in the next century.

Science and ethics must go together

Dear editor:

In the February 2 *Mercury*, Particleman [Aaron Frame] stated that "the grounding of the argument against human cloning in ethics is scientifically unacceptable," after comparing such opposition to the persecution of men of science in the past. He concludes by urging readers to join him "in the support of your local cloner and in the advancement of science."

If Particleman thinks ethics should not stand in the way of scientific research, he must be pleased with such sensible people as the Nazis who experimented on Jews, the Chinese who performed experiments on prisoners of war, and the U.S. government with its experimental nontreatment of black men with syphilis, for which President Clinton recently apologized.

But if, in his allusion to men of science being persecuted in the past, he's talking about such events as Galileo's being forced to publicly deny his astronomical discoveries, then the comparison is a false one. Galileo was persecuted for spreading information which conflicted with church teachings. Opposition to cloning is not based on a desire to suppress information, but on a desire to prevent certain actions.

A better comparison would be

with the Manhattan Project. Here there was no opposition, because the project was kept completely secret until its fruit was dramatically revealed in Hiroshima and Nagasaki. Ethics did not interfere with that little experiment, even though the scientists were not sure, until their first test, what the final result of a chain reaction might be. Would it just keep going until the entire world was consumed? What a relief when that small possibility was ruled out by their first test! That this little group of men felt entitled to decide, among themselves, to literally risk the entire world with their experiment, I find breathtaking.

What is being risked by cloners and other genetic engineers when they monkey with the biological integrity of species, the fruit of billions of years of evolution? There is a whole Pandora's box of possibilities. In the short run, as far as just cloning goes, I think it would be a mere nuisance...I mean, who is most likely to be chosen for cloning? Probably individuals who are long on money and ego, and short on wisdom and sensitivity; in other words, people for whom the first copy was more than enough. Here I must acknowledge that, for good or ill, you can't really duplicate someone just by cloning—you would also have to reproduce the

environment in which they grew up...an impossibility.

While I'm making acknowledgments, I'll admit that a ban on cloning wouldn't really stop it. The materials are not as difficult to procure, thus as easy for a government to control, as those involved in nuclear fission, but a ban would slow things down.

One of those who wants to impede "the advancement of science" is Andy Kimbrell. Here are a couple of tidbits I have picked up from his works:

1) pigs have been implanted—in the egg stage, I believe—with human growth hormones. This technique had created monster mice, and it was hoped that it would also produce big pigs. Instead, the result was skinny, hairy, and sickly—but the experimenter took comfort in the fact that it was extra lean, and consumers want to avoid fat these days. How about it—would you eat partly-human pork chops if they were made of lean meat?

2) In 1991, the U.S. Patent Office issued a patent for human bone marrow stem cells. A researcher from NIH has applied for a patent on hundreds of genes found in the human brain.

3) Grenada Biosciences of Texas, along with Baylor University,

has filed an application with the European Patent Office for a patent on genetically-altered mammals that would lactate valuable chemicals in their milk—and the application *expressly includes human mammals*, because, in the words of one of their lawyers, "someone, somewhere, may decide that humans are patentable." And why not, if ethics are no hindrance? The Thirteenth Amendment to the Constitution (anti-slavery) might be an obstacle; the Supreme Court will no doubt decide.

It took great brilliance to discover the secret of fission, great technical expertise to manifest it in nuclear bombs, and great stupidity to do so. This is the mark of modern man, who approaches the millennium still believing in large numbers that people's value can be judged by their skin color or that adherence to a different religious belief makes one worthy of death. The reaction to increasingly serious environmental problems is to hire public relations experts to persuade the public that there's nothing to worry about. Probably more people have faith in astrologers than in the findings of astronomers.

I'm describing a people who are grownups only in their best moments, and certainly not a people who are ready for Godhood. Do you

really want to hand them the keys to the kingdom?

Certainly there should be scientific research, but I'd like respect for the idea that some kinds of research must be done carefully, with full respect for human fallibility and Murphy's Law, and an understanding that not everything that *can* be done *should* be done. The fact that a procedure has benefits and has people eager to perform it and has the potential to turn a nice profit for someone, are not necessarily sufficient reasons to do it.

Particleman seems to imply that scientists are on one side of this debate, and ethics on the other. This ignores the fact that many, if not most, scientists are concerned with ethics. The proof is in the very existence of such groups as the Union of Concerned Scientists and Physicians for Social Responsibility, not to mention the Asilomar II conference in 1975, in which 140 top scientists voluntarily agreed to limit certain kinds of recombinant DNA research.

But it is not sufficient to leave the scientific community to make these big decisions. Something with the potential to profoundly alter life on Earth is too important for that. We *all* need to think and talk about it.

Mary Wildfire

We need more pool time

Dear editor:

I have attended Glenville State College on and off for the last six years, for a total of eleven semesters. In those eleven semesters I have attended one football game (only because I was covering it for the Mercury) and have yet to attend any other athletic function that this school has to offer. Not because I don't support the athletics here on campus (whatever) but mainly because I just don't like football, volleyball, or basketball.

So, in that time, I have paid \$81 a semester, that equals \$891, in athletic fees over the years. Sure, you might tell me "Go to a game and show your support for GSC and get something out of all the money you have paid." Well, I try to get something out of my athletic fee by using the pool. Many of you are asking, "We have a pool?"

Yes, but don't go there because the few of us who do go like the extra space during lap swim hour.

Now, herein lies my main problem. I hustle home from work at about 3:45 p.m. and try to get to the pool by 4 p.m. to get about a 45-minute swim. When I arrive, I see the pool hours have been changed, again, because of an away basketball game! WHY? I can see the reason for the pool hours being canceled for home games—teams use the locker rooms during the games—but for an away game? And why is it closed on every Wednesday? There are still the same three people that want to swim then, too. At least so far this year the lifeguards are showing up on time, but that will soon change when they see nobody is showing up to swim because they don't know what time the pool

will open. The week of February 23 to 26, the pool will be ultimately closed for the basketball tournament in Charleston. Again, I ask why. To the best of my knowledge, there is only one basketball player on the lifeguard staff. Couldn't one of the other over-worked lifeguards manage a little overtime into their four-hours-a-week job?

Administrators say the pool hours are limited due to the money it takes to maintain the filter and heating systems. I figure those systems are running 24 hours a day and costing money to operate anyway. Paying one person to work one-to-two hours for one more day a week will not bankrupt the athletics payroll. Just take the nearly \$1,000 I have invested in the athletics fee to cover it.

Just asking,
Eric Meadows

POLL: Do you think donkey basketball is painful on the asses?

By Ann Williams

I think it is painful. I don't like it and I don't approve of it.—

Anonymous sophomore

Are you talking about the donkeys, or the people riding them?—Sherry Deems, senior

It's painful on the people's asses, I'm sure.— Anonymous junior

No. I've never seen one get hurt. It's pretty funny.—

Anonymous junior

Yes.— Anonymous senior

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Harrison Ford for president!

By Brent Wood,
Staff Columnist

The President of the United States, saving the day?

Sounds impossible doesn't it? In the real world it would be, but in the world of Hollywood anything and everything happens.

Harrison Ford plays President of the United States in the major motion picture *Air Force One*, now on videocassette in honor of President's Day.

After informing the world that terrorism would not be tolerated and there would be no negotiation for hostages, President Marshall and the First Family are taken hostage by terrorists led by the ever-versatile actor Gary Oldman.

The terrorists demand the fanatical leader of a former Soviet Republic be freed or all the hostages on board will be killed. Disobeying regulations and risking his own life, the

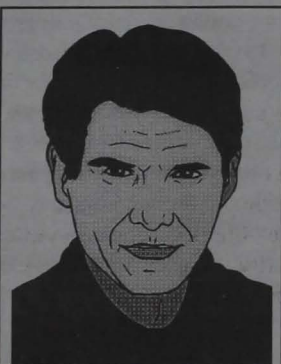
President passes up a chance to escape so he can rescue his family.

While the terrorists negotiate with the Vice President (actress Glen Close), President Marshall battles to save the passengers.

As the political world outside plays its tense game and the President's ability to make decisions is questioned by the Cabinet, his only thought is the rescue of his wife and daughter. When the end comes, only the will of a great United States leader can save the day.

Harrison Ford—who can also be seen in political action/dramas *Patriot Games* and *Clear and Present Danger*—is also set to star in the fourth installment of the Indiana Jones series.

Air Force One is a superb film that would make a wonderful addition to anyone's collection. Containing action, drama and suspense, this edge-of-your-seat movie



Hail to the chief!

Adam Sandler's *The Wedding Singer* hits the right notes

By Bob Thomas,
Associated Press

What is there about weddings that make them such sure-fire movie material? The reason seems to be that weddings are normally solemn, ceremonial events. And when things go awry, such as the bride or groom not showing up or a voice from the church objecting to the marriage, it can be dramatic or hilarious, or both.

Some examples: *Father of the Bride*, *Four Weddings and a Funeral*, *My Best Friend's Wedding*.

The Wedding Singer doesn't quite match those films, but it is a pleasant diversion, well acted, and punctuated with explosive laughs.

Adam Sandler plays a wannabe songwriter who earns his keep—\$60 a night—emceeing wedding receptions. He's good at it, singing, cajoling, spreading joy to all the participants.

With some trepidation, Sandler is facing his own wedding to a beautiful airhead (Angela Featherstone). At one of

his jobs, he meets a first-time waitress, Drew Barrymore, who is engaged to a rough, womanizing bond salesman (Matthew Glave) who drives a DeLorean and is in no hurry to get married.

When his bride fails to appear at the church, Sandler goes ballistic. At one of his jobs he insults the guests, maligns the wedding couple and ends up getting punched out by the father of the bride.

Sandler's work is stolen by a smarmy wedding singer (unbilled Jon Lovitz), and falls further into despair. His only solace is the sunny Barrymore, who enlists him to help in the preparations for her wedding. He soon discovers that her intended groom is an unworthy two-timer. The climax comes on a jet headed for Las Vegas with a hugely funny scene featuring rocker Billy Idol.

The Wedding Singer was tailored to Sandler's talents by three men who know his work best, old buddies from New York University: producer Jack Giarraputo, writer Tim Herlihy

and director Frank Coraci. They serve him well.

Herlihy's script shows some rough spots, but mostly it's entertaining, with a number of surprises. Coraci has Sandler underplay most of his scenes; hence he becomes a more endearing character.

One of the legion of graduates from *Saturday Night Live*, Sandler is still evolving as a film personality. *Billy Madison* and *Happy Gilmore* connected with the young crowd, but he has yet to register with mature ticket buyers. *The Wedding Singer* will help that transition.

Barrymore's role could have been a blank. But she invests it with such warmth and unaffected charm that she is irresistible. The supporting players, especially Allen Covert and Angela Featherstone, contribute ably. Steve Buscemi makes an unbilled appearance as an obstreperous drunk.

The New Line Cinema release was co-produced by Robert Simonds. Running time: 95 minutes.

Heller's *Falling Beam* a good break for readers

By Mario Szychman,
Associated Press Writer

Joseph Heller is like a character in Dashiell Hammett's *The Maltese Falcon*, the one who started a new life after barely avoiding a falling beam. The man realized that everything happens by chance, and that we depend on luck, good and bad.

But after some years of his new life, Hammett's character discovered another truth: Lightning rarely strikes twice in the same place. And he resumed living his new life the same way he had lived the old one.

As Heller tells in his memoir *Now and Then* (Knopf, \$24), the beam that fell near Heller was World War II.

A boy from the magic kingdom of Coney Island in

Brooklyn, Heller was recruited by the Air Force and, at 20, discovered madness. Or, as the inflexible Yossarion said in Heller's classic novel, *Catch-22*—and as Heller repeats here—he realized “through experience that this war was perilous and that they were trying to kill me.”

People tried to kill Heller for about a year. Once he completed his tour of duty (“then defined as 60 missions”) in December 1944, he resumed his normal lifestyle exactly where he left it. Except that the G.I. Bill allowed him to go to college and become a writer.

Yossarion is one of America's great antiheroes; Heller's distinction is as a great deflater of bombastic and hokum remarks. He says that even the Air Medal he won “came as a

routine with the completion of every fixed number of missions and not, as others might suppose for the accomplishment of anything particularly valorous.”

Now and Then is the work of a master who has mellowed with time but who hasn't lost his sense of humor and irony. The book is full of nostalgia, as in the depiction of Coney Island during the Depression. And its mood is surprisingly like *Tom Sawyer* (curiously, a novel that Heller says “didn't really please me at all”).

While *Closing Time*, the sequel to *Catch-22*, seemed to mark the farewell of Heller's literary career, *Now and Then* marks a welcome return.

Perhaps some beam has fallen near Heller recently. If so, the reader is the beneficiary.

Top Ten Video Rentals

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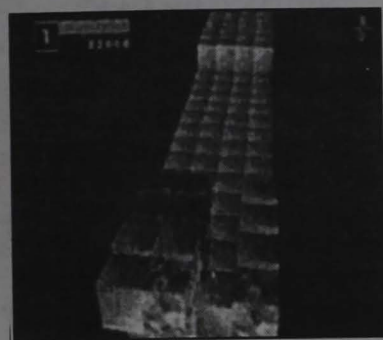
1. *Contact* (Warner)
2. *Conspiracy Theory* (Warner)
3. *Face/Off* (Paramount)
4. *The Game* (PolyGram)
5. *Soul Food* (Fox)
6. *Con Air* (Touchstone)
7. *My Best Friend's Wedding* (Columbia TriStar)
8. *Money Talks* (New Line)
9. *Nothing to Lose* (Touchstone)
10. *Chasing Amy* (Miramax)



Playstation puzzler Intelligent Qube insults your intelligence

By William Schiffmann, Associated Press Columnist
Just what I need--a video game that calls me an idiot.

Unfortunately, after playing *Intelligent Qube*, a fascinating new puzzle game from Sony for the PlayStation, I was



afternoon. I couldn't even tear myself away to watch Olympic curling or to yell at the dog for chasing the cat.

You play as a tiny little man on a grid of squares floating in space. Your object is to capture a number of rolling cubes as they march toward you, pushing them beneath the surface of the field before they flatten you or shove you into space.

To do that, you stand on a block and, by hitting the X button, turn it blue. As a cube lands on the highlighted

block, you hit the button a second time and, poof! The cube is gone.

Now, that's fine if it's a standard "Playable" cube. But there are two other types of cubes, and you have to be wary about how you treat them. You definitely don't want to blow up a dark block--a "Forbidden" cube --because each one that blows knocks a row off the end of the field.

But you might want to dispose of a green "Advantage" cube, because each one stuffed below the surface leaves that

square glowing green. Hit a second button and the eight cubes directly adjacent to the green square are gone, also.

This is one place where strategy comes in. Time your move too soon and you collect "Forbidden" blocks along with the "Playables." Too late, and you don't get the full advantage of clearing as many blocks as possible.

To add to your woes, with each level you clear, the field gets bigger and the blocks move faster. Eventually, you can't keep up and it's game

over. Now, here comes the insult. Based on your score, the game rates you with an IQ number. For the first hour, I couldn't get above 38.

That's cold. This is one of those games which takes five minutes to learn and five years to master. Speed, eye-hand coordination, the ability to think in three dimensions-- all are vital if you want to come up with an IQ any higher than a house plant.

Like Tetris, *Intelligent Qube* is addictive. With each failure, you think about how you could have done it better--and back you go for more. If you're a video game puzzle fan, I highly recommend *Intelligent Qube*.

THE NEWSDAY CROSSWORD

Edited by Stanley Newman
T SQUARES: Differences that a letter makes
by Shirley Soloway

ACROSS

- 1 Get to one's feet
- 5 Big bashes
- 10 Infamous Roman ruler
- 14 Cable channel
- 17 Vocal
- 18 Skater Valova
- 19 Underwater detection system
- 20 Breathing space
- 22 Vocalizing on Amtrak?
- 25 Utah resort
- 26 Mansion and grounds
- 27 Goes to the left
- 28 Eagles' org.
- 29 Lead player
- 30 Summer attire
- 31 Before, in verse
- 32 Sea creature's protection
- 34 Math confusion?
- 38 Linguistic suffix
- 39 Director Lupino
- 42 Took advantage of
- 43 AT&SF stop
- 44 Trapped
- 47 Italian poet
- 49 Citrus drinks
- 52 Characteristic
- 54 Buck heroine
- 56 Shore bird
- 57 Where Donald gets kidded?
- 59 Blazing
- 60 Taken care of
- 62 Uncontaminated
- 63 Hair adornment
- 65 "So long!"
- 67 Talk incessantly
- 69 National League stadium
- 70 Most sugary
- 74 Highland girl
- 77 Pack up

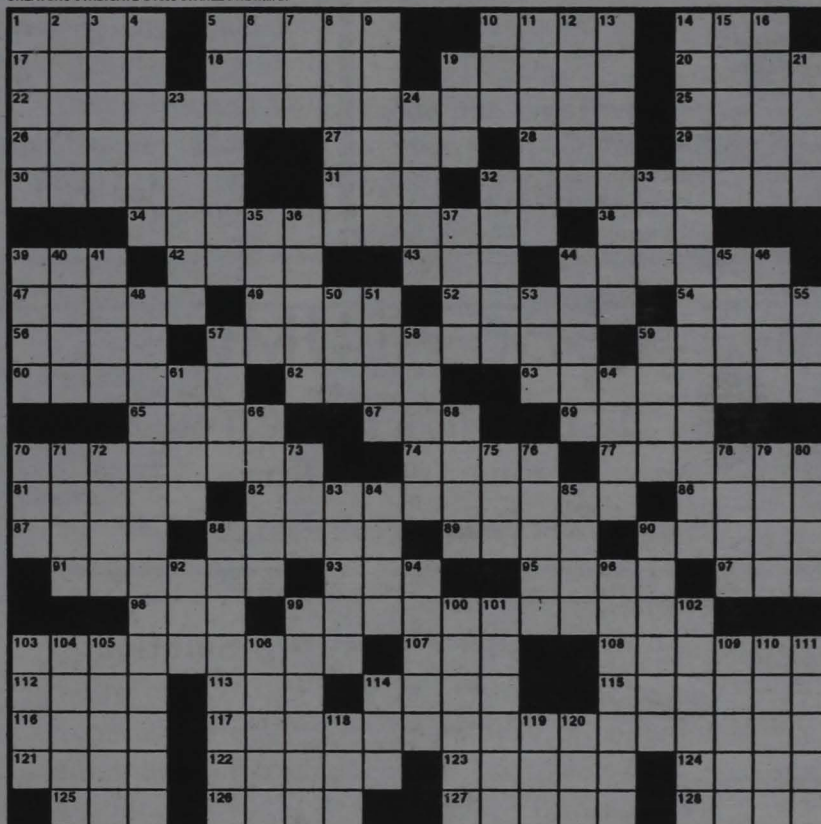
- 81 Considers, as a judge
- 82 Plelet gallery?
- 86 Oil of
- 87 Blg (football conference)
- 88 *Star Trek IV* director
- 89 Cordelia's father
- 90 Open up
- 91 Kind of textbook
- 93 Exist
- 95 Kiln
- 97 *The Curiosity Shop*
- 98 Testifier's phrase
- 99 Path followed by Bo Peep?
- 103 Brief sketches
- 107 Author Yutang
- 108 Shoe adornment
- 112 K-6
- 113 Chinese cosmic principle
- 114 Metallic fabric
- 115 Get away from
- 116 Grid star Kyle
- 117 Video superstore?
- 121 After a while
- 122 Best and Ferber
- 123 Pitching ace Ryan
- 124 Entrée item
- 125 Farm animal
- 126 Ward Bond's role in *Wagon Train*
- 127 Musical grps.
- 128 Goofs

DOWN

- 1 Thorny subjects
- 2 From the Emerald Isle
- 3 Domingo
- 4 See 114 Down
- 5 Bible book
- 6 "The Greatest"
- 7 Sportscaster Berman
- 8 Country music?

- 9 1943 Bogart film
- 10 Negative conjunction
- 11 Allow to happen
- 12 Mrs. Gorbachev
- 13 December decoration
- 14 Breakfast food denouncer?
- 15 *The Prince of Tides* actor
- 16 Sum answer
- 19 Ave. crossers
- 21 Earthy deposit
- 23 "Is What They Say About Dixie?"
- 24 Water pitchers
- 32 Barton or Bow
- 33 Org. concerned with retirees
- 35 Equipment
- 36 Make sense
- 37 Nobelist Hahn
- 39 Mid-March day
- 40 Challenge
- 41 Green Gables girl
- 44 Locations
- 45 Director Kazan
- 46 Repair socks
- 48 The circus?
- 50 Australian bird
- 51 Aglle
- 53 Fire residue
- 55 William Hurt, in *Body Heat*
- 57 Carryall
- 58 Domain
- 59 Saudi gulf
- 61 Makes lace
- 64 Attention-getter
- 66 Up and about
- 68 Newman or Scofield
- 70 Ursula Andress film
- 71 Have on
- 72 Relaxation
- 73 Beret relative

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- 75 Wind dir.
- 76 *Love* (Pacino film)
- 78 Choir voice
- 79 Leave port
- 80 Took a gander at
- 83 Crowd sounds
- 84 Supermodel Banks
- 85 Russian river
- 88 New specimens
- 90 Greatest amount
- 92 HST successor
- 94 Brilliance
- 96 Cotton fabrics
- 99 Renter
- 100 Kyoto kaftan
- 101 "My Baby" (Sinatra song)
- 102 Looked good on
- 103 Aloe
- 104 Actress Massey
- 105 Fare
- 106 Spanish mark
- 109 Escapade
- 110 "... partridge in tree"
- 111 Nuisances
- 114 With 4 Down, "Hooked on Swing" bandleader
- 118 Slangy refusal
- 119 Devoted attention, for short
- 120 Shout of discovery

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The Newsday Crossword Solution

Freud contemporary Alfred ADLER (31 Across) was a pioneer in individual psychology. LAKE Victoria (89 Across) is the largest lake in Africa; Lake Louise is located in the Canadian Rockies. THERMOPYLAE (117 Across) is a pass in Greece that was the site of three ancient battles, in 480 BC, 279 BC, and 191 BC.

You may contact puzzle editor Stanley Newman at:

www.puzzlesatrandom.com

JIGS	SIGN	LEIS	NAGS
AFAR	TURNIP	ETCH	OLLA
CHROMOPAPER	STEAM	OPEN	
KEG	AMEN	CEASE	LENSES
ADLER	FEEL	SLAT	
DONOT	COSMOPOLITICAL		
ONTO	PAAR	PEARY	SMOKE
NEUR	ASPORT	SAFE	EMIT
GRAMOPHONE	STOWS	EMS	
AWAY	CATS	EXEC	OBI
YENTL	MEMOPAD	RUNON	
ORO	EATA	SPUD	ADIN
UNI	TWERP	MAGNUM	OPUS
DADA	LAKE	REMOTE	WEST
INERT	PUREE	ABET	NADA
GIACOMOPUCCINI	DECAY		
ATIT	HAFT	DIODE	
DIADEM	FROST	MENU	PHD
ESKIMOPIE	THERMOPYLAE		
ELIA	SOFA	SIMEON	EARN
PENN	APED	SUDS	SNIT