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Hopkins' Titanic effort.. Page 6

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Describing the games, Alexander states "These are not just little boys playing in the sand with toy soldiers, these are little boys and little girls playing murder."

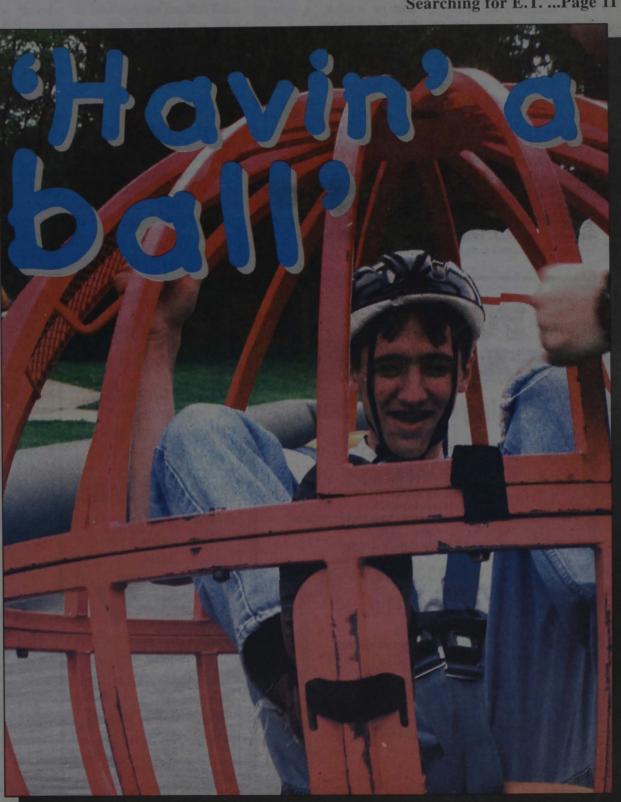
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Carnegie Foundation Report: Undergraduate education lacking

By Robert Greene, Associated Press

WASHINGTON -- Big universities too often neglect their undergraduates in favor of research, even though undergraduates pay a big share of the costs, says an independent report released last week.

"Baccalaureate students are the second-class citizens who are allowed to pay taxes but are barred from voting, the guests at the banquet who pay their share of the tab but are given leftovers," said the report from the Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching.

The panel of scholars and some outsiders assembled by the nonprofit organization found that undergraduate students are often taught by badly trained or untrained teaching assistants, not the famous professors touted

"Baccalaureate students are the secondclass citizens who are allowed to pay taxes but are barred from voting..."

--Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching.

in the catalogs or recruiting materials, and many students graduate without "a coherent body of knowledge."

Few have access to what distinguishes the research universities from liberal arts colleges: the access to a diverse, interdisciplinary opportunities for experience-based education.

The report, "Reinventing Undergraduate Education: A Blueprint for America's Research Universities," said universities should involve more undergraduates in those research projects, whether in medicine or the humanities, beginning with freshmen.

"Research universities are distinctively different from small colleges, and they need to offer an experience that is a clear alternative to the college experience," the report said, adding that a number of institutions have made changes.

Syracuse University, using a grant, helps develop teaching abilities of graduate students. A program at the State University of New York at Stony Brook gives undergraduates the opportunity to work with faculty researchers and artists and at area laboratories, such as Brookhaven National Laboratory.

The universities mentioned as emphasizing graduate education and research over undergraduate studies include Harvard University, the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, the University of Alabama at Birmingham and Kent State University. The 125 research institutions in this country make up only 3 percent of the institutions of higher learning, yet they award nearly a third of the bachelor's degrees.

The report recommends that freshmen be placed in small groups where they live together and take the same courses. It also says students should be involved in the research conducted by senior faculty and that they should be encouraged to conduct original research that could become their transition into graduate school.

Jailed teacher: Teen lover and I had 10 kids in previous life

NEW YORK (AP) -- The jailed Seattle schoolteacher who says she is pregnant with the second child of her 14-year-old former pupil believes she and the boy had at least 10 children together in a past life.

"That's one of the ways he proposed to me," Mary Kay Letourneau told *Mirabella* magazine in the May-June issue. "He said, 'I know we were togethe before this life and we had about 10 children.' And I felt that too We had at least that many."

Mrs. Letourneau, 36, is serving 7 1/2 years in prison for raping the boy, then 13. The two have an 11-month-old daughter Audrey, who is being raised by the boy's mother in Seattle.

Mrs. Letourneau's original sentence had been suspended, but she was imprisoned in February after she was caugh with the boy in a car, a violation of the judge's order.

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CREDIT WHERE IT'S DUE: Front Page - "Sing, Sing, Sing" by Heather Ware; "Titanic: Sink or Swim" by Terry Estep; "The Size of the Telescope" by Kelly M. Woods..



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Camera system debuts in Kanawha County today

By A. V. Gallagher, Associated Press

CHARLESTON, W.Va. -he defendant sat in an orange
rison jump suit at a table next
a corrections officer. It was
ublic Safety Secretary Otis
ox Jr. under mock arrest at the
outh Central Regional Jail.

Ten miles away, at the Canawha County Courthouse, udges, state officials and eporters last week watched Cox hrough remote control television being demonstrated as part of a new system that debuts oday in Kanawha County.

The system, which will allow defendants to make court appearances by television, also will begin later this spring in Cabell County, said state Supreme Court Chief Justice Robin Davis.

The system should drastially reduce prisoner transportaion and security costs, said Steve Canterbury, executive director of the Regional Jail and Correctional Facility Authority. He said the system logged 40,000 miles alone in Kanawha County last year in transporting prisoners for court appearances.

"This has the potential to make West Virginia a leader in applying technology to the administrative of justice," Justice John McCuskey said.

Cabell County Circuit Judge Dan O'Hanlon said the system allows for the simultaneous transmission of voice, video and other data over the closedcircuit television system.

"It's very, very exciting for us," O'Hanlon said.

Kanawha County
Magistrate Janie Moore used a
pencil-like device to control the
camera as she read the mock battery charge filed against Cox.
The proceedings were telecast
over two large-screen televisions.

She explained how the charge will be read to the defendant, how the defendant can see the paperwork, and how the prisoner will be able to interact with the judge.

The system will not be used for trials, at which the defendant must be present in the courtroom.

The demonstration took about 10 minutes. Cox was clearly visible and the sound was good.

"There are many exciting possibilities for this technology," Davis said.

"I'm very impressed," Cox said. "I can see very well what's going on there at the Kanawha County Courthouse."

The \$300,000 video links program is financed by Bell Atlantic Corp. O'Hanlon said it should be expanded to many other court systems in the near future.

Video technology is used in courtrooms in 28 states, a Bell Atlantic spokesman said.

Harper's Ferry abuzz over visit by Clinton, Gore

By Randy Coleman, Associated Press

HARPERS FERRY, W.Va. -- Patrick Flanigan does a mean Bill Clinton.

Flanigan, a 17-year-old junior at Jefferson High School, says he's had a lot of practice impersonating the president, and he was able to see how he compares to the real thing Wednesday as President Clinton gave a speech for Earth Day at Harpers Ferry National Historic Park.

Vice President Al Gore also was on hand and the two performed some maintenance work with volunteers on the Appalachian Trail before heading to the "lower town" of Harpers Ferry to give their speeches.

Flanigan says he wasn't disappointed by the visit. He began impersonating the president in the sixth grade as part of mock debates held by his class during the 1992 campaign.

Flanigan was among a crowd of about 1,500 who listened to Clinton's idea to preserve the remaining sections of the Appalachian Trail. He said he wanted to bring it under public control, saying this would 'make every inch a part of our children's birthright."

Clinton used his Earth Day appearance to criticize Congress for failing to embrace his environmental priorities, but he did not specifically mention West Virginia.

Clinton and Congress are being lobbied by a coalition of southern and midwestern governors formed by Gov. Cecil Underwood. The governors are against new Environmental Protection Agency standards that would drastically reduce emissions from coal-based power plants in their states.

WVU Research helps build bridge of future

By Vicki Smith, Associated Press GRAFTON, W.V.

When Don Weaver saw the bridge deck dangling from a crane, it didn't look quite right.

The panel being moved into place over the rushing creek near his Taylor County home was not steel or cement, the normal elements of a bridge in his flood-prone, rural neighborhood.

"It had these honeycomb ubes running through it," Weaver said. "It was some wildooking stuff."

It was plastic. And Weaver drove right over it.

"I never thought twice about," he said.

But other drivers might, even if the plastic is a high-tech, berglass-reinforced material cientists like to call a "polymer." ts trademark name is Superdeck.

"We work very diligently to avoid the word 'plastic' because it has the connotation of a cheap product. It is a fiber-reinforced polymer composite," said conventor Hota Gangarao, a civil angineering professor at West

Virginia University in Morgantown. "This, in the truest sense of the word, is a composite."

The recipe for Superdeck includes fiberglass, fabric, carbon fibers and resin. The mixture is pulled through a mold as a liquid and hardens into a lightweight but strong rigid form.

Researchers at WVU say Superdeck is ideal for revamping dilapidated bridges. It's twice the price of concrete, but it lasts three times longer and won't rust or corrode. Salt just rinses off.

They say that makes it a better bargain.

Superdeck makes bridge decks one-third as heavy as those built with traditional materials, but three to four times stronger, said William Reeves, executive director of the WVU Research Corp.

So if the plastic catches on, bridges could be longer than they are now and weight limits for vehicles could be raised, he said.

The university recently signed a seven-year research agreement with Creative Pultrusions Inc. of Alum Bank,

Pa., the marketer of Superdeck. The pact gives WVU an ongoing role in the product as it is tested and put to use.

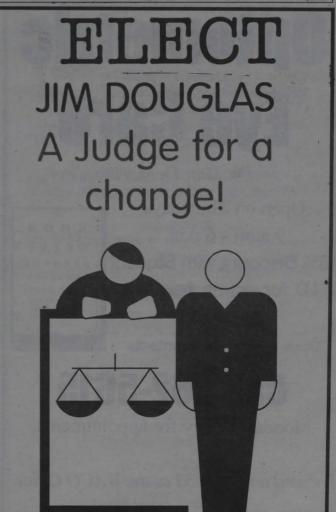
Approval for nationwide use may take several years, and it may take even longer for contractors and government officials to become comfortable with it. Reeves said

Jim Sothen, director of the state Division of Highways' structures section, said he wants to see how Superdeck performs in use, not just in the lab. His agency will erect two more test bridges in West Virginia this year, he said.

"It's got to kind of prove itself but we think it has a tremendous amount of potential. Time will tell," Sothen said.

Nearly one-third of the nation's bridges are dilapidated or too narrow or too weak to carry the traffic crossing them, according to an Associated Press computer analysis last fall.

In West Virginia, 45.4 percent of the bridges are considered substandard.



BJ Woods nominated for Red Cross award for WV

Staff Reporter Mrs. B. J. Woods, a junior at Glenville State College working to complete a double major in Chemistry and Biology with a Literature minor, has recently been nominated for the presti-Commitment Award Volunteers, presented by the American Red Cross, for the state of West Virginia.

Woods began her career in the Nicholas County Chapter of the American Red Cross in 1994. She began as a member of the Board of Directors, eventually becoming the Director of Health and Safety for both Nicholas and Webster Counties. When she took that position, she had a total of three instructors who were training 150 people a year. 'She now supervises 30 instructors who teach approximately 1500 people a year.

With her leadership and management skills, she has taken an dormant program and established its presence throughout the state. Her instructors offer a total of ten different classes, ranging from first aid and CPR to babysitting.

According to Nicholas County Chapter Executive Director John Manning, "BJ is bright, eager, and responsible, with a dedicated desire to provide health services to help the people and at the same time complete the requirements for her college degree, which will enable her to reach her successful goals in life. It is with great pleasure that I nominate her for this award "

Besides her volunteer position with the Red Cross, BJ is very active in other areas on and off campus. These activities

include serving as treasurer of the American Chemical Society, GSC Chapter, president of Chi Beta Phi, Alpha Iota Chapter (host chapter for the 1998 National Convention), and serves as a contributing reporter/photographer for the Mercury. She is also involved with the West Virginia State Fireman's Association as a Financial Secretary, chairperson of the Fire Training Committee, Recording Interim Secretary. Her community activities include leadership of teh Glade Creek Rocketeers 4-H Club, class instructor for the 4-H Camp, and the 4-H Day camp, member of the Nicholas County 4-H Leaders Association, memof the Craigsville Elementary School Improvement Council, and member of the 6th grade class trip organizing committee.

College receives grants

By Ann Williams, Staff Reporter

Last December Governor Cecil Underwood announced that GSC has been the beneficiary of two \$100,000 grants.

The first grant helped support the purchase, installation. maintenance and upgrade of equipment for a distance learning center at the Days Inn in Flatwoods

State Delegate Brent Boggs (D) assisted in the process of securing this grant. Others who helped Brent Boggs Delegate

Leggett(R) and Senator Bill Sharpe. The grand opening of this center was April 7. Classes should begin there in the fall.

The second grant of \$100,000 will aids in the construction of a general-purpose science lab and a state-of-the-art distance lerning center at the GSC Nicholas County Learning Center in Summersville, WV. This grant came through the Governor's Contingency Fund. This grant will tremendously benefit the estimated 600 students that go to the Nicholas County Extension.

Peek-a-Boo Doll raffle winner

By Ann Williams, Staff Reporter

The winner of the Peek-A-Boo Doll Rffle was Patty Conley of Summersville.

The raffle was held during GSC Week's Twister competition, although nobody showed up for that

The money raised by

the raffle benefits Governing Board. Governing Board these events to raise money to help make the campus a better place to be.

In the past the Governing Board has raised money to put barbeque grills in near the dorms and other

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Faculty spotlight: Weather watcher Ralph Bame

By Amy Smith, Staff Reporter

Students who have had Earth Science 151 are familiar with Glenville's own weather watcher, Mr. Ralph Bame.

Bame has been teaching Glenville's students about weather since 1967. In class, students learn by doing; recording and observing cloud types, temperature, barometric pressure, wind speed and direction are the basic keys in understanding weather.

"Cloud types are important, " says Bame. "If you know what kind of cloud you see, you can generally predict what kind of weather to expect."

Bame completed graduate classes at both Syracuse University and Colorado State University and provid-



Prof. Ralph Bame (Sheila Ables, Mercury)

ed daily weather reports for WGSC, the former Glenville State College student-run radio station.

He also volunteered with the National Weather Service (NWS) to be a weather spotter for Gilmer County. There are approximately fifteen weather spotters in the general area that provide information to the NWS in times of severe weather.

"I use a lot of materials from the NWS because they are very cooperative with weather teachers in local areas." includes Bame.

Education majors at GSC are required to take this class.

In the past, Bame has frequently been asked to predict weather for college events such picnics, and football

games. Although to make a completely accurate prediction he would need a weather radar to show the exact behavior of clouds and weather systems. biggest tools he uses are the clouds and the barometric pressure.

New journalism minor at GSC

State College has adopted an newly revitalized and expanded minor in journalism, according to Dr. Edward F. Palm, chairman of the Language Division.

require a semester's internship with the Glenville State student paper, The Mercury. Students will be required to take 12 hours of journalism, including the basic newswriting courses, Journalism 321 and 322; Journalism 415, Feature and Editorial Interpretation, and Journalism 422, Seminar in Current Events. In addition, students must earn three additional hours through either an external internship or a professionally broadening elective course approved by the journalism advisor.

"This is an effort to give_ English and other liberal arts

Glenville -- Glenville majors a practical focus to their education," Palm explained. "We anticipate the new minor will better prepare our students for either graduate school in journalism or an entry level The new minor will position in public relations or on a weekly newspaper."

> Students may also opt to take Journalism classes in mass communications, public relations, high school journalism, and typography.

> The new 18-hour journalminor was recently approved by Glenville State College's Baccalaureate Curriculum Committee.



Prof. Yvonne King named College Teacher of the Year

Burnsville -- Yvonne H. King, associate professor of journalism, will be guest of honor at the Spring Banquet of Ladies Auxilliary Veterans of Foreign Wars in Burnsville tomorrow evening. Mrs. King has been named by Post #3757 as College Teacher of the Year 1997-1998. She will be eligible for the statewide competition later this spring.

Teachers from elementary, middle, high school and college are named by individual

King has been a teacher for 40 years, nine of which were spend in public schools. A Wall Street Fund Fellow, she served as advisor for the Glenville State Mercury, College Kanawhachen from 1966-1990 and also taught English. In January 1998, she co-authored a book, Grammatically Speaking, with Olga Pashkevich of Parkersburg.

Guest Speaker Jim Fealy

the Gilmer County Industrial Development Association will be on campus Wednesday, April 29, at 12 noon in the Verona Mapel Room for a presentation before the Business 199/399

Mr. Fealy will be speaking on the economic

Jim Fealy, Director of development activities currently underway in Gilmer County, including a progress report on the proposed prison.

All students, faculty, and staff are welcome to attend Fealy's presentation. Any questions may be directed to Cheryl McKinney, CPA at Ext. 239 in the Division of Business.

Next Week's Finals Schedule

8 MWF M 8-10 8 TR R 10:10-12:10 9 MWF T 10:10- 12:10 9:30 TR T 1-3 10 MWF W10:10-12:10 11 MWF.....R 8-10 11 TR M 10:10-12:10 12 MWF T 3:10-5:10 1:15 MWF..... M 1-3 1:30 TR M 3:10-5:10 2:15 MWF..... M 1-3 3 TR W 3:10-5:10 3:15 MWFT 8-10 4:15 MWF W 8-10

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Senior Art Show

Tim Parker **Fine Arts Gallery**

The GSC Yearbook **Needs You!**

Actually, we need your photos of your favorite times here at GSC!

If any student would like to submit photos of student life in the 1998 Kanawhachen Yearbook, please have your name, address, and the names of the people on back of the photo.

All entries need to be submitted to Yearbook Office Box 207, Glenville State College Mailroom

before May 5, 1998. We want to see you in pictures here at the GSC Kanawhachen.

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Tournament

Sat-Spaghetti Night/ D.J. Dance Sunday- Outdoor B.B.Q.

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Titanic presentation a labor of love for student

By Terry L. Estep, Staff Reporter

With all the media attention brought on by James Cameron's movie, it would seem there is little else to say on the subject of the R.MS Titanic.

Don't believe it.

Glenville State College student Chris Hopkins will present Titanic: Triumph and Tragedy Tuesday night at 7:30 in the Fine Arts Recital Hall. The presentation is open to the public.

"I've been interested [in Titanic | since middle school, when the wreck was discovered. There was a lot of hub-bub," he explains. "My mother handed me a National Geographic with Titanic on the cover and there was no turning back."

from Beckley isn't worried peo-



Hopkins will present Titanic: Triumph and Tragedy (Terry Estep, Mercury) ple will accuse him of jumping on the media bandwagon. The time is right, he says, to spread the truth while people have a

"[James] Cameron is to be The 23-year-old Senior commended for going down to the wreck and showing people 'This is what it's like 2 1/2 miles down. He only got 12 minutes of film per dive.'

Hopkins' presentation will consist of a historical background for the ship, information about the people who were aboard, anecdotes about the tragic maiden voyage, and will close with a question-andanswer session.

He will also be offering door prizes, including a twobook set of Titanic literature.

Hopkins will also adapt his lecture for children from Flatwoods Elementary and Arnoldsburg Middle School.

Hopkins, currently pursuing a degree in Behavioral Science and Theater, would like to take his presentation on the road. "Tuesday will be my maiden voyage, but I'm not going to

hunger for it.

Democratic "Meet the Candidates" Night Amy Smith,

Staff Reporter On April 17, 1998, the Gilmer County Democratic Executive League hosted a meet the candidates night.

Thanks to several donations and a large donation from Joe Minard they were able to provide a spaghetti dinner. A small prayer of thanks was offered by Circuit Clerk, Lane Smith.

After signing in there was time for the candidates to mingle and to set up campaign materials. Candidates were given the option of speaking after dinner. Most candidates or their representatives chose this option, but all were recognized.

All candidates that spoke were concerned with honesty and hard work. Candidates for Justice of the West Virginia Supreme Court of Appeals were asked to speak first and they represented only two of the three democratic candidates.

Ginny Grottendieck spoke for William C. "Bill" Forbes, and J.B. Parker represented McGraw. The candidates for Circuit Judge 14th District,

Second division were Jack Alsop and Jim Douglas. Jack incumbent the Alsop, stressed experience and efficiency. Jim Douglas, an professor adjunct Glenville State College's Nicholas County Extension stressed the importance of education and felt that his knowledge of computers would greatly benefit the position of circuit judge. He describes himself as "a judge for a change."

Joe Minard, Ron Fragale and Becky White the three democratic candidates for the State Senate all spoke. Joe Minard addressed Gilmer County's unique business needs while Ron Fragale and Becky White, also the incumbent, stressed education. Ron Fragale currently teaches in Harrison County and Becky White is a retired teacher of thirty-two years.

Issues that concerned Gilmer County were directly addressed by the candidates running for the House of Delegates. Gilmer County is currently divided into three different delegate districts and

has delegates serving them in the 7th House District, the 33rd House District and the 34th House District. Paul Janes was the only representative from the 7th district and is one of two democratic candidates for this district. He called for unification of the voice of Gilmer County.

"Gilmer County could have one of the most powerful voices in the house if the three delegates representing Gilmer County would work together," he said.

Both of the candidates running on the Democratic ticket in the 34th delegate districts, Delegate Brent Boggs and Tommy Lee Crutchfeild supported the idea that Gilmer County should have one delegate district to represent its voice. Clinton Nichols from the 33rd district was represented by his son Aaron Nichols.

The candidates for the Gilmer County Executive Committee were recognized. All three candidates for the County Clerk's position spoke in the order of Charles O. Greynolds, Caren Jenkins and Beverly

ORGANIZATION NEWS

Alpha Rho Tau

We would also like to invite any new freshman who are art eductaion majors to come to our meetings and join the fraternity. The meetings are held every first and third Thursday of every month in room 213 of the AB building (the painting/sculpture room) at 3pm to about 3:40 pm.

Colors of Pride

Colors of Pride will hold its last meeting of the semester on Thursday at 12:30 p.m. in the speech room of the Fine Arts Building. The organization will elect new officers for the '98-'99 academic year and wrap up any remaining business.

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.

Phi Beta Lambda

Phi Beta Lambda of Glenville State College will be attending the state conference in April. Anyone who wants to join P.B.L. is welcome. We meet on the first Tuesday of every

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. S.I.F.E. currently meets every Thursday at 12:30 in room 101 in the Administration Building and welcomes people from all

Direct announcements to The Mercury, c/o Annie McCourt.

Winterplace Ski Resort

Winterplace Ski Resort is buried with snow! Winterplace set a new record for the most snow made in the month of March! Make your plans to head to Winterplace for fantastic skiing and terrific late season discounted prices! Ask about special weekend events! Call 800-258-3127 for daily skiing information. Ski until 10 p.m. every night!



Chris Hopkins presents "Titanic: Triumph and Tragedy" April 28

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Circus Da

By Ann Williams, Staff Reporter

On Wednesday, March 22, SC hosted many entertaining ctivities for GSC Week. The ctivities offered were Sumo Wrestling, Human Bowling, Speed Pitch, and Karaoke. These activities were brought to Sandy Sowell by Entertainment. Student attendance and participation in these events seemed larger than in previous years.

Human Bowling consists of a person getting strapped into a round metal cage while other people push the student into larger-than-life pins. Todd Chapman was the coordinator of this event. Dave Tingler, a brave student that let-himself ball" commented, "I was dizzy. I felt like I was in Chemistry."

Sumo Wrestling was a popular event with the students. Sumo Wrestling consists of getting into a padded sumo outfit, and then trying to wrestle your opponent. Neal White was the coordinator of this event. Two people who wrestled were Chris Samples and Guy Ingall. Guy lost two out of three matches but said, "I now know what it feel like to be a 350 pound man."

be the most popular event of all, always with a long line of people waiting to play. Neal White said that the fastest speed he ever witnessed while taking this ty to laugh at their fellow classgame from place to place was 87

be strapped into the "bowling mph. George Yakota, whose highest speed was 76 mph commented, "I liked it. It was fun."

Another attraction was Karaoke. Coordinator Sandy Sowell recruited a large number of people to sing some very bad songs. Nathan Oyler sang "Barbie Girl" by Aqua, which was one of the funniest performances to be seen. Student Heather Roth said, "This is very interesting. I didn't know Nathan was so vocal."

Whether participating or Speed Pitch seemed to watching, most students seemed to have a pretty good time. There was something to do for everyone. Students who did not attend missed a good oppurtunimates.





By Eric Ware Staff Reporter

Performing to a packed house Monday Night, Hypnotist Ron Jefferies took students into the realm of the unknown and the hilarious with feats of hypnotism that astounded audi-

Beginning with simple tricks of the trade, he began putting students into a deep slumber, and then giving suggestions to raise their arms, act like a chicken, and many more

"What did I do?" asked one of the volunteers outside. "I don't even remember raising my arm."



"I've don't think I ever seen the seats in the auditorium so full before," replied Eric Poirier later on.

Ventriloquist makes a dummy out of GSC

By Eric Ware Staff Reporter

From performances on the for comedians like Jerry VanDyke, and putting on numerous shows in such famous

casions such as The Riviera and The Showboat, coming to GSC seems like a undertaking for Ventriloguist Ken Groves, but the fun still remains the

"College crowds are always fun to play at," Groves commented afterwards, "and I've played for a lot of crowds."

With his dummies C.W. and George, audiences were poked fun at, insulted, and took part in Ken Groves act that is nothing short of hilarious. C.W., a soft puppet kept insulting Ken

about his clothes, his act, and even being "the better half."

"I don't know who Arsenio Hall show, opening up was funnier," commented a student outside of the auditorium. "The dummy or the ventriloquist!"



Ken Groves with his dummy photo by Heather Ware

GSC Week 1998 shines through

By Eric Ware Staff Reporter

This year's GSC Week 1998 proved that bad weather didn't dampen college student's spirits.

Events for Monday started out with cool weather, but the fun never let up as students cooled off with ice cream during the ice cream socials all week long topped off with a Ju-Jitzu seminar by John Casarez and spaced out with hypnotist Ron Jefferies.

"I don't think I ever seen the seats in the auditorium so full before," replied Student Activities Director, Eric Poirier.

On Tuesday, students stuffed their faces on the hit as skilled rifflepersons tested



Barbeque during the Jazz Band Performance, cooked by GSC's very own gormet's Jason Gordon and Eric Poirier. Following into the evening, the Skeet Shoot seemed to be a big their eye out in the field. And, leaving the evening to unfold with laughter, Ventriloquist Ken Groves delighted audiences with special dummies C.W. and George.

On Wednesday, the events kicked in with activities all day including the Human Bowling Ball, karaoke, and Sumo Wrestling. Topping off the events that night was the impressive Talent Show where students showed off with no stops.

And further into the week, students enjoyed a Pancake eating Contest, a Concert Choir, and Ego Imaging.

Even if the sun didn't shine all week, GSC Week 1998 proved that a little fun can warm up any rainy day.

GSC Week Activities



- Get Into the Groove!







GSC Week

Photos by Heather Ware and Terry L. Estep "Terry as Arab"

"Terry as Arab" by Ego Imaging

Chuck & Mary Conners, Owners-- egoimage@mel.net

Sports Poll:

Compiled by James Arnold -48 people participate-

"If you, a college student, had to pick a professional athlete as a role model, who would it be?"

17 people said Tiger Woods 11 people said Michael Jordon 8 people said Kobie Bryant 4 people said Dennis Rodman 3 people said Ken Griffery, Jr. 1 person said Orlando Wilson 1 person said Rebecca Lobo



NEXT WEEK! PIONEER SPRING FOOTBALL UPDATE



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Carl Lee believes Moss can adjust to Vikings

CHARLESTON, W.Va. (AP) -- Former Marshall standout Carl Lee says if first-round Minnesota Vikings draft pick Randy Moss puts his mind to it, he could blossom into a perennial all-pro just as he did.

The only way Randy doesn't become a star is if he doesn't make the commitments it's going to take," Lee said. "I don't think there are too many people who are going to match his raw talent."

Lee, who grew up in South Charleston and now coaches at West Virginia State, played 11 seasons with the Vikings beginning in 1983. He was a four-time Pro Bowl selection.

Lee played his final two seasons at Minnesota under current coach Dennis Green, who will bring Moss into the NFL.

'Randy has probably always been the 'est guy at any level he's played at," Lee said. "He was the best in that state when he played at DuPont. He was the best player in the Southern Conference and in the MAC (Mid-American Conference.)"

My point is he really didn't have to work to be much better. And he has the potential to be better. And Denny has the opportunity to teach him. Denny has the opportunity to remake this guy, so to speak."

Moss, the record-setting Marshall receiver with soft hands and blazing speed, was passed over by many NFL teams in Saturday's draft because of his history of off-the-field problems.

Lee believes Moss will be heavily influenced by Vikings wide receiver Cris Carter, a born-again Christian who had his own problems in college. Carter was kicked out of Ohio State following his junior season after admitting he accepted money from a sports agent.

"I think it's going to be a good match for him (Moss) because, No. 1, you have a guy like Cris Carter who's had his share of controversy and who's openly talked about his lifestyle and where he's trying to go," Lee said.

Lee, a former teammate of Carter's, said Moss will didn't pan out."

have no choice but to respect this person."

Several people have questioned whether Moss can handle the discipline of the NFL. Green believes his players should practice hard all the time, but Lee says that can bring out the best in a player if he adjusts to the demands.

"I think that will be to his (Moss') advantage," Lee said.

In addition, "Cris Carter is an excellent practice player," Lee said. "And Cris is not short on words, telling players, 'Let's go.'

The 6-foot-5 Moss, who weighs just 210 pounds, also must adjust to the more physical play of the NFL.

"I don't consider myself a physical guy," Lee said. "You just accept it. You've got to find a way to make it happen. If he can't make that adjustment, it's going to be a problem.

If he can make those (adjustments), he's a Hall of Famer. If he slips on any of them ... there are a lot of great talents who become media stories because they

Marshall memorial plaque restored at Hall of Fame

(AP) -- A restored plaque bearing the names of 37 members of the Marshall football team who died in a 1970 airplane crash has been provided to the College Football Hall of Fame in South Bend, Ind.

The plaque was restored because the original one installed 18 months ago was difficult to read.

It was presented last week by Navy athletic director Jack Lengyel. He was Marshall's first coach in the post-crash era. He left Marshall after three seasons.

The plane crashed just short of Tri-State Airport outside Huntington Nov. 14, 1970, killing 75 people, including 37

HUNTINGTON, W.Va. members of the team. It was the worst sports tragedy in the United States.

The old plaque was worn," Lengyel said. "The casting was poorly done. The crash victims deserve something nice to remember them by."

It joins plaques honoring the dead in other athletic tragedies. Each plaque has six sides and can be fitted together with additional monuments.

'I'm so happy to see the plaque restored," said Nate Ruffin, a member of the 1970 Marshall team. He missed the game that day at East Carolina because he had an injury. He now lives in Washington, D.C.

nascar Ton 20 DAYTONA" BEACH, - The top: 20, in the NASCAR Winston Cup points and money standings through April 20:

- 1. Rusty Wallace, 1191 2. Jeremy Mayfield, 1158
- 3. Terry Labonte, 1086 4. Jeff Gordon and Dale
- Jarrett, 1085 (tie)
- 6. Mark Martin, 1055
- 7. Bill Elliott, 1054
- 8. Dale Earnhardt, 1025
- 9. Ken Schrader, 964 10. Jeff Burton, 942.
- 11. Bobby Labonte, 940 12. Michael Waltrip, 930
- 13. Bobby Hamilton, 915
- 14. Jimmy Spencer, 909
- 15. Ted Musgrave, 906
- 16. Johnny Benson, 892 17. Ward Burton, 867
- 18. Chad Little, 845
- 19. Brett Bodine, 842
- 20. Steve Grissom, 786

The Virtual Librarian

By Ben Bruton, Guest Columnist

The Internet is a public place, just like the library or the post office. People come and go through cyberspace, exchanging words, ideas, and information--and the occaisonal virus. Unfortunately, when you contract a virus off the Internet, it's your computer that does the suffering, and unlike you it doesn't have the option of staying home in bed.

A computer virus is bascially a small computer program that infiltrates the hard drive of your computer and starts replicating itself over and over again, taking up precious memory and hard drive space. Eventually, the virus can use up all available memory, delete files, and shut down the whole system. In other words, it's bad news.

Viruses can be transferred through software diskettes that get passed from person to person, just like the common cold. Disks brought home from work, or disks that you've used to download programs off of someone else's computer are usually the culprits. And of course, the Internet is a regular cesspool of cyber-influenza.

How can you avoid getting stuck with a sick computer? For starters, install an antivirus program like McAfee Virus Scan or Norton Antivirus on your PC. These programs routinely check them memory of your computer and let you know when you boot up if there's a virus lurking.

Sometimes an anti-virus program can eliminate a virus if it knows that particular strain, but not always. There are hundreds of computer viruses, and no single program can fight them all.

Always test any software with a virus-checker before installing it on your system. If it's a diskette that's been passed around, there's just no telling what sort of nasty comptuer malignancy is on it, waiting to

wreak havoc on your PC.

In recent years, virus hoaxes have been circulating around the net, like the infamous "Good Times" virus. Since 1994, rumors of a virus in the form of an e-mail message with the subject line "Good Times" have been circulating the net.

Don't believe it! The fact is, viruses cannot be spread through e-mail, nor can you get a computer virus on your computer by reading an e-mail message. E-mail is a text-based format that is resistant to computer viruses. The only way you could possibly get a virus from an e-mail is if that message contains "binary file attachments"-documents that are encoded wand sent along with the message. As for reading text-only email messages, there's no threat of catching a virus.

Today's moral? Play it safe. Get your PC inoculated with some anti-virus software, and be careful what you stick in your disk drive.

Ask the Particle Man:

"How does one become a Particleman?"

By Aaron Frame, Staff Columnist

The road to becoming a Particleman is long and strenuous. It requires many years of study in the fields of science and mathematics. One must take many tests that cover all the topics necessary for qualification as a Particleman.

Some of the many topics that where part of my training to become a Particleman included Algebra, Geometry, Calculus, Physical Sciences, Chemistry, Biology, Physics, Astronomy, and Geology just to name a few.

In the course of study in these classes, they gave many tests to determine my competen-

cy. The most important test given is the Final P a r t i c l e m a n Determinant Test, or just simply F.P.D.T.

The F.P.DT. is administered near the end of the training one endures to become a Particleman. Up - and - com ing Particlemen are very lucky that the test only costs \$80 and that a test center is only a one hour drive away. It is a simple test and best explained in this

manner.

A perspective candidate is given a predetermined amount of particles. The particles are then subjected to a vector field vortex that can be generated by a number of methods. The method of generation of the vector field used for the problem is arbitrary. Once the particles are subjected to the vortex, the time it takes for them to completely disappear is the time it takes for one at this level of training to become a Particleman. For when all the particles have passed through the vortex and have disappeared, then one has become a Particleman. It took approximately two hours for me

> to complete the loss of all my particles when I took the F.P.D.T.

There is only one more paper coming out after this issue. I am graduating and I expect the position I have filled at the Mercury will become vacant. If anyone, and I do mean anyone, would like to send me even one question before I graduate, my e-mail address is a frame@hotmail.com. This is your last chance.

E.T. - Are you out there?

By Kelly Woods, Staff Reporter

My wife and I like to spend time at our camp in Pocahontas County when school schedules and other time constraints allow. When we drive up, we pass the Nationla Radio Astronomy Observatory. One of the things we look forward to is seeing how much has been done to the new telescope they are building. It's a monster of a structure.

National Radio The Astronomy Observatory is operated by the Association of Universities, Inc. in cooperation with the National Science Foundation. This is one of the 12-sites operated by the association worldwide. Founded in 1958, its primary function was to look for pulsars, intersteller molecules, and neutral hydrogen in other galaxies, as well as to serve the United States military for tracking purposes. Today, it is primarily used for educational purposes and for outer space exploration. Prior to the winter of 1988, it consisted of eight telescopes.

Today, radio astronomy ist is an exact science that is studied in every part of the world.

The NRAO at Green Bank

is currently equipped with seven operational telescopes. In 198, their big 300-foot telescope collapsed, due to heavy snow loads, metal fatigue, and other factors. This was a major setback for the observatory. The silver lining in that particular dark cloud became visible when Congress appropriated monies to replace the telescope. After a couple of years of engineering, observatory staff designed the largest and most-advanced, fully steerable telescope in the world, with a diameter of 330 feet. Known as the Green Bank Telescope, it has a totally unblocked aperature by having an off-set arm in which to house the most sensitive receivers in the world. It will be approximately 480' tall.

GRT, the general contractor, hopes to have the construction phase completed sometime in 1999. The NRAO hopes to have it operational by the year

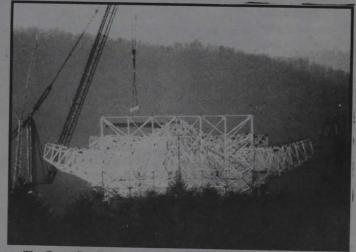
2000. Its unique design will revolutionize single dish radio astronomy and project it well into the 21st century.

The shape and surface of this telescope can be corrected for variations in gravity, wind, and temperature, through moving individual panels that make up the surface of the reflector. There are over 2000 of these panels that can be individually adjusted as needed.

When completed, this reflector, along with 45', 3-85', 20-meter, 40' and 140' telescopes will again bring the total back to eight. This will allow researchers the chance to study other galaxies and continue to look for possible life forms and maybe even discover the origins of our Earth.

Each year, students from GSC travel to Green Bank to spend time studying the mysteries of space. They discovered a new pulsar last year. With the addition of the new telescope, maybe someday they can discover a form of extraterrestrial intelligence.

Searching for signs of intelligent life in the universe...



The Green Bank Observatory (Photo by Kelly M. Woods, Mercury)

The Mercury

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"The look on their faces." - All the reason you need.

GSC Week Crazy

Because GSC Week took a lot out of us here at *The Mercury*, I thought it would be a good time to talk about the events last week some students happened to miss or care not to participate at all.

In the years past, GSC Week has always been a fun and exciting time for college students to wrestle away from their usual classwork. This year was no exception, but I do notice that commuters are still not taking part in many of the activities GSC Week provides. Is it because of the scheduling, is it because commuters perhaps don't care about the free meals and the free fun?

I hardly think that the activities are too late for commuters since I talked to Eric Poirier about this and he assures me that the GSC Week committee took time to involve as many students as possible into the activities. So what could the problem be? I believe commuters still choose to not be a a part of GSC Week, and that's really sad.

For years, I try and catch all the free fun and meals I can get, since I live off campus and work all week. So I see GSC Week as a little vacation from work and school, having all the fun I could possibly get. That's what I think Commuters need to do, take a vacation and join in the activities.

I must hand it to those that helped with GSC Week. I see Eric, Matt, James, and a lot more running from place to place, getting up early in the morning to set up, and working on and off all week for us. This is truely a great surprise amidst the rainy waether and cold temperatures. Even with rain clouds overhead,

GSC Week truned out to be great for everyone, and kudos to those that made it happen.

As I said, GSC Week took a lot out of us at The Mercury, but it was worth it just to see the smiles on everyone's faces.



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The fault is not in the video games or movies, but in ourselves

By Terry L. Estep, Staff Columnist

Lamar Alexander is blaming video games and our "culture of violence" for the shooting in Jonesboro, Arkansas.

Video games have been a popular target for congressmen trying to look useful. Ultra-violent games like *Mortal Combat*, *Postal*, and *Duke Nuke'em* are easy to blame, but there is something else at work here.

Postal is no-doubt the most violent game you will ever see. The premise is very simple: one day, for no apparent reason, you walk out of your house and start shooting people. You have your own arsenal at hand, and have to take out law-enforcement officers and innocent civilians in order to complete a stage.

This is not glorified, sanitary violence. Victims crawl along the ground, screaming in agony. Unlike sanitzed games like *Super Mario Bros.*, dead people in this game stay put, blood staining the ground.

I won't debate the ethics

or issues of taste in creating such a game--there's always a market for anyone willing to raise the bar for a new rill--but I do have to ques one of the points Alexanc brought up in his speech.

Describing the games, Alexander states "These are not just little boys playing in the sand with toy soldiers, these are little boys and little girls playing murder."

Postal is absolutely plastered with warning stickers. You can't even start the game without seeing a screen warning that the game is not for persons under the age of 18. If small children are playing Postal it is the result of lazy or inattentive parenting.

It's not just video games coming under fire. Newt Gingrich is trying to ban onscreen smoking in the movies. It seems he's offended by Leonardo Dicaprio smoking a cigarette in the first reel of *Titanic*.

People smoke. Tobacco wasn't G.I. Joe reruns.

has been in use for centuries. To whitewash hundreds of years of history because 12-year-old Melvin Fusswhistle might pick up a pack of Camels is absurd.

Blaming the media for causing conditions it portrays is easy to do, but it is dangerous.

Many countries have television and movies that are many times more violent that anything you're likely to find on American airwaves, and yet they do not suffer the same amounts of violent crime that we do.

Playing Mortal Kombat for 30 hours straight will not make a kid go out and kill someone, but a reckless impulse and a strong sense of being able to get away with it might.

Which does a greater disservice--showing violent actions without consequences or showing just how degrading and dehumanizing they can be? I don't have an answer.

I don't know what made two kids pick up guns and kill their classmates, but I'm sure it wasn't G.I. Joe reruns.

Submission Guidelines

All articles submitted for publication in *The Mercury* must be typed and double-spaced. Stories and announcements should be addressed to Annie McCourt, News Editor. The deadline for stories and announcements is Wednesday at 5 p.m. for publication in the next week's paper. All photographs should be submitted to Heather Ware, photo editor.

Roundup: Views from around the state

From The Journal of outweigh the downside. Martinsburg:

A new uniform policy adopted by the Kanawha County Board of Education isn't a nanacea to solve all the system's problems, but it's certainly is a step in the right direction.

Schools in that county may opt for uniforms for students provided the principal, faculty senate, local school improvement council and 80 percent of the parents approve of the plan. It's a pilot program.

No other county in West Virginia has such a policy, although systems across the country, including New York City, are adopting similar plans.

Uniforms, school administrators say, save parents money, instill school spirit, take away competitiveness kids often feel about clothes.

On the downside, some believe they stifle creativity and encourage conformity.

But in private schools across the state and nation, administrators think the benefits

encourages children to lead a life of overall self-discipline.

'When the students are dressed in uniform, they're coming to work," said one Kanawha County private school principal.

Another is quoted as saying in the Charleston Daily Mail, A uniform can contribute to the businesslike atmosphere."

Is that so bad?

Williamson Daily News:

though West Virginia ranks as one of the safest states in the nation as far as crime, it obviously has some other areas to work on when it comes to living conditions.

West Virginia State Police on crimes committed in the state show that the number of murders, rapes, robberies and breakins are down, but larceny and Mississippi and Alabama. breaking and entering are on the rise. The statistics are taken from crimes committed in 1996.

The dress code at one to the report, a crime was com-Christian school in Charleston mitted in West Virginia every 11.6 minutes, one violent crime every 2.3 hours and someone doesn't sound very good statistically, but compared to national figures West Virginia is better than the majority.

> As a matter of fact, the state police statistics show West Virginia had the lowest crime rate in the nation in 1996 for the 24th year.

But on the other hand, another report just released by a Minnesota group ranked West Virginia near the bottom among the nation's most livable states.

Apparently 43 factors were considered in the survey A report issued by the which included crime rate, per capita state and local tax revenue, infant mortality rate and personal income. Also near the bottom with West Virginia was

> Minnesota won as the 'Most Livable State" again.

On an average, according a person looks at it. Surveys always have differing factors in determining the best or the

West Virginia has a lot to was murdered every 5.3 days. It be proud of, and its residents

> We commend our state's police officers and citizens for working to keep crime low in West Virginia.

Everyone needs a safe place to raise their family and build a life.

It's nice to know that West Virginia is one of those place.

The Herald-Dispatch of Huntington:

It's two in a row for Gov. Underwood. announced recently that Michael Miano, a former coal company executive, will become of the West Virginia Division of Environmental Protection when another former coal company executive, John Caffrey, retires

In making the appoint-It is, of course, all in how ment, Underwood said he expected "criticism environmentalists" extreme because of Miano's association with Pittston Coal Co.

Our long-standing position would not qualify us as extremists. We believe Underwood makes an error in thinking that only the most serious tree-huggers view the new appointment with concern.

Miano is a graduate of West Virginia University with a degree in mining engineering. He began his career as a mining engineer at Gary and since has held management positions with coal companies in five states.

Nowhere do we see anything that would recommend him as the chief caretaker of West Virginia's environment.

We echo the sentiments of Mike Withers, a spokesman for the Highlands Conservancy, a moderate environmental group, who said: 'We'll just have to see whether (Miano's) mission lies with serving the DEP or serving the coal industry."



Newman-Haas Use F1 model to get racing right

By William Schiffmann, Associated Press

Ask a dozen serious players what racing game is at the top of their favorites list, and I'd wager 10 would name Formula 1, that masterpiece of speed from Psygnosis.

Psygnosis has already come out with an improved sequel. So what to do now?

Newman/Haas Racing.

NHR has almost everything you would want to go racing, and you can make it as easy or tough as you like. There are three ways to compete--single race, challenge and championship.

The race is on an authentically laid-out track; you can select a percentage of the laps run in the real race, or run the whole thing. If you've chosen the setup correctly, you have a good chance to win.

But you have to be careful. Other drivers don't give way without a fight, and backmarkers can ruin your race by blocking you or pushing you into the wall. For Everyone Passing is an

art, in this game as in real life. Your goal is to win.

Graphics in NHR are excellent, nicely detailed and accurate. The sound effects are good, but the announcers are

boring and repetitious. Either make them reflect what's going on and put some enthusiasm in their voices or get rid of them.

Control is very good, as it should be in a game based on F1. The car responds to every input, and once you develop a delicate touch, especially with the brakes, you should have no trouble staying with the leaders.

Since every race is unique, this game has endless replay value. And as good as it is, you'll be playing it often. Congratulations, champ.

Danger, Will Robininson!

By Brent Woods. Staff Columnist

Following Hollywood's latest film fad--releasing/remaking of classic television and films--Lost in Space blasts back with a modern cast and a modern look.

The new take on the 60's television series blends high tech special effects and a storyline that follows the spirit of adventure the original had.

William Hurt and Mimi Rogers play John and Maureen Robinson the husband-and-wife team leading their family into space to save the dying Earth. The family is rounded out by Dr. Judy Robinson (Heather Graham), Penny Robinson (Party of Five's Lacey Chabert), and Will Robinson (Jack Johnson). Each has a particular field of talent and is crucial to the survival of the mission.

The military presence and pilot of the Jupiter 2 spacecraft is Major Don West, played by Friends star Matt LaBlanc. Before the launch, the villainous



The cast of Paramount Studio's Lost in Space.

Dr. Smith (Gary Oldman) sneaks aboard the ship and programs the robot to destroy the Robinson family; however, he becomes trapped on the ship after launch and must help them in order to save his life.

This is just the beginning of the fun. After having to jump through hyperspace to survive, the Jupiter 2 becomes lost in space. Now the family faces the unknown danger of the deep space. The crew must face harsh creatures, dangerous mysteries, and an incredible adventure.

This is possibly the best remake of a classic sci-fi show I have seen. If you enjoy science fiction and adventure see this film.

Paramount Studios hopes to make series of films based on the Robinson adventures, creating a franchise like Star Trek.

Solution to last week's puzzle The Beach Club



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Newsday Crossword

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DOWN

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16 Peter O'__ 17 Spanish aunt

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39 Baby seals 41 Thighbone

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48 Curved shape

49 Actor Keanu 51 Football's

"Broadway Joe" 53 Comparatively

calm 55 Countries

58 Business

60 Portable

61 Car-battery

hookup

FANCY FOOTWORK by Bob Lubbers Edited by Stanley Newman

37 Khartoum is its

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32 Director Polanski 64 Little green orb 34 Pony prodders 65 Small buzzer 35 Delhi bread 66 Conducted

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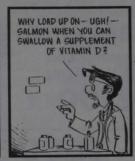




Thatch by Jeff Shesol









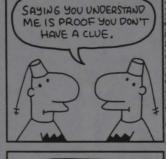
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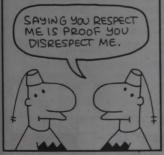
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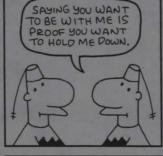






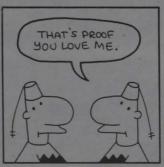












Aries (Marc 19) — Learn to on your intuition have to trust a dr with a "gut" fe you'll find that

Aries (March 21-April 19) — Learn to rely more on your intuition. You may have to trust a dream or go with a "gut" feeling, but you'll find that your feelings are right more often than what you're told.

Taurus (April 20-May 20) — You're about to reach a major goal. This could be any number of things, but what to keep in mind is that this is not an ending. Every goal reached is the start of a new one. Keep your eyes on the horizon.

Gemini (May 21-June 20) — Your week is full of anxiety and stress about your future. What once seemed clear is now foggy. However, if you face your guilt about your past and the fears behind that guilt, the road will clear.

Cancer (June 21-July 22) — Don't take on anything unnecessary this week. You're already overburdened by too many repsonsibilities. Live life within your capabilities and swallow you pride. Take a break, back off.

Leo (July 23-August 22) — Wisdom and patience cannot be acquired if you're running all over town. Take time for yourself and learn to wait. Stay out of "the scene" for a while and you'll feel better about things.

Virgo (August 23-September 22) — Love of others begins with love of self. If you don't accept yourself, how can you expect anyone else to? After a bad relationship, this is difficult to do, but it is necessary in order to move on.

Libra (September 23-October 22) — A new goal is in the air this week. It may not be the final shape of the future, but it is full of potential and sufficient to lure you out of

Cristola's Magical Mystical Predictions

your present confines into a new venture.

Scorpio (October 23-November 21) — You're refusing to face a situation. You've created the problem for yourself, and indecision will not help. No matter which way you choose, the result will be trouble. Face it.

Sagittarius (November 22-December 21) — You are content in your present situation, especially in affairs of the heart. This is not a passing feeling, but a situation that will last for as long as you want it to. Enjoy.

Capricorn (December 22-January 19) — Something must come to an end. Whether or not this experience is painful depends upon your capacity to recognize the necessity of endings. You can have a new life, if you let go of the old one.

Aquarius (January 20-February 18) — You feel cramped by your current environment and seek greener pastures. Overcome this by being more adventurous and impulsive. Learn from a close friend what fun really is.

Pisces (February 19-March 20) — You have a lot of good ideas and a lot of intellectual power. Start to put these things to use and you can make a change in the world. Take a look around and plan your future.



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