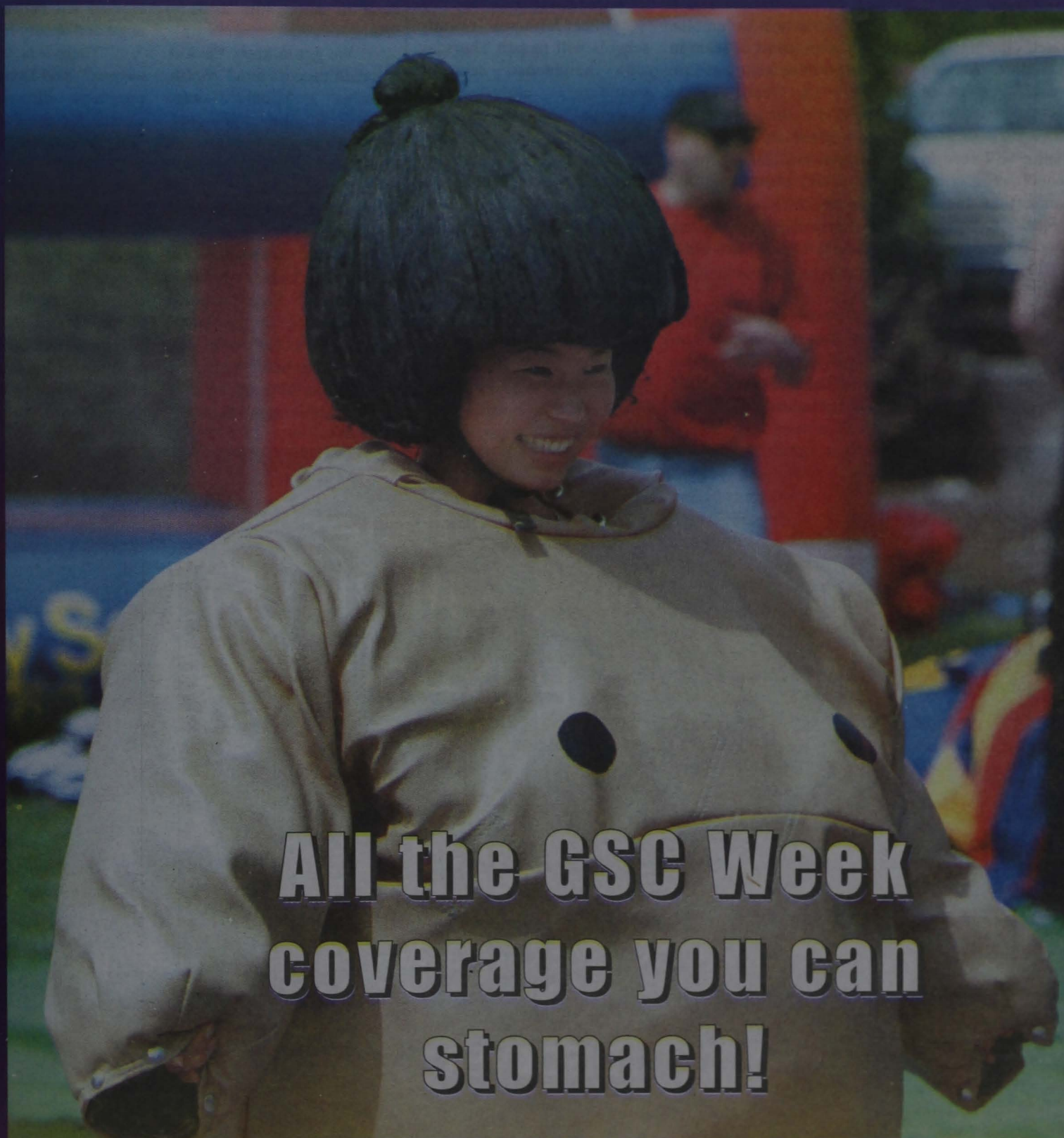


The Mercury



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Columbine to remain closed, perhaps through end of the school year

Associated Press

LITTLETON, Colo. -- Columbine High School may remain closed through the end of the school year as authorities embark on an extensive clean-up following Tuesday's deadly shooting rampage, officials said Wednesday.

In addition to bullet holes and bomb damage, sprinklers were activated during the four-hour standoff, leaving ankle-deep water in parts of the building, police officers said.

"The police will need to keep the school as a crime scene for some time before they can release it," said school district spokeswoman Kay Pride. "Then, we have to clean the school out and repair the damage. That could take until the end of the school year, or beyond."

Hurling bombs and blasting away with guns, two stu-

Murder in



Colorado

dents in black trench coats killed 12 schoolmates and a teacher Tuesday at Columbine High School, most of them in the library. The gunmen, Eric Harris, 18, and Dylan Klebold, 17, then apparently killed themselves.

School officials, support workers and counselors met Wednesday to come up with a plan that would allow seniors to graduate May 22 and other students to complete the school year.

"Obviously, we're looking at how Columbine students will complete their educations," said Pride, adding that one possible solution is to

send them to some of the county's 16 other high schools.

Many Columbine students said they would not feel comfortable returning to the scene of the carnage.

"I had five to seven friends killed in that library," said senior Dustin Harrison. "I'm not going back there."

Other Jefferson County schools will reopen Thursday with heightened security, including early-morning "sweeps" by law enforcement officials and school staff members before students are admitted, Sheriff John Stone said.

Bomb threats were reported at Douglas County High School and Brighton High School in the aftermath of the massacre at Columbine, police said.

In each case, the schools were evacuated but no bombs were found.

School violence message: You must pay attention

By Anjetta McQueen,
Associated Press

ALEXANDRIA, Va. -- When the 14-year-old boy spent a lot of time thumbing through the military weapons catalog he brought to school each day, his principal, Margaret Walsh, wasted no time in taking him aside to talk.

"We got to know the kid. We didn't accuse him," Walsh, principal at Minnie Howard School, said of the ninth-grader. The boy was counseled along with his guardians and went on to graduate.

"The message is you must pay attention," she said.

Students who survived the deadly attack at Columbine High School in Littleton, Colo., this week say it was the ignored rage of a dozen outcast students that led to the bloodshed.

The surviving students say no one paid enough attention.

Turf battles and clique common enough in American high schools. So are teenagers who rebel through the clothes they wear or the hobbies they choose, whether it's collecting World War II weaponry or playing Dungeons and Dragons, fantasy games. But counselors and educators and students who know how to tell between teenage angst and deadly intent.

"There is no simple answer," said Doug Robinson, programs director of the Center for the Prevention of School Violence, in Raleigh, N.C. "You've got to look at the warning signs."

At Minnie Howard School, full-time guidance counselor work in teams with teachers to watch for signs of trouble. Mood swings. Change in dress. New groups of friends. Skipping school. Failing classes. Unusual interests. Signs of abuse. Hatred of another group.

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West Virginia students discuss shootings

Associated Press

MORGANTOWN, W.Va. — Student Dave Hefner sees the signs of hatred every day. Derogatory messages posted toward certain types or groups of students are tacked on the walls of the bathroom at University High School, "and we just don't accept it and turn our backs to it by not saying anything," Hefner said.

"It's like we're saying it's OK," he said. "It makes you uncomfortable because someone can look at another person and put them in a category because of how they look or the color of their skin." Minorities and athletes are among those reportedly targeted by two students described as outcasts who killed 13 people in a shooting Tuesday at Columbine High School in Littleton, Colo. "I can't believe that still, with racism and prejudice all around," said University High student Jessika Lewis. "I don't believe people still show that. It's evident at our school to some extent, but I just wish it could get past it."

West Virginia students who discussed the shootings Wednesday said they fear the

anger unleashed in Littleton.

"You look at people in the hall and wonder, 'Could they be one of the people who's going to snap?'" said Tommy Thomas, a senior at Capital High School in Charleston.

University High student Becky Demidovich cried when she saw the violence on television. "I worry about it a little," she said, especially when cross-town rivals University and Morgantown High meet for a sports event.

That fear doesn't necessarily translate to an outcry for better protection. Students' opinions vary on whether additional security, including metal detectors, could head off a shooting similar to that in Littleton.

"It doesn't work," said Tia Kagee, who transferred to Capital High a month ago from Columbus, Ga. She said her former school had metal detectors, police and security cameras.

"They make weapons inside the school, in wood shop or wherever," she said. "They have cameras. Cameras can prove you did it, but they can't really stop it."

On the other hand, modeling civility and tolerance could help, too, said Mark Byrer, University High's student body president.

Byrer said he believes the shooters at Columbine may have felt disenfranchised because high school culture often inflicts ridicule or indifference on teens who don't fit in.

"A lot of kids become angry because they don't accept themselves for what they are. They have to learn to accept themselves," he said.

Hefner, a University High wrestler, said he believes potential conflict with ostracized students could be avoided by simple contact.

"It doesn't take much just to say, 'Hi.' And if your friends reject you because you talk to them, you probably have the wrong friends anyway. It's our responsibility. It's us who don't respect other kids," he said.

Zach Weisse, a junior at Morgantown High School, is afraid that the Littleton massacre might prompt others to go on shooting sprees for attention.

"One of the scariest things is 80 percent of families in West Virginia have access to guns," Weisse said. "If that many people have access to guns, there's bound to be a kid who falls through the cracks like these did. It's when they can get the guns that they become dangerous."

School officials take threats seriously

Associated Press

PROSSER, Wash. -- In the wake of the school shootings in Colorado, some Washington students have gotten in serious trouble this week for some suspicious behavior.

A 14-year-old Prosser High School student was taken to a mental health facility after police found a map of Prosser High School and instructions for shooting students at the boy's home.

Meanwhile, a student at Richland's Hanford High School was suspended after he came to school Wednesday morning in a trench coat, pulled

out a water pistol and "scared people to death," said Superintendent Richard Semler.

And in Western Washington, a 17-year-old Renton youth chopped a kitten to death with a skinning ax Tuesday and told his mother of plans to imitate the Colorado school massacre, according to sheriff's officers.

Semler, who came to work Wednesday prepared to deal with local reaction to the Colorado shootings, was appalled by the Richland incident.

"I would not have thought somebody would do that," he said.

Shooters were low on social ladder

Associated Press

LITTLETON, Colo. -- Their strange affections as part of the "Trenchcoat Mafia" were what made Dylan Klebold and Eric Harris stand out at Columbine High School.

But if the pair's fondness for Hitler and black trench coats seemed bizarre, other students could relate to the social pecking order that had put Klebold, 17, and Harris, 18, squarely at the bottom.

High school can be cruel if

you're not part of the "in" crowd, and Klebold and Harris were reminded daily that they were "out."

"Our school is very status structured. People would yell comments to them, like weirdo or outcast," said Johnna Nelson, 17, a junior. "They'd blow it off, but over and over, it must have had an effect."

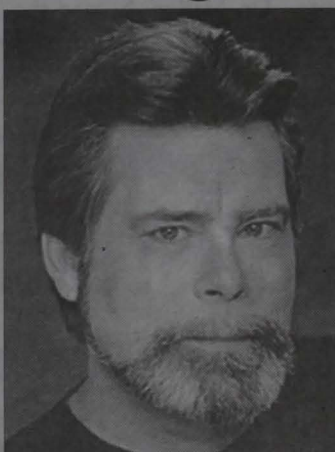
At school, they were respectful of teachers, reserving their invectives for blacks, Jews, Hispanics, and especially athletes.

For Stephen King, Colorado shooting recalls 1977 tale

Associated Press

PORTLAND, Maine — Author Stephen King Wednesday he felt "a personal blow" when he learned of the Colorado school shooting because he wrote a book with a similar plot.

King said he withdrew "Rage" from publication after an FBI agent told him the book had been found in the locker of the boy responsible for the 1997 shooting that killed three students and wounded five others at a high school in Paducah, Ky.



Author Stephen King's 1977 novel "Rage" involved a student killing a teacher and taking his class hostage.

"I feel a personal blow on my heart whenever something like this happens,"

King said. He said that while the FBI agent did not hold him responsible for the shooting, he decided to withdraw "Rage" from publication because "I couldn't live with my conscience."

"I needed to sit down and think about my responsibility," King said. "... We come up to serious questions about what the difference is between art and social responsibility."

In the book, written under King's pseudonym Richard Bachman, a disturbed high school student brings a gun to school, kills his teacher and holds his

classmates hostage. It was published in 1977.

King said he began writing the book when he was in high school, describing himself as "a very angry young man."

"There was a lot of rage involved in writing it," he said, saying all young people go through "emotional tumult" as they try to fit in.

"All of these feelings have played a part in several of these shootings," King said of recent school violence.

King added that in trying to end the violence, "the place to start is not with the violence of our art" but with

the easy access to handguns and other weapons.

"Again and again and again in these killings, we see access to guns," he said.

King urged people to write to members of Congress to urge stricter gun controls.

"If you want your schools to be safe, if you want your streets to be safe, restrict handguns," he said.

King spoke at a lecture sponsored by the Portland Public Library and Bookland of Maine. He was promoting his newest book, "The Girl Who Loved Tom Gordon."

Local students visit Glenville campus

By Pat McCord
and Maryanne Gelsi
Staff Reporters

The Glenville State College community welcomed eighth and ninth grade students from Nicholas and Lewis counties on Monday, Braxton and Nicholas counties on Tuesday, and Gilmer, Calhoun, and Webster counties on Wednesday. The number of students in attendance totaled 1,130.

The Tech Prep Program focus is based on GSC's Associate degree programs, such as Paralegal Technology, Business Technology, Forest Technology, Administrative Science, Land Surveying, Environmental Science, and

Criminal Justice. The purpose of the program is to introduce students to these concentrations of study in order to help prepare them for several of the largest occupational opportunities in West Virginia. Nathaniel Lynch, an eighth grader from Braxton County commented, "The sessions were interesting; I actually learned something. The simulated robbery was fun. It gave me an interest in criminal justice."

Judy Potts, a teacher from Braxton County stated, "I think it is a wonderful event for the kids to be able to get away from their schools and be able to visit the college. The sessions that I attended gave them lots of information."

During the sessions, the visiting eighth and ninth graders were encouraged by GSC students and teachers to participate in the clusters offered at their school to prepare for college.

Linda Riegel, Assistant Professor of the Business Division, advised the students, "Take as many computer, communication, and basic keyboarding classes as possible."

Mrs. Riegel also informed the students that GSC has an arrangement with area schools to provide college credit for specified courses completed in high school.

According to Tech Prep coordinator, Stacy McCallister, "The main goal of the Career Fair was to

promote GSC Tech Prep Programs and associates degrees. The faculties each contributed half-hour sessions to bring in students. We received wonderful comments from the students; they will be doing evaluations and returning the results back to the college."

McCallister continues, "The Career Fair was a great success at promoting college rates for students in the surrounding counties. It was also an excellent opportunity for the students to see the presentations of the different associates degrees offered at Glenville State Community and Technical College."

Local radio station broadcasted live remotes. Lewis and Nicholas counties

brought their broadcast class to film the Career Fair to be shown in their schools.

Local businesses contributed to the purchasing of the T-shirts (designed by Jennifer Ruggiero), and key chains that were distributed to the students. The Career Fair was funded through a Tech Prep Grant that was coordinated by Stacy McCallister. The grant, over \$100,000, is used up to help public schools in seven counties. Jennifer Ruggiero, chairperson of the Central West Virginia Counselors Consortium and head of Career Services at GSC stated, "It was a great success. Students enjoyed themselves and were happy to be here."



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Miller addresses breast cancer

By BJ Woods
Staff Reporter

Dr. Michael Miller of the Biochemistry Department of West Virginia University gave a presentation for Chi Beta Phi, other faculty and various science students on April 13, 1999.

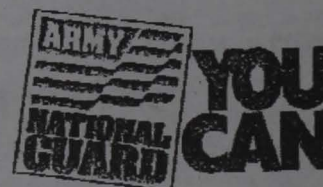
Dr. Miller explained to

the group how estrogen effects breast cancer cells. He stated, "it alters responses in certain cell types. Acetaminophen can stimulate some production of breast cancer cells." He explained to the group the uses of estrogen and how estrogen goes only into the cells with estrogen receptors. Dr. Miller showed the

group structures of estrogen and various compounds. He explained how there was a common structure of estradiol and acetaminophen that both have a phenol ring. The Chi Beta Phi would like to thank Dr. Miller for taking time out of his busy schedule to come to Glenville and give this very interesting presentation.

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Lit Society has a "Breakfast of Champions"

By Sherry Newsome
Staff Reporter

The Literary Society met for its final book review of the semester on Tuesday, April 20. Thirteen students, along with Professor Wayne deRosset and Dr. Nancy Zane, enjoyed refreshments provided by students. Afterward, the class embarked on a lengthy discussion of Kurt Vonnegut's book "Breakfast of Champions."

The book begins in a comedic light, and right away, the reader is introduced to the main character, Elmore Trout. Trout is an aging science-fiction writer,

whose works are so unknown that he has resorted to having them published in pornographic magazines. The year is 1972. Trout resides in the basement of a building in Cohoes, New York, with his parakeet, Bill.

One day, Trout receives a letter—the only piece of fan mail that he has ever gotten in his writing career. It is from a rich, eccentric patron of the arts, by the name of Eliot Rosewater. Rosewater has read a number of Trout's works and has invited him to be a guest at the Arts Festival in Midland City, Indiana. Along with the invitation is a thousand dollars. Trout

deposits a portion the money in the bank and begins preparations for his trip.

Throughout his journey, Trout is plagued with misfortune after misfortune. While Trout is en-route to Midland City, another character, Dwayne Hoover, is "losing his marbles." Hoover is a rich Pontiac dealer, whose hometown happens to be...Midland City. A tornado of pent up emotion and rage has been growing inside Hoover, threatening to destroy anyone who gets in his path. Hoover's life has been spinning out of control for years—events such as his wife's suicide and his son's

homosexuality, are just two of the contributing factors of Hoover's insanity. The 'straw that breaks the camel's back' is when Hoover peruses one of Trout's fantasy tales. After reading the story, Hoover is convinced he is the only human being alive—other people are machines, robots playing roles in his life, like actors in a play.

While Hoover is coming unglued, Trout has been mugged, robbed, and knocked unconscious on the streets of New York City. With only a few dollars that the thieves didn't find, Trout gathers his wits and embarks upon his journey once again. He hitches

rides with a truck driver and a traveling salesman, ever intent upon reaching Midland City.

Upon his arrival in Midland City, Trout proceeds to the Holiday Inn, where he meets up with Hoover, his son, his creator, and several other characters...and thus, the brewing storm erupts...

Throughout the book, several illustrations are incorporated into the story.

This book contains adult themes; however, its comedic nature is sure to elicit sudden bursts of laughter to anyone with a sense of humor. "Breakfast of Champions" has recently been made into a movie.

WVU professor explains matters of the heart

By BJ Woods
Staff Reporter

The Glenville Chapter of the American Chemical Society invited Dr. Mahaney, Professor of Chemistry of West Virginia University, to give a presentation to the group, faculty and other science students. The presentation dealt with how the heart pumps using calcium.

Dr. Mahaney explained to the group how the heart uses calcium-ATPase and phospholamban in

its function and described the structure of each molecule. He went on to describe how the calcium-ATPase uses ATP for calcium²⁺ transport. The calcium²⁺ then uses troponin binding

which causes actin and myosin interactions. The excess calcium²⁺ is stored in the sarcoplasmic



BJ Woods, Mercury

Dr. Mahaney and Dr. Goll

reticulum. Dr. Mahaney went on to explain how the calcium²⁺ flows with the help of phospholamban, which is only found in the heart muscle.

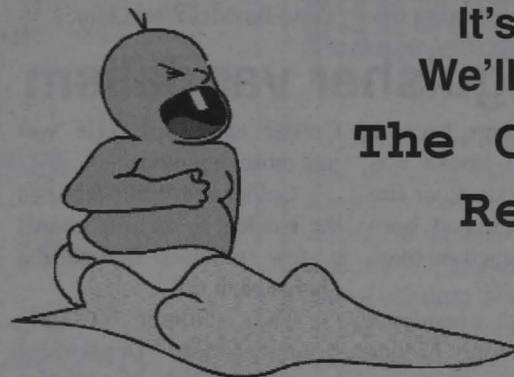
Dr. Mahaney explained the research that he and his graduate students are doing as well as the current experimentation. Part of

the research includes using a radioactive calcium⁴⁵ molecule. Experiments have also shown that the active enzymes are mobile and that phospholamban holds the pumps in place and disables them.

Dr. James G. Goll, stated, "Dr. Mahaney demonstrated the importance of how a simple calcium ion can control the heart. This is a general theme in biochemistry that explains nerve transmission and oxidative phosphorylation."

Yearbook Photos

Students who ordered yearbook photos may pick them up at Yvonne King's office in the Language Division.



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GSC students elected to statewide SEA offices

By Rob Kerns
Staff Reporter

On April 16 and 17, members of the Student Education Association (SEA) attended a state-wide "Spring Fling" conference.

Tina Garska, Becky Neal, Sherrie Petrey, Carol Tenney, and Misty Wine represented Glenville State at the Embassy Suites in Charleston.

GSC is unique in that the college has not had an active chapter of SEA in over six years.

GSC was one of five campuses to be represented in Charleston. The other campuses were Alderson Braddus, Bethany College, West Virginia Wesleyan, and West Liberty College. Overall, there were approximately forty people in attendance.

The Annual SEA Spring Fling was a two-day conference this year, which included elections for the Executive Committee, campus reports,



L-R: Tina Garska, Carol Tenney, Misty Wine, Becky Neal, Sherrie Petrey represented Glenville State, receiving honors for Most Increased Membership and two seats on the Executive Committee.

and four seminars. The seminars covered the topics of Interviewing, How to Survive as a Substitute, Using Graphic Organization to Support Group Learning, and Urban Education.

At the end of the day on Saturday, a luncheon was held to announce awards and the election results. When all was said and done, Glenville State came away with a couple of honors. First, the GSC chapter was voted as having the Most

Increased Membership of the campuses represented, and second, GSC students captured two seats on the Executive committee. Sherrie Petrey garnered the status of President-elect; she will take office in Spring of 2000. Misty Wine, the president of the Glenville State chapter, was granted the office of Member-at-Large.

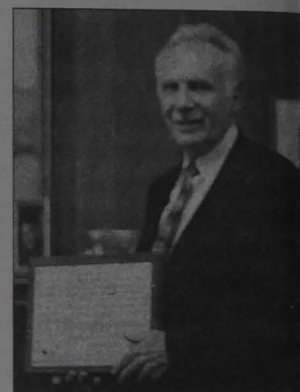
Misty Wine stated, "We had fun, and we learned a lot. We're very glad we went."

President Flack honored by the State College System

By Amy Smith
Staff Reporter

At the April meeting of the Board of Directors for the State College and University Systems, Dr. Bruce Flack was presented a plaque of recognition.

Dr. Flack has served as interim president for Glenville State College since July 1998, through commencement, May 15, 1999. The plaque, presented by Chancellor Clifford Trump, was for helping restore the calm of the campus and to rebuild the community spirit at GSC. Flack was also recognized for preparing the college for a new president, following the long-term leadership of for-



Amy Smith, Merce

Interim President Bruce Flack with his award. mer President Simmons, a for restoring trust on t campus by bringing togeth faculty, staff, and studen. Flack is currently on lea from the State College an University Systems, an after graduation, will retu to his position of Director Academic Affairs.

The Mercury names March Staff Member of the Month

By Heather Eberly
Staff Reporter

The Mercury staff member for March is Amy Smith. Amy is a 21-year-old English literature major with a math minor, planning to enroll in the education program. She has worked at the Mercury for four semesters and plans to continue for the duration of her education at Glenville State College.

After finding out that she was voted as March's staffer of the month, Amy smiled and said, "I appreciate the vote of confidence from the rest of the staff. I've made a lot of friends at the Mercury office over the years."

When she's not slaving away at the paper, Amy enjoys reading, hiking, caving (spelunking), socializing, and cooking for her



Amy Smith

friends.

A West Virginia native that grew up in Washington D.C., Amy returned to Glenville to pursue her education. After graduating from GSC, Amy plans to attend graduate school and obtain a Ph.D. in Literature.

Interim Editor, Terry Estep, explains that "Amy is very passionate about her work. She has been my right hand in working with reporters, gathering assignments, and generally making my life a hell of a lot easier."

Pie-throwing contest

By Bryan Norris
Staff Reporter

Phi Beta Lambda hosted a pie tossing contest on Tuesday, April 20, from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the outside amphitheater near the science building. The contest had students and faculty members throwing pies at professors and other participants, including the President

and Treasurer of PBL.

Approximately 20 pies were thrown at professors Jenny Dawkins, Cinda Echard, Mr. Don Wildermuth, and Mr. Tom Snyder. Although some walked away unscathed, others weren't so fortunate.

The contest was scheduled for Wednesday, but was canceled due to rain. PBL would like to thank all professors who

participated in the event, and to those fortunate souls who escaped the "pie in the eye" due to Wednesday's cancellation. There is always next year for the brave at heart or those with the love for whipped cream.

Pictures from this event can be viewed via the Internet later this month at www.Glenville.wvnet.edu/Business/BusMisc/facts.htm.

No leads in fire extinguisher vandalism

By Terry L. Estep,
Staff Reporter

Pickens Hall House Directors have few leads in a vandalism case that left students shivering in the cold for over 30 minutes last Monday.

As the alarm sounded for students to evacuate, several were surprised at what first appeared to be large quantities

of smoke. It soon became apparent that the smoke was discharge from a six-floor fire extinguisher which had been stolen and discharged on three separate floors.

Second-floor residents Mike White and Andy Collier saw a blonde male wearing a white hat and sweatshirt holding the fire extinguisher.

"He wasn't in a hurry,"

Collier explained. "He was just moseying along."

Collier and White reported the incident to security guards a few minutes before the alarms went off.

The Gilmer County Volunteer Fire Department were called to assess the safety of the building before students were allowed to return to their beds.

DuBray leads GSC renovations

W.E. Owens
Staff Reporter

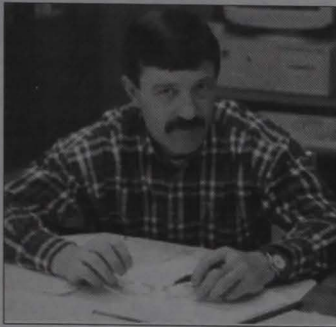
The Glenville State College will undergo 87 renovation projects over the course of summer, the work divided between in-house maintenance personnel and outside contractors.

Priority is the installation of new elevators in the Bennett and Science buildings for American Disabilities Act compliance, 125 Science building replacement windows, fire protection for the tower, a new gymnasium and new, gray, metal panel roofing for the administration building to replace the dilapidated tile.

Bob DuBray, GSC's Physical Plant Administrator, "We're thankful we've been hurt from falling roof tiles; a good, strong cause us to find half-a-dozen of them on the ground." He said.

DuBray assumed his position in 1998, replacing Glenn Olds.

DuBray, originally from Massachusetts, owned a successful general contracting firm in Florida. The company handled jobs for Disney and was part of the largest remodeling project in history, the Orlando airport. After moving to West Virginia, his wife, Carol, last year and he bought a home in Bridgeport, he went through the process of



Sherrie Hardman, Mercury

Bob DuBray

obtaining State contractors' licenses to create a new corporation; then he saw the GSC job offered in the newspaper.

"I like big and challenging projects," he shrugged. His new job has many. "We have one of the older [educational] institutions in the state. When there's major investments in maintenance, and the issues going along with it, you don't always get the best value for your dollar. It's tough."

"I'm trying to get to the point where we have reduced the number of emergencies, and start actual preventive maintenance," he continued. "Preventive maintenance is something that's more-or-less been overlooked because of the involvement of our [maintenance] staff in 'putting out fires', one emergency after another."

GSC's Maintenance Department has 37 people on staff, including 20 custodians, 5 administrative and 12 general maintenance positions, and also manages grounds-keeping, shipping/receiving, and the college

motor-pool.

Construction begins on the Science Hall elevator May 17 and should be completed by the beginning of Oct., and will run concurrently with the Science Hall's window-replacement. This project will entail new offices being built onto each floor of the building. "It's gonna be nice," says DuBray.

The pedestrian bridge connecting the new LBH elevator with the AB's second floor is a combination of aesthetic and financial concern. "Instead of going to the expense of building an elevator in each, we can reduce that cost and establish ADA compliance in both buildings," nodded DuBray. The LBH elevator will be finished by the middle of June.

Longer-range renovation goals are many. "Heating and air-conditioning is an ultimate goal. That is a big dollar item, and it's a very slow process with this many buildings involved. The only fast way to do it is spend an exorbitant amount of money to build a central heating and air facility, then pipe all the buildings together on one network."

Instead, the college has opted to upgrade one building at a time. According to DuBray, "We're in the process of finishing up a performance contract. All the buildings on the campus were evaluated for their overall efficiency. The library had the worst rating of all the buildings, so that's the one we started on."

The performance contractor implements improvements for lighting, heating and air conditioning, and also the roofs. "Then they're responsible for monitoring the performance of the buildings for the next ten years. During that period, the performance contract ultimately pays for the renovation," stated DuBray.

When asked about replacement of the gymnasium floor, DuBray shook his head in resignation. "That floor's been sanded so many times, there's only a very thin, thin layer of wood left. It'd be very expensive having one more sanding done; we could lose the floor! There's been a moisture problem with the pool being underneath. I imagine when that floor was put in, there were no such thing as vapor barriers."

Also this summer will be the glazing and resealing of all the windows in the Physical Education building, which are falling out. This will be done by in-house maintenance.

The GSC president's house has been renovated, to include rewiring, new furnace and air-conditioning, and correction of plumbing deficiencies. Longer range plans include renovating the dorms.

DuBray said dorm rooms would be painted this summer. If students want a different color, they could buy paint and repaint the rooms themselves.

"However, we do ask they contact us to make sure we can

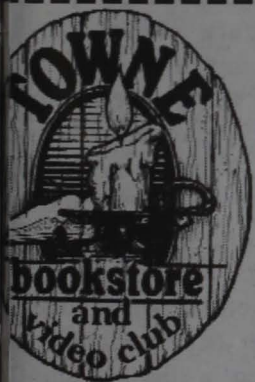
give them advice on getting compatible paint, something that will adhere to the paint already on the wall, so when we have to go in and repaint it; it's not a major operation."

Bill Diehl, Director of Administrative Services, addressed potential student concerns of all the costly renovations. "Some students are bound to wonder how we can spend so much money on these projects while the dorms need obvious renovation."

"But the fact is," Diehl continued, "We are legally unable to use State and Federal funding for dorm maintenance. The dorms were constructed mainly by selling bonds, and those will all be paid this year. There's much we want to do with the dorms, but it will take a little time to generate the five-plus million dollars required."

DuBray says he's had little problem finding quality WV contractors for the projects. "The gymnasium floor could come from out of state; a couple of firms in Charleston handle that type of renovation, but there are a lot more, particularly in North Carolina, since that's where the wood will likely come from anyway."

DuBray says he is also very much available to assist GSC members in finding contractors for personal residence projects. "Things are busy around here," he nodded. "That's the way I like it."



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**askeleanor@
gscmercury.org**

Corrections



Well, as far as we know, there are no corrections to make concerning last week's issue.

We regret any confusion for errors unknown to us, as well as the presence on this correction box. Please go about your business.

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Tasha Combs runs free

By Amy Smith
Staff Reporter

Freshman Tasha Combs is having a tremendous year. At the Mountaineer Spring Classic, held April 17 at West Virginia University, she won the 400 meter hurdle with a time of one minute and eight seconds.

She competed in a number of events, placing second in the high jump and second in the 400 meter race, with a finishing time of 1:02. Combs also placed second in the triple jump; her first attempt in this event.

Mark Stoke, with a time of 51.5 seconds, won



first place in the 400 meter dash; he also scored third in the 4 x 400 relay team.

Greg Harper was the long jump champion at the WVU Spring Classic, with a distance of 21' 8", nearing his personal best of 22' 6", achieved at the Concord Invitational. Harper also placed fifth in the 100 meter dash.

Recent tests the last straw?

Associated Press

NEW YORK - There were no announcements from the commissioner's office Tuesday on Darryl Strawberry's recent drug tests, which several baseball officials said was an indication the results did not indicate cocaine use.

Officials from the commissioner's office and the players' association conferred several times during the day. However, there were no signs there were problems with Strawberry's recent tests.

New York Yankees general manager Brian Cashman said the U.S. Major League Baseball team had not heard any updates. The commissioner's office informs teams of positive test results but not

of negative tests.

"There's nothing new to report," Cashman said before Tuesday night's game against Texas. "They won't tell unless we need to know."

The Record of Hackensack, New Jersey, reported Tuesday that results were negative from a test last Tuesday, 24 hours before Strawberry was arrested in Tampa, Florida, for cocaine possession and solicitation. The newspaper quoted sources said to be familiar with Strawberry's legal predicament.

Strawberry, 37, was at the Yankees' training camp as part of an extended spring training program. The outfielder was still rehabilitating from colon cancer surgery in October.

GSC football program under investigation

By Chris Errington,
Clarksburg Exponent-Telegram

For the second consecutive year, Glenville State College's football team will be investigated for possible NCAA violations during preseason drills.

Jack Barr, Glenville State Director of Public Relations, said the school-directed investigation into questions regarding adherence to NCAA by-laws in the conduct of spring football practice will be led by athletic director Steve Harold and completed by April 23.

"There are a number of questions we want answered, and I want to wait until the investigation is over with before we get into any specifics," Barr said.

"This is not a case where the NCAA came in and called for an investigation. (Interim) President

Bruce Flack had some questions and decided (Friday) morning on the course of action that would be taken."

A fax released by the school on April 16 said head football coach Warren Ruggiero has been reassigned from his coaching duties for the duration of the investigation. However, Ruggiero will continue his teaching assignments and other non-football athletic responsibilities.

Ron Crook, an assistant football coach, has been assigned to replace Ruggiero for the time being.

Spring practices were cancelled on Friday and the school has ordered a meeting on Monday to discuss the schedule for the rest of Glenville State's spring drills.

A year ago, the football program was placed on probation by the West Virginia

Conference for illegally taping another team's practice. That player turned out to be Fairmont State quarterback and former Liberty School standout Eric Harman.

Originally the problem prohibited Glenville State competing for the conference title, but that penalty was turned following an appeal.

Barry Blizzard, commissioner of the West Virginia Conference, said the conference won't take any action until the investigation's completion. "Anytime something like this happens to a conference school, you're concerned," Blizzard said. "Right now, we're just sitting and waiting. There's no way we would do anything until it's done."

Efforts to reach Ruggiero were unsuccessful.

Marge Schott to sell Reds

By Joe Kay
Associated Press

CINCINNATI - Marge Schott signed a \$67 million deal Tuesday to sell controlling interest in the Cincinnati Reds to a group headed by Carl Lindner, currently one of the U.S. Major League Baseball team's limited partners.

Schott, 70, owns 6 1-2 of the 15 shares in the team's partnership, including the shares that make her the general partner. She agreed to sell 5 1-2 of her shares, including the general partner shares, to Lindner and two other limited partners.

The deal, in which 36.6 percent of the Reds' shares would change hands, values the franchise at about \$182 million. The sale is subject to the approval of major league owners, a process that usually takes 6-15

months, but might move faster in the case because the purchasers already are in the partnership.

General manager Jim Bowden called it "a great day for Cincinnati baseball." He also said he and managing executive John Allen will remain in place.

Bowden said that Lindner, who owns the Great American Insurance Co., played a pivotal role in getting him an extension as general manager last year.

Schott, who will remain on as a limited partner, was ordered by baseball officials last year to sell her controlling interest or face an extension of what amounts to a suspension from most of the team's operations.

Schott took control of the team in 1984 and became president and chief executive a year later. During the 1990s, she took

a high profile in running the franchise and two wound up disciplined baseball for inflammatory remarks.

She was suspended the 1993 season for remarks that were "racist and ethnically offensive" but returned a year later. Another series of inflammatory remarks in 1992 prompted baseball to force her to turn management of the team over to Allen.

Although details of the sale weren't disclosed, a source familiar with the talks, speaking on the condition he not be identified, said Schott would get to keep a luxury suite, an office at the stadium and a group of seats.

However, baseball has the right to delete the provisions and is expected to prevent her from keeping an office at the stadium.

Sometimes your words just hypnotize me

By Sherry Newsome
Staff Reporter

On the evening of Friday, April 19, Master hypnotist Tom Bresedola appeared before a packed audience in the auditorium of the Fine Arts building. He was greeted with much enthusiasm and anticipation. The seats in the audience remained vacant.

Bresedola introduced himself to the audience and said that he has made several self-help tapes, including one for weight loss, another for study retention, and one to kick the smoking habit in the "butt". These tapes are sold throughout the town.

Next, Bresedola did a couple of hypnosis exercises involving the audience. He emphasized that anyone not wanting to participate was not obligated to do so. He explained that those individuals who like to have control of their own thoughts, and

those who want to prove that they have strong minds, are not likely candidates for hypnosis. Bresedola added that 15 minutes under hypnosis is equivalent to eight hours of sleep.

Sixteen chairs were placed across the stage in a half-circle. As soon as Bresedola uttered the words, "I need some volunteers", the stage became a writhing, squirming mass of college students, all trying to squeeze into chairs. Four additional chairs were placed on the stage, and the twenty volunteers began listening intently to Bresedola's instructions.

Throughout the show, volunteers who "woke up", were quietly asked to leave the stage. Remaining volunteers were given commands, such as imagining themselves riding on a bumpy road in a bus, piloting an airplane, driving a sleek sports car with a sunroof, attending a horse race where there was



Hypnotist Tom Bresedola entertained Glenville State College with his own special brand of Jedi mind tricks. Bresedola appeared as part of GSC Week. *Heather Eberly, Mercury*

a known pick-pocket trying to steal their money, as well as other side-splitting activities that Bresedola had them participate in.

The audience roared as one volunteer stood up in one of the aisles and "became the world's best rapper". Another volunteer was told that if

Bresedola said the color "Red", he was to become infuriated, stomp up the steps to the stage and proceed to beat the stuffing out of Bresedola. The highlight of the show was when that particular volunteer followed his command, marching up the steps, and as he approached

the hypnotist to confront him, Bresedola commanded, "Sleep!", and the student fell to the floor, sound asleep.

Gauging from the audience's reaction, this was terrific entertainment. To those who didn't get the opportunity to see the show, you don't know what you missed!

A Magical Mystery Tour At GSC

By Josalynn Hall
Staff Reporter

Oh ho it's magic! As another part of GSC Week, a magician/comedian from Houston, Texas, moved the audience with her magical as well as comedic talents.

Yes, I said HER! The magician/comedian, Becky Blaney, just happens to be the world's only female magician/comedian!

Although the turn-out for this performance was small, the reactions of those who attended were nothing but.

"She was just marvelous!" stated a very enthusiastic Nate Oyler.

"The magician was hilarious and amazing! I wish every week was GSC week!" exclaimed Brandi Adkins.

This kind of instant success seems to be the routine for Blaney. After all, she has recently been on *Lois & Clark*, HBO and Comedy Central.

So where did all this talent start? Becky Blaney grew up in an average family in Houston, Texas. She said that she has been surrounded by magic most

of her life, but didn't start practicing it until sixth grade. Many of her magic lessons were taught to her by her dad. As she got older, she went to magic conventions to enhance her magical talent.

As far as her comedy goes, Blaney says it all comes from herself. Unlike her magical talents, her comedy didn't start within her family. Blaney has been performing her comedic act for 15 years.

Before coming to Glenville State College, Blaney was on a cruise

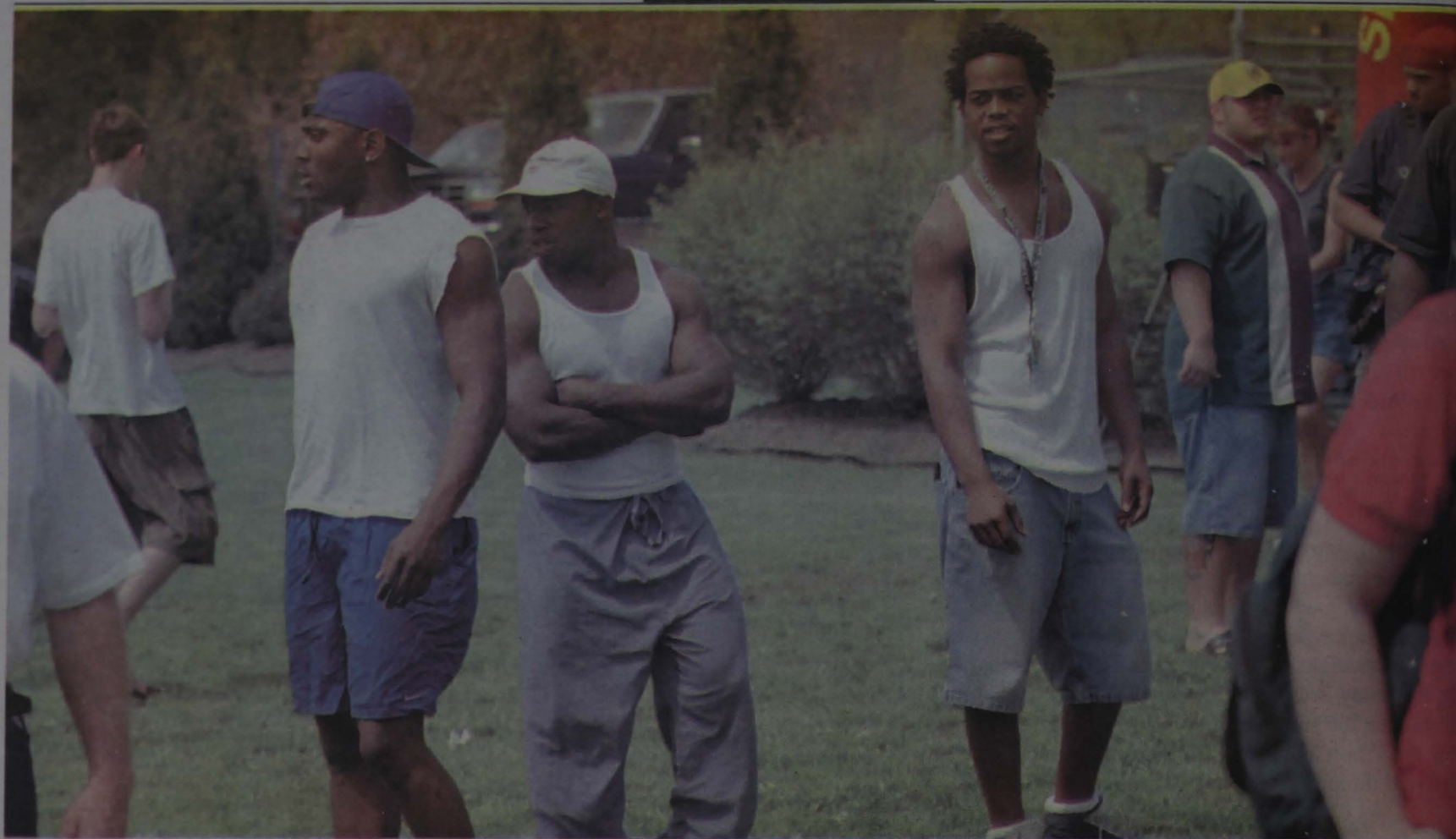


Magician Becky Blaney performed for GSC Week. *Heather Eberly, Mercury*

from Costa Rica. Her

traveling plans for the rest of the week include Las Vegas and New York.

This was a performance that should not have been missed by Glenville students.





The Mercury

Volume 70 - No. 21

A member of the Associated Press

Terry L. Estep - Interim Editor-in-chief

Amy Smith - News Editor

Chris Vannoy - Production Manager/ Layout

Heather Eberly - Copy Editor

Sherrie Hardman - Photo Editor

Bryan Norris - Advertising Director

Stephen Metz - Staff Cartoonist

Dr. Christopher Orr - Faculty Advisor

G.I. Joe - A Real American Hero

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The Wheel Turns

In a highly-coincidental turn of events, one week after the *Mercury* publishes an editorial about crazy people who kill and blame the media, we have the killings at Columbine High School in Littleton, Colorado.

The bodies were not even cold before the media started dragging out video games like *Doom* and "shock" rockers like Marilyn Manson as the easy-target boogeymen responsible for creating these unfortunate trigger-happy monsters. Somehow the media managed to miss the video game *Postal*, in which an armed man walks into the streets with a gun and starts blowing people away for no reason.

Teacher education students at Glenville State College are now facing the prospects of entering a workforce complete with guns, pipe bombs, and disaffected youth who do not seem to have the coping strategies required to follow the Judeo-Christian ethic of "Thou shalt not kill."

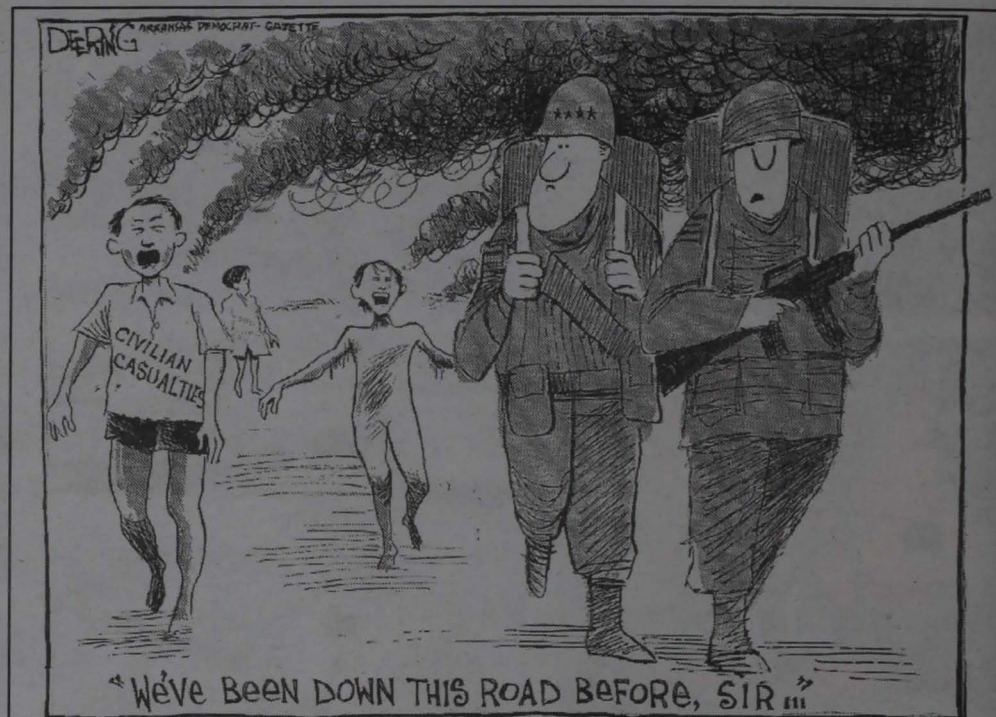
How long until Reading 101 and Classroom Management classes are supplemented by seminars with charming titles like Self-Defense 101 and Disarming Disgruntled Teens? Will teachers be issued bullet-proof vests along with chalk and erasers? What the hell is going on in this country?

While charming platitudes about the right to bear arms in this country are starting to lose their appeal in the face of such widespread violence, the guns are not the issue. The media is not the issue. Many nations have television that is more violent than anything you're likely to find over here, and yet they somehow manage to avoid the sky-high murder rates.

Louis L'Amour once told a story about children who used to carry guns to school all the time--only it was in the Old West. At one point, a group of angry men came to kill the schoolteacher, and the children were armed and held the men off. In the movie "Wrongfully Accused," Leslie Nielson finds a gun when he needs one in a student's backpack. What does this say about the state of our nation?

Something in the American mindset tells people "I can do whatever I want, and there won't be any consequences." Was it always this way?

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Reader's Corner

By *Cris Gravely*
Staff Columnist

Our campus, once the black void when it came to Greek life, is now buzzing with fraternities and sororities. Why the upsurge in the Greek system? Why would normally content young men and women suddenly decide that there is a need for another Greek organization on campus? I can't answer those questions. However, I can tell you what I'm seeing on GSC's campus.

Since its creation, Alpha Xi Omega has been at the throat of Tau Kappa Epsilon. Grafitti in the elevator, rumors about fights, and mud-slinging have been tactics that I've both seen and heard. Whether there is real animosity there is a different question. It could be a ploy by some student to start a fight between the two organizations, but why? What would be gained?

Then there is the question of friendship between

members of different organizations. Since Delta Zeta has become a part of the past on our campus, three, count 'em, three, new sororities have cropped up. One is the sister organization of AXO, one is basically DZ revisited, and the other is just a bunch of friends who live on the same floor of the dormitory. What's the difference between these organizations? I don't know and I'm sure you'd be hard pressed to find anyone who could tell you. Why, then, the animosity between certain members?

I have witnessed, firsthand, the near destruction of several friendships over membership in different sororities. One woman claims that she just can't join the other group because the organization doesn't "stand for" what she "stands for." What does that mean? I have seen no real difference in these organizations or what they "stand for." Is the cost of being a "sister" losing someone who is like a sister

to you already?

I never have understood Greek life and I guess I never will. I don't see the need to join a group of people who put you through trials to be accepted. I have friends who accept me for who I am without putting me through a "pledge week." I don't have to wear "letters" to let people know that I have friends. Yet, while I don't understand the Greek system and what it offers, I'm sure there are some benefits like meeting new people, community service, and getting to wear really cool shirts with letters in a foreign language on them.

Ladies and gentlemen of the Greek system, listen up. If you're all going to exist on the same campus you must do one thing: Grow up. There is no need for the fierce competition, the insults, or the ended friendships. After all, you're all doing the same things, only the name of the club is different.

SUBMISSION GUIDELINES

The Mercury 200 High Street - Box 207 Glenville, WV 26351
All articles submitted for publication in *The Mercury* must be typed and double-spaced. Stories and announcements should be addressed c/o Terry Estep. 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 Sherrie Hardman, photo editor.

Motives blurred in Colo. shooting

By Chris Vannoy
Staff Columnist

As you all know by now, there was a horrific school shooting last week in Colorado. In some of the media coverage, I was dismayed to see the suspects' actions being blamed on the "Gothic Movement." Why, you say? It was their trenchcoats and musical tastes, of course.

First of all, a trenchcoat doesn't mean squat. It's a piece of clothing, people, and not one that's necessarily "goth." I see them in "Casablanca." Was Bogart a goth? I have yet to hear anyone argue this point.

"The alienation of so many of our generation, what I like to call the Prozac generation, is a national problem, and it is sad to see that even something as tragic as the events of last week cannot shed light on this epidemic..."

In fact, let's talk about this "Trenchcoat Mafia" for a second. Lost in the media's hustle for a catchy phrase was the fact, as told by one of the suspect's friends in the school, that this "mafia" was nothing more than a harmless high school clique. These kids in trenchcoats were not screaming, "We're bad mothers!" They were showing that they didn't fit in, which is really at the root of this rash of school

shootings.

Which also explains their tastes in music. Marilyn Manson has worked very hard to attract the alienated youth of America. As another point, despite popular opinion, he's not gothic. Manson is the music for goth teenyboppers. He knows how to sell records, not incite violence.

The point I am trying to make is that trenchcoats and Manson are not the

cause of the shooting, but rather a symptom of the underlying problem. The alienation of so many of our generation, what I like to call the Prozac generation, is a national problem, and it is sad to see that even something as tragic as the events of last week cannot shed light on this epidemic.

This generation has grown up in a world that is much less caring than the world in which their parents grew up. These days most families have both parents working. Kids are forced to raise themselves as their parents fret about their jobs and social stand-

ing, when they should be worried about how their children turn out.

Am I sorry for the victims and their families? Of course I am, and deeply so, but I also feel sorry for the suspects. I wish I could apologize for this society that had forgotten about them and their needs, this society that marginalized and ignored them. It doesn't excuse what they did, nothing could, but I wish something could be learned from this incident, rather than seeing the usual scapegoats being force-fed down our throats.

Silence the bells

By Josalynn Hall
Staff Columnist

Ding, ding, ding dong!

That's a sound too familiar to students within auditory range of the Glenville State College clock tower. Unfortunately, the chimes aren't that short, or quiet, for that matter.

I'm pretty sure I'm not alone when I say "Enough already!" Yes, the first few seconds of the chimes are charming, but good heavens, do they have to be so loud and long?

I can't count how many times I have been asleep, in class, trying to study, watching TV, or just hanging out when those chimes go off and I can find myself totally annoyed.

Now, I'm not talking about the hour bell tolls, just the long, interminable musical chimes.

Call me Scrooge if you want, but if I could get the chimes to stop, I'm sure a lot of people would call me an angel of mercy.

Where's Elmer?

By Maryanne Gelsi
Staff Columnist

The maintenance department has lost a valuable worker. Elmer Malley has taken his earned 128 sick days that have accumulated over thirteen years of service to Glenville State College.

Five years ago, Elmer was diagnosed with epilepsy. It hasn't made a difference in his work performance, although some are worried that he may hurt himself.

"The college calls it retirement," states Malley. "I'm scared. This is the first time I've been unemployed in 30 years." Bill Diehl, head of personnel, explains, "Elmer is still employed by GSC, but it's time for him to think about himself."

Elmer has proven to be a tremendously dedicated and committed worker. He has a pleasant personality, is easy to work with, and does the job right. If he



Terry Estep, Mercury

Elmer Malley

leaves GSC, it will be a tremendous loss. Maintenance will hire a temporary worker until Malley is reinstated or permanently dismissed.

With all his newly free time, Malley has been going on long walks and dealing with the social security office. "I miss working terribly. I miss my floors, but most of all, I miss those kids."

Telemarketing flood in West Virginia?

The Charleston Gazette:

well, nor do most offer health benefits.

Is West Virginia going to become a state filled with telemarketers? Not likely, but predictions by West Virginia Occupational Projections indicate a tremendous growth in telemarketing jobs in the state between 1996 and 2006.

Meanwhile, the projection is for high-paying mining jobs to continue their historical decline. Jobs in coal, oil and gas are supposed to drop by 8 percent by 2006.

There is both good news and bad news in these predictions. The state's economy is diversifying, which is a positive development. West Virginia's economic fate has been dependent on coal's for far too long.

Though coal provided many good-paying jobs, the boom-and-bust cycle combined with increased mechanization has made lasting prosperity a pipe dream.

The bad news is that the kinds of telemarketing and retail jobs that are replacing coal mining and other manufacturing positions don't pay nearly as

Perhaps the most important challenge facing the state is how to supplement part-time, low-wage Ticketmaster and Wal-Mart jobs with the kind of jobs that can support families.

West Virginia's lack of flat land makes more large developments like Toyota's Buffalo plant unlikely.

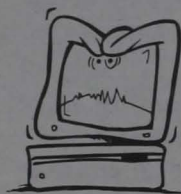
Mountaintop-removal-mining advocates hype the potential of reclaimed sites for this kind of development, but no real private-sector development has ever occurred after 20 years of this type of mining. Most current mining sites are too far from highways to make development feasible.

West Virginia is ideally suited as a location for small, technical firms, such as software manufacturers, Web designers and other companies that don't need large, flat areas and whose employees would enjoy the quality of life that the state offers.

The state has a good technical infrastructure. It has good schools and an eager work force.

THE VIRTUAL LIBRARIAN: Going cyber-postal

By Ben Bruton
Guest Columnist



"Just don't provoke the librarian. I used to be a postal worker."

My favorite scenario: a student sends some full-text articles from EbscoHost to his e-mail account, but when he goes to check his e-mail, the articles are not there.

So what happened? Is there something wrong with EbscoHost? Did the articles get sent at all, or are they just slow in arriving?

E-mail is fast and usually takes only a few seconds to reach its destination. However, just like the good ole U.S. Postal Service, e-mail has to travel to several different points before it can be delivered.

To better illustrate this, let's pretend that you, the

reading public, are an e-mail message. Once you are done being typed, you are sent to an "internal router," a computer that—much like a disgruntled postal employee—looks at your address to determine if you go to another address within the same "local" jurisdiction (like someone who works in the same building or company) or to an outside address. For the sake of argument, we'll say that you have an outside address.

Next, you may have to pass through a "firewall," a computer that examines every message that enters or leaves the system, looking for anything that does not meet specific security criteria. Firewalls exist to block out unauthorized messages or viruses. I like to think of a firewall as a psychotic postal worker prone to random acts of meaningless violence; he looks you over, and if he likes you, he'll let you through - if he doesn't like you, he'll blow

you away with his assault rifle.

He decides you're OK, so he lets you through. Now you arrive at the "external router," who has to determine where to send you next. The external router checks the "domain."

The domain is the part of the e-mail address that comes after the @ sign - as in "hotmail.com" or "yahoo.com". Once the external router knows your domain, you are sent to your destination, but you might have to pass through yet another firewall, and a computer on the other end still has to sort you and make sure you get into the right mailbox.

So as you can see, e-mail does a lot of bouncing around in cyberspace before

it reaches your mailbox, and this can mean delays. Sometimes, popular e-mail services like Hotmail receive so much e-mail at one time that the routers get clogged and it can take hours, possibly even days before a message is received.

So back to my scenario: what do I tell the student who wants to know why his EbscoHost article hasn't reached his e-mail account yet? Be patient! It may still be on its way, hung up in transit. Wait a few hours and check your e-mail again.

If you don't have a few hours, try sending it again.

Just don't provoke the librarian. I used to be a postal worker.

Aging expert: Genes are no predictor of destiny

By Paula Story,
Associated Press

PITTSBURGH -- While expert Robert Kahn addressed a conference on aging, 75-year-old Anthony LaCapra was completing his 1 1/2-hour workout on a stationary bike and treadmill.

Kahn explained that much of what Americans believe about aging is either myth or half-truth. LaCapra, who is

retired, was following a fitness regimen that would make many youthful weekend warriors weep.

After his workout on the bike and treadmill, he uses resistance weights for about an hour before turning to the pool for an hour of laps.

And LaCapra does this three times each week.

"I feel better today than I did at 30," he said.

He began going to the gym

at the suggestion of his doctor about a decade ago. He suffered a massive tear in his rotator cuff while working as a warehouseman. His physician said he could recover more quickly if he built up his strength.

"I had my ups and downs in earlier years," LaCapra said. "But it dawned on me after I retired. Instead of being a couch potato, I could keep active and live longer."

That's just what Kahn, co-

author of the book "Successful Aging," was telling an audience April 9 at the 14th Annual Regional Geriatric Conference. Upstairs, in the Downtown Athletic Club, LaCapra was working out.

"It's up to you, genes are not your destiny," said Kahn, a psychology and public health professor at the University of Michigan.

Kahn, 81, says, while many people blame "getting old" on

fate and genetics, staying young is mostly a lifestyle choice.

While your cellular blueprint does have some influence on how well you age, much of that can be counteracted with a lifestyle that includes regular exercise and healthy eating habits.

Staying mentally active and maintaining connections to other people through family, volunteer work or hobbies is also important.

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PICNIC

Chi Beta Phi and the American Chemical Society will be hosting a picnic on April 27, 1999, from 5 - 7 p.m. at the Rec Center.

Any math, chemistry, biology or associated majors are invited to attend.

All faculty of the Math and Science Hall are encouraged to attend.

If interested, please sign in at Mr. Peck's office on the third floor of the Science Hall.

Science with the Particle Lady

STD's: Genital Warts and Syphilis

By BJ Woods
Staff Columnist

In continuing with the series on Sexually Transmitted Diseases, I would like to take a few moments and write on two more very prevalent STD's: Genital Warts and Syphilis.

Genital warts are caused by a group of viruses called the human papilloma viruses or HPV. The warts form on, in or around the genitals and anus. There are over 60 different types of HPV—so far only 14 have been found to cause warts in the genital area.

HPV, virus that causes genital warts, is generally transmitted by sexual contact. The incubation period may vary from a few weeks to a couple of years. The virus can be passed to infants from their mother during birth.

The only symptoms are the warts themselves. Genital warts vary in size and shape and are similar in appearance to the planter warts. They are typically hard and yellow-gray when formed on dry skin and tend to be pink, soft and take on a cauliflower appearance in

moist areas like the lower vagina. The preferred treatment for these is the freezing of the warts (cryotherapy) with liquid nitrogen. The warts may also be surgically removed or burnt off by a doctor using electrodes or a laser. Although the warts can be physically removed, treatment does not eliminate the virus from the body, so the warts may occur at any time.

Genital warts, themselves, are not dangerous. But the different forms of the HPV virus have been linked with cervical and penile cancers. HPV has been found in the reproductive tract of at least 85% of women with pre-cancerous lesions of the cervix and also in women with abnormalities of the cervix.

Syphilis is a sexually transmitted bacterial infection. It can also be transmitted from a pregnant woman to her unborn child.

Syphilis progresses through several stages, each of which has characteristic symptoms. In the first or primary stage, a painless ulcer appears at the site of infection 2-4

weeks after contact. In women, the ulcer usually forms on the vaginal walls or on the cervix. It may also appear on the labia.

In men, the ulcer forms on the tip of the penis or sometimes on the scrotum or the penile shaft. If the mode of transmission is oral, the ulcer may appear on the lips or tongue. If infected during anal sex, the rectum may become the site for the ulcer. The ulcer disappears after a few weeks. If the infection is not treated, syphilis will remain in the body.

The secondary stage begins a few weeks to a few months later. It is indicated by the appearance of a skin rash consisting of painless, reddish raised bumps that later darken and burst. Other symptoms include sores in the mouth, painful swelling of the joints, sore throat, headache, and fever. These symptoms are much like the flu.

The infection is contagious during the primary stage and for several years into the secondary stage. When the symptoms disappear and the

infection enters a latent stage, it may lie dormant for 1-40 years. The offending bacteria continue to multiply during this stage and burrow into the circulatory system, central nervous system and bones.

The disease often progresses to a late or tertiary stage causing large ulcers to form on the digestive organs, liver, lungs, skin, muscle tissue, or other organs. While this ulcer can be destructive, it can be successfully treated. Serious damage can occur when the infection attacks the cardiovascular system or the central nervous system.

The damage to the central nervous system can cause brain damage and result in paralysis or a form of deteriorating mental illness. Often the primary and secondary symptoms disappear so patients assume, incorrectly, they are no longer infected. If diagnosed at either the primary or secondary stages, there is time to treat the disease. Once it reaches the tertiary stage the consequences can be dire.

There are a broad spectrum of antibiotics that are rec-

ommended for treatment. Pregnant women should be treated with specific antibiotic. Periodic repeat blood tests are recommended to ensure the infection has been arrested. Like other STD's, successful treatment does not prevent the infection. All sex partners should be told of an infection and seek the advice of a doctor.

The consequences of syphilis are depending on the stage. If untreated, syphilis lapses into a latent phase during which the patient is no longer contagious. Many people will suffer no more consequences of the disease. However, 15% to 40% of people infected with syphilis go on to develop the complications of tertiary syphilis where the bacteria damages the heart, eyes, brain, nervous system, bones and joints. The final stage can lead to mental illness, blindness, heart disease and death.

Til next week, take care as you travel the halls of science. For comments or suggestions please feel free to contact the Particle Lady at gsc01293@mail.wvnet.edu.

Alice Walker

Author of *The Color Purple*

At the University of Charleston
Riggleman Hall Auditorium
Wednesday, April 28, 1999
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Computer Dude

Clarification on recent ISP column

By Rob Kerns
Staff Columnist

I need to make a correction. In my last column, I commented on the local ISPs (Internet Service Providers) and made my recommendation based on those ISPs I discussed. It was brought to my attention the following week that I had forgotten the most obvious ISP: the college. WVNET's services for Internet completely slipped my mind, and I am truly sorry for that slight.

The college is a local hub for WVNET, the West Virginia Network. The base package for a WVNET account is 100 hours per month at a cost of \$16.95. I made some inquiries and further learned

that WVNET also gives each account free space for a webpage: 2Mb. There has been talk in the WVNET ranks that this will be changed to 4Mb, but as of press time, all available information pointed to the 2Mb figure.

The college has 46 modems here, in Glenville, with another 46 modems at the Nicholas County Center. I know a couple of people who use the college, and they are quite satisfied with its Internet service.

Even with my recent enlightenment on behalf of the Computer Center, my recommendation of Ramco Technologies Online still stands. For \$15.00 per month, a person will receive unlimited access to the Internet and 10Mb of free webspace, available upon demand.

John Cusack breaks loose from teeny-bopper icon status

By Mark Kennedy
Associated Press

NEW YORK - Black, it would seem, is the operative word in John Cusack's life.

It's the color of the 32-year-old actor's typical wardrobe, the way he prefers his coffee and the style of filmmaking he champions: dark, murky and vaguely dangerous.

Yet black isn't exactly Cusack's personality.

"He's like this great big Labrador puppy that comes up at you slobbering all over the place," says Mike Newell, the director of Cusack's new offbeat comedy, "Pushing Tin."

That earnest, unintentional quality is hard to miss when Cusack strides into the Four Seasons hotel lobby, ostensibly for an interview, but more intent on a nicotine fix.

He's decked out in black, of course, from the dark sunglasses poised like a tiara on his head to his jet-black high tops. Like his films, it's a mix of art-school chic

and frat-boy comfort.

In "Pushing Tin," Cusack and Billy Bob Thornton play two macho, messianic air-traffic controllers who become involved in a high-stakes contest of wits and wills.

"I like characters on the fringes," Cusack says, exhaling a mouthful of filterless American Spirit smoke. "Maybe it's their conflicts or what they go through. They're more human in some ways. Maybe it's because I've always felt like an outsider."

"You know, even though I'm an actor and they pay me a lot of money and all that, I've never really felt like a part of the Establishment. You know, I can go to cocktail parties and do their stuff, but I never feel like I want to be there."

Much of Cusack's quirky film career can be traced to this profound unease — he's just not the Hollywood schmoozing, air-kissing type: The one-time prince of the 1980s teen flick refuses to knuckle under.

"I play by the rules — some-

times," he says, with a sly smile. "I think I participate in the system more than when I was younger. But they've definitely stopped sending me traditional scripts — they figure I won't do them."

Cusack says he gravitates toward characters "who have conflict and transformation" and says he wants "entertainment that has ideas." If having both leads to really twisted roles, that's fine.

"If the character is firmly happy, then he's in the Establishment and there's no growth potential. I'd rather have him in the mainstream and fall out. Or you can have him try to slip in the back door."

Early in his career, though, Cusack toed the line. At age 17, he landed his first semi-major part, in the teen sex romp, "Class." That was followed by a string of teen romance comedies, including "Sixteen Candles," "The Sure Thing," and "Better Off Dead."

All that seemed to change once he raised a boom box over his head outside Ione Skye's win-

dow in 1989's "Say Anything." His Lloyd Dobler, a sweet teenage misfit, was portrayed with such naked yearning that the film transcended its teenybopper audience.

It would be Cusack's last dance with the genre. He switched gears to play a hustler in "The Grifters," which led him to the attention of Woody Allen, who cast him in "Shadows and Fog" and "Bullets Over Broadway."

Cusack's declaration of identity came in 1997 with New Crime's first film, the pitch-dark "Grosse Pointe Blank," which he co-wrote and starred in. It was about a hit man with a pet cat and a therapist, and an invitation to his class reunion.

"I thought it was pure social satire. Some people got that and some people just thought it was a romantic date movie. That's fine. I said, 'OK.' I mean, it was absolutely absurdist."

Cusack is the kind of guy who'd rather hear nervous laughter in a theater than the fiery

explosions of a summer blockbuster. With the exception of "Con Air," he has declined such mainstream fare as "White Men Can't Jump," "Sleeping With the Enemy" and "Indecent Proposal."


"Yeah, I've turned down some things that have made a whole lot of money," he says. "I just didn't want to do it. And when I saw the movie, I still didn't want to do it — even though it made \$110 million!"

Gobs of cash simply aren't Cusack's style. He is a devotee of Noam Chomsky and The Clash, and a self-described champion of art over commerce. So he's as noir as his arching black eyebrows.

"Most great plays or films are about questioning, trying to debunk illusions, from the personal to the societal level, from the micro to the macro."

"I'm not saying every film has to be political but the level of hypocrisy in people and in institutions..." he says, trailing off. "The noise is deafening."


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Celebrity Deathmatch: The fame game turns brutal for laughs

By Frazier Moore,
Associated Press

NEW YORK — "Celebrity Deathmatch" is funny. Violently funny. Gruesomely funny.

And that's not all. It's a breath of fresh air in a world suffocating on celebrity. Take a whiff of this: famous people fabulously clobbering each other!

Granted, the mayhem and matchups are all (sigh) make-believe. It isn't really Ice Cube who squares off against Ice-T. Or Hillary Rodham Clinton punishing Monica Lewinsky. Or Britain's Prince Charles vs. the Artist Formerly Known as Prince.

But it's the next best thing.

On "Deathmatch," the celebrities are represented by puppet caricatures. Then these clay-and-plastic effigies come out swinging on this ultimate-fighting spoof.

"Celebrity Deathmatch," which airs on MTV at 10 p.m. EDT Thursday, is produced in a tranquil high-rise in Manhattan's theater district. In each of a dozen offices-turned-studios, action sequences with the Barbie-size replicas are meticulously animated, frame by frame.

Overseeing this entire pugilistic enterprise is Eric Fogel, who created the series.

"No harm intended," said the 29-year-old Fogel who, in T-

shirt and cords, seemed sufficiently credible professing his "innocent love of cartoon violence."

He was talking about the time-honored toon convention that permits Wile E. Coyote to sustain a grievous injury in his pursuit of the Road Runner, then fully recover by the next scene. That's what inspires Fogel to put Larry King in the ring with Geraldo Rivera, who, stretching back Larry's suspender and letting it go, lops off Larry's left arm at the shoulder.

"No harm intended," as Fogel would say. And one-armed Larry King fights on.

Meanwhile, from the

announcers' booth in the Deathmatch Arena, tuxedoed Johnny Gomez and Nick Diamond dispatch their zesty analysis.

Hear Nick introducing the event that pits Madonna against Michael Jackson: "Two pop stars ... one ring ... equals Deathmatch carnage the whole family can enjoy!"

But when the Gloved One encounters Madonna's flying fists, he clearly doesn't have a prayer. "His innocence may shame our corrupt adult world," Johnny muses, "but it's no match for kah-rah-taay!"

On another card, watermelon-smashing comic Gallagher

swiftly finishes off the rock-star Gallagher brothers, Liam and Noel—by smashing both their heads with a sledgehammer.

And when the female stars of "Friends" duke it out, Jennifer Aniston beans Courteney Cox with an espresso machine. Then Courteney stuffs her knee down Lisa Kudrow's throat.

"I'll allow it!" barks the anything-goes referee, Mills Lane.

No one gets out of that match alive.

Along with the appeal of its comic bloodlust, Fogel conceded that his show "does celebrate the absurdity of the glamorous life these people live, and of all of us viewing it."

Networks bursting with May Sweeps miniseries, specials, finales

By Lynn Elber,
Associated Press

LOS ANGELES (AP) — An out-of-control train loaded with nuclear weapons speeds through the Rocky Mountains, threatening to wipe out a huge hunk of America's West.

A disaster like that can mean only one thing: Sweeps have arrived with the usual excess of movies, specials and mayhem. So we get NBC's "Atomic Train" and other culturally uplifting shows such as "Teen People's 21 Hottest Stars Under 21."

The May sweeps, one of the three key ratings-measurement periods used to help local TV stations set ad rates, have the honor of featuring season and series finales. Among those departing this year: "Home Improvement" and "Melrose Place."

Miniseries and Movies

"Dean Koontz's Mr. Murder": Stephen Baldwin, Thomas Haden Church and

James Coburn star in Koontz's tale of a mystery writer stalked by a ruthless stranger. ABC, 9-11 p.m. Monday, April 26, and Thursday, April 29.

"Noah's Ark": Academy Award-winners all, Jon Voight is the faithful ark builder, Mary Steenburgen plays his wife and F. Murray Abraham is Lot. NBC, 9 p.m. Sunday and Monday, May 2-3.

"The Simple Life of Noah Dearborn": Sidney Poitier plays a carpenter who has managed to remain uncorrupted by modern life. Dianne Wiest and Mary-Louise Parker co-star. CBS movie, 9 p.m. Sunday, May 9.

"Our Guys": Ally Sheedy, Eric Stoltz and Heather Matarazzo in film based on Bernard Lefkowitz's nonfiction book about the sexual assault of a mentally deficient girl by a town's most popular boys. ABC, 9 p.m. Monday, May 10.

"Survivor": Greg Evigan is foreman of an oil rig crew that drills up an alien in the

Arctic. UPN movie, 8 p.m. Thursday, May 13.

"Atomic Train": A train loaded with nuclear weapons and waste speeds out of control toward Denver. Rob Lowe, Esai Morales and Kristin Davis star. NBC, 9 p.m. Sunday and Monday, May 16-17.

"Joan of Arc": French teen-ager's life gets the all-star treatment with Jacqueline Bisset, Peter O'Toole and Shirley MacLaine. Leelee Sobieski plays Joan. CBS, 9 p.m. Sunday, May 16, and Tuesday, May 18.

Angela Lansbury is "The Unexpected Mrs. Pollifax": a widow who finds herself on a mission for the CIA in the CBS movie airing 9 p.m. Thursday, May 20.

"Dr. Quinn, Medicine Woman": Jane Seymour and Joe Lando reunite in a movie based on the canceled series. CBS, 8 p.m. Saturday, May 22.

"Cleopatra": Leonor Varela, Billy Zane and

Timothy Dalton star in a Hallmark Entertainment miniseries based on Margaret George's novel, "The Memoirs of Cleopatra." ABC, 9 p.m. Sunday and Monday, May 23-24.

ISN'T THAT SPECIAL:

"The World's Scariest Explosions: Caught on Tape!" promises "newly declassified" footage of blasts that destroyed cars, planes and buildings. Fox, 9 p.m. Thursday, April 29.

"WWF Smackdown!" features the top men and women of wrestling in a two-hour special airing 8 p.m. Thursday, April 29, on UPN.

"A Celebration: 100 Years of Great Women, With Barbara Walters" celebrates the 20th century's most influential, distinguished and interesting women. ABC, 9:30 p.m. Friday, April 30.

"World's Most Dangerous Magic II" lets magicians face "danger, high risk and the threat of imminent death," all

for our entertainment. NBC, 7 p.m. Sunday, May 2.

Actor Stacy Keach narrates "Run for Cover," about photographers who place themselves at risk to get the shot. ABC, 10 p.m. Thursday, May 20.

"Teen People's 21 Hottest Stars Under 21" include Nick Carter of The Backstreet Boys, actress-singer Brandy and actresses Kirsten Dunst, Jennifer Love Hewitt and Katie Holmes. ABC, 8 p.m. Friday, May 21.

Heather Locklear and the "Melrose Place" gang say goodbye with the final episode airing 8 p.m. Monday, May 24, on Fox.

"Mad About You" concludes with a hourlong episode airing 9 p.m. Monday, May 24, on NBC. Janeane Garofalo is among the guest stars.

Tim Allen closes the "Home Improvement" tool box with a 90-minute finale on ABC, 8 p.m. Tuesday, May 25, on ABC.

"Life" sucks

Reel World
Movie Reviews
by Chris Vannoy

"Life," the latest Eddie Murphy vehicle, and also starring Martin Lawrence, is yet another movie that can't decide if it's a comedy or drama.

The movie opens with Ray Gibson (Murphy) and Claude Banks (Lawrence) traveling to Mississippi to pay off outstanding debts by bootlegging whiskey in the 1920's. While there, they are framed for a murder that was actually committed by the town's sheriff. They are convicted to life imprisonment for the crime.

The rest of the movie takes place in a hard labor camp, with intermittent flashes of drama and half-hearted attempts at comedy.

The plot is an old one. It brings to mind such movies as "The Shawshank Redemption." "Life," however, tries to mine it for laughs, while forgetting the social context of the story.

Most of the time this

formula is used in a movie it is to expose the injustice of it all. Discrimination in the Deep South was brutal in the early part of this century (and by most accounts, fairs little better today). "Life" conveniently side-steps these hard issues, after all, it's a comedy.

Of course, it's not a very good comedy. Most of the parts that are supposed to be humorous are stale, and the director was forced to rely on the questionable skills of the lead actors. Murphy continues with his standard shtick, as does Lawrence. Don't expect anything new from these two as far as this movie is concerned.

One bright point is the work of Oscar winning make-up man, Rick Baker's job in portraying the aging of Ray and Claude. Unfortunately, not even Baker can save this movie.

I'd save your time and money, and I sincerely doubt it's worth the walk down the hill when the video comes out.

GSC Choir Spring Concert

By Allison Tant
Staff Reporter

The music department put on their annual spring concert on the evening of April 22 under the direction of Charles W. Miller. The evening started with several pieces performed by the concert choir including "Just

A Closer Walk With Thee" and "Give Me Your Tired, Your Poor". The had sang the second piece at the state's capitol in Charleston. The second part of the show consisted of a medley from the musical "Rent" performed by the Chamber Singers.

After this performance,

the Concert Choir returned to the stage and presented "Kronungs-Messe", a piece written by Mozart at age 19, with a solo by Mary Calame. The concert ended on a appropriate note with the college's Alma Mater.

Everyone in attendance seemed to be impressed with the show.

New leads in Biggie case

Associated Press

LOS ANGELES - Imprisoned Death Row Records founder Marion "Suge" Knight is under investigation in the murder of rap star The Notorious B.I.G., who was gunned down outside a music industry party two years ago, police said Wednesday.

Search warrants were served Tuesday at the record label's headquarters and other locations, and a vehicle owned by the company was seized. There were no arrests, however, and no charges have been filed.

Police would not say what pointed the investigation to Knight, who is in

prison for violating his probation in a 1992 attack on two rappers in a Hollywood studio.

"He was in custody at the time so he didn't pull the trigger," said Lt. Al Michelena of the Police Department's robbery-homicide unit. "We are investigating the possibility of him being implicated in this. We would certainly consider him a possible suspect."

There was no immediate comment from Knight's lawyer, David Kenner. A telephone message requesting comment was left at the attorney's office Wednesday.

Michelena would not discuss a possible motive. He said affidavits that led a

judge to sign the search warrants state probable cause but those documents were sealed.

Death Row became a major rap label, featuring Tupac Shakur, Snoop Doggy Dogg and Dr. Dre. But the company is now struggling. Shakur was fatally shot while driving with Knight in Las Vegas, and Snoop Doggy Dogg and co-founder Dr. Dre have left Death Row.

The Notorious B.I.G., whose real name was Christopher Wallace, was shot while sitting in a GMC Suburban after leaving a March 9, 1997, party at the Petersen Auto Museum. The killer was in another car and got away.

Sci-Fi Week: "Tremors" and "Species"

By Heather Eberly
and Chris Vannoy
Staff Columnists

Her Pick:

My pick for the week is "Tremors", written by S.S. Wilson and Brent Maddock, and directed by Ron Underwood. "Tremors" is a little sci-fi tale of two local yokels, Val (Kevin Bacon) and Earl (Fred Ward), who have just discovered a new kind of life-form underneath the ground of their town and outlying areas. With the help of an intelligent and gutsy student geologist, they take on the underground monsters and save the day. "Tremors" may not have an all-star cast, but everyone knows Kevin Bacon. This

is a "B" movie, but it is meant to be. The plot is a bit outlandish, but the special effects are good, the dialogue is fabulous, and the acting is superb. I recommend this movie to anybody with a sense of humor and a love for cheesiness. This is my littlest brother's favorite movie of all time, and he's not known to be wrong very often. Just ask him. If you want a little bit of escapism with laughs, this is your movie.

His Pick:

H.R. Giger is the designer behind the sci-fi bogeyman, the Alien (from "Alien," of course). With "Species," he's back with a vengeance.

The movie, starring Ben

Kingsley, Michael Madsen, and Natasha Henstridge (as the Giger creation, "Sil"), is basically a B-movie with a great cast and decent budget. There's plenty of gratuitous nudity and violence. As an added bonus, it sports a hackneyed plot involving aliens, of all things.

What the movie lacks in script, it makes up for with Giger's creation, a close cousin to the Alien, while remaining somewhat original. Another redeeming factor is the ensemble cast, which also includes Alfred Molina and Forest Whitaker.

Overall, "Species" is a fun sci-fi movie that doesn't tax your brain too much, keeps you interested, and provides plenty of eye candy for your viewing pleasure.



He Said
She Said
Movie Reviews

LIBERTY MEADOWS by Frank Cho



KUDZU by Doug Marlette



ONE BIG HAPPY by Rick Detorie



LIFE IN HELL by Matt Groening



Mystic Alley

Horoscope by Alli the Mystical

TAURUS: (Apr 21- May 21) This is a time where you need to use tact, diplomacy, and wit instead of bullying to achieve your goal. This may leave you with a feeling of falseness, but life may be demanding it.

GEMINI: (May 22- June 21) You have completed a creative idea or project. You feel really good and satisfied about it. Even though a good foundation has been laid, there is still hard work ahead before you realize the full potential of your efforts.

CANCER: (June 22- July 23) You realize that the blindness and self delusion in your life cannot continue. You need to go ahead and take care of you situation with conflict or separation. It is necessary that you go through this pain so that you can begin the healing process.

LEO: (July 24- Aug 23) This is the final ending of a difficult situation. The ending may be painful, but at last the situation is faced truthfully, and a new future with fewer conflicts can begin.

VIRGO: (Aug 24- Sept 23) There is something from your past that is causing you to feel regret. Perhaps something didn't turn out the way it was supposed to. Because of a betrayal, you have suffered sadness and sorrow. This could mean the separation of a relationship, although not necessarily an end. There is still something left that you are holding on to which you can use to better your future.

LIBRA: (Sept 24- Oct 23) You are trying to deal with an emotional situation and there doesn't seem to be a clear solution presenting itself. You have to face the challenge of choosing and acting realistically if you are going to make your choice distinct.

SCORPIO: (Oct 24- Nov 22) Your intuition is very sharp, and there could be an encounter of some kind because of an interest in the occult.

SAGITTARIUS: (Nov 23 - Dec 21) You are going to have to play the part of the hard-working apprentice trying to gain a new skill. You have recently found that you have a talent that you should improve, perhaps a hobby that you may be considering turning into a profession. Even though you feel you "should" already be on the right track, explore your options with this new interest.

CAPRICORN: (Dec 22- Jan20) If you want to receive something better, you are going to have to give something up. You may have to give up something that's provided you with security in order to have the room to develop. You may need to give up an attitude such as intellectual superiority, holding grudges, or trying to obtain goals you can not reach. You will wait, usually with fear and anxiety, hoping for a new and better life.

AQUARIUS: (Jan 21 - Feb19) It's time for you to realize that you have creative potential stirring within yourself. This could be because of restlessness at work. You have a vague feeling of dissatisfaction, but it's not strong enough to motivate a change. You may be able to expand your life in some way.

PISCES: (Feb 20- Mar20) It is necessary that you give something up. It is time for you to face the truth of the situation. No further action will take place and there is no way to get past except to let go. This will be depressing, but the future can not be manipulated. It is time to go empty-handed into the unknown.

ARIES: (Mar21- Apr 20) This is a time when money and energy are likely to be available for new projects that might lead to a rewarding future. When opportunities arise, don't horde and save your money, use it.

**From the Faculty Senate
NOTICE OF
PROPOSED POLICY
REVISIONS**

At its April 20, 1999 meeting, the Faculty Senate proposed revisions to the policy for selecting and evaluating division chairs and revisions to the procedures for the annual evaluation of division chairs. Faculty, staff, or students have ten working days from the date of publication of this notice in the *Bulletin* and the *Mercury* (from the later date if the publications are on different days) to request a formal hearing concerning any of the proposed policy revisions. The procedure for a formal hearing is as follows:

a. Within ten working days following the publication of the policy proposal any of the three constituent groups may request a formal hearing.

b. To request the hearing, a minimum of ten members from one constituent group must sign a petition requesting such a hearing and present it to the president or chair of their campus organization.

c. Upon receipt of the petition, the president or chair of that organization must call a special meeting within 14 working days to hear the concerns.

d. If the campus organization, by majority vote, supports the concerns expressed by its members, this constitutes a challenge to the policy proposal and requires a written account or summary of the group's objections. This summary will be submitted to the President of the College.

**Proposed revision of
policy concerning the selec-
tion and evaluation of divi-
sion chairs**

The Faculty Senate pro-

poses that Section 17 of "Duties and Responsibilities of a Division Chairperson" (page 10 of *The Bluebook*) be replaced with the following:

A list of potential candidates (internal and/or external) for the division chairperson will be developed by tenured/tenure track faculty members of the division and submitted to the Vice President for Academic Affairs. If the Vice President approves the list, the chairperson will be selected by majority vote with all full time faculty members of the division voting. Should the Vice President disapprove the list, he/she will explain his/her decision to the faculty, and the process for selection will be reinstituted.

Term of office is three years, with yearly evaluations by all division faculty. In the case of failure to serve effectively, the faculty may ask for recall of the chairperson. If, after three years of satisfactory performance, he/she wishes to continue as chair, faculty members may vote to that effect.

**Proposed changes in the
Annual Evaluation of
Division Chairpersons**

The Faculty Senate proposes that the following form entitled "EVALUATION OF DIVISION CHAIRPERSONS" be used in the annual evaluation of a division chairperson by the division faculty. All full time faculty in the division would complete the form and return it to the divisional peer review committee. That committee would summarize the results of the evaluations and submit their summary and the completed evaluation forms to the Vice President for Academic Affairs.

EVALUATION OF DIVISION CHAIRPERSONS

NAME OF DIVISION CHAIRPERSON: _____

DIVISION: _____ PERIOD OF EVALUATION: _____

5 - Outstanding performance 4 - Good performance 3 - Acceptable performance
2 - Marginal performance 1 - Unacceptable performance

Please rate the Division Chairperson on each of the following indicators using the above scale. Please use the space provided for comments. These statements are not ranked.

1. ab_____ Implements policies and procedures toward fulfilling division goals.
Comments: _____
2. ab_____ Evidences effective concern with teaching environment (class size, schedules, etc.)
Comments: _____
3. ab_____ Plays significant role in development of new courses, curriculum, and programs. Instrumental in helping to revise existing programs and courses.
Comments: _____
4. ab_____ Keeps office hours convenient to both students and faculty, and/or is available for consultation.
Comments: _____
5. ab_____ Deals fairly and in confidence with members of the division.
Comments: _____
6. ab_____ Fairly delegates office management (secretary, office workers).
Comments: _____
7. ab_____ Represents division to other divisions, committees, and administration. Acts as spokesperson for the division.
Comments: _____
8. ab_____ Keeps division informed of relevant academic and college matters.
Comments: _____
9. ab_____ Supports professional development of faculty members.
Comments: _____
10. ab_____ Respects individualism among faculty members.
Comments: _____
11. ab_____ Supervises work related to personnel: absences, work schedules, office hours, class loads.
Comments: _____
12. ab_____ Administers division records (e. g. grade reports, purchase requisitions, budget allocations, student absent reports, and text adoptions).
Comments: _____
13. ab_____ Effects needed changes in physical and classroom facilities and equipment, and participates actively in the management of the division.
Comments: _____
14. ab_____ Protects academic integrity of divisional programs.
Comments: _____
15. ab_____ Supports student oriented activities within the division.
Comments: _____
16. ab_____ Maintains an interest in departmental advancement fostering external relationships (e. g. recruitment, scholarship, fundraising, grants, etc.).
Comments: _____
17. ab_____ Consults with division members prior to decisions. Utilizes faculty members in management of the division.
Comments: _____
18. ab_____ Gives recognition for work well done and provides constructive criticism.
Comments: _____
19. ab_____ Overall performance of chairperson.
Comments: _____
20. _____ Do you favor the retention of this person as division chairperson? _____
YES _____ NO _____

Proposed changes involving procedures for dropping classes, auditing classes, a revision of Faculty Advisors Section of the college catalog, and the Financial Aid Satisfactory Academic Progress Policy are available from the Vice President of Academic Affairs or through Student Services. These proposals will appear in next week's *Mercury*.