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Mercury

The student newspaper of Glenville State College February 21, 2000 - Volume 71 - Number 15

Purchase of Nicholas County Center top priority on Powell's Legislative Agenda

By Sherry Newsome Staff Reporter

When it comes to getting his "ducks in a row", Glenville State College President, Dr. Thomas Powell seems to be doing just that. Powell has slated the purchase of the Nicholas County Center as the top priority issue on his Legislative Agenda.

GSC is currently paying rent on the building that houses the Nicholas County extension of the college, rent to the tune of \$250,000 per year, which has been paid since the college's 1986 agreement with the Nicholas County Building Commission.

This price does not include utilities, for which GSC also foots the bill.

In addition to rent and utilities, the college pays an additional \$51,000 annually to the Summersville City Library so that students may its facilities for schoolwork.

During a meeting held in December, the commission agreed to sell the building to the school, but an asking price hasn't been decided upon yet. Two separate appraisals will have to be completed before a price can be determined. As it stands, the mortgage on the building is \$1,200,000.

Powell did say that some good things are in the works for the Nicholas County Center. Over \$14,000 has been allotted to install light fixtures in the school's parking lot; a contract with Allegheny Power has already been drawn up.



The Nicholas County Branch campus of GSC (above) has been running \$250,000 in rent since a 1986 agreement. President Powell hopes to buy the facility from the county to eliminate this cost.

Recently, the office of Dr. Nolan Browning, Provost of GSC, was moved to Summersville. Browning explained of the move, "It was done primarily to place more focus on the Nicholas County community and campus. We have growth in the Summersville area."

While his office is in a transitional stage, Browning has been making frequent trips to GSC, but when all is settled, the Provost should be on the main campus at least two times per week.

With the acquisition of the Nicholas County Center and con-

tinued growth in student attendance, three additional full-time faculty positions as well as a secretarial position will be advertised in the near future.

Browning said "When we first began here, we were offering courses. Then, during the second phase, we offered courses. In this third, comprehensive phase, we want to provide student services in addition to what we already offer."

Powell ended with "I hope in ten years that we have a larger population at the Nicholas County Center than we do on the main campus."

On Campus

Students petition committee's removal of honor chords

By Allison Tant Staff Reporter

For years students of different honorary and academic fraternities on this campus have been wearing honor chords at Commencement: It has recently been decided by the Commencement Committee that students will not be permitted to wear them or any other types of paraphernalia. Dr. Joe Evans, committee member and Vice President of Academic Affairs explains that, "the feeling was that there were so many chords and things being draped over the graduates that it distracted from the occasion itself."

that the divisions plan activities for the Friday night before Commencement or Saturday morning of the event. Evans comments, "this will allow the different disciplines to do things that discipline specific. are Graduate institutions have done this forever and particularly in graduate programs; in addition to having the regular commencement activity, there will usually be something that is very discipline specific."

There have been requests for this issue to be reconsidered. Individuals and organizations feel that it is prestigious and an honor to be a part of these organizations, so graduates should be able to display their chords at Commencement. A meeting the Commencement of Committee was scheduled Wednesday, February for 15. It was not put on the discussion agenda for because student representatives were not able to attend. The committee plans to wait until it gets some input from student representatives making before a decision-this doesn't necessarily mean that the honor chords will once again be worn. If you have any feelings about this decision, you should contact a student representative. There is also a petition being circulated. To sign the petition, contact Jeremy Burks at ext. 255.

"Heritage and Horizons" African American history month

By Sherrie Hardman Staff Reporter

It has been recommended

February was proclaimed as National African American History Month as of January 31, 2000 by the U.S. President, William J. Clinton. The theme this year is "Heritage and Horizons: The African American Legacy and the challenges of the 21 Century."

It is a reminder that the new century on which we have just embarked offers us a unique opportunity to write our own chapter in the history of African Americans and of our nation. It is a dedication to the many influential African Americans who came before us, which will help us through visions, voices, and accomplishments of the past, to gain inspiration and knowledge to deal with future challenges. This helps to show that

through experiences of slavery and racism. African Americans were not defeated, but helped in moving our nation closer to the ideals of freedom, justice, and equality. As we observe National African American History Month each year, we will not only remember the tragic effect of our past errors, but will celebrate the achievements that African Americans have accomplished in the past and present, leading our nation into the future, toward one united America.

The Robert F. Kidd Library and its Technical Processing Department is observing National African American History Month with a display of books, movies, and albums of extraordinary African Americans who have had an profound impact on our past. The display can be found on the main floor of library.

President Clinton stated in the proclamation that "We are awakened to such stories through the power, beauty, and unflinching witness of poets writers like Maya and Angelou, Gwendolyn Brooks, Paul Laurence Dunbar. Langston Hughes, James Weldon Johnson, Toni Morrison, and Alice Walker. We find them in the lives and voices of Frederick Douglass, Sojourner Truth, Booker T. Washington, and others who, rising above slavery, brutality, and bigotry, became great American champions of liberty, equality, and dignity. We can use this time of extraordinary prosperity and peace to widen the circle of opportunity in America, to recognize that our society's rich diversity as one of our greatest strengths, and to unite around the fundamental values that we all share as Americans."

Berhe named staff member of the month

By Ann Williams Staff Reporter

Samuel Berhe has been named as Mercury staff member for the month of February. He is a staff reporter and an international student.

Sam came to America six months ago after leaving his homeland of Addis Ababa, Ethiopia. He is a 19 year old freshman majoring **Business** in Administration and minoring in Computer Science. His hobbies include reading and watching movies.

One might imagine that it would be difficult to write for a newspaper that is not in one's native language. When asked about this subject, Berhe stated, "It is a challenge. At first it was difficult, but I have managed to learn from my mistakes." He then went on to



Samuel Berhe

add, "The people I w with are very nice. The help me a lot. I l them."

As for being vo staff member of month, Samuel profess " I was very surpris and I would like to the everyone who voted me."

As for his feelin about Glenville Su College, Samuel not that, "Glenville is ve quiet, and very laid bac I like it, I am from a b city."

The Office of Career Servic will be offering a workshop on:

Professional Dress February 22, 2000

The workshop will begin in the afternoon a 12:15 in the Distance Learning Center located in the basement of the Robert F. Kidd Library.

If you have questions concerning these workshops or other career related needs contactthe Office of Career Services at 46

4118or stop by our office room 204 in the Heflin Student Center

lercury

On Campus

A tale of two residence halls

BH NOTES

That's the big news at Louis Bennett Hall this week? If you have dy read Jeannie's article from Pickens Hall then you know. Jeannie ving us for a job that is closer to her family and we at LBH wish her e best. How does this effect LBH? It will effect LBH because I am ng to Pickens Hall and taking charge of the residence hall. I will be ng into the Wagner Wing House Director's apartment the weekend

e 26th. This will give me enough time to get acclimated to Pickens re Jeannie strands me and leaves me for dead.

he next question has to be - what will happen to Louis Bennett Hall? my Head RA Brian Randolph will be moving in as temporary

se Director, 2nd Floor RA Cliff Simmons will be the new Head RA, h new RA will be hired to fill the vacancy left by Cliff. CONFUSED

or Brian's farewell movie on Wednesday Movie Night, he will be bying "Blue Streak" with Martin Lawrence. Come up at 9 pm and Brian and I at the Louis Bennett Hall Main Lounge and watch his movie with us.

Vhen I get moved into Pickens don't hesitate to stop in and say hi. knock first so you don't catch me in my Spiderman Underoos. Also, don't forget the Pioneer Programming Board!!!

Patrick Hall Residence Hall Director

PICKENS HALL NEWS

Hey everyone! Getting excited about Spring Break yet? Only two weeks away, you know.....Speaking of excitement...come to the Snack Bar tonight at 7:30 pm and experience the wonders of ESP with Christopher Carter. His act should prove to be "mind-blowing".

Thanks to everyone who participated in the Sweetheart's Dance on Valentine's Day. It was a night full of great music, good food, and fun for everyone! So much fun, in fact, that it even went into overtime. This could be a tradition in the making....

Love was certainly in the air this past week. Congratulations go out to Della Hickman and Jon Ramsey on their Valentine's Day engagement. Congratulations also go out to Martha King and her fiancee,

Christopher Chad Winnell. They were engaged on February 15th. Well in case you haven't heard yet, I have received a job offer in my

home state of New Jersey. I will be leaving GSC on Friday, March 3rd. (Don't get too teary-eyed, now....) The next issue of Pickens News will be my last, so I will save my goodbyes until then.

Ciao for now!!!

Quote of the Week: Did you ever stop to think and then forget to start again -Anonymous

(I think I have experienced this many times myself.....-Jeanne Finn)

Jeanne Finn Residence Hall Director

Fritage and Horizons" Frican American history month

Sherrie Hardman

bruary was proclaimed as nal African American ry Month as of January 31, by the U.S. President, m J. Clinton. The theme this is "Heritage and Horizons: frican American Legacy and allenges of the 21 Century." is a reminder that the new y on which we have just rked offers us a unique tunity to write our own er in the history of African icans and of our nation. It is ication to the many influen-African Americans who came e us, which will help us gh visions, voices, and aplishments of the past, to inspiration and knowledge to with future challenges. This to show that through experiences of slavery and racism, African Americans were not defeated, but helped in moving our nation closer to the ideals of freedom, justice, and equality. As we observe National African American History Month each year, we will not only remember the tragic effect of our past errors, but will celebrate the achievements that African Americans have accomplished in the past and present, leading our nation into the future, toward one united America.

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NOTICE: PARKING FINES

Beginning March 1, 2000, GSC students who receive notices of on-campus parking violations and who do not pay their fines by the date required will have a financial hold placed on their student records. The hold will remain in effect until the fine is paid.

Students who have a financial hold placed on their records may not register for classes or receive transcripts until the hold is removed.

Bill Diehl VP for Administration and Planning

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On Campus

IFC, ISC set rules for fraternities, sororities

Bv Allison Tant Staff Reporter

It has been years since Glenville State College has had more than one fraternity and one sorority. Since there have been new Greek organizations pop up, it was necessary to reinstate the Inner Fraternity Council (IFC) and the Panhellenic Council.

Jerry Burkhammer says, "We sat down and spent the entire fall semester going through and trving to reconstruct the constitution so that it is more current with what other schools are doing and so that we would have some ground rules to make it a level playing field for everyone. In other words, everyone would be bound by the same rules. We have restarted the IFC."

Since the Panhellenic Council is a national organization and not all sororities are nationally recognized, they fall under the Inner Sorority Council (ISC). It was agreed upon that the constitutions must be completed before there would be any rush this semester.

"Currently, the only thing our office is waiting for is everyone to turn in their copy of the constitution

with all members signatures agreeing to abide by the rules. During meetings, each organization had three representatives and at the conclusion of the fall term, all those members were in agreement to form a constitution that complies. Members then approve or reject the constitution, but not all members have returned their signed copies, so there is no rush," explains Burkhammer.

Organizations have until Friday, February 18 to turn these in. Burkhammer doesn't anticipated anyone not turning in his/her signed copy of the constitution.

"I'm not in a panic stage and I don't think they are...as long as they have them in by this Friday, there's no problem, they can start rush next week, as they're supposed to. If someone doesn't turn his/hers in then, I'll probably hold everyone's back until I get them," he said.

The constitution for the IFC states the fall rush period would end at midnight on the night of Homecoming and start exactly three weeks prior to that date. Spring rush would end at midnight the Wednesday before Spring break and start three weeks before that. This gives everyone the same starting and ending date. Also, no one would have an advantage over anyone else.

Some other rules listed in the constitution are that each fraternity recognized by GSC must be a member of the IFC and failure to participate will result in the loss of campus recognition.

The ISC constitution is completely finished except for substitution policy, advisory board, and two of the rush regulations, which are the silent period regulation and the Sorority Fair regulation.

Sigma Rho Lambda President, Nancy Jo Mullens, said, "At this point we won't sign the constitution because it is not set. We have a meeting next Wednesday with the sororities and Mr. Burkhammer in order to get the constitution ratified and fixed. Our organization will not sign the constitution until it is fixed and ready to go."

When asked if they were still going to hold rush regardless of the signing of the ISC constitution, Mullens answered, "Sigma Rho Lambda has chosen at the beginning of the semester to hold our rush until after Spring Break when it got

warmer, so this doesn't affect We just don't want to hold anyth else back by not signing."

According to the rules stated Burkhammer, there is only a time when rush can take pl When confronted with this, Mul answered, "The way we w informed and the way it's in the constitution is that you are able rush or not rush at any time wish and any semester you w but you can only have a maxim of one rush per semester. You h to have a Sorority Fair within first three weeks of each semes which we have already pas because the constitution is not co pleted."

There seems to be a lot of m communication between the sore ty and Burkhammer. Bec Rodriguez was not available comment on behalf of Alpha Th Xi due to her involvement in theater.

Alpha Xi Omega was the or organization to have signed the I constitution as of Thursd February 17. Members of Kappa Epsilon and Alpha Omega have decided not to co ment on their feelings at this time

"There really isn't any issue that doesn't pertain to women." Conference to address women's strengths, issues

Amy Smith Staff Reporter

Glenville State College will be hosting its first ever Women's Conference April 28, 2000.

"This conference is not merely an intellectual conference; it is a pragmatic approach to women's issues" explained GSC Professor History Trice.

West Virginia college and highschool students will be participating in the conference; presentations, papers and panel discussion from any discipline relating

to women's issues will be posed of three women and accepted into the conference. Project deadlines are March 20, 2000.

Students are encouraged. to work with a mentor teacher for projects. Projects should be submitted to the mentor teacher or in the Division of Language and Literature.

Dan Gutierrez, a GSC Tom Criminal Justice Professor adds, "Even though this a woman's conference, I don't think you can separate women's issues from men's issues." Dr. Trice is teaching a women's history class this semester that is comeleven men; he stated, " I think that enrollment alone says something."

The primary goal of the conference is to be a gathering of information and resources for knowledge pertaining to women's issues and to also increase awareness of women's strengths. problems and issues, with an emphasis on the increasing range of opportunity available to women.

Presentation topics will range from changes in women's lives during World War II, women in the Middle East and South Africa.

female murderers and juvenile delinquents to the story of Adam and Eve. There will be possible panel discussions pertaining to women in the military, health care plus many more.

"There really isn't any issue that doesn't pertain to women," stated Trice. It is hoped that many local organizations and businesses pertaining to women's issues will also participate.

Gutierrez adds. "President and Mrs. Powell have been very helpful in the planning of this conference. Mrs. Powell appeared on Channel Five news last

week to discuss the confe ence. Five hundred dol scholarships will be award to top presenters that plan attending or remaining GSC.

For more informati about the conference cont Glenville State College 462-4121.

Trice adds, "The confe ence is not just for the ca pus, members of the co munity are encouraged attend as well."

Don't miss out on I wonderful opportunity remember to bring you ters, mothers, daughters a grandmothers.

February 21, 20

On Campus

llardo, Smith attend pular culture meeting

Pat McCord aff Reporter

Ximena Gallardo Dr. Jason Smith led the west/Texas Popular re Association and Culture -ican ciation meeting that eld from February 9-000 in Albuquerque, Mexico. The conferfocused on popular from re espearean love to the eful Dead.

Thursday, n mary 10 on the topic kespeare on Film Television," Gallardo ributed a presentacalled "Erasing Hollywood's Correct ically espeare", which was ne 1995 film version "Othello" starring rence Fishbourne and ted by Alan Parker. er's film replaces the

race issue with a conflict between the sexes, thereby ignoring the interracial marriage. Gallardo compared this film to Orson Welles' "Othello" and Spike Lee's "Jungle Fever." Gallardo argued that Parker whitewashed the main issue.

On Saturday, February 12, Gallardo and Smith did a co-presentation entitled "Femme Futura: **Projections of the Female** in the Alien Series." They discussed the character of Lt. Ripley as Sigourney played by Weaver in the four movies.

Scholars at the conference suggested the possibility of a book for Gallardo and Smith on the "Alien" series. Smith will be the chair at the Science Fiction and Fantasy Area at the year 2001 meeting.

P.B.L. Phi Beta Lambda

Fund Raiser: Candy Sale Being Sold be members around campus

All Business students welcomed to attend and join Next meeting will be:

> **TODAY!** Feb. 21 at 12:15

> > Don't miss it!

Signs, pool tables, games New business opens in Glenville

By Sherrie Hardman Staff Reporter

This week the Mercury features a new business in Glenville for its February **Community Spotlight:**

Marsh & Son Signs & Graphics plus Game Room. Owner Doug, wife Linda and son Wesley Marsh moved to Gilmer County from Weston in April 1999 and said "I saw a need for a game room to provide a place of recreation for the children of the community and also the need for a sign shop."

tains one pool table and ten games. Marsh stated "My hopes are to add another pool table so we can hold pool tournaments and to between 12:00 p.m.- 10:00 receive newer games."

He will also be adding a t-shirt and hat printing shop soon and later hopes to design trophies and plaques.

Marsh added " I have had a passion for designing signs." For 17 years he for providing his/her own has pursued that hobby. The location of new business is on Main Street in Glenville, across from the

The game room con- Post Office. Hours of operation are Monday through Thursday from 12:00 p.m.-7:00 p.m., Friday and Saturday p.m.

> On Sundays, the business will open for group parties (such as birthdays) at no charge to the customer to reserve the building; the customer will, however, be responsible decorations and money for the use of the games. For more information, contact Mr. Marsh at 462-4629.

Proposed Amendment to the Constitution of GSC Student Congress

Feb. 1, 2000

Article III-Membership in the Congress

Membership in this governing body shall include all officers and elected members of the Congress.

Section 1- The general officers of the SC shall be President, Vice-President, Secretary, Treasurer, and Parliamentarian.

Section 2- Each class shall elect one representative, to the SC. This representative shall act as coordinator for the class activities and as the spokesperson for the class in SC.

Section 3- There shall be one Residence Hall Representative elected by the Governing Board of each residence Hall in the fall semester.

Section 4- One Commuter Representative shall be elected during the general election.

Section 5- One International Representative shall be elected per 200 full-time international students, with no less than one International Representative.

Section 6- One Nicholas County Representative will be elected during the general election by the Nicholas County Students.

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact your Student Congress Representative or the President of Student Congress, Margarita "Moe" Tzoneva at 462-4113/ext. 113.

YOUR OPINION IS IMPORTANT TO US!!!!!!!

Editorial

February 21,



"All the news that's fit to print, and quite a bit that isn't."

Amy Lynn Smith - Editor-in-chief Chris Vannoy - Lackey #1 Amy Farnsworth - Layout Editor Sherry Newsome - Copy Editor Sherrie Hardman - Photo Editor Bryan Norris - Advertising Director Christopher Williams - Distribution Manager Ann Williams - Office Assistant Dr. Christopher Orr - Faculty Advisor

E-mail us at: mercury@vms.glenville.wvnet.edu



My name is Hector Rodriguez and I normally am a sophomore in Criminal Justice who serves as one of the three Commuter Representatives on Student Congress. Due to my involvement in Student Congress, I have been following the Mercury around for the last week evaluating and gaining an understanding of what it takes to run a college paper. Consequently, I was forced, I mean asked, to write an editorial on my experiences this week and how it shocked, I mean enlightened me.

A little background about myself, I served six years as a forward deployed Cavalry Scout in such scenic places as not only Mexico but Yugoslavia. I have gone weeks without showers and days without sleep. I have gone days without eating anything that would be considered food in my previous occupation. It is this reason that working with the newspaper this week, to include the 1 am layout I am watching now, that I look back fondly on the Army.

They work like lunatics for weeks getting stories, taking pictures, and then working to the wee hours of the morning on a paper that most take as something expected. Seldom do people realize the long hours that are involved. We, the readers, don't see the Office Manager, Chris Williams, coming in at the early hours where most here at GSC are still comfortable in bed. We don't see Allison Tant, Jeremy Burkes, or Lora Conrad trekking across campus trying to get confirmation and research the various articles they are working on for us to read. We don't see Chris Vannoy at 3am Thursday looking like a cross between a Coke fiend and an Alaskan Huskie, on equipment I think made by Commodore, as he tries to piece together a paper that most look at for five minutes and the leave where we found it or discard in a convenient circular file cabinet. We don't see Amy Smith struggle with the challenges of giving us this valuable resource while juggling classes, relationships, and sanity.

This week has opened my eyes and I hope it will help others to appreciate this resource for what it is. It makes me appreciate the work that goes into Sherrie Hardman's pictures or the normal writer of this columns opinion. It makes me thank God I don't do this every week.

THE MERCURY (USPS 220-040) is published weekly during the school year, except for holidays and final exams, with two summer issues. Periodical Postage paid at Glenville, WV 26351. POSTMASTER: Send address changes (PS FORM 3579) to *The Mercury*, Glenville State College, 200 High Street, Glenville, WV 26351. This periodical is paid—in part—by Student Fees from Glenville State College. Subscription rate is \$15/year.

In my last editorial I informed the public about the fact that individual students and organizations were being punished by the office of Student Life for using words that they do not like. It was my intent to let the students of GSC know that the office of student life was ignoring their rights as citizens of the United States of America. The heart of my editorial was not that we should use "foul language" in every sentence or in every situation but that we have the right to say it. Even if you do not like what a person has to say he still has the right to say it. I am sorry if some readers mistook my editorial as a promotion of "foul language". Next time do not let the words shock you so much that you can not stop thinking about them. Try to see past the words to the heart of the matter, the blatant disregard of our rights as students and as citizens.

Ever since I started writing my editorial people have been suggesting that I write about this or complain about that, I would like to thank everyone for his or her ideas but, do it yourself. It's not hard to type a letter to the editor and let the public know what you think. The more students start speaking out about things they do not like here at GSC the more we can change for the better.

Every time I tell someone to write a letter to the paper they reply with "What good will that do?" Well let me tell you what good it will do, first your concerns about issues on campus will be read by most of the students on and

My Two Cents

By Jeremy Burks

off campus. All the faculty and administration read the paper so your concerns will be heard by those who make the decisions. Secondly by writing a letter you could be informing the students about things they never heard of or knew about here on campus. A third reason could be to raise support for an issue such as freedom of speech. A forth reason could be that maybe you have a good idea of how we could change something here on or off campus to make the lives of other students better. I could go on and on about "what good it will do" to write to the paper but still no one will.

Why will people not write to the paper? Why will people not stand up for their rights as citizens? Why will students let the administration do what they want? Because they are scared. They are scared to stand up for themselves and speak out. Many of the students at GSC are nothing more then lamb's being led to slaughter. Stand up, speak out, and be heard. The most powerful force at GSC is the students. Think about it for a few moments. What would happen if all student workers went on strike for a week? This place would fall apart. What if students decided they did not like the new class schedule and decided to protest it by not going to classes for a week? What would the administration do, kick everyone out of school? I don't think so.

The endless number of actions students could take to protest decisions made by the administration are numerous. Just che any movies about the ties and you could fir of cool ideas but ple one set themselves of Since we have a Prethat lives on camp would be an easy we the hill to picket and pon his front lawn, esp ly at two in the morning

I recall back in there was protest hele at GSC. The even held in the amphitl and the purpose w demand the resignati President Simmons the faculty senate gav a vote of no confident were all outside the s building screaming yelling for him to while he met with fa senate. So it goes to that there are people at who stand up for rights and do not bow heads, look at the gr and say yes sir. To people I salute you and port what you are d All it takes to jcin group of freedom fight to just stand up for self. If you think som is wrong or that the trying to screw you then find out. Look rules and regulations cate yourself so you ca back, throw the boo their faces, and feel knowing that you are I can think of no better to end then with a d from the song People by Ben Harper.

"When the people the leaders they will ha follow, and all their lies their alibis, they will to swallow, and it's you has the authority, for one who is right, is majority."

SUBMISSION GUIDELINES

The Mercury 200 High Street - Box 207 Glenville, WV 26351 All articles submitted for publication in *The Mercury* must be typed and dout spaced. Stories and announcements should be addressed c/o Amy Lynn Smith.⁷ deadline for stories and announcements is Wednesday at 12 p.m. for publication the next week's paper. All photographs should be submitted to Sherrie Hardm photo editor.

• Mercury

Op-Ed

etter to the Editor: GSC gripes

Dear Editor,

would like to share my itons on some of the nges that are happening the GSC campus. rently, I am not a student GSC. I have taken a ester off for maternity re, but I will be back in fall and many pf the proed changes disturb me.

The first issue I would to address is the new oking policy. I am a oker, but my mother has by bad asthma and cannot around cigarette smoke. I see both sides of this be and am all in favor of oking sections. However, cording to the Feb. 7, 00 issue of The Mercury there is not one single place that we smokers can get out of the weather to smoke. In case no one has noticed, it does get cold here in the winter. The commuter lounge is not listed as a designated "smoking zone." I don't understand this. The commuter lounge has two doors that close and ventilation fans above windows that open. Why is this one inside smoking area to be done away with? Were there any smokers on President Powell's task force? If so, were there an equal number as non-smokers? These are questions that I would like to see adequately answered.

I have a problem with is doing away with honor cords at graduation. What's the deal? We (the students) bust our humps for four years or more to earn our degrees and are now going to be denied the very symbols of how hard we worked? There is something wrong with that picture. Contrary to Debbie Simon's statement, I believe this is a Student Congress issue. The graduation ceremony is for the students and their families. If this decision is made without the input of the student body through the Student Congress, a grave wrong will have been made. The students are the ones

that work hard for the right and privilege to wear those cords, and they should be included in this decision.

The last proposal that I take issue with is the restructuring of Student Congress itself. The administration wants to increase enrollment at GSC. How can the current student body let alone a larger one be adequately represented with only 15 senators? I don't believe that it can. The make-up of those 15 senators also bothers me. The commuters will be losing two representatives, as will the residence halls, while the international students will gain. Don't get me wrong. I believe that one rep per 200 full time international students is a wonderful idea. They need to be able to have a say also. However, according to the proposed amendment, if there are 400 international students they get 2 representatives, but if there are 800 commuters they only get one representative. Does this seem fair? I really don't think that it is.

Page 7

As I said before, I am not currently a student at GSC, but I will be in the fall semester so the decisions made on campus now will affect me in the future.

Thank you, Sheri Connell

The second proposal that

Liar, liar, pants on fire: BS and you

By Jeff Wickland Staff Reporter

Everyone exaggerates om time to time, that's derstood. Most people ve even been known to ist the truth a bit. ccasionally it will happen, nd more often than not, it ill eventually be forgotten. owever, everyone, at some oint in their lives, has nown an individual who as made a habit out of ving. Sometimes these indiiduals can help it and ometimes they can't. There re those who are proven to e psychologically out of ilter in some form or anothr, a.k.a. the pathological ar. On the other hand, there re those who suffer from an ilment far worse than a locumented medical condiion-sheer ignorance; or hose who could be referred o as the "serial b.s.'er." Motives for their actions

may vary, depending on the individual.

Some people may feel they have wrongfully been deprived of attention somewhere along the line, and by periodically spewing out useless fictional ramblings, they will, in some form or another, receive the attention they lack.

Perhaps others feel they must construct a barrier of misinformation around themselves as a form of protection, not only by speaking lies, but living one as well. They project an image of how they would like to be perceived in a desperate attempt to bury the person they actually are. Whether it is out of fear of not being accepted or perhaps the individual just dislikes who he/she is, that person spends his/her life in hiding, only portraying the image of someone he/she isn't. In a sense, they're building a wall so others aren't able to see there's nothing on the other side.

By far the most irritating breed of blasphemers are those who fall into the category of "serial b.s.'er." Their motives are far more shallow and tend to reflect the incompetence of the individual. Many may be lazy, selfish, or perhaps just so fed up with their own pathetic lives they simply have nothing better to do. Somewhere in their mind, a rather large stagnated pool of mental vomit, lies a disfigured logic system, which evidently leads them to believe they appear intelligent, humorous, or important by continuously expelling their dysfunctional rhetoric. While wallowing in their undignified puddle of sloth, many fail to realize how completely ignorant they actually do look. Not only are these

"b.s.'ers" degrading themselves, they are insulting the listener by implying that they are ignorant enough to believe the outrageous fabrications being presented to them.

There may be many reasons why these unfortunate individuals act the way they do, but the only thing that's certain that something, somewhere is definitely missing. Some may need more help than others, and help should be given to those desperately in need, but in many cases it's hard to distinguish between those in need of a psychological massage or simply just a two-by-four to the face.

Letter to students from a student Parking, a non-stop problem

By Chris Williams Staff Columnist

As the new year roles around into the second month of college classes. We all started parking just about any place one could put ones car. This has made the job of the new public safety officers and their student workers become the most despised on campus. Just use common sense. If you don't it can cost you. I don't know about you but I try to look before parking my car. Loading and handy-capped parking zones are not for parking in. Ok , yes they are close some one to some of my classes . But if you don't have the right to park there then don't do it. Because it will make more of parking problem if you do.

Sports

De Rosset college NCAA faculty representative

By Allison Tant Staff Reporter

In 1997, English Professor Wayne De Rosset was asked to be Glenville State College's Faculty Athletic Representative (FAR) with the NCAA.

"This job has required me to work closely with the President of the college, the Compliance Counselor, and

the Athletic Director in order to ensure the enhancement of academic integrity of athletes and to be an institutional representative of the college at the national convention," explained De Rosset. His focus is on the student athlete's welfare. When student athletes are having trouble academically, they are encouraged to talk with De Rosset.

De Rosset was in San Diego from January 7-11 participating in this year's National Convention meeting.

There were many activities included in the convention. In workshops for Faculty Athletic Representatives, participants discussed topics such as strengthening academic integrity in sports. There were also forums concerning athletic trainers and a main business session. De Rosset was given Academy three-sport gr the opportunity to present proposals to the conference.

The main highlight of the convention was the Academic Honors Banquet. It is at this banquet that the NCAA presents its most prestigious award, the Theodore Roosevelt Award. This year's recipient was Roger Staubach, former Heisman Trophy winner and United States Naval Staubach was the main spe er at the banquet.

De Rosset commented thoroughly enjoyed my t at the conference and honored to represent the o lege. I think it's important (GSC is represented at the c ference and conventi-Athletics are an important p of college and enhance a c lege."

Carney named Director of Intercollegiate Athletics

By Pat McCord Staff Reporter

Tim Carney, Professor of Physical Education at Glenville State College, has been named Director of Intercollegiate Athletics. He has been assigned the responsibilities of budgeting, scheduling events, fundraising, NCAA rules compliance, and game management. Among awards that Carney has

received are the National Association of Intercollegiate Athletics Award of Merit as President of the Golf Coaches Association from 1988-89, a special recognition award of more than 30 years of dedicated service to GSC, and **Outstanding Faculty Award for** invaluable service in recognition of outstanding faculty teaching.

As Chairperson of the

Division of Physical Education, Carney's duties include teaching classes, planning schedules, assigning teaching loads, and monitoring faculty evaluations.

According to Carney, "Going from classroom teaching to administrative duties will be the biggest adjustment." He will continue to teach one class each semester. One of his major priorities in his new position is to work toward stabilization and continuity in the football program. Professor Carney states, "I believe that the first step that started the stabilization and continuity was with the hiring of Coach Paul Shaffne Secondly, he is striving increase Pioneer Athletic Ch Scholarship monies. Profess Carney continued, "Increase involvement of our former atl letics is needed."





P.O. Box 640 809 Mineral Road, Glenville, WV 26351 Phone: (304) 462-7322 Fax: (304) 462-4052

Mercury

ed eyebrows, blushes, laughs median Greg Fitzsimmons entertains GSC

Samuel Berhe f Reporter

the evening of y 8, 2000, some 40 showed up in the Center snack bar to comedian Greg mons perform. zsimmons, who has pots on late night with David Letterman onan O'Brien and has I MTV's " Idiot t's", started his show king fun of Glenville. made a joke about ne was unable to find ille on the map and ome difficulty driving New York on Route 5. he went on by saying e had been told the precomedian's perfore was disappointing

shoulders to make us laugh out loud the whole hour.

On that account, he wasn't totally wrong because he did manage to make us laugh with his easily flowing jokes, ranging from ones about West Virginia to New York, and from technology to religion.

Fitzsimmons worked well with the audience's mood, retracting from bad and offensive jokes by picking on the audience and getting us involved, although this caused some raised eyebrows and a few blushes.

the most entertaining comedian I've seen perform on campus. The reason few people turned out compared to the big crowd for the hyp-

and that he had a lot on his notist was because the only free time this popular comedian had was on Tuesday night, which unfortunately conflicted with Intramurals and night class sessions being held at the same time.

The next performers who are booked to perform campus include on Christopher Carter, a mentalist on February 21, at 7:30 in the ballroom and Kigana Wiseman, an entertainer who is going to perform on February 23 in connection with black History month.

For any students, who Fitzsimmons was by far wish to participate in the Pioneer Programming Board, meetings are held each week on Thursdays at 5 p.m. in the snack bar in the Heflin Center.



Greg Fitzsimmons and an intrepid volunteer during his stint at GSC

ebastian Bach performs concert in Pittsburgh

y Jeff Wickland taff Reporter

n Tuesday, February 8, ex-Skid throat Sebastian Bach pered at Graffitti in Pittsburgh, sylvania.

fter his exile from Skid Row in Bach took a brief hiatus re returning with a new band in Under the monkier astian Bach and Friends," they sed the album Bring Em' Bach ! which contained six new sturacks and 13 Skid Row classics rded live in Tokyo, Japan.

Bach and Friends took the stage at 9:30 p.m. Although it wasn't Skid Row, Bach's hired guns easily filled the shoes left behind by his former band mates. Drummer Mark McConnell and bassist Larry Fisher provided a solid rhythm section throughout the entire performance. Ex-Anthrax guitarist Paul Crook filled in on rhythm guitar, and Richie Scarlet handled lead.

Much of the material was taken from Bach's three albums with Skid Row, although the band did play all six new tracks from Bring Em' Bach Alive!.

"Slave to the Grind" opened the show and was followed by other Skid-era hits "Here Am,""Frozen,""18 & Life," and "Monkey Business," as well as a few obscure songs including "The Threat,""Livin' On A Chain Gang," and "Riot Act."

Bach's new material received as enthusiastic response as well. "Done Bleeding,""Rock'N'Roll," and "Counterpunch" easily fit within the boundaries of Skid Row's harderedged material and the acoustic ballad "Most Powerful Man In The World" served as a perfect intro to the Skid classic "I Remember You." Although much of the set was no-holds-barred hard rock, they did perform the ballads "In A Darkened Room" and "Wasted Time." The 90 minute set finished out with the Skid Row anthem "Youth Gone Wild."

According to Bach, a Skid Row reunion is "100%, guaranteed, outof-the-question," but don't look for the 31-year-old frontman to hang up the mike anytime soon. He recently signed a four album contract with Spitfire Records, and plans on releasing a new studio album by late summer.

We Need Art

The Trillium, GSC's literary magazine is looking for black and white photos and artwork to grace the cover of this year's edition. Black and white art/photos only, please. Submissions will be taken until Feb. 29. Submissions may be given to Dr. Gayle Burkowski or to Criston Gravely.

Trust is a valuable thing.

Sci/Tech

February 21, 20

By BJ Woods Staff Columnist

In my last column, I wrote that this was going to be a three part series on cloning. In this column, I will be looking at the embryosplitting. Of the two types of cloning, embryo-splitting is probably the most controversial because it can be used in treating infertility.

Embryo-splitting occurs when an early embryo is split into individual cells or groups of cells, as happens naturally with twins, triplets, and other multiple births. Each cell or collection of cells develops into a new embryo when it is placed into the womb of a host female animal, who carries it to full term.

To be more scientific, embryo splitting or blastomere separation is another word for human cloning. Embryos in the early stages of development start to divide into cells called blastomeres. The zona pellucida (a protective covering for the egg) is punctured or removed and the blastomeres are separated from

zona pellucida. At this point, each of the blastomeres starts dividing and becomes embryos, which can then be implanted into wombs.

Particle Lady: Embryo Si

Scientists have been using embryo splitting for the production of beef since the 1980's as a way to get better meat and to carry on specific desirable traits.

Cameron University agriculture researchers have been exploring the use of embryo splitting in cattle for the past nine years. These researchers and students have been studying not only the advantages of embryo splitting, but also how to preserve the embryos for many years until they are needed. This process allows for the genetic characteristics of especially good bulls to be preserved for further use as well as allowing for preserving the genetic characteristics of female cattle.

Researchers and students breed the female cattle and then harvest the embryos. At this point, they proceed with the embryo splitting process. This each other. Each blastomere is group uses the split embryos and

then covered with an artificial stores the rest in liquid nitrogen, needs of infertile couples ins until needed.

> Researchers say that timing is the key to this whole process. Drugs are used to synchronize the estrous cycles of the donor cattle so that all can be bred at the same time, maximizing recovery of embryos.

> Oregon researchers noted in the January 12, 2000 issue of Nature magazine that they had used embryo splitting to produce a rhesus macaque monkey named Tetra. She is so named because researchers had split the embryo into quarters and implanted each section into surrogate mothers; Tetra was the only one to survive. Professor Gerald Schatten, a researcher at the Oregon Health Sciences University, stated "This opens the prospect of mass identical replication. It is possible that we will have genetically identical monkeys born to different mothers."

> How does cloning affect humans? The fact that early embryonic cells are totipotent, meaning that they can be split into two or more embryos with the same genome will serve the

eral ways. For couples who produce only one or two embry splitting embryos could increa the number of embryos availai for transfer. For the couple w can produce more than enou embryos for one cycle of transf splitting one or more embry may provide sufficient embry for subsequent transfers with having to go through anoth retrieval cycle.

There are many ethical sid to cloning and especially embr splitting, since none of the gen ic material is manipulated. So researchers believe that embr splitting is the only true clonin Whether researchers agree or d agree about the type of cloni procedure, most agree th cloning is the newest of technol gies.

Next week, I will be looking into the ethical issues surround ing cloning. Until then, take ca while traveling the halls of sc ence. For comments or question please feel free to contact t Particle Lady gsc01293@mail.wvnet.edu

May Graduates: Please stop by the Bookstore and place your cap and gown order before March 3rd! The graduation fee assessed in the Cashiers Office covers the cost of your cap and gown, however we ask that you provide us with a copy of your receipt when placing this order (if your fee has already been paid). IF THIS FEE CANNOT BE PAID

UNTIL LATER, WE STILL NEED YOUR MEASUREMENTS NOW!

The company will be assessing a \$5.00 late charge on orders placed after this deadline and we will "pass these charges on" to those who order late. It only takes a few minutes - won't you place your order today?

DEADLINE - MARCH 3rd



Mercury

Crossword

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Campus Calender

Recurring Events nch & Chapel (WAC 12:00 noon every Tuesday) Fellowship of Christian Athletes WAC 9:00 p.m. every Tuesday) Baptist Campus Ministry (WAC 9:00 p.m. every Wednesday) ovie Night (WAC 8:00 p.m. every Thursday)

Monday - February 21, 2000 'hi Beta Lambda meeting (12:15) Lady Pioneers vs. Bluefield (Away 6:00 p.m.) Art Show (Jamie Lester) Mentalist Christopher Carter (Ball Room 7:30 p.m.)

Tuesday - February 22, 2000 Prospective Music Students Audition Day

Wednesday - February 23, 2000 Student Congress Elections (Heflin Center 10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.; Residence Halls 8:00 p.m. -

10:00 p.m.) Chi Beta Phi meeting (Room 302 Science Hall 12:30)

Thursday - February 24, 2000 Pioneers vs. Concord (Away 7:30 p.m.) Lady Pioneers vs. Concord

(Home 5:15 p.m.) Student Congress Elections (Heflin Center 10:00 a.m. -2:00p.m.) ACS Speaker Chris Kennedy

"Teaching Chemistry from the Earth to the Moon" (Room 400 Science Hall, 12:30)

Friday - February 25, 2000 PPB Activity

Saturday - February 26, 2000 Pioneers vs. WV Tech (Away 4:00 p.m.) Lady Pioneers vs. WV Tech (Away 2:00 p.m.)

Monday - February 28, 2000 Lady Pioneers/ WVIAC Tourn 1st Round (To Be Announced)

Tuesday - February 29, 2000 Pioneers/ WVIAC Tourn 1st Round (7:30 pm)

Wednesday - March 1, 2000 Last Day to Apply for Fall 2000 Student Teaching

Thursday - March 2, 2000 Pioneers/ WVIAC Tourn (Charleston - To Be Announced)

> Friday - March 3, 2000 Mid-Semester Pioneers/ WVIAC Tourn

(Charleston- To Be Announced)

Saturday - March 4, 2000 Pioneers/ WVIAC Tourn (Charleston - To Be Announced)

Do you run a student organization? Would you like students to know when you're meeting? Then stop by The Mercury office by Tuesdays at 4 p.m. and drop off the organization name, meeting time and place.

Did we mention it's free?

On Campus

Page 12

New security chief

By Christopher L. Williams Staff Reporter

If you have not heard it yet, Glenville State College has a new commander in charge of campus public safety office. Officer Philip Huff has taken over the job as Chief of Public safety.

Chief Huff will be introducing to the campus a very well used tactical foot patrol. It is used in large cities as well as smaller communities for law enforcement. A long with a new officer and plans to get involved in the GSC college community. Huff, will become more familiar with his duties and responsibilities to the staff, employees, and students.

Huff is well known in the community as being involved and concerned about all aspects of public safety. He has several years as an officer in law enforcement. Growing up and going to school in Glenville has made his task easier inasmuch as the fact that he knows how the system works. How students constantly hunt for a place to park, and need help going to and from night classes. So he wants every one to keep in mind that he and his staff will have an open door policy that can help the people of this college community. Contact the Public Safety Office at :

462-4132 or on the college web page for any of your needs and concerns.

New student congress committee appointments

Student Life Committee: Mike Howerton, Ernest Kingdon, Trena Willison, Jeremy Burks Resident Life Board: Jack Beard Athletic Committee: Libby Hudkins, Hank Hurst, Tim Murry, Lorie Rader Academic Affairs Committee: Amy Koon , Andy Burns Associate Degree Committee: Samuel Berhe, Chris Vannoy Curriculum Sub-committee: Chris Birkhimmer, Megan Miller Community College Committee: Brandy Sandy, Hector Rodriguez Strategic Planning and Resoure Allocation Committee: Margarita "Moe" Tzoneva , Josh Martin Library Committee: Amy Koon, Joann Butcher Activities and Cultural Affairs Board: Frank Bibbee, Andy Collies, Sarah Roach, Hank Hurst, Brad Wilson

"Academic freedom, it turns out, is anything but for the student press."

- Dale Harrison, Journalism Educator

Open Debate Scheduled for Student Congress Elections

February 22, 2000 in the Scott / Pickens Lounge starting at pm and ending at 7 pm . February 29,2000 in the Snack B (Hefflin Center) Starting at 12:30 pm .

Ballot box to be placed on Nicholas County College Extension campus for election to Student congress .

Ken Hechler will attend the open debate on Tuesday Februa 29th at the snack bar at 7 pm in the Verona Maple Room. Hechle currently seeking a congressional seat, will speak about Blac History Month.

Any one can broach questions to all petitioners seeking th offices of President and Vice-President . After a brief breakdow about each candidate students can then ask question and get I know who is running for your Student Congress.



See the next issue of The Mercury for complete coverage of "Cyrano De Bergerac", including a review by Jeremy Burks and still more photographs.