

The Bottom Line

VOLUME 58 ISSUE 20

THE INDEPENDENT STUDENT NEWSPAPER OF FROSTBURG STATE UNIVERSITY SINCE 1948

APRIL 11, 2007

Big Changes Big Changers

an Interview
with USM
Student
Representative
Richard Scott

LY PURCELL
Staff Writer

Frostburg student Richard Scott, a senior, is changing his world one day at a time. Scott has been nominated and positioned as a student representative on the University System of Maryland Board of Regents. The Board of Regents is a highly notable committee that presides over all the public institutions in Maryland. This board supervises the Maryland system's administrative, academic, and financial operations. It formulates policies and directs the USM chancellor and presidents of the thirteen public institutions in Maryland. The board consists of seventeen members and one student representative; Frostburg's very own Richard Scott. How did Scott achieve such a superior role? "It's a four part process," said Scott. "You start off by applying for the position followed by an interview with the USM Student Council. The top four candidates are then interviewed with Chancellor Kirwan and then the governor selects one candidate out of four to be the student representative on the Board of Regents."

CHANGES continued on pg. 2

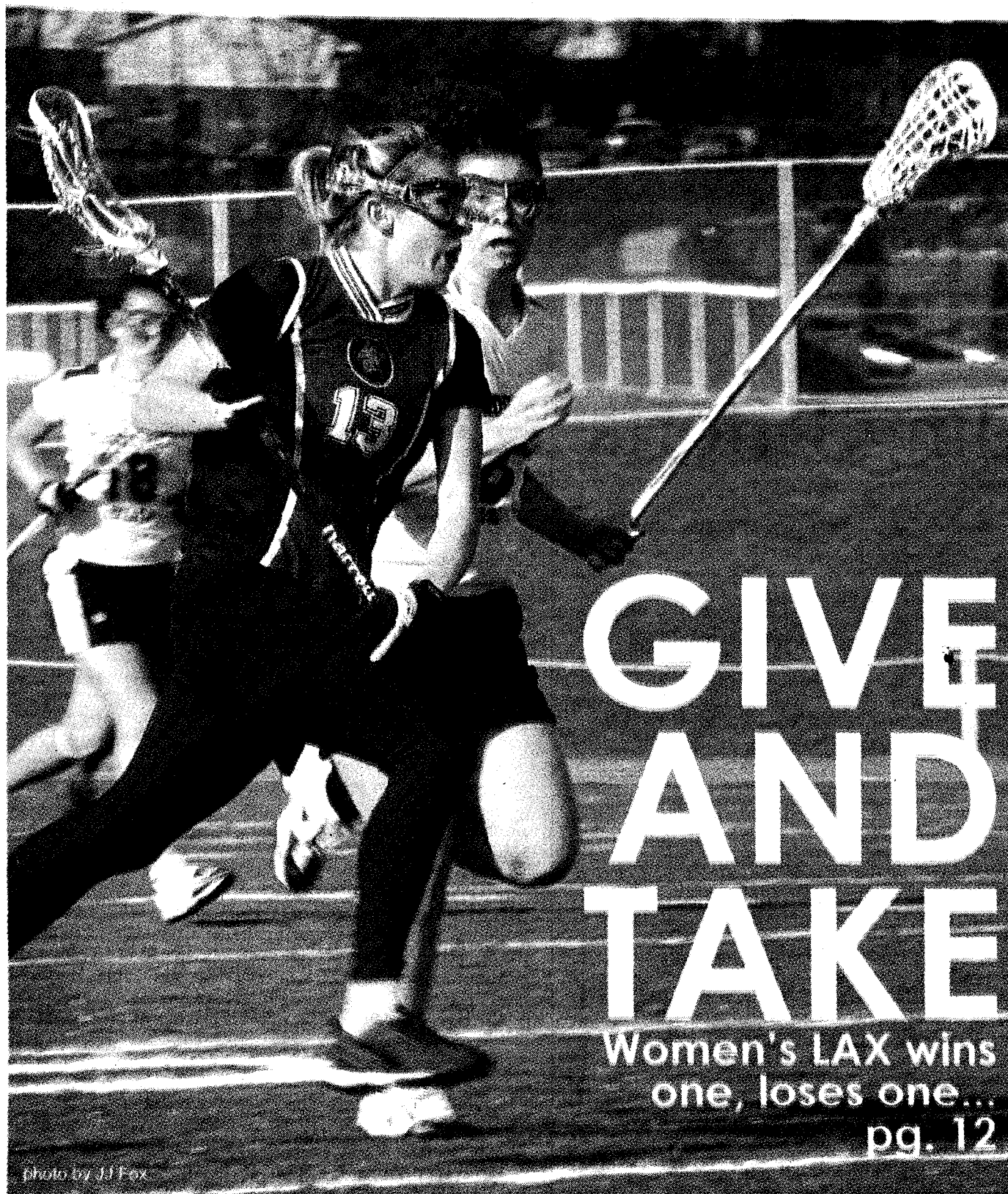


photo by JJ Fox

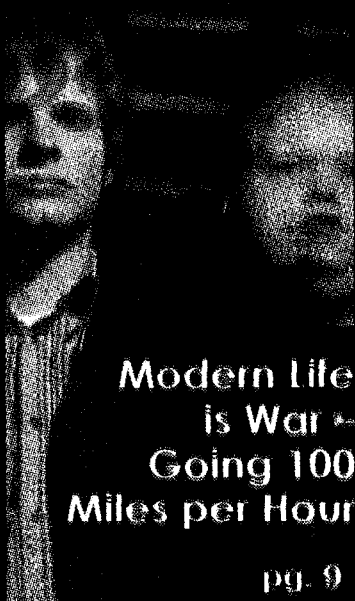
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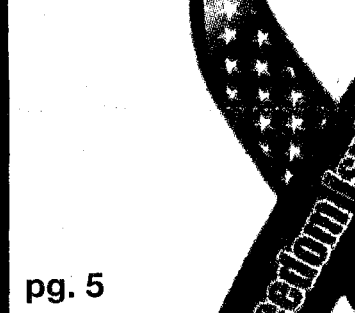
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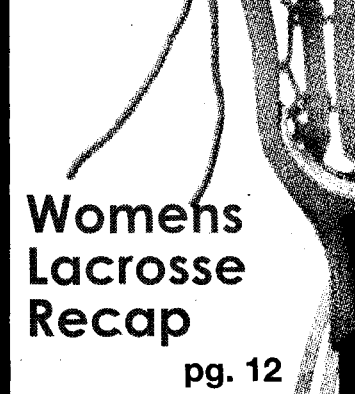
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Where are you from?
11:11 PM, 11:11 PM, 11:11 PM
11:11 PM, 11:11 PM, 11:11 PM

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SEXPRESS

Snip the Tip

Circumcised
VS
Un-Circumcised

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EARTH DAY 2007 AT FSU!

The Sierra Student Coalition of FSU will be hosting the 4th Annual Earth Day Celebration on April 18, 2007 from 10:00 AM to 9:00 PM. This year, the Earth Day Celebration will be in honor of the inauguration of Dr. Jonathan C. Gibralter, Frostburg State's 14th President. The event will take place in the Lower Quad at Frostburg State University (outside Chesapeake Hall). The event will feature educational presentations, Scales and Tales demonstrations, games, prizes, food, and music, featuring The Motet. Student organizations can get involved by hosting a table at the event (forms available at the Braddock House). Come out and show your support and enjoy a day full of fun and music.

Need to Talk?

Counseling Center Offers Advice on Problems Facing Students



photo by Jason Thomas

WHERE DO I GO? The Counseling Center is located in Sand Spring Hall on Campus.

JAMIE WIESNER
Staff Writer

With only a six weeks or so left in the semester, classes are picking up the pace to make up for days lost to snow and while learning at warp speed makes the time fly by, it also has a tendency to drag our sanity along with it. Well, Frostburg, we're in luck. The Counseling Center is here to help students deal, so rather than raising the white flag, visit the Counseling Center in Sand Spring Hall and start working out your issues.

The Counseling Center is well-equipped with an excellent staff to help with a long list of problems, but the most common issues that students

bring to the Counseling Center are issues dealing with depression, anxiety, stress and relationship problems. Among the services offered by the center are personal and career counseling, alcohol/drug education, personal development programs and consultation and training.

"We don't operate in a way that one approach is right for everyone," said Counselor Pat Deasy. "A coach on an athletic team wouldn't set the entire team to doing the same exercises to prepare for the next game. Each person on the team has different skills and different attributes that need to be developed in order to be more efficient."

CARE continued on pg. 8

Now what? The Latest FSU Forum on the Iraq War

LELIA WALSH
Staff Writer

Last Tuesday evening, concerned students, faculty and citizens came together to listen as expert panelists gave presentations regarding the current situation that the United States is facing in the Iraq war.

The forum was moderated by Dr. Steve Simpson, provost, and sponsored by various organizations including the International Relations Club, Frostburg United Campus ministries, and the Department of Political Science among others.

Although it was not the first of its kind to confront the Iraq war issue, there was a very large student turnout for the

forum. However, some students commented that it was marked by the absence of some of the school's top administrative leaders. Administrative presence at such forums is traditionally expected and enjoyed by students as one of their main opportunities for mutual social interaction and communication and it was sorely missed.

Six presenters were originally scheduled to speak on the panel. Three were to speak in favor of the war and three were to speak against, but due to a last minute change and, perhaps, due to the general scarcity of war hawks in today's political environment, only two presenters could be found to speak in the war's defense.

The political science department was represented by two professors. Dr. Stephen Twing's presentation, "The Anatomy of a Quagmire," provided a cost versus benefit strategic assessment of the war's goals and progress thus far.

Dr. Stephen Hartlaub took the opposite stance and attempted to "Defend the Indefensible" in pointing out the moral justifications for ousting Saddam Hussein and delivering peace to the Iraqi people.

Reverend Larry Neumark, the third panelist, spoke against the war from a religious and moral stance, citing not only the usual pain, death, and suffering caused by war, but also the deceptive techniques employed by the administra-

tion that helped make the case for invasion.

A political science student, R.J. Caster, presented "The Sentiments of a Young Conservative" in a speech that expressed his refusal to admit defeat and failure in Iraq due to his profound loyalty to the American troops and to the cause for which they stand and fight in Iraq, as ambiguous as that cause may be.

Mr. Caster's remarks were followed by those of Mr. Jonas Merrill, an Iraq War veteran who served as a Navy combat medic with two marine battle groups. He served in Iraq for two tours, the first in Ramadi and the second during the battle of Fallujah.

IRAQ continued on pg. 8

Omicron Pi Chapter of Delta Zeta National Sorority is Recognized for Outstanding Efforts

Press Release

The Omicron Pi chapter of the Delta Zeta National Organization at Frostburg State University attended Delta Zeta Region Day on Saturday March 31, 2007. At this conference, ten other chapters in the region attend and learn about policy, paperwork, programming, philanthropy projects, and other various workshops. During these workshops, the members of Delta Zeta are allowed to ask questions to learn even more about Delta Zeta, and make bonds with sisters from other chapters within region three.

At the end of the day, there is an awards banquet. During the banquet, various awards are given to chapters within region three for recognition in National Sorority functioning. The Omicron Pi chapter took home a grand total of fifteen awards out of thirty.

The categories of awards were Membership, Academic, and Special awards. The Omicron Pi chapter of the national Sorority Delta Zeta won three Membership Awards. These awards were for; for reaching total in 2006, 100% Participation in Outside Campus Organizations, and 100% Initiation of New Members in the fall of 2006.

The Academic Awards that the chapter won were for; New Member Averages 3.0 and over, Highest New Member Averages for Fall of 2006, Chapter Averages 3.0 and over, Highest Chapter Average for both Spring and Fall 2006, and Excellence in Academics. The awards that were won in the Special Awards category consisted of; Excellence in Philanthropy where it was announced that the chapter raised around \$350 dollars per member and with each member contributing 35 hours

for philanthropy events.

The Excellence in "I Have a Choice" Programming was won for co-sponsoring Bobby Petrocelli and his Ten Seconds presentation and the pledge cards and navy-blue ribbons that were offered to faculty, staff, and students for staying sober during alcohol awareness weekend.

The Pan-Hellenic Excellence Awards was won by the chapter for their outstanding efforts in following National PanHellenic Conference policies and procedures and for having active members in the College Pan-Hellenic Executive Board. The chapter also won for Excellence in Alumnae Relations. This award was won based on the chapters overall communication and activities with their alumna members through an online chat group, webpage, and alumna events sponsored by the collegians of the Omicron Pi Chapter.

Jamie Winters, who is the on-campus advisor and the College Chapter Director for the Omicron Pi chapter, won Outstanding College Chapter Director. If all of this wasn't grand enough, the highlight of the day came when Omicron Pi won the most prestigious award of the day known as Pride of the Region.

This award is presented to the most outstanding chapter in the region that has exemplified high standards for Delta Zeta National Sorority, overall programming and philanthropy efforts, and high academic standards. This award was an honor to win this year and has helped the chapter appreciate its outstanding efforts for individual members, university leadership and involvement, community service, and sisterhood.

"OTMs for March

TIM KELLY

Contributing Writer

The "Of the Month" nominations for March were excellent examples of the hard work and dedication that goes on in the residence halls to make them a more enjoyable place for students to live. Our "Person of the Month" for the month of March is Jessica Snell of Sowers Hall. Jessica took responsibility for the Alcohol Program that was put on in the hall on the 13th, and the staff of the hall feels she did an excellent job. She routinely participates in hall programs, and goes as far as knocking on doors to personally invite people to them. She exemplifies the type of leadership the National Residence Hall Honorary likes to see embodied within the residence hall community. Its for these reasons she was picked the NRHH Person of the Month. Congratulations Jessica!

Our Program of the Month winners are Brittany Trent and Gary Gerald from Annapolis Hall. After a month of preparation, and at a cost of about \$150, Annapolis Hall planned a trip for its residents to go to New York City! "What can we do that would be

fun, diverse and education program that would cost a lot of money?" We thought "Let's go to New York." This is how Gary describes the idea about. Thirty four people attended, using three vans and a state car to head north. They passed New Jersey and took the subway over to Manhattan. After arriving at Canal Street, the group took time to see some sights, such as the WTC site, setting a time for every one to arrive back at Canal Street, the group went their own ways. Some went to Broadway to see the sights, others went to Times Square, and a group specifically went up to the Empire State Building. After meeting up at Canal Street, the group took the subway back through the subway to New Jersey. After getting lost trying to find a place to eat, they decided to head back to Frostburg. Those students who were still interested in getting food had the option of going to Denny's once back in the local area. The group helped to build bonds in the friendship and gave the residents an idea of how fun it can be in a residence hall when your staff gets creative. The NRHH applauds Annapolis Hall's effort to bring quality programming to Frostburg's residents. Excellent job guys and gals!

CHANGES continued from front

In November this long, extensive process began and finally ended in February 2007.

"It was a very nerve-racking process. It's pretty much like applying for schools all over again with recommendations, letters and various assisting sources," Scott stated.

Scott is a full time student who is involved in quite a large amount of activities. Taking on eighteen credits, Scott is a double major in Theatre and Political Science. Alongside his full class schedule Scott is part of Frostburg's SGA, College Democrats, and works part time for the University in the Lane Center. He is also currently the president of his fraternity Iota Phi Theta.

"The biggest thing for me is pulling back from my campus involvement. I don't have as much time as I did" said Scott, when asked his personal and professional concerns with this new position and the Board of Regents.

"Right now tuition fees are going to put us in a predicament. There are so many factors to look into when changes or decisions are made by the board. For instance Frostburg's tuition fees have been frozen for the past few years. It's a great political move, but in the long run it's going to hurt the system. Money doesn't grow on trees" said Scott regarding his professional concerns.

As a student representative on the board, Scott holds his position for an entire year. Though he can reapply for the position, at this point he doesn't plan to do so.

"I've started doing research on USM and begun working on building connections at different universities to become familiar with the school look over on the board."

Though this job is basically volunteering, Scott figured "this position an investment; it will be worth it in the long run."

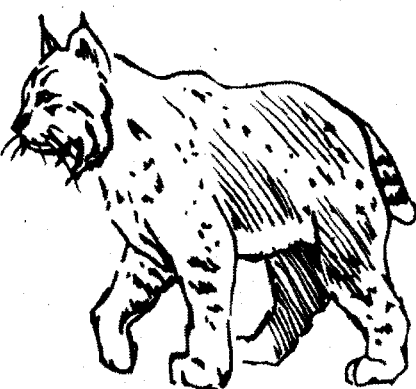
In thought of the long haul, Scott has a five year plan for himself in which he completely intends to abide by. Starting with this summer Scott is moving in DC with the Institute of Responsible Leadership. He then plans on moving towards Hollywood.

"I want to be in L.A. and be known in the industry by twenty-six, twenty-seven, I have my big film" said Scott. "In politics I want to start working with a network of friends. I plan to work in Washington two years, hopefully as a policy analyst on something involving public policy."

With working on his internships, his past work with two campaigns and his connections with the Board of Regents, Scott hope things will work out for him. With his ambition, drive and determination there's not much doubt he will succeed in what he does.

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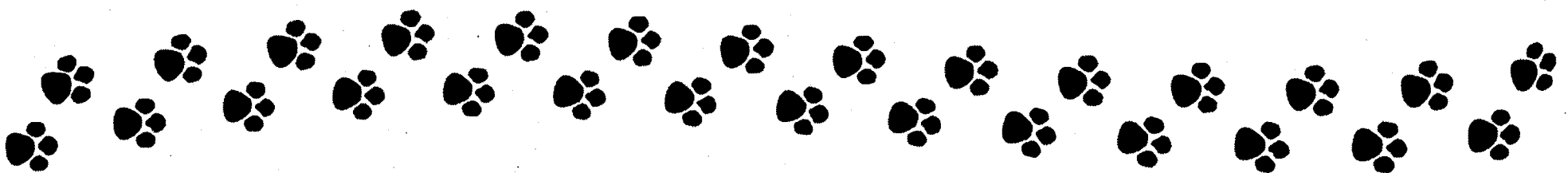


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Q.U.E.S.T.

A Choose-Your-Own-Adventure Starring Alan Carey and Jared Miller

Chapter the First: Exposition

It was a warm, sunny day in Frostburg (a rarity indeed), and Alan and Jared were bored beyond belief. They had defeated Emperor Kaspar IX of Friedland. They had bested Hades in a game of air hockey. They had weaseled their way up to the infamous 4th floor of Cumberland Hall. They needed something new, something fresh, something that didn't require them to think for themselves. This being the case, Jared and Alan found their way to the office of *The Bottom Line* in the Lane Center.

"We're bored," Alan announced to Jeremy Bruno, Chieftain of *TBL*. "We need something to do."

"I already gave you both positions as copy editors. Tremendous job, by the way," was his reply. "What more do you want?" "Perhaps our own column?" Jared suggested.

"I don't see why not; there is nothing really newsworthy happening right now anyway," the Chieftain reasoned.

"We already have an idea," said Jared. "We are going to write,"

he paused for suspense. "An interactive newspaper article. Each week, Alan and I will go on part of a quest. At the end of every installment, the readers will get to choose what happens next. What say you?"

The Chieftain rubbed his chin. "Show me the first piece and I'll see what I can do. But I feel compelled to warn you that questing usually ends somewhat...tragically."

"What will we need out there?" they asked.

"Well for starters, you'll need a title. Something catchy, epic."

"But what?"

"You'll think of something. Just promise me you won't turn something significant I've said into an acronym. I hate that."

"We swear it," they said with good intention. They turned to leave.

"Wait!" Jeremy cried after them, unlocking a dusty, previously unused desk drawer. "It's dangerous to go alone! Take this." He handed them a scorched envelope. "This was all that was found on the bodies of the last two idiots," he coughed. "I mean heroes that wanted to go questing."

Alan reached for a pen and scribbled for the Chieftain the exact article you, dear reader, are about to experience. Baffled, yet impressed, he had no choice but to print it in all its shameless glory:

It was a warm sunny day in Frostburg (a rarity, indeed), and Alan and Jared were bored beyond belief. They decided to quest, assembled their gear (for a convoluted list and a longer, more detailed version of this chapter, go to <http://www.thebottomlineonline.org>) and prepared for departure.

"We should ask someone in Cumberland where we might find adventure in the uncharted woods, or where, for that matter, we might find some uncharted woods," Jared suggested as they left their abode.

"Nonsense," said Alan, preferring to chart his own course, regardless of if it led them onto private property. "We should go while Zeus smiles upon us. There's no way the gods would lead us to certain doom."

They glared at each other. Not even fully off their property line, they were already at an impasse...

The Voltage Gate

Jeremy Bruno

the feeling of power that gave him."

-from "The Feeling of Power" by Isaac Asimov

Before spring break, I received a packet in the mail from one of my readers—a member of the faculty. Inside I found a photocopy of "Superiority", a science fiction short by Arthur C. Clark, a memo from the FSU bookstore to the faculty addressing textbook ordering protocols and a note from the professor, believe it or not, that tied it all together.

Apparently, the bookstore has recently instituted a 19 step online process for textbook requisition through the store's website. Once upon a time, this took scrawling an ISBN or title/author on a piece of paper and sending it on its merry way.

Not anymore. It seems that administrative technology has intervened.

What does this have to do with science fiction, with Asimov and Clark? Both authors had much to say about the role of technology in our lives. Science fiction can be a clairvoyant tool for social diagnosis.

Clark's story, the one I was sent, is about two warring societies in an unstated future, gridlocked by almost identical technical capabilities. When the lead military researcher of one faction dies, his successor decides to take the opportunity to revolutionize and replace their existing weapon systems, surpassing their enemy in pure higher tech.

His idea ends up losing his faction the war. Their enemy's "low tech" weapons were sufficient to incapacitate the nation while they researched and tested new technologies.

Basically, Clark is saying the following: If the existing technology works well, why upgrade? If newer technology is just flashier (or even worse, an institutional "standard") but essentially performs the same function with the same efficiency, then perhaps the existing technology, though "low tech", is superior.

"Nine, times seven, thought Shuman with deep satisfaction, is sixty-three, and I don't need a computer to tell me so. The computer is in my own head.

And it was amazing

We are in a time where we are probed and pounded daily by advertisers telling us to upgrade—mainly by going bigger or smaller on phones, TVs, computers, etc. I often wonder just how useful all of this technology actually is. How much does it improve our quality of life?

I suspect that making the faculty jump through 19 electronic hoops to simply order a book is unnecessary and conforming to some sort of standard. There are a couple of things that will never be replaced by technology, no matter how much we advance. One is a book. Imagine a portable apparatus that would allow you to read any more efficiently than you can already when paging through a paperback.

The other is the intuitive, creative nature of the human mind. This will never be replicated because of its inherent elusiveness. When you have an idea for a painting or a story or a clever riff, can you express to someone where it came from? When the pieces of a puzzle or problem suddenly fall into place, can you explain the process? No on both accounts, at least when it comes to ultimate origin.

This ties back to the quote at the beginning of this article. Asimov's story is similar to Clark's, in the sense that two factions are at war and at an impasse. Computers are so advanced that they are constantly guessing the other's next move, and so nothing is done.

That is, until a young technician is ushered in to a leading politician's office. At the politician's request, the tech solves a seemingly simple multiplication problem: nine times seven is 63. The politician can't believe it. He checks his calculator. The tech is right.

They go on to win the war, as the enemy computers cannot guess their moves; it cannot track the unpredictable nature of the human's problem solving.

When incorporating technologies into our lives, we should make an immediate distinction: Does this software, cell phone, PDA or appliance augment and speed my natural ability to accomplish something or does it attempt to replace it, catalogue it and ultimately slow my processes? Is the technology we're using taking away this "feeling of power" we get from using our own minds and physical abilities to solve problems and administrate?

Jared and Alan decided to...

■ Go gallivanting around downtown Cumberland in hopes that someone might send them to certain doom.

■ Wander off into the wilderness, where they would more than likely come face-to-face with certain doom (or a fence they're too dejected to climb).

It's entirely up to you, Frostburg! Choose their fate; visit thebottomlineonline.org to vote on where you think they will meet their doom...

COUNTER INTELLIGENCE

By: Jack McCall



CRIMELINE

3/30 Theft: Westminster Hall student reported the theft of his FSU ID from the PE Center.

3/30 Burglary: Frederick Hall student reported his laptop computer was taken from his residence.

3/30 Alcohol Violation: Diehl Hall resident cited.

3/31 Alcohol Violation: Cumberland Hall resident cited.

4/1 Escape: Juvenile under state supervision went missing from the PE Center. Located in Frederick Hall in friend's room. Friend is going to J-Board.

4/1 Burglary: Edgewood Commons resident reported that alcoholic and non-alcoholic beverages were taken from an unlocked apartment.

4/1 Theft: Aramark employee reported that a suspect stole a can of Red Bull.

4/1 Request for Officer: Police received a report of a student being held against her will at Chesapeake Dining Hall by former boyfriend. Investigation revealed that student was not being held against her will, but was intimidated from leaving. Officers escorted her to her residence.

4/2 Theft: Frederick Hall student reported the theft of her FSU ID and her hoodie from the Lane Center.

4/3 CDS: Traffic stop led to discovery of marijuana. You never know where a seatbelt violation will go. Buckle Up!!

4/3 Alcohol Violation: Underage student was cited in the Foundation Lot. It's hard to hide a 30 pack under your shirt.

4/5 Damage to Property: A window was broken in the stairwell of Frost Hall.

4/5 Theft: Edgewood resident reported that roommate stole her rabbit. Roommate claimed that rabbit was being neglected, but agreed to return the animal to its owner. Is it The Case of the Buried Bunny, or just Lapin Larceny?

4/5 Computer Crime: Cumberland Hall resident reported receiving death threats via instant messenger. Sender is thought to be an acquaintance from Calvert County, or a friend of the acquaintance. Always save IM's like these for police investigation.

It's seatbelt enforcement time again, and every University Police Officer will be on patrol for seatbelt violations. We do this because we want to keep you from death or serious injury, so please wear your seatbelts. They really work, and you do not want to put us in the position of having to issue a traffic citation to you.

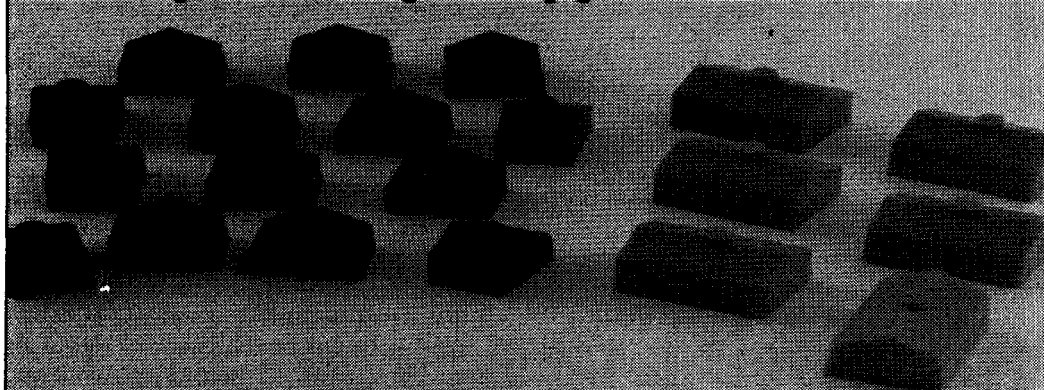
April 22-28 is National Crime Victim's Rights Week. It is designed for remembrance, reflection and re-commitment for crime victims, survivors, and those who serve them. Thankfully, we do not have many serious victimizations on our campus, but this week's theft and destruction of property incidents still have victims, and property crimes are still upsetting.

It would be remiss to write about crime victims and FSU without mentioning Stephanie Ann Roper. Stephanie was a student here who went home for the weekend and was raped and murdered in St. Mary's County in 1982. Since then, Stephanie's mother and father have been responsible for vast improvements in victim rights and services, both in Maryland and nationally. Walk over to the Fine Arts Building, take a look at Stephanie's portrait, think about life, and be safe.

Brian Shanley, Chief of Police
Frostburg State University

| | |
|-----|--|
| CCM | <h1>Catholic Campus Ministry</h1> |
| FSU | <p>Activities every Wednesday, 7:30 pm Osborne Newman Center</p> <p>*** Monthly Dinners ***</p> <p>Sunday Mass: 12 Noon & 8 pm, Cook Chapel in Frost Hall</p> <p>Reconciliation: Wed & Sun 5 pm - 6 pm, or any time by appt. Osborne Newman Center</p> <p>Father Ed Hendricks 301-689-5041 http://goliath.frostburg.edu/ccm</p> |

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82% of FSU students
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Freedom IS Free



**No Gods
No Masters**
Donovan Martin

Last week's talk about sovereignty left me thinking about a bumper sticker that's common these days, especially among the patriotic. It's the "Freedom isn't free" sticker that's often

accompanied by a support our troops magnetic button or some version of "These colors don't run when they may bleed when shot at or when a road bomb explodes beneath the Hum-V they happen to riding in".

The basic idea behind the sticker is essentially that our freedom was won for us by the founding fathers, by those who carried expansion westward, by the veterans of foreign wars. Without their effort we wouldn't be free.

But I wonder if this is not too presumptuous? It is assumed that freedom is something that can be given or taken away.

Before the criticism got carried too far I considered that maybe the sticker is referring to political freedom only.

But a deeper problem arises if that is the case. Freedom cannot be qualified as political or otherwise. To confine it to the political realm is to set up parameters for freedom that imposes limits on it. The boundaries between the kinds of freedom become arbitrary and defined by some government agency that sees its citizen as debtors. They owe something to the government for their freedom and in their debt they are no longer free. Their actions are now limited to obedience to the state to which they owe their freedom.

But freedom cannot be given or granted; it can only be claimed. To attribute our freedom to any soldier or government agency is to deny responsibility for our own freedom. For even under the most authoritarian regime, in face of utter totalitarianism, the individual still retains their freedom. It is harder to claim, and the risks are great, but the choices remain in the face of adversity.

Real freedom must not be confused merely with voluntary acts. Voluntary actions can only be revelatory; they do not define our freedom. The action must be considered together with the will of the person of consciousness. Freedom is

implicit of an attitude toward the goals a person has set up for themselves. This is what cannot be given or taken away.

There is no reason to be in debt to another for personal autonomy. Each person has the capability to claim their own freedom; to fight for it is necessary or to let others fight. The decision to fight or not to fight is indeed an expression of the freedom supposedly being defended. It is already in effect.

This cannot be forgotten, especially when the idea of liberty becomes the motivation of the military, when the cause of democracy becomes the impetus for tyranny. Freedom will never take the form demanded of it because it is free. A democracy that chooses theocracy is still democracy at heart because it has come to express the desires of those who compose it.

The decision can be made to crush that form of democracy. The choices this line of action open is then even less desirable than before because the supporters of the theocracy are now forced to make choices on the basis of oppression. Retaining their liberty in the face of destruction they

rebel against that which falsely believes it can be the keeper of others' freedom.

Freedom is free, however. How can it be anything else? One has only to claim it and take responsibility for it. To look to the state or the army for a gift of freedom is to deny it from yourself. It is a vain attempt to absolve the self of the consequences of being in the world.

Paying taxes, a choice, is construed as not a choice and so the citizen washes their hands of the consequences of their tax money's implications. It is too painful to believe ourselves culprits or war or economic terrorism. But indeed, we are and events such as 9/11, focused on indicting the general population, should be a wake-up call to that fact.

We are all responsible for this world and, in the end, condemned to live with our freedom and the consequences of our actions. We cannot wait for freedom, or expect it to be a gift to us. We must take it and claim it as our own and with it, the responsibility that comes with it.

Letter to The Editor

SGA Addresses "Become an OFO!: Want the money you've been trying to get for your organization?"

Dear Editor,

Recently, an article in *The Bottom Line* was written about the Student Government Association's budget allocations titled "Become an OFO!: Want the money you've been trying to get for your organization?" by Lelia Walsh, staff writer for *The Bottom Line* and former On-Campus Senator for the Student Government Association. Unfortunately, Walsh was misinformed about the proceedings of the Senate Finance Committee and Student Government Association due to lack of reliable resources and lack of time spent on the senate.

In the second paragraph of the article, Walsh states, "SGA... receives all of the student activities fees..." This is false. Student Government only receives 30% of all the student activities fees. The rest of the student fees are dispersed amongst other keynote organizations such as *The Bottom Line*, University Programming Council, WFWM Radio, Cultural Events Series, Leadership Conferences, Lane Center Fees, and Student and Educational Services. These major organizations provide services such as this newspaper you are reading, First Night Frostburg, the internet radio station "Campus Connection", The Goo Goo Dolls concert, the Fall Leadership Conference, use of the Lane Center, and various Learning Communities. Your student fees pay for much more than just the Student Government Association's Budget.

Walsh states in the third paragraph that "over half of the money, a total of \$54,562.93 for the 2007 fiscal year, from your activity fees goes directly to the Black Student Alliance." This is false. As I previously stated, only 30% of your funds, totaling \$153,781.93, come to Student Government Association. Only 33% of the Student Government Association's account goes to the Black Student Alliance. BSA represents a large portion of the campus and brings amazing events to the student population such as the Achievement Awards Banquet, the Kwanzaa Dinner, The Roots concert, and the BSA Fashion Show. Another 37% comes to the Student Government Association. One of our major events is Frostburg's Annual Lobby Day. Students are selected to travel to Annapolis to lobby delegates in order to ensure that we receive

funds to complete projects like a new Tawes building and a new Lane Center. SGA also puts on two Study The Night Away programs, Springfest, two SGA Mixers, an NCAA Championship Party, the Freshman Social, the Housing Fair, and a Resume Workshop. SGA then allocates 30% of their funds to the Event Funding Account. This account is for other non-operationally funded organizations funding requests. SGA has helped cosponsor events with smaller organizations such as the Presidents Inauguration, Earth Day, ASA Showcase, Relay for Life, NPHC Step Show, and numerous conferences where students can return with ideas to better the university. The \$46,000 reserved for the Event Funding Account is more than enough funds for organizations which is evident in the \$5,000 left over from the Fall Semester.

There are two things Walsh says that I agree with. 1) Try to become an operationally funded organization. The idea of an Operationally Funded Organization is such that they must represent a significant portion of students that aren't already represented in the two OFO's that currently exist (SGA and BSA) and would provide major events that suit to their constituents in order to make Frostburg a more diverse campus. If your organization does this or strives to do this, SGA encourages you to apply to be an OFO. Don't do it because you want more money; do it because you want to make Frostburg more diverse for the students. The more OFO's we have, the better Frostburg becomes. 2) Pay attention to who you elect for SGA. We are here to go above and beyond for you, the students. If you vote for motivated people who attend all of their meetings and care about your concerns, there wouldn't be someone bashing SGA's allocation decisions because she couldn't live up to the standards set by your student representatives- your Student Government Association.

Respectively,
David Tiscione
Student Government Association
Student Government Association Treasurer
Senate Finance Committee
Off-Campus Senator

God Might be Gay...

**Interviews
with God**
Michael Weaver

GOD: So Mikey, what did you do over the weekend?

MW: I was kicking ass and taking names. Unfortunately I lost my clipboard so all the name taking was

in vain. How about you?

GOD: I found out Matt Damon and Mark Wahlberg are technically the same person. After that, I was mostly just hanging out with my gay friend, Steve. We went to the movies and...

MW: Woah! You have gay friends?! But you're God. I thought you only hung out with white, Anglo-Saxon, protestant, frat boys.

GOD: No, silly goose! God loves everyone!

MW: But the Old Testament says that God hates it when two men lay together...

GOD: That's a typo. I hate it when two men pay together. One person should have the courtesy to pick up the check.

MW: So when did your gay friend, Steve, choose to become gay.

GOD: He just always kind of has been. There's evidence enough to show that people who don't think it could possibly be genetic, may simply not have a firm understanding of the intricacies of genetic science. At this point we just don't know enough about it scientifically either way.

MW: Whatever Bill Nye. All I know is that the Holy Torah says homosexuality is an abomination. Why should we encourage bizarre fetishes?

GOD: How is it a bizarre fetish? At least you choose to dress up like a nurse and dance around under a disco ball. No one put a gun to your head. (Except for the first time of course).

MW: I'm looking at my "Top 20 things that abhor God" list, right now. Homosexuality is definitely here... a long with murderers, hockey, and Australia.

GOD: Listen. If I hated homosexuals, wouldn't I hate myself? *wink*

MW: What are you saying, God?

GOD: All I'm saying is that I never married; I spent way more time than I needed decorating this planet, I made penguins and koala bears. The hints are all there.

MW: But you hang out with female deities sometimes. What about that Shinto hottie, Am-No-Tanabata-Hime.

GOD: We're just friends. We went shopping for fabrics the day before yesterday. We even scoped out hot...

MW: But you have a Son...

GOD: So too have many gay men. I didn't do any of the actual... you know. I sent the Holy Spirit to take care of that for me. It's kind of like the religious equivalent of artificial insemination.

MW: Oh, Jesus I need you now. Please protect my insecure heterosexuality and fend off the homosexuals who seek to make me uncomfortable by simply stating what they are.

GOD: I don't think Jesus will help you there.

MW: Why not? Have you blocked my words so that they may not reach him?

GOD: No, he can hear you, although he's probably watching *Desperate Housewives* at Jennie's right now. Look, Jesus never got married either and he had lots of opportunities. I mean come on. The ladies were all up ons. But instead he took his sensitive, mild-mannered self and went out to try and teach the world with love and understanding, saying that it was better to forgive than to fight back. He also spent a lot of time working on furniture and hanging out with his mom.

MW: Wow. I had no idea. Who else is gay?

GOD: ... NASCAR fans.

MW: Really?

GOD: Every single one.

MW: Everything I've always believed in is a sham.

GOD: Whether someone is gay or straight doesn't change the content of who they are. If you started liking Orlando Bloom more than Johnny Depp, you would still be the same person.

MW: Blasphemy!

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Letter Policy
The Bottom Line welcomes comments and responses from readers. Letters to the editor should be 500 words or less, and must be submitted electronically. Email us at thebottomline@frostburg.edu. The Bottom Line reserves the right to edit or refuse all materials submitted for publication based on length and appropriateness.

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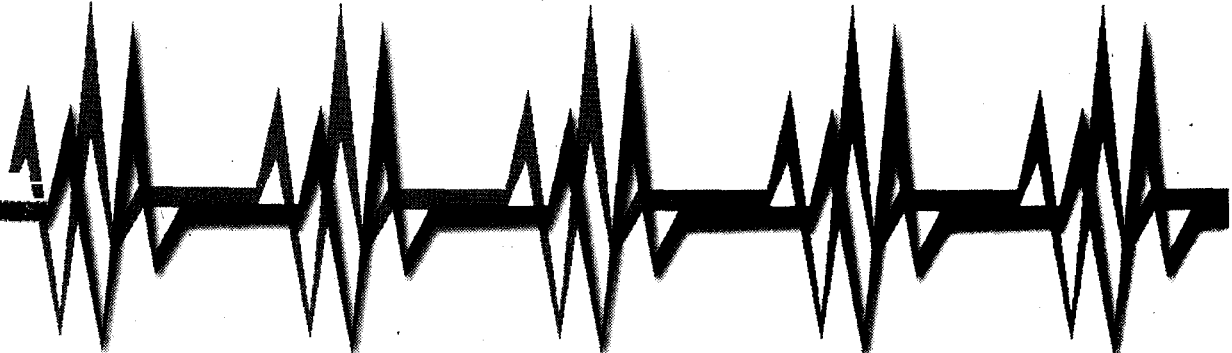
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University Ends Season with



photo by: Jason Thomas

Of Mice and Men

JAMIE FISHER
Staff Writer

"Guys like us, that work on ranches, are the loneliest guys in the world. They got no family. They don't belong no place.... With us it ain't like that. We got a future. We got somebody to talk to that gives a damn about us. We don't have to sit on a no bar room blowin' in our jack jus' because we got no place else to go. If them other guys gets in jail they can rot for all anybody gives a damn. But not us."

This is one of the most influential passages in John Steinbeck's *Of Mice and Men*. This classic novella tells the story of two migrant workers who are let off a bus miles away from a California farm on which they supposed to start work. George, a small, dark man with 'sharp, strong features,' is a complete opposite of his companion Lennie, a giant of a man with a 'shapeless' face. When both are overcome with thirst, they arrive in a clearing by a pool and decide to camp for the night. The two talk and find out that they share a dream of buying their own piece of land, farming it and, to Lennie's delight, keeping rabbits. George ends the night by telling Lennie a story he often tells him about what life would be like in such an idyllic place.

The next day, the duo reports for work at the ranch and meets some of the interesting characters of the area including Candy, an old 'swamper,' or handyman, with a missing hand and an ancient dog. The story twists and turns,

bringing out important details like Lennie's mental disability and a character's jealous suspicions toward his flirtatious wife. At one point, George fears how the boss will react to Lennie, so he insists that he'll do all the talking. He lies to the boss, explaining that they travel together because they are cousins and that a horse kicked Lennie in the head when he was a child.

Throughout the entire novel, the relationship between George and Lennie remains a key focus of Steinbeck. *Of Mice and Men* idealizes male friendships, showing that they are the most dignified and satisfying way of overcoming the loneliness that pervades the world. Steinbeck also sets out to expose and chronicle the circumstances that cause human suffering. George and Lennie soon discover the harsh flip-side of the American Dream, and their friendship is tragically tested beyond normal limits. *Of Mice and Men* is an evocative, beautifully rendered portrait of "outsiders" who struggle to survive in an unforgiving world.

The University Theatre 2006-2007 will conclude the season with an African American production based on the novel. Performances will take place on April 13, 14, 19, 20, and 21 at 7:30 p.m. and April 14 at 2:00 p.m. in the Performing Arts Center's F. Perry Smith Studio Theatre.

For reservations and information contact the theatre box office at 301-687-7462, Monday through Friday, 9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. Tickets are \$5 for students and \$10 for non-students. Come check it out!!!

SNIP THE TIP, IT'S PRETTIER!

Pros and Cons of Circumcision

SexPress
Amanda Baldwin

For those of you who do not know what circumcision is, it's the removal of the foreskin from the penis. A circumcised penis is most like the ones you see in pornos (there's not real distinction between its flaccid and erectile state except for its size). An uncircumcised penis looks entirely smooth, with a large hole to view the head of the penis. Once erect, the penis looks much like a circumcised one.

Good news for circumcised men: more varied sexual practice! And less sexual dysfunction! Bad news: supposedly, you feel less. Good news again: there is not valid evidence to support that. Hey, if you come you come; it still feels good, right?

Risks that come with circumcision:

- Bleeding and infection (ew)

- Skin bridges (mostly only during infantile circumcisions) this is when the cut skin does not heal and instead, attaches itself to the penis.
- Greater chance of obtaining HPV
- Removes nearly all of the neuroreceptors (you know, those things that give you feeling)

Pro's to circumcision:

- More protective against HIV, however, this is not a green light to forget the condoms. Wrap it up, you'll still feel it, I promise.
- Maintains penile hygiene
- Stays softer, and not that way.... Meaning soft like your hands should be!
- Cleaning an uncircumcised penis should not be forced. Trying to forcefully retract the foreskin is painful and can lead to scarring. Excessive washing of the foreskin, once retractable, can lead to more infections.
- If for some reason you would like your foreskin returned to you, you may surgically - and even non-surgically - have the

skin on your penis expanded as to create the appearance of foreskin. This process is known as foreskin restoration.

It's interesting that most mothers decide to have their sons circumcised because of their own sexual preferences. Whether or not your mother was thinking about that when making the circum-decision in the hospital bed is unknown, but most women still prefer a circumcised penis.

Doctors theorize that women are more sexually attracted to a circumcised penis because the glans, urinary meatus and the corona are visible, rather than hidden under the foreskin. Rather than having to wait to view these when the penis is erect, a woman can view these while the penis is in a flaccid state and become sexually aroused herself.

It boils down to a preference of the woman, so just hope that your mom and your girlfriend are kind of on the same page with your penis.

Sexual Preferences from
<http://circs.org/library/williamson/index.html>

| Activity | Penis Type | | |
|--------------------------------------|-----------------|-------------------|------------|
| | Circumcised (%) | Uncircumcised (%) | Either (%) |
| Sexual Intercourse | 71 | 6 | 23 |
| Looking at to Achieve Sexual Arousal | 76 | 4 | 20 |
| Giving Manual Penile Stimulation | 75 | 5 | 20 |
| Giving Fellatio | 83 | 2 | 15 |

MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. CELEBRATION 2007

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HRDC Announces Amateur Comedy Night Competition

Press Release

So, you think you're funny? Enter the Amateur Comedy Night!

Allegany County Human Resource Development Commission (HRDC) is sponsoring an Amateur Comedy Night on Friday, April 27, 2007 at the Maplehurst Country Club from 9 pm - Midnight. Sign up for your night of fame or you can be the judge. Tickets can be purchased in advance at Main Street Books, Hi-Way Pizza or The Book Center. Participants must be 21 or older with valid I.D.

Have you ever wanted to try stand-up comedy? NOW IS YOUR CHANCE! To be a contestant and perform as a comedian, call 301-463-6215 to register. There is a registration fee of \$10 to perform for the Amateur Comedy Night. Contestants will be [judged] by the audience based upon the comedian's originality of material, stage presence and audience response. The winner has a chance to win \$100 for a grand prize. The 1st runner up will receive \$50.

The Amateur Comedy Night is a fundraising event for HRDC. The proceeds from the event will benefit HRDC's employee recognition fund. HRDC is a non-profit organization that assists our local communities through programs such as Headstart, Senior Centers, Homeless Shelters, Energy Assistance, Childcare and Adult Medical Day Services, to name a few.

"We are striving to make the Amateur Comedy Night an annual event for the community," Amanda Paul, chair of the Fundraising Committee at HRDC said. "We hope to make the event a success, not only for our agency, but also the area. The Amateur Comedy Night is a new form of entertainment for our region and we look forward to providing fun and laughs to the participants."

Tickets are on sale now at The Book Center, Main Street Books and Hi-way Pizza. Seating is limited, so get your ticket in advance. For more information on how to register or be an audience member for the Amateur Comedy Night call 301-463-6215.

"Helping People, Changing Lives"

IRAQ *continued from front*

Mr. Merrill's comments did not stray to heated political topics, but instead focused only on his own personal experiences as a medic during battle and as a veteran soldier struggling to adjust to civilian life back at home.

"I woke up to two mortar rounds going off, nothing that wasn't out of place," Merrill recalled from the 2nd of May, almost two years ago. "So I grabbed my med bag and then one of my guys burst through the med room door and said, 'Doc, you better run!' The mortar rounds had hit a C-V Compound where 52 men were waiting to go out on a convoy (operation). They

were all wounded. I get over there and I see nothing but bodies lying there, withering, their blood soaking up into the sand. It was my first mass casualty incident. Seven men died that day, two more a day later," he said.

Mr. Merrill is now a member of a group called "Iraq Veterans against the War" and he is actively working to ensure that veterans receive the rights and basic compensation, such as the temporary tuition deferment plans, that they deserve after they return from service.

"What you see on TV is not really what is going on in the country, it's nothing like that at all. But what you can see is the fallout: You can see the

fallout all around you with the veterans coming home, being left behind. We have 'No Child Left Behind' in our schools, but where is 'No Vet Left Behind'? We're forgotten. We go out, we fight and we come home. Then nothing. Sgt. York from World War I, he was given almost every medal the military had and he was left to die in a nursing home. The poster boy for World War One was left to rot" said Merrill.

It was clear from the nods and heavy applause he received that his narrative captured the heart of many in the audience, especially his fellow students who are also Iraq War Veterans.

After the presentations, Dr. Scott

Johnson, also of the political science department, moderated questions from the audience. Most of the questions were thought to be well placed and "pretty insightful and thought provoking," according to junior Mark Collier. However, one audience member's random prattle, comparing the Bush Administration to Hitler's regime of terror, sparked some heated retorts during the forum and campus-wide, disappointing debate over the days following.

Though the panel received a great deal of positive interaction and response from the audience, some students, like Amanda Whipkey, and especially veterans, like former Army

member, Dan Mizak, were "It was a tired argument, handled well... there just much for them (the panel) expound on," i Ms. Whipkey noted. Mr. Mizak believed that the should have had a slightly different focus, "The debate should not been why we are there; it should been about what we should do now he said.

Unfortunately, that is the problem with which nearly all Americans seem to be struggling, and beg for a clear answer to their debate question: "Now what?"

CARE *continued from pg. 1*

When it comes to the ever-present issues of stress and anxiety, students are helped individually, but there are general exercises that the counselors employ to help change bad habits.

"We teach how to refrain from activities that cause stress and how to think about situations differently," explained Deasy.

"Most of the students coming in with severe problems are the ones that are not taking the time to get a decent amount of sleep. They're staying up until two or three o'clock in the morning trying to write papers and study and then getting back up at six to go to class. This isn't a healthy lifestyle," said Deasy.

Sleep is the key to good mental health, but sleep alone will not make a student healthier and happier. A good diet and regular exercise will significantly reduce stress. Most students come from homes where they eat two or three wholesome meals a day, but when those three meals are pizza, it's no wonder that so many students are packing on extra pounds.

"I know how good pizza tastes. The number of pizza trucks on campus indicates that most of our students aren't eating well. The more a student focuses on paying attention to taking care of themselves, the better off they will be able to handle stress and the challenges that they face in the semester," explained Deasy.

"All of the services at the counseling center

are absolutely free for students. There's no charge whatsoever. In situations where medication might be necessary to deal with anxiety or depression, we do have a consulting psychiatrist who comes to the counseling center once every other week. He is here and available to meet with students to do a diagnosis and prescribe medication if necessary. The psychiatric evaluation is also provided free of charge to students," said Deasy.

So, don't give in to spring semester stress. Go to the Counseling Center in Sand Spring Hall and don't be afraid to ask for help.

"We are available 24/7. There is a counselor available at all times, so if an individual is having a difficulty or a problem, a counselor can respond to that individual within a moment's notice."

Savage Mountain Summer Arts Academy Offered at FSU

Press Release

The Frostburg State University Savage Mountain Arts Academy offers a variety of workshops for high school students in grades 9-12. The programs offered for 2007 are in creative writing, wind chamber music and combat.

Each program is a week long. Students have the option of staying in on-campus housing or commuting.

The Savage Mountain Creative Writing Workshop, held July 24-30, is an opportunity for high school sophomores, juniors and seniors to spend a week of intensive study in fiction writing, poetry writing or creative nonfiction writing led by published writers. Students will get an experience with literary and language beyond the average high school's goals and requirements. Participants will get a greater understanding of what choices make a piece of writing individual and powerful. They will become more attentive readers, and will become aware of the countless potentialities for their own writing. To learn more about this workshop, contact Gerry LaFollette at (301) 687-4024.

The Wind Chamber Music Institute, held July 29-August 4, provides a creative course of study open to high school students who play flute, oboe, clarinet, horn and bassoon. Students will rehearse three times a day, receive daily instruction, participate in instrument masterclasses and prepare an on-campus concert where all students will perform. For more information on this workshop, contact Mark Gallagher at (301) 687-4381.

The Stage Combat Workshop, held June 24-30, will offer group and individual instruction in unarmed and sword stage combat. It is designed for high school actors ages 15-18 of all experience levels. Students will enjoy daily workshops, classes in unarmed stage combat, single rapier and wood-style single sword, as well as other classes in movement styles, including physical clowning and Grotowski and Laban-based exercises designed to allow young actors access to emotional depth in their work. The week will culminate in a performance featuring selected scenes from the class. By the end of the week, successful students will know how to "act" safely, perform safe, choreographed routines and understand the principles of safe stage fighting. For more information on this workshop, contact Darrell Rushton at (301) 687-4487.

Spring into fun with the University Programming Council

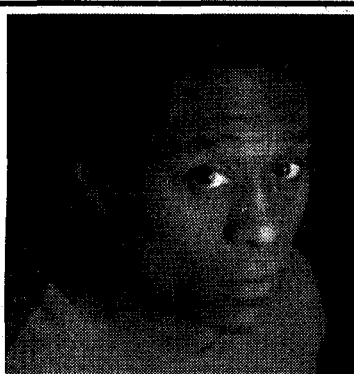
Comedy Night
featuring
Lamar Williams

Thursday, April 12
9 pm

Lane University Center,

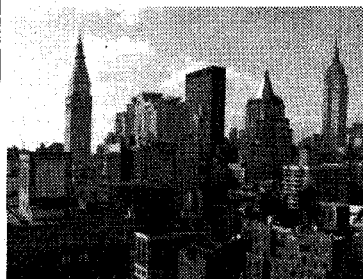
Alice R. Manicor Assembly Hall

Cleverly written, Lamar Williams material is not just funny, at times it has the ability to say what we're all thinking. One of the Club Comic Picks for the "Laugh Across America" comedy contest, Lamar performed at the "2004 Las Vegas Comedy Festival."



Be there to win over \$100 in door prizes and give aways!

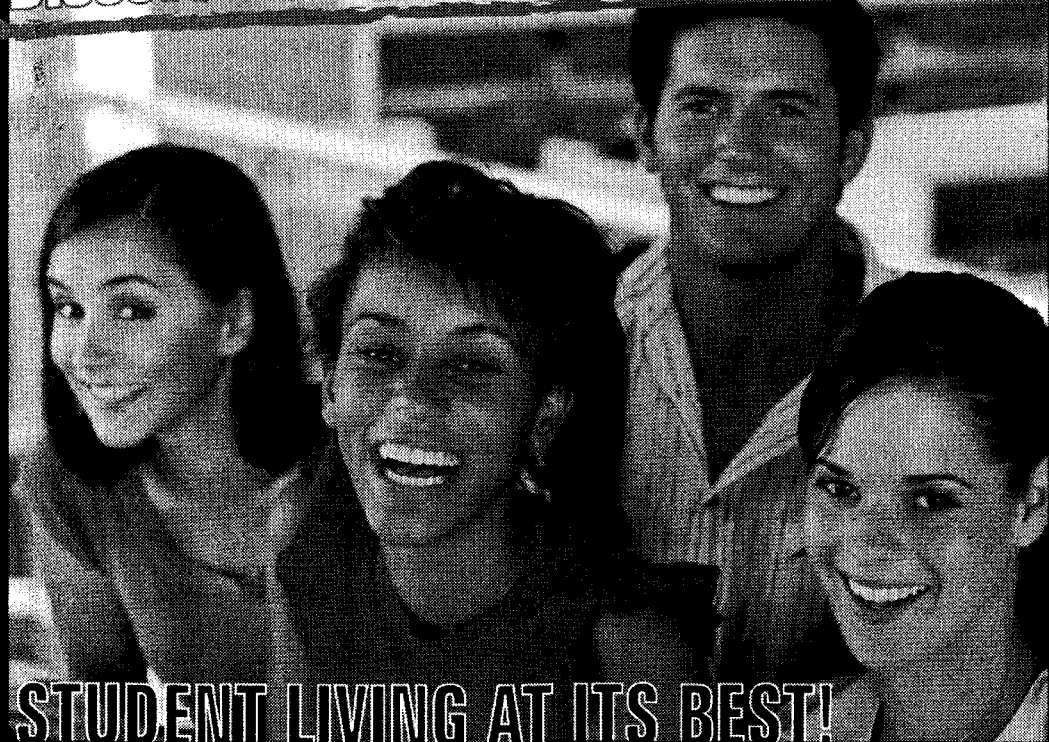
Off Campus Trip- New York City
Saturday, April 14
Tickets on sale now!



Bus will depart from the Performing Arts Center Parking Lot at 5 am and will depart from Times Square at 9 pm.

Spend a day in New York City enjoying all that New York has to offer. You will be dropped off in Times Square and will have the opportunity to plan your own adventure whether it is to sight-see, attend a Broadway show, visit a museum, or just shop 'til you drop. Cost is \$35 per person and includes round trip coach transportation to NYC, driver gratuity, and a light snack. Tickets on sale at the Lane University Center Information Desk.

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ATTENTION: Frostburg State University Students

I am inviting you to participate in a research project I am completing for an independent study in my master's program. The purpose of this study is to obtain information about how Web profiles (i.e., Facebook, MySpace, Friendster, Xanga, LiveJournal, WebShots, Blogger, etc.) may potentially be used in the employment screening process. Along with surveying you and other Frostburg State University students about opinions and behaviors, I will also be asking professors and employers to complete surveys about their practices, opinions and behaviors. The overall results will be compiled into an academic research paper that will not only include statistical analysis but also implications for higher education professionals. I also hope to share my results with the academic world by having them published in a scientific journal.

To read the full consent/cover letter and to participate in the survey, please visit the following Web site:

<http://personal.frostburg.edu/rdpeteron0/survey4students/>

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Modern Life is War – Going 100 Miles per Hour

STEPHANIE THORNTON

Staff Writer

try to work it every night. I try to keep in mind that each show has a place in the history of life. The better I make each one, the happier I am," explained Jeff Eaton, vocalist of Modern Life is War, a hardcore punk band from Marshalltown, Iowa. Every Modern Life is War show has a lot of intensity, but Jeff and the guys handle it well. Although a lot of other bands may get tired of it because they're doing the same thing every night in a new place, "I love it. The more intense and loud and crazy it is - the better I totally thrive off of that," said Jeff. He kind of sees shows as stress relief. "That's just such a release for me that it allows me to be a little more relaxed and controlled in my everyday life. I feel like I'd be a crazy person if I didn't do this every night," he explained. Modern Life is War just finished a short headlining tour of the Midwest on their way to Baltimore, where they're recording their third album. Once recording is done, "We'll be touring constantly for the next year," said Jeff. "Because the boys spend so much time on the road, stuck in the van and playing intense shows, the transition from life on the road to just chilling at home is not an easy one. Jeff explained that he got used to playing a show every night, sleeping on a random floor, packing up and unloading equipment. "Your body doesn't stop moving the whole time you're out there. When you come home there's just nothing. It's like you're going from 100 mph to just slamming on your brakes," said Jeff.

One of Jeff's goals regarding playing shows: "I would like to get to the point where we could fill a small club every night. A small club to me is, say, 200 people. We played a show in NYC the other night that was 200 to 300 people, and that wasn't even a club - it was a loft apartment. That night to me was perfect." On April 1, Modern

Life is War played the Charm City Art Space in Baltimore. The venue is a basement that has no stage, no barricade and can't be larger than 25 feet by 25 feet. Venue size can definitely contribute to the intensity as all of the kids packed into the room lose control. "I would easily play a

then, he's started listening to a ton of other punk and hardcore bands, and he explained that, "what Modern Life is War does is hardcore punk." When they started, Modern Life is War had been a long time coming. Jeff worked with drummer Tyler Oleson and guitarist John Eich in other local



big club full of 1,000 people. I would get a kick out of that...but at the same time I like playing on the floor...having 150 kids packed into a room, going wild," said Jeff.

For Jeff, it all started with a show on MTV called *120 Minutes*. "That was back when they'd actually play videos from smaller bands...I saw a Rancid video," he said, "that was really something I'd never seen before, something that was really exciting to me...it kind of hooked me." Since

bands and by the time they formed Modern Life is War, "We'd had a lot of trial and error at that point," Jeff explained. They already had a feel for what they were doing.

When it comes to lyrics, "The people that inspire me are the people that sing about regular people and the places they are from. A lot of times there's a psychological aspect to it or a sociological aspect to it," said Jeff. He's learned a lot from The Clash and Bruce Springsteen. "The inspira-

tion kind of comes from them, but at the same time, what I learn from them is that the inspiration comes from who you are and who your family is and who your friends are and your town and people that you see on an everyday basis." Jeff said that he wants to explain his thoughts clearly and write about things he can really relate to personally and literally. "I think writers that talk about things they don't know about will fail. I talk about basic stuff that's going on in my life."

"There's always the urge to explain myself more clearly than the last time. I think we do that musically and lyrically from record to record," he said. With each album, Modern Life is War strives to stand out from the crowd. "We don't really just want to be a part of it. We want to stick our heads above that or just be completely on the outside of that. We want to be our own f---king band," he explained.

The band is currently recording their new album with a new label, Equal Vision, and a new bassist, Spanish Bombs' Tim Churchman. "We feel pretty free in a way we haven't felt before with this new record...people don't really know what to expect," said Jeff. They have a month to record, and they went into the studio completely prepared with lyrics and music. "I'm so much more confident in what I'm doing now and I think we have a really unique record on our hands," said Jeff.

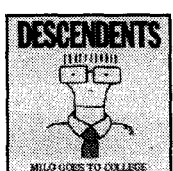
At the start of Modern Life is War, after pressing 500 copies of their first E.P., "We just didn't ever think we'd be able to sell 500 of those...our original goal was just to put that record out," said Jeff. After accomplishing that, they wanted to do a tour. "We did a tour of the East Coast...just the fact that we did that, we already won the whole game to us. Even if nothing were to happen after that, we had already done what we set out to do and had a good f---king time," he said. Of course, that was not the end, and Jeff believes, "We're in it for the long-haul."



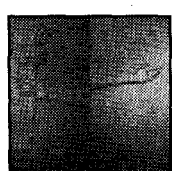
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RIPIT.

Local Talent Come Out and Perform!

AMM FRAZEE

Staff Writer

This past Thursday night's Open Mic Night was not the normal crowd of people who usually attend. This week there were both few performers as well as audience members. It could be described as a small intimate crowd of people who came out to attend the event on the snowy evening in Frostburg. The Open Mic night only lasted a short half an hour due to the lack of people to come out and offer their talents.

Coming to Open Mic Night is another great way to get people to listen and showcase any talent that they might have. It is also just a great place to go and have fun with friends and listen to the music and talent of fellow students. People who perform at Open Mic are generally musicians who play music they have written or get up there and play covers of songs for fun. But any talent is accepted. This past week there were only three performers who braved the stage and had a great time.

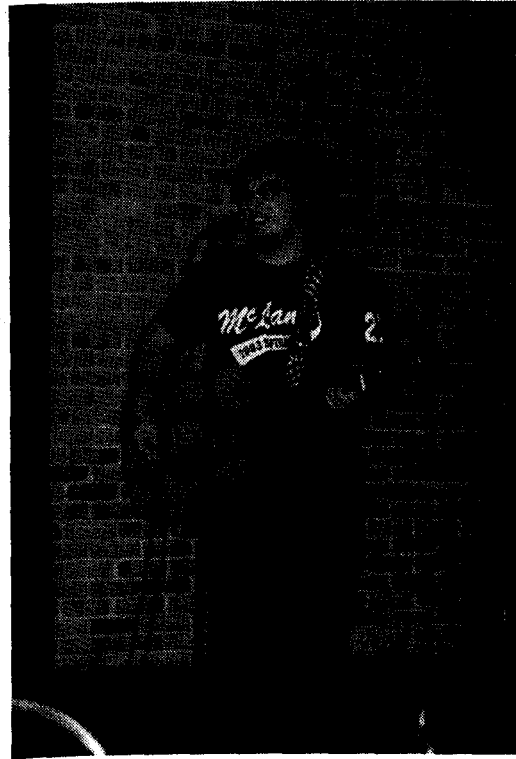
The first person to brave the stage and the intimate audience was Steve. Steve, a Frostburg student, played a set of two songs he had written about life experiences on his guitar. The second artists to perform were Chris and Ryan, a guitarist and a bassist. Chris and Ryan got up on the stage and just

had fun playing three different cover songs. The two showed their extreme talent and received a great response from the audience. After Chris and Ryan's set there was a short break waiting to see if more talent would come. During this intermission, the few people who came were having fun and talking to one another.

Having no new talent artists, Steve, the first performer, decided that he would take to the stage one more time. This time he decided to play "Hey Girl" by the Maryland band O.A.R. Steve showed his talent playing the guitar once more and just had a fun time. After he finished, receiving a good response from the audience, he stepped off of the stage allowing the final person to come on. The final performance was from Teneisha Brown who read one of her poems. She received a great response from the audience. Her poem was extremely well written with a good rhythm.

UPC's Open Mic Night happens the first Thursday of every month; anyone interested in sharing some of their work or meeting new friends should come out and support our local talent. Hopefully next month there will be more student artists who are ready and willing to perform work, whether it be music or poetry. There are many talented students at Frostburg who should brave their peers and perform.

photos by: Michelle Nash



IN THE SPOTLIGHT Students have the opportunity to show off their talents on stage when UPC holds Open Mic Nights. These events are open to any faculty, students, or community members, so come out and watch or let everyone see what you can do!

Wherever You're From, N.C.P.D. Has No Time for You

Games such as *Neocron 2: Beyond the Dome of York* suffer because the lack non-European support despite overwhelming non-European interest.

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AT Wire
Derek Hideo

Being a gamer living in the United States has its perks. We may not have all that is available to gamers living in Japan, but we are definitely better off than gamers in the United Kingdom and the rest of the world. It may just be the fact that I'm not used to getting the short end of the stick, but after this past week I think I'm starting to understand how those other gamers feel.

I've been looking for a massively multiplayer online game to play since I've been overloading on *Battlefield 2142* and *Medieval II: Total War*. Unfortunately, I'm not all that apt to play any more fantasy MMOs. Unfortunately for me, and the rest of the gaming community, MMOs might as well just be fantasy games because the number of non-fantasy style MMOs can probably be counted with two hands.

I found a game called *Neocron 2: Beyond the Dome of York*, a game developed by the German-based game developer Reaktor Media Ltd. It is a sci-fi MMO that resembles the dark world found in the movie *Bladerunner*. I almost bought the first *Neocron*, but I decided to wait since I was against paying monthly fees. Now, with *Neocron 2*, I'm older and able to pay those monthly fees if I want to, so I thought I'd take advantage of the opportunity to play it. My experience with this game, however, has been filled with so much frustration that you would think I've played it for hours, but in reality, I haven't even successfully registered an account yet!

Like many MMOs, *Neocron 2.2* offers a free trial

of the game for a short time. Their 10-day free trial requires you to download the game, which is nearly 2 GB, and then register an account with them that requires you to have a credit card. I went ahead and downloaded the file overnight and installed it the next morning. Then I tried to create an account for the free trial and ran into some problems. Apparently, PayPal doesn't "like" U.S. accounts trying to register for this game. I spent about three hours modifying my PayPal settings, and adjusting the various payment methods; but by the end I hadn't gotten any further in the process. I e-mailed *Neocron 2.2*'s tech support only to receive a response in broken English

were't receiving in-game support from the developers. One American player created a titled, "Hey Reaktor, Americans play too," in which he talked about how in-game were always scheduled for times when the players were online, but never when non-E players were online. After several replies in support of his complaint, the forum made closed the topic, effectively saying "tough luck."

To help you, the reader, understand that these complaints aren't just the frustrated ramblings of a spoiled American gamer, let's look at *Neocron* from a business perspective. The game is designed

make money, not just through monthly subscriptions but also through monthly releases. *Neocron 2.2* is an upgrade released in February, and with its release, the game received a large amount of advertisement. For example, Xfire is running ads on their site and through their instant messaging client about *Neocron 2.2*.

Filefront.com and Gamespot.com are two of the major hosts for the *Neocron 2.2* free-trial client download, recorded over 3,000 downloads combined since February. Upon examination of the game through community forums, I found that people complained about how there were only be 300-400 people logged on *Neocron 2.2* during peak times. Of course, these are peak times in Europe, which is when the rest of the world (Europeans) are either in school or work. Now, who do you think is responsible for a majority of the downloads? Well, I can tell you it definitely wasn't the Russians or the Chinese.

Why in the Hell would a game not properly support non-European players when, at least since February, there seems to be a huge amount of non-European gamers interested in it? Only does this neglect hurt the

saying something like "We're working on it, be patient."

I checked the community forums for the game and found that not only were people in the U.S. having difficulties getting registered for the game, but they

operators, but it also hurts the *Neocron 2.2* community which would thrive with a larger player-base. From a business perspective, this is as absurd as opening a restaurant in Africa and placing a sign outside that says, "Canadians Only!"



NEOCRON 2 An in-game screenshot of one of the cities found in Neocron 2.

Lost? Confused? Visit The EC Archive @ <http://the-ec.blogspot.com>

THE EC: EVERWOOD COMMONS Heather Ravenscroft





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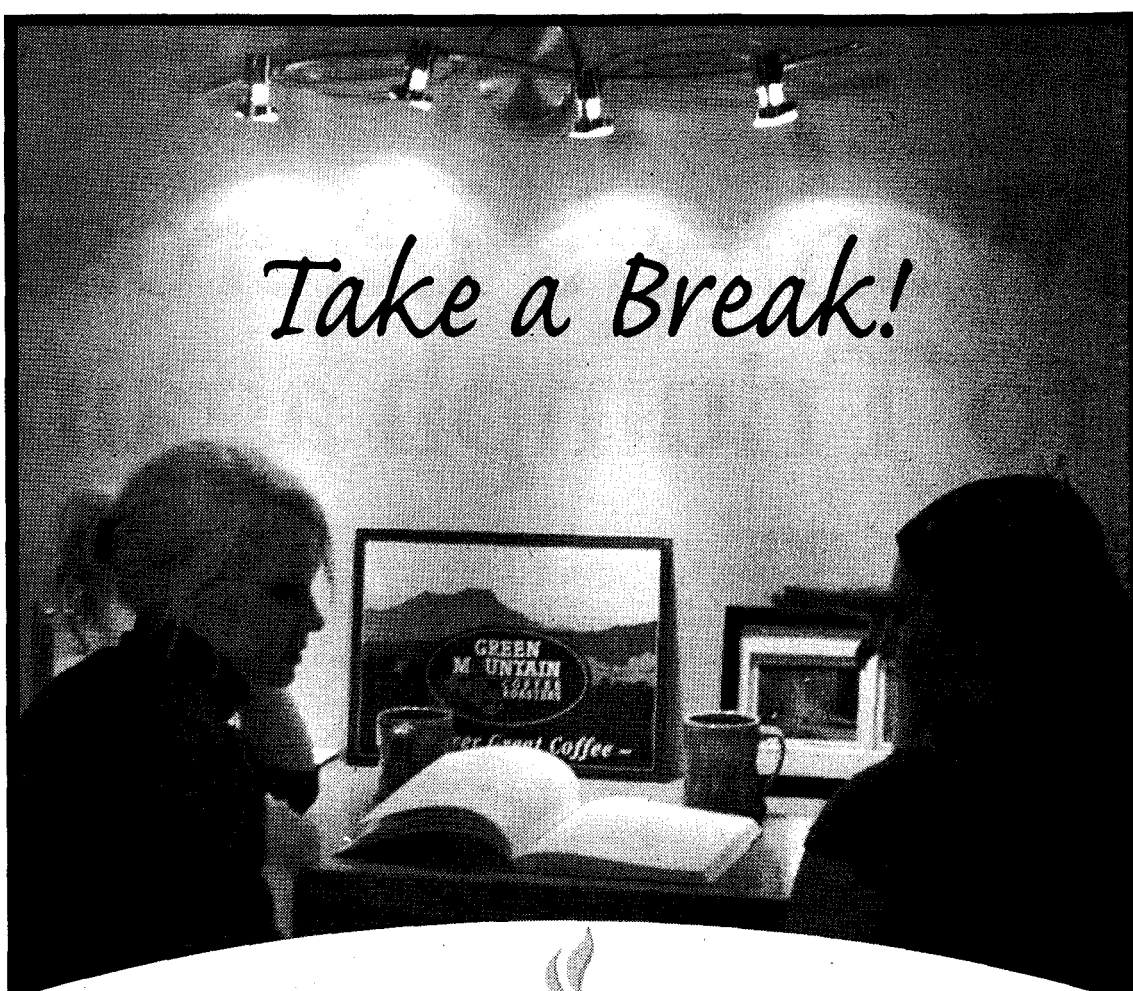
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|---|---|---|--|--|---|

| | | | | | |
|---|--|--|--|---|---|
| 4.14.07 TRK @ Bison Outdoor Classic All Day | 4.15.07 LAX @ Lynchburg 1pm | 4.15.07 SFB @ Penn- State-Behrend (DH) 1pm | 4.15.07 TEN @ AMCC Championships All Day | 4.17.07 BSB @ Mt. Aloysius (DH) 1pm | 4.17.07 SFB vs. Mt. Aloysius (Dh) 3pm |
|---|--|--|--|---|---|

Women's Lacrosse Unable to Triumph against AACCC



DESPITE THEIR BEST EFFORTS the Bobcats couldn't pull off a win last Wednesday (above). The following Saturday, however, they redeemed themselves with a dominating win against Averett. They play again today at 4 p.m. against Shenandoah.

DARYL BUCHANAN
Staff Writer

Frostburg women's lacrosse put up a valiant fight April 4th when they faced Anne Arundel Community College in an aggressive and hard fought game. Frostburg came out strong in the first quarter taking an early three to nothing lead. Frostburg had the momentum early and seemed to have Anne Arundel on the ropes.

With a three point deficit, Anne Arundel began a comeback and tied the game up three a piece late in the first quarter. Not settling there, Anne Arundel pressed on and made two more quick scores, taking the lead with a score of three to five. Frostburg quickly answered with a point of their own,

bringing the team within one.

The back and forth scoring of the game accurately represented the speed and intensity in this game. Head coach Annie Sidorenko commented on the games tempo by saying, "They were a very aggressive team and a very fast team. They also made good transitions throughout the game."

Keeping with the swift pace, Frostburg tied the game five all with six minutes left in the first. Anne Arundel managed two more points before the end of the first. With a score of five to seven, the game was tight and very competitive. No team had a clear advantage.

At the start of the second character, Anne Arundel came out early and created a five to nine point gap. Frostburg began to slow down and found it hard

to keep pace with Anne Arundel's quick players. But Frostburg was able to capitalize on an Anne Arundel penalty and bring Frostburg within three points of a tie.

Late in the second, Frostburg gained momentum and began to mount a slow, but steady, comeback. The defense held Anne Arundel to nine, while the offense went to work and scored another point, setting the score at seven to nine. With such hard playing you would think the game was for a championship.

Towards the end of the second quarter, the tables turned in favor of Anne Arundel as they managed two more scores. Frostburg did score one more point, but was unable to score enough on Anne Arundel before time ran out. At the end of the hard fought game, the

final score was eight to eleven, with Anne Arundel taking the win.

Although Frostburg lost, it seems the referees added to the difficulty. Oddly enough, the referees made bad calls against Anne Arundel as well. When asked about the referee calls, coach Sidorenko said, "The wrong calls were made for both teams. It was an evenly bad called game for both teams."

Regardless of the loss, coach Sidorenko is optimistic about the rest of the season. "It was definitely not our strongest performance, but we came out hard in the end. I think our season still looks hopeful." If Frostburg can continue their competitive and aggressive style of play, they are bound to get more games in the win column.

Six Different Players Score; Women's Lacrosse Routs Averett 23-8

Press Release

DANVILLE, Va. – Six different players scored goals as Frostburg State won its third straight game with a 23-8 rout of Averett, Saturday afternoon.

Senior Ashley Mattison (Pasadena, Md./Chesapeake) scored six goals to lead FSU (4-3) in scoring. Freshman Elisabeth Hildebrand (Frederick, Md./Walkersville) scored five goals and passed out four assists while junior Carly Rihard (Hampstead, Md./North Carroll) had five goals and three assists.

Vanessa Jordan led the Cougars (3-8) with four goals and Darcie Jones had three.

Averett scored the game's first goal two and half minutes into action but FSU answered with ten consecutive goals for a 10-1 edge. Hildebrand led the run with four goals and Rihard and Mattison each netted two.

AU scored two goals late in the half as the teams headed into the locker rooms with FSU leading 10-3.

Senior Tina Trent (Bel Air, Md./C. Milton Wright) pushed the visitor lead to 11-3 with a goal 38 seconds into the second half.

Both squads netted one more goal a piece as the scoring ended.

Sophomore Erin Morrell (Easton, Md./Easton) earned her first win of the season for FSU allowing eight goals while stopping eight shots.

Frostburg State returns to action on Wednesday, April 11 when it hosts Shenandoah at 4:00 pm.

Seniors Hold Strong

After Performing Well and Still Losing to Behrend, Team Looks for a Victory this Week and a Good Seed for the AMCC Tournament

GREG SHEDD
Staff Writer

On Saturday, April 7th the Frostburg Bobcats men's tennis team traveled to Pitt Greensburg to play a home conference match against Penn State Behrend since snow covered the Frostburg courts. Although the Bobcats suffered a close loss, 5-4, the seniors performed with flair.

Senior Andy Chisholm won both of his matches. The singles victory for Andy included a 5-7, 6-0, 6-2 third set second singles win over Miles Boyea, the former player of the year. In doubles action Andy paired with junior Ryan Rice to win the second doubles match in a tense tiebreaker. Other seniors coming through in the clutch were seniors Chris Schoen-

bauer and Brad Yoder. In singles action Schoenbauer took care of business, handily defeating his opponent. In doubles, Schoenbauer teamed with Yoder to give the Bobcats another point in the dual match.

Singles match losses included the #1, #3, #4, and #6 players;

losing in doubles was the #1 doubles tandem of Matt Chisholm and Greg Shedd.

Although a disappointing loss this will give the Bobcats the spark they needed to enter the conference tournament with a desire to win. With Behrend as the main competition in the conference the matchups in the AMCC tournament will be crucial to a Bobcat victory. With a current record of 5-5 and 3-1 in the conference Frostburg is ready to win its first AMCC title since 2001.

The Bobcats return to action on Tuesday when they travel to Penn State Altoona for the final conference match of the regular season. This match will be crucial in determining seeding for the AMCC tournament.

"Although a disappointing loss this will give the Bobcats the spark they needed to enter the conference tournament with a desire to win."

Greg Shedd, Matt Chisholm, Ryan Rice, and Brad Yoder, respectively. This is a switch from the former meeting against Behrend in which case singles action was dominated by Frostburg. Also,

How NOT to run an Intramural Athletics Department

Armchair Q.B.
Chris Schoenbauer

Seeburg State University. That's it of the At least could be really need to write on this I've always really viewed the mural department here in a light, but each semester some new pops up and somehow

With intramural athletics, one who attends school at burg State should have a chance play in the intramural sports are offered. FSU is a very school with a small number of dents and you would think would not be a problem.

Wrong. This year, only two teams are being allowed to compete in the softball league. less to say there are a few students on campus this semester that are not playing in this intramural sport. The intramural office probably blame it on field time something of that nature, but real reason is just a poorly department.

The intramural basketball is finally coming to a close determine the playoff teams. intramural department selected best six records from each league (recreational and competitive) advance. The problem with there are some teams who play seven or eight games while some teams played as few as for.

This program ran for almost months. In two months, some teams played four games while others played seven. Needless to the teams who played more games had a chance to win more, advance to their respective playoffs. How there is that much discrepancy between the number games each team plays is absolutely mind boggling.

I could go down the laundry of items that are completely screwed up the intramural department every year but that would take all day. Neither one of wants to read or write a column that would take that long. I stick to the basics here and just down a short list and how a school grader could get this job done.

Scheduling: it's really not hard. If one team plays four games when another plays seven, that's not fair when playoff time comes around. In football, some teams don't play 16 games while others only play 10. If we just use basic second grade math here, we can get everyone on the court an equal number of times.

Team allotment: why not everyone who wants to be a part of a sport play? If that means everyone can only play four games instead of ten so be it. The teams will beat whoever is put in front of them anyway. It's not throat Division I intercollegiate athletics. It's intramural recreation let the students have some fun.

Referee Training: seriously that hard to take two hours a night and train the refs on how to call a contest? In two hours they can easily learn the basic rules of a game, how to make a call, how to keep a game under control and not to be lazy and just walk around not paying much attention to the game or caring about it. Honestly it's your job to pay attention to actually ref a good game. You're paid to be there, act like it's a real job.

These three easy steps can get FSU at least in a direction of decent intramural athletics department. Down the line more issues can be addressed, but we can start hear and save this train wreck of a department. Intramural athletics is not supposed to be hard, it's supposed to be fun and give everyone a chance to play some games with people who actually take their jobs seriously.