

THE HUDSONIAN

THE INDEPENDENT MULTIMEDIA NEWS ORGANIZATION OF HUDSON VALLEY COMMUNITY COLLEGE

EVENTS

TUESDAY || FEB. 27

10AM-2PM: Albany VA Medical Center: Employer Recruitment Table (CTR Lobby)

10AM-3PM: Discounted Regal Movie Ticket Sales (CTR 210)

10AM-2PM: NYS Dept of Taxation & Finance: Employer Recruitment Table (CTR)

12PM-1PM Lunch Crunch: Managing Test Anxiety (CTR 202)

12PM-1PM: Yoga (CTR 260)

4PM-5:30PM: Discounted Regal Movie Ticket Sales (CTR 210)

4PM-6PM: Motorcycle Open House (BTC Meeting Rooms)

4:30PM: Board of Trustees Meeting (Virtual)

WEDNESDAY || FEB. 28

10AM-2PM: NYS Police: Employer Recruitment Table (CTR)

10AM-2:30PM: Siena College: Transfer Advisor Visit (CTR 290)

10AM-2PM: UAlbany: Transfer Advisor Visit (CTR 290)

10AM-2PM: WellNow Urgent Care: Employer Recruitment Table (CTR)

10:30AM-12PM: Resume Help Information Table (CTR)

12PM-1PM: Majors Open House for Current Students (McD)

12PM: Pizza Time (CTR Lobby)

2PM-3PM: Foreign Language & Culture Club Meeting (BRN 112)

6PM-7:30PM: St. Peter's Health Partners Public Information Session (BTC Auditorium)

THURSDAY || FEB. 29

10AM-2PM: DeCrescente Distributing Company: Employer Recruitment Table (CTR)

12PM-1PM: Toss The Feathers (Live Music) (BTC Auditorium)

2PM-4:30: Black History Month Movie Series: "The Color Purple" (CTR 202)

FRIDAY || MARCH 1

8:30AM-11AM: SUNY Training Funds & You: Employer Roundtable (BTC Meeting Rooms)

12PM-2PM: Armed Forces Club Meeting (CTR 164)

NEW SECTION: POLITICS PG. 3

YOUR VOICE, YOUR CAMPUS. FALLOUT 3 REVIEW: IT SUCKS PG. 6



ART: FELICIA LAI- 'VAULT BOY'



VOTER QR CODE PG. 2

VICE PRESIDENT OF STUDENT AFFAIRS RETIRES COPLIN'S 37 YEARS OF IMPACT ON THE DEPARTMENT

TIM DESMOND
Staff Contributor

Louis Coplin, Vice President of Student Affairs since July 2019, retired Friday.

Ian LaChance, Dean of Enrollment Services since September 2021, has been selected as Coplin's interim successor.

An employee of Hudson Valley for over 37 years, Coplin worked as a journalist for the Times Union and the Amsterdam Reporter prior to his time in education.

After several years in journalism, Coplin elected to change to a career in public relations. Coplin stated at the time he "wanted something different, a greater challenge."

Applying for positions at colleges, hospitals, banks, and insurance companies, Coplin states "Hudson Valley Community College was the first company to call, because they had an opening in their Information Services office".

Coplin started

ed as a temporary employee in Information Services before accepting a position in the Educational Opportunity Program office.

"Shortly afterwards, the Director of Student Activities retired, and [the administration] asked me to oversee Student Activities while I oversaw EOP," he states.

In 2003, the Vice President of Student Services retired, and Coplin took over as the Interim VP, staying

only 2 and a half years. He claims that it "wasn't a good time, wasn't a good fit for me. I left that position in 2006 and came back to Student Activities and EOP".

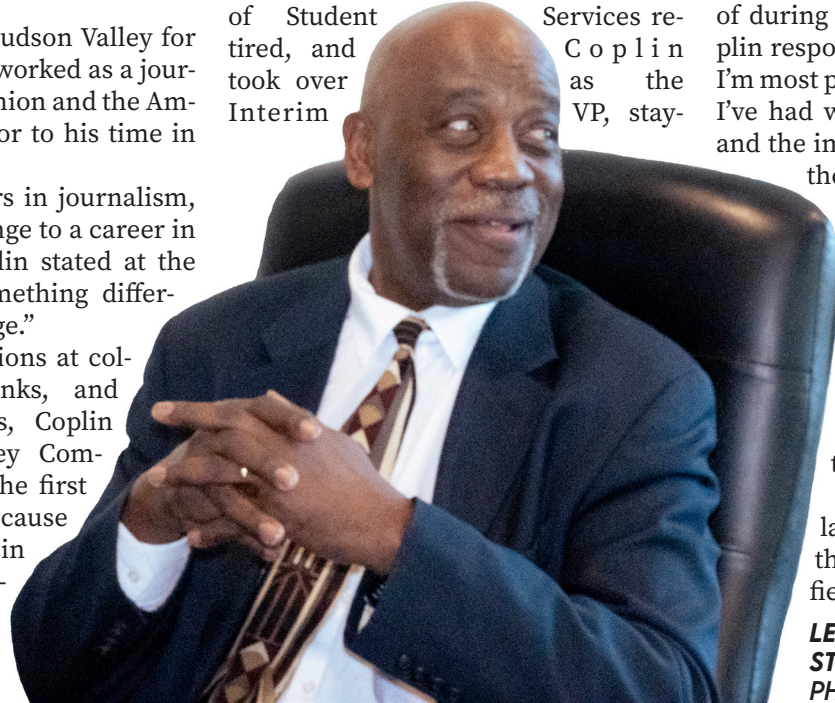
In 2018, the position of Interim Vice President was offered once again, and Coplin accepted. "And the rest is history," he stated.

When asked what he was most proud of during his time spent at HVCC, Coplin responded with, "I guess the thing I'm most proud of are the conversations I've had with students over the years, and the impact that I know I've had on these students and people over the years.

"And sometimes that impact is based on these kinds of conversations and/or just being present. I can't remember half or even a tenth of the conversations and engagements I've had with these students.

"But to see and hear years later the impact of one's work, that makes me the most satisfied, it's very gratifying work".

LEFT: COPLIN POSES IN STUDENT SENATE MEETING PHOTO BY- JONAH FLANAGAN



GI BILL DATA INSIGHT ON COLLEGE AID EFFECTIVENESS FOR STUDENT VETERANS

MINORITIES CLAIM MORE OFTEN, BENEFIT LESS FINANCIALLY

DOMINIC CACCHIONE
Managing Editor

An assessment of the Post-9/11 GI Bill's (PGIB) benefits was made available for the first time on February 15.

Some data attested to the bill's effectiveness and the accessibility of benefits to aspiring veteran students, yet other results weren't so favorable, showing that some racial and ethnic minority groups received below-average benefits from the bill.

The findings suggest that while veterans from academically underrepresented racial and ethnic groups were more likely to use their GI Bill benefits, they were less likely to get a degree within six years.

Black veterans' earnings following college were shown to be significantly lower than other groups. Native American and Inuit earnings were also found to be noticeably lower than average.

Additionally, female veterans were found to be significantly more likely than male veterans to use PGIB benefits to enroll and get a degree, but were paid significantly less money in the workforce.

Also of note is data showing the gender wage gap between veterans was found to be smaller than the gender wage gap of the general public.

With this data publicly available, it's possible that amendments will be made in the future to adjust seemingly unequal opportunities presented by the bill.

Many veterans overall made great use of their GI Bill benefits. According to the findings, 54 percent of eligible veterans used their PGIB benefits to pay for their higher education.

Eligible veterans' college completion rates were double that of other, financially independent students on a nationwide scale.

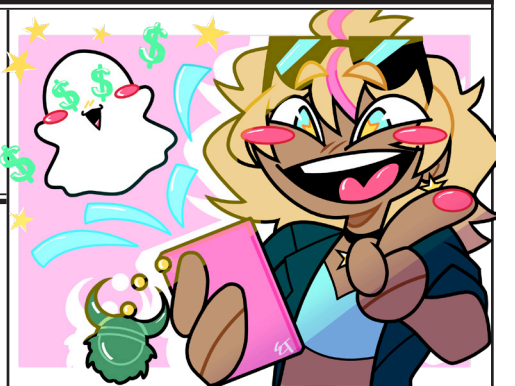
Some of our very own vets at HVCC can attest to the bill's effectiveness.

Cooper Patschureck says that his PGIB benefits "have allowed [him] to pursue classes in semesters such as summer, where [his] other forms of financial aid were unable to be used".

However, Patschureck expressed some displeasure with the lengthy process required to receive said benefits, and the inconvenience

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GO TO ... GI BILL



ART: EMILY TRICOZZI @TOASTNOTKNOWN

HVCC SNAPCHAT STORY

ADAM CONKLIN
Staff Contributor

What do you get when you combine hundreds of students and an open place to communicate freely? That would be the HVCC Snapchat story!

For those of you unaware, there is a feature through Snapchat where if you login through your Hudson Valley email, you can be put on a public story containing only HVCC students.

Here you can communicate with anyone, make new friends, find details on school events, and so much more. Interestingly though, a group of entrepreneurs have made their way on the platform with free advertising every single day.

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GO TO ... SNAPCHAT

ISSUE 79.13

FEBRUARY 27, 2024

NEWS

Editor-in-Chief Cal Martin c-martin49@hvcc.edu

LONG STORY SHORT...

HUDSON VALLEY PLAZA FAILS CODE INSPECTION FOLLOWING ILLICIT CANNABIS BUST

City of Troy's Code Enforcement Bureau found 75 - 81 Vandenburgh Ave. in violation of fire safety codes on Feb 21.

The violation notice mandates the sprinkler system be inspected within 30 days of issuance. If the inspection is not conducted, the building will be declared unsafe.

Businesses in this block of the plaza include Ocean State Job Lot, Storage Sense, Gloom Tobacco, Magic Nails, China Wok, Subway, Hudson Valley Plaza Dental, and Market32.

It is undetermined if this inspection lapse is connected to the Feb 7 illicit cannabis seizure and cease work order for failure to secure Worker's Compensation at Gloom Tobacco.

OPENAI LAUNCHES SORA, REALISTIC GENERATED VIDEO SOFTWARE

Adam Conklin

Ever seen a photo online and weren't sure if it was AI or not?

Get ready to fall deeper into the surreal, with the newest addition of Sora, a software that can generate 60 second video prompts, made by the same minds behind ChatGPT.

Sora is the first program creating these artificially generated videos without it looking scuffed or wonky.

When generating people, they now have the correct amount of limbs and are modeled to look identical to real humans.

Yet, eagle-eyed viewers can recognize when something doesn't add up.

Clips showcased by Sora included an old western town, a Tokyo street, and a cat waking its owner in bed.

With the western town, you can identify some horses melting into the ground. The street cars in Tokyo disappear into thin air, and the physics of the bedsheets with the cat do not behave like they should in reality.

Sora's strongest expertise is in animated cartoon videos, since animations don't have to align with what we normally see in the outside world.

These animations are the hardest to distinguish from real clips, since there aren't any tell-tale signs that something is off.

UNIVERSITY OF FLORIDA'S STUDENT GOVERNMENT FIRST TO PASS GREEN NEW DEAL AT PUBLIC COLLEGE

Cal Martin

In a first-of-its-kind Feb 20 mandate, University of Florida's Student Senate passed a resolution demanding campus financial transparency and conservation efforts.

The unanimous decision comes in the wake of climate denialism by Florida Governor, Ron DeSantis.

HVCC Student Senate President Aftab did not respond to The Hudsonian's request for comment prior to publication.

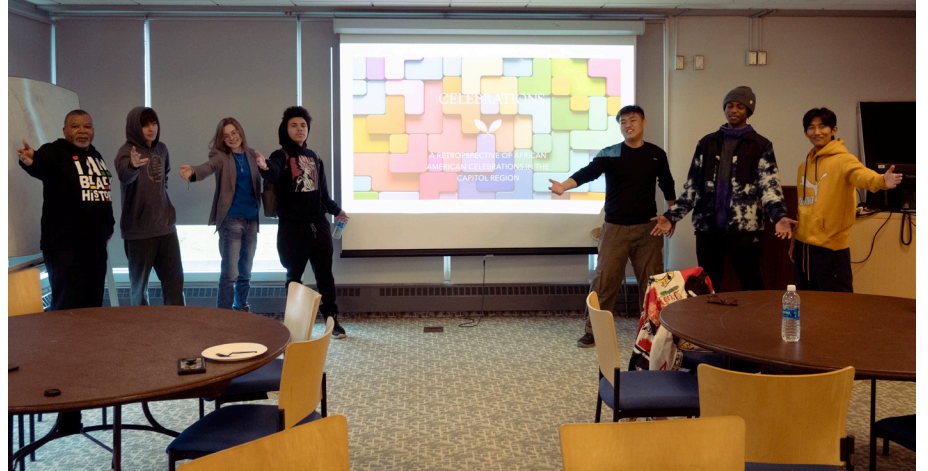


SPEAKER BRINGS LOCAL CULTURE INTO SPOTLIGHT FOR BLACK HISTORY MONTH

Cal Martin

Taking after his immersive roles in historical reenactments, guest Donald Hyman brought an interactive workshop to campus Thursday.

The visit, part of Hudson Valley's Black History Month series, garnered a tight-knit group of learners about historical and modern Black excel-



ABOVE: ATTENDEES POSE WITH HYMAN (LEFT) POST-WORKSHOP

LEFT: HYMAN TEACHES AN HVCC STUDENT A NEW HANDSHAKE

PHOTOS BY- JONAH FLANAGAN, HUDSONIAN STAFF CONTRIBUTOR

lence across New York, including how Hyman combines the two.

"I like the fact we got a crowd that was relaxed. 'Cause sometimes I'll do a program that's deep, and you can't walk in and out on a deep program... it held their attention" said Hyman.

Hyman has spent decades volunteering at local events including Albany LatinFest, Pinkster at Schuyler Mansion, and Hamilton Hill's Juneteenth celebration in Schenectady. His involvement spreads from board

oversight to bringing the events to life on the ground- and in costume.

No matter which role Hyman finds himself in, he commits fully. To portray Frederick Douglass, Hyman spends six months growing out his hair and beard. "I don't do any wigs," Hyman stated.

Like his passion for amplifying culture and otherwise untold histories, Hyman's impact and connections within the community are constant.

SURPLUS SALE ON CAMPUS THIS WEDNESDAY

Sean Sampler

HVCC's Surplus Sale is on Wednesday, Feb. 28th in ADM 020 from 8am to 12pm!

The sale will include furniture and old technology no longer in use.

All PCs and laptops for sale don't have a hard drive or operating system, and the laptops will be limited to one per sale.

Every item is \$1, and you're only asked that you recycle your purchases when you are through with them.

You'll have until Friday, March 1st to pick up your purchases.

If you have any questions, contact Larry Amos at (518) 629-7141 or l.amos@hvcc.edu.

VOTE HVCC FOR A CHANCE TO WIN \$1000

Sean Sampler

Every year, Times Union conducts a "Best of the Capital Region Poll", and like last year, HVCC is a finalist for the "Best College" category. This year, we're going for the gold!

The Student Senate is collaborating with the Office of Communications & Marketing, tabling every day in the Campus Center from February 19 to March 1 offering free food, giveaways, and gift cards encouraging students to vote.

You should vote EVERY DAY, each entry is a chance to win a \$1000 prize!



Making Cent logo with a calculator icon and the text 'Financial guidance & updates in the college sphere'.

SUNY-WIDE DEADLINE EXTENSION COMBATS FAFSA DELAYS

Cal Martin

SUNY Chancellor King announced an expansion of "efforts to support

FAFSA completion" Friday.

Each SUNY campus will host an additional financial aid information day in this initiative. Hudson Valley has not announced their event date or details at the time of publication.

Other guidance encourages institutions to push back Fall 2024 deposit deadlines to combat FAFSA delays.

Deadline extension does not affect rolling admissions to HVCC, but students looking to transfer are advised to check in with prospective schools.

Advertisement for 'Personal Care Products' with a list of needed donations including Shampoo, Body Lotion, Bar/Pump Soap, Liquid Detergent, Deodorant, Tampons, Brushes/Combs, Toilet Paper, Toothbrush/Toothpaste, Shaving Cream, Razors, and Makeup Remover Wipes. It also includes a call to action for the Human Services Club and a list of donation box locations.

THE HUDSONIAN



CONT... SNAPCHAT

From hosting events, promoting music, clothing, food, hair and nails, automotive work, you've got people for everything! Students, do not hesitate to share who you are and what you have to offer!

Thinking about starting a club? Here's a place to recruit members! Want to promote a cause, like letting the school know to vote HVCC for the best college in the Capital Region through Times Union? (Seriously. Go do it.) Go right ahead!

We fully support whatever you want to share with your fellow peers [Editor's Note: Of course we love free speech, we're a newspaper!].

Do keep in mind though that this is through Hudson Valley, and you use your school email to get access to it, so keep the Snapchat story relatively appropriate.

Other than that, post your heart out. If you are a student who would like to promote an event, club, or small business, reach out to the paper. We would be happy to tell your story.

CONT... GI BILL

that comes with it. "Utilizing the GI Bill requires you to work with the Department of Veteran Affairs, which is usually a complicated and lengthy process," he said. "It's common for the website to be down or for you to have to wait hours on hold to get assistance".

However, he went on to say that HVCC offices have been understanding, and are "willing to put holds on your bill until money from the Veteran Affairs arrives".

The data within this assessment was taken across every branch of the military. It covers every veteran eligible for

UPCOMING FILMMAKERS STUDENT CLUB

DO YOU WANT TO ACT IN A FILM?

No experience is needed

Contact the Casting Director for our online application instead at b-manny1@hvcc.edu

ROLLING CASTING AUDITIONS ARE ONGOING UNTIL MARCH 5TH EVERY TUESDAY IN BTC 1053 12PM-1PM



SIGN UP FOR THE NEW YORK BUSINESS PLAN COMPETITION

Sean Sampler

Have you ever wanted to start your own business or side hustle, or wanted to learn more about the entrepreneurial process?

Sign up for the New York State Business Plan Competition, the registration **deadline is March 1!**

HVCC's Entrepreneur Club meets every Wednesday at 2pm in ADM 104, and we'd love to have you on a team.

All that's required for the competition is a pitch including a business plan, basic financials, potential growth, etc. This is a fantastic learning opportunity, it would look great on your resume, and there's prize money for each category!

Contact the club President, Sean Sampler at s-sampler@hvcc.edu if you're interested.

THREADS PUBLICATION SEEKS SUBMISSIONS

Cal Martin

Threads, HVCC's annual publication, hosts open submissions **through Feb 28**. Submit photography, art, poetry, short stories, and essays under 1000 words.

Entrants can win the Threads Writing Award. Those accepted for publication will be contacted via email.

All levels of skills are encouraged to submit. Per their website, Threads "strives to represent a variety of abilities, reflecting the diversity of the campus community".

To view full guidelines, previous editions, and submit, visit <https://clubs.hvcc.edu/wordpress/threads>.

POLITICS

CANDIDATES VIE FOR ASSEMBLY SEAT: A CLOSER LOOK AT LOCAL POLITICS

STATE SENATE VACANCY CAUSES RIPPLE EFFECT IN LEADERSHIP OF CAPITAL REGION

COOPER PATSCHURECK

Staff Contributor

State Senator Neil Breslin announced his intent to not seek re-election on January 31. The longstanding Senator has been serving in the State Legislature since 1997, providing a rare opening in the State Senate.

Senator Breslin's district, the 46th, includes most of Albany, Schenectady, and Montgomery counties. The opening attracted the attention of Assemblywoman Patricia Fahy, the current representative for the 109th Assembly District.

On February 17, Fahy kicked off her campaign for the State Senate. She received support from local politicians including Congressman Paul Tonko and Mayor Kathy Sheehan.

Fahy's campaign has almost automatically gained universal support, with the Assemblywoman currently facing no challengers in her primary and being recognized as the frontrunner.

In return, Fahy is leaving behind her Assembly Seat, marking another opening to newcomers. Her departure will also leave a vacancy for Chairperson of the Higher Education Committee.

The 109th Assembly District includes the entirety of the City of Albany, and the towns of New Scotland and Guilderland. A historically and predominantly Democratic district, it has long been a Democratic stronghold compared to the rest of Upstate New York.

An opening in the State Assembly

is a rare occurrence, prompting many local Democrats to vie for the position.

This has laid the groundwork for a competitive and diverse Democratic primary, with eight politicians already declaring their candidacy. The current pool of candidates includes Albany Common Councilors and Albany County Legislators.

The list includes, but is not limited to, Albany City Councilors Jack Flynn, Ginnie Farrell, Sergio Adams, Owusu Anane, and Gabriela Romero. County Legislators in the race include Andrew Joyce, Dustin Reidy, and Sam Fein.

The district, which is almost 50 percent racial minority-populated, has never elected a person of color as a representative. This leaves a chance for Councilors such as Anane, Adams, and Romero to change this.

HVCC's Director of Student Life, Alfredo Balarin, serves alongside the above Councilors but does not intend to run. Anane, representing Albany's 10th ward, is a Hudson Valley alumni, once playing football for the school.

The Albany Democratic National Committee has not made any endorsements,

choosing to let the voters decide.

This election, alongside other statewide races, will be the first to include the New York State Public Campaign Finance Program. The program, signed into law in 2019, empowers small donors and diminishes the influence corporations have on elections.

Every individual donation ranging from \$5 - \$250 will be matched by the state. The money used for this will be taken from the state budget. This program will allow lesser-known candidates to be able to fund their campaigns better without needing large donations and donors.

Students living in the Albany area should be prepared for candidates to knock on their door requesting peti-



PAT FAHY POSES WITH PRESIDENT RAMSAMMY DURING A 2023 VISIT TO CAMPUS- PHOTO BY VINCE GIORDANO

tion signatures.

The Student Activities Office and Center for Access and Assistive Technology offer voter registration guidance to those in need.

Balarin, one of the campus' voter registration administrators, said the following regarding the upcoming elections: "2024 is a presidential election year, and normally that year is where more people come out to vote.

"We always want to encourage students to make sure they register to vote as soon as possible within the year, because you have to be registered to vote in the primaries and to be able to vote in the general election.

"...don't just vote for national positions, we also have a lot of local and state positions that are up for race this year.

"...Vote at the local level, and the state level, and vote at the national level. Make sure you register to vote so when election day comes, you have everything in order [so you are] able to cast your ballot".



EXECUTIVE BOARD ELECTION DATES:

MARCH 7- CANDIDATE PETITION / STATEMENT DEADLINE
VOTING BEGINS AT 4PM (VIA SURVEYMONKEY) -MARCH 27
APRIL 15- RESULTS ANNOUNCED IN MEMBERSHIP MEETING

2.27.24

THE HUDSONIAN

Editor-in-Chief Cal Martin
c-martin49@hvcc.edu

OPINION



LIBBY STAR
Staff Contributor

We're nearing the end of Black History Month, so I'm sure by now you've all appreciated the big display in the library detailing a timeline of Black history in America. (You have read it, right? People put time and effort into that stuff.)

Like everything I've seen from school, media, and the news, it focuses on the end of slavery, the Civil Rights Movement, and... uh, how much better things are now. Yes, our great country may have made a few oopsies in the past, but just ask nicely like MLK did, and they'll come around! We even have Obama!

The BLM/George Floyd protests are usually tacked onto the end of this timeline, but with none of the universal respect or glory that the Civil Rights Movement gets.

They committed the sin of only being "mostly peaceful", and as MLK showed

us, nonviolence and civil disobedience are the only path to progress. People like Malcolm X who dared to demand freedom "by any means necessary" are always portrayed as extreme and ultimately unnecessary.

And why are they rioting, anyway? Didn't we solve racism in 1964?

Black Against Empire serves to fill in the blanks left by a sanitized view of America's history of race relations, radical left politics, and direct action. A complete and extensive history of the Black Panther Party, this book details the rise, fall, and legacy of America's most infamous Black power organization.

The Civil Rights Movement succeeded greatly in the South, but Black people in urban areas felt disillusioned with the lack of visible progress in their communities. They were still poor, and still terrorized and killed by the police. College students Huey P. Newton and Bobby Seale [Editor's Note: Who visited HVCC last year!] formed the Panthers in 1966, and after King's assassination in 1968 (conveniently, after he pivoted to fighting systemic poverty), they exploded across the nation.

The Panthers advocated for armed self-defense against the police—it's harder to kill someone for a nonviolent crime or raid their house without a warrant if they have a gun.

They were staunchly anti-imperialist and saw Black people as a colony of America. This gave them a reason to be self-sufficient, leading to their influential community programs, including their Free Breakfast for Children program, clothing drives, liberation schools, community health clinics, and more.

Their anti-imperialist ideas led the Panthers to ally with groups protesting the Vietnam War, both Black and white. The picture of American history it paints is striking, to say the least.

His family has many different issues for living. One of these is his son Cory's education and career, a situation that creates problems since he also wanted to play baseball. But Troy does not allow this, and he cuts off all opportunities for his son.

Bono discovers that Troy is cheating on Rose with another woman, Alberta, and he encourages him to stop this relationship. Troy decides to show the issue of Alberta to Rose, and the surprise here is that Alberta had become pregnant.

This leads to an argument between them in which Troy aggressively grabs Rose's arm, and Cory, who was watching from the window, intervenes. Cory spontaneously pushes Troy over the fence, slamming him into the fence very hard and injuring him.

Months later the baby is born, but Alberta unfortunately dies during the birth of the girl. Troy brings his young daughter Raynell home and Rose agrees to raise her as her own.

One day, the unexpected happens, where Cory comes home and Troy is drunk, which promotes a quarrel where Troy decides to give Cory lessons and show his authority as a father. They start arguing and the argument escalates to the point where they attempt to hit each other with baseball bats, leaving Cory lying on the ground.

We all learned about the Tiananmen Square Massacre in high school, a student-led protest made infamous by the Chinese government's violent reaction. But if we ever learned about the Kent State Shootings, where the Ohio National Guard similarly opened fire on crowds of student protestors... well, I must have missed class that day.

More striking still is the government's constant repression of the Panthers. We are taught about the federal government stepping in to protect progress against local bigotry—the image of Eisenhower's federal troops escorting the Little Rock Nine into their newly-integrated school comes to mind—but as the book shows repeatedly, the FBI's COINTELPRO (Counter Intelligence Program) files tell a different story.

They illegally wire-tapped and raided the Panthers' headquarters, forged letters to escalate tensions between the Party and other activist groups, and even sent police to kill Chicago leader Fred Hampton in his own bed. The book shows a side of our government many don't want to admit to.

While the authors don't shy away from showing the Panthers as fallible humans, and they do detail the organization's failures and eventual decline—it turns

out an organization that attracts anti-authoritarians is hard to maintain with a centralized government.

My biggest criticism would be that they did not explore outside criticism of the Panthers as much as I feel they could have.

Also, if the authors do not agree with the Panthers, they do a good job of hiding it. Often, they will start to explain ideas—"According to the Panthers, Black communities were colonies within the mother country..."—

but continue this line of thinking for so long: "...they had a moral obligation to resist..." that it's hard to believe they aren't speaking from the heart.

This lack of distance may be an issue for academic use, but personally, I'd rather read something with a strong voice than a dry textbook.

I won't lie, this material is dense, but this gives it the time to tell fascinating ground-level accounts of the Panthers' operation.

Reading about the LA shootout in 1969, when 13 Panthers held off waves of over 350 police (including helicopters and the first-ever SWAT team) for five hours at their headquarters, felt like I was reading fiction!

If you ever wondered about this amazing slice of American history, *Black Against Empire* is everything you could ask for.

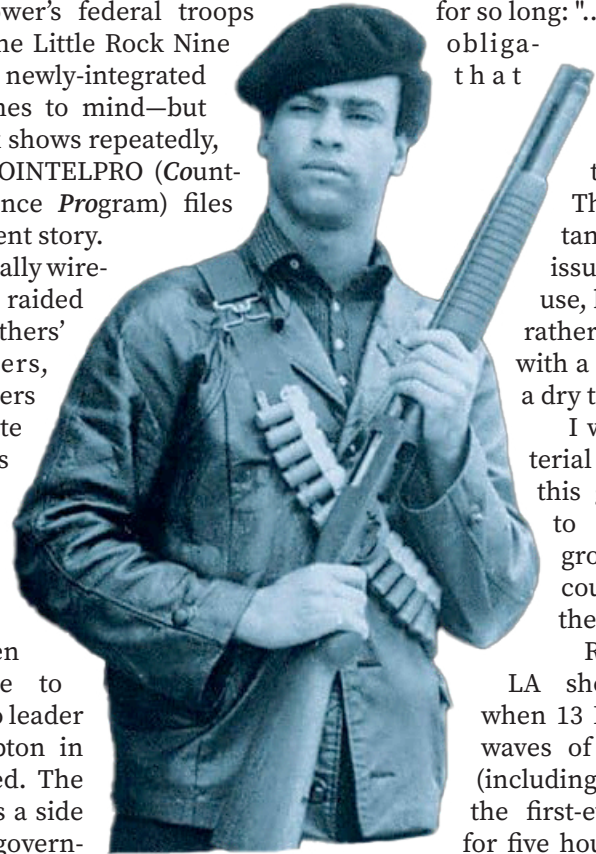
BLACK HISTORY MONTH

with them.

The titular fence in *Fences* represents entrapment for Cory, while for Rose it signifies a desire to keep her family together. *Fences* is a particularly good movie that explores themes such as family dynamics, personal truths, and the power of forgiveness.

It is a film about how an emotionally damaged man struggles with his past while trying to provide for his family. It also touches on how our environment shapes us, and how our parents can't help but mess us up in some way.

The fence in the film is a symbol of education and love expressed in different directions and ways, that in everyday life, sound strange.



HUEY P. NEWTON FEATURES ON AN ALTERNATE COVER OF *BLACK AGAINST EMPIRE*, AS SEEN ABOVE.



Fences begins with Troy, an African American father who once dreamed of becoming a professional baseball player, but was considered too old when the major leagues started accepting Black athletes. Troy is working hard to make his family's life better.

Troy works a menial job with his best friend, Jim Bono. His family consists of his wife Rose, son Cory and his younger brother Gabriel, who was brain damaged. He has to take care of his whole family, including his son with another woman, Lyons.

Troy then takes Cory's stick and leaves it in the yard. Cory leaves. In that disoriented moment, Troy once again defies death, as this has often appeared to him as a vision ahead, and here he suffers a heart attack and passes away.

Troy's funeral is prepared and they gather at a cousin's house. At this time, Cory returns from the United States Marine Corp, reluctant to go to Troy's funeral because he was bitter towards his father, but Rose convinces him. On the other hand, Rose herself, despite not liking living with him, admits that she was still in love with Troy, despite his flaws.

After that Lyons, Gabe and Raynell join their yard. Suddenly Gabriel starts blowing his trumpet looking straight up from the sky. Even though Rose knew she wouldn't make a sound because there were many times it didn't work, at that moment Gabriel tries to create something and indeed something unimaginable was created in the sky.

The clouds opened like the gates of heaven, where Troy was and the sun shone upon him. He was



MOJSILDA POSES WITH THE LIBRARY'S BLACK HISTORY/FILM DISPLAY, WHICH INCLUDES *FENCES*. PHOTO BY: MOJSILDA CINARI

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Letters can be delivered to CTR 291 or emailed to hudsonian@hvcc.edu. Letters will be edited for grammar, style, libel and length.

To join **THE HUDSONIAN**, attend our weekly meetings on Mondays at 2 p.m. in ADM 105 and Thursdays drop by CTR 291 (Hudsonian Newsroom) 11 a.m. - 2 p.m.



MOVIE REVIEW

JONAH FLANAGAN
 Staff Contributor

A suplex to the heart, *The Iron Claw* is a true gut wrenching tale of the wrestling family the Von Erichs. From happiness and success to trauma and tragedy, the 2 hour and 12 minute film is an emotional joy ride that everyone should experience.

As said, this movie is about the wrestling family the Von Erichs. The main character we follow is Kevin and his troubles of being the oldest brother and strife of becoming a world champ, along with his brothers David, Mike, and Kerry.

The film starts out dashing with a flashback scene of their father, Fritz, wrestling his heart out and winning. We then cut to the '70s, where all the Von Erich brothers are grown up and living in the same home.

We see this and assume that it's going to be a wholesome family movie with the addition of wrestling, until

the second act arrives and we receive news that David died in Japan training for the WWF.

This changes the ENTIRE mood of the movie to an entire supreme heart-

“...ONE MORE TRAGEDY THAT THE FILM COULDN'T REALLY WITHSTAND.”

break. As we follow through, we see more of Fritz's bad parenting and the mental toll that losing someone close and the pressure to 'be better' takes on the Von Erichs. The brothers commit suicide due to this.

The only brother left is now Kevin, who finally puts an end to this trouble by changing his children's names to his mom's maiden name, Adkison, and removing himself from the wrestling world so he can be a better man than his father and a brother that his brothers would've been proud of.

This movie was the true definition of heartbreak to experience. the mov-

ie gives a fully immersive experience, you truly become connected with the content. The film was shot wonderfully, especially the more intense situations like wrestling and death.

Not only does it go over things well, but it does it at a perfect and tangible pace so it can be enjoyable. Now, there are some nit-picks of the film that might rub people a little wrong.

For example, the Von Erichs were extremely tall, ranging from 6 '2 to 6 '8. But the actors who played them were extremely short, ranging from 5 '7 to 5 '10. It can be overlooked sometimes, but there's some scenes where it's clearly visible and it is kinda funny.

Another gripe with the film is that it doesn't include another brother, Chris. Now Chris was VERY different from his brothers, from being 5 '5, to having brittle bones and asthma.

He also died from suicide, but it wasn't included in the film even though it is important for "true stories" to include EVERY bit of the story.

Director Sean Dirken stated "There was a repetition to it, and it was one more tragedy that the film couldn't really withstand. I honestly don't know if it would have gotten made". Which in my personal opinion, is pretty dumb.

In conclusion, its minor gripes are overshadowed by the immense emotional toll and talent of the film. You can watch this film and be hooked from the first ten minutes. The film is truly beautiful.



TV REVIEW

ADAM CONKLIN
 Staff Contributor

Throughout the years, there have been countless sitcom comedy shows to make their way into pop culture. Some are relevant for 10 years, some for 5 years, and some for just a few.

It's *Always Sunny in Philadelphia* fits into none of those categories. And that is because it has been on air for 17 years now, and new episodes are still being released.

It's *Always Sunny In Philadelphia* is a sitcom starring Charlie Day as Charlie Kelly, Glenn Howerton as Dennis Reynolds, Rob McElhenney as Ronald "Mac" McDonald, Kaitlin Olson as Deandra "Dee" Reynolds, and Danny DeVito as Frank Reynolds.

The main premise of each episode follows "The gang" who get themselves into wacky hijinks on a daily basis, revolving around the fact that they run a Irish dive bar in Philadel-

phia, and that they are all clueless, sociopathic, delusional, narcissistic, and downright terrible people.

There are two reasons why I would rank this as the best sitcom that has ever been released: The cast's synergy, and the show's adaptability.

Throughout all of my years of television watching and movie viewing, I could not tell you a cast of actors who have worked so well alongside one another. When they get into an argument, or get themselves in a debacle, you feel it as if it's a real conflict brewing between this group of five people.

Then there is the adaptability. When you have a show with a 17 year lifespan (with 2 more seasons on the way in the following years), you would imagine that after all this time, the same plot point would have to be getting a little old.

But no! An episode from season 4 would look virtually the same as one from season 14, but just adapted to

what the current state of the world looks like.

If you are looking for a sitcom where you can watch however many episodes you like at a time, and picking up and ending off whenever you would like, this is the show for you.

With a grand total of 170 episodes, this will keep you occupied for quite some time.

As a closer, I have a quote from Dennis that explains the entirety of what the show is about: "we immediately escalate everything to a ten..."

"...somebody comes in with some preposterous plan or idea, then all of a sudden everyone's on the gas, nobody's on the brakes, nobody's thinking, everyone's just talking over each other with one idiotic idea after another!"

"...Until, finally, we find ourselves in a situation where we've broken into somebody's house - and the homeowner is home!"

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2.27.24

THE HUDSONIAN



TIM DESMOND
Staff Contributor

Fallout 3 is one of the worst games I've ever played. I am not lying, I am not exaggerating, I speak only the truth.

After spending a literal month attempting to get it to run on Windows 10, I finally got to play it.

Played through the entire main quest, as well as most of the side content, and all I got out of it was a monumental feeling of sheer and utter disappointment. I would go so far as to say that Fallout 3 is the worst game in the series by quite a bit.

In order to explain why Fallout 3 was so disappointing to me, I need to explain my experience with the rest of the series. Fallout: A Post Nuclear Roleplaying Game was released on October 10, 1997. Developed by Interplay Productions and directed by game design legend Tim Caine, Fallout was a unique RPG that managed to play like the tabletop games that had inspired it.

Turn-based combat, a well-written and nonlinear narrative, and a unique setting that took a classic retro-futuristic aesthetic and threw a couple nukes at it, a wonderful look and feel created by art director Leonard Boyarsky.

Fallout 2 was released a year later, developed by Black Isle Studios, the RPG division of Interplay. The sequel was heralded by fans as being a step up from the first in nearly every way.

Personally, I prefer the first one, but

Fallout 2 is still an amazing game. After Fallout 2 came Fallout Tactics, a linear game for people who liked the turn based combat of the Fallout games, and Fallout: Brotherhood of Steel.

We don't talk about Brotherhood of Steel. Fallouts 1 and 2 are amazing games.

I will never forget my first playthrough of Fallout. I was wandering the wastelands, exploring the map, when I met a man sitting alone in the desert. I approached him and started a conversation.

He was a nice fellow. He and I sat and talked for a while about life in the wasteland until he asked me if I'd like to hear a song. I said yes, and he started to sing "Na Gheala Mbeadh."

For a moment, I felt strangely happy and at peace. After hours exploring this wasteland and killing mutated monsters, I just got to have a nice conversation with a friendly guy.

By 2007, Interplay was failing. In order to keep the company afloat, management had to sell the rights to the Fallout franchise to Bethesda Softworks, who quickly set their subsidiary, Bethesda Game Studios, to work on repurposing the original Interplay version of Fallout 3 to fit their usual Bethesda-esque format popularized by games such as Morrowind and Oblivion (my beloved).

Fallout 3 combined Elder Scrolls' first-person action gameplay with some of Fallout's leveling and perks systems to create a jumbled mess that barely functioned.

Fallout 3, if you can get it to run at all, is a nothing game. The world is as bland as it looks, most of the side quests are uninteresting, the main quest is "Find Liam Neeson Simulator 2008" for the first half and "Oh No Liam Neeson is Dead Simulator 2008" for the second half.

The game starts with an hour long tutorial sequence that involved your character growing up in a vault for 20 years. Truly riveting gameplay. I love being bullied at my 10th birthday party.

The next segment of the game involves killing the entire security force of the vault you grew up in. You have no choice in the matter. You confront the overseer, who tells you that Liam Neeson (your dad) escaped from the vault, and therefore you deserve to be executed.

After you either kill or spare the overseer (the guy who ordered those guards you savagely murdered earlier to arrest you) you can finally escape into the wasteland and view the wondrous world outside!

It's covered in the greenest filter you've ever seen! Oh boy, I sure do love everything being the same color! After this, you have to track down Liam Neeson (dad) to find out why the hell he ditched you.

During this, you come across such riveting moral decisions such as "to nuke a city or to not nuke a city" and "kill this random shop-owner or don't kill this random shop-owner".

Emil Pagliarulo is such a genius writer, it's unbelievable. Such a step up from Tim Caine's complex morality and Boyarsky's beautiful art.

Upon finding Liam Neeson (dad), you ask him why he left. If you nuked a city, he'll say, and I quote, "you're still my son, and I love you, but I can't begin to tell you how disappointed I am." The- what- HUH?

"Hey dad, I nuked a city and killed the largest settlement in the region". "Damn, that's not very cool of you,

son".

Regardless, he'll tell you that he left so that he could finish a project that would supply the wasteland with clean water.

Suddenly, the big bad remnants of the original US Government, "The Enclave," show up. Led by Colonel Autumn, they're like, "we're gonna poison the water and kill all the impure losers of the wasteland! Why? Because we're evil! Mwahahaha!"

Liam Neeson (dad) floods the room with radiation, killing himself and doing absolutely nothing to Colonel Autumn. The rest of the game is spent repairing this water purifier and doing the occasional odd job to fight off The Enclave.

At one point you get captured and manage to convince the robotic PoTUS to kill himself by just saying, "have you considered the

fact that you're a tad evil?" and he literally goes "you're right!" and blows himself up.

I hate this game. I hate this game so much.

After this, you go back to the water purifier. Autumn shows up and is all like "DESTROY" and you gotta either kill him or tell him he's cringe, and he'll go "oh damn sorry" and leave.

I'd tell you more

about why this game is horrible, but I've well passed my word limit and the editors will eat my spine [Editor's Note: For legal reasons, we cannot confirm or deny this.] if I go any further beyond this, so I'll conclude my review/rant here.

ART: FELICIA LAI- 'VAULT BOY'



GREEN DAY SAVORS THE INNER TEENAGER

WHAT BOBBY SOX CAN TEACH US ABOUT AN UNSUNG CHAPTER OF THE LGBT+ RIGHTS MOVEMENT



CAL MARTIN
Editor-in-Chief

SAVIORS conveys a clear message: Green Day's lead singer and lyricist Billie Joe Armstrong is a foundational pillar of the queercore and will own radical love in a way he couldn't during the band's original rise.

Queercore, a punk subgenre focused on LGBT+ rights and issues, rose to popularity in the '90s. Billie Joe has been proudly bisexual and performed with queercore bands for nearly 30 years, but his expression to a wider audience has been minimal.

What a better single to bring this front and center than Bobby Sox, their most bisexual song yet? In age, Billie has learned that queer love can be queer anger and power, while still relishing in the rights afforded in the decades since American Idiot's release.

Even the album cover puts out this resolute attitude, showcasing an image from the Troubles in Ireland with the boy's face altered in joy, and comprised of colors on the queer anarchist (anarcha-queer) flag.

As the fifth single from SAVIORS, Bobby Sox is overshadowed by the American Idiot reminiscent lead single "The American Dream is Killing Me". Green Day tackles social issues in some songs, while retaining the teenage "boyfriend/girlfriend" in Bobby Sox. What a grown up attitude from a band who refuses to grow up, or grow old.

Bobby Sox's pop approach to romance highlights the origins of its name: a 1940s fashion trend which the press used to antagonize young girls embracing gender role shifts.

Bobby socks, in their ankle cut glory and ribbed with lace, were indeed

popular among girls rebelling against traditional femininity. The resulting cultural changes stuck, and these girls were said to enjoy popular music of the time. So what gives with Green Day titling a punk song rejecting traditional bounds after this phenomenon?

The acceptability of bobby socks in the '40s didn't match their popularity. An older generation, insisting youth stick to tradition, didn't appreciate the teenage rebel in us all in the same sense Green Day has for decades.

Those familiar with altered lyrics criticizing Trump in Green Day's New Years Eve performance will see where Billie is headed with this idea. Old ways cannot stay. Teenagers will always refute them with fingers on a pointed trigger, and mouths ready to call out oppression.

We've not only seen Green Day and

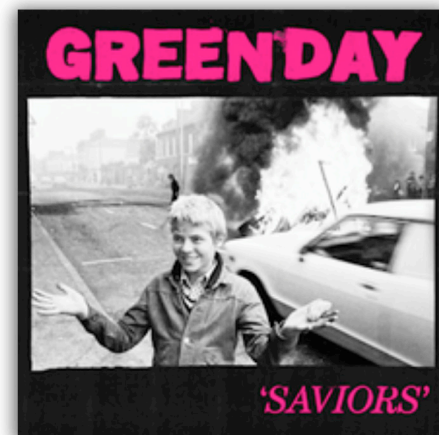
Billie grow up- but a progression of rights in a culture which still hasn't afforded enough. SAVIORS is a reflection on how the landscape of America has transformed since the Jesus of Suburbia reigned- for better or for worse.

For those who flirted with the queercore scene in youth, this is brain fuel. It's not intended to bring new people into the fold, though a radically loving community as we see in the Bobby Sox music video surely makes space for them.

The album stands as a good progression in the development of Green Day, and a full circle moment for queercore enthusiasts- but nothing special in terms of chord progression or mixing. Maybe that's the point.

SAVIORS is a testament to diehard punk values in a subculture and band that knows how to age without becoming old news: "We all die young some day".

PHOTO BY- DOMINIC CACCHIONE



"...fingers on a pointed trigger, and mouths ready to call out oppression."

ARTS & LIFE

RENUNCIATION, A HINDU'S WAY TOWARDS FREEDOM

IMRAN KHAN
Staff Contributor

She left him heartbroken. Ishan loved her dearly, but Anika's father didn't want to marry his daughter to a poor man. Ishan made his way to the nearby Hindu temple. He requested the monk accept him as his disciple. The monk's enthusiastic hug consoled him temporarily.

Day and night, Ishan submerged himself in worship, fasting, kneeling, and prostrating. He thought his arduous worship would reach him to God. He physically exerted himself in prayer, but his mind never left Anika's figure. He felt his heart would burst out of the pain.

Because of sleep deprivation, his eyes turned red and his mind numb. The severity of Ishan's love for Anika slowly descended. He was now happy giving credit to his grueling exercise of the prayers. As his satisfaction grew, he felt less joy in prayers. He fasted intermittently and slept more. His weight gain concerned the monk.

As Ishan's pain rescinded, he saw the world around him: worshippers wrapped in loincloths, shaggy and crumpled. Their cries and wailings made Ishan nauseous. Some were crying for their lost love, others from poverty, some panicked at a child's loss, and the lazy wanted free food. The Monk was the only man who was always pleasant, exuberant, and ac-

tive. His dark brown skin always shone with light, besides his bony body and shaky skin. Ishan considered the temple a place for rhythmical crying, thinking, why religion?

Ishan's leaving the monastery was indispensable. He was granted



"THE DISILLUSION HAS LEFT YOU..."
ART: CAL MARTIN

permission but the monk warned him that an elongated vacation would affect his spirituality. The monk felt he was suffering from material loss, and now that time had healed him, he lost interest in prayers. The monk explained the concept of disillusion in the path of Hindu spirituality, but stubborn Ishan

didn't care. His goodbye brought tears to the monk's eyes.

Ishan stepped out into the vile world. He succumbed to his bodily desires. He didn't spare any women who came his way. He made money and spent it on evil desires. After years of indulging in worldly joy, he felt joyless and empty. His soul was crumbling. He felt confined in the ever-expanding universe.

Ishan thought of the monk's exuberant joy. He was reluctant to return, thinking of disdain and repulsion from the monk. In all restlessness, the tears in the monk's eyes were promising. He marched back to the temple and found the monk waiting for him. A grin on the monk's lips made Ishan feel welcomed.

"The disillusion has left you," the monk said softly. "Son, let's go beyond! Toward renunciation—renouncing affluence to the worldly desires for freedom," he caressed his Ishan.

Ishan once again exerted himself in deep devotion and was ahead of all the other disciples in days.

The old monk realized he had few days left in the world. He sped up his lessons to Ishan in ways to enlighten his soul. The excellent disciple mastered the skills with revision before cremating his spiritual father.

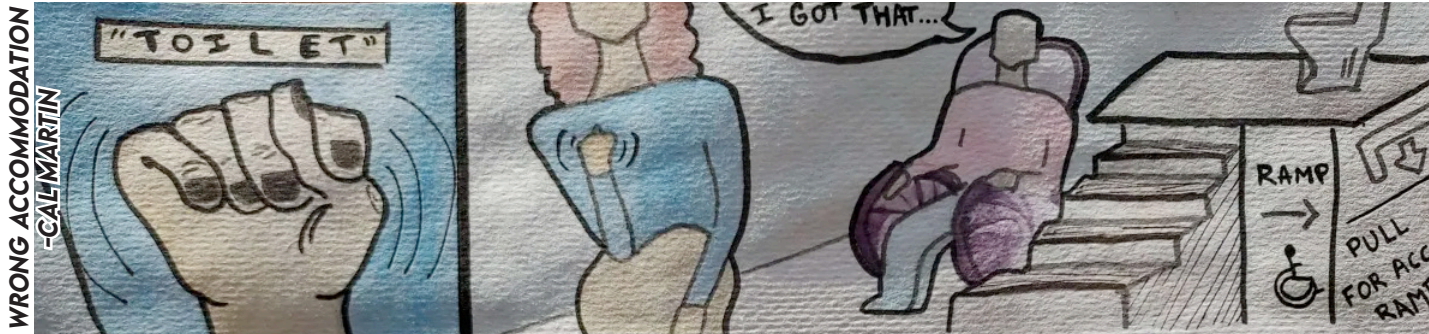
Like his father, Ishan enjoys endless happiness and feels free and exuberant, inspiring his disciples in his father's monastery.

POETRY

Spring
has
Begun

LUNA NORTHRUP
Staff Contributor

As days get longer and
nights are cut
We shall know spring
has begun
As the birds fly home
and plants do bud
We know spring has
begun
As it warms and the
snow does melt
It lets us know spring
has begun
As friends come close
and go have fun
We know spring has
begun



PHOTOGRAPHY

Captured during Shakespeare & Company's Regional Tour, Maureen Stapleton Theatre. Feb 22 performance.

NIGEL ADDO
Staff Contributor



Cabin Fever

By M.M. Stephens

