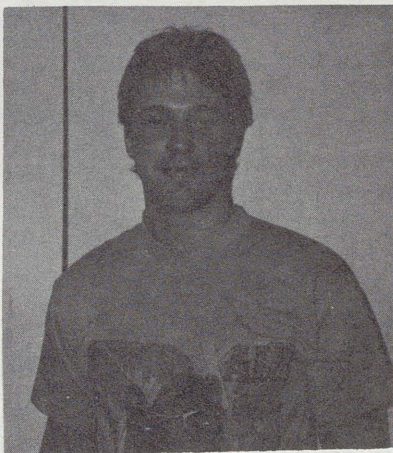


# Opinions



## Politics

By John Pines

George Bush has been a great source of entertainment for me lately. Actually I could almost take it one step further and say the Republican Party has been a great source of entertainment.

They now have David Duke in their midst. A former Grand Wizard of the Ku Klux Klan. Duke was elected to congressional seat in the Louisiana State legislature. Ronald Reagan denounces him, along with Bush and Lee Atwater, but somehow he got elected.

His election is a most embarrassing setback. This will definitely not speed up the process of luring blacks into the Republican Party.

When Duke was the Grand Wizard of the KKK he didn't even have the nerve to show his face. He chose to cover himself with bed sheets. In fact, this guy even claims admiration for Adolf Hitler. I don't care if it is a Republican or a Democrat these kind of people scare me. But the fact remains that Bush tried to scare people with Willie Horton, a black rapist, but somehow allows a man like Duke into his party. I'm not saying it's Bush's fault, but if I had this much to lose I would have done a lot more than send my son in my place.

Another source of amusement was Bush's budget. He said he'd cut \$6.4 billion and reduce the defense budget to \$315.2 billion. The biggest laugh I get from the Bush budget is his desire to cut the capital gains tax. Talk about the

rich getting richer. Bush says that a cut in the capital gains tax would stimulate increased investment and bring in more federal money. Right George, when just about every federal program is either being cut or eliminated.

Something else that makes me laugh is the fact that Oliver North's trial will more than likely finish. North wants to show classified documents the State Department doesn't want them

revealed. You know that the government will win out and North will have been denied a fair trial and the charges will be dropped.

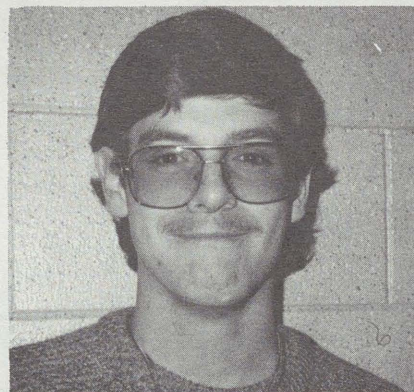
I guess it is just a little humiliating for Bush to just pardon the guy and save our tax money. Oh well, anything for a show.

We are all waiting to hear what is finally going with the John Tower nomination. I think we are all rather sick and tired of hearing about it. I just wish that they would get this matter settled so the rest of the cabinet and under cabinet can be in place so we can really get down to business.



## On the lighter side.....

By Mike Rhea



## Insight to Snow Skiing



Skiing is one of my favorite pastimes. It is an exhilarating and enjoyable sport. But under that enjoyable and peaceful exterior lies what I am going to talk about.

It is the inglorious side of skiing. In short, the Biff, Faceplant, Tree kiss, Snow Hug, Collision or Wipe-out. Each type of accident, or wreck, as you wish to call it, deserves attention. The first on the list is the Biff. A Biff is any accident that entails a loss of control, uncontrolled yelling or screaming, and a loud "Biff" of the body impacting upon snow. This is not to be confused with the wipe-out, for it is rare that equipment is lost, or blood is shown. And both of those conditions are prime ingredients in a true wipe-out.

Another common accident is the ever-unpopular faceplant. This accident is perpetuated when a skier loses control and ends up slamming into the ski slope face-first at a speed of what feels like Mach three. It is usually accompanied by a string of unprintable words and often shattered glasses, goggles, or bloody lips and noses, and is about as much fun as watching beer ferment.

One of the most painful of all accidents is the tree kiss. This is an accident caused by a mean, cruel tree jumping up out of the snow directly in front of an onrushing skier (of course, the skier would never hit it as a result of his skiing). The skier then invariably smacks into the tree with a sound that resembles a loud kiss accompanied immediately by an equally loud scream, or another stream of unprintable exclamations. I personally have had the unfortunate experience of meeting one of these unfriendly trees, and I can testify to their hardness, and the pain that follows making the acquaintance of such a tree.

The last type of accident I wish to talk about is the snow hug. Now, this particular accident goes by many names, this is just one that I am familiar with. A snow hug comprises what are often the most interesting accidents to watch happen. For they consist of a skier making a jump, and upon completing a successful backscratcher, daffy, or other jump, this skier come down off-balance and lands in a position that makes it appear as if the skier and the snow on the ski slope are old friends and wish to give each other a hug. Interesting to watch, and unfortunately quite painful for the poor skier.

There are many other types of accidents, too numerous to name here. Another aspect of these mishaps is the invariable rating of the accident by those you happen to be skiing with you. Ratings are from a .5, which is an accident that is so laughable and ridiculous as to be almost unmentionable. On the other end of the scale is a perfect 10, an accident to be remembered and repeated to your children and grandchildren for years to come.

Examples of these ratings are many. Recently, I and several friends went skiing at a nearby ski area. One of our favorite runs was a double-black diamond run called Rollaway (a double black diamond is a run for expert skiers only) My friend, who shall remain nameless, was coming down Rollaway as I watched. Approximately half way to the bottom, he caught an edge and performed one of the most beautiful biffs I have ever had the pleasure to witness. For which I promptly gave him a 6.5. He thought it deserved more, but there are many factors involved in the rating process. A perfect accident involves all of the following; a large cloud of snow, loss of equipment, screams or curses, any particularly unusual types of falling, visible blood and the number of witnesses. If a skier achieves a perfect 10 he gains two things, a wreck to remember, and several days, at least, to sit and enjoy everything as he recuperates from his injuries.

But remember, this is not the most important part of skiing. The object is to stay on your skis and enjoy yourself. But always ski with a group, cause when that one incredible wreck comes about, you want to have your witnesses so the story can be told over and over.

## Student Submission

### Queen of Spades

by Robert Michael Rhea

Day into night she's with me,  
How sweet's her warm embrace,  
Dying of thirst afloat in a sea,  
Emotions too hard to trace,

Mornings I find she's left me,  
So cold, alone, aware,  
I try to leave, she finds me,  
Run though I may, She's there.

Luck's a lady, cold as stone  
Brings you things you've never known,  
Your die is cast, she'll laugh at you,  
She makes you always seem the fool.

Beware the Queen of Spades,  
Her curse may find you yet,  
Beware this love, you will regret,  
Her love means only death.

## Say What!

By: Tracey Barraco



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