

'Smiling like a snow angel given by God'

"In three words I can sum up everything I've learned about life: It goes on. —Robert Frost

On that snow-covered morn, as the sunshine shone forth with chilly brightness, my only desire was to play in its greatness, its splendor.

And as I observed my new wintry garden, with radiance so fresh and so clean, I could swear against all it called to me, pleading for me to frolic in its untracked and open arms.

I was five years old, and it was a Saturday I remember, and I was sure of the importance of my business.

Perhaps if Sarah, my very best friend who lived two houses down, could come out and play as well to wrestle in the packable substance fallen from the sky for what had to have been put there for our plea-

sure alone.

So I got dressed, with my mother's help of course, putting on all the necessary equipment for my mission.

My red snowsuit and woolen black hat made me look like

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one of the cardinals that often would eat from our back feeder.

With worsted mittens and moon-like boots I began my journey by opening our big wooden front door.

To my wonderful surprise, there Sarah stood, smiling like a snow-angel given by God, finding her reason in this world, me, to help fulfill our duty as playful children.

I would be her mortal, the one in need of such guidance.

The task at hand, undeniably, was to have as much fun as was humanly possible. To have fun until our cheeks had become more rosy than the roses themselves and we would have no other choice but to warm them, sitting on the hearth of the fireplace.

We rolled and burrowed in the white mass of delight for hours on end. How lucky I was to be in such wonderful company within the product from above, although I now see it fitting that such an angel be my companion, enveloped in something that could have only fallen from the heavens themselves!

I didn't know what love was, nor did I care. I only knew she was

always there, always ready for our next adventure together. She always wanted to be with me as I with her and that's what made all the difference.

But that would be the last day we would play together, as she died on that Thursday from what they later found to be cancer.

How could a young child, let alone my Sarah, have gotten cancer? He took her away from me; my snow angel was gone.

I didn't play in the winter weather again that year in hopes to save the fresh snow for her. Even today, as others mindlessly cast angels into the powder, her symbol holds greater meaning to me.

Each year, after a storm has laid a fresh snowfall, I bring her back to play with me in the snow.

I make her wings, her head, and her body, lay next to her and

preserve the moment.

And with a playful whisk, I send her away 'til next year in order to allow her to play with the other children of December's morn.

Today, I do know what love is, and she loved to play in the snow.

Friends come and go, as change says they should, and life will go on after they part. You never know how long a friendship might last or what it may even turn into, but if you can appreciate what you have today you never have to live with regret.

I miss Sarah, but I've come to realize that she has taught me the value of friendship and how to live life to the fullest.

In college, you make friends that may last for a lifetime, but as James Dean once said, "Dream as if you'll live forever. Live as if you'll die today."

Fighting the Norm: SNL loses MacDonald

Injustices happen all the time. They're everyday occurrences, but they happen and people go on. Once in a blue moon, a monstrosity will occur that can't go unquestioned, a wrong that must be righted. Such is the case with the situation concerning Norm MacDonald's being fired as "Weekend Update" anchor on "Saturday Night Live."

Since his debut in 1993,

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Norm MacDonald had stuck by "Saturday Night Live" through thick and thin. When the show was undergoing many changes and basically got a whole new cast, MacDonald stayed with SNL. It seemed MacDonald was no longer on the backburner. He was going to show the critics that he wasn't as "stiff" as they called him. He could do Bob Dole like no one else, not to mention an incredible Larry King, Burt Reynolds, and Charles Kuralt.

MacDonald filled the position as Weekend Update anchor when Kevin Nealon departed from the program. He had a way of delivering his bits in a very blunt and dry tone. With Norm, what you see is what you get. Remember this one?

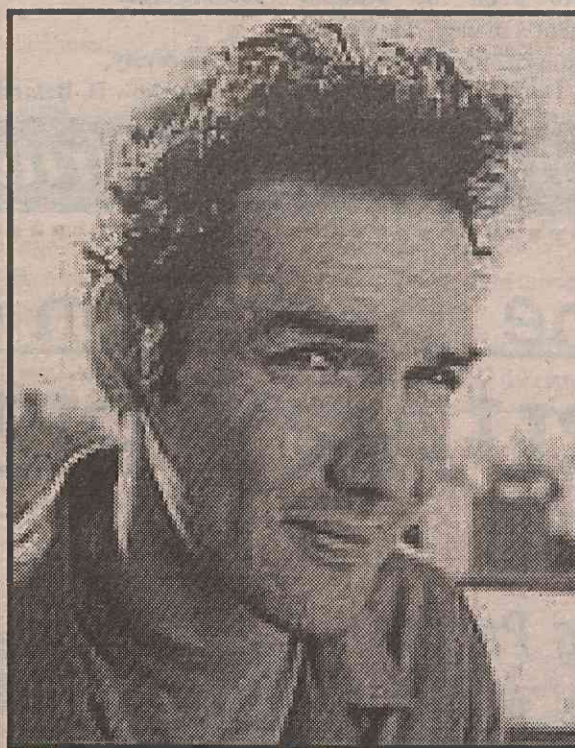
"Scientists have successfully cloned a frog without a head. Next they plan to clone a human without

a head for organ transplants.... not to mention, to give me horrific nightmares for the rest of my life."

On Jan. 7, 1998, Norm MacDonald went on David Letterman and told the whole world that he had been fired as "Weekend Update" anchor on SNL. He was told he was to remain on SNL to appear in sketches, but MacDonald responded to that by saying, "I suck at those." According to MacDonald, he called Don Ohlmeyer, President of NBC West Coast. Ohlmeyer said, "I'm firing you." MacDonald said, "Oh, that's not good.

Why am I being fired?" Ohlmeyer said, "Because you're not funny." Shocked, MacDonald replied by saying, "Holy Lord! That's even worse news!" Because MacDonald went public, The New York Times reports NBC officials are considering removing him from the show completely.

During his stint on "Weekend Update," Norm made many jokes regarding O.J. Simpson that made it obvious he thought he was guilty. It's no secret that Ohlmeyer is close friends with Simpson and many feel that is why MacDonald was fired. Ohlmeyer made an official statement saying that he, "Resents the interference," but didn't get any more specific than that. Lorne Michaels, creator and executive producer of SNL, was upset that



Norm MacDonald announced Jan. 7 that he was fired from his role anchoring "Weekend Update" on "Saturday Night Live."

Ohlmeyer fired MacDonald despite his objections. While MacDonald remains on the cast list, his future with SNL is still unknown. Celebrities, such as David Letterman and Chevy Chase have shown their support for MacDonald during all the ruckus. Chase was quoted in TV Guide as to saying, "MacDonald is the first guy since, well, me, to look you in the eye and just say it."

Despite all the support from Hollywood, the viewers have the greatest power. If it weren't for the viewers, NBC would be non-existent. If you want to see Norm back

on the Weekend Update spot, there is something you can do. There's a boycott and a petition on the Internet that's designed to save MacDonald. You can visit the site at www.cyberramp.net/~noel/norm.html and sign an online petition, e-mail NBC directly at snl@nbc.com, or call their Viewer Relations department at (212) 664-2333. You do have the power to right a wrong. If you love MacDonald, and you'd have to be inhuman not to, write or call and tell those weasels at NBC we want our "Update" anchor back!



Save
Norm MacDonald
Contact the following:
www.cyberramp.net/~noel/norm.html
(on-line petition)
snl@nbc.com
(e-mail)
(212)664-2333 (NBC Viewer Relations)