



Features



EDITORIAL BRIEFS

Thanksgiving: A Time For Tradition

What does Thanksgiving mean to me? Officially it is a day for giving thanks for all the blessings received during the year. It is a day begun in 1623 by the pilgrims in celebration of their good harvest and hope for the future.

For me, personally Thanksgiving is a day for which most of my family comes home to celebrate.

As my various sisters arrive, everyone, or most everyone, helps cook the dinner. Others usually watch TV. Then about 4:00 we sit down to our meal, which is preceded by the blessing and the annual "gobbling" performed by my dad. The dinner table is loaded down with all the basics: turkey, potatoes, beans, stuffing (my mom makes the absolute best) and a lot of other side dishes.

This day (and no other family gathering) is complete without the playing of "the trivia game" that night. Since I have a fairly large family (four sisters with husbands), it is a tradition to play some sort of family game.

One flaw in this day is, that by way of marriage, there are now many men in my family, so the den is naturally transformed into a football stadium. Personally I could do without this aspect of the holiday.

For Christmas last year one of my sisters and her husband got a video camera, and since then every holiday and birthday has been carefully preserved on video tape for all future generations to see. Now we can relive those experiences and see just how stupid the Neel family truly is.

As I've been writing this I realize that the article has been pretty exclusive to my family, but my point is that Thanksgiving is a "family" holiday and all families have something to share together. I do also hope that you can get something from this article that reminds you of your family. Have a Happy Thanksgiving.



The Neel family is all smiles after a bountiful meal.

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Seniors: A Time For Reflection

As we are now near the close of the first semester, seniors are forced to make many decisions. Our precious senior year is passing so quickly. The decisions that we planned on making "next year," "in a few months," or "later" are upon us now. For the last few months those planning to go to college have been busy filling out applications and visiting possible school choices. Upon finding out our acceptance to a school, we now wonder how we will pay for our education and what field we will study. Those interested in the military are responding to the recruiter's calls by enlisting now and making plans for basic training this summer. Seniors who plan to enter the work force next year are hoping to replace their part-time jobs with full-time employment. Seniors, our high school days are moving quickly by, so take time to look back and reflect before its all over.

Too Bad, Torrence Turkey

By WARD MISENHEIMER

Have you ever been at the other end of a 12-gauge shotgun, with a hostile maniac looking straight into your beady little eyes? Well, I, Torrence the Turkey, sure have; and fellow "turkeys" and "turkettes", it ain't too fun! But my "feathered friends", it is inevitable and cannot be prevented, because of a holiday celebrating "thanks"! Only if the situation were switched around would our upright adversaries see the reason for our bitter disgust and fright!

Every fall, as I and the rest of my "gobbling" buddies shuffle around "basking" in the warm sun, we begin to sense an arousing disturbance in human affairs. As time grows short, I can already picture myself in a GE-Dual Wave Stove or, even worse, the slow tantalizing crock pot! But this inevitable holiday cannot be simply satisfied with "SPAM" because it would not be in "good" spirit or part of the "acceptable" Thanksgiving festival!

So the mighty yet very weak bird hunters set out to destroy and mitigate the turkey population. Last fall alone, much to my surprise, I lost 3 cousins and 2 aunts! But this "unsportsman" sport has been going on as a part of the festivities since the time of the "Pilgrims" and cannot be eliminated! The fear still exists in turkeys far and wide of being the next victim of a cruel, fearless hunter, searching for a plump "butterball"!

Being of the rather large nature, we turkeys seem to last for many consecutive weeks after the "true" holiday of Thanksgiving is over! Many housewives find unusual and unappetizing ways to prepare

our butchered bodies; hot, cold, or warmed over, it is just the same to their relentless husband-hunters! To me, eating the same thing over and over gets old and depressing, so why not destroy less of our population and be more satisfied and content?

There is only one good thing about Thanksgiving (for turkeys, that is), and that is that it only comes once a year! But if worse comes to worse, I would like my body to be donated the "good" of "feathered" pillows!



Torrence meets his match.

The "Buschers" Make Party Plans

By SAMY LAMP



Make your plans early to "Party Heartily" after graduation.

With November being upon us, frigid winds and sublevel temperatures are expected for the coming months. Snow skiing, snowmen, and cold nights cuddled next to a blazing fire are anticipated in minds by many winter-loving souls. Caught up in their cold world, they neglect to plan their week-long June Beach-Blast. Although most forget, the elite "Buschers" (Pugs, Pete, Reese, Ratty, Samy, and the common tag-along) have not. We have everything from transportation to a healthy wallet to bail high-diving Pugs (Neil Morton) out of jail. Ratty (Cameron) has already determined the accommodations (Paradise Inn) and the weekly rates for June. He has also accumulated a collection for the hotel's security deposit to insure us of a bed upon which to rest our party-weary bodies. Our group has also mapped a police-free route so I can avoid 85 mph speeding tickets. But different from a year ago, the number of novice "party animals" to accompany us has been limited due to their inability to party continuously. All areas have been covered. We can only wait for June and spend our cold nights trying to imagine the partying to come.



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