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The Weather Outside is Frightful! Spring Break Begins With Raging Winter Storm And Ends With Massive Blizzard!

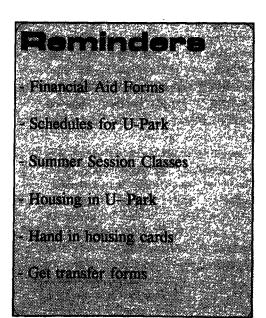
By: Ben Turrano

It was a week that won't soon be forgotten. It was Spring Break 1993 and for those people who were in or near Hazleton Thursday night March 4 or anywhere on the East Coast March 13 and 14, it appeared to be anything but spring-like. What have been called two of the most violent winter storms in recent history passed through our area Thursday night March 4th and Saturday March 13th; forcing school cancellations in the following days, causing power outages for numerous customers, stranding workers and students throughout the city, and state, as well as causing a great deal of unrest throughout the area as a whole. The first of the fierce storms began with some freezing rain and a strong breeze early in the morning and then escalated into gusts of wind and pounding ice and snow as the day progressed. The second was undoubtedly the worse of the two storms and saw heavy snow, sleet, and strong gusty winds throughout it's stay in our area. Prior to break, commutors could be found all over campus pounding car doors to free handles imprisoned in masses of ice. My own car had at least one-quarter of an inch of ice embracing the side and ice on the windshield that actually cracked my ice-scraper! Before returning from Spring Break, those same people had to dig out their cars from three to six feet of snow!

Several businesses closed, numerous people were left stranded with friends, the Hazleton Campus closed at 5:00 P.M. on March 4th and for the day on March 5th and 15th. State wide states of emergency were declared due to massive accumulations of snow, downed power lines, and abandoned vehicles, among other storm related reasons. Anyone who had to be outside walking in either of the storms found themselves confronting gusts of wind that toppled trees, snow drifts that could engulf small children, feezing rain that weighted tree limbs to the ground, as well as slush "ponds" in parking lots that could easily stop a car in it's tracks.

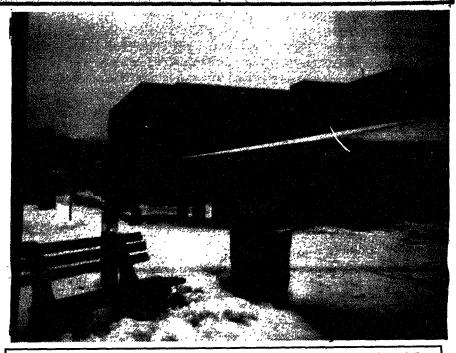
One might wonder, during days not fit for man nor beast, how any comfort or recluse from the storm could found. It was indeed a good time to stay in, curl up with some hot chocolate and a good book and stay warm. But there were, as there always are, those brave souls who have the need to be in the company of friends, who were out in such weather. Those fun-loving people would not even let a power outage stop thier entertainment. Those people found warmth in conversation and in the company of others.

Friday morning, March 5th and Sunday morning March 14th, saw the sun shining blindingly in the sky as if to say "GOOD MORNING, IT'S OVER!", and in the hours following, people everywhere could be seen digging out thier cars, clearing walkways and plowing driveways. So much for Spring Break!





Above: Mr. Robert Ressler



Above: A view of the Hazleton Campus during the height of the first storm. A few footprints and dozens of ice sickles denote the "ghost town" asmosphere the storm created around campus.

"Please Stop Me Before I Kill Again, I Can't Stop Myself!" Robert Ressler speaks at Hazleton Campus

By: Ben Turrano and Gina Hammond

Tuesday evening February 23, in the Kostos Building Lecture Hall: K1, the founder of the F.B.I.'s Sexual Homicide and Serial Killer division captivated a standing room only crowd for almost two hours with vivid recounts of serial killers and their crimes. Among the gasps and moans of disbelief emanating from the attentive audience, one could see heads shaking back and forth and people moving their hands to cover their mouths as actual and often gruesome slides were presented during the lecture. Mr. Ressler interjected a bit of humor during his presentation entitled "Whoever Fights Monsters...", and on one occasion told of his luncheon with the infamous serial killer of Milwaukee: Jeffery Dalhmer. Ressler pointed out "I brought lunch from a fast food joint". This charismatic speaker often stressed the notion of common sense when telling how people became murder victims, saying that most but not all victims put themselves in jeopardy by being in places and situations where they had no business being.

Several students were fortunate enough to enjoy a most informative dinner with the Mr. Ressler, Dr. Gregory and Mr. Gregory, whom most students hear about but seldom ever meet; prior to the lecture at a local Chinese restaurant. During dinner it was decided that most of the details of F.B.I. work involving homicides would be left until the main event. Instead, the very down-to-Earth detective, writer, psychologist, lecturer explained various and fulfilling jobs available in the Bureau for people with any number of majors or specialties, ranging from scientific analysis to cartography to word processing.