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H I L L C R E S T H A L L - B E T T E R T H A N T H E D E M O C R A T I C R E S P O N S E

“Laughter is not at all a bad beginning to a friendship, and it is by far the best ending for one.” - Oscar Wilde

This past week we have lost one of our most cherished and beloved Hillcrest community members. When we look back, we all see one of the happiest, friendliest, and liveliest people we have ever met. Nicole’s smile would light up a room from three doors away. She was like the Captain Planet of Happiness... or the Captain of Planet Happiness... definitely the latter.

Nicole’s amazing feats didn’t end with just her smile. Few people know that Nicole circumnavigated the globe in just under three travel days and even fewer people know that she did so under her own power. Believe it. She put Magellan to shame swimming an average of 258.92 mph although was not recognized by Guinness for several reasons. When asked about the disqualification, Guinness’s spokesman’s comment was simply “It’s too incredible...”

On day one Nicole made record time to Venice, Italy leaving Maryland at 12:00 AM and reaching Venice by 5:00 PM (EST). During her stopover she spent three days helping to win the 2005 World Bridge Championship and her spare time teaching an Italian preschool class English.

Swimming across the Mediterranean, Red, and finally out into the Arabian Sea, Nicole finished her second day of travel in New Delhi, India. There she helped out in The World Year of Physics by solving a crucial, “previously unsolvable” partial differential equation confirming the existence of Giant Magnetoresistance. Nicole’s phenomenal mathematical contributions to the scientists’ work would later win them the Nobel Prize. When they offered to split the prize three ways Nicole would have none of it, wanting them to keep her share to continue their research.

On her final day of travel, Nicole moseyed on back making her final travel time 2 days and 17 hours. She made it home in time to catch an episode of Scrubs, play a couple games of spades with her family, plan amazingly fun things for the next three weeks, and then call it an early night. Although she was far to humble to ever brag about herself, one cannot help but stand in awe of everything that she embodied.

Nicole, we all love and miss you. We all know that the only thing that you MAYBE couldn’t have done in this article is swim at 259 mph... I would guess closer to 230. Regardless, you were and still are, a truly magnificent person. Keep spreading smiles up there, because you definitely still are down here.

John Hoffman swam to the other side of the world, but got tired and turned back. Cut him some slack: he’s a blond.



Superman vs. Super Bowl

Sunday, February 3, the *Daily Planet* reported the incorrect outcome of Super Bowl XLII. In the worst newspaper inaccuracy since "Dewey defeats Truman," the *Daily Planet* has faced harsh criticism and subscriptions have fallen dramatically. In a press conference, a *Daily Planet* spokesman announced that the reporter, Mr. Kent, had been suspended until further notice.

With his credibility shot, Kent has reportedly become mentally unstable. His friends and co-workers have sought help. With the all-but loss of his job, Kent has been imbibing frequently and has taken to wearing his underwear outside his pants. He has reportedly been spotted in a local bar, informing patrons that the beer will make them fly. Kent's significant other, Lois Lane, is prepared to hold an intervention on his behalf.



This is both Superman and a Super Bowl

In a completely unrelated story, the world has time-traveled yet again, thanks to Superman. For the first time since 1978, the earth has gone back in time. It is well known that the Man of Steel rotated the planet backwards along its axis to save us all from the devastation of a missile strike and subsequent earthquakes 30 years ago. When asked what destruction the world had been saved from this

time, Superman declined to comment.

Today's date is again Friday, January 31. The Giants and Patriots will play in Superbowl XLII at 6:30pm EST from the University of Phoenix Stadium.

Erin Rubin would like to share a joke.

There're two guys in a bar. One says to the other, "Did you know that if you drink this beer, you'll be able to fly?" The other guy says, "No, man! That's crazy!" The first guy drinks the last of his beer, jumps out the window, and... floats in the air. The second guy thinks this is amazing. He gulps down his beer, jumps out the window, and hits the pavement below. The bartender looks out the window and says, "Superman, you're a mean drunk."

No, Washington, D. C. is Not A State (of the Union)

On Monday night, January 28, President George W. Bush delivered his final State of the Union address before both houses of Congress. Among all of the standing ovations by the Republicans and the sitting no-vations by the Democrats, some very valuable words were said (not including *fear*, *victory*, or *patience*, however). Here is one journalist's take on a couple of issues in the State of the Union.

No Child Left Behind: The President claims that American students scored the highest math scores in the history of public schooling. If America's fourth and eighth graders are getting the best math scores, then how are the bean counters in the Department of Education able to count that high if they, by their own claims, never scored this high in math?

Bipartisanship: Bush claims, "Last week, my administration reached an agreement with Speaker Pelosi..." That assertion is absolutely false. No one agrees with Nancy Pelosi, not even her hairdresser. (see photo)

Empowerment: According to the president, empowerment is the key; if we empower free



peoples, homeowners, Americans, patients, students, judges, workers, researchers, scientists, engineers, and entrepreneurs, we'll be set. No one's really sure what George meant by empowering all these folks, but anything the President says eleven times in one speechification must be important.

One of the most interesting statements Monday night was actually during the Democratic

Response made by Kansas Governor Kathleen Sebelius. During her opening comments, Governor Sebelius stated, "...the fact you're tuning in this evening tells me each of you is, above all an American..." Take into consideration, Madam Governor, that your response to the Address was broadcast internationally.

Will Satterwhite occasionally thinks that Nancy Pelosi is quite attractive. But OMG her hair was awful on Monday night.

Hillpress Staff

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U.S. ed Virgin Islands Erin Rubin

Emergency Kathleen Cooperstein

Confusion Mitch Daniels

Disrepair David Choquette

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