

By: Big Grin

### Bit Rally

Sen. Michael Knoll spoke at a press conference earlier today about the recent surge in revenue from last week's blizzard. "Investors and shareholders were rallying after an announcement of record low temperatures from the NWS" Knoll said.

"State assets are guaranteed security for a few more weeks" Senator Knoll said, citing the announcement. He also denounced the increasing problem of Snow related crimes. "Snow scalping is now a heinous crime" Knoll said.

According to the Bureau of Criminal Apprehension; snow scalping crimes are down 12% as plenty of snow falls on the city. By tomorrow all snow protruding onto sidewalks and roadways will be deposited.

Economic gains are expected to grow by 1.5 % this month. Competing markets also posted stock gains and high earnings in Siberia, Russia and the Arctic.

"The growing economy, should be regarded with optimism, but heed the fact that there are still four seasons. The annual "hot months" are right around the corner" Knoll said.

Investing in stocks and bonds will secure the middle class. Their 401k assets will double in value and guard against bankruptcy in the event of a drought.

"Good morning" Rochelle said over the rustling newspaper in my hands. Rochelle hugged my back and sat down across from me. She impressed me with her beauty, like every morning she never failed., " We have more money coming in next week and a guaranteed sustainability in the predictions" I said folding the Tribune into its original form. Rochelle and I looked out at the

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frosted white tundra outside. The orange tinge of the street light tinted the blurry air revealing a flurry of white flakes, flowing at an diagonally underneath the light.

Rochelle and I sat in our dimly lit kitchen and watched the snow get carried by the wind. We both had the dollar value of each flake in mind. The uniqueness of each snowy dot flashing by our window, wasn't measured by their shimmer or complexity. Instead they were weighed, faceless by the pound. Each pound costed \$3.75 at the current market prices. The snow already on the ground increased in value as long as it stayed cold outside.

I turned to look at her precious face to find her eyes already staring, showing a look in agreement. Rochelle and I were doing alright.

The whole city of Duluth was in the midst of a surplus. "I'll make some eggs for you" Rainy said with a half-smile of knowingness on her brow. We spent the rest of the early morning hours talking over breakfast. As the sun lifted the veil or frosted clouds and glinted off the freshly laid snow. Rainy began to wash the dishes and I took my jacket off the hook near the door. Every one of my neighbors were already outside shoveling their way to a paycheck. They all shared an uncanny similarity in the daylight sheen. Like dancers to a deaf tune, they jutted forward and lifted snow in unison. I joined them, willfully and earned my pay. It was turning out to be a nice clear March day.

The streets were already cleared and dry before sunrise. The city utilized its fleet of plows in their arsenal specifically for the redistribution across the country. One year has passed since the I. C. E bill was passed. Virtually eliminating the state deficit. The bill officially declared all snowfall below the temperature of 32 degrees Fahrenheit to have a cash value. The public trade of Snow came soon after. This winter is supposed to be the coldest on record. I heard the news on in the other room echo the same news from this morning's paper.

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“Estimated snow removal sites and road maintenance was expected to raised city and statewide debt, despite this winter being one of the coldest on record. The revenue from the recently passed I.C.E bill is expected to balance those increasing costs.”

When the hot months come around we all can appreciate the credit that the I.C.E bill allows for homeowners granting loans, that are as easy to get as a candy bar from across the street. Other states and countries implemented similar legislation over last year. The change caused the powers of the world to enact a global effort for the latest “Diplomatic” land grab of the Arctic, since the discovery of North America.

The cost of snowmobiles has tripled in less than a year, as vehicle tires melted more of the snow compared to the snowmobiles sleds. Everyone tried to ride out the hot months on their savings. Buying and selling activity tripled during the active season and the poverty rate in the state was cut in half as subsidies and other benefits could be afforded. I thrust my shovel into the first bank outside and think about the beauty of this city.

No one seems to agree with me. The old conversations that bring up days of skiing and snowball fights are overwhelmed by points of economic stimulus.

Rainy and I planned our second honeymoon this summer on the Horizon City cruise ship with the funds kept from this winter. Our property value in central hillside of Duluth doubled. My neighbor Bob, the true Minnesotan: Hunter, fisherman and natural born winter warrior finally gets to live his dream of obtaining his own house in a wealthy area.

Created jobs for harvesting snow from city property, created much safer driving conditions. The city of Duluth has benefited from car crash fatalities and other ice related injuries bottoming out.

I can't help but remember the old days when my undefeated snowball fight record meant something. My 11 and 0 record is disregarded and nullified now.

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I finished shoveling my wage and return inside. My bank account sits in the black under the stark snow lite by the one light outside. Minimal work means more time for snow angels, but that is not what snow is for any more in the state of Minnesota. We're living the dream.