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Independent- Apr. 12, 1993

Ellen Beltz

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Pyro Prof Practices Preservation

by Irene Flebbe

Move over, Smoky the Bear! NEIU Professor of Geography and Environmental Studies Bill Howenstine conserves local ecosystems by reintroducing a management tool suppressed for nearly a century - fire.

Howenstine led a group of students, faculty, graduates, and friends of NEIU, who set fire to the swamp white oak savanna on campus, behind the Physical Education Building on March 29.

While lighting the fire to preserve the savanna,



Howenstine, center, directs students at savanna burn.
photo by Steve Fitzer

Michele Goldberg, a student in Howenstine's department and a member of the Student Environmen-

tal Action Coalition, said, "I was thinking to myself, what do others think I'm doing? Do they think I am being destructive?"

Many residents of Northeastern Illinois, including members of the NEIU community, may not understand that before Europeans settled this area in the 1850s, fire was a regular part of the ecosystem. In fact, certain local ecosystems, including prairies and savannas, become degraded in the ab-

Continued on back page
See "Pyro Prof"



Impressive smoke produced by low flames.

photo by Steve Fitzer

Lamb Appoints Committee

by Joan Plotkin

Recent changes taking place at NEIU and on other university campuses don't always translate into academic innovations or the development of new programs, such as Afro-American studies, Women's Studies, or Robotics. At times, these changes are the cause of anxiety in faculty members and students, particularly when funds are slashed, access to diversified academic programs and services narrow and when the focus on quality at campuses also seem to narrow.

Hopefully, the memo circulated by President Gordon Lamb to the university community on March 26 will help alleviate anxieties felt by many on campus about changes already occurring at NEIU. In the memo, Lamb states that due to limited budgets, the Illinois Board of

Higher Education (IBHE) is asking universities to reallocate resources and prioritize academic and other programs and activities. He also said the IBHE is dictating reallocation levels to be set, despite the fact that NEIU has continually redistributed resources on campus. Lamb added that academic, as well as other programs and services available at NEIU must be reviewed and that he has appointed a Planning Task Force (PTF) which will meet this April to make suggestions and also provide recommendations for next year's budget. In the memo, he stressed that the suggestions of people to serve were made by the Faculty Senate, vice-presidents, and deans.

Several members of the PTF were asked to share their thoughts as to what will occur at the April meeting but

according to their secretaries, they were either "too busy" or "not in." Roman Emano, past President of Student Senate, is a member of the PTF committee who was not too busy for an interview, during which he discussed the forthcoming reallocations and possible effects. Emano said that he feels many people will be unhappy with the changes made on campus and that the university community should try to be flexible. "It all comes down to dollars," he said. "We're all victims and have to make the best of it. Think of it as a flood; we have to stay on top or drown." Emano added that in his opinion, some programs will return stronger after resources are shifted, such as business and education programs. "The biggest

Continued back page

See "Committee"

Merger Controversy Continues

by Matthew R. Berg

It has been almost eight months since the controversial merging of the Departments of Chemistry, Physics, and Earth Science into a new, combined Department of Physical Sciences. Other combined departments included: The Departments of Philosophy, Anthropology and Linguistics, Criminal Justice, Sociology and Social Work, and Economics, Environmental Studies and Geography. However, time has not diminished the strong feelings held by faculty, civil service, and students. Among other things, faculty complain of low morale, enlarged bureaucracy, and an increasing fear of the loss of departmental integrity. Secretaries claim an increased workload, inefficiency, and disservice to students.

Dr. Bernard Headley, Chairman of the merged departments of Criminal Justice, Sociology and Social Work, expressed his concerns, "We fear, based on the new catalog, that any semblance of autonomy has been eroded." The latest Fall 1993 catalog has Sociology and Social Work listed within the section for Criminal Justice. He said, "Why choose NEIU if I am a serious student interested in criminal justice and instead I can't really be sure if I'm majoring in sociology or criminal justice?" He added, "Our faculty has been dispersed through three floors in the Classroom Building, potentially destroying any feeling of a core, a team. This move has implications for a contraction as far as the evolution of an academic discipline, or a University goes."

Dr. Barbara Winston, Chair of the merged Geography and Environmental Studies, and Economics stated a difficulty in representing a department in which she had no academic background. Additionally,

she said, "I am inadvertently neglecting the Departments of Geography and Environmental Studies, which has produced some fallout. I am not available to faculty as often, and cannot spend as much time with students as before. Because of the administrative responsibilities I now have, my extra-university activities have decreased." She added, "Along with these mergers, travel money for our professors has been cut. This travel money allows our professors to travel to conferences which cultivate professional growth and provide academic stimulus."

Dr. Laura Sanders, coordinator of the Earth Science Department, which was merged with Chemistry and Physics, said, "Students will have a difficult time finding Earth Science in the new catalog, unless they look under Chemistry. We were promised individuality and integrity when these departments were merged; these promises have clearly been broken according to the new catalog."

Dr. James MacDonald, Professor of Anthropology, stated, "We have always considered chair people as faculty. They were elected by their peers to serve as representatives to the administration. Mergers create another administrator, adding another layer of bureaucracy which didn't exist before. Instead of the Chair of Anthropology going directly to the Dean with a problem, or even for a signature, now the Coordinator of Anthropology must go to the Chair of Anthropology, Philosophy and Linguistics, and the Chair must go to the Dean. The coordinator of our department has the same amount of work as before and the chair of the three

Continued back page

See "Mergers"

Upcoming Events

April 12, 1:40 p.m., S 202
Michele Goldberg, Environmental Studies student and organizer for Student Environmental Action Coalition will give an interpretive slide presentation on their visit to the country of Belize.

April 13, 1:45 p.m., Stage Center Courtyard
Department of Music presents NEIU Jazz Band, Spring Concert.

April 15, Noon, A 108
Women Student United sponsors - Safe Sex Party-Ladies Only! Reception to follow. RSVP Peggy McDonald 312-561-0979

Noon, E221
Petition deadline for Board of Governors University Student Representative. Election to be held April 20 and 21. For more information contact Student Activities x 3868.

1:30 p.m., Art Gallery
Faculty Showcase: Group Exhibition Reception.

1:40 p.m., S 202
Student Environmental Action Coalition meeting

7:30 p.m., University Auditorium
1993 Student Awards Ceremony
Come to honor some of NEIU's outstanding students. A reception after the ceremony in Village Square.

7:30 p.m., Stage Center
"The Father" by August Strindberg directed by Richard Hesler. For further information call 312-794-6652.

8:00 p.m., CC217
Dianell Dreibelbis, National Wildlife Federation's Endangered Species Act Campus Outreach Coordinator, will speak about her work with the Endangered Species Act and The Forest Summit. For more information contact Michele Goldberg x3856.

April 17, 10:00 a.m., York High School Cafeteria, Elmhurst.
West Suburban Lapidary Club presents "Gems on Parade."

Jewelry Exhibits, Faceting, Cabochon Cutting, Polishing Gemstones, Silversmithing, Beading. Ongoing demonstrations. Special Youth Ac-

tivities and Programs. Donation: Adults \$2.00, Children (7-16) .50.

April 19, 7:00 p.m., Auditorium
Karl Grossman to lecture, "Solving The Environmental Crisis."
For more information call x 3865.

April 20, 2:00 p.m., CC 217
Tuesday Talk: "The Widow & the Men of Law in Medieval Europe."
Professor Sue Sheridan Walker, History Department.

April 21, 7:30 p.m., CC 217
Dana Hollish, National Wildlife Federation's Campus Outreach Program Midwest Coordinator, will give a workshop on "Conducting Environmental Audits. For more information contact Michele Goldberg at x 3856.

April 22, 1:30 p.m., CC 217
Sixth Annual Student Support Services Special Recognition/Awards Ceremony.

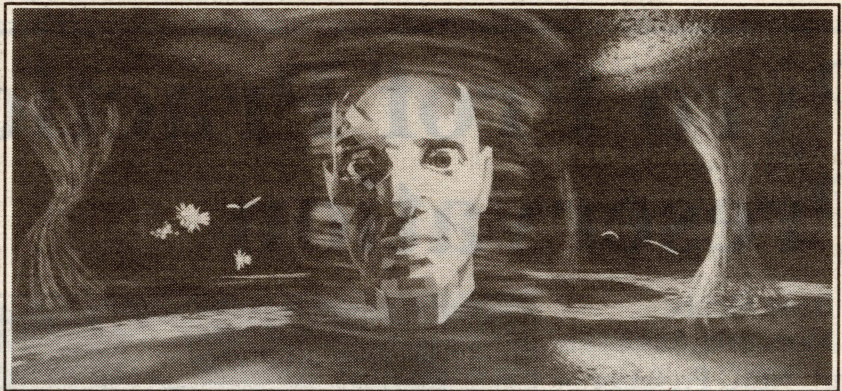
April 23, 8:00 p.m., Auditorium
Student Dance Concert

April 26, 7:30 p.m.
Hazel Johnson, People for Community Recovery speaks about her personal experiences from living in a "Toxic Donut" and environmental racism. For more information contact Michele Goldberg at x 3856.

May 3 - 5
~Final exams~
May 16
~Commencement~
May 31, Legal Holiday
Memorial Day

Please send items to:
Anastasia Epstein
Calendar Editor
NEIU - E 049
5500 N. St. Louis
Chicago, IL 60625

Beyond the Mind's Eye



by Ellin Beltz

The best selling computer animation video, "Beyond The Mind's Eye" will be shown by NSAB in the Unicorn on April 13 at 1:40 p.m. The video is #10 on Billboard's video chart and achieved platinum status just two months after its release. Grammy Award winner Jan Hammer and award winning director Michael Boydston created visual and musical expressions that fused together in one powerful entertainment experience.

Scenes that dazzle the eye and music to delight the ear are combined in the video which one reviewer compared to Walt Disney's famous "Fantasia" of four decades past.

To attempt to describe the images of the forty-five minute show in words is nearly impossible. Those who have followed computer animation from its early days may find it hard to believe that some

segments in this production are animated, not live action. However, no live action could be a perfect, as controlled as the images presented in "Beyond The Mind's Eye."

It is a surreal voyage which bridges the gap between reality and imagination. Viewers travel through the inner depths of the human psyche to the outer reaches of the universe and explores worlds that may exist in alternate dimensions, or only in the minds of the Earth's leading computer animators.

Siskel and Ebert gave the video two thumbs up in their December 27, 1992 show. They said that images from the video show that one day, computers may be able to create entire movies.

The 12 animated sequences range from highly realistic to the vaguely abstract. Go see it yourself. It will be 45 minutes well and enjoyably spent.

COUNSELING & SUPPORT INFORMATION

- Survivors of Incest Support Group 312-583-4050 x 3699.
- Campus Catholic Ministry welcomes NEIU community to Mass, Tuesdays 1:40 p.m., CLS 3071.
- Alcoholics Anonymous Meetings: Wednesday 12:00-12:50 p.m., A-108. Thursday 1:40 - 2:50 p.m. CLS 2071.
- Overeaters Anonymous Meetings: Thursdays 12:30 - 1:30 p.m., D-213.
- Co-dependents Anonymous Meetings: Fridays 12:00 - 1:00 p.m., D-213

Small ads are very cheap! Cynthia 312-794-2812

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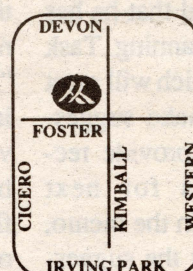
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Extension 200

Public Safety Concerns

Compiled by Public Safety Officer Bob Paprocki

March 16

Station information: A student reported losing her purse at an off-campus site. **Theft:** A student reported parking permit #11092 taken from his auto on campus.

March 18

Theft: A coin purse was taken from a student's purse after she fell asleep in the Library. **Suspicious person:** A staff member reported a man looking into the windows of a campus building who later became involved in a shouting incident with students in the Commuter Center. He was escorted to the Public Safety Annex and identified as a mentally disabled homeless person. He was warned and released.

March 19

Stalking: A student reported being followed on campus and at other locations as well as other harassing actions by a former boyfriend. He was notified of the complaint and agreed to stop further activity. No complaint was signed.

March 20

Theft: A leather jacket was stolen from a student in the Library. The jacket was recovered by a Public Safety Officer, but cash was missing from a pocket.

March 21

Station information: A former student found locked in the Library refused to exit through the magnetic tape reader, and verbally abused a Public Safety Officer. She was searched and released. A complaint was filed.

March 22

Public complaint: A gurney and a large amount of wood was left by unknown persons in the H Building. **Station information:** A student verbally threatened an instructor over the telephone. She was warned and a report was made of the incident. No charges were filed.

March 23

Suspicious person: An individual previously barred from campus was observed in the Classroom Building where he had just attended a religious service. He was warned to comply with NEIU regulations and released.

March 25

Service to other police: An NEIU Public Safety Sergeant responded to a Chicago

Police Department dispatched call of a robbery at a local 7-11 convenience store. Three alleged offenders were arrested near NEIU and processed at the 17th District Station. **Harassing phone calls:** A student-aid reported someone calling her work number then hanging up without a word. **Public complaint:** A staff member reported his auto being splashed by soapy water from a window washer. The car was washed by the company.

March 29

Burglary: Three locks were cut from lockers in the P.E. Building by unknown person(s). **Disturbance:** A student was verbally abused by another student in the D Building. This was reported for Student Due Process. **Station information:** The same student who was reported as threatening an instructor was also reported by a student for a threat. A report for Student Due Process was made.

March 30

Station information: A student reported being the victim of a pickpocket off-campus and losing his student i.d. **Theft:** Power tools were reported stolen from the F Wing.

March 31

Station information: A window was accidentally broken in the B Wing. **Theft:** A staff member reported parking permit #11780 taken from her auto. **Investigation:** A staff member reported what appeared to be a theft in the Cafeteria. However the report was unfounded. **Accident:** A student was injured in a fall in the F Wing and refused medical attention. **Motor vehicle theft:** A student reported her pick-up truck stolen from the H Lot.

April 1

Accident/non-injury: Two autos struck each other on the Access Road. **Mischiefous conduct:** A staff worker found a "stink bomb" in the Cafeteria. **Theft:** Parking permit #06989 was reported stolen from an unlocked auto on campus. **Disturbance:** A staff member was verbally abused by another staff member on campus. No charges were filed. **Disorderly conduct:** A student reported two men, one in an orange coat, making obscene sounds at her on the running track in the P.E. Building.

Third Annual "Dress for Success Fashion Show"

by Paul Unger

The third annual "Dress for Success Fashion Show," sponsored again this year by the Management Club, will be presented on Tuesday, April 13 at 1:40 p.m. in Alumni Hall. Student and faculty models will wear the latest in correct business attire. Three parts are planned: Dress for Success at the Office; Dress for Success at the Company Outing; and Dress for Success at the Corporate Dinner Dance.

Fashions will be supplied by The Limited and The Oak Tree at the Lincolnwood Towne Center.

Julie Darling, Special Events Chair for the Management Club, will co-ordinate this exciting event and will serve as commentator

during the fashion show.

Dress for Success has been a popular event in past years. All members of the University community are invited.

For more information, phone extension 2648.



Julie Darling

photo supplied by the Management Club

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Student Organizations

• **ART CLUB** meets Thursdays, 1:40 p.m., B 119.
• **ASPIRA** meets Thursdays, 1:40 p.m., S 112.
• **CHIMEXLA** meets Tuesdays, 1:40 p.m., E 051.
• **GAY, LESBIAN AND BISEXUAL ALLIANCE** - meets alternate Thursdays at 1:40 p.m. and alternate Fridays at 7:00 p.m. in A 108, ext. 3856.
• **EARTH SCIENCE CLUB** meets every other Tuesday at 1:35 p.m. and Wednesday at 3:00 p.m. in S 116, call Marianne, ext. 4014 for more information.
• **INDEPENDENT** - student newspaper meets Tuesdays, 1:30 p.m., ext. 2812.
• **INFINITY** meets Thursdays, 1:40 p.m., CLS 2031.
• **MANAGEMENT CLUB** sponsors a variety of events on campus. For information regarding membership, contact M. O'Malley at extension 2648.
• **MUSLIM STUDENTS ASSOCIATION** meets every other Thursday, 1:40 p.m., S 144, 1A.
• **NSAB - NORTHEASTERN STUDENT ACTIVITIES BOARD** - meets 1st and 3rd Thursdays, E 205, ext. 3859.
• **QUE ONDEE SOLA** - meets Thursdays 1:40 p.m., E 041.
• **THE SCI-FI CLUB** - meets alternate Tuesdays, 1:40 p.m., CLS 2005.
• **THE SOCIOLOGY CLUB** - meets every 3rd Tuesday, 1:40 p.m., CLS 2094.
• **SPANISH CLUB** - meets Thursdays, 1:40 p.m., CLS 2044.
• **STUDENT ENVIRONMENTAL ACTION COALITION** - meets every 3rd Thursday, 1:40 p.m., S 202.
• **STUDENT SENATE** - meets Mondays April 5, May 3 and 17, 7:00 p.m., CC 216.
• **U.P.R.S.** - meets Tuesdays 1:40 p.m., E 041.
• **WOMEN STUDENTS UNITED (WSU)** meets Thursdays, 1:40 p.m., A108, ext. 3302.
• **WILDERNESS CLUB** meets 2nd and 4th Thursdays, 1:40, S 111.
• **WZRD - 88.3 FM** - stop by E 059 any time.



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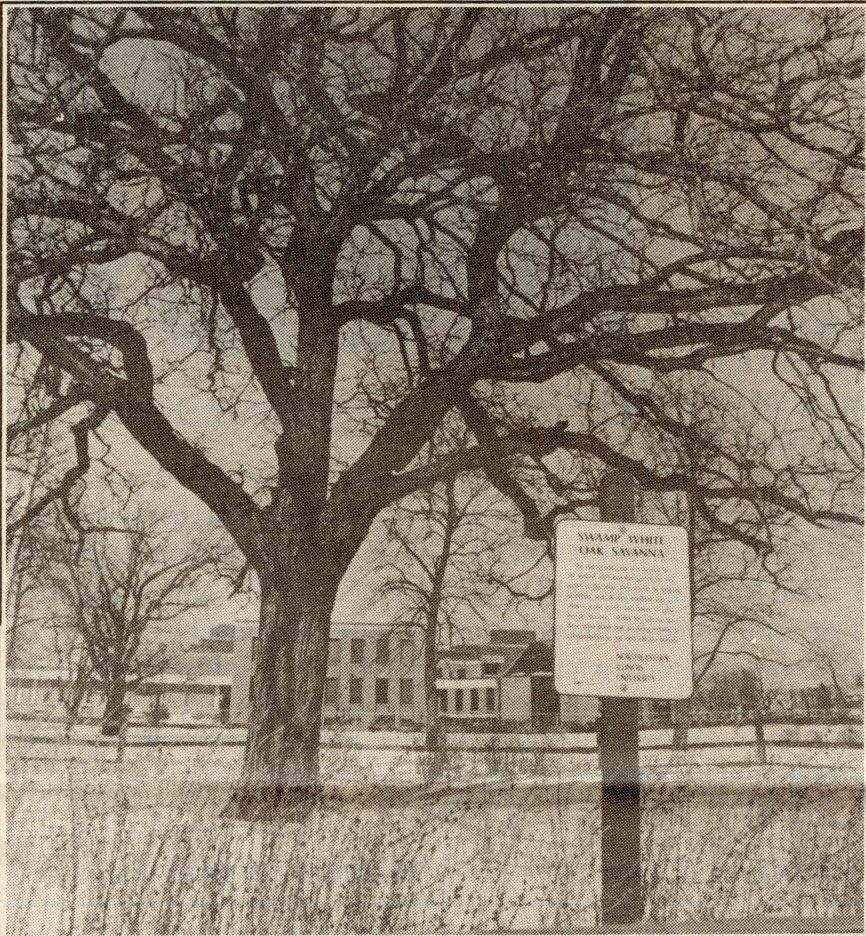
Advertising material

Editorial

Burn baby, burn!

Professor Howenstine and his students are to be commended for their efforts to save the remnant of white oak savanna on the NEIU campus. Once upon a time, students burned other things on campus, like draft boards, ROTC buildings, draft cards, and American flags. It is refreshing to see students' incendiary spirits encouraged and put to good use.

Students wishing to participate in burn events on other native ecosystems in the Chicago region are urged to contact The Nature Conservancy. Volunteers for ecosystem management are always welcome, although some management techniques are not as exciting as torching a savanna.



NEIU's Swamp White Oak Savanna before the burn

photo by Steve Fitzer

But do you really need more help?

In light of the need to spend less to educate more, every department of the University will be analyzed by a committee to see what needs to be cut. However, at the same time, some in the administration are planning to hire additional people to help them perform existing duties.

What? Are we missing something? If the enrollment numbers are reasonably steady and there are less departments than there used to be, why would any administrator need more employ-

ees? More employees mean more expenses, more space, more furniture, and more computer equipment.

This sounds like what the Board of Governors did last year when they doubled their office space and spent lots of money on furnishings and computers. The auditor general of the state of Illinois censured the Board for their actions, and now the very survival of the Board is in question.

So why does one of our administrators plan to do the same thing?

Letters to the Editor

On March 8 and 15, the Senate Committee on Full-time Faculty Attrition held public hearings in CC-217, from 3:00 to 5:00 p.m. This was done in conjunction with the Committee's charge to present a

report to the Faculty Senate on how to reallocate our funds to

Year	Students	Grad Students	Full-time Faculty
1988	9,846	2,579	227.5, FY 1988
1989	10,293	2,839	226.5, FY 1989
1990	10,453	2,996	218.5, FY 1990
1991	11,274	3,321	214.5, FY 1991
1992	10,820	2,954	209.5, FY 1992
FY93	n/a	n/a	193
Summer 93	n/a	n/a	177

Sources explained in the text of Dr. Barber's letter.

replenish the staggering net loss of full-time tenure track faculty since 1988. The Final Report will be made available to the Faculty Senate in late April/early May, 1993. Three key assumptions of the Committee are: first, the loss of 50 positions in the Arts and Science College and 10 in the College of Education, between Fiscal Year 1988 and Summer 1993, mean that de facto, drastic cuts in academic programs have already been made.

Second, despite the willingness of many instructors to take more students into their individual course sections, faculty attrition accounts for the reduc-

tion in sections (especially the laboratory Science course) that postpone graduation for our full-time students.

Finally, drastic cuts in administrative positions and programs are necessary to finance the realloca-

tion of funds for academic purposes. Continued net reductions in full-time

tenure track positions are neither conscionable nor tolerable.

Enrollments at NEIU have remained essentially steady (from the Board of Governors, Chancellor's Report #65, January 21, 1993). However the number of Full-time Tenure Track Lines in the College of Arts and Sciences has been diminishing (from the Dean's Office).

According to the Illinois Board of Higher Education (Hearings, Westin Hotel, November 23, 1992), they are only interested in data that would show an increasing or declining number of sections. They consider information on size of sections "Bad Data."

Charles Barber
Chair, Faculty Senate

Lamb Proud of NEIU's Environmental Leadership

In the last few decades, since the publication of Rachel Carson's (book) "Silent Spring" in 1962, concern for preserving our environment has grown rapidly in the United States. We are now in an era of three E's: the economy, education, and the environment. Each of these affects the other. The quality of education has implications for the economy. The economy affects our decisions about education and the environment. Our care for the environment underlies our general welfare. At NEIU, we are proud of our

leadership in environmental activities. We shall continue these efforts in instruction, in research, and in service. During April, we will bring several speakers to campus and recognize several faculty colleagues for their efforts in environmental preservation and education.

I hereby proclaim April 1993 Environmental Awareness Month at NEIU. I urge you to join me in attending the scheduled environment-related events on campus and in continuing to take an active role in improving our environment.

Gordon H. Lamb
President, NEIU

Independent

Room E-049, 5500 N. St. Louis Avenue, Chicago, IL 60625
(312) 794-2812

The student newspaper of Northeastern Illinois University is published every two weeks except during final examinations and semester breaks. Letters to the editor are encouraged, but must be signed by the author. "Name withheld by request" can be added by the editor. Letters should be typed, or clearly written, and limited to about 200 words. We reserve the right to edit or omit any letters received. Deadline is the Friday ten days before the issue in which a contribution will appear.

Editorial Board: Ellin Beltz, Editor in Chief; Al Schulze, Managing Editor; Irene Flebbe, Features Editor; Anastasia Epstein, Calendar Editor; Steve Fitzer, Photo Editor; and Cynthia Werner, Business Manager.

Contributors: Sarah Azooz, Jeffrey Bartholomay, Matthew R. Berg, Sabine Dietrich, Martin Felix, Juan Fernandez Saines, Catherine L. Ferone, Moe Glenner, Leah Isaacs, Craig Johnson, Mike Grisa, Joan Plotkin, Nektaria Ress, and Nelson Tapias.

Advisor: Dr. Eugene McArdle

Office Hours: 11:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m., Monday - Friday

Student Opinions

What Easter means to me.

by Betty Paul

For many people, Easter is a religious holiday. For others, Easter is merely an opportunity to wear new clothes and eat tons of chocolate. So what is Easter really about? In order to understand Easter, we need to begin with Good Friday which commemorates the day that Jesus died.

Why did he die? The religious leaders of his day were jealous of the large following he had and in order to protect their interests they wanted to get rid of him permanently. For the whole story, read the books of Matthew, Mark, Luke, and John in the Bible.

So why were the religious leaders of Jesus' day

so jealous of him? Jesus was offering the people something that their religion could not give them: a whole new way of life. They accused him of blasphemy and said he was crazy; even so they could not deal with him.

Religion in those days was basically a list of "thou shalts" and "thou shalt nots." Even today most religions say, "If you do this, you are all right; if you do that, you will be condemned." What really appealed to people about Jesus' teachings was that he did not preach a burdensome list of prohibitions. His message was basic and simple: repent (be willing to change) and believe.

Easter is celebrated as the day that Jesus rose from the dead, just as he had predicted he would. If he had not come back to life, he would have been denounced as a false prophet. The evidence is clear, he did rise from the dead. You can read the eyewitness accounts of his resurrection in the Books of Matthew and John in the Bible.

Easter is a day which millions of people, for the past two thousand years and today more than ever, celebrate as the day their new way of life began. Easter is not about bunnies and colored eggs; rather, it is a celebration of new life. For me, it is a holy day.

The opinions expressed on this page are those of students, and do not necessarily coincide with those of the editorial board of the **Independent**.

SCEC Carnival enjoyed by all



The Student Council for Exceptional Children Carnival on campus.

It's our money!

by Moe Glenner

"We're not worthy!"

We're not worthy!"

-Wayne & Garth

Is it just me, or does there seem to be some sort of inferiority complex that plagues NEIU administrators? You ask, "Hey Moe, what do you mean?" Well, hold your horses and maybe if you're good, I'll tell you.

I'm convinced that the administration (President Gordon H. Lamb, Board of Governors, etc.) truly believes that NEIU is second or third rate. They believe that they know how to spend our money, better than what common sense dictates.

Last issue, I discussed a certain \$45 grand spent on replacing allegedly radioactive wallpaper. Why would anyone spend that kind of money on wallpaper? It must be our money, therefore it can be spent freely. The fact that the money is our money, is irrelevant. How dare we, the students, question the integrity and the judgment of the President of NEIU? Who do we think we are anyway?

Even better, in a recent audit by the state some very interesting observations were made. The Board of Governors (BOG), without approval from the General Assembly, more than doubled the cost of their office lease. They slashed minority internships, diverting that money to pay for office furniture. Lieutenant Governor Bob Kustra, in a recent press release (January 15, 1993) stated, "This report ought to be the last straw in efforts to justify the arrogance of power residing in the governing boards."

Arrogance? Gee, what's so arrogant about spending over \$120 grand

on office furniture? Heck, this university is second rate anyway, so what's \$120 grand between friends? I mean, this is "Northeast," isn't it?

Well folks, this isn't "Northeast." This is Northeastern Illinois University. Granted, we're not Harvard, Yale, or Princeton. (They're too snooty anyway.) Nonetheless, this is an academic institution in its own right. Our Liberal Arts and Earth Science programs are easily among the best in the state, yet we're relegated to second or third class.

Enrollment is rising, but faculty is diminishing. Office equipment and wallpaper are certainly more important than retaining faculty.

The only possible explanation for this arrogant, short-sighted, dimwitted, irresponsible action is to say that Lamb and gang (BOG) are believers in 16th Century Calvinism. That religion was founded on the belief that all mankind are like worms (especially us students). But wouldn't that also make Lamb and his cohorts worms too? The problem is, I can't prove that they're 16th Century Calvinists and this is the 20th Century. However, I certainly agree that Lamb and gang are kind of wormy, and outdated, too.

Can you blame Kustra for wanting to abolish the Board of Governors?

Do you agree with me or am I way out there in left field? Drop me a note or something.

You can drop it in Room E 049 care of the **Independent**.

If you're real lucky and I'm in a real good mood, I might even mention you in a future article.

Dean Boni presents "Me and Shakespeare"

by Al Schulze

A reading of selected lines from Shakespeare plays was presented by Dr. John Boni, Dean of Students and Professor of English on March 16 in the Commuter Center. Boni was introduced by Margo Smith, the Affirmative Action Officer at NEIU.

Dean Boni studied Shakespeare in college and as he put it "Shakespeare, after all, was the 'big leagues.'" He said that although he hated to admit it, he "sometimes had great difficulty reading the works with all their wonderful complexities."

Shakespeare did not write in Old English as some might think. Rather, he wrote in Early Modern English. As a student, Boni read Shakespeare

with a friend to more fully understand his works. Now he urges his students to use audio tape or video recorder to study his works.

Boni began teaching Shakespeare in the summer of 1968 at Colorado State University and many more classes were to follow. As a useful counterpoint to Shakespeare, he also taught courses in Shakespeare contemporaries, such as Jonson, Webster, Middleton, and others.

Shakespeare received some tribute during his lifetime. With the expression of chauvinism typical of Renaissance Europe, commentators compared Shakespeare and several of his peers favorably with poets of classical antiquity - Homer,

Virgil, and so on. A benchmark event occurred in 1623, seven years after his death, when the first folio edition of his plays was published. Today it would be considered his "complete works." There must have been a market because the price was steep.

This collection was not the first attempt at a complete work. Some ten years earlier, Ben Jonson published his own collective works. Jonson was criticized for including plays in a collection dignified by the Latin title "Opera."

The plays were still considered less than literature and theater a marginal enterprise, "perhaps like rock and roll [music] today," Boni said. Jonson contributed one of the

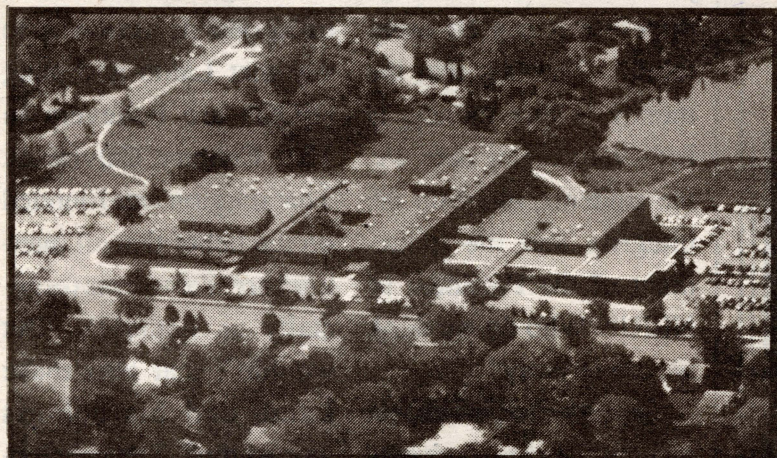
dedicatory poems to the Shakespeare folio. In that poem, Jonson describes Shakespeare as "not of an age, but for all time." This was probably not an easy judgment for him to make considering Jonson's large and insecure ego, according to Boni.

Boni said "Each of us has some project unfinished or even unstated. Among mine are two graduate seminars that I've never offered but thought about. One is on the subject of irony and the other, taking Jonson's lines as a theme 'not of an age, but for all time' would be titled 'The History of Shakespeare Criticism.' In other words, we would study other scholars' versions of William Shakespeare. Various scholars have written

about the plays. Though we presume a familiarity with at least the major plays on the part of the participants, we would not read the plays. Rather, we would treat them as constants and examine commentators and various agents reacting to the plays."

Boni concluded, "What we have discussed is cultural paradigm, the lenses through which ages regard these constants and the constant, the focus of interaction, remains Shakespeare's work. Somehow, according to the works of so many other writers, Shakespeare's work has retained our interest and his plays and poems have continued to speak to us; 'He was not of an age, but for all time.'"

The editor only has one month and four days to graduation. How would you like a job that averages \$0.81 per hour with all the glory you can stand? Call 312-794-2812 for details. Ask for Ellin.



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NWCC invites all interested students to an informal reception at the Hyatt Regency Ohara on Friday, April 16 from 3:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. This reception is for people considering the profession and would like to learn more about chiropractic and/or about NWCC. All levels of interest are welcome!!

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to the
Board of Governors
April 20 & 21
(Tue & Wed)
In Village Square**

News and Notes

by Ellin Beltz

• Dr. Akkanad M. Isaac, Department Chair of Management at Governor's State University, has been named the 1992-1993 Board of Governors Administrative Fellow at NEIU. He will work with the Provost, Dr. Salme Steinberg, observing academic and administrative procedures, problems, and management at NEIU. He is developing a faculty handbook as well as implementing Total Quality Management in the NEIU Heat Plant with Peter Wollstein, Vice President of Administrative Affairs.

• An NEIU Junior, James T. Smith, who has worked as a student aide for two years in the office of Dr. Melvin C. Terrell, the Vice President of Student Affairs, has been selected as a National Association of Student Personnel Administrators Fellow to pursue special studies in student affairs. The program is a two-year academic and paraprofessional experience designed to identify talented ethnic minority undergraduates and encourage them to enroll in masters and doctoral level programs in student affairs and higher education. Terrell said, "James would like to become a successful leader in the field of higher education with an emphasis in minority affairs."

• The Poplar Creek Prairie Stewards invite members of the NEIU community to participate in one of two interpretive walks through their oak savannas. Bob Carter, a Streamwood naturalist will lead both walks, one on April 18, the other on May 8. Contact The Nature Conservancy for more information at 312-346-8166.

• The Annual Civil Service Awards Ceremony will be held April 20 from 11:30 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. in Alumni Hall. Three employees will be recognized for 25 years of service: Richard M. Berlinger, Lynn F. Hirsch, and Joyce W. Mills. Four employees will receive recognition for 20 years of service: Dermot Foley, Edward P. O'Connor, Patricia S. Reichart, and Stella A. Theophilus.

• Governor Jim Edgar announced that applications are available for a corporate internship program in state government intended to channel talented young people into public service. IBM Corporation and Illinois Bell will sponsor the privately funded 1-year internships which pay \$1,750 per month. Graduating seniors are eligible to apply before the April 16 deadline. Contact Cheryl Matejka, Department of Central Management Services 217-785-6804 for details.

• Dr. Michael E. Carl will begin as Dean of the College of Education on July 12, 1993. He comes to NEIU from the University of Alaska, Anchorage.

• Miriam Rivera has been named Director of Admissions and Records. She said, "I am very pleased that I have been given the opportunity to work at an institution that understands the importance of providing access to higher education to a diverse student population consisting of returning adults, minorities, and first generation college bound students. We are in the unique position of becoming a model for other colleges and universities in the state, and with the commitment and dedication that the administration, faculty, staff, and students have toward fulfilling our mission, I believe we will succeed." Rivera has represented NEIU on several committees and task forces, including some for Board of Governor's, and the Illinois Board of Higher Education.



Miriam Rivera

Rivera holds a Master of Arts in Educational Administration and a Bachelor of Arts in Spanish both from NEIU. She has been acting director of Admissions and Records since 1990.

The Independent strives to cover the University community. To have your event, accomplishment, or announcement appear, you must notify us in writing: E 049, 5500 N. St. Louis Avenue, Chicago, IL 60625. No items can be taken by phone or voicemail.

Excellence on Display

by Sarah Azooz

The Hall of Excellence took place on April Fools Day, however if you attended the event you would not be considered a fool in any way. NEIU education majors displayed the lessons plans that they created in Dr. Jo Ann Karr's curriculum and methods of teaching social studies during this semester.

As students walked around the Golden Eagles room, they were confronted by African masks, carved jewelry, and handmade embroidered blouses. The students learned all about the geography, economics, and culture of either Africa, the Caribbean, or Mexico.

The most unusual display was a hut sitting in the center of the room. There

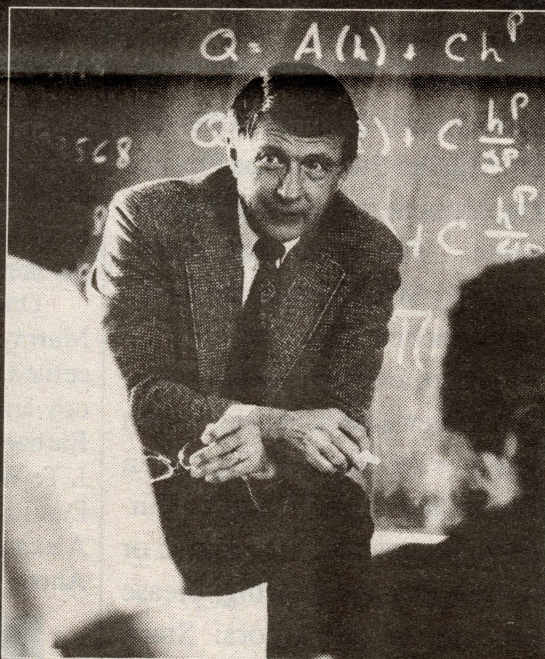
was a tape that sounded like rain. A gorilla with red flashing eyes was staring forward, meanwhile a man was asking students what rainforests represent to them. He said that huge areas of rainforest are being destroyed daily. The plants that become extinct could have provided a cure for cancer or other diseases. We also obtain most of our oxygen from these lush habitats. Then he asked the audience what they would do about the environment? Nilma Kerber a Bilingual Education Major replied, "I would educate my class about the rainforest."

Each booth was a little different, many students enjoyed the games and crafts from each country.

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Simply visit your local Ford or Mercury dealership or call 1-800-321-1536 for more information.

Chemistry?? Cool!!!

By Leah Isaacs

Chemistry, wow? Physics, neat?? No way!

But that indeed was the reaction of eight junior high students from Norwood who came to NEIU to view a chemistry and physics demonstration March 15. The professor in charge of the event was Dr. Geraldine Hemmer of the mathematics department.

Hemmer arranged for Marion Becker, a physics and chemistry major, and president of the Society of Physics Students (SPS), and Bryan Starr, physics major and treasurer of the SPS, to give a demonstration of basic chemical and physics concepts to the students.

It was not necessary to tell them anything else; they both constructed demonstrations that impressed everyone who watched. Becker performed 13 different chemistry experiments, including a "volcano explosion." The kids related better to it when she explained to them that this was a reaction similar to that which takes place in the flash cubes of a camera.

Another experiment was on the effects of liquid nitrogen. She demonstrated that when a balloon is filled with liquid nitrogen, it is so cold that when brought near carbon dioxide at higher temperatures of -40°C it will cause a reaction. A final example was the effects of iodine on starch. Every child received a test tube of iodine and one of starch. When each child mixed his or her individual tubes,

the product was black, but depending on the concentration of the starch, they turned dark at different times.

Starr demonstrated several physics experiments including the properties of static electricity. He used a Van De Graaff electrostatic generator which produces a repulsion field for certain objects depending on their charges. Styrofoam pieces were put near it and became suspended in mid-air.

Next, he demonstrated the properties of lightning. Sound produced in an air column was used to demonstrate properties of resonance.

Becker revealed that the most asked question was if she "could explode things and if she could teach them how." It is evident that all the kids had a blast at NEIU. Becker and Starr thanked the entire chemistry department, especially Wayne Svoboda and Lyudmila Kogan for ideas and assistance in designing the chemistry experiments.

They also expressed their appreciation to Dr. Paul Dolan and Dr. Mitchel Sweig of the Physics Department for additional assistance. The event was videotaped by Mike Semen, the director of technical events.

There are two groups for students interested in physics to join - SPS or the Sigma Pi Sigma, an Honor Society of Physics. Students interested in the above or in free Physics tutoring, please see one of the tutors: Starr, Becker, or Fikri Aqariden in S 233, or dial extension 4020.

Student Symposium Scheduled

by Irene Flebbe

The first Annual Student Research Symposium will be held from 8:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. in the Commuter Center on Friday, April 16. Graduate and undergraduate students will present the results of 25 research projects from all colleges in the University.

Sargon Al-Bazi, Assistant Professor of Chemistry, is the coordinator for the Symposium and one of its most active boosters. He is excited at the prospect of bringing students together to experience the results of each others' projects because he feels that this is an essential item in the development of NEIU students.

Rosemary O'Grady, the coordinator of graduate records, said "One of the goals of the symposium is to build a research community at NEIU. It will ultimately benefit both the students and the school, as well as encouraging interaction between faculty and staff in research."

The symposium begins at 8:30 a.m. with registration and coffee. The first group of programs will begin at 9:30 a.m. Like many professional conferences, the talks are scheduled at 20 minute intervals, permitting the audience to move from room to room in order to hear those talks most interesting to them, according to Al-Bazi.

However, on the schedule, the talks are grouped into "Tracks" and each track is presided over by a member of the university community who will make sure that the speakers begin and end on time.

One track, presided over by C. Murray Ardies, is primarily concerned with mammalian physiology and includes presentations by Barbara J. Koehn, P. Conley-Maita, J. Te Winkle, Linda M. Slobodnik, David F. Cook, Thomas D. Alexander and Kalyani Banerjee. Another track is primarily tuned to

Business and Management, although several later presentations concern ethnography, censorship, and location analysis.

Kathleen Carlson, the presider, said "This is an excellent opportunity for students to present their work. It gives them good experience in presenting papers and functioning on a professional level." The presenters include Byron E. Bell, Rita I. Butler, H. Paul Unger, Eric M. Tande, Laurie M. Mucha, Kimberly M. Mathiot, and John H. Giles.

The third track will be presided over by Dragan Milovanovic and is concerned with social issues, education, and politics. Presenters include Elaine Maria Dimoulis, Mary F. Brown, Christine M. Garza, Scott Lange, Rita Bakunin, Eugene A. Pajakowski, and David P. Dewar.

The last track features the physical sciences. Presided over by Paul Poskozim, presenters will include Michael Reimer, Sandra L. Kubillus, Carlos Cortes, and William R. Jefferies.

A former student, Tarek Gharib, emphasizes the need for a research background in addition to a degree. He said, "Before graduation, I submitted more than 50 applications for entry level positions as a chemist. All were turned down. I started doing research with Dr. Al-Bazi and after a very short time, I was asked to interview for a position as a chemist in an engineering lab." He got the job. He added, "Research experience is a part of success. All the questions the interviewer asked were related to my research. Students have the opportunity to gain experience at NEIU."

Both Gharib and Al-Bazi urge all students to attend the symposium. Al-Bazi added, "It's free, open to the public, and it's important to students and NEIU."

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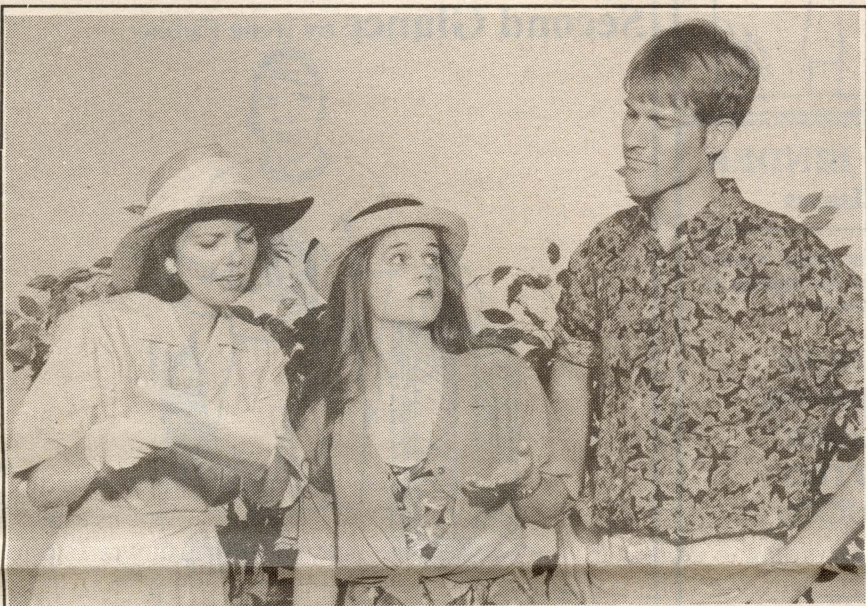
Next Meeting: April 15

Triad of Operas Performed at NEIU



Women in Art

photo by Steve Fitzer



An Incident in Haiti

photo provided by University Relations

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Focus on a Student

by Sabine Dietrich

Often one imagines typical college students as being barely out of puberty, just beginning their careers with some appropriate education. At NEIU, however, where the average age for students is about 30 years old, the "typical student" is a minority.

Libby Hill is an example of the enormous diversity of the NEIU student body. She came to NEIU after many years of education and experience. Libby got her B.A. in History and Sociology, then continued her education with a M.A. in Library Science at Rosary College. After graduation, Libby was a librarian at Roycemore School in Evanston for 22 years. She's at NEIU now because she has always wanted to be a college librarian, but needed another Masters Degree.

So now, for students who need help at the Computer Cartography Lab, Libby is there to assist. She helps students who need to utilize the computers for Geographic Information Systems homework and extra computer work for other Geography classes.

Libby majors in Environmental Studies, and may get a job in that field instead of library work when she graduates this December. She has plenty of experience already,

having volunteered at the Evanston Ecology Center, the River Trails Nature Center, and Perkins Woods in the Cook County Forest Preserves. She also helped work out the Evanston Energy Plan as a member of their Planning Commission.

Obviously, Libby likes to keep busy. At

first, she was afraid she wouldn't be able to simply sit back and listen to teachers. Libby is used to being a part of the process, and is therefore pleased with the opportunity for teamwork that the department job provided.

With this major, Libby is now able to merge her love of outdoors with understanding. She says that "even if I can't turn it into a job, it doesn't matter. My basic need has been fulfilled."

Despite all her environmental work, Libby doesn't consider herself part of the environmental movement which she feels is too often at odds with business and government. She says, "I feel allied with business and government, and I think everyone needs to work towards the same ends, jobs & the environment. Everyone need to work together on this."

Samaras reads poems

by Sarah Azooz

On April 6, writer and poet Nicholas Samaras gave a poetry reading from his book, "Hands of the Saddlemaker" and some new poems. This event was sponsored by the literary club The Apocalypse.

His book is the story of his life and travels. Samaras is the son of a Greek Orthodox priest. In the poem titled, "Awaiting The Homecoming" the image of the Samaras is presented with a halo awaiting his father's return. The poet describes this as his Chicago poem, since he once lived in Maywood.

While supporting himself through college, he had numerous interesting jobs. For three months he worked for his father processing divorce records. This experience was the inspiration for his poem "The Divorce Clerk." The poet describes his displeasure at opening each document and seeing the misfortune of others. In one envelope he found a gold ring hammered flat.

The poem titled "Amnesiac" describes his experience of being in

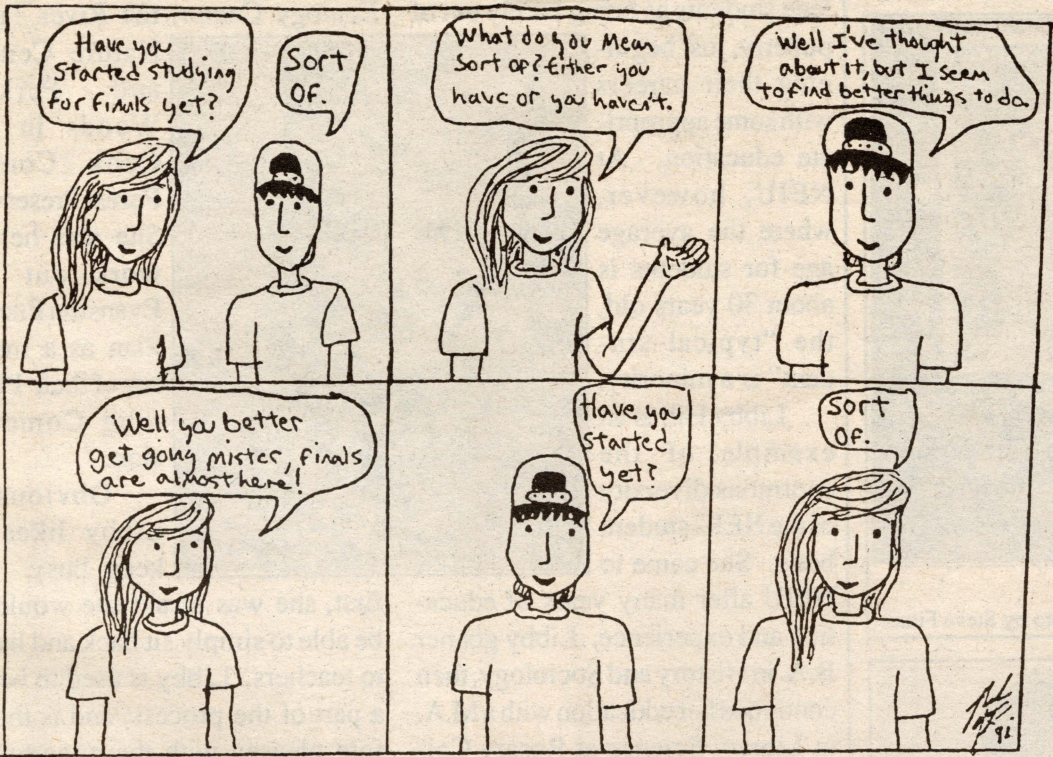
a car accident and waking up in a hospital bed. Samaras describes his amnesia in the poem as, "The language on my tongue seems thick and faraway, there is no knife for this illness, I am a wrath in a white shift." This poem was dedicated to his memory of Elaine who died at the age of nineteen from a rare blood disorder. The poem "Easter in the Cancer Ward" describes how he, Elaine, and other children from the cancer ward colored Easter eggs. The new way of coloring Easter eggs is contrasted to the traditional way that Greeks color eggs in the poem.

Samaras described his uneasiness and embarrassment at staring at the sick children. Five months after this experience Elaine passed away. He wrote, "But right now, we are young, still immortal, and the kids fidget, crying."

His interest in music and his travels to Europe are reflected in his poetry. Samaras said, "The more I traveled to other countries the more I learned what it was to be American."

F E A T U R E S

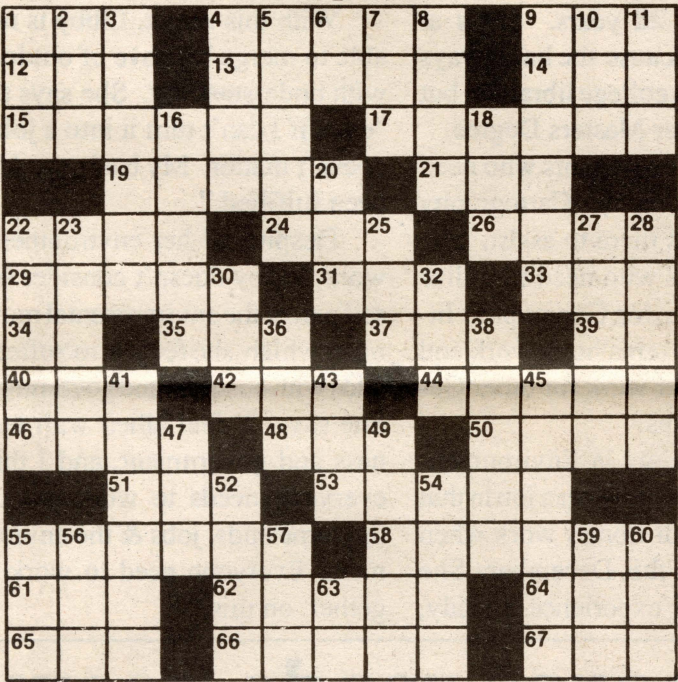
Boy Meets Girl by Nelson Tapias



off the mark by Mark Parisi



Crossword Companion



ACROSS

DOWN

- 1. Automobile
- 4. Strip of leather
- 9. Small bug
- 12. Poem
- 13. Topic
- 14. Digit
- 15. Bother
- 17. Religious building
- 19. Shield
- 21. Can
- 22. Festival
- 24. Paper sack
- 26. Space organization (abbr.)
- 29. Build
- 31. Affirmative
- 33. Rule
- 34. Direction (abbr.)
- 35. Hearing organ
- 37. Meadow
- 39. Tantalum symbol
- 40. Officeholders
- 42. Disorderly crowd
- 44. Moving about
- 46. Dines
- 48. Stem growth
- 50. Distinct pitch
- 51. Direct a weapon
- 53. 39.37 inches
- 55. Evening meal
- 58. Life work
- 61. 2001 computer
- 62. Royal
- 64. Soak flax
- 65. Before (poetic)
- 66. Banishment
- 67. Unit

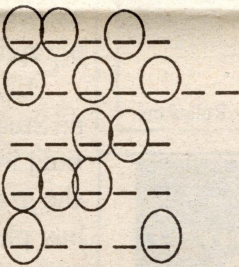
- 1. Policeman (slang)
- 2. Lemon drink
- 3. Sell again
- 4. Slender stalk
- 5. Pound
- 6. Concerning (Latin)
- 7. Electric current (abbr.)
- 8. — moss
- 9. Lacking tone
- 10. Doze
- 11. Boston — Party
- 16. Follow a path
- 18. Alcoholic beverage
- 20. — Bolger
- 22. Spirit
- 23. Field of conflict
- 25. Jelly-like
- 27. Soft material
- 28. Conscious
- 30. — o'-shanter
- 32. Salt water
- 36. Steal
- 38. Spring flower
- 41. Fasten
- 43. Vagrant
- 45. Matador
- 47. Drink delicately
- 49. Transferred design
- 52. Nothing more than specified
- 54. Story
- 55. Her
- 56. Formerly Egypt (abbr.)
- 57. — Allen (cowboy)
- 59. Even (poetic)
- 60. Route (abbr.)
- 63. Enlisted man (abbr.)

MIND BINDER

by Leah Isaacs

Unscramble the words. Use the circled letters for solution to play on words below.

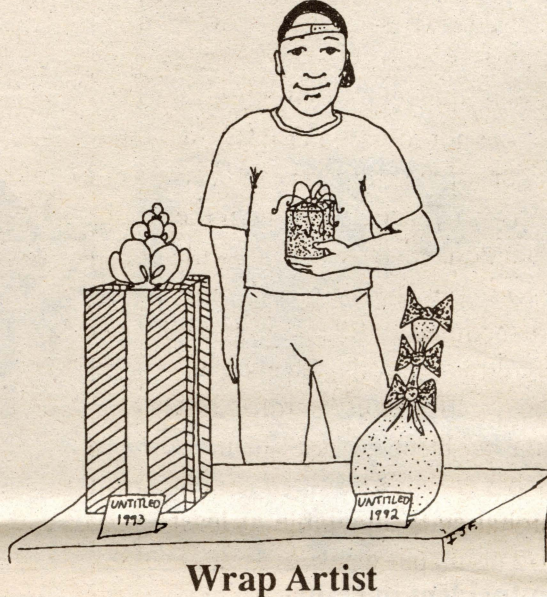
SORHE
RLIMNGE
BHBOY
ETTRO
KUCCL



WHAT WRITERS AND FOOTBALL PLAYERS HAVE IN COMMON THEY

SOLUTION TO LAST WEEK'S PUZZLE:
HEAVEN, MODIFY,
AZALEA, ACRID, ERUPT
"DROVE HIM CRAZY"

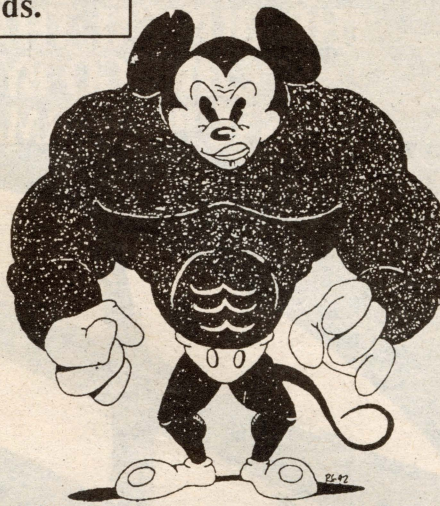
Second Glance by Irene Flebbe



Wrap Artist

Raun's Follies by Raun Gallegos

A famous mouse on steroids.



HOROSCOPE

ARIES March 21 - April 19 -- A haircut for a new look is definitely needed. Time to rethink your old relationships with your family-can you improve them?

TAURUS April 20 - May 20 --Don't be a couch potato! Get outside and breath the fresh spring air. A Gemini will seek a commitment from you.

GEMINI May 21 - June 20 --Make an effort to recycle this week. Helping the environment will make you a better person. A Virgo has something important to say to you.

CANCER June 21 - July 22--Look out for love- it will come from an unexpected direction. Be sure to finish your reading assignments-Finals are coming!

LEO July 23 - Aug. 22 --Wear blue for luck, and try playing the lotto this week. Have some fun this weekend-do something cheap like going to the zoo!

VIRGO Aug. 23 - Sept. 22--A burger in each hand is not a balanced diet-take care of yourself so you don't get sick. Buy some new sunglasses-you'll look great!

LIBRA Sept 23 - Oct 22 --Walking is good exercise, but dancing is better. Live a little- get out and boogie! A Cancer wants to be your (dancing) partner.

SCORPIO Oct. 23 - Nov. 21--A man in black will have an effect on you on Wed. Don't be afraid, just be wary of what he says.

SAGITTARIUS Nov. 22 - Dec. 21 --Start writing that paper-you want to graduate, don't you? Keep your temper and say "Thank-you" ten times today. You'll feel better.

CAPRICORN Dec. 22 - Jan. 19 --Try public transportation for a change. Make an effort to smile even though your heart aches.

AQUARIUS Jan. 20 - Feb. 18 --Time to think about spring and planting a garden. Bring your loved one some flowers to make a big impression.

PISCES Feb. 19 - March 20 --Don't build walls, build relationships! Apply for that job-you may get it if you are assertive!

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Independent Advising

by Douglas J. Gates, Academic Advisor

Your answer to "No Free Time" (March 29) was very pretty. But how are students supposed to negotiate an appointment with an advisor who never returns calls?

Professional Student (again)

Dear Pro:

Between your earlier note (February 22), and this one it seems you have seen some rough times in your advising experience. Hopefully, we can build on your experience to help other students avoid the difficulties you have overcome.

Your concern regarding obstacles to getting an appointment with an advisor is valid. However, I dare say that an advisor who is never in and who never returns calls does not advise long at NEIU. Advisors of the University Advising Program participate under the expectation that they will be available to students, particularly during scheduled office hours and registration periods. This contractual obligation is reiterated regularly. Departmental/College advisors are either full-time professional staff, available at least 37 1/2 hours per week, other than occasional leave days, or are faculty. Faculty may be on sabbatical or away for research, but short of these circumstances, for which replacement advisors are appointed, they are on campus regularly as well.

If you find you are having difficulty reaching your advisor by telephone, don't hesitate to leave a PhoneMail message. She or he should be able to return your call during business hours. If you do not receive a return contact within two working days, try again. It is easy to start returning calls, be interrupted, and forget that all the calls were not addressed. Also, you might check with the departmental secretary. Perhaps your advisor is away from campus and will not be available for a few days. It could even be he or she is away for a while and students will be asked to meet with someone else. You could try leaving a note under your advisor's door and with the secretary or stop by the department in person at a time during working hours that is convenient for you. Don't forget to describe a means by which the advisor can contact you. This may seem obvious, but numerous notes left for advisors omit telephone numbers and good times to call.

The importance of contacting the department secretary if you do not receive a return call from your second message cannot be overstated. If you skip this step and your advisor's PhoneMail does not note his or her extended absence or is full, there is no opportunity for you to find out about alternate arrangements.

ALERT A number of changes to the University's General Education Program and to the majors offered by the College of Business and Management will go into effect Fall 1993. Changes to the list of general education courses

required for Illinois teaching certification may also be made for Fall 1993. Be sure to schedule an appointment with your advisor to review the new requirements before signing up for Fall classes.

• Questions may be sent to the **Independent** E 049 or Academic Advising A 109/111 or left in the drop box in The Learning Center, Library, 4th floor. E-mail users contact udgates@ecnuxa.BITNET usually on CICS rather than UXA; elm will store until log on. Reply will be through the network, unless your question is published. In either case all letters become property of the **Independent** and may be edited prior to publication. Authors' names will not be published. To be considered for publication, letters must be signed, and a phone number provided.

Flashback

by Al Schulze

The Print April 12, 1983

• UNI tuition up 60%.

The Pwint April 1, 1987

• Apocalypse editor arrested for submitting a poem with too many rhymes.

• Yearbook Club reprints 1969 edition stating "It is the least we could do."

• Board of Governors buys Lamb house in Cabrini Green.

The Independent April 11, 1988

• Vice President of Student Affairs Daniel Kielson resigned.

• Tuition increased to \$55.50 per credit hour. Health Insurance costs to rise to \$81 per semester.

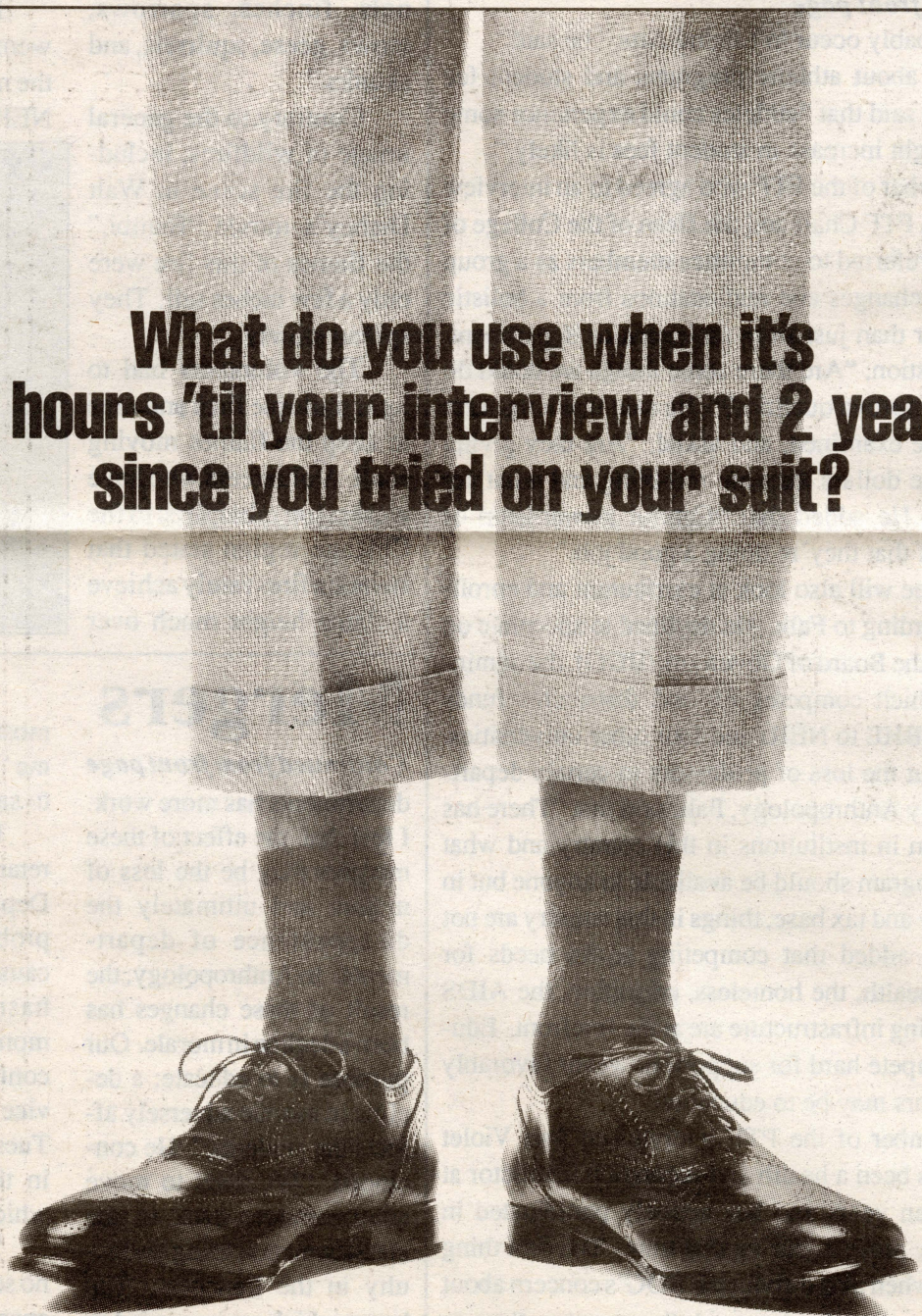
The Impotent April 1, 1990

• "Lamb kills wife, self. Sheep die in bizarre suicide love pact."

• Access road paved with parking tickets.

The Print (Pwint) was the NEIU student newspaper until the **Independent (Impotent)** was founded in 1988.

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Pyro Prof

Continued from front page
sence of fire, losing some or all of their particular plant species and becoming overgrown with European weeds. Instead of destroying the savanna, in fact, the fire enhances it. If the savanna were not burned, it would soon be overgrown with weedy vegetation that would have less value for wildlife, according to Howenstine.

"It is important that as people take over the area, that there is a place that native animals can find food and shelter - and not in a



Volunteers rake flames at savanna.

garbage can, either," said Lorry Davies, an NEIU student. She added, "It was very exciting to see a wood-

cock fly out of the brush. There is an abundance of wildlife on campus, including insects, birds, and mammals. I've seen a sparrow hawk, woodcocks, cardinals, finches, sparrows, crows, geese, squirrels, and skunks."

Contrary to the general image of wildfires, including the fire scene in Walt Disney's movie "Bambi," the flames of this fire were only a few inches tall. They spread slowly.

The volunteers had to light multiple fires and rake to keep the flames moving at all. Volunteers who have worked on other fires in the Chicago region stated that savanna fires rarely achieve a flame height much over

one foot, although hot prairie fires can be higher.

Before a fire, there is dry vegetation and leaves on the ground beneath the oaks. Burning consumes the dry material, releases nutrients, conditions the soil, and kills back undesirable plants.

The oaks, however, are unaffected by the fire, having developed a thick bark which permits them to survive the low, slow fires. Native savanna vegetation is also adapted to periodic fire by having deep roots and the ability to regrow after burning, according to savanna restorationists.

Before the fire, students went from door-to-door in the neighborhood to inform NEIU's neighbors about the

fire. Some had questions which the students readily answered. Kathleen Kelly, an NEIU student, said, "It's very important to interpret for and educate the neighbors, and also to let them know that their neighborhood is not going up in smoke."

Residents around the school are used to the semi-annual savanna burns. One neighbor even brought out his video camera to record this familiar NEIU rite.

The experience was summed up by one student, Andre Gaither, who said, "I've never seen a burn of this kind before. Now that I've burned this savanna, I feel like I own it. I want to keep an eye on it and watch it grow."

Committee

Continued from front page
changes will probably occur in Liberal Arts," he said.

When asked about athletic programs and student fee increases, Emano said that "athletes could experience some changes and a slight increase in student fees is likely."

Another member of the PTF who agreed to an interview was Charles Falk, PTF Chair and the Dean of the College of Education. Falk referred to committee members as a group who will look at changes and reallocations from a holistic perspective rather than just from their area or department. Falk posed a question, "Are there some things we could do differently or to improve qualities?" He said that long-term programs must be examined, and asked, "Are they giving back value for the dollars they are receiving and what are their attributes?" He added that "Careful stewardship of resources is proof that they're doing a good job."

The committee will also look at curriculum and enrollment issues, according to Falk. He declined to speculate on the fiscal state of the Board of Governors (BOG), the administrative body which competes for and distributes funds allocated by the IBHE to NEIU and four other universities. When asked about the loss of professors in certain departments, specifically Anthropology, Falk said that "There has been an explosion in institutions in this country and what they did. Any program should be available to anyone but in terms of economy and tax base, things in this country are not wonderful." He added that competing social needs for matters such as health, the homeless, education, the AIDS crisis and crumbling infrastructure are at the forefront. Education has to compete hard for support, however favorably disposed legislators may be to education.

The last member of the PTF interviewed was Violet Johnson, who has been a health and recreation instructor at NEIU for fourteen years and has actively participated in various university projects during that time. The first thing that Johnson did when asked about the BOG's concern about funding was to draw a pie chart and diagram the slices in order to illustrate to whom and in what way funds are distributed. Johnson said "I believe that the BOG is concerned about distribution as well as income loss." She added that whenever Senate legislators allocate funds, they get budget requests from the BOG and other boards competing for a cut. "In the fall of 1993, the IBHE published a list of recommendations for trimming university programs and during that time the faculty union, UPI, was incensed because recommendations were made without any input from the local level. Consequently, the UPI held meetings on campus to get reactions of faculty members and take testimony down to legislators."

Johnson said "resources, dollars, are the 'root of all evil' and the PTF, as well as others serving NEIU may hopefully find ways to preserve and enhance uses of what we have." She concluded by saying that the PTF must look at recommendations made by the IBHE and either agree with suggestions, cut, or defend resources.

Mergers

Continued from front page
departments has more work. I feel that the effect of these mergers may be the loss of majors and ultimately the disappearance of departments. In Anthropology, the result of these changes has been a decline in morale. Our purpose is to educate; a decline in morale adversely affects the students." He concluded, "We need to move administrators back to the classroom increasing the faculty in the trenches. The hours which are supposed to be saved by our coordinator are only on paper."

Dr. Charles Shabica, a professor of Earth Science, stated, "This is professionally embarrassing. When I applied for this position I expected to be working in the Earth Science Department, not this combination of departments. We have worked for years to build up a reputation, now when we write that we are from the Department of Chemistry, Physics and Earth Science, it looks like we are not able to stand on our own. The poor students are the ones who suffer the

most. I have had students ask me 'What is my degree going to say?'"

Frances Skrabacz, secretary of the Earth Science Department, explained the problems of civil service caused by the merger, "This hasn't saved NEIU any money. It has only created confusion and been a disservice to the students. I spend Tuesday and Friday morning in the Physics Department which is on a different floor.

"At these times, there is no secretary in the Earth Science Department. Students have left me messages complaining that I am never in my office. When I am not in my office, it has to be locked, therefore when people need to get in, professors are disturbed for this purpose. The Physics Department especially suffers because they do not have a secretary. If I happen to be sick on a Tuesday, there is no secretary in the Physics Department for half a week, which would make me feel very guilty."

Skrabacz added, "There is no smooth flow of information now. I am not notified of deadlines, people

don't know where to send things, and I don't know who is supposed to sign what."

The department mergers were intended to save NEIU money. However, Dr. Charles Barber, a Professor of History and Chair of the Faculty Senate, stated, "This was fraudulent; there were not real cuts in administration above the Department level. The only dollars transferred adversely affected secretaries in these academic areas. The money which was supposed to be saved was spent on moving offices and construction. The faculty voted overwhelmingly against these mergers and their voice was ignored."

Many members of the University community affected by the merger believe they have experienced a loss of morale. Some see the departmental mergers as a tragic administrative blunder.

Dr. Henry Russell of the Foreign Languages and Literatures Department said recently, "When you look back over it, it almost seems as if this president had come to preside over the dismantling of the university."



photos by Steve Fitzer