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Independent- Feb. 27, 1996

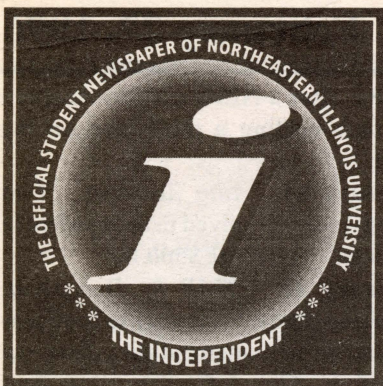
Kimberly A. Dudash

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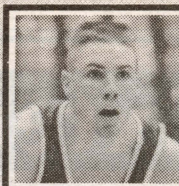
Student of the
Week: Moneca
S. Reid-Williams

-page 5



Athlete of the
Week: Brian
Bestor

-page 12



The Independent

Volume 12, Issue 4

Tuesday, February 27, 1996

Chicago, Illinois

Board approves new fee structure

Full-time students to bear fee increase burden

By KIMBERLY A. DUDASH
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

The NEIU Board of Trustees voted last Tuesday to change the student fee structure, which will result in an increase for full-time students from \$138.00 to \$150.00 during the Fall and Spring terms. Students will now pay 12.50 per credit hour during the regular academic year terms and \$9.50 per credit hour during the Summer terms (based on 12 weeks). Currently, student fees are paid at a flat rate based on full or part-time enrollment.

The new fee structure was created to correct a "programming error," in which students were charged two separate sets of fees for Summer sessions that ran almost concurrently.

President Salme Steinberg stated, "This is not a request to increase student fees. In actual terms the revenue that will be coming to the university is a little bit less." The university will receive approximately \$7,000 less a fiscal year.

In arguing with the Board, Student Government President Johnson vehemently opposed the new fee structure stating, "It is not a decrease for students taking 12 credit hours or more; it actually increases \$12.00 per semester." He added, "If you look at your chart, they [full-time students] are picking up the burden for the other students."

Board Chairperson Daniel Goodwin asked S.G. President Johnson "What alternative do you propose?"

S.G. President Johnson responded, "Set aside the money students are overcharged in the summer, refund the money, and keep the system *status quo*."

President Steinberg quickly responded, "I think no institution should go in knowing that there is an inequity in an action that would be taken. I don't believe it would be right to double bill someone and then put the money aside. I think that would be wrong."

S.G. President Johnson concluded his argument to the Board, "I guess you're going to vote yes on this, but for those undergraduate full-time students, you're increasing their fee. I would encourage you to vote no."

The Board voted unanimously to approve the mandatory fee structure.



photo by Alberty Waldo

President Steinberg discussed the mandatory fee structure with Student Government President Craig Johnson (far left), during the February 20 Board Meeting, while board members (from left to right) Edward Dykla, Keith Brown, and Carole Balzekas look on.

Board awards Steinberg 18-month contract, forms search committee

By KIMBERLY A. DUDASH
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

The Board of Trustees entered into a contract for the position of NEIU president with Dr. Salme Steinberg effective February 20, 1996 until August 31, 1997. President Steinberg will receive the same compensation as former President Gordon Lamb, which amounts to \$120,000 per year.

To begin the process of a search for a permanent president, Board Chairperson Daniel Goodwin appointed two Board members to form a presidential search committee.

Goodwin explained, "In order for us to have the time to [effectively search for a new president] and to ensure continuity of administration, we felt that we did not want to be in a situation where Dr. Steinberg could avail herself of the other opportunities for positions that have arisen."

It is customary for a new president to begin her/his term in the fall. According to Goodwin, with less than 7 months until the fall term, a search can not be "reasonably accomplished by

September, 1996."

Goodwin also stated that the Board will be appointing a committee to begin the search for a new president. "We have to assemble a committee represented by all the constituencies of the university," added Goodwin.

Board Secretary Nancy Masterson was appointed Chairperson of the presidential search committee, and Board member Keith Brown is to join her on the committee. Masterson and Brown's first order of business is to select other committee members representative of the university community, including faculty, administration, staff, students and civil service representatives.

Goodwin said, "It is our hope that the committee will by and large do the selection process, although the legal responsibility for making the final selection rests with [the Board of Trustees]. It is our hope that we will have consensus of opinion and that we will be able to hire a permanent president by August, 1997."

HIGHLIGHTS

Entertainment

Movies

"Dead Man Walking"

Theatre

"Studio B
The Radio Show"

News

Students' academic
progress evaluated

Environmental Careers
Day

Cycling for early breast
cancer detection

Dr. Watson's financial aid
tips

Sports

Baseball

Baseball headed south

Athlete of the Week
Brian Bestor

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Extension 200

Extension 200 is available 24 hours a day. Members of the University Community are encouraged to contact Public Safety when they need help, motorist assistance with lockouts or jump-starts, or if they have information about these items.

To report information about a crime on campus please use the confidential information line at extension 4636. For jump-starts, auto lockouts, and all emergencies please contact Public Safety at extension 200 or 203 on campus.

Extension 200 Reports compiled by Public Safety
Officer Bob Paprocki

February 5 - Theft: A student reported leaving textbooks unattended in the cafeteria. When she returned they were gone. A loss of \$75.00.

February 6 - Disorderly Conduct: A false fire alarm was activated in the Classroom building by unknown person(s).

Medical Assist: A student was transported to a hospital after collapsing in the Classroom building.

February 7 - Theft: A student reported a parking permit taken from an auto parked in the D-lot. A loss of \$32.00.

Medical Assist: A student became ill in the PE building and was transported to a hospital.

February 8 - Station Information: A staff member reported unauthorized office use in the Classroom building by unknown person(s).

February 9 - Criminal Damage: Unknown person(s) damaged an elevator door in the Science building. No estimate of loss given.

Other Police: Three persons at first identified as students were robbed at a near-by mall. Two



suspects were located near the campus, however no positive ID could be made. Drug paraphernalia was confiscated. All were released by CPD. No charges were filed.

February 13 - Theft: A student reported a pair of eyeglasses missing from a desk. A loss of \$310.00.

Medical Assist: Health Services nurses were transported to the day care center after a child was injured by a door. The parents were notified.

Other Police: A non-student was arrested on Foster

Avenue after a NEIU officer observed two men beating a third man on the street.

February 14 - Auto Accident: Two students were involved in an accident in the D-lot. A loss of \$500.00.

February 15 - Theft by Deception: Three non-students claimed to have permission to sell merchandise near the bookstore. They left a short time later without paying the required fee.

Assault: A student reported being threatened by another student in the D-lot. The offender was identified by state registration. No charges were filed.

Assault: A student threatened another in the PE building. The dean of students was notified. No charges were filed.

February 16 - Criminal Damage: A fence was damaged by unknown person(s) on St. Louis Avenue. A loss of \$8.00.

Traffic Violation: A non-student was stopped while on campus for speeding. He was also ticketed for other violations and his auto impounded until insurance can be proved.

February 18 - Accident: A faculty member crashed into a gate on the access road. Damages were assessed at \$10.00.

Student Clubs and Organizations

A.C.E.I.

Association for Childhood Education International meets the first Wednesday of every month above the bookstore from 11 a.m.-noon.

ASSW

Alliance of Student Social Workers meets the first Thursday of every month in CLS 4007 from 1:40 p.m. - 2:50 p.m. For more information call Evalyn McCoy in the Social Work Department at ext. 2860, or stop by CLS 4062. ASSW is not only for Social Work majors, participation by all students is encouraged.

Alcoholics Anonymous

Meets Tuesday (CLS 2020) at 1:40-2:50 p.m. and Wednesday (E-047A) at 12:00-1:00 p.m. These meetings are for those already in AA or feel that they want what we have—Sobriety!!

Apocalypse Literary Arts Coalition

Meets Tuesdays at 1:40 p.m. in E-041 or stop in anytime.

Art Club

Meets Thursdays, 1:40 p.m., B 119. Ext. 2918.

Assyrian Students Organization

Meets Tuesdays 6:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m. and General Assembly meets Friday 10:00 a.m. - 11 a.m. (cafe).

Black Caucus

Meets Thursdays in CLS 3094 at 1:40 p.m. Call ext. 3142 for more information.

Black Heritage Club

Meets Thursdays in CLS 3094 at 1:40 p.m. Call ext. 3142 for more information.

CHIMEXLA

Chicano Mexican Latino Student Union meets every Tuesday at 1:40 p.m. on CLS 3094.

Criminal Justice Students Organization

Meets every Thursday at 1:40 p.m. in CLS 2094. Ext. 2622.

Gay, Lesbian & Bisexual Alliance

Meets every Thursday at 1:40 p.m. in CLS 2005, and every Monday at 6:30 p.m. in the Student Activities Mezzanine above the bookstore. Ext. 2622.

Earth Science Club

Meeting times to be announced. Call. Ext. 2536 for more information.

Hellenic Club

Meets every Tuesday at 1:40 p.m., S-111. Ext. 2900.

HRDA

Human Resource Development Association. For more information contact Don Stepich at ext. 6297 or stop by CLS 3022.

The Independent

Only the best damn newspaper this side of the Mississippi. For information regarding membership, contact Kim at ext. 2812 or stop by room E-049.

Marketing Club

Meets Tuesdays at 1:40 p.m. in CLS 3081.

Management Club

For more information regarding membership, contact M. O'Malley at ext. 2648.

Muslim Students Association

Meets every Thursday in CLS 3044. Friday prayer in S-351 at 1:30 p.m.

Que Ondee Sola

Meets Tuesdays at 1:30 p.m. in room E 041. Ext. 3805.

SCEC

Student Council for Exceptional Children meets on alternate Thursdays at 1:45 p.m. in CLS 3020. Ext. 3040.

Sociology Club

Meets every second and fourth Tuesday of the month at 1:40 p.m. in CLS 2094.

Spanish Club

Meets Tuesdays at 1:40 p.m. in CLS 2081

Student Senate

Stop by E-210, above Beck's Bookstore, anytime.

UPRS

Union of Puerto Rican Students meets Tuesdays, 1:30 p.m., E 041. Ext. 3805.

WZRD

The campus radio station broadcasts on 88.3 FM. For more information stop by EBL - 059.

Events Calendar

February 25-March 9, 1996

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
25	26	27	28	29	1	2
	1-2pm&6-7pm Networking Strategies CC 219 5:30-6:30 pm Teacher Resume Workshop CC 216 7-9 pm 2207 Orientation CC 217	10-1pm Blood Drive Sign Up Village Square 11am - 2pm SCEC Bake Sale Village Square 1:30-3pm Speaker: F. Cannon/J. Waters CC 217 5:30 - 6:30 pm Teacher Interview Workshop CC 216	8am-10pm Blood Drive Alumni Hall 9am-1pm Banner Day Camp Information Table Village Square 12n-3pm Black History Film Festival CC 218 7-9 pm Increasing your Self Esteem CC 219	9am-1pm UPS Recruiting Village Square 1:30-3pm Awards Ceremony CC 217		
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
		10am-2pm Spanish Club Bake Sale Village Square 1:30-3pm Student Support Awards Ceremony CC 217 1:30-3pm Sister Souljah Auditorium		9am-1pm UPS Recruiting Village Square 9am-3pm Environmental Career Day Alumni Hall, CC 215, CC 217, CC 218, CC 219, & CC 2nd floor lounge 12:15-2:30pm Woodruff Presentation Heritage Room 7-9 pm Muslim Student Forum CC216	8am-10pm University Day Alumni Hall, CC 214-219, Golden Eagle, & CC 2nd floor lounge 12n-1pm International Women's Day Raised South	

Students' academic progress evaluated

BY DAWN JANKE
STAFF WRITER

Starting in March, the ACT COMP (College Outcomes Measures Project) will be administered to selected juniors to evaluate NEIU students' academic progress.

Each semester, students receive grades to assess their work in given courses. But up until now, there was no mechanism to show students, faculty and administration how students have progressed throughout their years at NEIU. The ACT COMP will do just that.

Acting Provost Therese Schuepfer said, "This is a real team effort across the University, and it is the first step in giving feedback to the faculty and students."

The group results will also help the administrators and faculty in the assessment of the General Education Program. Schuepfer stated, "We're interested in looking at what areas our students excel in. We know overall we're going to have change; it's important for us to get a look at what the profile of that change actually is."

616 students who began here as freshmen and have accumulated at least 60 credit hours were chosen to take the test. The testing will begin March 10.

College of Arts & Sciences Dean John Boni stated, "We thought that what this test focused on comes closest to the outcomes that we've designed our General Education program for."

The test was chosen by a committee formed two years ago which included Dean of the College of Arts and Sciences, John Boni; Associate Dean of the College of Education, Nan Giblin; Associate Dean of

the College of Business, Kathleen Carlson; Martha Thompson from Sociology; and Jim Hazeltine from Business. They looked at a number of products put out by the Educational Testing Service and ACT, and decided this was the best one.

The test results are confidential and will not be included with the students' transcripts. The students will receive a copy of their scores, and upon the students' request, the data may be released to their advisors in order to help the students interpret the figures. "That's part of what we owe the students for participating," said Schuepfer.

Besides the benefit of providing insight into one's own progress, the University will credit students' ID cards with \$20 and students will receive priority registration for the Fall 1996 or Spring 1997 semester for participating. If a student scores in the top 40%, their name will be entered into a lottery for a tuition-free semester.

Schuepfer addressed these incentives: "We are asking students for their time. It's important to recognize that the students are providing a service for us."

Mathematics Professor Lidia Filus applied her skills to create a wide-ranged testing schedule. Schuepfer commented, "we really tried to make this as flexible as possible for the students to fit this in."

Although this test is a pilot, the University is also looking at ways to measure how well it serves its transfer students. This will possibly take place in the Fall predicted Schuepfer. She said, "this is something that needs to be further discussed."

Cycling for early breast cancer detection

Join the battle

BY MELISSA M. STRAUSS
STAFF WRITER

Women who are simultaneously playing the roles of student, employee, wife, and mother don't always take the time to pay attention to their health. They take for granted that they are healthy and that a trip to the doctor's office or pharmacist's counter will take care of whatever ails them.

NEIU Admissions and Records employee Carol Zemola Garsee was the same way. "You take things for granted until one day you find a lump in your breast, and then everything changes."

Garsee is on a mission to educate women. As a survivor of breast cancer, she is organizing a 1,000 mile bicycle trip with volunteers who will educate people along the route about early breast cancer detection and elevate the awareness level of this serious disease that strikes thousands of women every year. The trip will start on April 16 in New Orleans and conclude on May 3 in Chicago.

She is searching for twelve qualified cyclists to join her on this scenic and educational journey. Half of the twelve riders will be from the Chicago area; only one representative per other state is being sought. There is a list of fifteen qualifications that candidates must meet, including these:

- breast cancer survivors whose treatment

has ended at least six months prior to the trip

- 21 years of age or older (non-smoker)
- able to obtain a doctor's release form and provide self insurance
- able to donate three weeks' time and be prepared for all financial responsibilities.

The following volunteers are needed to help plan and assist with the trip: a truck handler to donate a step van, van, or truck no larger than 10 feet; trained medical personnel; a massage team; maintenance personnel; security personnel; a route/course planner; an experienced public relations planner; a volunteer to acquire snacks beverages, supplies, uniforms and assist in finding a truck or van; a lawyer to advise in pre-trip planning; 10 breast cancer survivors to help plan the trip and provide support during the trip; and Y-Me or Cancer Society representatives. All volunteers should be aware that this is a non-sponsored event and that no expenses will be reimbursed.

If you would like to participate in the trip or volunteer your time and/or services, send a self-addressed, stamped, business-size envelope to: Carol Zemola Garsee P.O. Box 579175 Chicago, IL 60657-9175.

Best of luck to all the cyclists. Cycle safely and let your message be known!

Get ready to lounge around

BY ALBERTY WALDO
STAFF WRITER

Substantial completion of the Student Lounge is set for May 6, 1996, according to Gary Bryan of Facilities Management.

The lounge will have general seating, study group/conversation space, two meeting rooms, vending machines and a television room.

The lounge will be a place for students to study and relax. The administration's scope statement reads, "Our greatest concern is that the room be a study lounge that projects a comfortable and welcoming atmosphere."

The lounge will be available during all open campus hours. It will consist of "only chairs, no sofas," according to Di-

rector of Student Activities Walt Summers. This will allow greater occupancy. TTRS will be operated out of at least one of the meeting rooms, and data drops will be available for students with laptop computers. Pay phones and a copy machine will also be available.

When the original Game Room was closed, there were no plans to re-open it as a student lounge. Initially the plan was to give the space to Architectural-Engineering Services. However, Student Government President Craig Johnson negotiated with the administration for the Student Lounge, and he won.

"Environmental Careers Day" brings job hunting down to earth

BY PROFESSOR LAURA SANDERS

Which of the following describes you?

a) You'll be looking for a job in the next year. b) You care about the environment. c) The more you know about the job market, the more smoothly your job search will go. d) All of the above.

If you answered "d," then get out your calendar and mark this date! Thursday, March 7 is Environmental Careers Day at Northeastern. This day of workshops and speakers is designed especially for people who want up-to-the-minute advice about how to land a job in the environmental field.

The NEIU Placement Office will kick off Environmental Careers Day at 9 a.m. with a resume-writing workshop. Learn the do's and don'ts of putting together that all-important resume, with special attention to targeting environmental positions.

Which trends in the environmental market are hot right now? Will they still be hot by the time you graduate? Where will the jobs be in 10 years? At 10 a.m., Robert Colangelo of the Environmental Planning Group will reveal the results of his company's in-depth investigation of market trends, and his projections for the near future.

Are you interested in educating the public about the environment? Or is being a consultant more your style? At 11 a.m.,

Susan Frank of the Spring Brook Nature Center will fill you in on how to land a job as an environmental educator. Or hear Kristina Lala of Geraghty & Miller talk about what it's like to work as an environmental consultant.

Did you know that the State of Illinois employs thousands of people to do environmental work? At 1 p.m., let Theresa Cummings of the Illinois Department of Natural Resources give you the facts on environmental opportunities in government.

Top off your day by learning job search strategies at a 2 p.m. workshop given by George Bagel and Shirley Bono of the NEIU Placement Office. They'll help you figure out where to start your hunt for a position in the environmental field and where to turn for resources when the going gets rough.

Many other activities are planned for the day, including one which will teach you to prepare a portfolio of materials to show prospective employers, and one to inform you about internship opportunities with the USEPA. For more information, contact Mr. Lorn Coleman in the Placement Office (x3119), Dr. Laura Sanders in the Earth Science Department (x2531), or Dr. Barbara Winston in the Geography and Environmental Studies Department (x2609).

NEIU Chemistry Club

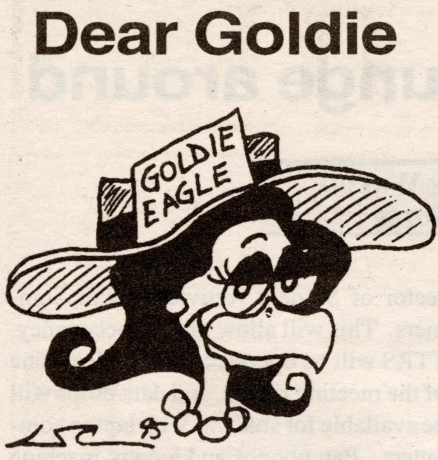
All are invited to attend
(You don't need to be a chemistry major)

The first meeting will be held:
Wednesday, 6 March 1996
4:30 PM
Science Building, Rm. S210

Refreshments will be provided

Possible Activities: tours of area companies and research laboratories, attendance at area meetings, and "fun things."

For more information contact Mike McCann in the Science Building, Rm. 218E, phone at (312) 794-6127, or e-mail at: ummccann@uxa.ecn.bgu.edu



Dear Readers,

Congress shall make no law...abridging the freedom of speech, or of the press...

That's the First Amendment, but the Communications Decency Act, recently signed into law by President Clinton, will regulate our speech on the Internet using very hazy, ill-defined criteria and imposing harsh fines and stiff jail sentences. For more information, see this issue's "Around the Beehive" or last issue's "Cyberspace: a guide."

If this seems as heinous to you as it does to me, join "Take a Swipe at Government Censorship" week by e-mailing Socks, the Clinton cat, and letting her know how you feel.

Go ahead. Using Netscape on an NEIU computer, log into Socks' home page at: http://www.whitehouse.gov/WH/html/mail_socks.html

Here's the text: "Dear Socks, Please tell your dad that we think the Communications Decency Act will infringe on our fucking freedom of speech. Love, Morris [or cat of your choice]"

No need to enter your e-mail address when it's asked for—just type in something like MYOB@go.away, or whatever you feel like.

Why Socks? Because if you do it through Netscape on the NEIU computers, it's anonymous, it's funny, and heck, I'm a bird, I'm supposed to hate cats.

Do it today. Mail early and often.

Dear Goldie,

Why aren't there more vegetarian se-

lections in the cafeteria? And why can't they label dishes like the baked pasta so we know whether or not it has meat in it? Do we have any say over what food is served? Why don't they have a suggestion box? What ever happened to the fresh sandwich line they offered a couple years ago? And why aren't hot foods available at night?

Disgruntled Veg-head

Dear Veg-head,

Wow, it's amazing how many questions you can stuff into one paragraph when you're hungry.

Last things first. The latest trend in university cafeterias, including ours, is to bring in an independent management firm and a bunch of franchises, like Subway and Pizza Hut. Whether or not you or I like it, it's profitable, and many students seem to like it better than only having choices such as baked fish and soggy broccoli. When NEIU brought in the Subway franchise last year, the fresh, made-to-order sandwich line went the way of all things.

But you know what they say: if you don't like the franchises in Chicago, wait five minutes, they'll change. Or is that weather? Anyway, according to Food Services General Manager Todd Shepard, franchising trends come and go. "It's all cyclical," he said. So if enough students get sick of Subway clubs and bread sticks, there may be a sandwich line again someday. But hopefully you won't be here long enough to find out.

The meatless choices are indeed pretty sparse. If you eat dairy and eggs, there's cheese pizza, cheese subs, garden burger subs, salad, and an occasional veggie hot meal. If you're vegan, you're pretty much stuck with the salad bar. If you want organics, you're out of luck.

Shepard said that there are hot veggie dishes offered about twice a week—usually baked pasta and macaroni and cheese. I countered that sometimes dishes that could easily be made vegetarian have meat added to them. For example, often the macaroni and cheese has meat added, or the baked pasta is made with meat sauce instead of marinara.

Shepard explained the problem:

"The hot veggie dishes don't sell. The business dictates what you do." The biggest sellers right now are the hot dogs, hamburgers, and Subway. Meat, meat, and mostly meat.

Business is also the reason why hot dishes aren't sold at night. According to Shepard, it's just not lucrative. Despite the high percentage of students who go to school at night, Shepard said he does 80% of his business during the day.

He thinks one reason people don't eat in the cafeteria at night is that they're in a hurry, running to school from work, and there's no time to stop in the cafeteria before having to head over to the Science or Classroom building. He's hoping to open a small food station in the new student lounge in the Classroom building. It would be open late and would include sandwiches, hot dogs, and maybe some hot soup.

So why not have a suggestion box to see if more people would like veggie dishes, or have other requests, I asked. According to Shepard, it's on its way. The contract for our cafeteria was recently bought by a new company, Sodexho. These folks are into marketing: a cardboard box with a slit in it simply won't do for a suggestion box. Shepard said a fancy box plastered with Sodexho's name is coming within a week. Next week they will also be conducting a customer service survey.

And finally, about labeling. According to Shepard, most of the time veggie dishes are labeled as such, although he admitted "We could try to be better about it." He did warn that even if a dish such as baked pasta appears to be meatless, if it's not specifically labeled vegetarian, it may well have been made with a beef broth-based sauce. If you're trying to be cow-free, pay attention to the labels or you may inadvertently take a bite out of Bessie.

Foster and Pulaski.

But you are right—Bagel World bagels, according to one of their employees, are steam-baked, not boiled. The employee said, "Yes, they're steam-baked, not tough and chewy." To each her own.

The price of a bagel and cream cheese here, according to Shepard, is the same as at Bagel World. Bagel World charges more for the cream cheese; we charge more for the bagel, and it all evens out. But, I noted, you get more cream cheese and better cream cheese at Bagel World, and the bagels are significantly cheaper there. At Bagel World, they retail for \$.40; ours are more than twice as much at \$.85. That's more than a 100% mark-up over Bagel World's retail price, and we can assume Sodexho is paying less than the retail price.

Shepard responded to my swift figuring by threatening me with lower quality bagels! The old "Well, we COULD buy the cheaper, pre-baked frozen kind...heh heh heh" ploy. (Actually he was very nice about the whole thing, but threatening to mess with my morning bagel is no joking matter, even if softened with a drawl) At that point, dear reader, terrified at the thought of having to eat Lender's and realizing that this was a much bigger issue than bagels, I backed off.

But, in future issues, I hope to tackle the bigger issue: why is the cafeteria more expensive than it used to be? Before last year's renovations, back when there was a sandwich line, the cafeteria was the cheapest meal in town. What happened? Goldie's checkin' it out.

And speaking of food, wouldn't it be fun to do a nutritional analysis of the cafeteria food? Are there any chem. majors out there who could check out at least fat and caloric content? Let me know.

Dear Goldie,

Why do we have to pay \$.85 for English muffin wannabe bagels? I wouldn't mind paying that exorbitant price if I was purchasing a real bagel—one that is boiled prior to being baked. Maybe Sodexho should purchase bagels from New York Bagel & Bialy where the retail price per bagel is a mere \$.35.

Dear Bagels,

I too have a bagel addiction, and I understand your concern. Actually, according to Todd Shepard (see above for credentials), we're already getting high quality bagels. He says fresh bagels are delivered here each morning from Bagel World, the bagel store at

Dear Reader,

Have a question about services offered or procedures at NEIU? Let Goldie help you cut through the red tape. I'll give it my best shot or point you in the direction of experts here on campus. Write me at the *Independent*, c/o NEIU, or slip a note under our office door (E-049, below the bookstore), or e-mail me at uindep@uxa.ecn.bgu.edu. Please write "ATTN:GOLDIE" on the outside of each letter. And remember, there's no such thing as a stupid question.

Academic Computing Services offers computer workshops

Academic Computing Services is pleased to announce the following workshops for students every week throughout the semester. There is no additional cost for these workshops. All participants receive associated documentation.

Additional workshops are being planned and will be announced when they become available. Any comments and suggestions can be e-mailed to ufixit or be called into x7777.

TOPIC	DAYS	TIME	LOCATION
Intro to e-mail	Monday	10:00 a.m.	CLS 2108
Intro to e-mail	Thursday	1:30 p.m.	CLS 2108
Advance e-mail topics	Thursday	2:30 p.m.	CLS 2108
Intro to e-mail	Monday	8:30 p.m.	CLS 2108

Increase in dial-in phone numbers

Increased access to high-speed dial-in modems was one of the enhanced services to be supported by the student computer fee. This service became available at 8:00 a.m. Monday, October 16, 1995. A total of 48 phone lines have been installed with V.34 modems and are being tested. The new phone number for dial-in to university networks is (312) 267-4000. All modems will be operational 24 hours every day. The number for ECN services only will not change and remains (312) 794-6698.

HELP WANTED

Academic Computing Lab Consultants

Academic Computing is looking for students with good communications skills and willing to learn computer technology and teach it to others. Some knowledge of Word Perfect, DOS, Windows, and e-mail is desired. Applications are available from CLS 2109 desk.

Who's Who at NEIU

Student of the week

By: David Grzelak

Photo by: Alberty Waldo

Senior Moneca S. Reid-Williams begins her day by preparing her four children, who range in age from 2-8, for baby-sitting and/or school. "Any minor incident can throw my day off completely," she said.

Her responsibilities continue in her first job as an assistant secretary to the NEIU Sociology and Criminal Justice departments. Afterwards, she takes the afternoon to pursue her major in Psychology and minor in Sociology, which were spurred by a supervisor and rooted in her childhood.

"I was thinking about majoring in music, but when I got to NEIU, I took a couple of child psychology courses, and it sparked my interest. After meeting my boss's foster children, it fed my drive to pursue my ultimate goal of a doctorate in Child Psychology," Reid-Williams said.

Reid-Williams was born in Chicago and raised in North Dallas, Texas. Upon arriving in Texas at age 8, she met a child that would change her life. "I was in third grade, and I met a little girl who said that she was going to live back with her real mom, because she (the little girl) was abused. This upset me, but it also made me think, even at such a young age." Her main focus now is helping abused children. "That is where my heart is."

Her heart has been with her children since having her first child at age 14. She has since had three more children, and



Moneca S. Reid-Williams

she has never let even a "minor inconvenience" such as pregnancy prevent her from completing her goals. "Even my co-workers at my current evening position as student clerical aid at Public Safety teased me for coming back so soon from having a kid."

More than anything, Reid-Williams feels that she has beaten the odds. "The way statistics are, I should be home living off of public aid," she said. "My degree will belong to my kids. When I get it, we'll have a better life." Her kids already have a better life with Moneca Reid-Williams as their role model.

Professor of the week

By: Alberty Waldo

Photo by: Alberty Waldo

The English Department's teaching poet Debra Bruce-Kinnebrew is currently working on a manuscript and will soon begin circulating it in hopes of finding a publisher. Considering the success of her two previous books, *Sudden Hunger* and *Pure Daughter*, this should not be difficult.

For Bruce-Kinnebrew, being a poet-in-residence at a university is both fulfilling and practical. "As a writer, being in academia keeps you closest to your subjects of interest, has a flexible schedule and supports you as a writer," she says. "You don't have to split yourself in two as you do in other positions."

Years ago, Bruce-Kinnebrew attended a poetry workshop at Boston University that was led by Anne Sexton. By the end of the workshop, Bruce-Kinnebrew says, she was "immersed in the whole world of writing and writers." Her love for poetry continued, and she went on to earn her M.F.A. from the prestigious University of Iowa Writers Workshop in 1978.

Although she began writing free verse, she later switched to writing in form. Author Richard Wilbur's criticism of contemporary poets influenced her writing style. She saw Wilbur's claim that contemporary poets could not write in form as a challenge to prove him wrong. She has since made a career of writing in form.

Becoming a poet was a choice based



Debra Bruce-Kinnebrew

on passion, not practicality. Bruce-Kinnebrew recalls that when she decided to pursue poetry, "Nobody was talking about the job market."

Teaching was not her original goal; she confesses that she "ended up teaching." But her passion shows in her teaching. Many students are intimidated by poetry, and she tries to get them to open up to it. She says that her ultimate goal is to get them to realize "how it is shaped and why it has an affect on them."

The impressiveness of her work is reflected in her awards. In 1989, she won the Gustav Davidson Memorial Award from The Poetry Society of America, and in 1988 she received the Carl Sandburg Literary Arts Award from The Friends of The Chicago Public Library.

A face in the crowd

By ALBERTY WALDO
STAFF WRITER

In approximately 14 years at NEIU, Student Activities Office Manager Judi Puschmann has seen many changes in the leadership of the organizations and the student body itself. For example, she remembers when an editor of the *Print* (the former student newspaper) was sued for slander and when another was expelled for embezzlement.

She says that her most honorable moment at NEIU was picking up Justice Goldberg, who adjudicated the hearings for reparations for Japanese-American citizens after WWII.

Puschmann's primary functions include coordinating the student leadership program and taking care of the bookkeeping. She is also the administrative liason between student organizations and business departments.

Puschmann holds orientation workshops for newly-elected leaders of student organizations. She is relied on heavily to answer any questions they have about school policies and procedures. She also enjoys their company. "They are friends, as well as the people I work with," she says.

Beyond her business duties, Puschmann says she tries to "make sure



Judi Puschmann

students focus on academics first and extracurricular activities second." She has often felt "like a parent to all these kids."

Her own daughter, Melissa Grady, will be graduating from NEIU in May with a major in Psychology and a minor in Speech Communications. After many years of helping to coordinate graduation commencements, Puschmann looks forward to enjoying the ceremony from a parent's standpoint.

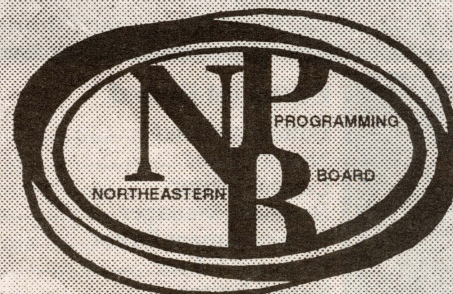
photo by Alberty Waldo

Consumer Awareness Day

Tuesday, March 12, 1996

10 am - 2 pm Village Square

- Date Rape
- Sexual Abuse
- Drug/Alcohol Abuse
- Sexual Harassment and more



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Eagle's Forum

Amendment I

Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof; or abridging the freedom of speech, or of the press; or the right of the people peaceably to assemble, and to petition the Government for a redress of grievances.

Editorial

Web-surfacers should police themselves

The World Wide Web can be both an effective tool for communication and research, and the computer version of titillating day-time talk shows. Lately most of the computers in the Classroom Building seem to be tied up with students 'surfing the Web' for fun, downloading pictures of Antonio Banderas, checking out images from the Hubble, and searching for other people who think they're from Mars and can offer graphic pictures to prove it.

It's great that we have access to all of the information on the Web. But the computers have become inaccessible to students doing school work because they are monopolized by Web-surfers. Perhaps we should restrict the number of computers that have modems, setting aside a bank of computers that can be used only for writing papers, writing computer programs, or one of the many other class-related functions. At the very least, Web-surfers should police themselves; don't surf when the Computer Lab is crowded, and if you see someone who needs a computer for school work, give up your seat.

Students agreed to pay more fees so that better computers could be available to more students. Let's make sure students doing class work have access to the computers first.

Letters to the Editor

Response to White Supremacy

My name is Greg Vanover. I am writing in response to a previous letter (from February 13, 1996) in this column entitled Existence of White Supremacy written by Gimbu Kali, a program associate at the Center for Inner City Studies. I would like to record my reactions to the letter as I read it. I do this with reservation, recalling the old saying that you should never argue with a fool because someone watching may not be able to tell the difference. Still, I can't resist. I am insulted.

I immediately notice that, since Kali was not recognized in *The Independent's* coverage of the Martin Luther King Day Program, his knee-jerk reaction is "that this [is] simply another case of journalistic racism so typical of the American media in general." I think he protests too much. (Kali himself even notes that the reporter simply had to leave early.) So far, who looks like a racist here?

Next I should notice that Kali dis-

missed Martin Luther King's admonishment of the American people that we should judge others "by the content of their character rather than the color of their skin" as irrelevant. Irrelevant? Is he saying that we should judge others simply by their color? Apparently, according to Kali, the answer is "yes." Who looks like a racist here?

Next, Kali says that America is a White Supremacist nation where "Europeans" subjugate "Afrikans." Notice that Kali classifies large groups of people in the country by the color of their skin. Who looks like a racist here?

He quotes a dead Supreme Court justice — very dead — over one hundred years dead. Modern civil rights legislation has rendered whatever Justice Tanny said even more obsolete. Kali goes on to mention the Rodney King verdict and the O.J. Simpson trial as proof of black subjugation. I am not sure how this is true. To believe Kali, I suppose that I should forget the fact the judicial system allowed for a

Another Perspective



retial to get a "correct" verdict? I suppose I should also forget that a defense lawyer stood up and suggested to the Simpson jury that calling someone the "n" word is worse than a double murder, the fact that some reported believing that line of thinking, the fact that Simpson was acquitted, and the fact that the jury did not see all of the damaging evidence?

Kali says that the old Negro Question has been answered in modern times by the economic position of blacks, 85% of whom are supposedly semi-skilled or unskilled workers. Am I to believe that White Supremacists are responsible for what choices people make as to their own career, and that abundant opportunity does not exist for anyone in this county who works hard and gets an education? Am I to believe that all whites are supremacists and that, by extension, so am I? Kali would have me believe that the fairly recent shifting of the economy from the industrial base to an automated/service base was done to keep the black man down. I suppose that there are no other responses for it? I suppose I am partly to blame?

Next, Kali gives the UN's definition of genocide and stresses that genocide is always "a legal process." Is genocide legal here? Today? I was not aware of it. I am, however, aware that two-thirds of the blacks in this country are middle class.

In conclusion, Kali admonishes Afrikan to seek financial reparations and garner political power so that they can never again be pushed around by whites. He notes that dreaming is no good; Martin

Luther King was killed for what he did, not what he thought. This final message is especially cryptic, as it reads like a call to violence. Kali seems to be saying: "Do whatever it takes. There will be shooting, but fight back." Now, who looks like a violent racist?

I am a white male, age 25. I am an American — a living, breathing America, not an old, dead, white "European." I live in the present, not the past. I have not — nor has anyone whom I personally know — had anything to do with what Kali describes in his letter. My family has had to struggle to make it just like millions of immigrants who have to do so every day. I wish Mr. Kali would gather the courage somehow to approach the world he lives in — where he is, what he is doing — with an open and unprejudiced mind. I wish he could see people as they really are. But, perhaps it is more comfortable to him to consider himself a victim. Perhaps, it gives him an excuse to rant. Perhaps he feels better about himself that way. Who knows?

Greg Vanover

Not All of Us Can Run, Shoot, Dunk or Be Elected President

WLS-TV Channel Seven's 10 o'clock News and reporter Paul Meincke ought to be loudly applauded for daring to do in its Monday February 12 broadcast the most unfashionable, the most reckless, the most harebrained thing a news organization worthy of its millions in advertising dollars could do.

The student newspaper of Northeastern Illinois University is published every two weeks except during finals and semester breaks. Letters to the editor must be signed, clearly typed or written and no more than 200 words. The Independent reserves the right to edit or omit any letters received. Deadline is one (1) week prior to the issue in which a contribution is to appear.

"Let the Truth Be Known!"

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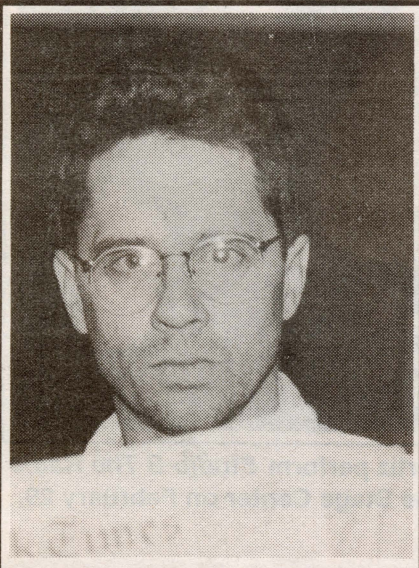
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Campus Voices

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

GOP shake up



AMOS POOLE

Independent file photo

In November of 1994 the footings of a conservative fortress seemed to have been laid. The Republican majority in both houses of Congress as well as many state governments heralded what has come to be known as the Republican Revolution. The retirement of long standing Democratic congressmen as well as democrats defecting around the country lent credence to this conception. But shock waves from the Republican Presidential Primaries have cracked the foundation of the GOP uprising.

There had been rumblings across the country that GOP representatives on capital hill had gone too far with their attempts to implement an ultra-conservative agenda. Their blatant preference for big business and wealthy contributors has

galvanized the working class, many of whom had supported the Republican ascendancy.

Washington home boy and conservative champion, Pat Buchanan has introduced the wedge that will be the undoing of a Republican presidential bid and further call into question the underpinnings of the GOP. Sounding more like he's running for the presidency of the AFL-CIO, Buchanan is calling himself the spokesman of the underdog. He has accused the Republican Party of catering to big business and their lobbyists in Washington.

His populist platform is extremely attractive to social conservatives and centrists who are concerned about job security. Playing into these fears, uttering what no Republican has yet had the guts to say, he also wants to bar immigration. The Republican Party is trying to distance itself from some of his extremist positions; but his "grass roots" appeal to voters disillusioned by wage reductions and layoffs is the real issue the Party must grapple with.

Stopping the exportation of American jobs is central to Buchanan's economic concerns. He's also calling for stiff tariffs to be imposed on primarily Asian trading partners. Free trade is endemic to Republican idealism, prompting presidential aspirants and party gurus to label Buchanan a protectionist. The argument is that consumer prices will rise due to isolation from competition.

After Buchanan's successful show-

see GOP,
continued on page 10

Letters to the Editor (continued)

They presented - if ever so fleetingly - the story of a contemporary African American male whose life has been remarkable not because he numbered among the ranks of America's "most wanted." Not because he was a wife batterer, a pervert, a rapist, a druggie, a child abuser or a politician who'd sold his people down the river for thirty pieces of silver to trash haulers looking for a place to dump poisonous waste. Not even because he was on the road to some kind of mythical sports "comeback" or because he had slam-dunked the daylights out of some hapless opposing NBA team or had outscored and outpointed his teammates.

Channel Seven dared to present a story of an unheralded role model: a contemporary black man in America who'd spent a lifetime doing nothing more extraordinary than getting up everyday and performing with grace, solidity, dedication, and brilliance a job requiring enormous skill. The wonderfully delightful story of retiring United Airline's Captain Bill Norwood - of the strong family he'd helped nurture, of a son who not only grew up to call him blessed but who unashamedly aspired to be "just like my Daddy," of colleagues whose unfailing respect he'd assiduously earned down through the years - is one that, regrettably, we get no more than once per year: in Black History month, perhaps.

In an America where the lives of black people (black men in particular) seem,

one way or another, to be perpetually on the public stage, as the gifted author Jamaica Kincaid puts it - from the ridiculed O. J. Simpson, the demonized Louis Farrakhan, the mythologized Colin Powell to the idiocies of sports celebrities - few would ever imagine that there are, in America, black men, millions of them to tell the truth, who quietly, privately, excel with dignity, strength, charm, and professionalism at the ordinary.

But enough of that. MJ (not that one) is throwing a birthday bash - \$10,000 a plate; for a "worthy cause," you understand. Faye Resnick has just landed another O. J. "bombshell." "The Worm" (what do you mean, who's that?) has a new hair color. Deion's showin' off a brand new touch-down dance. And why won't that Powell guy run for President?

Bernard Headley
Professor of Criminal Justice
Northeastern Illinois University

Clarification on bookstore prices

Dear Editor,

I feel I must add some additional, very important information which was not included in the "Dear Goldie" column in the January 20 issue.

The answer to the letter conveyed the idea that the prices of the books are set only by the publishers and are printed on the cover. This is only partly true. The publishers do indeed put "list" prices on

The internet has a dark side Part II



GLEN D. HERMAN

Independent file photo

Congress shall make no law . . . abridging the freedom of speech, or of the press... — The first amendment, United States Constitution.

But they did...

Whoever by means of a telecommunications device knowingly makes, creates, solicits, and initiates the transmission of any comment, request, suggestion, proposal, image or any other communication which is obscene, lewd, lascivious, filthy, or indecent . . . shall be fined . . . or imprisoned not more than two years, or both. — The Communications Decency Act of 1995.

What does this mean? It means if you say naughty things on the Internet, you have committed a federal crime and you can be thrown in the slammer for it. That seems simple enough, right? Don't swear on the Internet. When you send E-mail to your friends or give information over the web, you can't use those infamous "seven words" which you may remember from your George Carlin records. It also means that if you're more graphically oriented, don't share any "filthy" pictures with your keypals.

But wait! What's "filthy?" What's "obscene?" What's "lewd?" Who decides? Well, it looks as if Congress has decided. They've decided to limit what

the covers of books but these are not the prices the bookstore pay! The bookstores pay only 40-70% of the cover price (depending on the particular book, and what sort of deal the bookstore has with the publisher/distributor). The difference between what the bookstore pays and the list price is profit. Bookstores can choose to sell a title less than the printed price; many local bookstores now do this with selected titles. Since Beck's has several stores they should be able to buy some texts in larger quantities, which would give them a larger discount (that they could pass on to us if they wished).

We must also look at the reselling of books. When Beck's returns to the student roughly half of what the student paid they now have a pure profit book. Aside from the employee cost of restocking it, that book can be sold over and over again - all profit. Surely a book like The Riverside Shakespeare could be sold at a discount; this same text has been used for at least 6 years. Or perhaps the student could sign a contract to return the book (that

you and I can say over the Internet. If I read the above correctly, it seems they've also decided to break the law. And it's not just willy jokes and nudie shots that are likely to be the target of this act. Think of the amount of literature you may have seen in your classes that has the word "fuck" within its pages. Think of the health information available on-line that includes words like "breast," AIDS," and "abortion." Would such information be "lascivious" by the standards of the Decency Act?

What can we do about this? Well, the fine folks at the ACLU are presently fighting the legal issues on our behalf. While they're doing that, we can have some fun fighting this too.

Some of my colleagues and myself have proclaimed the next seven days "Take a Swipe at Government Censorship" Week. Here is what we all should do:

It is well known that the true genius of the world is held solely within the feline community. It is the cats who shall lead us out of the darkness into the light of true wisdom. Rightful liberty will thus have to start with the First Cat — Socks.

I've done some surfing on the web recently. In doing so, I've learned that Socks is very sympathetic to issues regarding the environment, foreign policy, and yes, freedom of expression. Socks is the perfect messenger to take our dissent directly to Bill.

Every day this week, I'm going to send a message to Socks telling her that these silly federal laws mean nothing to me. I'm taking a stand and challenging this draconian legislation. Here's how it shall read:

"Dear Socks,

Please tell your dad that we think the Communications Decency Act will infringe upon our *fucking* freedom of speech!"

I'm suggesting that we all do the same. She has a cute web page in which

see Darkside,
continued on page 10

Beck's knows will be resold) and get a larger return fee.

It seems to me Beck's makes no effort to help the students in a monetary way. A regular bookstore (which is what Beck's really is) will allow you to return a book, for the full price, several months after you purchase it. Why? Because they either resell it, or return it to the publisher for credit - another common practice that wasn't mentioned in the article. Beck's knows we are captive consumers - they need not make any effort to encourage or entice us with discounts. But if the University is going to serve the needs of the students perhaps it should at least consider alternative bids from other bookstores. What do you think Barnes and Noble might offer?

Tina Haglund
Senior

P.S. I must add that in all my years here the bookstore staff has always been friendly and helpful. They don't set store policy - so don't yell at them over the high prices.

Arts & Entertainment

Studio B The Radio Show

By DAVID GRZELAK
ENTERTAINMENT EDITOR

What could be more challenging for a performer than acting out a "day in the life" of a 1945 radio studio (complete with on-stage sound effects and live radio commercial jingles) while "not playing for [and to] the audience?"

The fresh approach to *Studio B The Radio Show* began with one of its co-writers, Speech & Performing Arts Professor Anna Antaramian. "When I choose scripts for a performance, I look to challenge our performers with different experiences by choosing something unusual," she said.

The script was developed after Antaramian had read through several scripts she found unsatisfactory. "Actu-

ally, I'd been thinking for quite a while about developing a script. Last semester, my husband [University of Wisconsin-Parkside English professor and writer Patrick McGuire] and I threw around the idea of capturing the essence of live radio in the 1930's and 1940's," she explained.

This self-imposed challenge was met in two weeks. The script tells the story of a mixed group of voice-over talents and technicians at a local Illinois radio station who are dealing with the apprehension of waiting to hear whether World War II has ended.

Michael Buino, who plays the naive and apologetic commercial singer Drew Pardee, says that working with on-stage



Lara Becker, Michael Buino, and Marie Ortiz perform *Studio B The Radio Show*, that will be broadcast live from the Stage Center on February 29, March 1, 2, 6, 7, 8, and 9 at 7:30 PM.

sound effects (example: thunder caused by a flexible sheet of thin steel) is a challenge for the cast because it requires timing and discipline to avoid having the performers "jump over the [on-stage] sounds."

The major task for the cast has been training to "ignore" the audience, because a radio studio does not normally have a captive audience aside from the listening public. "We're not playing it for the audience; we're playing it like nobody's there," Buino said.

Facial expressions and physical humor are the main thrust of the production, but the *Studio B The Radio Show* press

release states their main argument for seeing the show: "Radio isn't done like this anymore - and, after seeing some of the antics of this unique grouping of people (the play's characters) - you may understand why."

Studio B The Radio Show will be performed at the Stage Center Theatre located at Bryn Mawr and Central Park on the NEIU campus. Tickets are free for all NEIU students, faculty, and staff; \$8.00 for general admission, and \$6.00 for senior citizens, students (other than NEIU) and alumni. For more information, call the Stage Center Box Office at 312-794-6652.

Mystery Driver Getting Away With Murder

By GLEN HERMAN
STAFF WRITER

Have you ever wondered what the great icons of Rock-n'-Roll might be doing today if they hadn't died? Would Jimi Hendrix be doing Broadway musicals? Would Janis Joplin be singing in ads for paper towels with Rosemary Clooney? What might Stevie Ray Vaughan sound like if he didn't die and became a little lame?

Welcome to the world of Mystery Driver. Don't get me wrong; it's hard to sound as good as a lame Stevie Ray Vaughan. These twangers rock.

Picture this: you're riding down a two-lane road on a sunny day. Muddy Waters is crackling out of your AM radio. You have the top down on your '68 Cadillac. You come upon a shack with a beer sign hanging on the outside by one corner. It's swinging in the breeze as the dust settles in the gravel parking lot. You walk in and order a beer.

As you reach for your wallet, which is hanging by a chain attached to your belt, you accidentally bump the juke box. A song starts up. A bluesy noise of 4/4 and Fender Twin Reverb floats around the dusty air. You would laugh if someone told you the noise was from a Chicago band. This is the Mystery Driver experience.

There's nothing new here, just some good ol' honky tonk that could be as easily inspired by Maxwell Street as by Kiss or the Rolling Stones. Throw in some of the speed of punk and you have Mystery Driver's debut CD *Getting Away With Murder* in a nutshell.

So fire up the Caddie. It's too bad Mystery driver isn't on 8-Track.

Dead Man Walking

By MELISSA M. STRAUSS
STAFF WRITER

Compassionate and disturbing. These are two adjectives that are not typically used together when describing a movie. But *Dead Man Walking* is unique--no romance, no adventure, and certainly no heroes.

Dead Man Walking overflows with compassion. The audience sees Matthew Poncelet (played by Sean Penn) as a man with a mother and a family who love him. We sense his repentance, we see how scared he is to die, and we hear him admit to his guilt. The audience asks, "If a nun and a mother can be forgiving, maybe we can, too."

Just as the audience begins to feel a glimmer of mercy for Poncelet, Sr. Helen Prejean (played by Susan Sarandon) visits the victims' families. We learn how they feel about having their children taken away from them at the hands of two ruthless rapists and murderers. We hear about the victims' dreams and aspirations for what was supposed to be a bright future and long life.

When we see the parental tears and realize their loss, we suddenly feel mercy for the families and hate for Poncelet. Flashbacks of the rape and murders remind the audience of the horrible atrocity inflicted upon two innocent young adults.

However, the guilt and repentance that Poncelet expresses during his recollection of the crime reminds the audience that another person may die at the hands of another human being. Again, we feel torn with human compassion and mercy.

If there was a "mentally disturbing movie" category, *Dead Man Walking* would head up the list. More than anything, *Dead Man Walking* makes the audience think. You don't have to wonder

see *Dead Man*,
continued on page 10

Help Wanted

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See Tony Courier
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Student Activities hotline

By YVONNE LEE
STAFF WRITER

Want to know what's going to be happening around campus? Dial 794-2992 or simply extension 2992 from any on campus phone to reach the 24-hour Student Activities Hotline.

Student Activities Consultant Tony Courier says the hotline "is designed so that students and other individuals can call and hear a listing of events."

A recorded message lists events two weeks in advance. The hotline is sponsored by various student organizations and the Student Activities office.

Courier comments, "This is one more way to let people know what's going on around campus."

Despite the fact that many people are unaware of the hotline, it regularly receives calls. If you have a question about an event and want to talk to a live person rather than a recording, you can call the student activities office at 583-4050 ext. 3868, or the department that is sponsoring the event.

Dr. Watson's financial aid tips

By DAWN JANKE
STAFF WRITER

The Financial Aid Department's Dr. Ulestine Watson suggests that students who want to be considered for financial aid for the Fall should start the process now and seek help immediately if they have any problems.

Watson explained that the first step in the process is to file 1995 tax forms, but she wants students to remember that the Student Aid Report may not be the only document they must fill out. The award of financial aid involves "an intricate process, due to government regulations," she said.

Financial Aid Workshops have been held this semester to help students fill out forms and to answer questions, but, as Watson explains, "these have been poorly attended by students." The last workshop will be held on February 27, from 1:40 to 2:50, in room CLS 2105.

Another way to contact the Financial Aid Office is through the automated phone system, which allows students to leave messages explaining their problems. Many

students don't take advantage of this system because they think no one will return their calls. Watson assures students that someone will, and that if a student misses a deadline because the office was late returning a call, the office will work to waive the late fee.

According to Watson, students that deal with the Financial Aid Department don't understand that the department is client-centered and that the process does involve the students. Even the loan allowances are designed so that students do not get overwhelmed with debt they have incurred by getting loans. Watson thinks that financial aid never seems to be a positive experience for students and that the negative attitude of the students tends to lead to a lack of understanding at the Financial Aid Office.

Watson feels that financial aid should be a positive experience because "We are fortunate in this country to receive money for college."

Darkside

continued from page 7

you can send a message anonymously (and safely) through Netscape on the NEIU computers. You can reach Socks via: http://www.whitehouse.gov/WH/kids/html/mail_socks.html

You'll see a nice photo of the fetching cat and then you'll be asked a series of questions about yourself. You can't proceed to the letter part unless you answer these. Of course, don't put your real E-mail or home address when Socks asks. Be creative! Tell the kitty that you're a 1st-grader in the Thoreau School for Civil Disobedients. Tell her you live on Freedom Drive in Justice Illinois. Then, join us and all of your schoolmates and tell her what you really think about the Communications Decency Act!

Endnote: As I'm writing this, Bill Clinton is testifying before a committee in which he is defending the legality of the Helms (yes, Jesse) Act of the Telecommunications Law. This act would "encourage" local cable providers to censor "questionable" material broadcast over their local access channels.

Some consider the local access channels as town forums in which a variety of local issues can be heard. They give voice to community concerns and they are open to anyone willing to take a class on how to operate a camera.

Bill claims he wants to protect our children from information they might see on these local access channels. But isn't that *our* job?

Reminder to University community

As a service to the University Community the following information is presented as a reminder:

1. According to Illinois state law, all traffic exiting the parking lots must yield to traffic on the Access road and city streets.

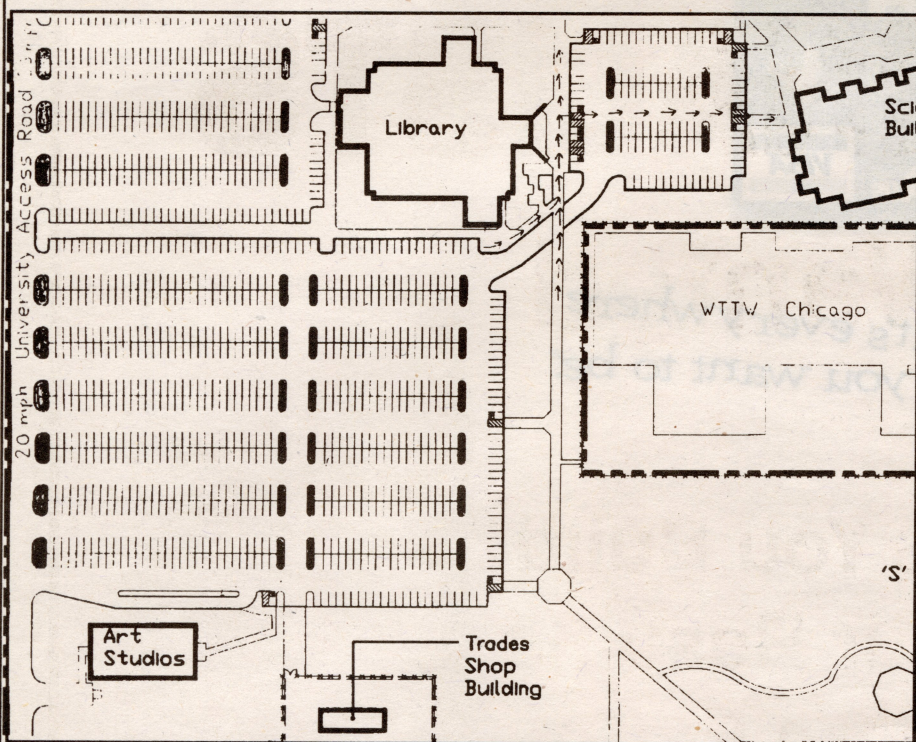
2. The speed limit on the Access Road is 20 miles per hour (mph). In front of the Child Care Center the speed limit is 10 m.p.h. Please watch out for children.

3. Wherever possible, pedestrians should use sidewalks instead of walking through the parking aisles. In instances

when there is no sidewalk existing, pedestrians are urged to use the concrete islands as 'markers' as they walk through the parking lots.

4. The automatic daily parking permit machine in the H-parking lot is now operational. The daily permits will be available in Public Safety only when the permit machine is malfunctioning.

This information was provided to the *Independent* by the Department of Public Safety, the Department of Facilities Management, and the Office of Administrative Affairs.



The arrows denote the way people should walk from the parking lot to the library or Science building.

Dead Man

continued from page 8

about the ending--it is clear from the start. What the audience must think about is the human right to live and if a human has the right to take away another human's life. Does an eye for an eye really serve justice?

Everyone in the audience has this question on their minds. I assume most people already have an answer to this when they walk into this movie--perhaps their answer is different when they walk out.

So, who deserved the compassion and mercy in *Dead Man Walking*? It was another question I could not answer. I was too disturbed.

GOP

continued from page 7

ing in Iowa, other GOP presidential hopefuls including front runner Bob Dole threw a few digs at profitable businesses laying off employees. But this approach does not bode well for Republicans whose whole careers have been built on the protection of business interests.

Confusion is the watch word for a reeling GOP party after Buchanan's New Hampshire Primary victory. But Buchanan, breaking new ground in American politics, is dead right in his call for the protection of people over business. The GOP will have to rethink many of the tenets it holds close to compete for votes in a financially insecure U.S.A. A positive thing for the country as a whole and eventually for the GOP, Buchanan's shake up of the GOP will contribute to the continuing destruction of the so called Republican Revolution.

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Send only \$8.95 (\$9.60 in Calif.)-add .50 cents RUSH service to: American Institute, 721 E. Main Street, Dept. 254, Santa Maria, CA 93454-4507. Don't order unless you expect to lost 20 pounds in two weeks! Because that's what the Ski Team Diet will do.

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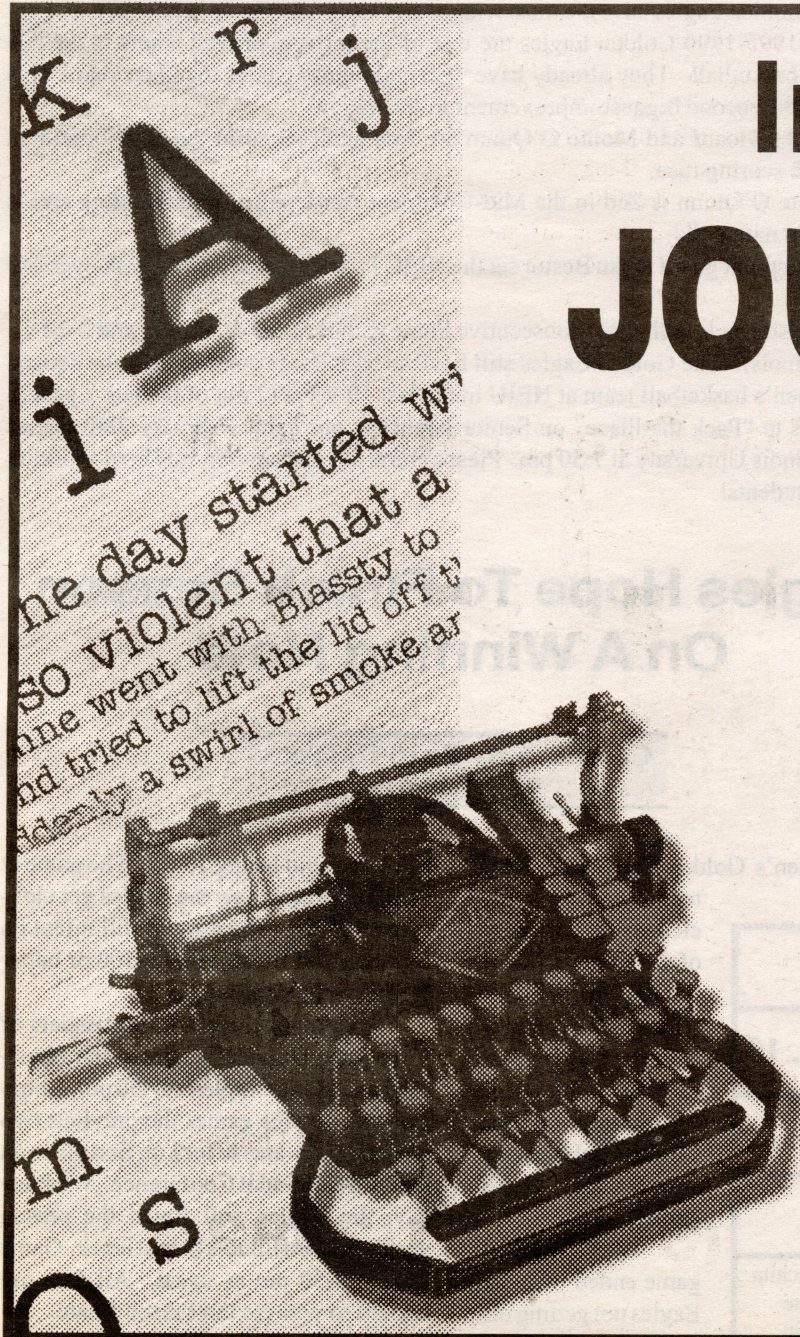
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NEIU competes at the Division I level in the Mid-Continent Conference

SPORTS



Baseball headed south

BY MIKE RYAN
SPORTS EDITOR

The Golden Eagles' baseball team will lead off the season heading south for a nineteen game, twenty four day road trip. Stops for the baseball Eagles' include Missouri, Kentucky, Kansas, and six games at Ft. Myers, Florida, March 14th-19th.

Head coach Jim Hawrysko will rely on his seven returning seniors along with some young talent to mix together a possible Mid-Continent Conference Western Division championship.

The 12th year head coach feels confident about his teams chances. "We have a veteran ball club returning with a good mix of young players," said Hawrysko. "We have good team chemistry and we are ready to compete in 1996 for the Mid-Continent Conference Western Division Championship."

Ready to lead the charge for the championship is Eagle shortstop, Matt Majcherek. The senior shortstop hit .303 with 14 doubles and nine stolen bases in '95. Another senior that will impact the championship hunt is outfielder Rob Bruce. Bruce totaled a .296 batting average while smacking three home runs last season.

No team can win without pitching and the Eagles have an excellent stand out pitcher with Jamie Puerto. The junior left-hander finished the '95 campaign with a 5-4 record and a 1.86 ERA, while placing among the top 20 NCAA ERA leaders a year ago.

"We have some quality players like Matt Majcherek, Rob Bruce and Jamie Puerto and they have to be our team leaders," Hawrysko explained. "All our seniors will be counted on heavily for leadership this season."

Despite finishing the '95 season with a 17-35 record, the Eagles won 12 of their last 16 games to close out the season at .500 in conference play.

The Eagles' will hit the sunshine of the south over the next few weeks, while facing some of the best competition in the nation. Among the stiff competition will be two games against baseball powerhouse Wichita State. To build on last seasons finish would be a perfect way to give the Eagles a



Pitcher Jamie Puerto (left) and shortstop Matt Majcherek (right) will play a major factor for in the hunt for the Mid-Continent West Division Championship.

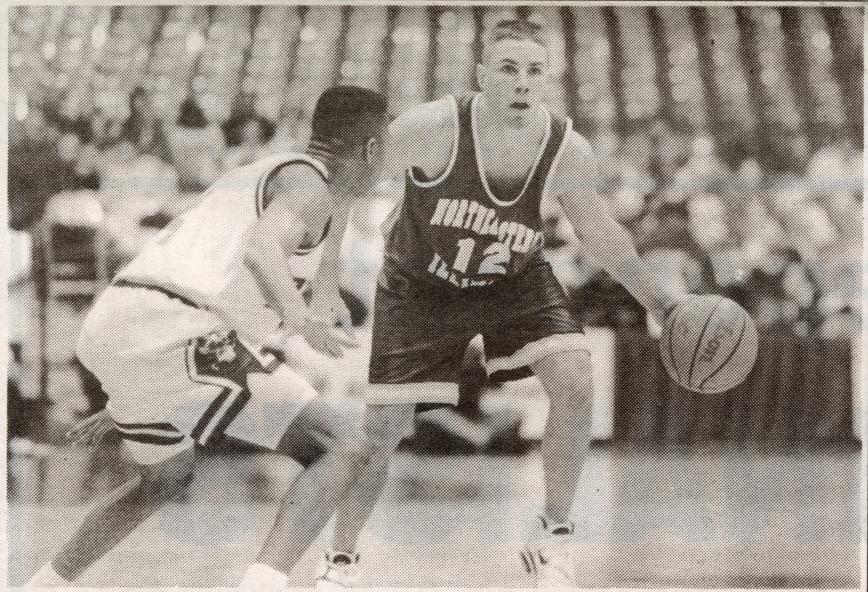
file photos

confidence booster headed into a tough conference schedule.

The Eagles home opener is a double-header conference showdown with the Eastern Illinois Panthers on Saturday March 23rd starting at 1:00pm.

Men's Basketball Senior Night to be held Wednesday Night

By Assistant Coaches Dick Knar,
Thomas Trotter, and Mark White



Brian Bestor
file photo

COMPILED BY MIKE RYAN
SPORTS EDITOR

Proving to be the ultimate team player Brian Bestor is our Golden Eagles' Athlete of the Week. Last week the senior guard set the NEIU Division I school record with 338 career assists.

Bestor's hustle and determination, along with his senior leadership have been admirable throughout the Eagles basketball season. Bestor, a native of Fon-du-Lac, Wisconsin will continue to lead the Eagles down the stretch with games against Valparaiso and Eastern Illinois at home. Bestor will also play a key part in the Mid-Continent Conference Tournament at Moline, Iowa March 3rd-5th. Congratulations on a successful career, and good luck the rest of the season.

The 1995-1996 Golden Eagle Men's Basketball program has returned to its winning ways following the injury-plagued 1994-1995 season. This year's team worked very hard and provided many highlights which should make the entire NEIU community proud. These highlights include:

- * The Golden Eagle team GPA is a cumulative 2.81 (2.82 for Fall 1995).
- * The Golden Eagles have the most wins of any NCAA Division school in Chicago!
- * The 1995-1996 Golden Eagles are one of the most improved teams in NCAA Division I basketball. They already have won eight more games than last year. This represents the second biggest improvement in the nation!
- * Andrell Hoard and Monte O'Quinn are first and second in the Mid-Continent Conference scoring race.
- * Monte O'Quinn is 2nd in the Mid-Continent Conference in rebounding and is ranked 23rd nationally.
- * Senior point guard Brian Bestor set the NEIU I career assists record with over 340 assists.

The season ends with three consecutive home games (2-26 vs. Valpo, and 2-28 vs. Eastern Illinois). The Golden Eagles still have a chance at becoming only the second winning men's basketball team at NEIU in the last 19 years (2 out of the last 3 years). Our goal is to "Pack the Place" on Senior Night for our game February 28th versus Eastern Illinois University at 7:50 pm. Please come out and support this hard-working group of students!

Eagles Hope To Finish Season On A Winning Note

COMPILED BY BRAD CARLSON
SPORTS WRITER

The men's Golden Eagle basketball team recently traveled to the University of Missouri at Kansas City to Western Illinois University over the weekend of February 17th. Unfortunately for the Golden Eagle fans the squad lost both games.

The UMKC game ended with the Eagles not getting off

a last shot and losing 57-55. The game at Western Illinois saw the Eagles get clobbered 105-86. The team is still intent on focusing and finishing at a .500 or better record in the conference.

Tonight they battle the Crusaders of Valparaiso University here at the Physical Education Complex at 7:50 pm. Valpo has won 20 plus games the previous two seasons and wants to lock up first place in the Mid Continent Conference. Wednesday, the Eagles will finish the season versus Eastern Illinois here at home. Game time is 7:50 pm as usual. All fans are invited to witness the season finale.

Shaded boxes denote home games						
Sports Calendar						
March dates	Sat. 2	Sun. 3	Mon. 4	Tues. 5	Sat. 9	Sun. 10
Men's Basketball		Mid-Continent Conference Tournament				
Women's Basketball		Mid-Continent Conference Tournament				
Baseball	vs. Kent Univ. 2 pm vs. Louisville 6 pm	vs. Louisville at Louisville 4 pm			vs. Wichita State 2 pm	vs. Wichita State 1 pm