

9-28-1999

## Independent- Sep. 28, 1999

Laura R. Hadley

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# Independent

Vol. 16 Issue 3

SERVING NORTHEASTERN ILLINOIS UNIVERSITY FOR OVER A DECADE

Tuesday, September 28, 1999

**Extention 200  
returns  
page 3**

**Campus speaks out  
page 10**

**Apocalypse  
attack  
REV**

## September 16, 1999: NEIU day in Illinois Governor issues proclamation to commemorate Fine Arts Opening

The clouds didn't sway many from attending the opening of the Fine Arts Center on campus.

They sat in the seats that were provided, leaned against trees and posts, and lounged in the grass. All to be witness to the ribbon cutting ceremony of the new building.

The weather may have been foreboding but the yellow mums that adorned the stage where NEIU President Salme H. Steinberg spoke helped to symbolize the happiness that comes when a large project is complete.

It was with gratitude that President Steinberg read from the proclamations of both Governor George Ryan and Mayor Richard Daley.

"Whereas, Northeastern Illinois University's mission of excellence, access, and diversity is evident in its support of aspiring and professional artists at the university; and...whereas, the Fine Arts Center at Northeastern Illinois University is a new venue to reach the ever-growing arts audiences in this region; now, therefore, I do hereby proclaim Thursday, September 16 as Northeastern Illinois University Day," Daley wrote.

His sentiments were simply reflections of the words of Governor Ryan (see page 4).

After the ribbon cutting

itself, the crowd was welcomed into the building for their first "official" look around, as well as refreshments (see pages 4 and 5).

When President Steinberg was asked about her impressions of the opening day festivities, she responded, "[I feel] very positive. I think there was a wonderful sense of common cause and general happiness on the part of those who participated. It's a wonderful feeling when you get that in a large crowd, people who are proud to be a part of Northeastern."

"There are many different ways of getting external recognition. We need to be much more intentional about marketing these days."

And it is her belief that this building and the recognition of the state and local government and community leaders will help with that marketing. "[We] have to work at getting more name recognition for the organization."

Through the Fine Arts Center and its connection to *Discover Northeastern: Celebration of the Arts*, the hope is that prospective students will come to visit the campus.

"We should be very proud of this campus," Steinberg said. "It is an urban oasis and when people come here they comment on the beauty of the campus and its location."

But how can the members of



Provost Estela Lopez, Vice President of Student Affairs Melvin Terrell, President Salme H. Steinberg, Board of Trustees Chair Daniel Goodwin and Student Government President Maria Gandara cut the ribbon at the official Fine Arts Center opening September 16, 1999.

the Northeastern community help to make the celebration of the arts and the new Fine Arts Center a success?

"Everyone of us, whether we're faculty, staff, or students, are the best advocates for the institution."

President Steinberg says. Word of mouth, actively promoting the university as a center for arts, as well as for education, will make the program a success.

And success is attainable. By the end of the day-long

opening festivities, the sun was not only reflected in the flowers placed at the podium. The sun was shining down on Northeastern.

For more about the Fine Arts Opening, see pages 4 and 5.

## Interfaith Campus Ministries ordered to vacate office

by Victor A. Dula  
News Editor

The Interfaith Campus Ministry, which has only been on Northeastern's campus for approximately two months (though Catholic Campus Ministry has maintained a presence at Northeastern for two decades), had to leave the E-047 office by 5:00 a.m. on Monday, September 27 by order from Melvin Terrell, Vice President for Student Affairs/Public Affairs.

Karen Rushen, a minister employed by the Chicago Archdiocese, received notice at approximately 3:00 p.m. on Tuesday, September 21. When asked for a statement in response to the order to vacate, Rushen said only this: "I have enjoyed very much being at Northeastern and

working with the students, staff, and faculty through the Catholic Campus Ministry and the Interfaith Campus Ministry office. If anyone wants to reach me, they can do so through the Archdiocese of Chicago at (312) 829-0670."

Terrell did not issue a written statement until mid-afternoon on Thursday, September 23, two days after issuing this order to vacate. His statement reads as follows:

"NEIU remains committed to the belief that religious speech is entitled to all the protections of free speech. Meetings of religious groups that include such things as prayer, hymns, Bible commentary, and discussion of religious views and experiences may take place on NEIU's campus

in public forums subject only to the restrictions applicable to all other organizations. NEIU is proud of all its student organizations and encourages all of them to continue offering their programs. In addition, NEIU intends to continue providing counseling services through its other resources."

Terrell goes on to say the following:

"However, it is with regret that we have asked the Office of Campus Ministry to vacate the office previously provided. NEIU will no longer provide equipment and services to the Office of Campus Ministry. Our decision was made after consultation with counsel and review of applicable legal authority. We understand that the First Amendment

prevents public universities such as NEIU from taking actions that have the effect of endorsing religion or that foster excessive entanglement between government and religion. Moreover, NEIU as a public university has a compelling interest in avoiding violation of the First Amendment."

Reaction to Terrell's action has been that of opposition by some students. In particular, Gary McNaney of Amnesty International had this to say:

"This is an action that is detrimental to the entire campus. The Campus Ministry is a positive force that promotes understanding, tolerance, and support within a widely diverse community. Amnesty, which has no religious affiliation, has

worked closely with Campus Ministry on issues of human rights and in efforts to oppose hate crimes and the ideology of hate in general.

To lose the Campus Ministry is a set back in the efforts to promote tolerance and understanding at this university.

I am surprised and dismayed that the University would take such a detrimental, narrow path."

Later McNaney added, "They want the students to be tolerant, but they're not."

As a result of the Interfaith Campus Ministry's vacating, the many plans and events the office has scheduled will now be canceled, including Service and Immersion Trips 2000, a set of trips where students lend a

see Ministries, page 7





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# Around Campus

compiled by Thomas J. Foley, Features Editor

## Films, shots, and authors, OH MY!

The CHIMEXLA Club is hosting a Video Presentation on Tuesday, September 28. It will be held in the Cafeteria Meeting Room from 1 p.m. 'til 3 p.m. The film is entitled *Rojo Amenecar*. Check it out.

The Student Government Association's Election Committee is hosting an Election Information Table on Tuesday, September 28 from 11 a.m. 'til 2 p.m. and also on Wednesday, September 29 from 9 a.m. 'til 2 p.m. This is your opportunity to meet some members of Student Government and learn more about what they do and how to get involved. Don't miss it!

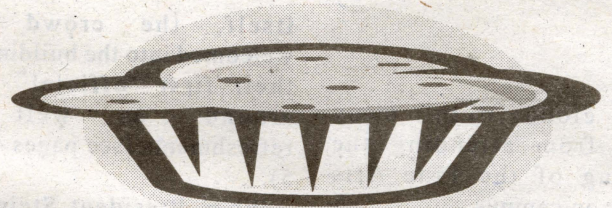
The world famous author Jamaica Kincaid

will be visiting NEIU on Wednesday, September 29. (see below).

The Union for Puerto Rican Students is hosting a Video Presentation on Thursday, September 30. It will take place in the Cafeteria Meeting Room from 1 p.m. to 3 p.m.

The Student Government Association is sponsoring Flu Shots on Wednesday, October 6 from 3 p.m. to 8 p.m. in SU-214. No, this isn't a band or an improvisational theater troupe, it's the real thing. If you're interested, check it out.

The Student Senate will meet on Thursday, October 7 in the Cafeteria Meeting Room from 1:40 p.m. 'til 2:50 p.m. All Student Senate Meetings are open to the public, so feel free to stop on by.



## Yummy!!!

The Future Teachers Club is hosting a Bake Sale on Tuesday, September 28. It will be held in the Village Square from 10 a.m. 'til 2 p.m. Be a smart cookie and don't miss it..

The Black Gospel Choir is hosting a Bake Sale on Thursday, September 30. It will also be held in the Village Square and will run from 11 a.m. 'til 3 p.m. I hear the cookies are heavenly.



## Writer to share experience

## An announcement from the Provost's Office

Northeastern Illinois University, in accordance with a 1987 statute, insures that all persons providing classroom instruction to students are proficient in oral English. If an instructor's oral proficiency is in doubt, students should contact the department chair to obtain information about the University's procedure for handling complaints.

Jamaica Kincaid, as part of the Presidential Lecture Series, will present a lecture and Master Class on the creative process on Wednesday, September 29, 1999.

Hear the wit and wisdom of Jamiaca KIncaid as she shares her passions and convictions through her award winning writing. Born and educated in Antigua, she has written for the New Yorker, Rolling Stone, and the Paris Review. Her most recent publications include *Lucy*, *The Autobiography of My Mother*, and *My Brother*.

The Master Class will be held at 1:30 p.m. in the Student Union, Room 214. She will be presenting professional insight into the creative process

The lecture is free and open to the university community and the public. Seating is limited, tickets are required for admission. Tickets are available for pick-up in person at the box office. For reservations call (773) 794-ARTS.

## YADDA, YADDA

The Union for Puerto Rican Students is hosting a lecture by Louis Guttierrez (THE Louis Gutt?) on Friday, October 1 from 6 p.m. to 9 p.m. in the Cafeteria Meeting Room. Stop on by, it ought to be interesting.

## Reach out Submit

Deadlines for the Independent are one week prior to the date of publication. The following is a list of publication dates for the fall 1999 semester.

September 28  
October 12  
October 26  
November 9  
November 23  
November 30

The Editor in Chief reserves the right to alter all content for space, style and editorial considerations. Submissions are not guaranteed to be printed.

If space needs to be reserved please call (773) 794-2812 for information about advertising rates.

## Hot tip?



Do you know something we don't? Tip us off about news affecting the NEIU community by calling (773) 794-2812 or e-mail us at T-Independent@neiu.edu



# Board has a new look

## New Trustees attend first meeting

by Laura R. Hadley  
Editor in Chief

NEIU's Board of Trustees met for the first time in the new fiscal year on Thursday, September 23 in the Golden Eagles Room. This Board, however, looks very different from the last Board, which last met in June.

Still Board Chair, Daniel Goodwin was present, as were Edwin Dykla and Nancy Masterson, both members of last year's Board. These were the only three familiar faces, however. New to the Board were Robert Hartman and Naranjan Shah, who were appointed by Governor George Ryan to fill the vacancies of Willie Taylor and Luz Solis, whose terms expired earlier this year. Also new was Student Trustee Thomas J. Foley, replacing former Student Trustee Yahale Yadede, who declined to run last spring and would have been made ineligible by passage of House Bill 2218, which forbids grad students from serving in the position.

With the absence of Carole Balzekas, that left only six trustees at this meeting, one over the number needed for quorum. Three trustee positions are currently unfilled. Chair Goodwin has requested that the governor's office reappoint Solis and Taylor, but no action has yet been taken by the governor.

The Board had a guest at this meeting. Student Government President Maria Gandara asked to speak before the board in response to a letter received from Chair Goodwin. The letter concerned the actions of former Student Trustee Yadede in regards to House

Bill 2218, which added two members to the board and restricted grad students from serving in the position of Student Trustee. The legislation also originally contained a clause limiting the Student Trustee to one one-year term. That clause amended out of the bill thanks in part to the actions of Yadede, Foley and *Independent Editor in Chief* Laura R. Hadley.

Gandara was very emphatic as she explained, "Mr. Yadede was speaking for himself and not representing the viewpoint of Student Government. It is plain to see that he does not have this authority."

She went on to say, "The conflict that still exists with Mr. Yadede is to come to an end at once. I would remind the Board that we have a new Student Trustee, Tom Foley, who has the backing and support of the Student Senate. I would request that you members of the Board, work together with Tom and not against him. Both Tom and I have discussed past problems between the Student Trustee and other Trustees and we want to avoid this."

Gandara's speech was received with a round of applause and tacit agreement by the Board to work with Student Government.

The Board also took some action on a few items recommended by NEIU President Steinberg in her President's Report. One item that the Board took action on was the approval of tenure for Dr. Hoda Mahmoudi, current Dean of the College of Arts and Sciences who just came to NEIU from Olivet College

in Michigan. Steinberg explained to the Board that it is customary to offer the Deans of the various colleges tenure. As such, tenure was approved unanimously.

Aother action taken by the Board, an expenditure of \$192,000 for continued general computing support services for administrative software applications was approved. Although this is a routine monetary approval request, Steinberg explained that it is required that the university seek Board approval for any and all expenditures over \$100,000. The motion for approval passed unanimously.

The Board also approved the university's Summary of State Appropriated Internal Budgets, July 1, 1999 to June 30, 2000. Steinberg explained that this was a safeguard put in place by the state to ensure that university budgets are being spent as the university said they would be.

The Board also approved the establishment of a reserve fund for the Campus Recreation Fee, which is currently at \$2.15 per credit hour. The former fees were an Intercollegiate Athletic Fee and a Physical Education Fee. Both fees were in place last fiscal year, but this year they were combined and slashed, due to the elimination of Intercollegiate Athletics and the establishment of the new Wellness Center.

The next Board of Trustees meeting is scheduled for November 18. In accordance with the Illinois Open Meetings Act, all meetings are announced publicly and open for anyone to attend.



## Parking an issue for Student Government

by Victor Dula  
News Editor

During the Thursday, September 16 Student Government Association meeting Student Trustee Thomas Foley discussed the university ad hoc committee on parking. Foley indicated that the committee would concentrate its efforts on the subjects of complimentary and event parking. He reiterated that the parking issue on this campus is relevant to all students. He feels the committee could widen its scope and he raised serious questions regarding student attendance at these meetings. He also mentioned the resistance of chair Santos Rivera that the committee be closed to members only and that

no other students, with the exception of himself and Maria Luna, be allowed to attend.

In other business, the Student Senate approved funding for various events, including \$3,500 for the Black Student Movement, Black Caucus and Black Heritage Club, as partial funding for the organization of a Black Leadership Conference at NEIU's Center for Inner City Studies (CICS).

President Maria Gandara thanked everyone who participated in SGA's dunk tank and information table during Fall Into Fun week.

SGA is still discussing the issue of the free flu shots for students that was planned for October. The issue will be brought up at a future meeting.

## SGA meeting dates:

Thursday, October 7, Cafeteria Meeting Room  
Thursday, October 21, Cafeteria Meeting Room  
Tuesday, November 2, Cafeteria Meeting Room  
Thursday, November 18, Cafeteria Meeting Room  
Thursday, December 2, Cafeteria Meeting Room

All meetings begin at 1:40 p.m. and are open to all students who are interested in attending.

## EXTENSION 200

by Lieutenant Jack Baker

### 1 Sept - Theft

Victim left check card in ATM machine. Offender withdrew \$202 during victim's absence.

### 1 Sept - Lost Property

Change purse with various papers lost at Library.

### 1 Sept - Found Property

Purse containing ID, USC and personal papers found in the parking lot. Unclaimed at this time.

### 2 Sept - Found Property

Purse found in Classroom Building. Returned to owner.

### 7 Sept - Station Information

Grounds crew reported excessive cleanup required in wake of weekend basketball tournament in PE Building.

### 7 Sept - Criminal Damage to Property

Student reported that person or persons unknown had marked the trunk of his car.

### 7 Sept - Lost Property

Employee reported lost university key.

### 7 Sept - Found Property

Student phoned to say that she believed she had left her purse in classroom. Search of the

area revealed purse with contents intact. Property returned to owner.

### 7 Sept - Mischievous Conduct

Employee reported that he believed that person or persons unknown had let the air out of a tire on his vehicle.

### 8 Sept - Medical Assist

Employee cut hand while cleaning floor. Injury treated at scene.

### 8 Sept - Theft

Electrical extension cord was removed from slop sink in PE Building. Reported loss of \$10.

### 8 Sept - Found Property

Wallet found in Science Building by Building Service Worker. Property returned to owner intact.

### 8 Sept - Theft

Victim reported that his locker in the PE Building had been broken into and \$27 removed from his wallet.

### 8 Sept - Theft

Victim reported that his locker in the PE Building had been broken into and \$360 removed.

### 8 Sept - Theft

Victim left wallet and keys in rest room, the keys were later returned to Public Safety.

Credit card used at local gas station before theft discovered.

### 8 Sept - Theft

Victim left purse unattended, returning 7 minutes later to discover it stolen.

### 8 Sept - Found Property

Wallet found by employee. Victim notified and property returned intact.

### 9 Sept - Investigation Quasi-Criminal

Library staff discovered beer cans on desk. Investigation continuing.

### 9 Sept - Hit & Run Accident

Student reported his vehicle damaged by other vehicle in parking lot. Illinois Traffic Crash report filed.

### 10 Sept - Found Property

Student reported that he believed that he'd lost wallet in Science Building. Search of area revealed property which was returned to owner intact.

### 13 Sept - Theft

Twelve 50 lb bags of peat moss were reported stolen from the exterior of the grounds shed.

### 13 Sept - Theft

Victim's wallet was removed from her unattended purse in the Stage Center.

### 13 Sept - Theft

Victim left his wallet unattended near the cashier's office.

### 14 Sept - Simple Battery

Traffic altercation between two drivers, no charges filed.

### 14 Sept - Found Property

Wallet found near Science Building, out of state identification. Owner not able to be contacted at this time.

### 15 Sept - Criminal Damage to State Supported Property

Building Service Worker reported graffiti on the walls of a handicapped stall in one of the men's rooms in the PE Building. Graffiti was removed.

### 15 Sept - Theft

Victim reported that they had found their bike which had been stolen. Bike turned out not to be theirs. Victim stated theft had occurred previous day.

### 16 Sept - Service to Other Police Dept.

Officer was first at the scene of a van/bicycle traffic accident. Officer rendered aid to victim until arrival of ambulance.

### 16 Sept - Lost Property

Victim stated he'd lost his pager while working in Student

Union. A search of the area was conducted with negative results.

### 18 Sept - Criminal Damage to State Supported Property

Building Service Worker reported damage to soap dispensers in Classroom Building.

### 20 Sept - Criminal Damage to State Supported Property

Grounds Crew reported that person or persons unknown had broken three planks out of a fence behind the PE Building.

**Crime Prevention Tip:** Never leave your books or other personal belongings unattended. In a matter of seconds someone will attend to your unattended goods and you'll have fewer things to carry home.

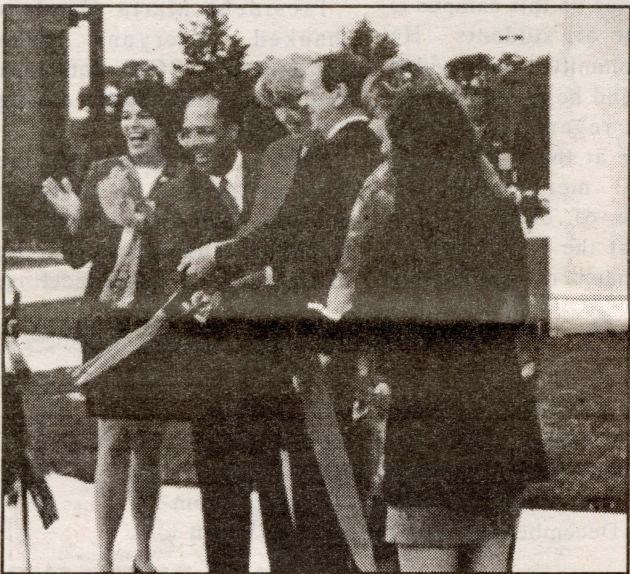
**For jump starts, auto lockouts, escort service and all emergencies, please contact Public Safety at extension 200.**



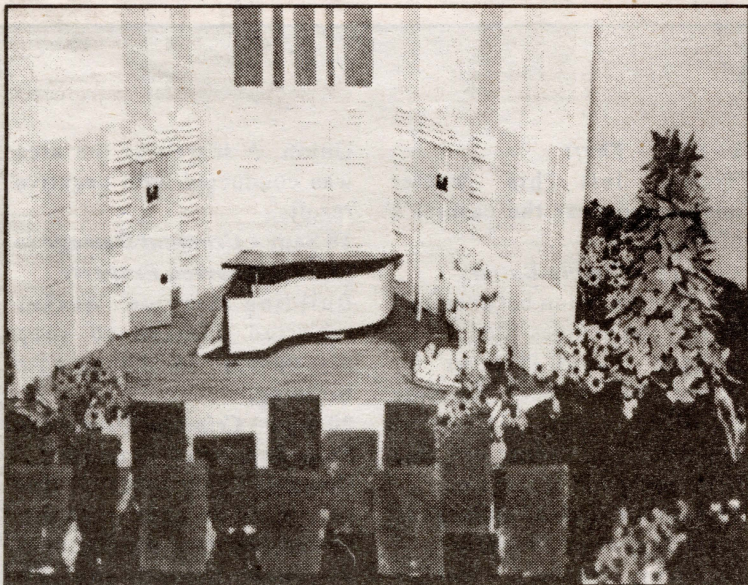
# The Fine Arts Center:



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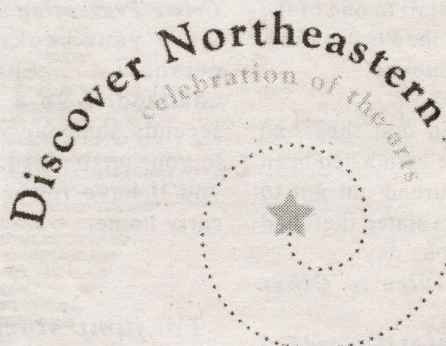
**WHEREAS**, Northeastern Illinois University is officially opening the new Fine Arts Center today; and

**WHEREAS**, Northeastern Illinois University has always been a special place for artists - aspiring and professional - to encourage and nurture their gift; and

**WHEREAS**, with the opening of the Fine Arts Center, the department of Art, Music, and Speech and Performing Arts now have a facility worthy of their high quality academic programs; and

**WHEREAS**, the 1999-2000 season *Discover Northeastern: Celebration of the Arts*, commemorates the excellence in the learning, performance, and exhibition of the arts at Northeastern Illinois University;

**THEREFORE**, I, George H. Ryan, Governor of the State of Illinois, proclaim September 16, 1999, as **NORTHEASTERN ILLINOIS UNIVERSITY DAY** in Illinois.



The opening of the Fine Arts Center is only the beginning of the nine-month long festival *Discover Northeastern: Celebration of the Arts*. To find out more about the festivities, including concerts to be broadcast live on 98.7 WFMT, call 773.794.ARTS(2787) or keep watching the *Independent*.

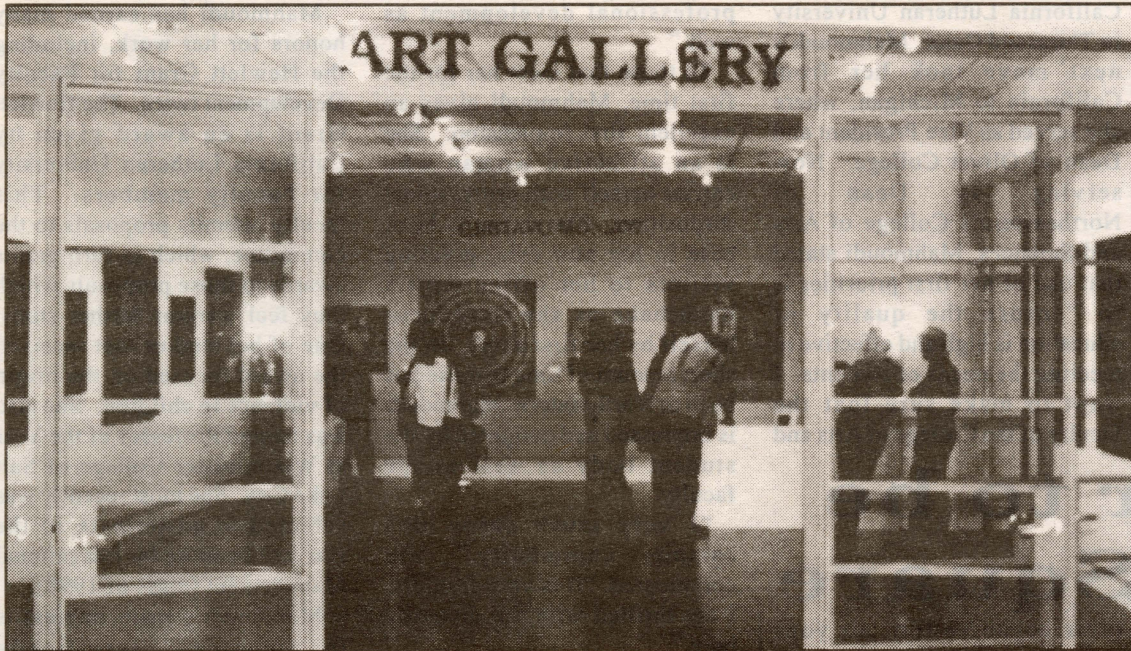


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6



# Grand Opening at a glance



12

Although clouds are in the sky, a large representation of students, faculty and staff (1) join with Board of Trustee members and honored guests to celebrate the official grand opening of the Fine Arts Center and the kick off of the *Discover Northeastern: Celebration of the Arts* festival.

After a brief talk (2), President Salme H. Steinberg joins Provost Estela Lopez, Vice President of Student Affairs/Public Affairs Melvin Terrell, Board Chair Daniel Goodwin and Student Government President Maria Gandara to cut the ribbon on the new facility (3).

Once the ceremony is complete, all guests are invited inside the building for a complete tour and refreshments. The cake (4), created by the artists and staff at *Edible Work of Art* give an accurate representation of the inside of the new Recital Hall. The chairs on the cake are made with sugarpaste colored blue and placed upon pieces of white cake to represent the seats in the Hall. Each visitor receives a piece of cake matching the ones on display.

Also part of the display are figures representing the various fine arts (5), like this one representing the Studio Arts. Like the rest of the cake, these figures are made of completely edible materials.

In the Recital Hall, Brian Torosian (6) gives a short guitar concert.

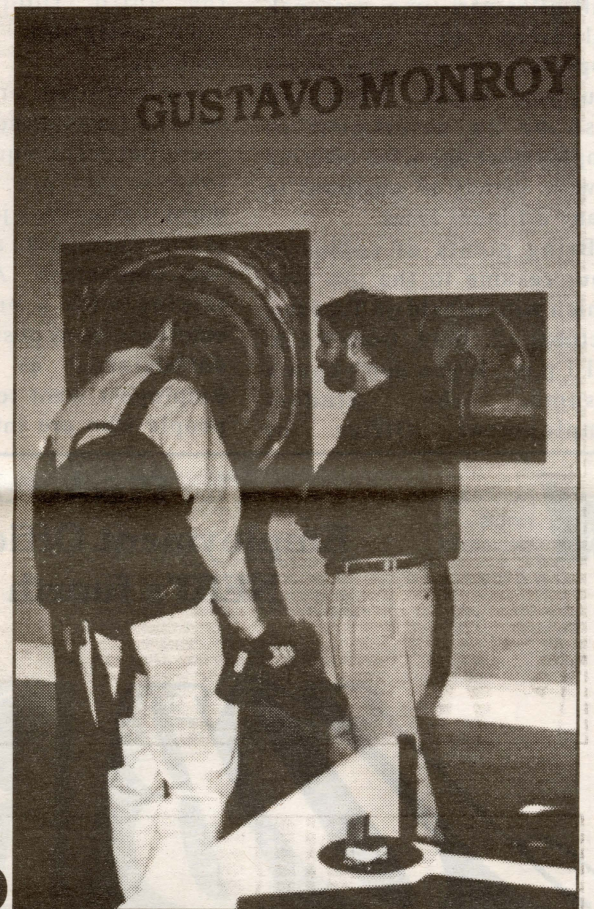
The NEIU Jazz band (7,8) shows off their best as they rehearse and give visitors touring the building music enjoy.

These aren't your ordinary pianos (9), but instead a room full of electric pianos.

In the Art Gallery (10, 11, 12), professional artist Gustavo Monroy displays his paintings for art students to learn from and art connoisseurs to admire. The exhibition, *La Vida Como un Rio - My Life as a River*, will continue to be on display to the end of September.



11



9 10



8



Photos: Linda Kelly (1, 5, 10, 11, 12) Joanna Frigo (2, 3) Carole Brown (4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9)



# New Dean puts students, diversity first

by Bruce Detweiler  
Staff Writer

A new faculty member joins the Northeastern staff this semester, one who is not only representative of the diversity present at this university, but also a promoter of it.

Dr. Hoda Mahmoudi, PhD, joined the NEIU faculty on August 2 as the Dean of the College of Arts and Sciences. The College of Arts and Sciences is the largest at the University, and consists of 15 departments, offering 24 majors.

Dr. Mahmoudi was born in Iran. At age 10, she and her

family relocated to Utah. She has lived in several other states, including California, Michigan, and most recently, Illinois. She earned a PhD in Sociology, an M.A. in Education Psychology, and a B.A. in Psychology at the University of Utah. While earning her doctorate, she served as the Acting Director of the Middle East Library and taught Sociology. Then she served as the Chair of the Social Sciences Program at Westminster College of Salt Lake City, where she also taught sociology. After relocating from Utah to California, she served as

Associate Dean for Academic Affairs and Chair of Sociology and Criminal Justice at California Lutheran University in Thousand Oaks. Mahmoudi's next move took her from California to Michigan, where she served as Vice President and Dean of Olivet College. Now serving as Dean of Northeastern's College of Arts and Sciences, Mahmoudi stated that one of her first priorities is to "ensure the quality of education is high and effective in meeting the needs of students. I want to make sure that the faculty of the College of Arts and

Sciences is able to do what they need in order to both service student learning, and their own professional development as well."

To those that meet her for the first time, Mahmoudi gives an excellent first impression. She is an attractive woman who carries herself with professional disposition. She seems to be at ease in her new role, greeting visitors to her office with a handshake as she introduces herself by her first name. In the short amount of time that she has been at Northeastern, Mahmoudi is impressed and delighted by the student body as well as the faculty.

"I very much enjoy this campus community," she commented. "It is very friendly. I am thrilled with the diversity here."

Diversity is important to Mahmoudi, and she has dedicated a great deal of time to this subject. At her previous position as Vice President and Dean of Olivet College in Michigan, one of her major accomplishments was to increase the diversity in the faculty from 4% to 30% and in the student body as well. She feels it is important to have a well-diversified setting, and she would like the faculty of the College of Arts and Sciences to be more representative of the student body.

"It is always good to have all the perspectives represented. To have all their viewpoints is important in a society made up of different peoples," she states.

Mahmoudi also implemented a program at Olivet College that assured student learning outcomes. This program measured if students were

learning what the course curriculum stated they were going to learn.

Mahmoudi has earned many honors for her work, including the Hewlett Grant for Faculty Development twice. The Hewlett Grant is an award given by California Lutheran University for Faculty members. This faculty submits proposals to the committee, which in turn grants awards to those proposals which they feel warrant further study. One of her studies that received the award focused on the origin of violence in children. She also was named Professor of the Year at Westminster College of Salt Lake City. She most recently was selected to participate in the Harvard Institute for Educational Management (class of 1999).

Mahmoudi's main interest is in sociology, specifically complex organizations and medical sociology. It is a discipline that she has taught to many students. She says that her interest in sociology is based on "the fact that I like a systems approach to things. I like how networks work, and the broad perspective, and sociology afforded me that perspective. I am also interested in globalization and the interdependence of nations."

Outside of the university setting, Mahmoudi enjoys arts and music - classical music and opera are her passions. She also enjoys visits to the museum and likes photography and swimming, "when I have the time." She loves Chicago and feels it is very diversified and has a real community feel to it. Her view of Northeastern is very positive. "The faculty here is excellent and the students are great."

## Student job fair to be held in Village Square

By George Bagel  
Contributing Writer

This year the Student Job Fair returns to Village Square, after a one time engagement in the Physical Education complex last fall. The job fair will offer part-time, seasonal, full-time, and internship opportunities not requiring a four year degree. There will also be an assortment of employment agencies offering a wide variety of positions in many different areas.

Bring plenty of copies of your resume to the job fair, which will be held on Tuesday, October 12, 1999, from 9 a.m. 'til 1 p.m. If you don't have a resume, the Student Employment Office or

Placement Office will be glad to assist you in developing one. The Student Employment office (ext. 3527) is located downstairs from the Cashier's Office and the Placement Office (ext. 3119) is located on the third floor of the Administration "beehive" building.

Professional or business attire is recommended for this event but is not required. First impressions are important when looking for a job, and this is one way to make a very good first impression. Also, when talking with a prospective employer, be as positive and as enthusiastic as possible. Employers want to talk with people who are interested in

their organization, so your attitude is important, and a positive one can result in being invited for an interview.

Even though the job market is very good right now for college graduates, more and more employers are looking beyond the degree. They want experience in the field. For instance, if someone is majoring in accounting and worked part time as a night auditor for a hotel, this person is more marketable than someone who has no practical experience when they graduate. Experience can be gained in many different ways, including an internship, a part time job, a volunteer experience and, of course, a full time job.



**The Placement Office & Student Employment Office are proud to sponsor NEIU's fourth annual non-degreed**



**For Students**



**TUESDAY, OCTOBER 12TH 9:00 AM UNTIL 1:00 PM**  
in Village Square

**CHECK OUT PART-TIME, FULL-TIME, SEASONAL, AND INTERNSHIP OPPORTUNITIES. OVER 50 EMPLOYERS OFFERING A WIDE VARIETY OF JOBS**

For further information call (773) 794-6502 after September 29th

**Resumes and proper business attire highly recommended**

Admission is free for NEIU students  
There will be a \$5.00 fee for NON-NEIU students  
Northeastern Illinois University ★ Placement Office  
★ Office of Student Affairs/Public Affairs



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One environment. One simple way to care for it.





# Federal higher education bill proposes sharp funding cuts

By Nick Bunkley  
Michigan Daily

(U-WIRE) ANN ARBOR, Mich. — Federal funding of student financial aid could take a \$99 million hit in the next fiscal year under the higher education appropriations bill reported out of a House of Representatives subcommittee on September 23.

If the bill was implemented as currently written, said a spokesperson for committee member U.S. Rep. Nancy Pelosi (D-Calif.), a 6 percent drop in federal work-study funding would mean 62,000 fewer students could participate in the program during the 2000-01 academic year.

The bill also gives colleges and universities \$140 million less than Congress allocated to higher education this year, making significant cuts to many school-run programs while totally eliminating funding to others.

While cutting \$2.37 billion in funding for Pell Grants from the current year, the bill adds \$150 to the maximum allowable grant amount. The Pell Grant program is the largest federally funded grant program for individual students.

"The committee and the chairman place the Pell Grants at the very highest priority," a subcommittee spokesperson said. "We don't have a lot of money."

Eight months after the Clinton administration made its fiscal year 2000 budget recommendation in January, the Republican-led 15-member Subcommittee on Labor, Health and Human Services and Education sent the bill to the full appropriations committee, which could take it up next week.

Oct. 1 marks the end of the current fiscal year, when the new budget should theoretically take effect.

Tom Butts, associate vice president for University

(Michigan) relations, said Congress will file a continuing motion extending the time it has to finalize the budget bills. It could be two to three more months before the higher education bill passes both houses and is signed into law, he said.

Butts, who lobbies in Washington, D.C. on behalf of the University of Michigan, said the process is still in such a preliminary stage that it's unknown exactly how the dollar amounts could affect the University.

"The numbers look pretty much like a freeze," Butts said. "They're substantially lower than the higher education groups have been advocating."

But, he added, universities are expected to fare slightly better by the time a finalized bill is implemented.

"What chairman (Rep. John) Porter (R-Ill.) was trying to do was get something out of the committee," Butts said. "I don't think anyone thinks this is what the final product will look like."

Because all 12 other appropriations subcommittees have already sent their bills to the full committee, significant amounts of money initially designated for education have already been claimed for other departments. To make up for that deficit, the bill pulls more than \$14 million in advance funding from fiscal year 2001

appropriation funding for the Department of Education.

"Everyone knew beforehand that the Republicans would make a budget gimmick," said Pelosi's spokesperson. "The hole was so big that the only way to fill the hole was to borrow from next year or to come up with gimmicks."

By taking such a large amount from the following year, universities won't be able to plan ahead as easily, he said, explaining that there will be more uncertainty to what level of appropriations will be available in future years.

"They may not be able to act properly on decisions that are crucial," he said.

## Financial Aid for part-time students NEIU part of pilot project

by Nicholas G. Koukis  
Staff Writer

Good news for students who are enrolled at Northeastern part-time (students taking less than 6 credit hours every Fall and Spring semester and less than 4 in the summer). The Illinois Student Assistance Commission (ISAC) has selected Northeastern to participate in their Demonstration Project for Aid to Less-Than-Half-Time Students, during the 1999-2000 academic year. It has to be noted that NEIU was one out of eighty applicants that were chosen by this program.

This is a very significant program, because up to now only students that were enrolled full-time could apply for financial aid; with this program, students that are enrolled part-time are eligible to receive financial aid. As NEIU President Salme Steinberg says, "This project provides a wonderful opportunity for our students, the majority of whom are enrolled part-time. Now greater numbers can take advantage of scholarships, traditionally offered only to full-time students."

In order to be eligible for the program, the ISAC requires that the student:

1. Is an undergraduate.
2. Is a US citizen
3. Is a resident of Illinois
4. Maintain satisfactory academic progress as determined by the institution, and
5. Is enrolled in an eligible

degree or certificate program throughout the institution's refund/withdrawal period

To get this financial assistance, the student must complete a Federal Application for Federal Students Aid, which will determine whether or not the student can get financial help such as the Monetary Award Program (MAP) grant. Only those who qualify for MAP grants can get financial aid, because awards granted under the project are calculated at 25% of an eligible students full-time MAP award, so not to exceed tuition and fees.

Anybody who is a part-time student and meets the above mentioned requirements can apply for this grant. This financial aid is offered to the students on the need-be basis and the maximum that can be awarded is both tuition and fees.

This is a pilot program and Assistant Director of Financial Aid Kathy Craine notes, "This program will be available only for the current academic year and will be continued, if it manages to make students apply for it. If it is successful, then it is up to the legislators if they are going to give money for this grant."

Since the success of the program relies on the feedback it gets, part-time students are encouraged to contact NEIU's Financial Aid office by calling (773) 794-7391.

of the FACTS (Feminine Awareness Circle of Theology and Spirituality) Fall '99 Speakers Series she organized will be canceled.

"I wish I had more time to say good-bye to all of the people I've worked with," said Rushen. "All the best wishes to everyone here at Northeastern."

## Blood drive alert!

by Jessica Lettow  
Special Contributor

Three times a year the Health Service Department sponsors a Blood Drive in cooperation with LifeSource. The first drive will be on Friday, October 15, 1999, from 9 a.m. 'til 4 p.m. LifeSource technicians will be in Alumni Hall to accept the important gift of blood from the university community. A reliable source of blood is necessary for the well-being and occasionally, the survival of many individuals in cases of trauma or surgery.

A liver transplant can use between 50 and 250 units of blood components. Open heart surgery can require 8-10 units of blood

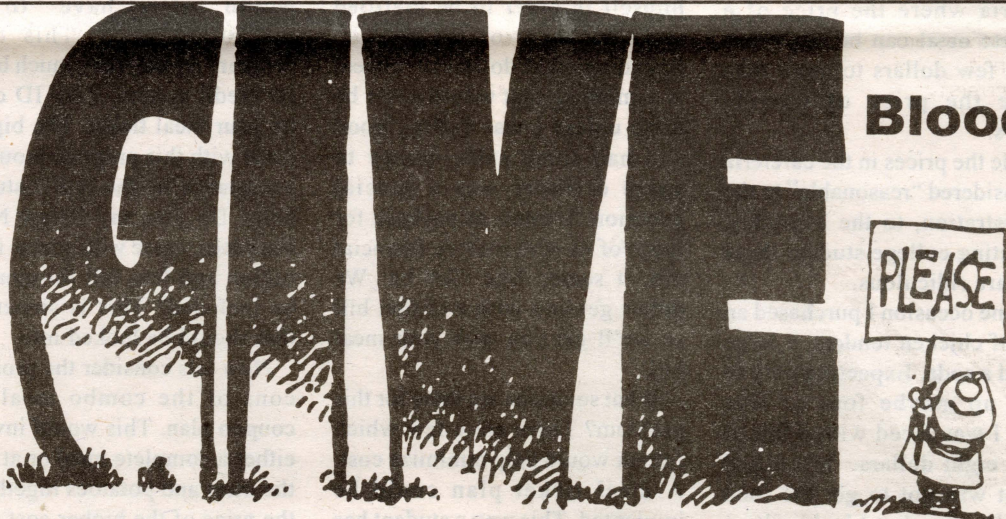
components.

Illinois is dependent solely on volunteers for its supply of blood.

Anyone 17 years or older who is in good health and weighs at least 110 pounds can donate blood. A pint is taken from the 10 to 12 pints you have circulating in your body. Prior to donating, you will receive a "mini" physical including anemia and blood pressure checks. First time donors also receive information about their blood type. Following the donation you will receive a snack of juice, cookies, and crackers. The whole procedure takes about 45 minutes. In addition to blood donation you will also have the opportunity to

be listed on the National Marrow Donor Program. If you elect to do this, a tube of blood will be taken from the pint you donated, tissue-typed, and kept with the registry. Information about the marrow registry is available in the Health Services office.

Please fill in the accompanying sign-up form or one of the flyers posted on various bulletin boards. Then drop it one of the bright red boxes you have noticed located around campus and pat yourself on the back for volunteering to give a gift that will help many. Call Health Service at 3453 or come see us in B-117 if you have any questions. And, thank you in advance!



## Northeastern Illinois University

### BLOOD DRIVE

**Friday, October 15, 1999**  
**9:00 a.m. until 4:00 p.m.**  
**Alumni Hall**

*For more information or to make an appointment,  
please contact the Health Services Department @ 3453.*

**Eligible Donors:**  
Are 17-80 years of age  
Weigh at least 110lbs  
Have not donated in 56 days

**Free Juice and Cookies!**  
**All are welcome!**  
**Mini-physical check-up!**

---

**Blood Donation Pledge Form - Sign up to donate today!**

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Location \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Time preferred \_\_\_\_ am \_\_\_\_ pm Alternate time \_\_\_\_ am \_\_\_\_ pm

Please complete the bottom portion of this pledge and return to one of the blood drive boxes located throughout the campus before Friday, October 8<sup>th</sup>.

## Ministries

continued from page 1

helping hand to those in need in the various locations.

Rushen's intern, Venoncia Bate, is effectively laid off from her internship, which started this summer and was to continue through Spring '00, and the rest



# Perspectus

## DRAWING BOARD



NEIU is elevator disabled

## EDITORIAL BY SCOTT PLENCNER

### Administration way off base

Two hundred eight years ago the first and most important amendment to our Constitution went into the law books. It states with clear and direct language that government shall make no law "respecting the establishment of religion" and that it should also make no law "prohibiting the free exercise" of religion.

In a memo to the University Community dated September 23, Melvin Terrell, Vice President of Student Affairs, speaking on behalf of the administration, which without warning pulled the plug on the young Office of Campus Ministry, strangely cited this amendment as justification for the sudden action.

The Office of Campus Ministry, a feature long-standing in many state-funded colleges, was set up months ago to direct and organize only the students of NEIU who have shown interest in discussing their spiritual health and who have a desire to provide service to those in need. The office had much planned for spring, including voluntary programs that would find NEIU students tutoring at an Ojibwa reservation school, visiting shut-ins, and assisting in the rehabbing of homes for the poor families of Appalachia.

The Office was dedicated to the spiritual growth of all interested students and made an effort to focus the common service and spiritual aspects of many denominations and religions. I ask the administration, is the thought of students lending helping hands to those in crisis something that you feel should be eradicated, something not worth fighting to preserve? Is the presence of an independent group focused on including a diversity of beliefs and traditions something you find damaging to NEIU's long-standing dedication to diversity? Is offering the Student Ministry an unused and small room in the basement where it can work to meet such honorable goals really in violation of the First Amendment?

Any affirmative answer is obviously preposterous. The laws of

the Bill of Rights were meant to limit the power of government and not to limit the activity of citizens. Not one of the 10 laws offers the government any sort of power to disallow anything to citizens, including their right to freely exercise whatever they feel is the best course for spiritual growth.

The Campus Ministry in no way was officially associated with any one religion and in no way was forcing any dogma with the urgency of government upon anyone. The ministry barely made itself known and recruitment was never aided by NEIU. NEIU was well within the law.

The university never established an official and mandatory religion by merely providing space and a phone line to an office uncommitted to any ONE religion. Is this the "excessive entanglement between government and religion" of which Mr. Terrell wrote? Has political correctness and ultra-liberal oversensitivity now corrupted our ability to reasonably and fairly draw such distinctions.

The student handbook states that the office of student affairs, of which Mr. Terrell acts as vice-president, is committed to providing students with "a comprehensive array of programs" to facilitate the physical, emotional, social, occupational, intellectual and, lastly, the spiritual well being of students. I'm sad to say that the administration, by disregarding and disrespecting the last of these promises has fallen short of its goals.

Mr. Terrell's use of the First Amendment to justify the cause of an administration truly stressed over lawsuits that never even existed was obviously an error. I urge the administration to explain in clear language, devoid of double-speak, what the concrete motivations were behind this unprecedented and, as I see it, unjustified action. And students, I urge you, in turn, to demand reason, fairness, and honesty in this age of increasing government interference.

## VOICE OF THE CAMPUS BY LA-KISHA PELHAM

### Food hardly affordable at NEIU

It is amazing how in high school one thought a single dollar was a gold mine. Now it's \$10.

This is especially true if you plan on having a meal in NEIU's cafeteria where the price of a complete meal can be anywhere from a few dollars to more than double the price of outside vendors.

While the prices in the cafeteria are considered "reasonable" to the administration, to the everyday, commuting college student these prices are ridiculous.

On one occasion I purchased an order of chicken tenders, a large fry, and a soda. Expecting only to cough up maybe four or five bucks, I was faced with a bill of almost eight dollars. My initial thought was not to get the food and walk away but I had built up an appetite and really wanted the chicken tenders.

I decided to purchase the meal but only because I desired the meat. I vowed to never do it again.

Why is having a complete meal on campus treated like a luxury or in some cases payback? Treated as a luxury in the sense that one has to compromise himself in order to be gratified with the meal of his choice. Spending eight dollars on a meal is something that would never be done unless I was feeling good and had some extra money to spare or there was a special occasion. Treated as payback for those of us who receive financial aid, it seems like "Ah ha! We didn't get you with a tuition bill so we'll get you with your meal bill!"

What solutions are there for this problem? There are a few which I think would help minimize cost. A meal ticket plan could be implanted. This way a student has already pre-paid for any meal she decides to have for the semester. On a simpler scale, combo meals and coupons could be introduced. Let's weigh the pros and cons of

the two suggested solutions.

If a meal ticket plan is implemented, then it would have to be included in the tuition and fees bill, a tracking program would also have to be institutionalized. This track program could pretty much be the ID credit system. Your ID could be your meal ticket. The biggest issue with this program would be acceptance by the NEIU student body. Do you, my fellow NEIU attendees, agree with a raise in the tuition and fees bill for meals to be included? This is something that should be looked into.

Now let's consider the pros and cons of the combo meal and coupon plan. This would involve either a complete meal or at least the meat and potatoes together at the price of the higher cost item. The coupon plan would involve coupons distributed in one form or another to the student body.

What would all of this mean? Hopefully, minimized cost for meals and "reasonable" prices.

## EDITORIAL BY JAMEY McDUNN, OPINIONS EDITOR

### School logos: Where's yours?

Since we are now officially five weeks into the new semester, I think it is safe to say that you have spent what little money you earned over the summer buying all of the pencils, pens, notebooks, etc. that you need for your classes.

Oh, and did I forget (sorry, I have to use the T word) TEXTBOOKS? If you are anything like me, textbook shopping has left you with a financially vacuous sensibility. Better said, it left you BROKE! Of course, some of you smart shoppers were able to let your technological fingers do the walking and purchase books over the internet, but that sort of

frightens me.

How would I feel if I got to the first class of Nuclear Bubble Gum Blowing (NBGB 101) with my *Neurophysical and Ontegenic Configurations of Bazooka Gum, Version 5* only to learn that the latest (and correct) version is Version 6? Granted, those issues could be addressed with a little research, but I am a Nuclear Bubble Gum Blowing Major, not a research student!

As you reeled over the high price of books at Beck's, did you happen to wander over to the south end of the book store? If you did, you would see a myriad of shirts, sweatshirts, hats, and just about anything

else you can imagine with the NEIU logo, the flying N, pasted on it (that is really what they call it!). Personally, my collection of NEIU-ware is fairly vast, makes me notice peoples clothes adorned with other school logos. That brings me to my thesis questions:

1. Do you own NEIU-ware?
2. Do you wear it to school?

If not where do you wear it? 3. Are you offended when people come to school wearing Notre Dame or other college ware?

Actually, I own a Notre Dame football jersey, but I don't wear it to school. I am even ambivalent about that point

because, after all, we don't have a football team to root for. Also, it could be argued that I am not rooting for Notre Dame as a higher seat of learning, I am rooting for Notre Dame's football team.

4. If there was a "School Spirit Day" would you support it by wearing NEIU ware?

If you answered "No," would you support if "Clandestine Spirit Police" were to roam the campus handing out gift certificates or food or money to random students dressed in NEIU-ware?

Finally, assuming that "Spirit Day" happened, would you use it as a "Geek Alert

Day"?

As I write this, I am reminded of that scene in *Fast Times at Ridgemont High* where the "Spirit Bunnies" make total fools out of themselves before the student body assembly. The other extreme is conventional colleges with football teams (I HAD to use the F word again), and fraternities and homecomings.

What is our "School Spirit Quotient"? Where should it be? What could we do to improve it? Is it our job to improve it? I could ask more questions, but NBGB 101 is about to start.





# REV

Volume 4, issue 2 September 28, 1999

Seeking baseball players.  
No experience necessary.  
Apply at Clark and  
Addison.

see *Dave's Rant*

page 2

Plug-in and pull-out the *Independent* Guide to Entertainment

# THE FUTURE APOCALYPSE IS HERE NOW!!!

*For more details, see stories on pages 2 and 3.*



# Dave's Rant

by Dave Grzelak

...And now batting  
for Sammy Sosa,  
you?

Oh, the Cubs have done it again.

By some miracle, they have managed to baffle all legitimate business persons and fellow baseball owners by actually thriving, THRIVING, in one of the worst displays of "professional" sports performances ever presented to the greater Universal public. This year, the Cubs have broken their all-time attendance record in one of their all-time pathetic years. And that's saying something coming from a team that is to losing baseball what the *Mona Lisa* is to the art world.

Why? Why does the Tribune Company have a horseshoe up their collective keyster?

It's very simple: they are a business that knows how to sell the product. They own the eighth wonder of the world: Wrigley Field. They own the one of the most charismatic athletes in sport: Sammy Sosa.

But, believe it or not, the Cubs are missing a golden opportunity to become even *more* popular. With the line between sports and entertainment blurring into a pixelated, fantasy-league, Vegas-line oblivion, it's time for the Cubs to once again step to the plate, using a metaphor as tired as the team's excuses for losing.

Why put on the facade that your team is going to be competitive? In the era of public contrition, the Cub organization should take Ellen's cue of a few years ago and come out. Come out of the closet and say, "The Cubs are a staged act of incompetence...a dramedy of errors...a satire on sports. And most importantly, we are not a competitive sports team."

Although the last sentence of the above quote would probably be met with a collective, "Duh!," from the greater Chicagoland public, this quote would then free the Cub organization to do what they truly do best: marketing.

Sell the ivy leaf by leaf. Offer strands of Sammy Sosa's hair to the highest bidder. Auction off Mark Grace for a dream date. Gone will be the the collective company guilt of robbing the thousands that actually and remarkably still expect the Cubs to win a World Series in the next millenium. And actually, it will open up an idea whose time has come.

The unfortunate passing of Harry Caray gave birth to an equally unfortunate idea hatched by the Cubs: celebrities singing the seventh inning stretch in tribute to one of Harry Caray's trademarks. But this actually gave me an idea. If the Cub organization would only confess, they could actually have the celebrities play on the team.

Imagine the possibilities! Keeping Cub poster boys Sosa and Grace around, the starting lineup could include stars such as Kevin Costner (Field of Dreams), Tom Berenger, Corbin Bernsen, and Wesley Snipes (Major League), Geena Davis, Madonna, and Rosie O'Donnell (A League of Their Own), John Goodman (Babe [the baseball player, not the talking pig {insert your own joke}]), and so on.

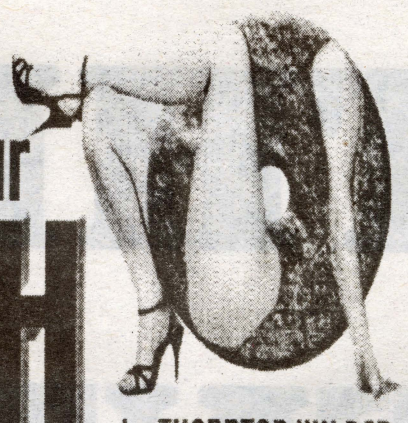
But why stop there? Fantasy camps for 50-something businessmen to hang out with has been players is a thriving enterprise. Why not make it count for something?

Imagine Joe Whitecollar being able to brag to his friends, "Yeah, did you see me out there? Wasn't awesome the way I pooped my pants when Randy Johnson threw a 100 m.p.h. fastball at my head!"

That's entertainment.

# Suburban futurama

the SKIN of our  
TEETH



by THORNTON WILDER

courtesy of American Theatre Company

*The Skin of Our Teeth* is currently playing at the American Theatre Company.

by Thomas J. Foley  
Features Editor

In what modern play can you see a dinosaur and a mammoth at the same time? No, it's not Andrew Lloyd Webber's stage production of *The Flintstones* (if there is such a production); it's *The Skin of our Teeth*, written by Thornton Wilder and performed to perfection by the cast at the American Theater Company (ATC) at 1909 W. Byron St. in Chicago.

The play tells the story of the Antrobus family, a quite unusual family indeed. From their enigmatic surname Antrobus (closest match I found was *Antropas*, one of the three fates from Greek myth), to their household pets, the family is at once outstanding and typical all at once. Mr. George Antrobus (John Mohrlein) is an American entrepreneur who lives in his typical little bungalow in Palatine. He commutes to and from work every day, where he works on his discoveries, such as the alphabet, the wheel, and the multiplication table. He's been married to his wife Mrs. Antrobus (Deanna Dunagan) for "the last 5,000 years," and they have two children, Henry who used to be called Cain (Andrew Micheli) and Gladys (Deborah Puette), and a maid named

Sabina (Marguerite Hammersley).

This three-act play begins in the Ice Age, moves to the age of the great flood, and concludes shortly after World War III. Throughout the play, George must try to balance his successful professional life with the trials and tribulations involved with raising a family. One particular theme of note is the Oedipal complex that plays itself out between Henry and George. Despite his many wrongdoings, Mrs. Antrobus lavishes love and affection on young Henry, despite George's many attempts to punish Henry.

One of the best performances was turned in by Sabina, who as part of her role gets the dubious pleasure of being the only actor to speak directly to the audience in her many asides. When she told us that she didn't really need this part because she had worked on such popular numbers as *Vampire Lesbians of Sodom*, the audience was quite amused. This schtick was carried on throughout the performance, getting so outrageous that I barely knew if it was part of the play or some seriously effective ad-libbing.

The stage design was adequate, considering the restraints of the stage and such. Act Two, which takes place just

before the Great Flood, was especially memorable. It took place on the beach in Atlantic City during a Species Convention and looked for all the world like something out of a 1940's family vacation.

The costumes were also done fairly well. No *Flintstones*-like skins in the Ice Age, just normal, everyday clothes. A suit for George Antrobus, a dress for Mrs. Antrobus and a French Maid outfit for Sabina. About the only thing that seemed out of place was in Act Two, where most of the convention revelers were dressed like drunken Shriners with the exception of one reveler, who was dressed like she just "tuned in, turned on and dropped out."

A Pulitzer Prize winning play, *The Skin of our Teeth* brings home the age old lesson that most Americans have come to know, that you can be a genius in the outside world, but just as inept and small as the rest of us in the privacy of our own home.

The play runs for two more weekends, through Saturday, October 9. Ticket prices start at \$18.50 but ATC does mention that student and senior rates are also offered. Call 773-929-1031 for reservations or more information.

Writers needed for the best damn  
entertainment section in these  
here city blocks!!!

See Laura Hadley, Editor-In-Chief in  
E-049 or call (773) 794-2812.



# Apocalypse 1999!

## *Lack of writers leaves opportunities open for NEIU students*

by Tim Hill  
Staff Writer

In the upcoming issue to be published later this semester, Apocalypse is also looking for new recruits to be possible future members of the lit-mag staff, including editors, typists, and layout personnel. An open meeting will be held for all those interested in joining the Apocalypse staff on September 30th at 1:45 pm in Room E-035 down the hall from the Student Lounge. All those interested in joining, curious about the magazine, or who have questions may attend this meeting obligation-free.

The Apocalypse staff is particularly interested in publishing the work of present Northeastern students, as there has been a lull in submissions from the student body as of late. Apocalypse stands as a forum for creative writers of the Northeastern community to be published in a collection that is rather widely syndicated and frequently submitted to by professional writers nation-wide. However, Northeastern student writers of all genres will receive special consideration for their work, since Apocalypse aims and prefers to publish the creations of our very own talented writers

more so than the already published professionals.

Apocalypse will soon be holding its always-entertaining "open mic" sessions in which students, faculty, and all others interested can stand up to read poems or short stories (typically) in front of the others. Any tone of material, from comedy to drama, is welcomed and enjoyed without pressure. The dates and locations of the upcoming Apocalypse Open Mic sessions are to be announced. There is also talk of guidelines, are available down the hall both ways from the Student Lounge, located below Beck's Bookstore.

Apocalypse 6 Diner  
Worlds Best Coffee  
Fall 1998

Northeastern Illinois University

## *NPB Murder Mystery Dinner* *Friday, October 29, 1999*

*Student Union, 6:30-9:30 PM*



**POLICE LINE — DO NOT CROSS POLICE LINE**

*Tickets on Sale Starting:*  
*Tuesday, September 28*

*\$5 - NEIU Students*

*\$9 - Non-NEIU Students*





# REV looks back

by Dave Grzelak, *REV* Editor

With the year 2000 less than 100 days away, every publication seems to be looking to the past. Why should we be any different? In the next several publications, we will be looking back at the history of REV and its predecessors.



November  
30,  
1961

The picture to the left is part of the one-page entertainment section from Volume 1---No. 6 of *Interim*, a predecessor of *The Independent*. And at the time, Northeastern Illinois University also had a different name: Chicago Teachers College--North. This issue of *Interim* also represents the oldest archived piece of journalism currently held in the offices of *The Independent*.

The captions below the pictures (from left to right) read:

Waller High Trio: John Kramer, Marie Sauser, and Jerry Ishikawa.

Robert Murray and Aleutian Friend in "Honeymoon in an Igloo."

Mort Shorris had them screaming with his singing.

# ...and

What would a newspaper be without a "tease" to entice the reader to read on. The picture below appears on the front page of the same issue. Check out the ahead of her time fashion plate watching the Variety Show! Tassles, tassles everywhere!

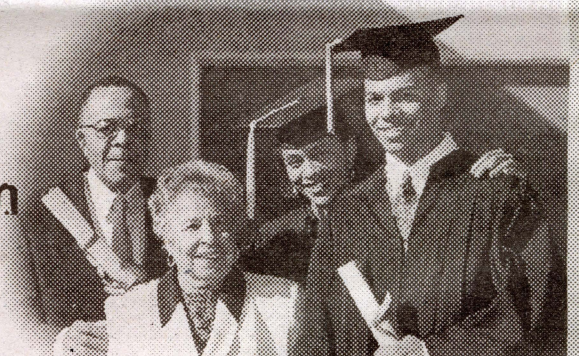
The caption below the picture reads:

CTC's first variety show drew some curious onlookers. If you want to see what they are watching turn to page (we hope) 5 or maybe page 6. Good Luck!

Ah, the perils and innocence of student journalism.

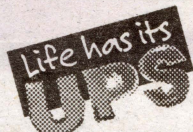


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# ChiCOWgo on my mind

I'm not sure of the exact day that I first saw a cow within the City's limits, but I think it was sometime in June.

I was walking late at night along south State Street toward the Jackson blue line stop when I noticed something out of the corner of my eye. At first I thought to myself "Hmmmh, there's a cow there, a real live cow..." But, on second glance, I saw that it was very immobile, even more so than the cows I had spied in the pastures around Urbana in my late teens. I cogitated the fact that when one pounded one's fist on the cow's duff (which I confess I did), it kind of hurt (much like pounding one's hand on a turtle's shell or a Formica table).

I think it was shortly after this that I realized that this was not a real cow. I silently chastised myself for even entertaining the notion that somehow a real cow could have made it's way into the heart of the city (yunno, like it rode the Metra in from Batavia to see its broker or something...stupid). After I realized that the cow was counterfeit, I took very little interest in it, thinking it to be just another store sales gimmick.

My thoughts of this strange cow are out of my head until I return downtown a week or so later, and I see that these fake fiberglass things are all over the place. It's like an infestation, a biblical plague. Instead of locusts, Chicago gets plastic cows...great!

So, I find myself thinking, "Who could have done this? Why is the city letting people get away with constructing counterfeit cows in the middle of our sidewalks? Is the city in

on it? Are they funding this project? Are our tax moneys supporting this undertaking?" To tell you the truth, I still don't know. I found out that some of the cows have corporate sponsors, but my research is done lazily so that your guess is, as they say, as good as mine.

Anyway, I've come up with this hypothesis, which I still hold to, that it's gotta be a troupe of artists, and I use the term "artists" loosely, from Los Angeles or New York, most likely New York, who hate the Midwest and want to imprint upon the psyches of Chicago's citizens that we live not in a thriving metropolis but in a glorified "cow town."

By this time, I am striding recklessly down the sidewalk, fuming, considering the gall of these so-called artists (what arrogance on their part! what condescension!), so deep in thought that I run, quite literally, into one of the cows...so, not only am I madder than hell now, but the top of my thigh hurts like heck and I'm thought an insane pervert by a gaggle of gawking CTA bus-takers for trying to get with a plastic cow.

The last straw? Not quite.

In August, my girlfriend and I need a weekend out of the city, so why not to Springfield for the State Fair? After all, we both like an-ya-mals; neither of us has ever been to a state fair; there are bands at night and lots of beer tents if we get really bored. Most importantly, I can get away from Chicago and its traffic jams and its pollution and its plastic cows for a while and see some real cows and sheep...and sheep... and more sheep. So, what's the first thing I see after the superific McGruff

the Crime Dog tent, you ask? The equestrian area? The Beers-Around-the-World garden? The Wallendas treading on a thin strand of rope thirty feet above my head? NO! I see the goddamned Cows on Parade display imported from Chicago! False cows in Springfield! This was the last straw.

To make matters worse, the editors of the *Independent* have deigned to print an advertisement for the Cows increasing the popularity on campus. Well, I for one have had enough. These bovines are horrid; not only do they serve to impede pedestrian traffic in the loop, they are gaudily ugly, worse than Ed Paschke's paintings.

Perhaps I would tolerate the cows if they were useful in some manner, if the cows seated wary CTA riders while they wait (and wait) on buses to come, or if the cows oscillated and bucked like the mechanical bulls of the 70's, and stressed out office types could work off a little stress by riding on their backs during lunch hours. But, as the cows are not even equipped to swat their tales at passing executives, they are useless.

Therefore, I call upon the citizens of Chicago in general and the students and faculty of NEIU in particular to join me in my fight to rid the Windy City of these blasted bovines. I hereby found the group that henceforth will be known as VEAL or Victims of Egregious Art(lessness). We will organize for a city-wide ban on fake cows!

Are you behind me brothers and sisters, friends of the revolution?!? If yes, please e-mail me at [T-West@neiu.edu](mailto:T-West@neiu.edu).

# Losing our Religion

It is a sad day for students at NEIU. Dean Micheal Kelly has decided that the students of this institution don't need the services of those who bring us spiritual enlightenment and guidance.

Karen Rushen was among the five volunteers who provided religious guidance to the students here. She took the place of Father Joe Pitts and has been with us for about a year.

Sometime around Wednesday, Miss Rushen was told that her office would have to be vacated by Friday of this week. She received no acceptable reason for why she was being asked to leave. The others who share the office space with her have yet to receive their notice.

It's not fair!

The population of this campus is composed of students, staff, and faculty coming from a wide variety of cultures, ethnicities, and religious faiths. To remove these people from campus is to deny us of our constitutional right to practice our faiths. Religion plays an important role in our lives. It is the basis for the way that many of us see the world: our political ideas; morality; family values; educational and social interests; and the list goes on. And though not everyone may agree on who is the "higher power" or even if there is a "higher power," it was great to know that Miss Rushen and the other four volunteers were there to help us understand, and celebrate the differences and similarities between us.

She wasn't even given the chance to say good-bye. Karen Rushen was (as I'm sure the other volunteers remaining are) an opthemistic[sic] and caring individual who always seemed to have time to listen to students and provide them with encouragement and support. SHE WILL BE DEARLY MISSED.

How could one person take it upon himself to decide something that should have been discussed with the students first? Are we not the ones who financially support this university? Shouldn't we have a voice too?

A university is a place where students go to learn about about themselves and others. In miniature, its environment embodies many of the key experiences that life has to offer (i.e. politics = student government, media = newspaper). Thus, a campus is a breeding ground for the development of ideas and perceptions. By having these experiences within reach students are allowed to freely choose their likes and dislikes and find out who they are and who they can become.

Dean Kelly denied us our freedom to choose-our right to choose. We the students want to know why this was done. We want to the right to choose, not lose, our religion. Why Dean Kelly?

Sara C. Capetillo

*Editors Note: The decision to eliminate the Campus Ministries Program came from Melvin Terrell's office, not Dean Kelly's.*

## QUOTABLES

*The words "Kiss Kiss Bang Bang," which I saw on an Italian movie poster, are perhaps the briefest statement imaginable of the basic appeal of the movies.*

Pauline Kael (1968)

*The length of a film should be directly related to the endurance of the human bladder.*

Alfred Hitchcock

*Movies are just another form of merchandising - we have our factory, which is called a stage; we make a product, we color it, we title it, and we ship it out in cans.*

Cary Grant

*He's a male chauvinistic piglet.*

Betty Friedan about Groucho Marx

## DRAWING BOARD



"THE GOP TAX CUT PLAN IS MEAN-SPIRITED AND COMPASSIONLESS!... NOW, GIVE US YOUR MONEY BEFORE MY FRIEND HERE GETS UPSET!!"

## LETTER POLICY

Letters to the Editor must be signed and contain an address and daytime telephone number for verification and no more than 250 words in length.

Letters are subject to editing for style and space at the editor's discretion. The Editor reserves the right to omit any work received.

Letters are accepted through electronic mail, provided they include a telephone number for verification. The address is [T-Independent@neiu.edu](mailto:T-Independent@neiu.edu)

Please recycle this newspaper.



Thank you!

by John Prusko, Jr. 08.10.97



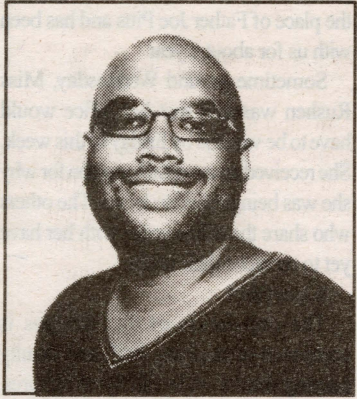
# The campus speaks out

On recent excursion through the NEIU campus, several students were willing to share their ideas on campus remodeling. Here are their thoughts when asked what do they think of the remodeling and what should they remodel next?



**Victoria Nabors**  
Recipient of Master's Degree in  
Speech and Performing Arts

"I think the remodeling [that they have done so far] is awesome - especially the Student Union Building. It makes you want to come in and sit down. There is plenty of space to study. I really like the reading lounge because normally you couldn't read in the Commuter Center. Now, there is a place to read, other than the library. The Science Building [is the next place that should be remodeled]. It is like an ancient relic! It is so dark and depressing and gloomy, that I am surprised that education occurs in there!"



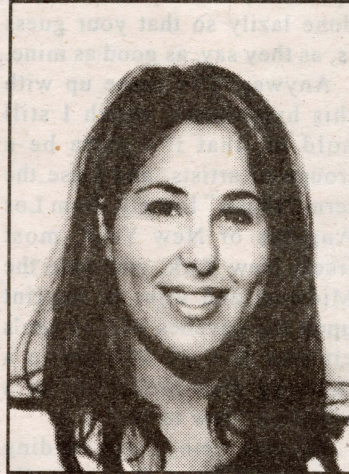
**Derrick Dawson**  
Senior  
Major: English as a Second  
language

"I like all of the changes in the Commuter Center and I have classes in the Fine Arts Building, I like the new addition to the campus. I do find some of the classrooms sort of bland, but I do find they are a little more comfortable in regards to the seating. The cafeteria is light and airy; I like it. I think the Classroom Building could use a little work, I think the elevators need to be replaced. Also, the Science Building could use some refurbished seats, as well as facilities for displays, etc."



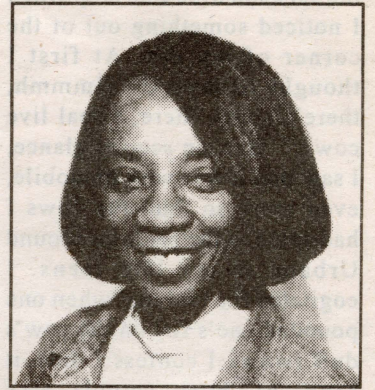
**Jennifer Sztzesy**  
Junior  
Major: Psychology  
Minor: Criminal Justice

"I think [the remodeling] is great! I just wish that the cafeteria was open a little bit early. There is no place to get coffee except [at the coffee cart near the book store] and they lines get pretty long there! I would [like to see] The Science Building [get remodeled]. I would put more study areas in there. Maybe a reference area devoted to science could be added. That way, more information would be at the students' finger tips, rather than having to run it all down."



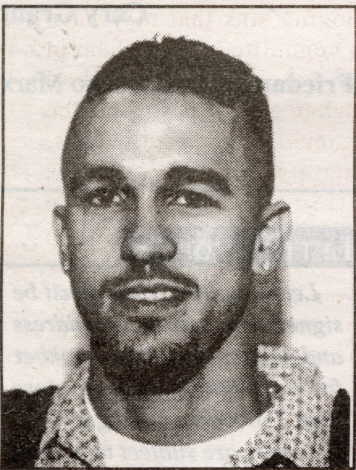
**Estelle Zervos**  
Senior  
Major: Elementary Education

"I think [the remodeling] looks great! They did a wonderful job, the architecture is beautiful. I am trying to figure out what is up on the third floor [of the Student Union], I haven't been up there yet. I think it is wonderful, more organized, plenty of seating - I like the lounge, you can sit and relax, it is pretty quite in there. I would say that they could remodel the Science Building a bit! I have been in there one previous semester and I think that it could use some remodeling. As far as the Health Building department goes [in B wing], I think they should remodel over there, add a few rooms, because it is sort of a waste of space. I think they should expand a little bit over there."



**Charlene Gee**  
Senior  
Special Education

"I think the remodeling is a plus for the campus. It provides an up-to-date look, a look that is more fitting with how University campuses should look. The disadvantages include how some things are closed off and there might not be signs to let you know what is going on. For example, at the beginning of the semester, you didn't have your [parking] permits, so you went to Public Safety. After you go to Public Safety, you find out that they are handing the parking permits out in the gym. I think they should build some dormitories. I know that this a commuter school, but I think if they build dorms, they would have an advantage in recruiting more and better students to Northeastern. Chicago State has dorms now, and they started as a commuter school."



**Mario Velazquez**  
Freshman  
Major: Computer Science  
Minor: Business

"I think they did a good job on the remodeling that they did so far. I think they should put a fountain [in the area east of the cafeteria] so that students can go out there and just relax."



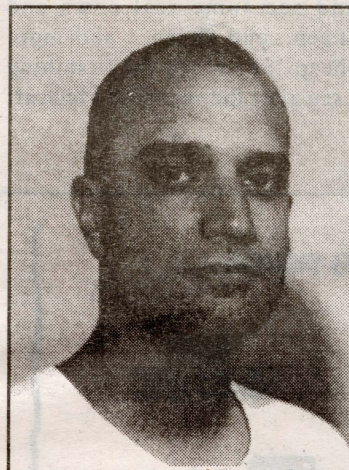
**Neknya Walker**  
Junior  
Special Education

"I think [the remodeling] is a compliment to the University, it is very nice. The Student Union Building looks way better than it did before. I didn't know how to get around [before] and now I do. It is very nice. I would like to see some new desks or chairs in the Classroom Building. Perhaps the classrooms in the Classroom Building should be bigger."



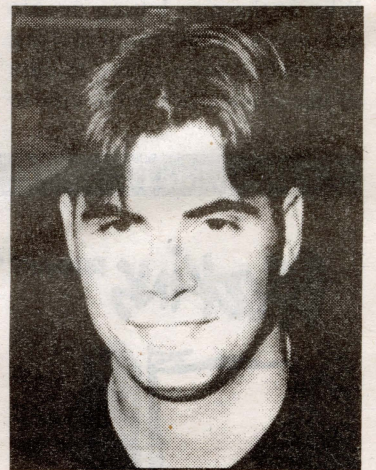
**John Jalas**  
Senior  
Major: Economics  
Minor: History

"I like the new remodeling, it is very convenient. I like it very much! I think the Classroom Building is the next building they should remodel. It should be expanded. It is very small as it sits right now."



**Mark Chapin**  
Freshman (Returning Student)

"As far as the current remodeling is concerned, so far, so good! I am pretty new here, so I don't know what a lot of the buildings looked like before the remodeling took place, but I like what I see! I would open up the cafeteria to the outside grounds. Make it so you could sit outside while still having access to the cafeteria without having to go upstairs."



**Sean Harris**  
Sophomore  
General Education (Major undecided)

"I think that the remodeling is good. I think a lot of people are staying on campus after school and socializing because of the improved atmosphere. I would like to see the school build a bigger auditorium, so that the school could host concerts and things."

## We want your opinion!

### What do you want us to ask the University community?

E-mail us at T-Independent or stop by room E-049 and let us know.



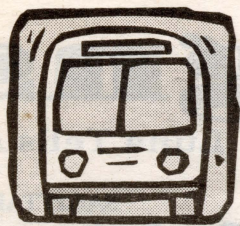
Amnesty has joined forces with the Sierra Club and started an organization called :  
**EARTH FIRST**

We are looking for students who are interested in helping us with working for a better environment We meet every Tues. at 1:40 in C- 2094 Please join us and take a leading role in saving our fragile earth

## Amnesty International

For more info E-MAIL: FINKELANEY@AOL.COM or VEVA SILVA@AOL.COM





# The Commuter

Your Independent Guide to Features

## For business and pleasure Books to help you learn, relax

### Everything You Need to Know About Religion

by Jennifer Klein  
Staff Writer

Gregg Stebben opens chapter one by claiming that all anyone really wants to know is "What happens after you die?" If there were to be a test on that question, *The Pocket Professor: Everything You Need to Know About Religion* would be your Cliff's Notes. Stebben admits from the start that no one really knows the answer—he simply tries to teach the reader about all the possible solutions. From Anglicans to Zoroastrians, he claims to cover it all, and, to a limited extent, he succeeds.

His success is due, in part, to the structure of the book. Beginning with "A Consumer's Guide to Heaven and Hell," *The Pocket Professor* has no chapters. New topics are marked by a paragraph with a title at the beginning. Stebben has no obvious organizational pattern, but that is in keeping with the sidebar heavy, short attention span structure of the book. Next to a chart discussing the heavens and hells of seventeen religions—the Egyptians had "no real hell", while Buddhists have "a total hell count of 136"—is "A Quick Backgrounder on God." Turn the page and you'll see the section on animal worship.

Frequently, the most interesting information is in the sidebars and information boxes. On a relatively dull page about the evolution of the name Yahweh, the sidebar discusses seven Native American Creation myths. Later in the book, while the main text differentiates between immersion and ablation, the information box lists other forms of ritual purification, such as washing with the urine of a sacred cow.

Does *The Pocket Professor* really tell you everything you need to know about religion? Of course not, but at times, Stebben comes close. His book is sprinkled with extremely useful lists and explanations. On page 25, he lists the names of God for fifteen religions and ethnic groups, followed by a list of the basic elements "needed to make a real religion."

We learn that Judeo-Christians have some interesting apocryphal books, including *The Gospel of Judas Iscariot* and *The Life of*

Adam and Eve. Instructions for conducting a proper Seder are here. Think you've seen the Virgin Mary? Put yourself through *The Apparition Litmus Test*, a checklist of common factors in legitimate Marian apparitions.

Heretics are covered, too. Egyptian Pharaoh Akhenaten was a "heretic in the religion in which he was god." Some heretics managed to succeed in reforming the church, as can be read in "Twelve Reasons Why Protestants Protested."

Stebben makes some possible errors, however.

As a marketing and journalism professional, his research seems to have failed him at times. He is unsure as to the meaning of "immaculately conceived," and

also seems unaware of the fact that the Episcopal Church allows women to be ordained as priests—both important religious facts. By the end of the book, he spends nearly as much time criticizing the religious climate of the 90's as he does explaining New Age Mysticism and the practice of the Inquisitions.

*The Pocket Professor* also takes the concept of writing for your audience a bit too far for an informative book. Fifty-one pages—nearly half the book—are devoted to Christianity and Judaism, which also receive extensive coverage in the rest of the sections. Islam, which has over 5 million adherents in North America alone, is mentioned on eleven pages, often briefly.

Even with these shortcomings, *The Pocket Professor* does an admirable job, cramming a lot of information into 120 entertaining pages. If you're planning to convert, this is definitely not a comprehensive guide to any religion; however, it is an informative and fun resource, especially if you're a Jeopardy buff or trivia hound. Double-checking the facts in here might

be a good idea, but for a quick expansion of religious knowledge, *Everything You Need to Know About Religion* might come close enough for you.

### Philosophy Made Easy

by Bruce Detweiler  
Staff Writer

"Our planet abounds with philosophers, or so yet it seems."

This is the opening of a new book in the Pocket Professor series. Entitled *Everything You Need to Know About Philosophy*, the author of this book, Stever Herman, Ph.D., offers an overview of the subject of philosophy, thus saving those curious about this discipline from hours of class study. As he points out, there are many out there who consider themselves philosophers, but really don't understand what philosophy is about. This book helps to answer the questions people have and also gives them a quick tour of the subject.

*Everything You Need to Know About Philosophy* starts out describing exactly what philosophy is. However, as the author points out, "We not only don't know what philosophy is, we don't even have a sure sense of it." But in order to give the reader some sense of what comprises philosophy, the book does go into detail about what it is not. And even though philosophy isn't clearly defined, detail is given about the five main branches of philosophy: metaphysics (physics and matter), epistemology (knowledge and knowing), ethics (right and wrong), aesthetics (art), and logic (reasoning).

"What is the meaning of life?" This is a question that has led to many discussions, and is a question that this book addresses. However, there is no simple answer to this question. Philosophers tend to take a question such as "what is the meaning of life?" or "what is the meaning of meaning?" Philosophers tend to act like detectives, taking care in how they word their questions. The book also gives three views on the meaning of life. The first view is from the gospel which states that God created everything and we are here to serve God. The second view, by Jean-Paul Sartre, an atheist, who said that there is no God and that life has no purpose. "Man's destiny from birth is death." The third view of life is given by John Dewey, who also declares that there is no God; however, Dewey says that life does serve some purpose.

The book then explains the three methods of philosophic analysis, which are used to tackle these questions. It also devotes a lot of attention to the history of "-isms," and points out that "-isms" dot the landscape of philosophy, and novice (philosophers) can't hope to evade the philosophic claymores unless they know the philosophic lingo." Some examples of "-isms" used in this book include materialism,

idealism, and dualism.

Another section of the book is devoted to the question "what is the life worth living?" It is a question that the Greek philosopher, Plato, raised nearly a thousand years ago. The author offers his six favorite conditions for the type of life worth living—wealth, health, beauty, and honor are a few examples. It also dwells on Plato's answer to his question, "the life worth living is the happy life."

And finally, the book devotes a section to the great philosophers who have helped shape this discipline, from the past "greats" such as Socrates and Plato, to modern day philosophers, such as Dewey, Russell, and Sartre.

This is a good book for anyone who has no previous knowledge of philosophy or what it takes to be a philosopher. It is rich in details and gives great background of the people who have helped to contribute to philosophy. It also tackles some of the big questions and gives readers a great deal of information to help enrich themselves, without having to invest hours, time, and money of sitting in a classroom. Reading this book is guaranteed to make you think, and the newfound knowledge you obtain from it is guaranteed to impress others.

### The Baby Can Sing, but can it act

by Maya Bell  
Staff Writer

"The Bride's Lover," "Our New Life," "Water Witch," "David Morning," "The Glass House," "The Things We Find," and of course, "The Baby Can Sing." These are just a few

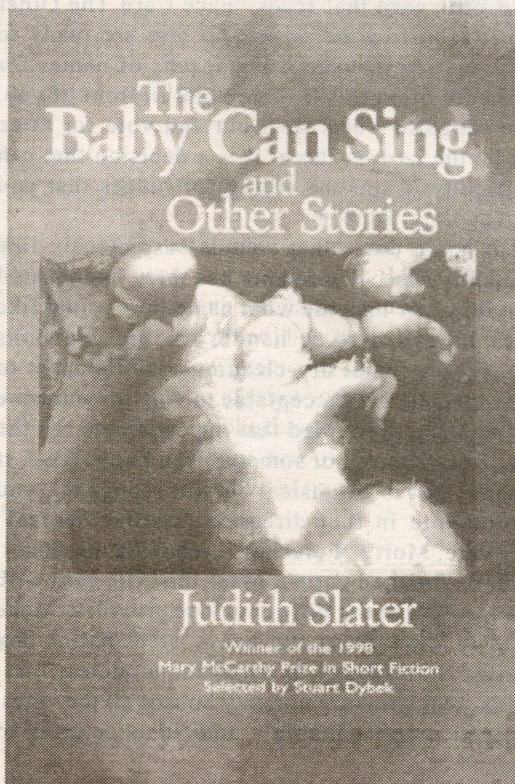
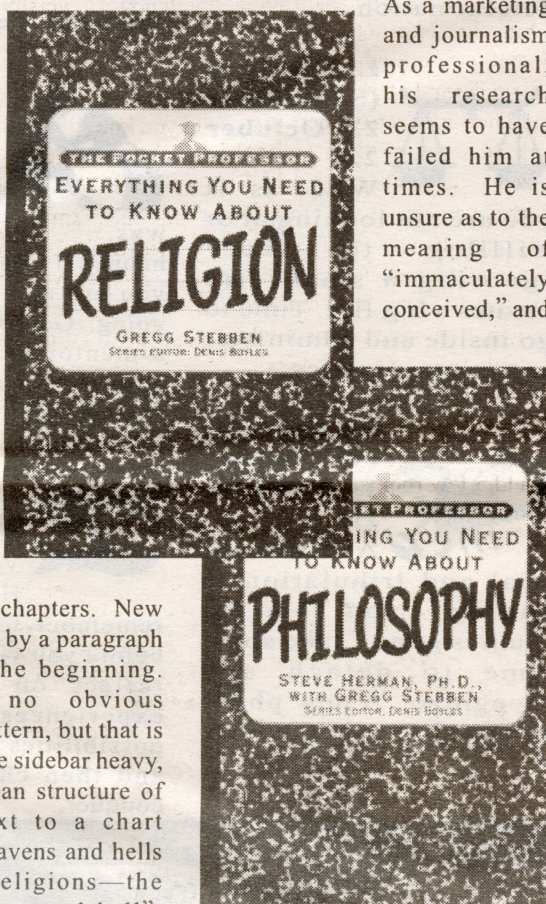
story, "The Baby Can Sing," is about a woman who believes her baby can do or will do things that no other baby can do. "Her tastes are eclectic, her standards high, you should hear her belt out 'Natural Woman.'" Yep, this baby sure is different from other babies. Yet this story isn't about an actual baby, it is about a baby the woman wishes she could have. The story is full of mystical imagery and metaphor, but frankly, I just didn't get it. It was a little bit too surreal in many aspects, which made it hard to understand where the narrator was really coming from. Hey, maybe it's just me, go ahead and check it out for yourself, you may disagree.

Although "The Baby Can Sing" was confusing, other stories in Judith Slater's compilation quenched my literary thirst. In "Soft Money," a corporation has money in its budget to redecorate everyone's office. But, clearly the narrator is worried about job security in the large corporation he or she works for, and comes up with a unique solution to the problem of downsizing. "I used to sing along with the radio on my way to work...Now I don't even turn on the radio. I spend the drive cataloging sins that may have been committed. I put them in three categories, sins bad enough to get fired, sins maybe bad enough to get fired." Thus, the narrator comes up with the solution that, "...if you're expendable you have nothing to lose." With that, he basically throws all decorum and caution to the wind and does what he wants to do. In this way, Judith Slater is most like her character.

She has an eye for subtle details, the physical and psychological that brings her characters to life.

In "Phil's Third Eye," the narrators' chance encounter at a laundromat ends in one of those "surreal and absurd twists" that Slater is always afraid to employ. Without giving away her story, the narrator Phil, goes into a situation with one thing weighing on his mind and comes out quickly (luckily unscathed) with a completely

different outlook. Sorry, I can't tell you much about it, you'll just have to read the book! But, I can see Books, page 13





## This Man's World CAMPAIGN RAFRAIN

John Rossi took this issue off. Please read and enjoy his winning entry from the 1998-99 ICPA Awards.

November is just around the corner, that means that it is time once again to perform an abundance of undesirable tasks. This time of year we find ourselves caulking windows, putting up storm doors, cleaning dirty gutters, and the most despicable task - voting.



JOHN ROSSI

The actual voting is not too bad. The part I loathe is sitting through all those campaign commercials on TV. Slander, name-calling, false accusation - what they need is a forum where the candidates can all gather to discuss the real issues - maybe *The Jerry Springer Show*.

Congressman Grabbenthorpe's commercials may insist that his worthy opponent, Miss Appropriation drools in her sleep, and develops a facial tick whenever someone mentions the word "scrutiny." It also alludes that her office has spent \$200,000 of the taxpayer's money on wallpaper, throw pillows, and something called "show towels." Meanwhile Miss Appropriation's implication is that Grabbenthorpe's office antics have resulted in three paternity suits, one involving an under-aged goat, and a free-style spending record that reveals a \$6,000 bill for "personal lubricants." This insanity goes on for weeks in an extremely successful attempt to make voters grateful when the elections are over.

I know of no other profession where this brand of name-calling and accusation is allowed to occur. As an example, you wouldn't choose to see a doctor who stated in a TV ad that he is the logical choice for your physician because his competitor, Dr. Bendover, merely *pretends* to wash his hands before examining you. Dr. Bendover might not be able to diagnose a pimple with a periscope, and it may be true that he purposely refrigerates his instruments to cause you discomfort, but this type of comment wouldn't instill a trust in the other doctor. These are elements found in all campaign commercials.

Election day arrives. You are instructed to go to a local school gymnasium or auditorium featuring peeling paint, loose plaster, missing floor tile and graffiti covering every piece of furniture the school board originally purchased in 1939. This is your opportunity to see where your tax dollars have been funneled for years.

Inside the space there are half a dozen voting stations. Many years ago, the booths used to be made of steel with drapes that were controlled by a heavy iron lever for ultimate privacy, giving you the illusion that you are the mighty and powerful Wizard of Oz, working the heavy wheels and levers safely behind your curtain to thwart the Cowardly Lion. Today they are fashioned from light cardboard and take less time and energy to set up. This gives the volunteers more time for their other duties such as making coffee, gossiping about neighbors, and sweeping donut crumbs off the registration tables.

You are sometimes asked to "declare" which party you intend to vote for. This can be unnerving the first time they ask, especially if the only answer that comes out of your mouth is "Whigs." Don't be concerned about it, your information is kept private from others until you safely reach the parking lot.

You are ushered to a wobbly cardboard voting station and asked not to breathe too close to it, since it was only designed to violently punch holes in a card with a little pin fastened to the booth by means of a short chain. In some of the booths they save bundle on beaded brass chains by making them two inches short of reaching the bottom of the card. In others, you may find the chain is ample enough to spear a crumb-cake out of the hand of one of the volunteers seated in the back of the room.

You must place the little card that reads "Face Card The Other Way, You Moron" in the little window so that you are ready to begin your civic duty. Notice that there are dozens of names for people you've never heard of on this little booklet in front of you. Your task is to systematically weed them out and vote for three *only* - but they must be the *correct* three. It is a decision that can be maddening, specifically if you are voting for judges that you might someday be up against. Don't

vote for anyone that has a name that sounds suspiciously like someone you used to hate. Also, if someone has three hyphenated names - steer clear. If they can't decide what name they would like to use, how can they be expected to handle the big decisions politician often face, such as what dry-cleaning establishment to patronize once they're elected. It is acceptable to vote for someone with an ethnic sounding name, provided that the candidate has the same ethnicity as you, your spouse, or someone you know. Also, if someone has a nickname that is whimsical but not repugnant, you may want to cast your vote in that direction. Willie "Weasel" Johnson might get my vote, Morty "Foreskin" Liebowitz might not.

Finally, when you have finished voting, place the little card with the word "Moron" facing up into the little envelope provided. Make sure that it is placed in the slot of the heavy steel ballot box developed by the United States Navy to withstand a nuclear blast at 16,000 fathoms. This steel structure not only houses all the votes, it holds something even more valuable - additional lengths of beaded brass chain.

Now you may go home, secure in the knowledge that you have fulfilled your obligation as an American. Watch the election results on TV, and rest assured that the system works - you won't be bothered for an entire year by mud-slinging campaign commercials or dirty gutters.

# Star Signs

Luna Tells All



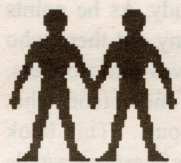
**ARIES**  
(March 21-  
April 19)

It's time to get in tune with the cycles of life. Turn your fire on low and get with the flow. Analyze your life-past, present, and future- then, get ready for a ride around the wheel.



**TAURUS**  
(April 20-  
May 20)

Capitalize on your natural ability to stay focused on material or "earthly" matters. Are you being stubborn or are you attuning to and working with the situation and people at hand? Harmonize bully.



**GEMINI**  
(May 21-  
June 20)

"This light of mine, I'm going to let it shine." Are the masks you wear to face society really serving you? The air waves are ready for you to communicate your inner vitality.



**CANCER**  
(June 21-  
July 22)

Okay, shy one, the sun is calling you out to play. Concentrate on the ways you go about getting close to people or not. Are you hiding?



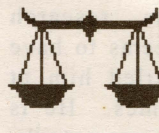
**LEO** (July  
23- August  
22)

All good things come through God, not your ego. Make sure you are respecting the principles and teachings of those who came before you. Your roar is louder with material and spiritual credence.



**VIRGO**  
(August 23-  
September 22)

You are full of strength. Make sure you use it to the benefit of yourself and others. Use your Earth energy to transmute strong feelings into positive determination.



**LIBRA**  
(September  
23- October  
22)

What is it you are not looking at or willing to face? Ignoring a small fire creates a big fire. Time to go inside and administer some inner-justice.



**SCORPIO**  
(October  
23- November  
21)

A time of trial and tribulation is ending. Now that the "rain is gone," take some time to detach and recognize. A new phase of your life is beginning.



**SAGITTARIUS**  
(November  
22- December  
21)

Burning in hell is not the result of acknowledging your sins; it's the result of denying your sins. {{ Alternative: Burning away the blocks you've erected to hide those things you are ashamed of is very advisable right now. }} Accepting and loving all parts of yourself is the only way to peace. There is plenty of forgiveness and time for changing the parts of you that you don't like.



**CAPRICORN**  
(December 22-  
January 19)

"Nothing ventured, nothing gained." Hold your nose and jump! Risk enables experience, which builds character. Get some.



**AQUARIUS**  
(January 20-  
February 18)

"What happened was..." Well, what did happen?! Reevaluate where you are and where you are going. Get some advice from a mentor or other reliable source and proceed accordingly.



**PISCES**  
(February 19-  
March 19)

Victory is yours! However, remember to vini and vidi before you vici. You need to reflect on similar past experiences, look at possibilities available now, and then charge ahead to conquer.

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# Question Vieja

Dear Vieja,  
I'm a halfway decent looking young man who just started my freshman year at Northeastern. In highschool I didn't really date much because I was kind of afraid of girls. I didn't know what to say to them. Now that I am in college, I see "hotties" everywhere and I get really excited, if you know what I mean. I try to go up to these girls and talk to them before or after class, but my mind keeps wandering to other things. We end up having stupid conversations about homework and I haven't gotten with anybody, yet. I don't want to repeat high school. How do I impress these beauties and make one my girl?  
Dateless

Dear Dateless,  
It's pretty clear to me that your first problem is

hormonal. If you are blinded by lust, you will never see the person in front of you. You might want to decide what it is that you really want. If you are looking for sex, eventually you will find a woman with that same frame of mind.

However, beware of sex, just for sex. A few minutes of pleasure can add up to a lifetime of trouble, pain, or hardship for both of you. If you really want to have a relationship with a woman, then you have to understand that they are human, just like you. Try to approach a woman you are interested in the same way you would approach a new male friend. Find a common interest, like music, and ask her if she would like to go to a concert. Go "Dutch" on tickets and think of dirt when you get excited. Know what I mean?

## Books

continued from page 11

tell you this, now read closely, I don't want you to miss this, the voices of Judith Slater's characters ring true with human experience. Gotcha! You didn't really think I was going to tell you the story, did you? But seriously, the people in her stories are just like you and me. They are thrown into unpredictable situations that force them to decide, whether it is for better or for worse. Believe me, they will surprise you.

In Slater's own words, "My

experience has been that people, on the whole are pretty resilient creatures. They just don't give up when things go badly; they're always on the lookout for the 'sense of possibility' - the feeling that around the next corner something good, however small could happen." This book is that "something good" around the broad literary corner, and folks, it is anything but small. Judith Slater is a writer I could hang out with, have an interesting conversation with, and even carry her book around with me, wherever I go. Wait a minute, I have! I strongly suggest you do too.

**GOT A QUESTION FOR VIEJA?**  
????????????????

Send any quires to:  
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## off the mark

by Mark Parisi



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**off the mark**

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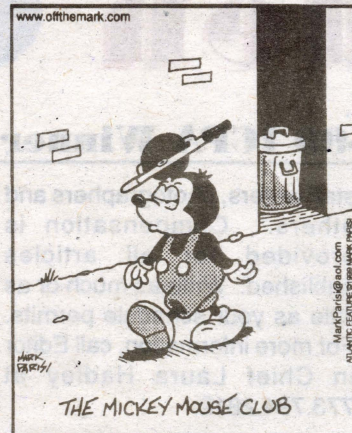
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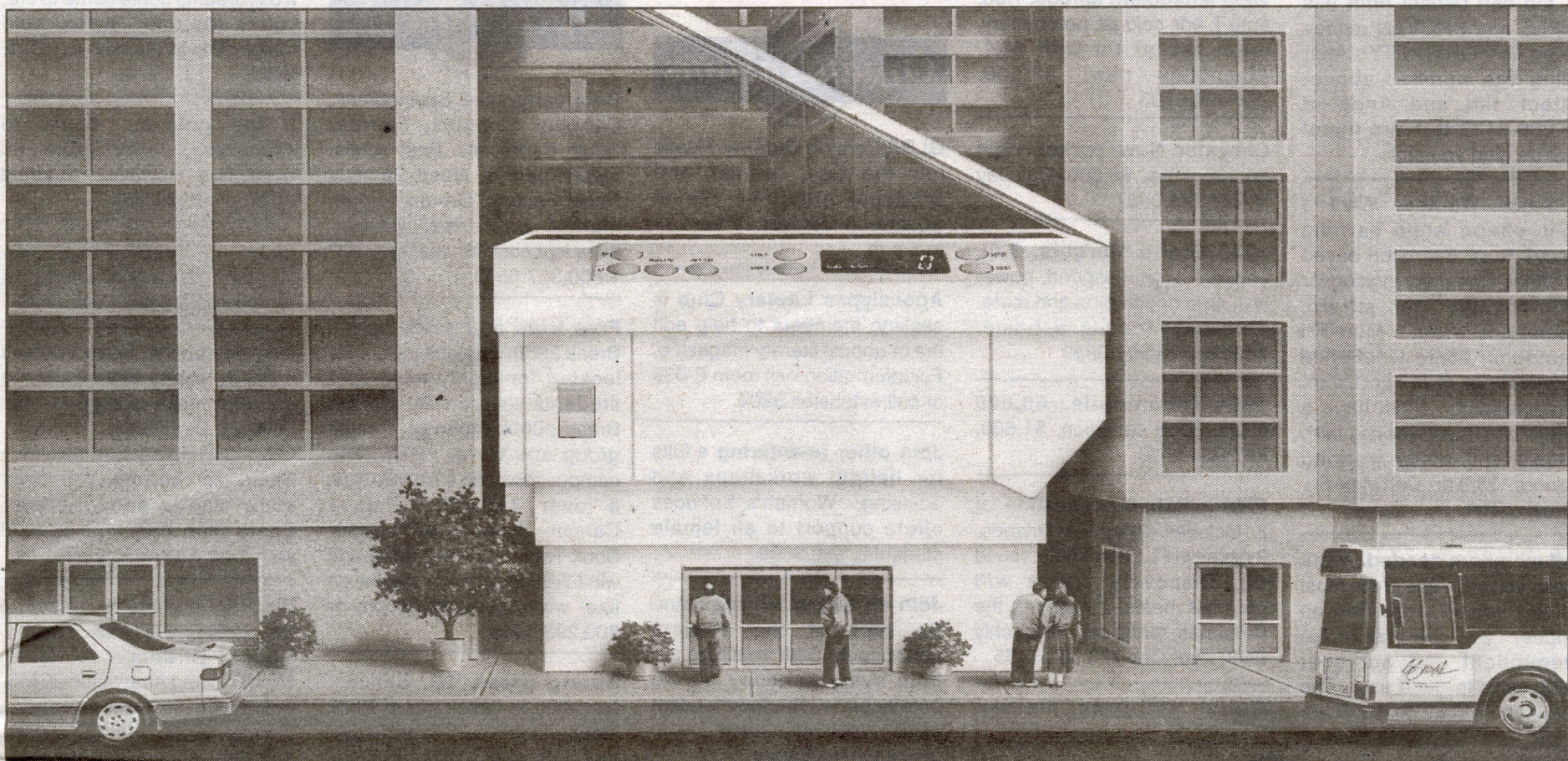
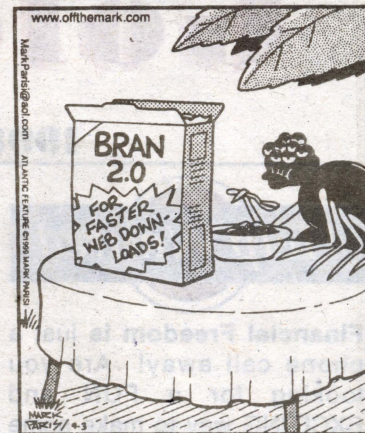
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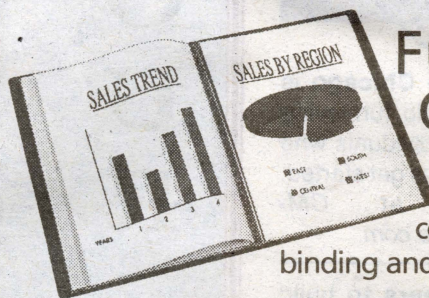
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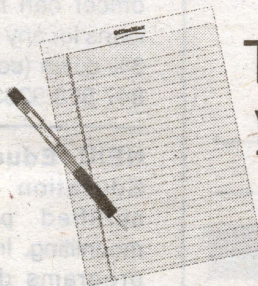
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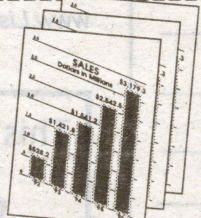


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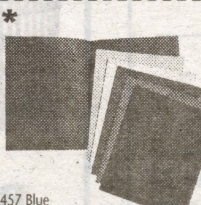
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