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Independent- Oct. 26, 1999

Laura R. Hadley

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Hadley, Laura R., "Independent- Oct. 26, 1999" (1999). *The Independent (1988-present)*. 223.
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Independent

Vol. 16 Issue 5

SERVING NORTHEASTERN ILLINOIS UNIVERSITY FOR OVER A DECADE

Tuesday, October 26, 1999

**Black bean
results**
page 8

**Happy
Halloween**

**Scary
Dwellings**
REV

Death sentence imposed! Decision has been made: willows to be removed

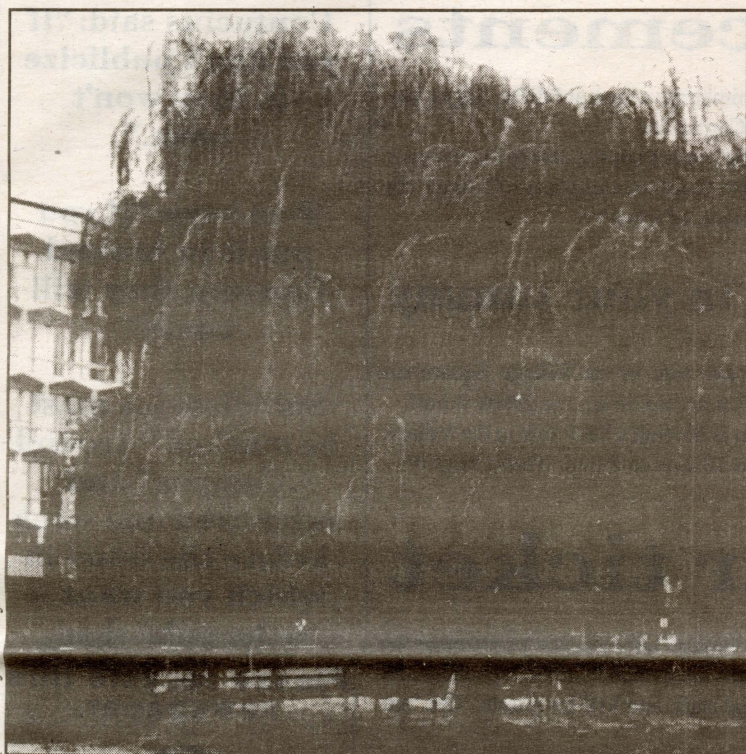


photo by Jamey McDunn



photo by Laura R. Hadley

As beautiful as the trees are perceived above ground, a little digging shows that they are causing some damage to the pipe system

Jennifer Green
Staff Writer

With the announcement that the willow trees are compromising the B-wing courtyard's sewer system, several NEIU students have shown concern. The trees, located on the west side of the glass-lined hall linking the A and B-wings, are causing damage due to extensive root growth. The proposal for this area is to put in a decorative vendor space, a small outdoor amphitheater, and about 20 or so

"user friendly" trees, defined by Joseph Kish, Director of Facilities Management, as trees whose canopy does not extend to the ground.

As it was last reported, Kish stated that the trees might have to be removed. J&R Jespersen Plumbing and Heating Company had been brought in for consultation and service. Facilities Management's suspicions were confirmed, there was indeed "a large amount of tree root growth..."

according to the company.

In a letter from Don C. Jespersen, Vice President of J.R. Jespersen Plumbing and Heating Company, it was stated that keeping the willows would require the installation of a maintenance rodding system. This would take quite a bit of time and would be an ongoing problem that would eventually require the sewer to be dug up and replaced, forcing the willow's eventual removal.

The university was left to decide

whether to cut down the trees or set up the maintenance rodding program, which would require rodding the sewer twice a year. Because the sewer in question is a 6" inch vitrified clay tile sewer with joints every 2 feet and it doesn't prevent root intrusion, it would eventually mean the university would have to dig up and replace the sewer.

Facilities Management has decided as of Wednesday, October 20, to take the trees down. The next

step is the process of putting the tree removal project on the market for a bid.

Many students are up in arms about this situation. They don't want to see the trees go if they can be saved, but they are not in the dark about the severe problem the trees have caused. Scott Saffro, a concerned graduate student at NEIU, wants to find a solution that does not include disposing of the trees. He feels they add something

see Willows, page 5

A matter of economics

by Niraj Malhotra
Staff Writer

Recently, a petition was signed by 52 students complaining to the economics department at Northeastern.

They are concerned that the spring 2000 course schedule only offers two evening 300 level economic electives courses. Majors need five 300 level electives to fulfill graduation requirements.

According to petitioners, Northeastern, being a university that is known for having a large student population that attends evening classes while working full time during the day, is letting some students down.

The student concern has led to some important questions. Why are there only two 300 level courses set for the evening slots in the spring 2000? Why are there no Saturday classes scheduled in the coming semester? Also, since 1992 two faculty positions have remained unfilled. Why?

These questions were posed to both the Economics Department Chair Robert Easton, and Coordinator Dr. Edward Stuart. Their answers were the same. In the case of two evening classes, they agreed it was a bit lower than usual, but referred to it as something we could expect not to see in the future.

"There are either three to four evening classes taught every semester" said Stuart. "This time, one slot was given up to a 400 level Graduate course."

While most other departments offer Saturday classes, the Economics Department has been deficient in this area. When asked to comment about the absence of Saturday morning classes, Stuart simply said, "It's a lack of instructors willing to teach Saturday morning, and frankly, there haven't been any requests for it."

Finally, in the case of the two unfilled faculty positions, Stuart said, "In the country as a whole there have

been a lot of Economics majors, until the last year or so."

According to Stewart, the decline of students within the economics major at NEIU in the mid 1990s is what caused the positions never to be filled.

The real point that they both stressed more than once was budget. Ironically, the extra teachers, the extra classes, the lack of classes, come down to economics.

Some alternatives may include tutored studies or independent studies, but a student would have to check specifically with the department. The petition has made the department aware that the students wish to take an active role in finding solutions. According to Easton there is a department meeting with students "in the works."

But, as far as the Spring schedule goes, even though some graduations will be delayed, it doesn't look promising.

"Pathways to Peace" helps save the world

by Tim Hill
Staff Writer

October is Violence Awareness Month.

Jacquie Harper, director of NEIU's Women's Services Department, encourages Northeastern students and faculty to not just dwell on the violence that disrupts our day-to-day lives, whether among our families and friends or what we see and hear in the media. Rather, our focus should be an outstanding effort toward peace, from our most personal relationships to our unique contributions in our communities. Each of us then lends help toward making a more peaceful world.

Last month, Harper sent a memo to all the faculty at Northeastern requesting information on classes pertaining to Violence Awareness. She received responses from professors in many departments including Women's Studies,

Sociology, Criminal Justice, Arts and Sciences, and even Computer Science among others.

"We can do a lot by joining together," Harper said, soon after attending Dean Hoda Mahmoudi's lecture in Golden Eagles hall entitled, "A Culture of Peace and Promotion of Human Rights." Dean Mahmoudi's presentation was one of the many offered this month to promote peace in our communities and awareness of the detriments of domestic violence. The campaign is called "Pathways to Peace," and was organized by Women's Services to publicize events this month attendable by all interested. Information on the events is available outside the Women's Services office next to the Student Lounge.

Also this month, the Sociology Club and Women's Services sponsors a supplies collection drive

see Peace, page 4



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Monday-Thursday

9:00 a.m.-4:30 p.m.

Friday

9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.

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The Independent is published every two weeks except during finals and semester breaks. Deadline is one (1) week prior to the issue in which a contribution is to appear. The views expressed in letters to the editor are those of the university community, and do not necessarily coincide with those of the Independent Editorial Board. The Editor in Chief is responsible for the content of the Independent and views presented do not necessarily represent, in whole or in part, those of the Northeastern Illinois University administration, faculty, or students. The Independent is a member of the Associated Collegiate Press and the Illinois College Press Association.

Independent,

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Around Campus

compiled by Thomas J. Foley, Features Editor

Club stuff

This is a new section I'm trying out. I got these bits of club info from the Village Square bulletin boards, so if you have anything you'd like to add, forward it to the Independent, Room E-049, Around Campus, c/o Thomas J. Foley.

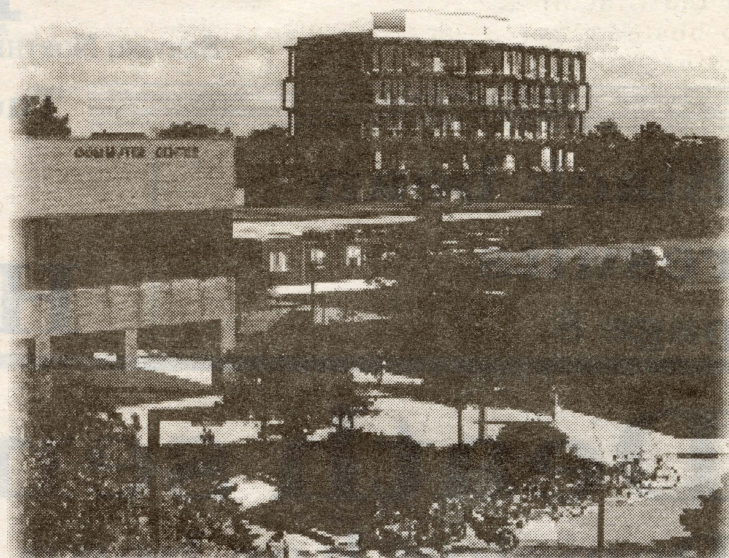
Amnesty International of NEIU meets every Tuesday at 1:40 p.m. in CLS 2094. You can also contact them via e-mail at finkelaney@aol.com or vevasilva@aol.com.

The Black Caucus Club meets every Tuesday at 1:40 p.m. in CLS 3094.

The Chinese Club meets almost every Thursday at 1:40 p.m. in CLS 3003. Check them out on the web at <http://www.neiu.edu/~csc>.

The Gay, Lesbian and Bisexual Alliance of NEIU meets every Thursday at 1:40 p.m. in CLS 3071.

The Independent meets every Tuesday at 1:40 p.m. in the newspaper office at E-049. All students who wish to contribute their talents are invited to attend.



Programs galore

The CHIMEXLA Club, the Union for Puerto Rican Students (UPRS) and the United States Hispanic Leadership Institute will be hosting the second part of their Collegiate Leadership Development Program on Tuesday, October 26, at 1:40 p.m. in CLS 2056. For more info, contact UPRS or CHIMEXLA via the Student Activities Office at ext. 3868.

The Placement Office is hosting some Internship Workshops on Tuesday, October 26 and Thursday, November 11 at 1:30 p.m. in the Placement Office in C-330. Space is limited, so please call the Placement Office at ext. 3119 to reserve your spot.

The Department of Health, Physical Education, Recreation and Athletics, and the College of Business and Management are sponsoring a motivational speech by Coach Joe Newton entitled *Motivation for Peak Performance*. The talk will take place on Wednesday, October 27, at 7 p.m. in SU 214. Everyone is invited.

The Northeastern Programming Board is hosting a Halloween Dance in Alumni Hall on Friday, October 29 from 9 p.m. to midnight. There will be enough music and dancing to wake the dead!

The Student Government Association's Beautification Committee will be meeting to discuss the recent decision to remove the B-Wing Courtyard willows. The meeting is tentatively set for Friday, October 29 at 3 p.m., in SU 214, but as this hasn't been confirmed as of press time, look for flyers posted during the week.

Starting Monday, November 1, the Student Volunteer Corps is sponsoring an All-University Charity Drive, which will run until December 10. Contact the Student Volunteer Corps at ext. 6115 for more information.

Your Student Government Association's Student Senate is meeting on Tuesday, November 2, at 1:40 p.m. in the Cafeteria Meeting Room. All are invited to attend.

The Black Heritage Gospel Choir is sponsoring an International Day Soul Food Table of the Millennium on Tuesday, November 2 from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. in Alumni Hall. There will be singing at 2 p.m., so don't miss it.

The Northeastern Programming Board is presenting a screening of the award-winning film, *Saving Private Ryan* on Monday, November 8, from noon until 10 p.m. Obviously, there will be multiple screenings.

Announcements

A warm welcome to our newest administrative face at NEIU, Peggy Ho, the new Director of Financial Affairs/Controller.

NEIU has recently announced that they invite applicants for the position of Director of El Centro, one of NEIU's satellite campuses. Contact the Dean of Academic Development for more information.

Yummy, yummy in your tummy

The Sociology Club is hosting a bake sale in the Village Square on Tuesday, October 26 from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. So be sure to check it out!

The Union for Puerto Rican Students is hosting a bake sale in the Village Square on Monday, November 1, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Don't miss it!

Get your ticket

Tickets are currently on sale for the big Los Lobos concert scheduled for Saturday, November 20 at 8 p.m. Tickets are available in the box office, \$5 for NEIU students, \$7.50 for faculty and staff, and \$10 for guests. Get 'em while they're hot!

The Stage Center Theatre is puttin' on a play! This time, it's *Scapino, A Long Way Off from Moliere*, and it begins on Thursday, October 28 and goes through Saturday, October 30. It also runs the following weekend, Thursday through Saturday, November 4 through 6. NEIU students get free admission with NEIU ID. For tickets or information, call ext. 6652.

Hopefully, there's still a couple of tickets left for the Northeastern Programming Board's (NPB) Murder Mystery Dinner Theater on Friday, October 29 from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. in the Cafeteria Meeting Room. Look for NPB representatives with tickets, but hurry, before they run out!

The Music Department and Mostly Music, Inc. are sponsoring a concert series, the next performance of which is Friday, November 5 at 8 p.m. in the Recital Hall. This time, the series will feature the music of Jory Vinikour (harpichord), with Patricia Morehead (oboe), and Jean-Marie Minton (mezzo soprano). They will play the music of Bach, Morehead & Rameau. Students and seniors get in for \$8 with ID, otherwise, it's \$10. Call the box office at ext. 2787 for tickets and information.

Confucius said: "If you don't publicize it, they won't come."

Tom says: "If you put it in Around Campus, they will come."

Submissions must be marked "Around Campus" and submitted one week before the issue in which you want it to be published.

Please recycle this newspaper.



Thank you!

by John Prusko, Jr. 08.10.97

Submit to us

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

November 9
November 23
November 30
December 7

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

Northeastern Illinois University • Center for Inner City Studies • Black Student Movement

Empowering Blacks 21st Century and Beyond Conference

Thursday, November 18, 1999

Center for Inner City Studies • 700 E. Oakwood Blvd.

Keynote Speaker: 7:00 PM	Lecture: 3:00 PM
 Dr. Leonard Jeffries	 Muhammed Akil
Live Arts Performance by: 5:00 PM	Workshops throughout the day
Kemba	Y2K by Gimbu Kali
Also Performances by:	Entrepreneurship Workshop
CICS Kaumba Choir	Workshops and Seminars given by our reknown faculty and staff. Dr. Woril, Dr. Thompson, Dr. Carruthers, Prof. Starks, Marylene Whitehead, Dr. William Speller and many more.
African Vendors	
Jewelry, Clothing, etc..	

Sponsored by:
Black Student Movement
Pres: Ledelphia Boyd
Vice-Pres: Kevin Bell

Come and Begin the Process of Building

NEIU Students and faculty free. Student organizations who wish to attend this conference registration fee is \$25.00 for up to six members \$5.00 for each additional member by Oct. 25 - Nov. 5, between 9am - 12pm. Late fee of \$5.00 there after. Individuals who wish to attend registration fee \$10.00 at the door. For more info., please contact: Ledelphia Boyd at 773-268-7500 x115. l-boyd@neiu.edu

The Lincoln Brigade retells the story

by Edmond C. Bochnia
Staff Writer

Two weeks ago, NEIU and the Chicago Friends of the Lincoln Brigade co-hosted a week-long series on American participation in the Spanish Civil War. Chaired by NEIU Provost Estela Lopez, the Program Committee sponsored a series of classes, seminars and cultural activities that documented the history of the "Lincoln Brigade," a unit composed of over 2800 American volunteers in the Spanish Civil War. The series was hosted in the new Student Union.

The lecturers recounted the history of the Spanish Civil War. The conflict was initially an internal struggle in Spain between forces loyal to the Spanish Republic and a military coup led by Francisco Franco. The conflict escalated as both sides took on allies. Factory workers and foreign Socialists and

Communists went to the aid of the government, while National Socialist Germany and Fascist Italy aided the military coup. The American volunteers, fighting primarily on the side of the Republic, formed a unit called the "Abraham Lincoln Brigade." Lincoln was the President who fought to preserve the American Republic in the U.S. Civil War.

The series began with three presentations on October 11. Charles Hall, a Chicago native, shared his testimony of personal involvement in the conflict. Hall recounted his secret entry into Spain, military training, combat experience in the Brigade, and subsequent capture and incarceration as a POW in a Spanish prison located in San Pedro de Cardena. After his release a year later, he enlisted in the US military during WWII. Hall continued his involvement in political

see Brigade, page 5

NAACP too late

by Scott Plencner
Staff Writer

Russell Benjamin, NEIU professor of Political Science, called for African American business leaders not to count on set-asides and Affirmative Action any longer and to, instead, work toward other alternatives.

"Black businesses must realize that they are going to get all that they can get from the government," Benjamin said after describing the recent attacks by legislators and judges in response to Affirmative Action laws in business.

A small audience attended the speech, which was part of NEIU's *Equity in Action* program of discussion on issues affecting minorities and fringe groups. Various speeches and panels addressed the methods African-Americans, the handicapped,

homosexuals, Asian-Americans, and women are taking to reform the fabric of American government and principles.

Professor Benjamin criticized the NAACP for coming too late to the defense of African American business owners because of the organization's stance that the best chance African Americans have to gain wealth and power is through assimilation and not segregation. He went over the history of the NAACP's involvement, or lack of involvement, with the issue of African American business and the history of affirmative action as it was tested in the judiciary.

Benjamin noted that black business owners face huge barriers including a lack of good location and a constant abuse in the granting of loans to black

see NAACP, page 5



Village Square looked like someones back yard when the Clothesline Project visited NEIU.

T-shirts, bells express horrors of Domestic Violence

by Lior Alon
Staff Writer

Northeastern played temporary host to the traveling Clothesline Project, which took up a significant part of Village Square on Thursday, November 14.

The essence of this display involves dozen of t-shirts hanging on a line, each adorned with individually crafted writings and paintings related to the issue driving the project - violence (sexual and otherwise) against and abuse of women.

Each shirt bears an expression by a victim or people who survived her. They evidence great talent and creative vision. These pieces of art all share an acute experience in pain and suffering, yet many show signs of hope and growth. Many of the women choose to celebrate their liberation from a violent partner or family member via the conduit provided by the fabric.

The graphic medium of the shirts and their spontaneous, often bloody-looking specter, do an extremely effective job. Seeking to convey the fear, desperation and desolation facing battered and abused women in a society that all too often wishes to avoid the subject, the project moves from campus to campus throughout

the nation, sadly increasing its inventory on a regular basis. This speaks volumes about the extent of the problem and the need to use dramatic means in order to attract attention and notice. The belief that, although recognizable, the assault of women still goes largely forgiven or uncovered permeates the project, and rightly so.

To further augment its overtly graphic nature, the display color codes shirts according to the type of crime committed, progress of victim's struggle and other parameters, such as the terrible white category indicative of a woman's death as a result of violence. All too many of these could be seen last week, stressing the severity of this social problem.

Accompanying the proceedings was a grim soundtrack of tolling bells and whistles - truly mesmerizing. Put together with the sheer sadness and horror emanating from the display, these effects were more than convincing and indeed deeply moved all those who attended the showing, some to tears.

Originally conceived by Rachel Carey-Harper, a member of the Cape Cod Women's Agenda organization, the Clothesline Project saw its

modest beginnings at a park in Hyannis, Massachusetts, October 1990. Back then, it included "only" 31 shirts, its growth living testament to the problem's cancerous attributes. Compelled by the desire to give voice to the plight of women and inspired by the Vietnam Wall in Washington D.C, the project succeeds in reaching its audience by speaking candidly:

"Lila,
My sister, my friend,
I'm sorry you are dead,
And your baby, days away from
being born,
Never had the chance to live."

"I, too
Want my rapist's name
To stain this shirt in ink,
As it is forever imprinted
On my mind."

Despite all the obstacles and unspeakable terror they have faced, these women still managed to find within them a power source to keep the memory alive. The hanging clothes may symbolize women's unforgiving position in a man's world, yet surely contain a formidable punch.

May this effort succeed in helping make all future shirts clean.

EXTENSION 200

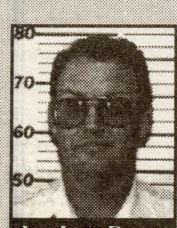
5 October

Criminal Damage to Property

Argument over a parking space escalated, leaving both parties with damaged vehicles.

Lost Property

Employee reported loss of office keys approximately 4 weeks earlier.



Lt. JACK BAKER

Disorderly Conduct - False Fire Alarm

Fire alarm box in Fine Arts building pulled by child.

Medical Assist

Victim had seizure triggered by fire alarm in Fine Arts Building. Victim transported to Swedish Covenant Hospital by Chicago Fire Department ambulance.

Hit and Run Accident

Victim's car was struck by unknown vehicle while parked in K Lot.

6 October

Found Property

Building service worker found wallet in Library. Turned in to Public Safety for safekeeping. Owner has not claimed property.

Disturbance

Domestic dispute involving staff member. No charges filed.

Disorderly Conduct

Officers responded to a fight in PE Building over a basketball game. Peace was restored, no charges filed. The matter was referred to Student Due Process.

7 October

Theft

Student stepped out of class to speak to instructor and returned to find leather jacket gone.

Found Property

Individual found a camera in Fine Arts Building restroom. Property returned to owner intact.

9 October

Criminal Damage to Property

Victim stated that person(s) unknown had attempted to remove a fog light from victim's vehicle, breaking it in the process.

11 October

Theft

Purse left unattended on bench in Science Building.

Lost Property

Individual left wallet on top of car, drove off. Search of area had negative results.

12 October

Disturbance

Domestic dispute involving staff member. No charges filed.

13 October

Theft

Victims left bags unattended, money removed from wallets.

Disorderly Conduct

Student reported another student struck the student's car and made insulting comments. No charges filed.

14 October

Traffic Accident

Van and bicycle collided in K Lot entrance. No injuries, no charges filed.

Found Property

Bracelet found in Fine Arts building, unclaimed at this time.

Forgery

Student found with a forged parking permit. No charges filed at this time. Case referred to the Dean of Students.

15 October

Theft

Student left disc player unattended outside classroom.

16 October

Disturbance

Student refused to follow computer lab rules. Student left lab, no charges filed.

18 October

Medical assist

Student complained of severe

stomach pain, treated and released at Health Service.

Forgery

Student found with a forged parking permit. No charges filed at this time. Case referred to the Dean of Students.

Crime Prevention Tip: Okay, I know we said this before but if you read the theft reports you'll see that people are still leaving their property unattended! Now stop that! Hang on to your stuff, remember there are people who will grab your stuff and take off with it the minute they see an opportunity to do so. If you don't need to carry it with you, lock it in a locker or leave it home. Let's make life difficult for the thieves.

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

Fall semester SGA election results

A total of 411 ballots were cast during the elections: 18 Saturday, 9 at El Centro, 67 at CICS, and 317 at the Main Campus (Wednesday and Thursday combined).
The top 10 vote getters in the Senate election are appointed to their seats for one year.
All NPB candidates were elected. There were four seats open.
Spoiled ballots are those with no name marked or with an invalid candidates name written in the Write-In slot.

Results of the referendum vote are posted to the right.

POSITION / CANDIDATE	SATURDAY	EL CENTRO	CICS	MAIN CAMPUS	TOTAL
SENATOR					
JAMES, Robert	2	0	5	1	8
LOPEZ, Mynor G.	3	1	0	37	41
COVELLI, Jennifer	1	0	0	14	15
ALLEN, Veronica	0	0	4	8	12
AVRAHAM, Caleb G.	0	0	0	1	1
TAFOLLA-MARTINEZ, Saul	1	6	0	50	57
SLOANE, David	0	0	0	7	7
BOLDEN, Aaron	0	0	0	4	4
ZAKI, Alia O.	0	0	25	37	62
APARICIO, Maura	7	1	0	9	17
STEELE, William	0	0	1	75	76
YOUNG, Kendra D.	1	0	28	25	54
ASKAR, Ali	2	0	1	14	17
CASTREJON, Dolores - Write-in	1	1	0	24	26
Polizzi, Christina - Write-in	0	0	0	3	3
Spoiled:	0	0	3	8	11
TOTAL:	18	9	67	317	411

POSITION / CANDIDATE	SATURDAY	EL CENTRO	CICS	MAIN CAMPUS	TOTAL
N.P.B.					
SAGEL, Dennis	1	1	4	47	53
ALLEN, Veronica	2	1	42	102	147
HAQUE, Amalia	2	0	3	42	47
APARICIO, Maura	11	6	1	78	96
Spoiled:	2	1	17	48	68
TOTAL:	18	9	67	317	411

Referendum: “Earlier this year, Governor George Ryan signed legislation that prohibits graduate students (students who have already earned a B.A. degree) from serving as the Student Trustee to NEIU’s Board of Trustees. Should all students be able to serve as Student Trustee?”

Yes
362

No
37

Stduent Government will take the results of the referendum vote to President Steinberg and Board of Trustee Chairman Daniel Goodwin in the hope that they will reconsider their previous advocacy of the Graduate Student restriction imposed by HB-2218.
I seriously hope that they will take action on this,” commented Student Trustee Thomas Foley.

Peace

continued from page 1
to help domestic violence shelters. They asked for donations of baby needs, linens, toiletries, and cleaning supplies to offer victims of domestic violence and their children a few more necessities than food and clothing.
In five years, Violence Awareness month at Northeastern has gone from

focusing specifically on women’s violence to full-scale promotion of peace and prevention including all types of violence in relationships, communities, and the world. Harper, Women’s Services, and all Northeastern peace-promoting faculties will continue informing the public about how each individual can contribute to a progressively violence-free environment for all.

All-University Charity Drive

“Helping those in need”

November 1 through December 10

non-perishable food
clothing
coats
toiletries
toys

Village Square drop off boxes

Sponsored by: The Student Volunteer Corps, E205, x6115
Co-sponsored by: Alpha Kappa Alpha, Business and Management Club, Chinese Student Club, The Independent, Northeastern Programming Board, Student Government Association

Want to help move, package and/or deliver??? Call Laura or Kin at x6615

Equity in Action: more just talk

Speaking against hate, bigotry, physical attacks

by Maya Bell
Staff Writer

"Empowerment through Involvement," was the theme of this year's *Equity In Action: Affirmative Action Programs* that took place the week of October 18.

Throughout the four day series of programs, presentations were given on such topics as, "A Culture of Peace and the Promotion of Human Rights," "Inequities and Invisibility: Marketing/Communications," and "Reading and Writing to Create Change." One that had a particularly poignant theme was entitled "Facing Hate, Understanding America: Comprehending and Combating Hate In the U.S."

Moderating the presentation was Tim Libretti, Assistant Professor, English and Women's Studies. Libretti was also one of three presenters, his presentation entitled, "Hiring the Fox to Guard the Chicken Coop: The Cultural Contradictions and Political Follies of Policing Hate Crimes."

Libretti spoke about the cultural significance of hate crimes in the media, referring to the Ben Smith murders that occurred on July 4 of this year, and asking the question, "What is a hate crime?"

Libretti also stated that, "We are still shocked by hate crimes as a culture. We are used to people killing each other for money, but we are not used to people killing each other for hate."

He stated later that possibly what keeps people from understanding what produces hate crimes is the fact that people still can't believe something like that could happen in their community. This therefore, "keeps us from finding a workable solution to end it."

Libretti's presentation paved the way for the next presenter, Devin Burkhardt, from the Center for New Community, a committee that tracks and records 272 White Supremacist groups through research and monitoring. Burkhardt spoke about the rise and fall, then resurgence again, of white

Supremacist groups. We should always remember, "there is a deep, culture reservoir of hate."

Burkhardt stated four key categories that White Supremacist groups fall under. The first was the "Hooded Americanism of the KKK," which he says, contrary to popular belief, is biggest in the Midwest. He stated that the clan experienced periods of power, and periods of weakness, and they lashed out harder when the economy was not doing well, striking out at all possible minority groups, blaming them for the downfall of society.

The second category was the "Hitler Worship of Neo-Nazis and Racist Skinheads." Burkhardt stated that these groups are "targeting young people through music filled with illusions of genocide and depicting white power." Currently there are 25 record labels dedicated to the promotion of white power and hate.

The third category was the "Bible-Based Bigotry of the Christian Identity Movement." These supremacists typically use the Bible to justify hate. According to Burkhardt, they say "People of color are sub-human, what they call 'mud-people', and that Jews are descendants of Satan."

The last category is the "Constitutionally-Based Racism and Anti-Semitism of the Christian Patriot Movement," where they use the constitution to promote hate among the masses. They typically use words like, "New World Order," and "Federal Reserve" and are very anti-democratic. Burkhardt stated that even though these groups use different channels to promote hate, whether it be the Bible or the constitution, the fact is, they all promote hate with a vengeance.

The final speaker was Gary McNaney, Amnesty International Midwest Region Student Coordinator. His presentation was entitled, "Attacks Against 'Fags' and 'Dykes' The Acceptable Hate Crimes."

"I am not here as a spokesman for the gay and lesbian community," McNaney said. "I'm here as a member of a human rights group, talking about the one hate crime that is still accepted almost worldwide, and that is the crimes against lesbians, gays, transgender, and bi-sexual people."

He continued, "Unfortunately, the FBI has pointed out in this country especially, that not only do gays and lesbians have to worry about the traditional hate crimes groups, but they have found out that people who commit crimes against gays and lesbians are likely people who would not be involved in any other hate crimes, except those against gays and lesbians." McNaney stated that he wants to know what we can do about hate crimes now, instead of worrying about the past. One of the reasons that drives Amnesty, Inc., is the fact they are firm believers in the universal declaration of human rights which states that "all human beings are born free and equal in dignity and rights."

Although these presentations touched on different aspects of hate, from the KKK to the Constitution, the prevailing theme was that we have to take a stand against violence and hate. "Empowerment Through Involvement." Involve yourself with your local Amnesty chapter, or make a donation to organizations who deal with combating hate crimes. Empower yourself to make a difference, and eventually we will overcome.

NAACP

continued from page 3

owners. He said that the NAACP has too huge a task before it in their late-found debate for the preservation of Affirmative Action laws because most whites do not believe racial discrimination exists in business and are calling for an end to Affirmative Action in the name of reverse discrimination.

While he questioned whether affirmative action in the offering of municipal contracts and work is contradictory to the nature of capitalism, Benjamin noted that capitalism may not be the greatest way toward any kind of economic parity.

Willows

continued from page 1

positive to the school's atmosphere. Student Trustee Tom Foley, chair of the SGA Beautification Committee, feels he may have exhausted all options. According to Foley, one suggested solution was to re-route that portion of the sewer system, though this would require more length of pipe, and in turn, may alter the slope of the system so that it would not meet state codes.

The Beautification Committee's next step is to call a meeting and to invite representatives from Facilities Management, and all concerned students.

"Maybe by putting our heads together, we can come up with a solution that will be acceptable to everyone," said Foley.

The meeting is tentatively set for Friday, October 29 at 3 p.m. in SU-214. Flyers will be posted in Village Square.

Garvey, Marley an inspiration to African descendants

by Tim Hill
Staff Writer

On October 14th, Professor Bernard Headley of NEIU's Criminal Justice department gave an informative, spirited presentation on the teachings of Marcus Garvey and the corresponding essence of Bob Marley's music. The third week of October at Northeastern observed and reflected on history's many inspiring tales of liberation, and Professor Headley's speech outlined two of the famous fights for freedom in the world.

Marcus Garvey found his initial inspiration for protest in 1905 while in England when he was only 18 years old. Garvey observed the inequality between whites and blacks in England as well as in his homeland Jamaica when he returned to its capital Kingston. It was then that Garvey founded his Universal Negro Improvement Association (UNIA).

Garvey gained further inspiration for his movement in 1910 when he left home again to work on a banana plantation in Costa Rica. There once more, Garvey saw inequality and oppression suffered by people of color.

Garvey found in all black people a "common bond of suffering." He felt that black people around the world were stifled socially, financially, and spiritually, but that like all other people, blacks should live with deserved freedom and dignity.

When Garvey came to the New World, he brought with him a powerful message for people of African descent living in North America, Latin America, and the Caribbean. As Headley explained, "The key to their social, political, and economic liberation laid in reestablishing their roots with the African continent." The message was profound, yet understandable, that black people should "look to Africa" with pride in their heritage and strength in their enduring oppressive living conditions all across the world.

The freedom cry of Garvey's UNIA became, "Up you mighty race!" inspired by Booker T. Washington's book "Up From Slavery." By 1919, and at only 32 years old, Garvey estimated that

the UNIA had escalated to 30 chapters of followers around the world with nearly 2 million members and/or supporters.

Another Jamaican who heeded the call of black liberation was Bob Marley. About ten years before Marley was born in 1945, Rastafarianism began in Jamaica. Followers of Rastafarianism, called Rastas, presented a "spirit of fearsomeness" to any race, government, or class that would deem them inferior. The notorious hairstyle of "dreadlocks" was a powerful symbol of rejection towards oppressors.

Reggae was the protest music of the Rastas, characterized by funky, easy-to-dance-to rhythms borrowed partially from American R&B, and angry lyrics lashing out against oppression.

Marley became internationally famous for popularizing reggae to the rest of the world and for inspiring his audiences to strength, unity, and faith. Because of Marley, reggae had a strong effect on lower class people like he once was. Rastafarianism gained a larger following as a religion too, because behind Marley's catchy, melodic music and honey-throated vocals rang themes of protest and lament for the oppression undergone by his Jamaican brethren and for all people of African descent.

In Jamaica, Marley was regarded as a national hero. Songs like "Black Card", "Concrete Jungle", and the popular "Get Up, Stand Up" lamented the captivity and darkness reflecting the Jamaican lower class while urging listeners to rebel for their personal rights and freedoms.

Unfortunately, Bob Marley died of multiple cancers in 1981 at the height of his popularity and musical career. He was the first artist from the Third World to reach international fame.

Headley, assisted by guest-speakers Charles Mitchell, Distance Education Specialist, and Professor Charles Barber, taught of the "thematic" connection among the Garvey movement, Rastafarianism in Jamaica, and reggae music. All the events were incorporated in a common, but essential theme, as Headley said, "To let people live the way they want."

Brigade

continued from page 3

activism in the post-war period, including protesting the Vietnam War.

The afternoon presentation included highlights from the classic film, *The Good Fight*, which documents the conflict. The movie was to be put in the Library for NEIU students. The presentations included contributions from several local scholars who crafted a multi-disciplinary picture of the conflict. Each had a different perspective, but all agreed that the participants saw a compelling need to personally participate in a war against "Fascism."

The Fascists won a clear victory because the US maintained official neutrality.

Charles Hall recounted his childhood experiences which prompted him to volunteer in the Lincoln Brigade. He came to Chicago in 1929 and came of age during the Depression. He became involved in the Young Communist League and saw countless newsreels in movie theaters documenting the alarming rise of Hitler in Germany, Mussolini in Italy, and Dictator Tojo in Imperial Japan. In response to appeals by the Spanish people, Hall found connections that helped him to travel to Spain, endure military training and enter combat with the Lincoln Brigade.

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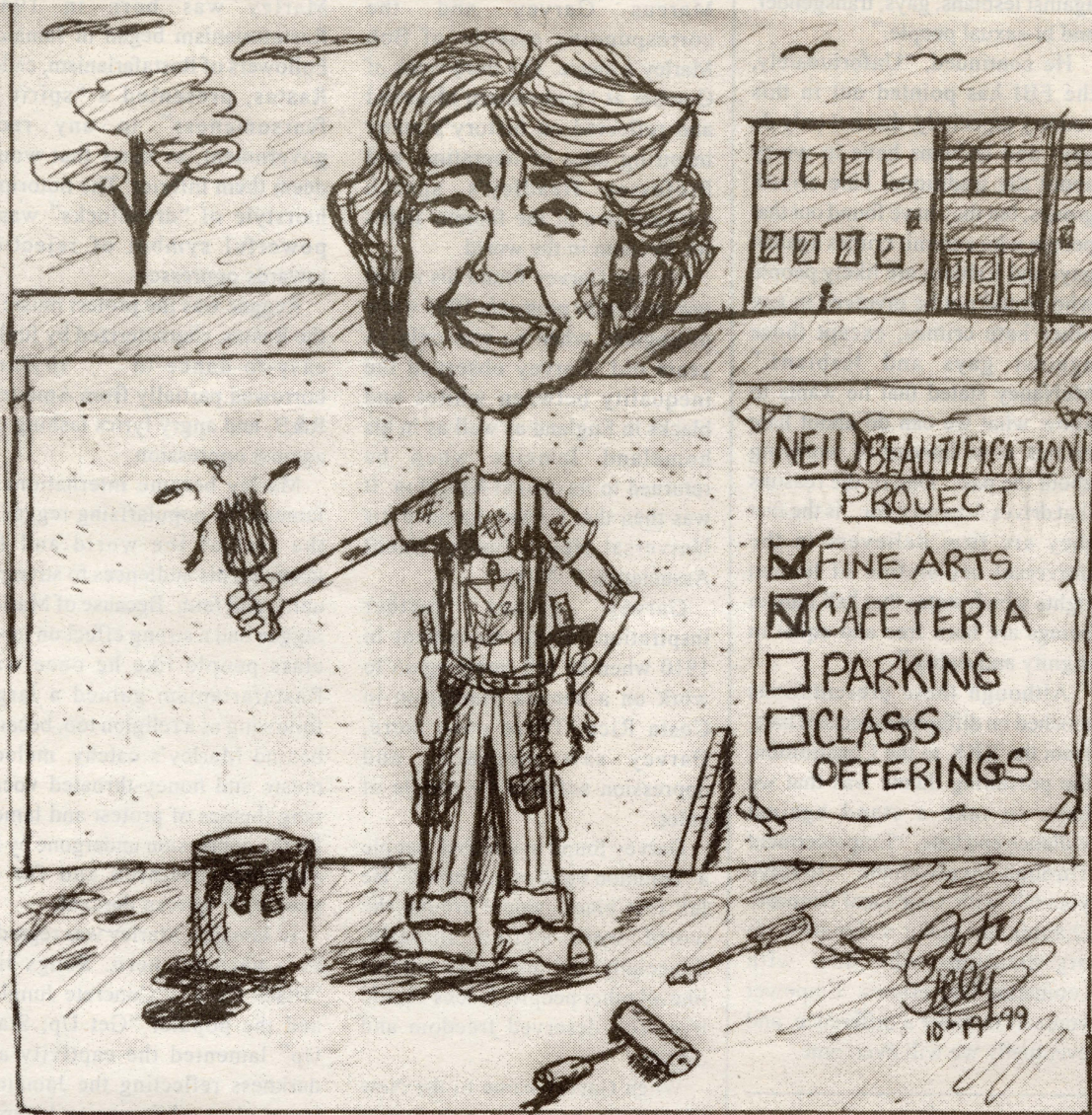
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GUEST EDITORIAL

Staff Editorial, Daily Illini (U. Illinois)

Test ban treaty woes

(U-WIRE) CHAMPAIGN, ILL. — Last Wednesday, a visibly furious President Clinton blasted Congress for rejecting a multinational test ban treaty.

Both China and Russia have expressed concern with Congress' move. On the day of the vote, Senate members heard pleas from some of the United States' strongest allies: Germany, France and the United Kingdom. Yet the Republicans still managed to defeat it.

The decision not to ratify the treaty — the United States has already signed it — can only represent the worst in partisan politics. With the United States possessing more nuclear arms than any other nation, its ratification was crucial in convincing other countries to ban underground nuclear testing.

Russia and China, two nations that have signed the treaty but have not ratified it, are unlikely to ratify now that they know the United States' position. China called Congress' defeat of the treaty "deeply worrying," according to the Associated Press. Moreover, what's to stop Russia or China from selling their arms to a country such as North Korea, which has neither signed nor ratified the treaty?

Republicans say the treaty was not verifiable, would not stop Iran or North Korea from wanting a nuclear arsenal, and would not protect America's best interest.

While it sounds like the Republicans might be protecting their constituents, in reality, not signing a nuclear test ban treaty only makes the world a more dangerous place. Is there any logic in the statement that more underground nuclear testing makes life safer for Americans?

In the end, Republicans should have realized America plays an integral role in the global arms race. It's time that some attention is paid to the big picture and not the bottom line of corporations that produce nuclear arms.

QUOTABLES

Show me a college dean whose professors are out on strike and I'll show you someone who's no longer in possession of his faculties.

Bert Murray

A college is a place where pebbles are polished and diamonds dimmed.

Rober G. Ingersoll

A diploma is a remembrance of things passed.

Honey Greer

Education is the inculcation of the incomprehensible into the indifferent by the incompetent.

John Maynard Keynes

Education is learning what you didn't even know you didn't know.

Daniel F. Borstin

Living in interesting times

by Jamey McDunn
Opinions Editor

Some milestones are not only made to be broken but it seems as though the world heralds it when they do. When Mark McGuire broke Babe Ruth's home run record, the people of the United States looked at that as a true test of the athletic and human spirit. Then there are those records that seem to cut both ways; that give us a moment for pause.

On October 12 at three minutes after midnight, Helac Fatima gave birth to a bouncing baby boy. The World Population Association had already determined that the world currently held six billion people. Ms. Fatima's child was chosen to symbolize that phenomena.

According to General Kofi, U.N. Secretary, efforts should be made for Baby Fatima to be able to live "...a decent life." While all concerned were elated for the honors bestowed on the Fatima family, this brings up a much larger picture.

While we now have the distinction of including more people on this planet than at any other point in time, the critical issue is how we got there. After all, it only took us only 40 years to double our current number. Also, consider that one billion people have been added to our rolls since 1987. And there is no sign of it stopping. Of all of the people on earth, over a quarter of them are under 25. Half of that number are either at or

entering their most sexual years.

The question of any generation is not the size of its youth population, but how that population views reproduction. In the United States, and other wealthy countries, youth is seen as a cultural force, as opposed to a population problem. Statistics maintain that the average U.S. teenage girl will have 2 children. Other countries don't necessarily share our views, while others have adapted to our thinking. In Mexico, in the 1960's, the average woman had 7 children. By the 1990's that number dwindled to 2. This was attributed to many things, but mostly to more women in the work-place, increased earnings and women taking more control over their lives. It was that

Shame on you, Senator Helms, Shame on you!

by Thomas J. Foley
Features Editor

Throughout time, important people have done petty, mean harmful, cruel and stupid things, even, as have we all. However, now we are faced with a United States Senator smack dab in the middle of a self-admitted conflict of interest who is compounding the problem more by backpedalling and a change of tactics. But such is the life of a mean-spirited, vindictive and treacherous, but powerful, rogue. Such is the life of Senator Jesse Helms of North Carolina.

Let me set the record straight, first. I have no love for Carol Moseley-Braun. I believe she was an ineffective senator who may have

committed treason. Nevertheless, I must rise to her defense in this instance.

Jesse Helms is a life-long politician. He's been taking paychecks from the public coffers for so long, that I think I have his fingerprints on my wallet. He's been a *public servant* for longer than most of us have been alive. We deserve better.

To recap quickly, Carol Moseley-Braun has been nominated for the position of ambassador to New Zealand. The Senate must approve the president's nomination, however. Thus it goes first to the Senate International Affairs Committee, of which Helms is the chair. Helms wants to kill the approval in committee, all because Moseley-

Braun swayed the Senate to vote her way on an issue, in opposition to Helms' stance on the issue. And he gleefully admitted this to a reporter for *Roll Call*, an insider Washington-based magazine. Since then, Helms has been raising Moseley-Braun's checkered and controversial past in order to hold up her nomination.

The problem here is not what Helms is doing to Moseley-Braun; the problem is that Helms is the one doing it.

Moseley-Braun deserves to have her nomination held up, and possibly defeated, like this. She brought it all on herself at any rate. Do we really want to send, as our emissary to another country someone who may not have been loyal to this country, even while serving in one of the

highest offices in the land? I don't. But Helms isn't the one to do this to her. Based on what he said in *Roll Call*, I have no choice but to see his obvious bias against her. What if she is truly loyal to this country and its principles, and her past problems were simply a case of circumstances and coincidences? Would Helms be able to see this? I doubt it.

Senator Helms, you know where your bias lies; you told us all publicly. You've been in the Senate long enough to understand your ethical obligation to fairness and to avoid even apparent conflicts of interest, so why do you continue this charade? No answer will be forthcoming, even if I send it to him. He is far too important to be concerned with the likes of me and my little article.

by 50%, or reach 9 billion in the next 50 years. Obviously, no one wants to seek the cataclysmic remedies that reverse the trends: things like war, famine, disease. But, on the other hand, no one wants to live in overcrowded conditions, poverty or squalor. The Jewish people have an expression, "May you live in interesting times." With so many people in the world, it would be hard for our times not to be interesting.

The right thing to do would be for Helms to step away from this decision, citing his bias. There is no shame in it; we all have them. There's no shame either in being defeated in a debate, but Senator Helms apparently doesn't know that, either.

The people of the state of North Carolina deserve better than this. The American people deserve better than this. For that matter, the nation of New Zealand deserves better than this. Senator Helms has made a circus out of this process and brought shame on us all. I sincerely hope that the good people of North Carolina exercise their civic duty next election and throw this bum out of office.

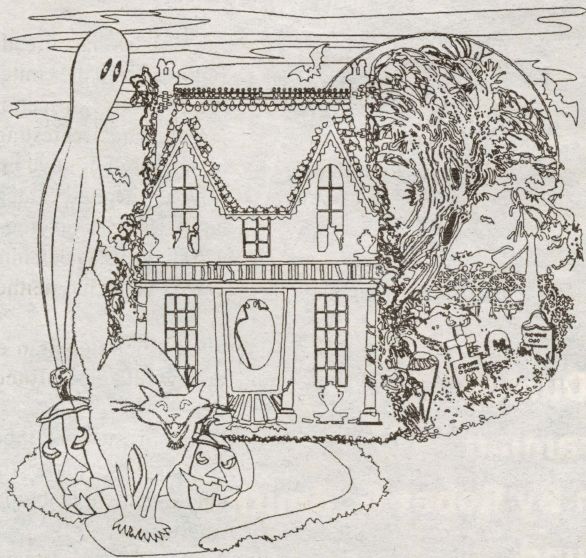
As for Moseley-Braun, let's look at her qualifications without the circus spotlight trained on them.

REV

Volume 4, issue 5. October 26, 1999

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

NEIU student
dance concert
page 3



SCARY CHICAGO

REV rates area haunted houses

by Michael Buino
Special Contributor

Around every corner there is someone waiting to jump out at you. Every hallway is so dark you can barely see your hand in front of your face...and you paid to be there.

Thousands of people will be headed to their favorite haunted houses this weekend, in search of the perfect scare. This year's faire has a great deal of haunts to offer, so the decision to make is how much do you want to pay to have people shriek at you from dark corners. The prices range from mildly disturbing to downright shocking.

The year the Museum of Science and Industry presents Science of Fear II. After last year's debacle, with the haunted house held in white tents outdoors, skepticism was running high. But apparently they have learned from last year's mistakes, dumped Hades and picked up Universal Studios as a sponsor. This year's haunted house is held in an underground level of the museum. It is good. It is long, has dark hallways, many ghoulish scenes, some are based on the great Hollywood horror classics, like *Psycho*.

The attention to detail is good: for example, stringy spider webs hang from the ceilings in the dark hallways and the floor is covered with sand when you go through the mummy's tomb. And it takes about 15 minutes to go through the entire attraction (without a crowd). But, despite all the ghouls and monsters inside the haunted house, the scariest part happens before you ever get in the waiting tent. The cost of one trip through this haunted house is \$16, unless you have a Jewel-Osco Preferred Card, then it only costs \$14. For that price, there seems like there should be more, but I guess the shock of paying that much money for a haunted house is scary enough.

If you want a quality haunted

house, this is it. But, baby you are gonna pay. A slightly less pricey scare can be found at the Melrose Crossings shopping mall. Eleventh Hour has taken up residence in some of the vacant storefronts. The \$10 admission is still a little steep, but the quality of the haunted house makes it a debatable expense. I think most will find this haunt worth the ten bucks. There are a couple of very good scares as you walk through the various scenes. The best part of the haunted house is the rotating light tunnel you have to walk through, not exactly scary, but definitely good fun.

They have paid great attention to detail and there are a couple of very big areas to walk through, complete with waterfall. Another unique part is that although you may go in with a friend, chances are you will not come out together. This one is definitely

worth considering if you have a little money to burn. It is located at the corner of Mannheim and North Avenue in Melrose Park.

But if you are a little short on cash and you really want to get to the best scare for your buck, try one of the three locally run haunted houses. At \$5 each, you can get to all three of them for less than the cost of the one at the Museum.

This year, with the absence of the haunted house sponsored by the Neighborhood Boys and Girls Club, the contest for the best local haunted house opened wide up. This year the three top venues, in order of quality, were the haunted houses sponsored by Madonna High School, St. Pascal's Parish and St. Benedict's Parish.

Madonna High School, located on Belmont just west of Pulaski, offered the biggest and best decorated of the three. The ghouls were scary and plentiful,

everywhere you turned someone was jumping out at you. The best part of the haunted house is the haunted mansion and the corpse-infested camp ground. This haunted house isn't quite as scary as the big ticket items, but you leave this haunted house feeling like you at least received your money's worth in scares and haunts.

Running a close second is St. Pascal's Haunted House, which winds through the basement on the parish grounds. They do an excellent job and each year their haunted house gets better. They have changed things around a little and there is one extra surprise at the end. This one also lets you feel like you have gotten your money's worth. The kids playing the monsters are enthusiastic and sometimes really get you good.

For the last three years The
see Haunted, page 3

The Wolfman scares up a good time at the Museum of Science and Industries *Science of Fear*



Dave's Rant

by Dave Grzelak

Howling

Here's some stuff that should scare the hell out of you.

Full House—The Movie.

Pokemon—The Television Series.

President Will Smith.

President George W. Bush.

President Al Gore.

President Britney Spears.

President Jesse Ventura tells Vice President Pat Buchanan to wake up Secretary of State Pat Robertson who will in turn wake up Secretary of Defense Strom Thurmond who will in turn attempt to wake up Secretary of the Treasury Donald Trump for a staff meeting.

Deathmatch: the KISS army v. the Boy Band army.

Deathmatch: the cast of Friends v. any cast of the Real World.

Deathmatch: WSCR,s Mike North v. SNL,s Colin Quinn.

Deathmatch: TLC v. the remaining members of En Vogue.

The Waterboy—the musical.

Parker Posey in any Disney movie.

Ol' Dirty Bastard doing the soundtrack for the next Lion King sequel.

The blonde guy from the UPN television series Shasta McNasty and the lead singer of The Offspring are the same person with the same amount of talent—none.

Brad Pitt and Jennifer Aniston produce offspring that actually can act.

Members of Destiny's Child and The Backstreet Boys produce male offspring to create the newest boy band, Destiny's Boys.

Television actually grows up and lets swearing in their shows.

Chicago radio actually grows up and realizes that this market does NOT need another radio station that the program directors think that caters to 25-54 age demographic (adult contemporary, classic rock, talk radio). In actuality, these same program directors obviously don't have a clue. A visit to the music magazine rack at your friendly Tower Records will prove how far off they are.

Q-101 continuing to thrive.

Bryant Gumbel selling off parts of his ego to charity.

The ghost of Joe DiMaggio appears at Marilyn Monroe's auction wielding a baseball bat and a giant Mr. Coffee to fend off bidders.

The ghost of Elvis appears at the Rock and Roll McDonald,s and trashes one of Chicago,s greatest eyesores.

The ghost of Drew Carey (oh, wait, he's not dead yet). I mean the ghost of Harry Caray trashes Chicago's palace of losers, Wrigley Field.

New Chicago Bear football coach Dick Jauron takes his place as the fifth face on Mt. Rushmore.



Staff Members Wanted!

The Independent is seeking new photographers, reporters, cartoonists, and beat reporters. Requirements: Must be a NEIU student. Inquire in E-049 or call 773.794.2812 and ask for Laura.

Stage Center Theatre Company

presents

Scapino

A long way off from Moliere



By Jim Dale and Frank Dunlop

Directed By Anna Antaramian

Set and Lighting Design By Robet G. Smith

Costumes by Tina Haglund

October 21 - 23, 28 - 30, November 4 - 6 1999
7:30 PM

Stage Center Theatre countdown continues Boundless energy, pure comedy

by Michael Buino
Special Contributor

They are swinging from the rafters at the Stage Center Theatre. Literally. The latest production from the Stage Center Theatre riotously funny farce that opened to a packed house Thursday night.

Scapino is the fifth show in the Theatre's Countdown to 2000. And this time they have hit pay dirt. This play, performed in the commedia del arte' tradition is the funniest, most outlandish production to hit the boards since *The Foreigner*.

The play, written by Jim Dale and Frank Dunlop, is directed by Anna Antaramian, the University's Director of Theatre. It tells the tale of how one smarmy servant gets in and out of trouble trying to help his ward marry the woman he truly loves. The actual story is really secondary to all the non-stop action on the stage. The play starts out fast and only picks up speed along the way.

The cast is a mix of professional and student actors. The result is a cast of varying talents. William McIntosh, who play Scapino, is making his Chicago debut. Originally

from Seattle, he plays his part with boundless energy, mugging and a keen sense of improvisation.

NEIU alum Tony Muscarello turns in an outstanding performance as Sylvestro. He fills every minute that he is on stage. In a performance that is part Stan Laurel, part Buster Keaton, Muscarello provides the audience with many laughs and not one disappointing moment.

The play is very physical. People swing in on ropes, juggle dishware and fruit, and run, run, run. The three waiters (William J. Mayer, Tom Wattenbarger, and Denise Medina) and the town's bum, Carlo (played with charm by Joseph Alaimo) start each section of the play with a wild routine of mishaps, juggling and some noteworthy physical dexterity.

The play also features NEIU English Professor Tim Libretti in a very funny performance as the 'cool cat' Leandro, one of the young lovers. His synchronized swim performance with castmate Kevin Wieter will keep you in smiles for the rest of the semester.

The set is a nice departure from the traditional box sets seen in the last few

productions. The set is a masterpiece of wood and stucco. One can almost smell the food being prepared in the Cafe D'Anna. Designed by Robert G. Smith and decorated by a host of people, including the director and costumer, is complete with grape vines, miniature lights and an Italian flag that blows in the cool ocean breeze.

Costumes were designed by the resident Costume Designer, Tina Haglund. As per usual, the costumes accent the characters personalities and seem to become a part of the character.

The show opened to a packed house (90% of the house was filled) on Thursday, so reservations are recommended. Don't miss out on one of the best productions of the last five seasons. This is one they will be talking about for weeks to come. *Scapino* runs for two more weekends (October 28-30 & November 4-7) and all shows begin at 7:30pm. For ticket information call the Stage Center Box Office at 773.794.6652. The Stage Center Theatre is located on the northwest side of the campus in the F-Wing.

*The Department of Foreign Languages and Literatures of Northeastern Illinois University with
the Participation of Northeastern's Ethnic Clubs and Groups present...*

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Native Costume Contest * Cultural Displays**

Haunted

continued from page 1

Haunted Labyrinth at St. Ben's always ranked near the top of our list, but this year they have slipped to the bottom of the pack. As always, they make good use of their small space, with plenty of dark turns and hallways, but there

were not enough monsters to cover all the scenes, some of them were completely empty and they seemed to be rushing us through. It's more fun to try and feel your way around the dark than to be constantly told, "Go this way!" Some of the ghouls seemed less than enthusiastic, except one

blonde-haired ghoul who kept popping up throughout the maze. Maybe they were tired (it was close to closing time) or maybe it was just an off night. For \$5 it might be a risk worth taking. At least you will be supporting the community, if nothing else.

St. Benedict's is located at the corner of Irving Park

Rd. and Leavitt. It is open from 7-10 p.m.

If the whole family is looking to make a day of it, Haunted Trails Amusement Park in Burbank offers a Haunted Miniature Golf Course, Batting Cages, Video games, and their 3D-Haunted House that includes a 500 ft. maze in a two-story structure. For more information the number is 708.598.8580.

With the number of good haunted houses and attractions in and around the city, the question of whether there are any good ones is settled. Now it's just a matter of how much you want to pay to have someone scare you. Happy Hauntings!

Recycle

Recycle

Recycle

Recycle

Recycle



The NEIU Student Dance Concert will be held on Friday, November 5 at 8:00 p.m., spotlighting student and faculty choreography. There will be a preview showing on Tuesday November 2, 1999. They will be performing *Benevolent Violence*. The performance is free for all NEIU students.



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— LOS ANGELES TIMES

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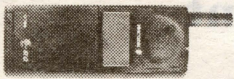
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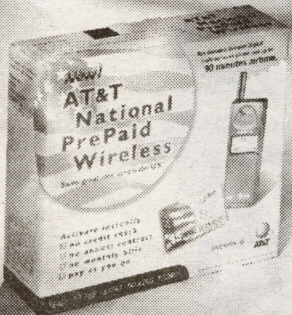
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(across from Golf Mill)
9479 Milwaukee Ave.

Naperville
618 S. Route 59

Norridge
(across from Harlem-
Irving Plaza)
4155 N. Harlem

Oak Park
425 N. Harlem Ave.

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The tobacco industry & other terrorist groups

by Tim Hill
Staff Writer

The World Health Organization (WHO) has recently accused the Tobacco Industry, including such major corporations as R.J. Reynolds and Philip Morris, of shenanigans retarding United Nations efforts to control smoking. By "controlling smoking", WHO means development and research into the health hazards caused by smoking and how to treat smoking-related illnesses.

Once again, the infamous tobacco industry is having fingers pointed at them from all directions. Why? Because they manufacture and distribute an addictive product that tends to kill some people. No matter what warnings or statistics are shown to the public that state simply how detrimental smoking can be, people continue to do it. If the tobacco industry does not force cigarettes into people's mouths and people in general are not trying to kill themselves, is there really someone to be blamed?

In a \$6.6 billion settlement with the state of Minnesota, 35 million pages of documents from internal files of major tobacco companies were made public domain. WHO is uncertain of the contents of those intimate files, but will spend approximately the next four years investigating. What could those documents possibly say or what does WHO hope to establish by them? The public is already completely aware of the hazards of smoking by, if nothing else, the warnings on the sides of every pack of cigarettes sold in the U.S. People still continue to smoke despite what they already know, including that smoking can cause cancer, emphysema, bronchitis, and complex heart diseases. Pregnant women are told by their doctors, that smoking can cause permanent damage or even death to a child in the womb.

In another corner is the London-based group ironically called ASH (Action on Smoking and Health) that supports WHO in their inquiry, which is easy to do because of anti-smoking being so

politically correct. I wouldn't lend such a group much credence. ASH may have been constructed, for all we know, to study outlandish conditions like the effect of cigarette smoke on the famous London Fog. Maybe this health-conscious clan sits around discussing things like, "Do menthol cigarettes freshen one's breath?" or "Who would win in a fight, Joe Camel or the Marlboro Man?" Like I said, it's easy to be part of a group that automatically has everyone's support.

People are already aware of the hazards of smoking and those that still smoke do so at their own risk. Why then did the US Justice Department file a \$20 billion dollar lawsuit last month against major tobacco companies accusing them of racketeering? The case was made for compensation on what the federal government has spent on sick smokers. Once again, the tobacco industry is blamed for their politically incorrect shortcomings. If people didn't smoke, they wouldn't get sick. It's common knowledge. Should automobile manufacturers be required to attach labels to the sides of cars warning people that high-speed impact with brick walls may result in injury? Should construction companies put billboards on the sides of all building they erect that read, "NOTICE! Distance between top of building and ground may prove hazardous or fatal if not obstructed by a reliable surface (i.e. floors, ceilings, etc.). Occupants should remain within building confines or on the ground at all times?" No, because it is common knowledge and sense that dictates such possible outcomes.

The point is there are billions of dollars being wasted in exchange among the UN, various US government agencies, and the tobacco companies. The only purpose of this money is to warn the public about hazards of smoking which they already know, or to treat the public's smoking-related illnesses because the warnings were ignored.

A safer, cheaper America means drugs for all

By Nate Cemenska
Daily Nebraskan

(U-WIRE) LINCOLN, Neb. — This week, the governor of New Mexico announced a plan to legalize marijuana, cocaine and heroin.

Cool.

Now I'm no junkie, but I can find my way around a medicine cabinet, and this idea really appeals to me. If drugs were legalized, life would not only be more fun, but also safer and cheaper.

Most of the cost involved in, say, buying an ounce of weed isn't in production, but distribution. Even on this campus, with its lax enforcement, friendly atmosphere and small, tight-knit community of "cool people," smoke slingers are fronting a big risk. If you get caught selling dope, you're not just going to jail. You're going to be denied that coveted corner office at Sidley & Austin.

The rest of the pushers in the world are taking even greater risks. They don't worry about getting busted; they worry about getting killed. The overhead out there is enormous: Dealers still have to buy drugs, thugs and guns, even when ultra-valuable shipments don't happen to be seized at the border. That doesn't really compare with the expenditures at Northwestern, which amount to a modest phone bill and \$20 worth of Osco baggies, but still, the point applies.

All these costs funnel down to you, the user, who has to give up buying organic chemistry books just to afford a small bag of lousy, seed-ridden catnip.

And violence would not be as much of an issue if drugs were legalized.

Legalization would virtually eliminate gang-related violence, and would severely reduce the amount of other drug-related crimes. Why would a junkie interrupt his shoe-gazing long enough to steal your car stereo when, using only the living wage provided by Warren Beatty, he could go to the White Hen and buy enough horse to put a small Palomino in the grave?

And if you think you've tried good dope, think again. If the quality of recreational drugs was controlled by the FDA instead of by some swarthy pre-school dropout in a gravy-stained wifebeater, today's finest street drugs would look like Nuprin.

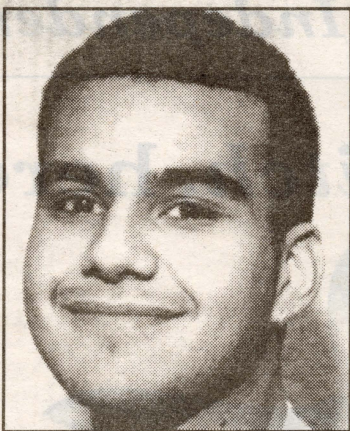
Furthermore, legalization would have a number of positive effects right here at NU (Nebraska State). Theater and film students would have a lot more free time because most of their classes would be canceled. Art majors would drop out. The nose candy machines at Norris would pull in a lot of cash that could be used towards a second or third multicultural center.

I'm sure Amanda Holman would like to hear that all this cool stuff could be brought to bear on her political agenda. The government could just tax the hell out of drug sales, and the money could be used to compensate the descendants of African slaves.

So that's why, if I were rich, I would be in Washington, lobbying for complete legalization of drugs, right alongside Philip Morris and Doritos, Inc.

The campus speaks out

Question: "There is talk that the willow trees that are located east of the cafeteria may be removed. It has been suggested that the reason for removing the trees is so they can provide a "more user-friendly campus." Additionally, there is talk that the roots of the trees may be causing damage to the pipes." What is your opinion?



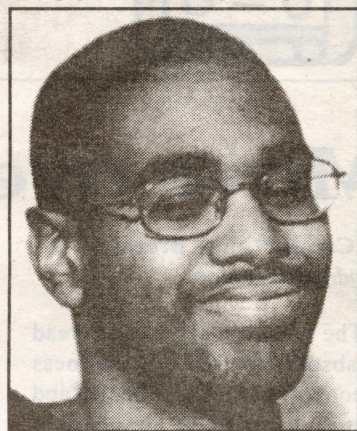
Jauquin Venegas
Second year freshman
Communications Major

There is always two aspects to that kind of question: The first is the fact that it gives a nice edge to the campus, it is something new, and something that you don't see all the time, those kinds of trees. The other aspect is if it is affecting the school somehow, for instance the sewage, or something negatively affecting the school, we have to look out for our health. At the same time, the trees do give a nice atmosphere, but I guess we are going to have to leave that matter up to people that are more educated on that topic.



Phyllis Hurt
Professor, Music Department

I don't know all of the details about it but I would hate to see these willow trees removed. They are so beautiful, they have been beautiful, and they are one of the treats in landscaping here at Northeastern. I would really hate to see them removed. I don't even know why it is even being considered. Of course, we need pipes, I understand that, but if there is another way to do it without removing the trees, they should consider it. I remember when people used to sit under those trees. When you consider the beauty that these trees have to share—I come here (the cafeteria) and look out these wonderful windows every day. I would be a loss not to be able to see the trees.



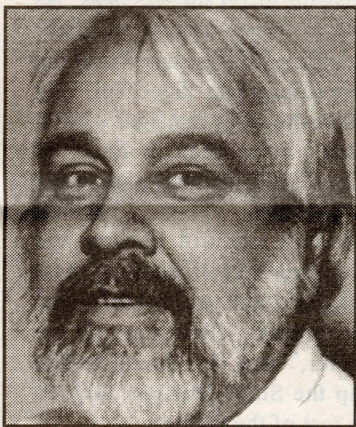
Damion Washington
Senior, Speech
Communication Major

At first, I felt that it was not a good idea to do it because, the trees were there for 25 years, and they say that trees like that can live between 25 and 50 years. So, at first, I felt it was not a good idea to cut them down. If they did, they would be robbing the trees from part of their natural lives. But then, they said that there was sewer damage down there, and I felt that there was nothing that they can do to save the trees. I think that maybe the best solution is for them to remove the trees around there. If it weren't for the sewer damage, I think it would be a good idea to save them. However, since it may affect the school, I think that they should take the trees out and plant other trees. That way we can have the trees without the damage.



Bisharah Dodd
Freshman, Chemistry

I like the willow trees, I think that the scenery that they provide helps give us a more relaxed setting. But if it is going to cause a lot of damage, maybe they should uproot them and try to preserve them. Maybe they could put them somewhere else where they won't cause any problems. I know that they have big fields right outside the campus that they are not doing anything with, so why not put them there or somewhere else where people can enjoy them.



Jay Jans
Administrator, Non-Traditional
Degree Programs

I think it sends the wrong message to what a college education is all about. I think education is about building up, not tearing down. We are in an urban community where there is not a lot of forestry or nature and I think the willows add to the community. The fact that it may or may not be damaging any sewer pipes is a small price to have to pay for what they bring us and what they teach us about the world itself.



Betsy Ramos
Freshman, Criminal Justice

I really think they should leave the trees up there. I think if there is a problem with the sewer, they should take care of that, but not at the expense of the trees. It looks beautiful there, and there are other areas that students can go if they want to meet with their friends. Maybe they have their opinions as to why the trees should be torn down, but in my opinion, they should leave them alone.



Julie Ann Carlson
Junior
Elementary Education

I think it is a shame, because I find the willows very calming, peaceful and beautiful. This is not the most attractive campus, physically to begin with, and I think they add beauty to the campus. I grew up in the country with willows. I think they add beauty to a dismal looking campus.

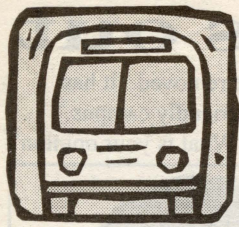


Russell Baker
Journalism
Junior

If they are damaging something that has to do with the school, they should take them out, but if not, they should leave them alone. If they are not affecting the school in a bad way, there is no reason to do anything about them.

What do
you want
us to ask
the campus?
Let us know!
Contact Jamey
McDunn or Laura
Hadley at the
Independent,
room E-049
(right below
Beck's
Bookstore).

Photos/compiled by Jamey McDunn



The Commuter

Your Independent Guide to Features

Move over *Blair Witch*, here comes Michelle

by Carole "Gory" Brown
Production Editor

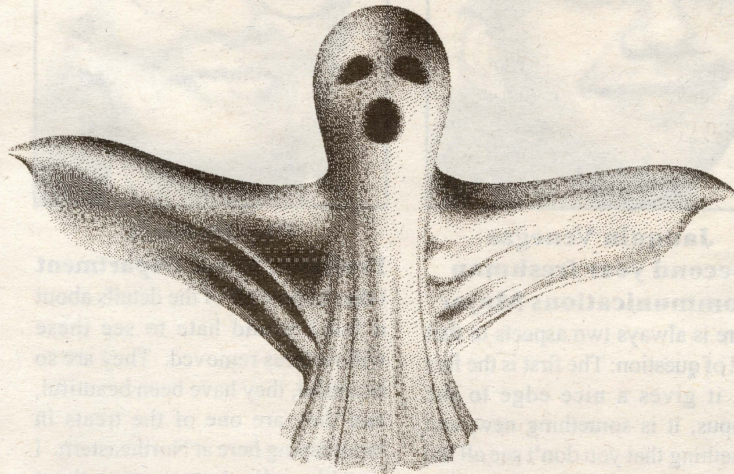
The story you are about to read is absolutely true. Eyewitness accounts have been collected and names have been changed to protect the innocent.

For as many times as you have watched *Unsolved Mysteries*, *Ghosts*, and many more shows like them, how many students realize they may have attended class with a real live dead person?

Now, I do not mean fellow classmates who take full class loads and constantly pull all nighters (although we are checking with the Paranormal Society for special classification). The apparition we are speaking of never got to attend Northeastern during her lifetime, but she does have a name, and she does haunt part of the school.

Now, how many people have been to the Stage Center in the F-Wing? (I know, more people than that should have raised their hands!) Inside the theater and its staging areas resides Michelle. Michelle Berenz was 13 when she died of leukemia. Right before she was diagnosed, she did a show at the Stage Center. She enjoyed herself, and apparently that was one of the last times she was happy.

Now everyone should not have just vowed to never go into the Stage Center. Apparently this ghost is a nice ghost, but mischievous all the same. For any scared souls who go through the F-Wing never fear, she stays



confined to the theater, backstage, booth, shop and green room. The lobby, bathrooms, and F-109 are Michelle-free zones.

Michelle has often liked to play around with stage managers and head techies. After a mainstage production several years back, 'Kerrie' was locking up the theater when she noticed a young girl standing at the top of one of the ramps. Upon seeing the girl, 'Kerrie's' first reaction was to see if she needed help and she began to ask the girl if she was okay. As soon as 'Kerrie' began to speak, the little girl disappeared as if she were a mist and faded out right before the stage manager's eyes.

An unnamed friend of 'Kerrie's' believed that what 'Kerrie' saw was true, because although she did not see the apparition herself, she was there that night and noticed how fast her friend "flew out of the theater," and this friend had to help the Stage Manager lock up the rest of the theater.

To two other stage managers,

she would seem to play a game. When they went through locking up the theater after rehearsal, they would lock up the backstage and the door to F-109. When they went to turn off the lights in the sound and light booth they would notice the door to F-109 and sometimes to the green room all of a sudden open. Upon questioning the actors they realized that no one had gone back there. Thinking then that it may have been the janitor, they dismissed it, only to be confronted by the janitor coming in as they were leaving.

One eyewitness feels lucky that Michelle was around. 'Brian' was working one weekend on the stage preparing for a show. He was up on a ladder hanging lights when all of a sudden he lost his footing. Letting out a cry he started to fall backwards. 'Brian' was in a serious predicament, but as luck would have it, Michelle decided to stop by. As he was falling he suddenly felt a pair of hands on his back, giving him support and

preventing what could have been a serious accident. As 'Brian's' feet touched the ground and he turned to thank the person who helped him, he saw that no one was there. He quickly went out into the lobby and summarily realized that no one else was in the entire F-Wing. Now did 'Brian' have a guardian ghost watching out for him that day or did a speedy and anonymous individual happen to be in the right place at the right time? Read on.

Since she is a child herself, Michelle likes to watch the productions of Children's Theatre Workshop. In fact, during the last production, she made sure to make herself known. On two different dates she decided to play with the lights. On the day of the first show, while waiting for the show to start, suddenly the lights that had been set-up to flicker during one sequence began to flicker. There were three people in the booth and not one was able to touch the light

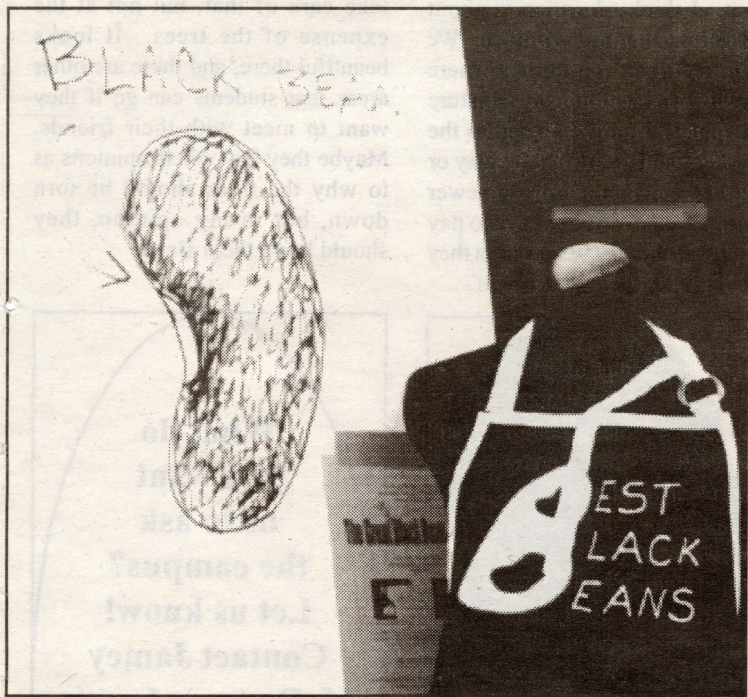
board to turn on the flicker. The light board operator quickly turned it off and everything appeared okay. Then during the show, when it was not called for, the flicker came on again. During another performance the flicker started again, out of order, when the light board operator could not have been able to turn it on.

During one of the last performances, the sound board operator had a break in the show and was sitting back from the board, not able to touch it. As a sound cue was about to be used, the levels jumped up to full level and back down, almost as if someone were joking with the sound technician. No one else in the booth was near enough to have touched the board in that short time.

Are these true tales of ghostly occurrences, or have the people who work at the Stage Center gone mad in a slow mass delusion, where they have started seeing things which just don't exist? What do you think?



Melian topples Provost, reigns bean supreme



The first annual black bean cookoff brought many hungry voters.



by Pete Illy,
Staff Writer
Wednesday, October 12, 1999, Carlos Melian defeated Provost Estela Lopez in the first annual Bean Showdown. At high noon in front of Ronald William Library, NEIU students and staff lined up waiting to cast their votes for the candidate that had the best

tasting Cuban black beans. In the end Melian, who was not well known at NEIU, now reigns as bean supreme.

The conflict started when NEIU librarian, Melian, issued a statement in one of the library bulletins claiming that he "had the best black beans outside of Miami." This

statement gained the attention of Lopez, who upon reading Melian's claim, decided to put her beans to the test and challenged Melian to a Cuban black bean showdown.

When the showdown was announced experts predicted that Lopez would come away with a landslide victory. Three

weeks before the event polls indicated that Lopez had an 18-point lead over Melian. In the end, however, Melian's beans spoke the loudest. Each student, after tasting the beans, would cast either a dry black bean for Melian, or a white bean for Lopez. The black beans prevailed.

The Bean Showdown does come with some controversy. Witnesses on the scene claim that the actual beans were not counted, and that "it just appeared that there were more black beans in the ballot box." Upon investigation, no official

see Beans, page 9

Star Signs

Luna Tells All



ARIES (March 21 - April 19)
Great joy and happiness are upon you. You know the tune, "Everything's going my way."



LEO (July 23 - August 22)
Someone treacherous is lurking about, scrutinize everything. Expect some delays in whatever you are working to achieve.



SAGITTARIUS (November 22 - December 21)
Only you can make your life happy. The ingredients for success are at your disposal, mix 'em up!



TAURUS (April 20 - May 20)
Watch out for discord and ruin in your material life. Might be time for the slash and burn method.



VIRGO (August 23 - September 22)
Secrets will be revealed to you soon. People will be testing you soon to see if you know what you are talking about.



CAPRICORN (December 22 - January 19)
Be careful of being generous to a fault. Make sure you keep your fair share.



GEMINI (May 21 - June 20)
Apply yourself in your studies and be prepared to receive that message you've been waiting for.



LIBRA (September 23 - October 22)
Love is in the air. Get steamy with your partner or be prepared for a romantic attraction. The current that is rushing under your surface fills you with a new vitality.



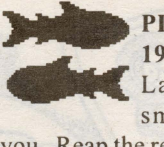
AQUARIUS (January 20 - February 18)
Refusing to break bad habits or change negative patterns will hurt or kill you. Get off your duff and do something about it.



CANCER (June 21 - July 22)
Dishonorable deeds are going to cause some loss in your life. Straighten up and fly right or keep paying the consequences.



SCORPIO (October 23 - November 21)
Happy Birthday! Lucky you! Try the number 10. Have some fun with life.



PISCES (February 19 - March 20)
Lady fortune is smiling down on you. Reap the rewards of material success.



Dear Vieja,

I'm having a lot of trouble in school. I'm failing two of my classes and barely passing the other two. I study, but it doesn't do any good. I take the tests and fail. I went to the tutor and that helped a lot, but I don't have time to go more than once a week. I have to work and take care of my baby the rest of the time. I really want a degree, but I'm thinking about dropping out. What do you think I should do?

Drop Out

Dear Drop Out,

Never ever give up on a dream. That is the worst thing you can do. No matter what is happening in your life, there is always a solution. Sometimes it may be hard to find, but the solution is ALWAYS there.

In your particular situation, you might try analyzing your studying habits first. The fact that tutoring helps you leads me to believe that you

are probably not studying correctly. You must have no outside interference when you are studying. You cannot have your baby there, you cannot have the TV on, and you cannot be doing other tasks at the same time. You have to concentrate.

Do you have someone who can watch your baby and a quiet spot to study where nobody will disturb you? If not, look for more solutions.

Perhaps you can arrange a sitting trade with a friend or family member. One day you watch the babies and s/he studies. The next day s/he watches the babies and you go to the library or tutoring to study. This way both of you graduate and it's free. Try to think of creative solutions like this.

Also, explain your situation to your professors and they might be able to point you in the direction of some other resources. They may even let you make up some of those failed tests.

Once again, do NOT give up, think of creative solutions, and ask for help. In the end, however, it is up to you to persevere. I know you can do it. I know you will do it!

Beans

continued from page 8

records could be found verifying the final bean count.

Despite the controversy, both Lopez and Melian concluded their showdown honorably. "The best cook

won," said Lopez. "The win was not that important. What was important was the increase of NEIU awareness of Cuban black beans. It was a lot of fun."

Reflecting upon his victory, Melian stated, "I had a very good time and she

(Lopez), had very good beans. It was fun for the students and the library." Both participants failed to commit to a rematch next year and are looking forward in doing other fun things for NEIU.



She's finally coming over, huh?
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off the mark

by Mark Parisi



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? ? ? ? ? ? ? ? ? ?

Useless tidbits of miscellany



JOHN ROSSI

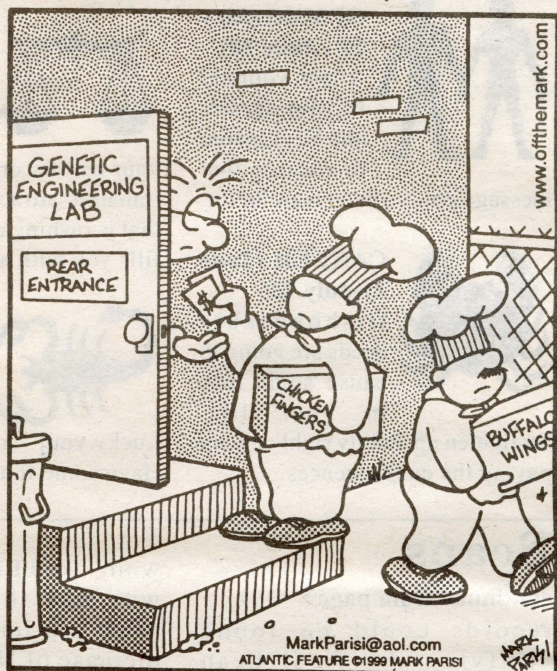
As the program concluded, some serious questions were posed. Is man simply part of the evolutionary chain that will lead to higher forms of life on Earth, a super-human that might eventually be able to rub the top of his head and his belly in different directions while rolling his tongue? Is man the final phase of a long ancestral parade of failed attempts to populate the Earth with creatures intelligent enough to realize we don't know Jack Squat? And finally, when you encounter modern day slime growing on a tree in the woods, does it make a sound?

All facts are taken from *Isaac Asimov's Book of Facts: The most interesting, entertaining, fascinating, unbelievable, unusual and fantastic facts.*

by Mark Parisi



by Mark Parisi



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