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Independent- Jan. 15, 2002

Brian Blaszkowski

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Delving into the
extra-ordinary

MCA review page 9



Welcome Back



New year, new
complaints

NORTHEASTERN ILLINOIS
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JAN 16 2002

ARCHIVES

Independent

Vol. 18 Issue 10

SERVING NORTHEASTERN ILLINOIS UNIVERSITY INTO THE NEXT CENTURY

Tuesday, January 15, 2002

Provost to leave, legacy remains



file photo

Dr. Estela Lopez, current Provost of Northeastern is soon to be leaving NEIU and begin work at Connecticut State University

by Joseph Kandelman
Distribution Manager

Estela Lopez, serving her fifth year as Provost of Northeastern, will leave N.E.I.U. on February 28th and depart for Connecticut State University (C.S.U.). She has accepted a position as Vice Chancellor of Academic Affairs at C.S.U. and plans to begin working with them in April.

Provost Lopez has mixed feelings about changing jobs. She loves Northeastern and is very proud of the students, of the faculty and staff, and of Northeastern as a whole. She has made friends with so many people here and will miss NEIU. On the other hand, this is a significant advancement in her career and she's excited about the new opportunities that it brings. When asked whether she actively pursued this new position or whether they searched for her, she answered without hesitation that they sought her out.

Connecticut State University consists of four separate colleges on four different campuses, though are run by a single board of governors and all credits transfer easily as if it was the same school. It is on this board of governors that Dr. Lopez intends to serve.

One branch of C.S.U. is Central Connecticut State University, located in New Britain with 12,000 Students currently enrolled. Eastern Connecticut State University, another branch, is located in Willimantic with 5,000 students. There are 12,000 students enrolled in Southern Connecticut State University, which is in New Haven. Finally, Western Connecticut State University, in Danbury, has nearly 6,000 students who currently attend. As Vice Chancellor of Academic Affairs, Dr. Lopez is in charge of the collective 35,000 students.

As Chancellor of Academic Affairs, she will be performing basically the same services as she

is currently as Provost of Northeastern. She will work with policy planning and facilitating for campuses. In other words, if a department wants to begin a new program, they should talk to her and she will research whether it is logistically possible and whether it is beneficial enough to make those changes. The major difference between the two positions is the

with high officials at the university and encouraged open communication between them.

During the year 2000, Kellogg was looking to provide a \$1.5 million grant to schools in order to help Latino students. Provost Lopez identified this opportunity, then supported the necessary Northeastern staff to make sure the official documents were put

Though Provost Lopez has done much to improve Northeastern, she contested, "No one can do anything alone."

amount of students she will be serving. In order to serve the four Universities, the board of governors is in a building separate from all campuses. "One of the things I will miss most about Northeastern," the Provost explained, "is the contact with students." She will work in a building completely separate from all campuses, along with the rest of the board of governors.

Though Provost Lopez has done much to improve Northeastern, she contested, "No one can do anything alone." She worked with many other faculty members and students to benefit everybody at Northeastern. She is grateful both for the help others have helped her with and for the opportunities she had to help others.

Provost Lopez is a strong advocate of "a student learning center environment." That means enriching the college environment so that it is user-friendly and complies with the students' needs and wants as best as possible. This has ranged from adding signs around campus (so new students could find their way faster) to better course offerings. She arranged for groups of students to meet in person

together. In June of 2000, Kellogg awarded \$1.5 million each to Northeastern and to 17 other colleges throughout the U.S. Northeastern was the only school in the entire Midwest that received that grant. As a token of the students' appreciation to Provost Lopez, the S.G.A. awarded her with a Certificate of Commendation, which she proudly displays on a shelf in her office.

Title Five is the name of a \$2 million grant that Dr. Lopez was instrumental in bringing into the University. This money was used to establish and improve teaching and learning. With this newfound money, the third floor of the Library was remodeled with new furniture and the University hired a director to do workshops for faculty. The focuses of these workshops are on three areas: technology, assessment, and pedagogy. The teachers are trained in incorporating computers and other modern aids more deeply into their classes (technology); interpreting the students' work better (assessment), and how to sharpen their teaching skills,

see Lopez, continued on page 3

Construction overtakes NEIU

by Lisa St. Martin
Staff Reporter

Between classes, part of the daily view might take one past current construction projects. This might involve a considerable amount of noise, and one can't help but wonder when this project will get done, and why is it taking so long? For the curious and eager to know, these are some of the facts:

E Mezzanine

Enclosed in a loft-like space above the Student Bookstore,

stands E Mezzanine, the first project scheduled for completion. This should be ready by spring of 2002. These new offices will be accessible by stairs and elevator, and will provide space for the Payroll Department and the Controller's Office.

Building B

Next in line for completion, the main construction activity on campus involves Building B. Currently being fitted with

see Construction, page 3

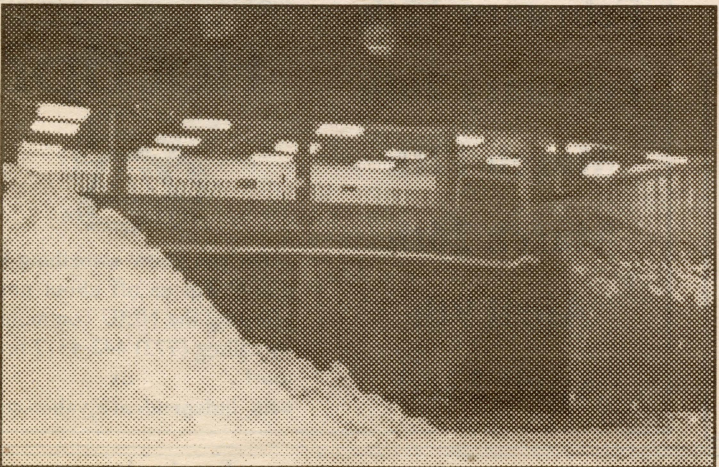
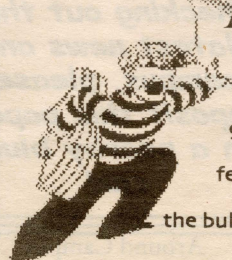


photo by Lisa St. Martin

The current state of what once was the NEIU Auditorium.

Connecticut State University Branch	Location	No. of Students
Central Connecticut State University	New Britain	12,000
Eastern Connecticut State University	Willimantic	5,000
Southern Connecticut State University	New Haven	12,000
Western Connecticut State University	Danbury	6,000

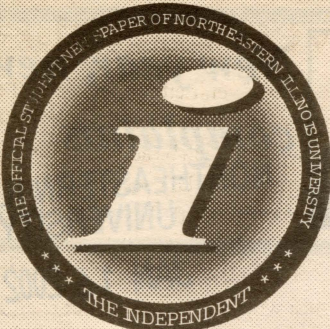
Statistics on Lopez's future assignment



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features to entertain and enlighten
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Around Campus page 2
Perspectus page 5
The Commuter page 9
Golden Opportunities page 12



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Monday-Thursday

9:00 a.m.-5:30 p.m.

Friday

9:00 a.m. - 1:00 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.

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AROUND CAMPUS

Bits and pieces, and music notes galore

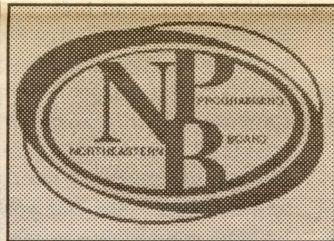
On Tuesday, January 15, 2002, from 1:30 P.M.—3:00 P.M. National Security Education Program is having a Study Abroad Meeting in SU-219. Applications are for the Study Abroad Program currently available for Summer 2002, Fall 2002, and/or Spring 2003.

The Coffeehouse Series presents Jazz and Hip Hop featuring DJ Jovim and friends in Village Square on Thursday, January 17, 2002 11:00 A.M.—3:00 P.M.

Thursday, January 17, 2002 at 1:30pm in Library Classroom 022, and at 7:30 p.m. in Alumni Hall, NEIU Student Union. The Presidential Lecture Series will be presenting Margaret Atwood, author of *The Handmaid's Tale*, *Alias Grace*, *The Robber Bride*, and recent novel, *The Blind Assassin*, which won the Booker Prize in 2000. Events are free and open to the public! For information call 773.442.INFO



On Friday, January 18 at 8:00 P.M. NEIU's Jewel Box Chamber Music Series Presents the Vienna Waltz Ensemble in NEIU's Fine Arts Recital Hall. Free Parking is available in Parking Lot F starting at 6:00 P.M. the evening of the concert. General Admission is \$25; \$17.50 for current NEIU faculty, staff and alumni; and \$12.50 for current NEIU students. For tickets and information, call 773.442.INFO.

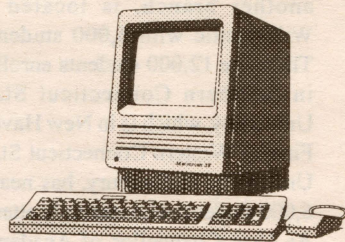


Thursday, January 23 & 24, 2002 the Northeastern Programming Board presents Frank Birdsall Balloon Artist in Village Square. 11:00 A.M.—4:00 P.M.

Monday—Thursday, January 28-31, 2002 Save the Date, Sixth Annual African, African American, Caribbean and the Americas Heritage Program. For further information contact the office of Academic Development at 773.442.5449.

Tuesday, January 29, 2002 4:00 P.M.—7:00 P.M. The Coffee House Series presents Jeremy Rill "Oldies and Show Tunes" in Village Square.

Throughout the month of January NEIU's Ronald Williams Library is offering Computer Literacy Workshops for faculty and staff. Events will be held in CLS 4410. Call ext. 4410 for further information.



Private Individual counseling is available to all Northeastern students free of charge in the Beehive Room C-601. For further contact info call x 4650 on campus. Off campus: 773/442-4650

Couple / Family Counseling is available to all Northeastern students in Beehive Room C-601. Contact x4650 or 773/442-4650.

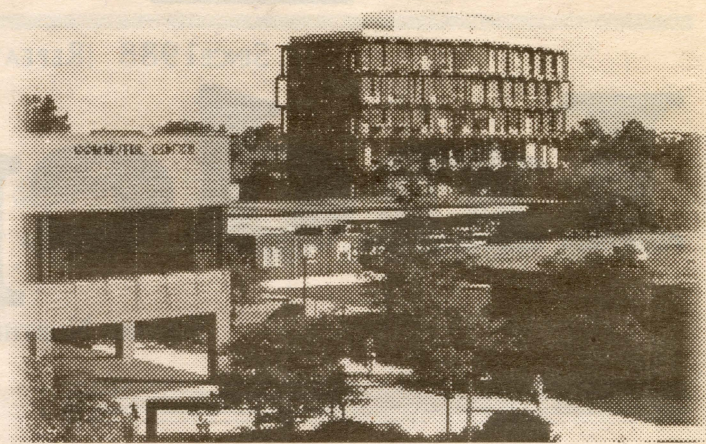
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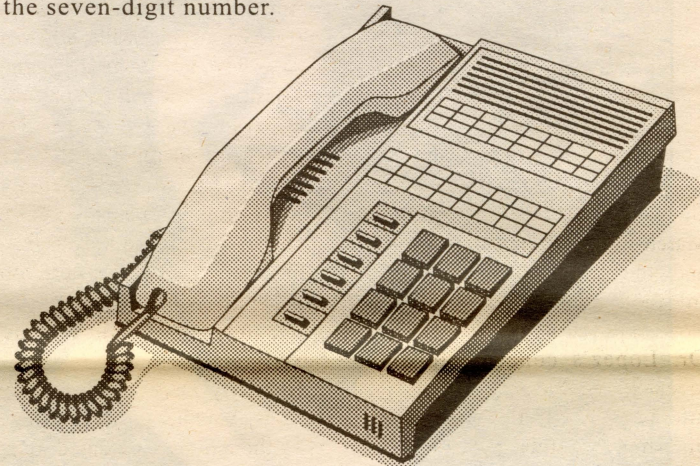
by John Prusko, Jr. 08.10.97



Announcements

Starting January 1, 2002 Ameritech has added a new overlay code to 847. The new area code is 224. This means that different area codes will serve the same calling area. The cost to call 224 is the same as a call to 847. When calling area code 224 from the University, dial 9-1-224 and the seven-digit number.

Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority Inc. Pi Nu Chapter presents Donate a Phone Campaign. All wireless phones will be preprogrammed so that victims of domestic violence can reach help with the push of a button. Please take all donations to the Student Activities Office SU 207.



Sincere condolences

The Independent staff would like to offer sincere condolences to:

The NEIU community expresses sincere condolences to David Yasutake, chair of the department of special education on the death of his father. The Reverend Seiichi Michael Yasutake, PhD died on Saturday, December 29, 2001.

Dr. Jackie Trademan, Instructor, English Language program, on the death of her mother. M. Idred Trademan.

Professor Netiva Caftori, Computer Science Department, on the death of her father, Mr. David Caftori

WATCH OUT! Deadline coming

Deadlines for the Independent are one week prior to the date of publication. The following is a list of publication dates for the Spring 2002 semester:

January 29th

February 12th

February 26th

March 12th

March 26th

April 9th

April 23rd

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) 442-4577 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) 442-4577 or e-mail us at neiu_independent@yahoo.com

Planned Parenthood arrives Tuesday

by Shana Stone
Senoir Staff Member

Planned Parenthood is now at Northeastern, thanks in large part to Jessica Lettow, director of Health Services. Lettow has been working for several months on making Planned Parenthood a reality in the office. Planned Parenthood will be using one of the offices in Health Services and is being offered only to female students.

They will start out offering exams and consultations one day a week alternating between Mondays and Tuesdays from 3 P.M. to 7 P.M. The exam will be covered under a student's health insurance plan through the school. There will be one nurse practitioner that will do the exam, one technical person, as well as a clerical worker.

Planned Parenthood will offer a full pap exam, which can include a complete STD test, as well as a breast exam. Birth control pills as well as the Depo provera shot will be offered at a price between five dollars to twenty dollars depending on how low

a price Planned Parenthood is able to offer, which is still in discussion. Plus if a student has recently had a pap smear at their regular gynecologist and want to get their birth control pills through Planned Parenthood, they may be able to do so without having to get another exam.

Any student that has questions on birth control pills, STD's, or any other related questions can come in to Health Services to speak with the Planned Parenthood staff on a walk-in basis. Lettow recommends making an appointment for a pap exam, and sixteen women may fit into the four-hour time slot.

If for any reason a student's pap smear results should come back abnormal, the student would make a follow up visit at their local Planned Parenthood center. There are seven centers all around Chicago and a student may go to any one of them. When a student comes in to talk to Planned Parenthood or comes in for an exam, a chart is made about them, so that they may be able to go to any center that they wish and their information will be there.

As of yet, Lettow is not sure if the HIV test will be offered, and if so what kind of test will be administered, since there is a new HIV test in which cheek cells are scraped. Any student wishing for an HIV test will be sent to the Chicago Board of Health for the HIV test where the test is free of charge.

Lettow has wanted Planned Parenthood on campus for some time, because of the need for female students to get their annual pap exam. She stated, "Female students have a lot of questions about sexuality, and birth control pills, and they can use this as a gateway to the system. The students are here, they are already on campus, so this is very accessible, and they can also go to Planned Parenthoods around Chicago. Women are more at risk for complications from STD's and they are worried about pregnancy, and this is a place to come to with their concerns."

The Health Services office is located in E-051, which is below Beck's bookstore, and is between the classroom building and the cafeteria. The phone number is 773-442-5800.

Bookstore bulges with students

by Victor A. Dula
Opinions Editor

As busy students chose and registered for their classes and figured out their schedules during the first few days of the Spring '02 semester, Beck's Bookstore, located in Village Square on Northeastern's main campus, worked to meet the surge of students both purchasing and selling back their books.

Even when all of the cash registers were running, lines grew to as many as 15 people each and more during peak hours, especially on Monday, January 7, the first day of classes. The line to return and sell back books at peak hours was even longer, with as many as 50 or 60 people, waiting for upwards of an hour or more.

Karena Augustine, a freshman majoring in psychology, had this suggestion on Wednesday, January 9, while waiting at the end of a line about 20 or 30 people long to return 3 books, "Maybe they can open up more than just one window." She said that she did not need her books anymore, and that was why she was returning them.

"To me, it can be expected," said elementary education major, Joe Dunow, a returning adult. "I'd like [the lines] to be shorter, but in reality, it's the first two weeks of school; you

gotta expect it." Dunow, who went to Beck's on January 7, 8, and 9, said that the bookstore was busiest at approximately 11 o'clock to noon. "The lines inside there blew me away. I wouldn't go near [Beck's]."

However, he indicated that there are lulls to take advantage of: "I got here 8:30 on Monday when they open, and they were dead." Dunow rated Beck's' performance good overall, mentioning how at times all the registers were running and how

and that they return books [at the outside window]." He says that during his 8:30 to 3:30 shift, he notices that between approximately 10:45 and 11:30 are the times with the most traffic, and, "Usually the Monday back is busy all day."

Spring semesters, however, are typically not as busy as the fall semesters, according to Kathleen Waters who was helping behind the customer service desk. She credits the typical drop in enrollment that



photo by Victor A. Dula

Students line-up down the hall in lines that will sometimes not move for moments on end to sell back the textbooks they don't need or want anymore.

still the lines were long. "If it was like this all year, then it would be a problem."

Jim Frohm has worked security at Beck's during the back-to-school rushes for approximately seven years: "I make sure that kids don't bring in backpacks, food, and drinks

occurs from one fall semester to the next spring semester.

According to Waters, though, activity in the bookstore was nonetheless intense: "It's been very busy with long lines nearly all the way up the ramp," referring to the book-return line. Inside, she's seen worse: a few people "crying in lines because they don't have their waivers or didn't go to Financial Aid or they have a big stack of books."

She said that students having a rough time with the process might get some assistance from bookstore staff. "We might hold their books for a little while if they've been waiting a while," says Waters. "The experience can be pretty nerve-wracking for a kid just out of high school."



The chaos spilling out of Beck's as students fight the system and each other for the textbooks they need.

photo by Victor A. Dula



photo by Carole M. Brown

Provost Lopez and Alderman Margaret at the opening of the Fine Arts Building.

Lopez

continued from page 1

enabling them to be more effective teachers (pedagogy).

Tony Courier, the Programming Consultant of Student Activities, has worked with the Provost to plan University Day, an all-day event in March in which the faculty, staff, and students can get together and interact face to face during workshops. He was impressed with Dr. Lopez's concept students meeting faculty and staff in an informal way. He also commented on her "Student Centered University" policy. This means that executive decisions should be made based on the best interests for the students as opposed to what is easiest or most beneficial to staff members.

Courier admired the Provost's positive attitude and openness. She displayed a warm, personable attitude toward students, encouraging them to come up to her in the hall and casually say "hello"

even if the student does not have an issue to discuss with her. In contrast, there are staff members who are very businesslike and treat students with more focus on solving their issues and less focus on them as a person. Dr. Lopez is "an approachable member of the staff in that she displays a relaxed comfort level." Mr. Courier is sad to see her go because she has done a great deal for Northeastern, but he is happy for her that she has the opportunity to advance in her career.

Similarly, Dr. Lopez has mixed feelings about her position change. Even though she is excited about her career advancement, she has friends at Northeastern that she will miss. She wants to assure students that she is very proud of Northeastern, its faculty, and its students. When asked to sum up her thoughts of Northeastern, Dr. Lopez responded, "I am very privileged to work at an institution that does make a difference and that allows students' dreams to become a reality."

Construction

continued from page 1

window walls, it will overlook the courtyard, and will house computer labs, a student lounge, and many new offices—causing a major move for those now located in Building C (also known as the "Beehive Building"). These include the Honors Program, International Program, Non-Traditional Degree Program, Dean of Students, Job Placement-Job Resources, Faculty Resource Center, and Academic Computing. Facility Management hopes to see its completion by summer of 2002.

More staff from Building C will relocate to the "Bernard Building," once a synagogue, acquired and re-habbed by NEIU, 1/2 block off campus, for temporary quarters until a complete renovation of the Building C allows yet another relocation for various offices to return back to campus.

Auditorium

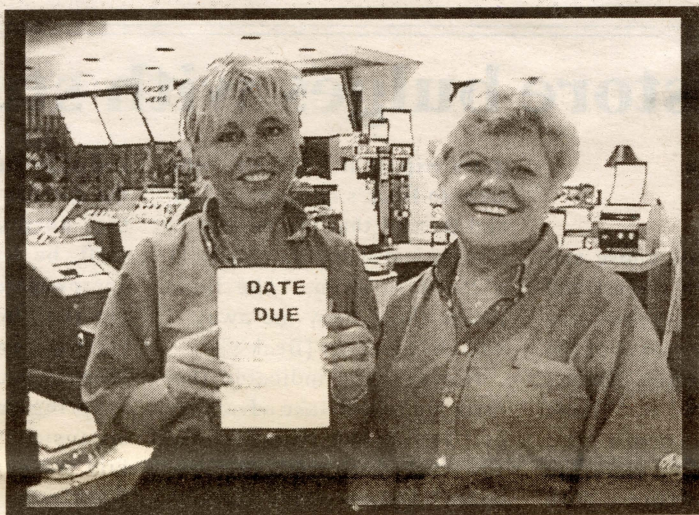
Next to the Fine Arts Center, a large sand hole can be viewed through two small windows in a set of secured boards. This marks the spot where a new lobby and auditorium await contract re-evaluation. A closer look at the design of the foundation has called for a delay from the original contract, stalling the project for six months. Plans for the multiple-use complex include approximately 500 seats, with an elevating orchestra pit, larger wings, improved acoustics and better insulation from the surrounding buildings. Construction access to the loading dock and ramp remain as part of the project.

With all the remodeling around the campus, staff and students alike are concerned with the pace of construction, and are also concerned by a nagging question: What will be remodeled next?

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Get the lowdown on entertainment in the new and revived entertainment pull-out in the next issue.

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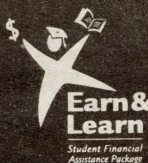
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hound news

by Scott Plencner

BECAUSE OFTEN NEWS HAPPENS AT THE BLINK OF AN EYE AND BECAUSE ALL NORTHEASTERN STUDENTS AND PROFESSORS LEAD BUSY LIVES, THE NEWS HOUND FINDS ITSELF HARD AT WORK SNIFFING THROUGH THE NEWS MEDIA'S TABLE SCRAPS TO BRING YOU THE MOST IMPORTANT NEWS OF THE WEEK YOU MAY HAVE MISSED WHILE ATTEMPTING TO DROP THAT PESKY CANADIAN 102 CLASS ON THE TTRS. IT HAS BEEN PROCESSED INTO BITE-SIZED MORSELS AND EVERY SO OFTEN EVEN ANALYZED FOR YOUR CONVENIENCE.

An obituary for an American icon

An American icon, the Lincoln Continental, died violently and unexpectedly last week. The Continental met its demise, along with the Escort, Mercury Cougar, Lincoln Villager, five major assembly plants, and over 35 thousand jobs, in the most recent of a long string of corporate massacres that began at the onset of the 2001 recession. The Continental will be remembered for always setting the bar a bit higher for luxury automobiles and for being part of the American dream for over half a century. The Continental's rival in luxury and American industrial ingenuity, the Cadillac, was reportedly shaken with the news and refused to make any official comment...



The new Lincoln Continental: quickly on it's way into history, instead of the driveway.

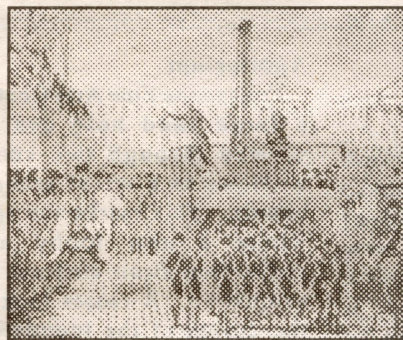
Last Friday the Ford Motor Company, citing its inability to compete with General Motors' recent \$2002 rebate offer and the mounting problem of paying on their own generous rebates of last year, announced major cutbacks. The fabled Continental and three other models will be phased out by the end of the year. Ford CEO William Clay Ford, who promised not to take a salary bonus this year, also announced the shutdown of five North American plants.

The 35,000 jobs that go with these plants will be particularly expensive for Ford since the union contract disallows such a closure without paying all laid off employees near full time wages. The UAW contract expires in 2003.

The union has been busy guarding the rights of its members, but are not criticizing the restructuring plans directly. "Despite its current problems," UAW president Stephen Yokich said in a statement released over the weekend, "Ford is a fundamentally healthy company, and we are confident that it will be around for a long time to come." Ford's sympathies and the UAW's confidence in "a long time to come" mean very little to auto workers in Edison, NJ. The town, which depends on the seventy year old plant for most of its employment, is reeling with the loss.

Don't try this sort of historical rationale at home

As students enter Beck's they have been met with book prices nearing the ridiculous. With some books reaching the same



Louis XVI's head was probably severed because he did not have the same foresight as Beck's.

price levels as the classes themselves, many students have opted to log onto E-bay and exchange books at more realistic prices.

The inflated prices also bring with them the heavy security time-worn NEIU students are used to. When you walk in you are asked by what seems like half a dozen undercover security guards to place all your belongings in the front of the store.

As you shop, you can feel their eyes on your back and cameras bearing down on you. Beck's seems to have taken great steps to avoid shop-lifting that bears a resemblance to Rolling Stone (where teenagers steal Nelly Furtado CD's by the careful, I've heard) or Stalin's Russia. They have a lot to be fearful of too.

Unlike Louis XVI in 18th century France (I know this is a stretch), Beck's seems well aware of the fact that crime often is the result of desperacy mixed with over-inflated prices. Even the most moral of people can fall prey to the temptation and rip off an \$80 copy of *Physics Today*, simply in the name of justice. Louis, you see, didn't understand this concept as well as Beck's. When King Louis tried to gouge his citizens with high taxes and bread prices, they simply stole what they needed and crime shot through the roof. If he would have had the foresight Beck's had when they decided to rip off the masses, he might have saved his head. Yes, all King Louis needed, I propose, was a couple of undercover security guards and a "leave-all-bags-by-the-door" policy.

PERSPECTUS

EDITORIAL

BY GEORGIA LOGOTHETIS, SENIOR STAFF WRITER

DRAWING BOARD

Progression: possible

Humankind does not progress in increments of time; it propels itself forward by opening the floodgates of discovery and allowing itself to be whisked away by the tides of progress. We have seen such a tidal wave of societal evolution with the advents of the Agricultural Revolution, the Industrial Revolution, and now, with the Age of Technology.

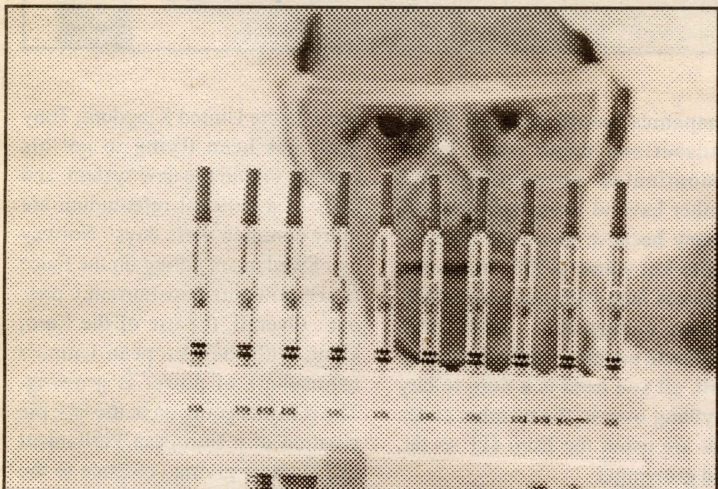
The cloning of human life is not a surprise. We have felt the creeping shadow of this event cast over us, first with the cloning of mammals, and later with the discovery of the human DNA sequence. We knew this time would come, this time when we as a species must make a choice.

The choice is not as simple as that between life or death, or progress and stagnation. There is no doubt that our species, regardless of the decision to clone embryos, will survive and evolve. We must decide on our future state. If we allow the cloning of human cells, we open a Pandora's box of possibilities. A heart, lung, or arm will be available upon request, but so will black market products, like cloned babies. On the other hand, if we cease such research, we are ultimately condemning our species to forever suffer from genetic and degenerative disease.

The choice is not an easy one, due in part to the equivocation of the words "human being." The term has become as ambiguous as the word "love" or "faith." It has a particular meaning for each individual. Some view conception as the creation of a person, others mark out a certain time period before an embryo can be called "human." Regardless of the definition, the situation is complex because we have to take into account not only humans, but future humans as well. Our decision is a fateful one not only for ourselves, but for all humans that will ever walk this earth.

If it seems like I am not presenting a solution or decision, it is because I am not. I admit that I am confused and afraid. Confused because I cannot choose between preserving the sanctity of life and giving life to those that have had it so painfully taken away from them. Afraid because I know something of human nature, and it is inevitable that this technology will be abused. Yet I am afraid that if we do not develop this technology, we will have missed an opportunity to alleviate human suffering.

It is too simple to say that I support the technology because it saves lives, for there are always means to an end. Balancing the effect of the means with the benefit of the end is difficult. If we set the annihilation of disease as our objective, how much are we willing to sacrifice to obtain that goal? How many human embryos, or potential humans, will



be thrown away or deformed? Does it even matter, as long as we create that one, perfect, viable entity?

Those who argue that we are "playing God" have no way of knowing what God has intended for us. Who is to say that it is not God's intention that we create this technology? Is it not possible that God has equipped us with the tools and knowledge to heal ourselves?

Whether through God's will or our own, this cloning technology is now in our hands, and we have the ability to crush it with the signing of a law that prohibits cloning.

It seems to me that it is too late for such laws. What good is it to pass a law banning the cloning of human embryos, when we have already accomplished the daunting task? Man has once again tasted the fruit of progress, and I doubt he will forget the sweet taste of success. No law, human or divine, will stop people from developing or abusing this technology. It is like a thought one lets slip out, then clamors hopelessly in the silence to try and reclaim. This technology is out there, the process is detailed in journals, and the key to cloning life is at everyone's fingertips.

There are many in the world who are steadfast in their belief and action on this issue. To them I say this: Be confident in your choice, for you choose not only for your generation, but for all generations to come. To those who are as confused and afraid as I am, I say: Cross your fingers or say a prayer, and hope that the tides of change will carry us forward into a time better than our own.



OPINION

BY VICTOR A. DULA, OPINIONS EDITOR

Why is it that those who are deemed to be in "financial need" seem to have a special place when the state of Illinois or the federal government examines financial aid applications? The costs for education, especially post-secondary, are high, but anything worthwhile usually is. Everyone would like to get financial aid to assist with educational expenses, but the question remains: why is the apparent or real lack of financial means somehow a qualification for state or federal aid?

This question is one that's bothered me in the past few days since I purchased my books. There was a table set up in the bookstore in the beginning of the semester for people to use their book waivers. These are given on a case by case basis to students whose financial aid exceeds their tuition bills and are used to apply the leftover aid to the high costs of textbooks for courses.

Last week, I racked up a few hundred dollars in

textbook costs. The books are worth the money, and that's why I keep them even after I finish a course. But then I saw the people waiting in line to hand their book waiver forms to the person at the book waiver table.

I look at them because they look better than I do. They are wearing designer clothing and in some cases, designer leather jackets, while I wear old khakis and a fleece shirt I picked up for a couple bucks. I am not one to envy others for what they have, but I found myself angered that I wasn't in that line to get free books, or at least to get my book bill reduced.

I remember also about a year ago when I was talking with an English major acquaintance of mine about the financial aid he receives. I also remember the sharp reply I got from him when I told him he didn't deserve the aid or at least I didn't want to subsidize it, "That's so white, upper-middle class!" Never mind that since he receives money to go to

school and buy his books, he has extra in his budget to go drinking every weekend.

If people are truly in financial need, then why are they able to afford such things as designer clothing and leather jackets that look as if they came right off the racks at an upper-end department store? Why can that acquaintance I mentioned hit the bars on weekends?

Financial need means that someone's money supply is tight, not that they have poor spending habits that render them "needy." The problem here is that much financial need exhibited is, to a degree, self-inflicted and can be eased with a more disciplined approach to money.

Instead of Tommy Hilfiger or FUBU, how about Wal Mart's in-house brand or stuff you might find in a warehouse club? Instead of Footlocker, maybe Payless. Instead of a watering hole, drink some water. It doesn't matter how it's done legally—just do it; some of us can't afford not to.

LETTER POLICY

Letters to the Editor must be signed and contain an address and telephone number for verification and must be approximately 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 may be received through mail addressed to:

The Independent
E-049, NEIU
5500 N. St. Louis Av
Chicago, IL 60625

Letters are also accepted through electronic mail, provided they include a telephone number for verification. The address is neiu_independent@yahoo.com

Europhoria: Introduction of the Euro currency, the implications for the world.

In the pubs in Dublin to the streets of Paris and to the clubs in Frankfurt, waves of people pour out in celebrations on the eve of the New Years. But, whereas most of the world is simply celebrating the coming of 2002, twelve countries in Europe were also breaking out the music and champagne to celebrate the dawn of a new era in European history (if not a significant historical event in the monetary history). The media shows all sorts of shindigs happening, all sponsored by either the European Union (EU) or their member states, from girls in France wearing nothing but giant navy blue balls with the stars of Europe on them, to Daft Punk doing some funky club mix with the new European anthem. So, what's the entire hubbub you ask? The Euro, my friends, the introduction of the continent's first single currency since the Roman Empire.

From the Ashes of War.

To the uninitiated, here's a primer (that's introduction to anyone from Gary, Indiana) on the history of this whole event. The story of the Euro actually goes back way into the continent's history in Roman era, following the collapse of the Empire, like the great Imperial territory, the monetary system would be broken up according to local custom; the birth of various currencies soon flourished (or languished, depending on the stability of that region's government) in kingdoms across the shattered Empire. It should be noted, that other continents saw similar unions, but right now we'll just concentrate on Europe. Charlemagne and Napoleon had harbored dreams of a single

currency. Centuries moving by, there would be one form of monetary system, linking city-states, kingdoms, or later on, the same nations within a region. Of course, in the time of colonialism, the great imperial empires like Great Britain or Spain, currencies like the Sterling or Peseta would be the dominant currency in their respective colonies, forging some sort of economic/monetary union. Around 1865 or so to the start of World War I, there was the Latin Monetary Union (LMU), made up of Belgium, Bulgaria, France, Greece, Italy, and Switzerland. Fate and history, being the fickle wretches that they are, would join the LMU with the Romans. Still, there was some support for a single continental currency.

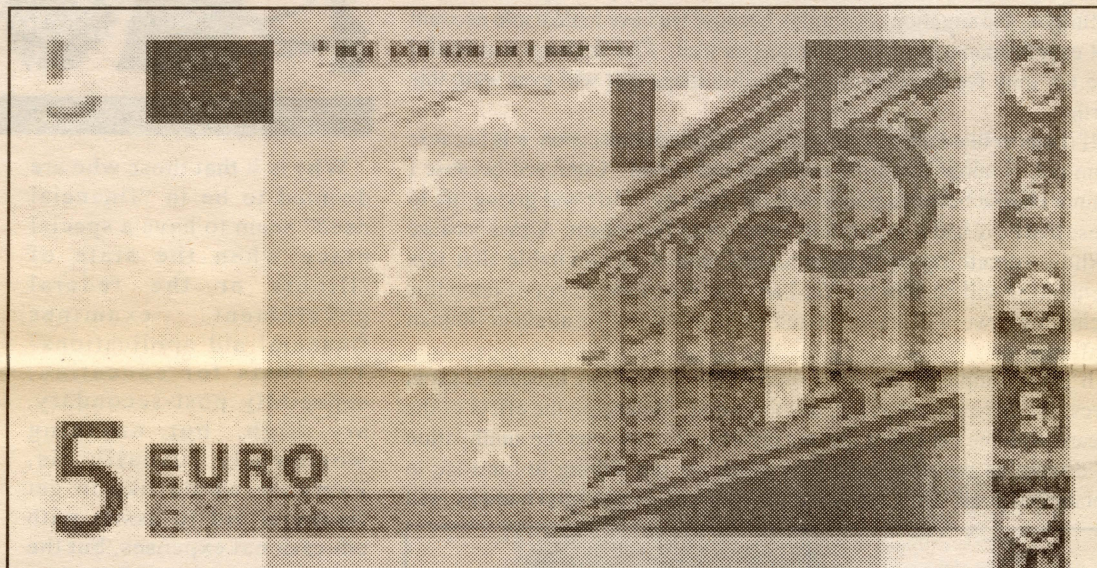
Many claim 1999 as the birth of the Euro, but in reality, one could trace the birth of this modern currency to the chaotic days just after the second World War. 1946, speaking at Zurich University, Winston Churchill called for "a kind of United States of Europe." The speech ignited a desire in a land that was now tired of war. Two years later, the Treaty of Brussels was signed by Belgium, Luxembourg, the Netherlands, France, and the United Kingdom, establishing the Council of Europe. The Council is a forum bringing together the heads of state from the various European members. Believing that without coal or steel, one could not wage war, the Treaty of Paris was enacted, creating the European Coal & Steel Community (ECSC), a forefather of the EU; the ECSC pooled Europe's coal, metals (and to a large part, heavy industrial companies) to ensure that by binding industries to the various

nations, war would not be possible between the members. A major cornerstone was made in 1957, with the various Treaties of Rome, establishing the European Economic Community (EEC) (also known as the "Common Market" or just European Community; this was Europe's first true trade body that replaced the ECSC).

Moving forward to 1991, in the Dutch town of Maastricht, the members of the EEC signed a treaty bearing the same name of the town; the Maastricht Treaty though, would

have more powerful implications, it did away with the EEC and established a trading/political confederation dubbed the European Union, it also created the European Central Bank. Whereas before, you had a body of nations where the main focus was trade, now you had an organization whose sole purpose was the integration of the continent. The European Central Bank work in a similar vein as our Federal Reserve coordinating monetary policy for the Union. The new European Union was a vehicle for which the continent could do more than just trade-related items, and proceed further more political/diplomatic endeavors for the whole of it's members. Still, it was realized that to unite Europe, like the US, one needed a single currency. In 1999, the EU set forth with the Euro currency, first introducing the new monetary unit in accounting form,

The new Euro currency in effect



then in 2002 introducing it into the general public.

The Euro: Passport to a new Superpower?

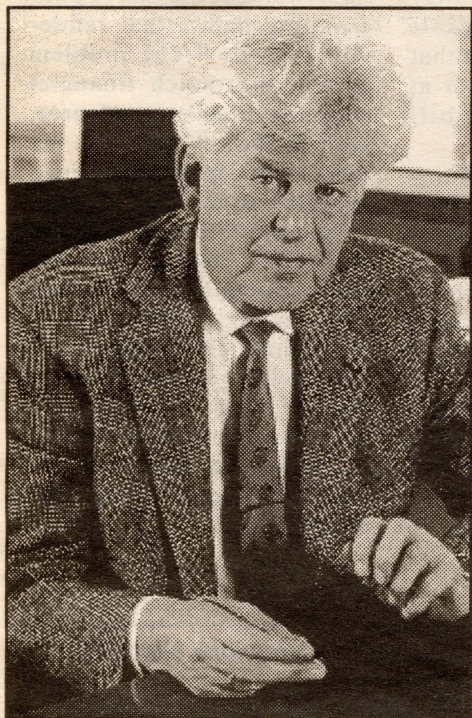
Now, what could this piece of paper that comes in all sorts of color and is slightly larger than our US dollar mean here in the present. For starters, this raises Europe's competitive edge. In the past, a company like Siemens AG based in Germany who had business relations in Spain or Greece, had to keep changing money when doing cross border transaction, same thing on the accounting side. Imagine if you will, here in the US, a company in Illinois doing business with someone in Wisconsin, and having to adhere to fluctuations in value of the Wisconsin Dollar against the Illinois Dollar (remember in this Bizzaro world example you can't use Wisconsin's currency in Chicago)? Pretty messy stuff there! This situation also applies to tourists, if you're visiting friends in Paris, and want to stop by Bonn, Germany to visit family, you had to replace those Francs with Deutschmarks; and sometimes you might not get the same dollar value!!

Today, instead of companies having to go through the Intermarket system on Forex dealing with those pip spreads (a pip in Forex Intermarket language is a incremental dollar value), or going

to the Chicago Mercantile Exchange' currency futures pits for a short-term transaction hassle (though companies are still going to use the Merc' for long-term transaction obligations for the Euro itself.). This means, that European

more like the "United States of Europe" of Winston Churchill's speech everyday. Right now only twelve of fifteen members of the EU are using the Euro. Sweden, Britain and Norway have opted out of the Euro scheme

f o r



Two of the major players in the European Union, and big names behind the Euro: Willem F. Duisenberg (above), President of the EU, and Javier Solana (right), Secretary General of the EU.



companies would have all those transactions costs (new euro-denominated accounting) and neither have to worry about losing money because so-and-so's peseta or lira lost value. It'll be like doing business here with our own home-grown companies. BTW, this applies to people visiting Europe as well, all you need is a Euro to buy anything over in the member states that are using the Euro (11 so far, and growing!).

The Euro has bigger ramifications as well other than saving a couple of bucks in transaction costs. In the big picture, the world is dominated by really four currencies; the US Dollar being king, making up somewhere around 73% of reserves in central banks everywhere; The Pound Sterling is second, quickly followed by the Euro and the Japanese Yen (Ok ok, I'll concede, the Chinese Remembi may soon give the Japanese a challenge too! Sheesh, tough crowd!). Introduction of the Euro gives the European Union a bit more leverage when dealing with other nations. On of the EU's goals is to surpass the United States as an economic (and in some circles) military superpower. Already as I speak, central banks in Japan and Latin America (particularly Brazil) are dumping Greenbacks for Euros on Forex and the Merc.

The European Union is becoming

now. In the United Kingdom, Tony Blair has been trying to get his country to join the new system, and talks of a national referendum are more common these days. Norway and Sweden are sitting on the fence to see how this new currency pans out. Overall, the use of the Euro, along with the European Union's hemisphere of power is growing. The reforms going on in the EU, the creation of a European Parliament and such, is giving credence to the birth of a new power. Many would like to see a full-fledged federal establishment (aka a US of E).

Europeans will also have their own army, well sorta. As it stands, the newly established European Defense Forces are a hodge podge of collaborative efforts amongst several western European nations doing peacekeeping operations in Bosnia-Herzegovina. Though, if people like France's President, Lionel Jospin, has his way, NATO would be replaced by the new EDF. To the United States, that would be a critical loss of influence on the continent. Eastern European countries are already on the (actually most of them, minus Russia, Ukraine, Croatia, and Yugoslavia) list for inclusion for membership. There is even talk of a unified European space program. The days of the unipolar world with America being the only big boy in town may be at an end.

SGA fall report card: overall "F"

Since the days of Thomas Jefferson, broadsheets have been 'grading' the administration of government in a free society. Some of those administrations got deservedly bad grades, while others got good grades, deserved or not. We at the Independent would like to continue this tradition by grading our university's student administration, known affectionately as the Student Government Association [SGA].

Many students on campus haven't heard about the SGA or simply don't care about them, but they are an organization worthy of scrutiny. After all, they manage and control access to huge amounts of your money, in excess of \$200,000. Some of this money is their own, internal budget (about \$50,000), while the rest is money they are responsible for allocating to the various clubs and organizations that request it via the proper channels. One of those organizations is this very paper.

But SGA has other responsibilities than simply acting as an open wallet for NEIU's clubs. SGA also carries the responsibility to represent the views of the student body to other governing bodies within and outside of the university. The SGA also is responsible for responding to the needs of the student body, such as when a group of students lobbied the SGA in 2000 to prevent the moving of the Health Services Office to the P.E. Building, or when the university was dismantling their intercollegiate athletic program. In the first instance, SGA responded by holding numerous meetings with various university official until it

was agreed that Health Services would relocate instead to the basement of the E-building. For that, they would have gotten a good grade. In the second instance, the SGA turned a deaf ear to the plight of 200+ student athletes and the intercollegiate athletic program ceased to exist. For this, SGA would have gotten failing marks.

We are happy to say that this current administration of the SGA does not, overall, receive an "F," but it is hard to give them anything higher than a "D."

As far as allocating funds to the various organizations, they receive a "C," primarily because we have heard no major complaints from groups accessing this money. However, we haven't heard any glowing recommendations of SGA regarding this process either. One troubling thing we have heard is an insistence from SGA on 'getting credit' for supplying the money, as if it were their money in the first place. This is disturbing, but hasn't to our knowledge interfered with any groups receiving funds properly requested.

As far as managing their own funds, we have to give SGA an "F." We do this because of SGA's failure to live up to the expectations the students have put on it. A good example of this is the failure of the SGA to host a finals giveaway, one of the most popular events that past administrations have run and an example of SGA "giving something back" to the student body it supposedly serves. It is noted that, while no snack items were given to the students last finals, the SGA meetings have not lacked for food service. This paper would like to remind the SGA that the students should come first, not the politicos

who inhabit the SGA.

One area that received a grade of "C" was the SGA's dealings with governmental bodies outside of the university. Apparently our Illinois Board of Higher Education Student Advisory Committee Representative is attending the IBHE-SAC meetings, evidence of which shows up through the travel vouchers and funds requested for travel. We would give this area a higher grade if we knew what our Rep. was doing at these meetings, but attendance is the bare minimum needed to get a passing grade, so there you have it.

For the SGA's dealings with governmental bodies within the university, we have to give SGA an "F." We haven't seen much interaction between the two, despite there being pressing issues that need to be addressed, such as College of Education/Student Teaching issues (an issue that was raised during previous administrations and has never ceased to be a great opportunity for comment by SGA Presidents) and class availability. Normally, this would rate a "D," but throw in the fact that our current Student Trustee is not in the habit of attending SGA meetings and the grade drops to an "F."

We at the Independent are somewhat saddened that the SGA had to receive a grade of "D" overall, but we hope that the SGA can use this criticism to improve, even if that just means better communication with the media and NEIU students in general. And remember, a good leadership team leads by example, so, SGA, give us some leadership. In return, we'll give you a better grade.

-Unsigned

QUOTABLES

Friendly attacks should begin with faint praise, but be careful not to use adjectives or phrases of which the publisher can make use in advertisement.

John Betjeman

I'm an atheist and I thank God for it.

George Bernard Shaw

Television is a device that permits people who haven't got anything to do watch people who can't do anything. It is radio fluoroscoped; the triumph of machinery over people; a medium because anything good on it is rare.

Fred Allen

Stand firm in your refusal to remain conscious during algebra. In real life, I assure you, there is no such thing as algebra.

Fran Lebowitz

Health food may be good for the conscience but Oreos taste a hell of a lot better.

Robert Redford

Critics are a dissembling, dishonest, contemptible race of men. Asking a working writer what he feels about critics is like asking a lamppost what he feels about dogs.

John Osborne

A person who publishes a book willfully appears before the populace with his pants down. If it is a good book nothing can hurt him. If it is a bad book, nothing can help him.

Edna St. Vincent Millay

The difference between journalism and literature is that journalism is unreadable and literature is not read.

Oscar Wilde

Dark melancholy seizes me anew, each time I see men act as they do. Flattery, treachery is all I see. I plan to clash head on with the whole race of man.

Moliere

I came out here with one suit and everybody said I looked like a bum. Twenty years later Marlon Brando came out with only a sweatshirt and the town drooled over him. That shows how much Hollywood has progressed.

Humphrey Bogart

She should have died hereafter, there would have been time for such a word, to-morrow, and to-morrow, and to-morrow, Creeps in this petty pace from day to day, to the last syllable of recorded time. And all our yester-days have lighted fools the way to dusty death.

William Shakespeare, MacBeth

New year, new complaints

WELCOME BACK, FELLOW STUDENTS! WONDERING HOW MY BREAK WAS? PROBABLY NOT, BUT I'LL TELL YOU ANYWAY. OK, IMAGINE LAS VEGAS, BLACKJACK, THOUSANDS OF DOLLARS, RANDOM ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES, FAMILY PARTIES, AND TWO VERY OPEN-MINDED SWEDISH SISTERS. OK, GOT ALL THAT IN YOUR MIND? NOW, TAKE AWAY EVERYTHING BUT THE FAMILY PARTIES, AND YOU'D HAVE MY BREAK. DESPITE THIS, AND DESPITE THE UNFORTUNATE ABSENCE OF THE SWEDISH SISTERS, IT WASN'T AS BAD AS I FEARED.



BRIAN BLASZKOWSKI

Anyway, a new semester means new things to complain about (or old things complained about in new and exciting ways!) I have two major complaints, and I find that writing about them is therapeutic, so here goes:

Firstly, people need to learn how to deal with our parking lot. Personally, I don't find it all that confusing: you stop at stop signs, you stop when other cars are in your way, you find an empty spot, and you put your car into it. It doesn't sound complicated, does it? Well, I realized that other people use the parking lot as well, and in general, people are morons.

I've seen things that have literally caused my jaw to drop (which, in turn, caused my cigarette to fall into my lap, causing devastating injuries and the severe disappointment of two Swedish sisters). I've seen two cars parked in the *middle* of the *lanes*, with the drivers talking to each other. I've seen people fail to see the thick, highly visible yellow lines that divide up the lot into parking spaces. On the second day of school, someone was monopolizing *four spaces*!

People here also seem to space out when they approach stop signs. Either they don't stop at all (like by the stop sign by the Science Building parking lot), or they stop only part way, waving frantically for other cars to go ahead of them.

All the things listed above fail to properly demonstrate just how stupid people here are, though. Last semester, I overheard someone complaining about how hard it is to find parking here, saying that they spent 45 minutes looking around. I can sympathize, so I continued to listen. The woman's friend said, "So, did you find a spot? I bet you're parked all the way in the new lot." Her friend replied, "Oh, no. I wouldn't walk that far! I parked halfway on the sidewalk in the main lot and waited for someone around me to move."

What manner of idiots do we have enrolled here, anyway? She parked on the sidewalk! The *sidewalk*! I almost asked her if she was an education major, but decided not to. I thought that in order to obtain a car and be able to drive, you had to pass some sort of class. But of course, *I also* thought that you had to graduate high school before you could go to college. Apparently, NEIU doesn't believe in petty laws such as these.

The other people who really piss me off are the people who stop in the middle of hallways to chat with friends. Not only that, but they have the guts to give people who suddenly bump into them dirty looks. How can people be so oblivious to their surroundings?

What I really want to know is, do these people who randomly stop moving do it elsewhere, too? Do they drive past their favorite store, see a sale, and jam on their brakes to window shop? As sad as it is, it wouldn't surprise me.

Something needs to be done about these people. I say, the next time you're walking behind someone and they suddenly stop and just stand there, don't slow your momentum. Instead, speed up and shove them out of the way, preferably into a wall, or down a flight of stairs. Some people think that as Voice of the Campus, I should set an example of good behavior. Screw that. I just don't want to wrench my back as I twist out of some idiot's way.

I lied, there are actually three things that really bother me. I've talked about the parking people and those who think we're playing "Red light, green light" in the halls. Here is the third thing that pisses me off: teacher groupies. You know what I'm talking about. Students who love a teacher *so much*, that they take every single class that is taught by the professor. These people suck. Not only are they taking up valuable room in an already severely limited class schedule (there's *another* thing), but they disrupt the class. All they do is tell random stories about other classes that they've taken with the teacher. ("Well, when I had you last semester for *Bathroom Literature: Past, Present, and Future*, I thought that...")

Not only that, but when the teacher makes a joke, they laugh. They laugh loudly, and they laugh for a long time. Some teachers are funny; others are not. No teacher, however, is able to crack a joke that is so funny someone spends the next 20 minutes shrieking out laughter, laughter which sounds more like someone beating a goose to death with a snare drum. If you need the class for your major or minor, fine. But I know of people who are majoring in business, but really like an English teacher, so they take up space in his classroom which would be better used by an English major (like *me*, for example) than by some simple-minded twit who stalks college teachers.

Aside from the three things above, nothing is really bothering me right now. Oh, sure, I could actually think about it and write some more, but I think everyone knows that I'm too lazy to do that. So, I'll leave you with this parting message: learn to drive, get your ass out of my way, and stop stealing classes that don't belong in your major!

Oh, and have a good semester.

The Provost responds to “Northeasy”

Responding to Brain Blaszkowski's editorial, our Provost, Estela Lopez, has sought to dispel the myth of “Northeasy” by noting that Northeastern is an accredited institution with “Faculty [who] is also an indicator of quality.” If Mr. Blaszkowski had said the Yugo was a lousy car, it would be no proof that it was a good car by pointing out that it had wheels and a steering column. That we are an accredited university doesn't make us a good university any more than the ability to tread water without drowning makes one a world-class swimmer. Having quality faculty might prove our commitment to excellence, but simply having faculty is no indicator of quality, any more than having janitors means the plumbing works. Having faculty means that we have people who teach, which is absolutely necessary for any institution of learning. Even the worst university on record must have faculty in order to qualify as the worst university on record.

The Provost writes that she has “never heard of any of our junior faculty say that they have become ‘easier.’” Well I doubt any junior faculty would let their Provost know that, or put it quite that way, but I know of junior faculty who worry that they could put their position at Northeasy in serious jeopardy if they would give students the grades they feel they deserve.

The Provost reports that these junior faculty “ponder on how to become more effective to better service our students,” and I can't help wondering if these junior faculty ever consider servicing senior faculty as well. In any event, there is no criterion at Northeasy or elsewhere that I know of which gives much credit for pondering. Einstein pondered a lot about a unified field theory, but got no credit for it, like he got for Relativity Theory. And do you know why? Because he couldn't come up with it even though he

pondered the last 30 years of his life over it. There is no Nobel Prize for pondering.

In her interactions with exchange students, Provost Lopez finds that “they feel challenged by what they experience here at NEIU.” Feeling challenged and meeting the challenge is not the same. A student might feel challenged at Northeasy because he is just plain ignorant and stupid. Perhaps he couldn't get into a poorer school and was forced to come here and got thrown for a loop when he found out, the day before finals week, that our university required more reading than his grammar school.

The Provost quotes an exchange student from Mississippi State University whose remarks, she says, exemplify “how most of them feel.” The student reportedly said she was fortunate to come to Northeastern because she was “exposed to a wide range of diversity.” I can well understand this because Mississippi is not a state known for its diversity. Perhaps an exchange student from one of the academically poorest states in the former Confederacy might be surprised when told that the black person teaching her Computer Science course did not come from Alabama, but is actually an Indian and—go figure—did not come from the American West either, or that the Asian student sitting next to him can't teach him one word of Chinese because he comes from a place called Viet Nam. But once more, diversity is no measure of excellence. A school in Mississippi may have a lot of bad students while Northeasy stands out simply by the fact that it has a greater *variety* of bad students.

Under the heading of success of graduates, the Provost of Northeasy indicates that 93.3% of alumni surveyed indicated a high level of satisfaction “with important aspects of their undergraduate experiences.” Experiences? Again experiences! Learning an academic subject is an

experience; so is partying and getting drunk and falling asleep in class the next day. A breakdown is given for some highly rated experiences at Northeastern: developing critical thinking, a sense of ethics, understanding diversity, becoming an active citizen, and improving qualities of life. The ethical choices one makes is not the business of public universities to teach, and other than developing critical thinking, I doubt that any of the other aspects of education listed are a measure of what the content of public higher education is about nor, however laudable as personal choices, can they really be a measure of academic success. And if the Provost honestly believes that our graduates are “earning salaries comparable with or higher than the graduates of other public universities,” I would challenge her to show me where the height of any graduate is measured by salary. Bill Gates, the richest man in creation, is not very tall.

Statements like, “Regarding areas of working in careers related to their undergraduate majors, our graduates compare favorably [. . .],” are not those we look for when speaking of quality and are better left unsaid. To the Provost's belief that the above indicate the “standard criteria that is accepted,” I can only respond by saying that these are not the criteria that are accepted.

Northeastern like any institution has a few exceptional students, teachers, and administrators—exceptionality being a measure of how individuals exceed most all others in their performance. One has a right to expect that anyone rising to the level of Provost of a university will also be exceptional, but will not stand out in such a way as to further damaging the reputation of this university by making the kind of statements that were placed in *The Independent*.

-Harry White

Safety a concern for NEIU Vice-President

Concerns have been expressed in national, local and campus media about the ability of responsible law enforcement agencies to perform in crisis situations. The NEIU administration is aware that some students may wonder about our general preparation and law enforcement capabilities.

NEIU's campus crime statistics are very good for a commuter university located in a major metropolitan environment. If you have the chance, you might want to review those statistics online at www.neiu.edu/policy. Printed copies of the statistics are available in the Public Safety Office and updated as required by law. Most universities also have their statistics published online and with very little effort that information can be located. Comparisons show that we are doing quite well. We must also always work to improve.

As we all saw on September 11th, even the largest metropolitan police force in the United States had difficulty dealing with a catastrophic situation. On a day to day basis, NEIU's Department of Public Safety is doing a very good job of protecting our community. Our Director of Public Safety has extensive past experience at a major Chicago area university. Our Public Safety officers receive nearly 500 hours of basic training during their probationary employment and each year our officers take additional training in subjects such as Ethnic and Cultural Awareness,

Robbery and Property Crime Investigation, Trauma Injury Management and various forms of investigative techniques.

Contrary to assertions in the past, we know the department has been appropriately trained and staffed. We also want you to know that there are currently efforts under way to add additional Public Safety personnel. In addition, our department works closely with the Chicago police department. We have frequently assisted that department and in emergencies, we can call upon the Chicago and State police for special assistance. Local emergency services are available through our campus at extension 5511. In life threatening emergencies, call 911 to access the City of Chicago's emergency services.

Concerning hate crime training and outreach, there has been a mandatory interactive session on cross-cultural relations in the freshman orientation program. After September 11th, Student Affairs staff were instructed to be even more vigilant in monitoring unusual behavior and to be proactive in addressing potentially difficult situations observed before they escalate. In addition, the NEIU administration set up a Drop-in Center staffed by the Counseling Office for two weeks. During this time, members of the campus community could, in a safe environment, discuss issues and feelings arising from the events of September 11th.

Northeastern has always regarded

campus security as a priority matter and will continue to strengthen campus safety for the entire university community.

Melvin C. Terrell

Vice President for Student Affairs

Math students beware! Warning from a fellow student

My dear NEIU fellow students: I wish to inform you of certain obstacles you may come to experience during your math enrollment here, so that you're aware, and make proper decisions.

This directly involves math students and their syllabi. **Carefully** check the exam dates on your syllabus. If the exams (not quizzes) are scheduled to cover the materials introduced on prior class session -meaning, being tested on fresh material after its introduction 2 days ago- you have the right to ask that instructor to provide more study time. You should reasonably be provided sufficient time to finish your last assignment, to test-review for the listed chapters, and have time to seek tutoring assistance on problems. The dean of Art & Sciences has agreed with me on this matter. If your grades and GPA are important to you, then, so should be the manner in which you are tested.

If asked, most professors are reasonable in respect to accommodating the class. They may provide an alternative, such as postponement of the test to the following session, or simply not including fresh sections in that test.

The All-American hobby

We all have certain hobbies and infatuations in our lives. Some of us enjoy running and music, while others enjoy drinking and chasing women.

One of my hobbies/infatuations has got to be sports in general. Basketball has got to be at the top of my list, followed by football, baseball, and hockey, respectively.

I know that I'm not alone when it comes to loving a certain game, and I certainly hope that I'm not going to be left hanging after I voice my frustrations with our current franchise system of sports. My bad vibes started a while ago but got a lot stronger in recent years. I'm sure that everyone remembers that ‘monster’ contract that a certain baseball player received.

Two hundred and fifty million dollars over ten years does seem a little bit excessive, don't you think?

After all, there are other jobs that require a lot more skill and knowledge than playing a professional game. Doctors, firefighters, cops and many more should get paid a lot more than they are getting currently.

Wow, now I'm getting a little off the subject. My latest ‘beef’ with sports, baseball especially, has gotten me really wired. I can't even think about baseball nowadays without getting pissed off. I'm sure that everyone remembers the baseball contraction talks of a few months back. To make a long story short, it all revolved around the problem that some owners lost money. I believe the figure was close to half a billion dollars over the whole season.

Now let's stop and reflect for a second and think about who really cares? Do you as a fan really care whether or not your team's owners make money or not? I know I don't.

Who in name of (whatever) really cares if the owners of a team we love make money or not? Hell, we pay to enjoy our obsessions. Average ticket prices are forty to fifty dollars for any seats that don't require binoculars, and we are supposed to care that they're losing money?

I really don't understand WHY they are losing money. I fail to see how after all the money they receive from concessions, TV spots, ticket sales and more, they're still losing money. Granted, there are certain markets in the U.S that are not as well off at money making as others. On the other hand, maybe they should stop building new stadiums all over the place. New stadiums (usually) mean higher ticket prices, which in turn mean less accessibility to people like you and me.

To tell you the truth, I forgot the last time I went to a live game of anything. It's just too damn expensive.

Getting back on the subject, maybe if they stopped paying their players money that they don't really deserve, they wouldn't be hurting financially. In my opinion, no one deserves two hundred and fifty million dollars for playing a sport.

A sports team has one very distinct character. It's a team and thus no one player can win by himself. In football, the quarterback can't win a championship without a supporting cast. In basketball, even Michael Jordan couldn't win without help.

The same goes for both baseball and hockey, so why do the owners of our franchises keep insisting on paying top dollar for players and then crying that they're not making money?

Maybe if we started rewarding excellence instead of incompetence, the picture would be a little different. Maybe if professional sports teams would actually be businesses instead of rich men's toys (only an opinion), they would actually make money.

So, my final words for the owners of professional sports franchises would probably be they should either put up or shut the hell up. We, the fans, should be the ones upset at constantly rising ticket prices, constant disputes between labor and management, and all this crap. Stop it. Grow up and face the cold, hard facts.

If you lose the support of the fans, you lose, *period*.

In conclusion, don't expect your math professor to be an automatic genius, and don't expect much from the department. In my case, the head of the math department was more protective than helpful. Although, there's a U at the end of NEIU, at times you may find that you're dealing with small college mentality. So, respectfully address your professor with your concerns early on, and if he/she seems unreasonable, think of your options. Because, most likely, things will get more complex. Re-address your complaints to the dean's office if unsatisfied. And, don't be altogether dismayed. This college needs your personal response and success to make itself into a *university*. Please, take the time to write comments during teacher evaluations. Also, share ideas and get involved. **Help make a difference.**

I personally wish you a speedy progress and overall success.

-Amir Jamali

p.s. For further details about my experiences with the math department, and results, or sharing of info, please e-mail me at: a-Jamali@neiu.edu



The Commuter

Next stop: Features! Watch the doors as they close.

Museum of Contemporary Art delves into Kentridge's *Exile*

by Carole M. Brown
Production Editor

The Chicago Museum of Contemporary Art (MCA) continues to help provide a voice and outlet for many artists. Two of their current exhibits examine the role of the citizen in Africa and the prospect of apartheid.

William Kentridge is a South African, widely known for many different art forms, mostly his animated films, drawings, and theater productions. Kentridge focuses a lot of his work on the history of South Africa. The current exhibit, running through January 20, 2002, is his first United States retrospective.

This exhibit showcases 11 of his films, or as he refers to them "drawings for projection." These films relate the character's struggle in differing forms with the subject and life of apartheid, and after apartheid has ended, such as one of his most famous films *Felix in Exile* (1994). The exhibit also contains some 50 of his charcoal drawings from the films. *Shadow Procession* used several of his puppet creations, which Kentridge uses mostly in theater.

The interesting thing about Kentridge's films is that they draw a person in. Kentridge's "projections" are abstract, representing disease in the ringing of a telephone and then representing the take over of industrialization as a disease itself. Kentridge also uses some

recurring themes such as a floating human eye, peering at the viewer from the screen every so often, representing the government and how they are always watching their constituents.

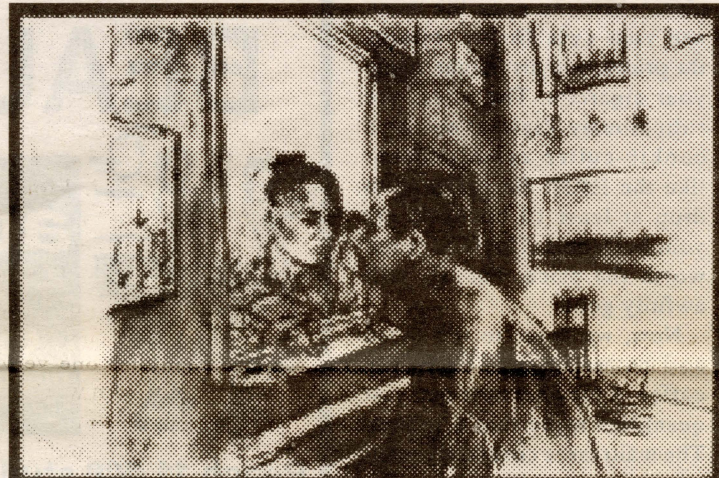
Through his abstractness, Kentridge does well at making a person feel oppressed possibly what the nation of South Africa felt while living under apartheid.

Another new, permanent, addition to the MCA, is Maurizio Cattelan's *Felix*. *Felix* is a 26-foot high, 46-foot long skeleton of a house cat. *Felix* was opened on September 14, 2001, and will continue to reside Kovler Atrium on the second floor. Cattelan chose to show how menacing something as normal as a house cat can be when seen in gargantuan view. And yes, *Felix*

is named after Felix the Cat.

The MCA is a treasure located in downtown Chicago, by Chicago and Michigan Avenue. They are trying to bring new and different works to the area, and also host a plethora of other events. Some of these events include new showings of local artists once a month, lectures by artists such as Kentridge, and they even offer classes for anyone willing to learn more about the varying mediums of art.

Marshall Field's provides free Tuesdays, but the normal fee is a suggested donation. More information can be found at www.mcachicago.org. The MCA is definitely worth the price of public transportation and a small donation, but one tip - plan to spend more than a couple of hours.



Scene from Kentridge's *Felix in Exile*.

Jay-Z's *Blueprint* a rap classic

by Bryan Conyers
News Editor

Jay-Z's *Blueprint* released in late November of 2001 features thirteen tracks of rap perfection. The Album begins with the fiery Doors sampled *Takeover*" a song in which Jay-Z lashes out at Queens bridge rappers Nas and Mobb Deep. "I don't care if you Mobb Deep/ I hold triggers to crews/ You little F—ks/ I got money stacks bigger than you.

Top 40 *Izzo* and super hit *Girls, Girls, Girls*, follows next. *U don't know*, the sixth track on the album is a headbanger which features super warped background vocals and a proud Jay-Z, who boasts, "Moma ain't raised no fools/Put me anywhere on God's green earth/ I'll triple my worth/ Mother f—ka!

On the Timbaland produced and arguably best track on the album *Hola Hovito* Jay-Z shows his listeners why he's the best in the business. "Hola Hovito!/ That's what they sayin' when I roll up with my people/ My music bangin' like vatos locos/ Got rap in a choke hold/ And I won't surrender it with beats by Timbaland...

The eighth track *Heart of the City* marks a change in the Album as Jay-Z becomes more meditative and sentimental.

Never Change with it's soulful hook and soothing melody features the rapper asking listeners "Who you know like Hov?" *Song Cry* is a beautiful ballad on which Jay-Z mourns the loss of friends and women alike, and which features a beautiful chorus sang by a young woman whose name is regrettably not listed on the CD.

Renegade, the twelfth track of the album features controversial rapper Eminem. Jay-Z starts, "Mothaf—kas!/ Say that I'm foolish/ I only talk about jewels/ Do you/ Fools listen to music or do you just skim through it?/ See I'm influenced/ By the ghetto you ruined/ The same dude you gave nothing I made something doin'... Eminem follows "See I'm a poet to some/ A regular modern day Shakespeare/ Jesus Christ/ The king of these latter day saints here...

I was surprised to find, after listening to the last song in its entirety, two bonus tracks not listed on the CD. The first is a sped up remix of the last, but the second is a head banging remix of *Girls, Girls, Girls*, complete with new lyrics.

Jay-Z's album *The Blueprint*, is definitely worth buying if you haven't done so already. It features 15 hot tracks, and is a must have for the rap fan and simple music lover alike.

Llama creates music that defies style boundaries

by Georgia Logothetis
Senior Staff Member

"We make music for music's sake," says Llama, who describes their sound as "pop with heavy improvisational influences; an entwined blend of rock, pop, jazz, psychedelic, and funk." Their new release, *Close to the Silence*, presents what lead singer and guitarist Ben Morton describes as "an entwined blend of rock, pop, jazz, psychedelic, and funk." He says bands too often limit themselves by confining their sound to a genre.

The emerging band is labeled by most as modern/alternative rock & pop, a complex description which reflects their eclectic style. The music was recorded at five Nashville studios over a two-year period. Much of the music found on *Close To The Silence*, from the opener *Back Where We Began* to *Too Much Too Soon* to tracks like *Hero*, and *All You Ever Wanted* were group collaborations, though lead singer Morton wrote most of the compelling lyrics. Among the album's musical guests is world

renowned banjo virtuoso Bela Fleck, who adds yet another dimension to the group's style.

The origins of Llama can be traced back to childhood friends Ben Morton and Neil Mason. In 1996, the two 13-year-olds began creating music, with Morton playing acoustic guitar and Mason playing the drums. A year later Ben Brown joined the band, offering his talent on the electric guitar. They soon took to calling themselves Dahlia Llamas. The big break came when producers saaw them live and offered to produce a demo. Then, the slow process of assembling the songs and recording the new album began. Chicago-natives Ian Fitchuk (keyboard, vocals) and Adam Binder (bass, vocals) joined upon the record's completion.

Close to the Silence is an ambitious record whose melodies are sure to be heard frequently on the radio waves. The lyrics are well-phrased and stylish, and reflect the band's potential. The band has a reputation of performing even better live, and have already organized their first tour.

The group plans on embarking

on a 35,000 mile-tour and performing 97 gigs, more than they played in their first five years, in their affectionately titled *silver bullet steel tent*. They will be performing in Chicago at the House of Blues on January 16. Tickets are \$17.50 and can be bought through www.houseofblues.com.

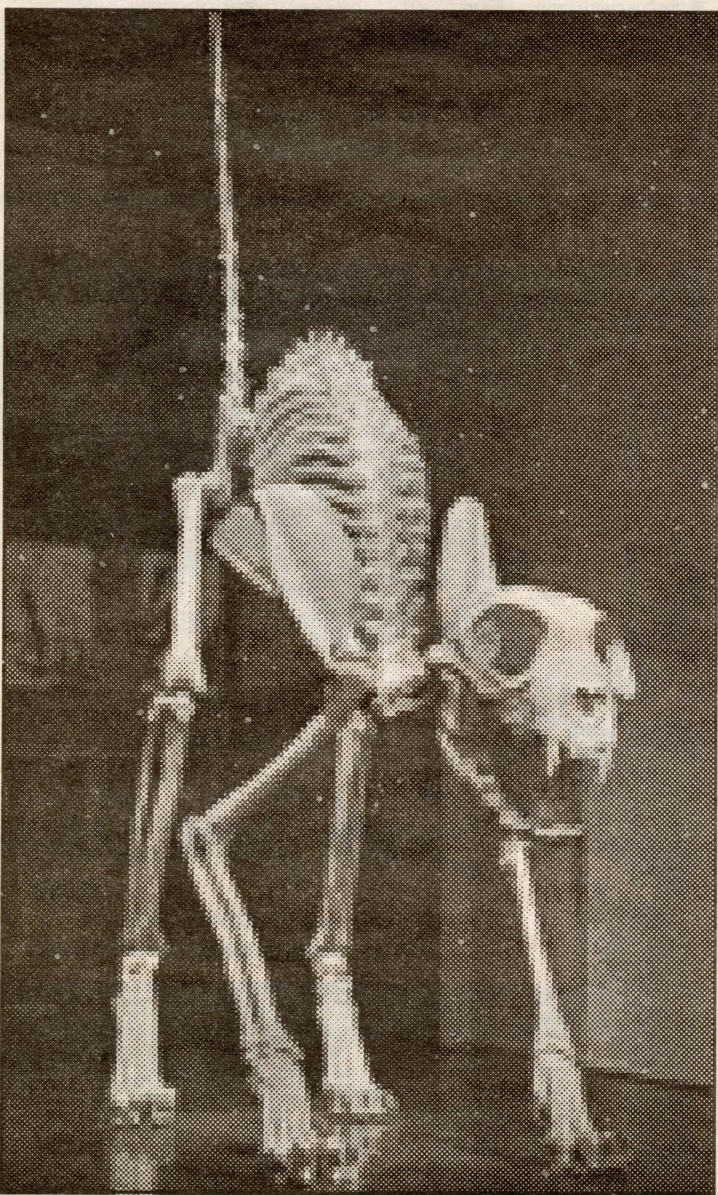


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Maurizio Cattelan's *Felix*

Tuesday, January 15, 2002

Features

Nightcrawler Cafes: A quick guide to the late night

by Brian Blaszkowski
Chief Editor

Picture this: it's after midnight. You stumble out of some party or another, and now you're hungry. Starving, in fact. You briefly consider going to a Jewel, or a similar 24-hour grocery store to pick up some nourishment, but the thought of operating kitchen appliances in your intoxicated state might not be advised. Trust me, those blenders don't look nearly so dangerous after ingesting some Khalua.

So, what to do? You need a place that's reasonably priced and relatively simple to find. Well, put down your shot glasses, lusher everywhere! Here's a review of four easy-to-find 24 hour restaurants, all within stumbling distance!

The Blue Angel

Located at Foster and Milwaukee Ave., the Blue Angel features the normal staples for 24 hour restaurants: bottomless coffee, smoking sections aplenty, and breakfast served anytime. What makes this place special, though, is the atmosphere.

It's awfully pretty. In fact, it's almost *too* pretty for your usual supply of drunks and miscreants that usually frequent 24 hour eateries. I almost feel bad when I enter wearing my usual jeans/t-shirt ensemble.

The other problem is it is usually very crowded with preppy little snots who shriek into cell phones and bitch about their BMW's. The menu reflects on the Ambercrombie and Fitch attitudes with high

prices for nearly everything. Nothing unaffordable, mind you; just a bit too pricey for your average drunk who keeps forgetting where his shoes are.

Coffee = B+ (point reduction for small cups)

Price/Quality of food = C

Atmosphere = B (pretty to look at, but might make you feel self-conscious)

Service = B- (I have no real problems with old people, but they make for slow and surly waitresses.)

Overall = B

Jack's

Welcome to the refuge of the damned. This is possibly the worst place to select as your after-hours dining experience. The prices are slightly lower than those of the Blue Angel, but the portions are also smaller. Not only that, but it's often hit or miss with such favorites like cheese sticks and potato skins. The coffee is hot and plentiful, which are both pluses.

Another thing is the service. The service is terrible at all hours of the day. One day, a friend and I were waiting for 20 minutes for glasses of water, while a table full of waitresses not more than 10 feet from us talked and laughed at customers. I considered stealing an ashtray as retribution (stealing is wrong).

The only thing Jack's has going for it is the crowds. Late at night, very few people will be there. Even drunks have limits as to the places they will go.

Coffee = A

Price/Quality of food = D

Atmosphere = B- (peacefully quiet, yet vaguely disturbing)

Service = F- (too bad the grade can't go lower)

Overall = D+ (if you're too drunk to drive and you see it, why the hell not?)



IHOP

What would a late night restaurant review be with mentioning the House of Pancakes? If you've never been to one, or if you've never seen one, you have serious issues.

Late-night bastion to creeps and party-hounds everywhere, there's always one nearby. Simple, non-threatening layouts make you feel immediately at ease with your choice. But, alas, when you open the menu and your eyes flicker towards the prices, you just might inhale your cigarette. The prices are ridiculously high, even for a cookie-cutter establishment like the IHOP. Be prepared to drop at least 10 bucks to get your belly full. The food is not worth the price, but it's still awfully good.

Now, we come to the bread and butter of the IHOP: the coffee. A pleasant taste and vast quantities make this a winner. The waitresses constantly refill

the cup, even before you know you want more; and you always do.

Coffee = A+

Price/Quality of food = D+ (bring a credit card)

Atmosphere = C (All IHOP's look the same. A very eerie feeling)

Service = A

Overall = B+

The Big Top

Angels descend from the heavens bearing goblets of champagne. Well, maybe not, but it's the best I've seen.

The prices are just right, the food is good (and there's lots of it), and the coffee...ah, the coffee! Good sized cups, piping hot, and great tasting coffee make this an all-purpose haven for late-night people everywhere. Located at Foster and Higgins, I highly recommend this place.

Except for one thing: it's awfully small. The size adds to the coziness of the restaurant, but when it gets busy, it gets crowded. Very crowded. When visiting the Big Top, choose your times carefully, or you might be bumping elbows with strange smelling deviants.

Coffee = A+

Price/Quality of food = B+ (sometimes, the fries are too greasy or too crispy)

Atmosphere = A+ (very easy to settle into your booth and cause a ruckus when forced to move)

Service = B

Overall = A

So, what does this all tell you? Maybe it tells you I spend a little too much time stumbling around looking for food. Or maybe it tells you that, in your late-night hunt for food, the best choice for you is the Big Top. Food, coffee, comfortable feel... the Big Top has it all.

Just don't go when I'm there. I don't want it crowded.

This could be the start of something

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Star Signs

by Iris the Oracle

IF YOUR BIRTHDAY IS THIS WEEK: This year fix things up at home even if you have to move to get it right. Don't talk much. Listen and learn instead. New facts can lead to a change of mind.

IF YOUR BIRTHDAY IS NEXT WEEK: You could get what you want, but you might not recognize it at first. Something old will be valuable in February. A secret friend can bring things together.

CAPRICORN (December 22 to January 19) Discussion about a hot political topic pours forth in a way that is most productive. Everyone feels as if their input is as valuable as gold. People want to go along with just about anything you suggest. Talk to each person who can do something about it.

TAURUS (April 20 to May 20) Romance rounds the corner and might catch you when you least expect it. As you stop to settle yourself, everything falls into place. You know the routine without even having to try. Later on is the time to enjoy the fun. Sit back, relax and busy yourself with small talks.

VIRGO (August 23 to September 22) Your mind and heart are working in perfect synch now. You might be focused on improving your appearance. Perhaps you are ready to invest in a new wardrobe. You might even be interested in purchasing a new watch or some nice shoes. Invest in yourself.

AQUARIUS (January 20 to February 18) Don't run before you can walk in any plan you make. Long term solutions and planning for the semester could have you short-sighted when it comes to making your moves. Live in the here-and-now for the moment and the rest should follow suit.

GEMINI (May 21 to June 21) Discard all that is not absolutely necessary. You hold the material that means the most in the depths of your mind. All else acts as a distraction to the duties you have been assigned. Bring a special gift to a special friend and let them know how much you care.

LIBRA (September 23 to October 22) The potential to be tried has been placed in front of you in plain view. You might as well welcome it as warmly as you can, as it tests you greatly either way you choose to play the game. Maybe a friend will suggest a new way of playing the big game.

PISCES (February 19 to March 20) Thoughts come to you as if you have packed your mind with an endless supply of ideas. Your ability to slip into rapid fire allows you to stand tall through any situation. Do something that has an impact. The stars indicate that you need to concentrate on your finances.

CANCER (June 22 to July 22) This is an ideal day to work out any domestic problems that have been looming on the horizon. Keeping as busy as a bee ensures that your mind doesn't wander toward that which is unsettling. At some point, though, stop to consider all options that are essential.

SCORPIO (October 23 to November 21) You might enjoy getting together with some friends while you still can. Or you could have fun attending a wild party on the evening. You might even want to go away for the day, picking up some sun in this cold season. Someone will recommend an investment.

ARIES (March 21 to April 19) You're ready to explore new ideas, but the people around you feel threatened. Don't look to others for approval. Watch your steps, leaps and bounds. Carefully consider any moves you make and make sure you have a backup plan that acts as your safety net.

LEO (July 23 to August 22) Temptation of blabbing a long known big secret has you cornered in a bit of a hot spot. An honest airing of grievances will help you find a solution. At least you know that you don't have to watch your back. Only start when you deem it is completely appropriate.

SAGITTARIUS (November 22 to December 21) Maybe you will find yourself looking at a business issue in a new way. You might find that you are more successful at business presentations if you change a few small things about it. Or perhaps you will try a new approach in a romantic relationship.

This Man's World

Clone is the loneliest number

Cloning. Could we? Should we? The last poll showed that 86% were in favor, which was significant-until further checking revealed that 60% of those in favor had recently been called for jury duty.

Would you like another one of you running around? I don't know. Personally, the whole cloning thing-to be honest, I don't even like being around myself that much.



JOHN ROSSI

Why are we so inquisitive about cloning? As human beings, we learn from an early age to be curious about things that are clearly not our business. What does Daddy keep in his locked liquor cabinet? Why am I not supposed to look at Daddy's "biological" magazines in the back of his closet? Would I become seven foot tall and green if I hooked these two clips from the battery charger to my ears and turned up the juice? Hey Fred! We could copy our DNA like Pringle Potato Chips! Let's do it!

Let's face it, we walk around this planet without a clue. We're ALWAYS asking questions. Our answers themselves are often posed as questions, such as: Would cloning be okay if merely done for spare parts? Maybe not now, but some day I may need a spare coccyx, hypothalamus, or a thalohypamus. When that time comes, it would be nice to have another one of me around so I didn't have to look confused by myself. I might even be able to ask HIM "Wasn't a Clavicle the thing 'The Captain and Tennille' played in the song 'Do That To Me One More Time'?" And wouldn't THAT be the ideal song for the two of you to sing when you and your clone get loaded on a Saturday night and lose a pool game to yourselves?

Then we have the religious ramifications to address. If God wanted us to have two of everything, he would have packed them away on some sort of an ark or something. God is very wise. It is he that came up with the idea to rhyme the names of some of the magnificent organs deep in the mysterious recesses of our human bodies, such as a Larynx, which is in close proximity to the Pharynx, which is never to be confused with Tarnex, because it won't clean silver nearly as good. God did this so it would be easier for doctors to pass medical tests by using the age-old method of making up little songs: "If you need another brain-stem clap your hands..." "Way down upon the hyper-active thyroid..."

With my luck, my clone would probably need a spleen or something-then what? Am I supposed to share with HIM? Maybe HE'LL want his own clone, so that we both have an extra spleen hanging in the closet next to the vacuum cleaner bags that BOTH of us can't manage to find time to change. The bottom line (and you would have a spare one of those, too,) is that God doesn't want us pretending to be God; that's the government's job. He's still plenty sore at us for the rumors we spread about him and Mary Magdelene. He's touchy about seedless watermelons, too. "The greatest part about the whole watermelon experience," according to a source close to God who wears a little gold trimmed beanie, "was that watermelon was one of the few times God invented something where you were supposed to spit. You take away the spit, you take away the fun."

Once cloning is acceptable there'll be knock-offs. Steer clear of the "As Seen On TV" clones-you know-the infomercial ones, these are far inferior to the real McCoy. Why would you want to have a clone that comes in a plastic bag that will squish down to a third of the space of a conventional clone, just for the sake of being able to slip it under your bed? And the fact that you'd be able to re-inflate it with your vacuum cleaner, well-do you ever check YOUR vacuum cleaner bag? If that's what you truly want, —don't waste your money. For all the good it'll do, you might just as well get your inflatable companion the same place I got mine—at that adult bookstore on Melrose Avenue next door to the day-care center, kitty-corner from the church. There is one advantage to having a personal clone-medical tests. If my physiognomy is identical to my clones, and the doctor calls for me to have to go have tests or X-rays-I say let HIM go and wait in line wearing nothing but a large coffee filter that ties in the back. Let HIM set those ample cheeks of ours on cold stainless steel and squirm in this position or that in utter humiliation, as they expose HIM to enough radiation to pop an extra large bag of Orville Redenbacher. He can wait at the Department Of Motor Vehicles and the post office, too.

Lastly, will I be able to get an extended warranty? You know what a disappointment it is to go into a darkened room, flip on a lamp only to have the light bulb flicker its last watt in a mocking fashion? I hate that. I even hate that sound that a light bulb makes before it ...DINK-OH HELL, THERE GOES ANOTHER ONE! We all utter some prize-winning profanities in the dark when this happens, and it's only a light bulb for cryin' out loud; there are seventeen more of them in the closet, and they take about three seconds to change. What if you turned on the switch and your gall bladder suddenly went DINK? Wouldn't you look foolish rooting around in the closet and NOT being able to locate a spare? You'd take any spare gall bladder at that moment-regardless of the wattage. Even if it had accidentally been sucked up into the vacuum cleaner bag.

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Spring Break 2002!!! Student Express is now hiring sales reps. Cancun features FREE meals and parties @ Fat Tuesdays -- MTV Beach Headquarters. Acapulco, Mazatlan, Jamaica, Bahamas, South Padre, Florida. Prices from \$469, with major airlines. 24,000 travelers in 2001. Call 800-787-3787 for a FREE b r o c h u r e . *www.studentexpress.com*

Spring Break -- Nassau/Paradise Island, Cancun and Jamaica from \$459. Air, hotel, transfers, parties and more! Organize small group -- earn FREE trips plus commissions! Call 800-GET-SUN-1

Organizations

The Black Heritage Gospel Choir is extending its membership to all Northeastern students. Come join us in singing songs of praise. Tues. and Thurs., 1:40-2:50, FA 152. - President Staria Berry

WZRD 88.3 FM's "Thursday Nite Live" seeks bands/musicians. All styles considered. No promises. Must have demo. Send descriptions to *secretagentbill@hotmail.com*

Join the Independent's award-winning staff. Be famous! Make money! Become a part of the student newspaper. We are in search of photographers, writers, cartoonists, and reporters. Staff meetings are held every Tuesday during the activity hour. The *Independent* office is located in E-049, below Beck's Bookstore. Call 442-4577 or e-mail the chief editor.

As-salamu-alaikum, the Muslim Students Association meets every Tuesday and Thursday in Room FA-153 from 1:40 to 2:50p.m. to discuss the solution to social problems through Islamic means and also to plan public activities on campus. Open to questions and comments. Website: *http://neiu.edu/-msa*

Feminist Majority Leadership Alliance meets on Tuesdays in C-505 at 1:40. To join listserve, send a message to *femajority-l@neiu.edu*.

NEIU's new Yoga Club. Do you want to learn how to enhance concentration and reduce stress while having fun?! Join the BMC Yoga Club! Membership is free and open to NEIU students, faculty and staff. For more information email Damaris Gonzalez, BMC President, at *d-gonzalez@neiu.edu*.

Care about your environment? Let's start a NEIU environmental organization! Contact or leave message for Sarah (773) 561-5131 or e-mail *revo1@chickmail.com*

Service Opportunities await YOU! Check out Student Volunteer Corps! Call 773-442-4618 or stop in A-125 to find out more.

Get the classes you need every time. GPA 3.25 a must. Find out how. 442-6045

Friends of Bill W. and patients of Dr. Bob: AA Closed Meeting. 12 and 12 at Noon, Wednesdays, in C-505.

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Events

ATLA's National College of Advocacy offers a wide range of seminars and trial skills programs to help you do a better job for your clients. Upcoming programs include Trial Advocacy College: Essentials of Civil Litigation and Medical Negligence: Life in the Courtroom, Proving Your Case, and Preparation for Trial--The Medicine. Register now to receive the Early Bird discount and save up to \$80. Visit *https://www.atla.org/cle_con/ncacal.htm* or call 800-NCA-1791, or 202-965-3500, ext. 612.

3rd International Eagle Cup Kung Fu Tournament and Masters Exhibition. November 11, 2001. For info call 773-583-5597. Masters from around the world will be there.

Personals

To the Independent staff: Let the despotism begin! The times of sympathy, kindness, and second chances are over and I usher in the era of spite and random acts of cruelty. I'll enjoy the semester, will you? Merciless God of your universe

SMP — Thanks for all you've taught me. I truly appreciate your teaching. I'll never forget that — or all the caffeine-filled weekends! Now, just make sure the dorkwad taking my place keeps up the level of quality! All my best, MJC

To the cooped up copy-editress: I understand. It's just as well, I have to get up early for a meeting. I'm going through a selfish phase, too. But don't worry, I'll call you tomorrow. You remind me of my mother. Brian

OPS to crew: I may no longer be working weekend Gamma shifts but I'm still here! Best of luck to all as we travel through the Spring sector. OPS out!

Righty: Better keep up my good work, you hear? You'll get a whapping if you don't. Be nice to Brian, too. <cough cough> ~Lefty

Lefty: You have nothing to worry about, I'm the master of it all, and was the creator of many of it! About the EiC - he can take care of himself. You better get better and learn to run. -Righty

To the clan: Trials and tribulations have pushed us all, but finally the world seems to be settling down. Now may our dreams come into focus and become the reality. ~The Clan Elder~

Live, grow stronger, fight another day.

Oh goody gumdrops!

The Independent classifieds are FREE!*

Limit one ad per person/organization per issue. Ads must be 20 words or less. There is a 25-cents charge for each word over 20 words. All classified ads must be ordered in person at the *Independent* office. For more information, please call Chris Vogt, Business Manager at 773.442.4585

* This rate applies to members of the NEIU community only. An NEIU identification card must be presented at the time of purchase.

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