

3-4-2003

Independent- Mar. 4, 2003

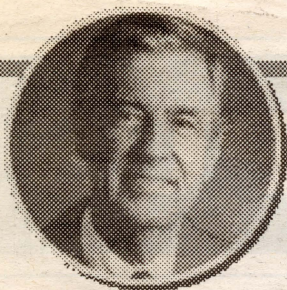
Andrea Zelinski

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**BELOVED
TELEVISION LEGEND
PASSES ON;
RETROSPECT**
PAGE 9

**WINNER OF 4 ICPA AWARDS, INCLUDING
BEST CLASSIFIEDS SECTION IN THE STATE
FIRST PLACE NON-FILM REVIEW
FIRST PLACE FEATURE STORY AND
SECOND PLACE IN DEPTH REPORTING**

**TRUE REVELATIONS
OF AN ALL GIRL
SLUMBER PARTY**
PAGE 7



CENSORED

SINCE 1988 | REPEAT 2000-2002 ICPA AWARD WINNER | CHICAGO, IL.

Independent

Vol. 19 Issue 14

SERVING NORTHEASTERN ILLINOIS UNIVERSITY INTO THE NEXT CENTURY

NORTHEASTERN ILLINOIS
UNIVERSITY

MAR 04 2003

Tuesday, March 4th, 2003

ARCHIVES

Kish: Asbestos threat in Beehive really no threat at all

Environmental Protection Agency will supervise facility; construction "slightly ahead of schedule"



photo by Len Grayes

Construction continues at Northeastern with the C Building, Beehive.

by D. Gordon Macnab
Staff Writer

Construction in the C-building has begun to remove asbestos and to remodel the interior offices. The project is scheduled to run through January of 2005, and will be used for administrative offices when construction is finished. According to Joseph P. Kish, Assistant Vice President for Facilities Management, the construction is going "slightly ahead of schedule."

Kish also assured that the Illinois Department of Public Health as well as the Environmental Protection Agency would supervise the facility. Kish explained that these agencies test the site on a regular basis. In addition, the debris will be removed at night to decrease interference with classes. This was from a memo dated January 29, 2003 to the university community, from Kish.

Kish went on to say that the process for the removal of the asbestos would start with the sealing of the floors, starting on the top floor of the building. The

sealing of the workspace consists of plastic sheeting and duct tape. Also, the holes in the windows are used for bringing fresh air into and filtering the used air out. Then, the workers will start the removal of the material.

During the construction process, the basement tunnel that runs through D-Building and into the C-Building will remain accessible, and the emergency exits will be accessible through special "protected access tunnels." When asked about the height of the exit door in the lower level, Kish stated that the pipes in the area prevented the contractors from placing the protective ply-wood ceiling higher, but he explained that while it was a concern, it wasn't a major issue. When asked if he felt safe, Ray Fuller, an NEIU student, said, "These companies are state licensed and experienced in asbestos removal." Another student, Rebecca Chapman, feels that, "It should be OK if you're not in direct contact with the asbestos." Most of the NEIU students that were interviewed felt safe around the asbestos removal site.

Other construction projects that are currently being worked on or were recently completed include; the auditorium (near the bookstore), the new loading dock, and the long awaited and recently completed B-Wing. These have suffered from delays due to budgeting and other problems, but according to Kish, they will be finished soon.

According to Kish, the auditorium's new expected completion date will be in January 2004. It will be completed later than first expected due to unexpected technical delays in the construction. The school is not in control of the budget for the construction of the C-Building.

In an interview with Vice President of Student Affairs Melvin Terrell, he felt secure with the procedures. "I am confident that the students' and faculty's health is not at risk," Terrell also stated that the university follows all of the state guidelines for asbestos removal.

President Salme Steinberg was not available for comment.

Pool Reporting by Daniel Center.

China the focus of E.A.I.B.C forum

by D. Gordon Macnab
Staff Writer

February 26-27 the East Asian International Business Conference held a two-day seminar series, concerning business communication between United States and East Asian countries. This event was sponsored by: the Marketing Club, Business & Management Club, Accounting Associates, Financial Management Association, Honors Society, College of Business & Management, Graduate Program, and International Program. The seminars took place in SU 214 and the Recital Hall in the Fine Arts Building.

Kamil Mecler, President of Student Government, University of Warsaw, Poland spoke on, *Global Business in East Asia: A European Perspective*. Mecler lectured on the European Union's connection to Asia, the third

largest regional connection in the world.

Tetsutar Tomita, Executive Director, from City of Osaka the Chicago Office lectured on, *Osaka: Getting Down to Business*. He talked about the advantages of Osaka, Japan in the world market. Tomita explained that Kansai region has a, "Tremendous market size." Also, nearly 21.7 million people live in the area. This equals a large population of consumers. He also stated that Osaka has diversity of industries mostly comprising of retail, manufacturing, and service industries. Tomita concluded with examining the "excellent accessibility," "low business costs," and "supports and incentives." Also that "Success in Japan starts with Osaka."

Dr. Harry Lepinski, Director for International Research and Education, International Business Development

Programs, from Purdue University-Calumet discussed, *China's Entry to the World Trade Organization*. Lepinski commented on the fast growing economy in China, but warned that to prevent chaos China needs to slow down. The entrance to WTO will both be an opportunity and challenge. One challenge that would arise with China adapting to fiercer competition, he included.

He noted that China would need to change much of their legislation before making any new economic decisions. He pointed out that the 2008 Summer Olympics would be an advantage, in a later interview after his speech.

Jianwen Liao, Associate Professor of Management, from Northeastern lectured on, *Cross Cultural Management*. Liao pointed out that there is an important issue in "cross cultural" communication, that is differences in United State's culture and China's culture. He discussed that the two countries conduct, manage, and communicate businesses in very different manners. Liao stated that the U.S. is "culturally ethnocentric," meaning the U.S. says, "My way is the right way," on the other hand China is "culturally relativistic," they say, "What is the right way." What he was saying was, in order for the U.S. to communicate with China properly, both countries will need to understand each other not only in language but also in cultural values, before negotiating.

Most of the lectures filled the rooms. Some lectures even had a few people standing. Over all, the event was very successful. 1,005 students attended the event.

University Day 2003

by Daniel Peikes
Staff Writer

Thursday, March 6th is University Day. The theme this year is "Retention: Goals, Practices, and Outcomes." The event starts at 9:25 AM, and features keynote speaker Mark Kelly. Mr. Kelly is the Vice President of Student Affairs at Columbia College, and was chosen for the keynote address because of Columbia's excellent rate of student retention according to Joy Trocola-Koules assistant to the provost. Kelly's will speak in Alumni Hall from 9:25 AM to 10:40 AM.

After Kelly's address there will be several workshops, some of which geared toward students and others geared towards faculty. There are two workshops running from 10:50 AM to 12:05 PM. The first one, entitled "Where's the Money? How to pay for College," is being held in room SU-214. It will concentrate on information on financial aid, scholarships, on- and off-campus jobs.

The second workshop at that time is more faculty oriented. It is called "Teaching for Student Success." It reviews what the faculty has found to be effective teaching methods through the past two years of Northeastern's Title V development project.

A second set of discussions will take place at about 12:15 PM to 1:30 PM. The first is a panel discussion of diverse students in SU-214. The topic is "Giving Students a Voice: Cultural Experiences in the Classroom." It examines how integrating one's cultural background into their course work helps them better identify with what they are learning.

The other workshop at that time is called "Community Building on Campus," and is in the Golden Eagles Room. This workshop will include presentations on various forms of learning communities as means for promoting student success at Northeastern. The format for this session will include audience participation.

Another workshop that is going to be given twice is called "Dealing with Difficult People." It is a workshop for support staff, focusing on strategies for coping with difficult people. It runs from 10:50 AM to 12:05 PM in the Golden Eagles room, and then again from 12:15 PM to 1:30 PM in SU-003. Space is limited for this workshop, so in order to secure your space, please contact Jacqueline Olivera at extension 4250, or email her at j-olivera@neiu.edu.

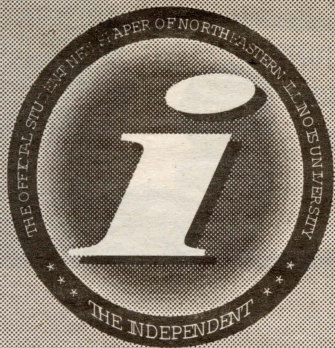
The closing event will be a discussion with NEIU alumni. It will run from 1:40 PM to 2:50 PM. They will discuss why they came to Northeastern, why they stayed at Northeastern, and some of the obstacles they encountered along the way.

Entertainment and refreshments will be provided. For more information, contact Joy Trocola-Koules at extension 3212 or email her at j-trocola-koules@neiu.edu. You can also check out the University day website at www.neiu.edu/day



photo by D. Gordon Macnab

Speaker Jianwen Liao accepts gift from Pui Tang, event coordinator.



Fall/Spring Office Hours

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 Chief Editor is responsible for the content of the Independent and views presented do not necessarily represent, in whole or in part, those of the NEIU administration, faculty, or students. The Independent is a member of the Associated Collegiate Press and the Illinois College Press Association.

The Independent,
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Chicago, Illinois 60625

AROUND CAMPUS

University Day

"Mark your calendars! On Thursday, March 6th, Northeastern Illinois University proudly presents University Day 2003! The theme this year is Retention: Goals, Practices, and Outcomes," and will feature a presentation by Mark Kelly, Vice President of Student Affairs at Columbia College.

Women's History Month

"Organizing for Social Justice", a workshop and lecture by Chicago's own Pink Bloque, will be held Thursday, March 13th at 4:15 pm in CLS 1002. Sponsored by Women's Services and Women's Studies.

Jewel Box Series

The next two concerts in the series feature pianist Nazzareno Carusi on Friday March 21st at 8pm and The Johannes String Quartet Friday, April 11th 2003 at 8pm. Both in the Recital Hall For tickets call 442-INFO.

Spring Open House

Northeastern will be hosting the Spring Open House on Thursday, March 27, 2003 in the Student Union. Prospective students and their parents are invited. Information on admissions, financial aid and a campus tour are planned.

Job Fairs at NEIU

There are several upcoming job fairs you should know about: The Business and Liberal Arts Job Fair, Thursday, March 13 in Alumni Hall from 1 to 4 pm. Bring a copy of your resume and dress professionally. Also, the Mid-America Teacher Job Fair Tuesday April 15th, in the Physical Education Complex from 10am to 2pm. Over 100 school districts will be represented. If you have any questions, contact the Placement office at 442-4680.

Stage Center Theatre

COMEDY NOW AND THEN- Tartuffe -- by Moliere Thursday, Friday and Saturday February 27, 28 March 1, 6-8th, 13-15th in the Stage Center Theatre. Curtain time is 7:30pm in the A building. Moliere's comic masterpiece delights in poking fun at religious hypocrites.

A Child's Garden

By Patrick McGuire, based on the Robert Louis Stevenson classic *A Child's Garden of Verses*. Monday, Wednesday, Friday now through April 25th. Stage Center Theatre. Tickets are free for students, faculty, and staff. For Reservations, call Anna Antaramian at 442-5975

Dean of Students

Spring 2003 dates to meet with Dean of Students Michael Kelly in Village Square, Thursday March 13th and Thursday April 24th during activity hour. The Dean is in!

Purim Comedy Hour

Hillel Club invites you to an afternoon of comedy with Aaron Freeman Thursday March 13th in Student Union 003. Freeman is a writer for the MacNeil/Lehrer News Hour and Emmy Nominee. Starting at 1:40pm

Bring teaching to life!

A conference for Pre-service and In-service teachers, is Saturday, March 8th from 8am-2pm. Resume writing, technology in the classroom, advisory programs, and much more. Go to CLS 3003 for registration and details.

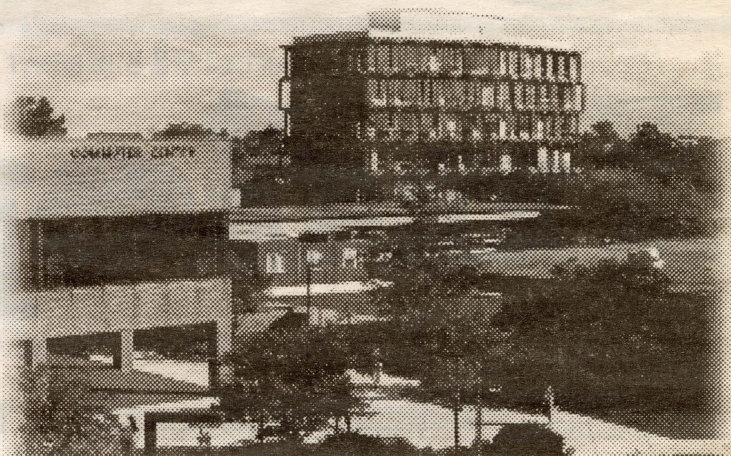
Ash Wednesday Mass

The Student Affairs Committee on Special Programs is sponsoring a Roman Catholic mass on Wednesday March 5th in Student Union 003 at Noon. All are welcome.

Black Heritage Gospel Choir

The Gospel Choir will hold its regular meetings this Tuesday and Thursday in FA 152 during activity hour. All are welcome.

**The Independent meets
every other
Tuesday, during the
Spring semester at 1:40
p.m. in room E-049**



Speak Out vs. War

March 5th is a National Day of Action and the NEIU Antiwar Coalition and Socialist Club are sponsoring a group of speakers to be followed by an open mike. Wednesday March 5th Student Union 2pm-3pm followed by a gathering at Daley Plaza downtown at 4:30pm.

NEIU Programming Board

The NPB is hosting a series of events in the next few weeks, including: **The Coffeehouse Series**, with Jason Levasseur performing Wednesday, March 12th from 11am-2pm in Village Square.

Also, **Kuumba Lynx**, an empowering performance featuring song, dance and poetry. Tuesday March 25th, 4pm-7pm in Village Square.

Finally, **David Levi**, a caricature artist, will be in Village Square Monday March 31st from 11am-4pm

FMLA Meetings

The Feminist Majority Leadership Alliance holds meetings every Tuesday during activity hour in CLS 2094. There is also an evening meeting the first Wednesday of every month from 6:30pm-7:30pm in SU 219.

Fine Arts Gallery Center

Presents: Bernard Williams: Installations February 10th-March 14th 2003 Portraying the Complexities of History Through Symbols and Signs For more info, call John Brunetti, Gallery Coordinator at 442-4944.

Internship Workshops

The Placement Office is sponsoring workshops to promote internships that can help you in the job market. Workshops are for all students. The Spring schedule still has one date left, March 6th during activity hour. If you have any questions or would like to reserve a spot, call 442-4680.

Underwater Hockey

The Chicago Underwater Hockey team invites the NEIU community to spectate or play this exciting sport in the Physical Education Building Saturdays from 1 to 2:30pm. For more in fo call 442-5734.

Last Day to Drop!

A reminder that the last day to drop a class is Friday, March 14th

WATCH OUT!

Deadlines for the Independent are one week prior to the date of publication. The following is a list of publication dates for the Spring 2003 semester:

**March
25th**

**April
8th**

**April
22th**

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

Death penalty facing its own demise?

by Atoor Lawandor
Staff Writer

Criminal Justice 315: Death Penalty, which is a class taught by Dr. Loretta Capeheart, held an all day event on the topic of death penalty on Friday, February 21st. The event, which consisted of a series of workshops and lectures given by law professors from other universities, was held throughout the Student Union building. The event went on from 10:00 PM to 3:00 PM and was put together by Capeheart's class as a class project. The purpose was to have a public discussion about the topic in order to see the injustices and misrepresentation associated with the death penalty.

The event began with criminal justice student Eric Ruder, who introduced professor Lawrence C. Marshall to speak on the topic of death penalty. Marshall is a law professor at Northwestern University. Marshall, along with being an expert on the topic of the death penalty, is also an activist who is working towards the abolishment of the law.

Marshall spoke briefly about the origins of the death penalty in the American justice system, what has been done in the past to abolish the death penalty, and finally where the death penalty is today. On the inmates on death row, Marshall spoke a little about where the majority of them come from, as far as race and social

class is concerned. He also talked about who is responsible for representing these inmates on a death row trials.

As an activist against the death penalty, Marshall was very vocal about his opinion on the topic. He stated that for the very first time in the history of death penalty, there are now *serious* talks about abolishing it in [our] society. It is the countless anti-death penalty marches, hard work, and non-stop-activism that Marshall believes will someday help abolish the death penalty. On the other hand, he is aware that abolishing the death penalty is neither an easy nor a quickly-achieved task; Marshall believes that, "Change happens mainly through evolution, as pose to revolution."

Marshall further spoke about the people on death row and some of the determining factors that put certain criminals—but not others—on death row. According to Marshall, one key factor is race; the race of the defendant and the race of the victim is often a determining factor as to whether or not an individual receives the death penalty. A black person, for example, is 100% more likely to get the death penalty, if he or she kills a white person. Marshall explained that the race factor in the death penalty process is nothing but a manifestation of the racism that exists in the American justice system.

Another determining factor according to Marshall is how wealthy the defendant is. He said that, "One is far better in this country being rich and

guilty than being poor and guilty." Marshall went to explain that the majority of death row inmates come from very poor backgrounds, and they often cannot afford to hire attorneys to represent their cases, which forces them to rely on public defenders.

The problem with public defenders, Marshall believes, is that they are often lacking in the skills or integrity that lawyers are required to have in these cases. He gave the example of the public defender in a Texas court, who was caught sleeping through a death penalty trial, and when asked about the incident, judge said that the "constitution gives the defendant the right to an attorney, but nowhere in the constitution does it say that the attorney must be awake during trial."

These were only some of the issues that the "Death Penalty on Trial" event shed some light on. Throughout the event there were workshops and other speakers, some of whom included Rita A. Fry, who is a public defender of Cook County and Commission member; Eric Zorn, a columnist from the Chicago Tribune; Cornelia Grumman from the Editorial Board of the Chicago Tribune; Andrea Lyon, professor of law from DePaul University; and Joey Mogul, an attorney from People's Law Office. Also at the event was Gary Gauger, a man who was convicted of murder in 1993 and sentenced to death, and was later found to be falsely accused and innocent.

Hajj unifies Muslims

Annual rite, state of Islam discussed here

by Franklin Silencieux
Staff Writer

"The Hajj is global, an international unifier for Muslims," said Bashir Mundi, referring to the pilgrimage every Muslim must take at least once in their lifetime in honor of Muhammed, the prophet who created Islam and restored order to the Arab world.

The trip is to Mecca, a city in Saudi Arabia close to the Red Sea, where Muhammed was born.

Khalil Rasheed, an undergrad studying Political Science, hosted Thursday's lecture for the Muslim Student Organization at NEIU held on Thursday, February 27. It's an annual event gathering twenty to thirty students, including non-Muslims, to learn more about the Hajj.

After a greeting done in Arabic, Rasheed introduced two guests for the evening—Muhammed Akmal, an American student born of Pakistani parents, and the Nigerian-born Bashir Mundi of the Institute of Islamic Information and Education.

Mundi, the more loquacious of the two, explained that Islam is more than a culture, more than a religion. It is a way of life. When Muslim convert Malcolm X took the

pilgrimage, Mundi said, he was impressed by the equality and togetherness he found in Mecca among the diverse Muslim people.

The beginning of the lecture focused on the definition of Hajj, the rituals performed (including a march circling the Ka'ba, the holy temple), and its importance as one of the Pillars of Islam.

But when it came time for questions, the discussion veered away from history and into contemporary issues.

The speakers and the audience discussed the "flexibility" of the religion, the isolationist attitude of some Islamic people, the assumed but unofficial rights of women, and the third world status of many dominant Islamic countries. There was also talk of a new movement towards integration not yet reflected by the current leaders of Islam.

At a time when Arab people, their nations, and their views have been the focus of so much media attention, this lecture, though not as spiritual as it could have been was very informative and inspiring.

The Hajj unifies Islamic people, Mundi said, adding that even Malcolm X saw "true brotherhood" during this pilgrimage, brotherhood he never found in America.



Panel Discussion: Hip-Hop Vs. African culture

by Jenni Lada
Staff Writer

In honor of Black History Month, guest speakers Roosevelt Roberts, Terrance Thomas, and Lance Williams came to Northeastern Illinois University on February 25th to speak about Hip-Hop culture versus African culture and the impact of both on our culture today.

The African culture aspects

presented by the panel were those of MA'AT. Important ideals were stressed in order for people to have a successful and meaningful life, and that all things which contained these principles could be considered worthwhile and provide a positive outlook on African culture. According to Roberts, to maintain and have a successful life things must stand the test of time, be righteous, deal with justice, deal with a sense of balance, and make life worth living.

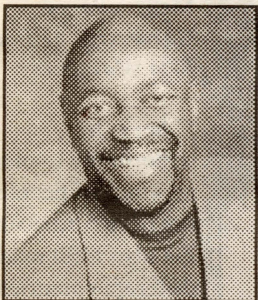
On the subject of Hip-Hop and it's cultural aspects, Williams was most vocal on its effects and portrayal of African Americans. He stated there was a great difference between true street artists and the artists being funded by corporate America. The four basic elements of the Hip-Hop culture are rappers, break dancing, DJing, and tagging. In essence, he stated that they were the true aspects, but that because of commercialism

and capitalism, the artists and culture are being exploited.

Williams stated that the genre of Hip-Hop was being hijacked by corporate America. Cultural domination determined which aspects of Hip-Hop would be highlighted and sold to the masses all over the world. He referenced cases from 19th century France, where a female slave was taken hostage and shown off, and then pieces of her had been cut off and

placed in a museum, where it has been until recently. He stated that the *Black Venus* was such an attraction of that time because she represented something the people in the dominant culture both had a primal fear of and also a desire of. He continued to say that this idea carried over to today, except now she has been replaced by black musicians which provoke that same primal fear and desire in the dominant American culture today.

NEIU Hillel
invites you to



**PURIM
COMEDY
HOUR**
with
Aaron Freeman

**Thursday, March 13, 2003
1:40 PM • SU 003
(In the Cafeteria)**

- Writer for MacNeil/Lehrer News Hour
- Nominated for Emmy Award for his Video news essays
- 10 years as host of the television program "Talking w/Aaron Freeman" on UPN 50
- Actor for Second City and in Northlight Theater

**Student Government Association
presents**

Forum on Technology

**Voice your concerns!
Share your ideas with
the Administration**

**Tuesday, March 4, 2003
SU 215 • 1:40 – 2:50 PM**

Refreshments will be served



**Student
Government
Association**

Exchange students join community at NEIU

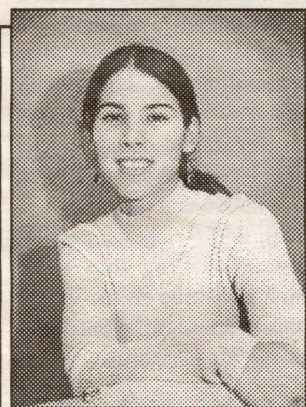
Eight students from college campuses around the country make themselves right at home



On February 18th, a luncheon was held in honor of the participants of the National Student Exchange.

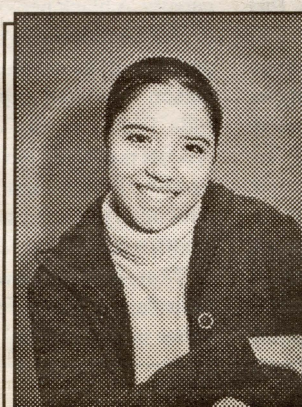
photo by Joe Davis

by Joe Allgaier
Staff Writer



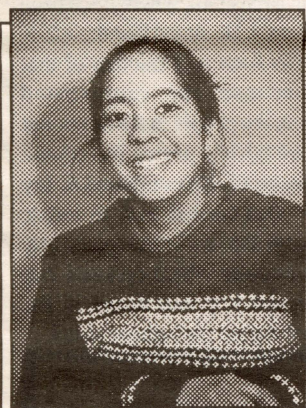
Melissa Pagan
University of Puerto Rico, Mayaguez

"I have the opportunity to meet all kinds of people, not only Americans but also from many different countries."



Ambar Gilmore
CSU Los Angeles

"I decided to choose the National Student Exchange program because I wanted to experience new horizons, a different school, and meet new people from a different state."



Ana Lisa Padron
Ball State University, Muncie Indiana

"I wanted to do the exchange because I felt trapped in my environment. I have lived in Indiana all my life and was ready for a change."



Carrie Ernhout
Binghamton University, New York

"This program is a great way to travel and meet new people, while at the same time continuing your education. I would recommend it to anyone."



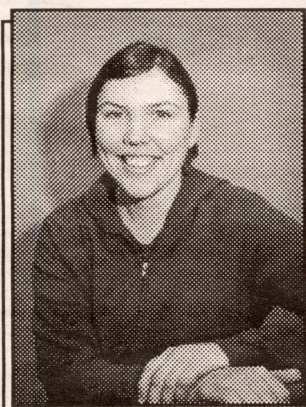
Rachel Lenzen

"I wanted to experience a new place, experience new people, and be able to grow by stepping outside of my comfort zone. While at NEIU I was able to accomplish all my goals."



Melissa Pagan
University of Puerto Rico, Mayaguez

"I have the opportunity to meet all kinds of people, not only Americans but also from many different countries."



Stacy Riger
University of Kentucky, Louisville

"I'm the kind of person who always wants to be put into new and challenging experiences, and living in Chicago has really opened my eyes."



Kate Stryker
University of New Mexico

"I feel like Northeastern offers a real sense of community. The size of the school permits students to find a place on campus."

NEIU has again participated in the National Student Exchange (NSE), giving students from colleges and universities across the country the opportunity to enjoy the benefits of attending school here, without having to pay the out-of-state tuition fees.

The eight students who participated this year were recently welcomed at a luncheon in their honor, headed and catered by the NSE coordinator, Flora Llacuna. The event gave these students a chance to express themselves about their experiences thus far here at Northeastern, and to mingle with members of the faculty and one another.

The university President, Salme Steinberg, showed up to welcome them. She greeted students in turn, expressing her hopes for them and making each feel at home.

Praises to the university were many among the students involved. "The professors here have personalities, that's a nice change," says Jordan Painer from the University of Oregon. She expressed homesickness for the big campus with its 19th century architecture and trees everywhere, but says, "I never got the student/teacher interaction there I get here. In the end, it's a somewhat fair trade off."

Carrie Ernhout of Binghamton University in New York says, "This program is a great way to travel and meet new people... I would recommend it to anyone." Irked at first by the lack of campus housing, she soon found a cool roommate and a nice apartment in a cool neighborhood.

Kate Stryker of the University of New Mexico also appreciates the opportunities the program provides her. "I feel like Northeastern has a real sense of community. There are activities happening on campus that all have a welcoming feeling."

Other students involved expressed their appreciation for the ethnic diversity here. Melissa Pagan was grateful to come all the way from the University of Puerto Rico in Mayaguez. "I have the opportunity to meet all kinds of people, not only Americans, but also [those] from many different countries."

Stacey Riger of Kentucky says, "...living in Chicago has really opened my eyes. I appreciate the diversity at Northeastern because the students bring their unique perspectives to classroom discussion."

"...I wanted to experience a new place, new people, and be able to grow by stepping out of my comfort zone," explains Rachel Lenzen. "I took this year to really discover who I am as a person and what it is I would like to accomplish in the future."

These words help show how NEIU measures up to other universities and colleges around the country. Ambar Gilmore, a communications major from CSU Los Angeles, said, "At Northeastern University I have experienced a new environment, and an outstanding education throughout these two semesters." She recommends all students participate in an exchange program "because it offers a road to succeed."

Lisa Padron comes to NEIU from Ball State U. in Muncie, Indiana. The program caters to students just like her. She said, "I wanted to do the exchange because I felt trapped in my environment. I had lived in Indiana all my life, and was ready for a change." Through the NSE, she was able to attend the William Patterson University in Wayne, NJ last semester. And now she is here. "I really enjoy this school. The people here are extremely nice. I am learning a lot about society and the way people think."

Of course, the purpose of the NSE is to give students the opportunity to attend more than one school during college, and will continue to do so in the future. Many participate for the personal growth experience offered, while others use the program to make the transition of moving to a different area easier.

The NSE has placed over 70,000 students and estimates 4,500 students will participate next year alone. It has been around since 1968, and now includes 177 participating schools to choose from, including campuses from Canada to Puerto Rico, and from the Virgin Islands to Guam. Students who would like to benefit from attending school elsewhere can contact the coordinator for the Student Enrichment Programs, Flora Llacuna, through the Office of the Dean of Students.

PERSPECTUS

Chicago still "ain't ready for reform"

by Scott Plencner
Senior Staff Writer

This has been going on in Chicago for a long, long time. As he began his fifth term as mayor of Chicago in 1893, Carter Harrison stroked the aldermen's egos with words that I wouldn't be too surprised hearing Mayor Daley say 110 years later. "Aldermen of Chicago, foully slandered and shamelessly abused by a reckless press," he began, "but sustained and honored by 115 thousand of the free and independent voters of Chicago, 115 thousand composed of all Democrats except a few sore-heads..."

I am one of those sore-heads who thinks it is just sad to see you, my neighbors in Chicago, fall for the same tired, crooked politicians election after election. When taking into account Mayor Harrison's words it looks like you've been duped for at least 110 years.

Corruption, machine politics, and ghost payrolls have become as much symbols of Chicago as deep-dish pizza. That's all well and good for those with clout and secretly may invoke a unique sort of pride for Chicagoans only a Cubs fan could understand, but when push comes to shove we pay the price for votes. That have created this un-democratic,

oligarchic nightmare and last week we made sure it goes on, without an end in sight.

So we will have four more years of Richard M. Daley, who has gotten the nod for a fifth term. Five terms ties former mayors Carter Harrison, Sr. and Carter Harrison, Jr. (even nepotism isn't a new thing), leaving only Daley's father ahead of him who was voted in six times, despite the fact he was unapologetically corrupt.

Daley was re-elected despite the fact that his expensive programs have led the city into a budget crisis. You voted for him again, even though his office has been staffed by the likes of Miriam Santos. I guess we Chicagoans approve of crumbling schools, countless cases of police brutality, and being robbed at parking meters. We love the idea of spending tons of money expanding O'Hare field, despite the fact that airline travel has dwindled since terrorism fears were heightened and since United Airlines went belly up.

We like his little laws meant to benefit his friends and financial bakers like right after he denied the firefighters a pay raise they sought for years, he and his cronies in the city council voted overwhelmingly to give themselves raises in the midst of the budget crisis. The list is endless and he explains his actions with mumbling, nonsensical diatribes to the press.

We seem to love this mayor who changes the rules as he goes. When he first ran for mayor, Daley had to collect only a fraction of the 25,000 signatures now required to appear on the ballot. Once firmly in power over thousands of city workers and their politically appointed bosses, he ordered his aldermen to raise the amount of required signatures, making it difficult for us sore-heads

to present a viable opposition candidate. The mayor's election board appointees who questioned the validity of his signatures lambasted this year's sacrificial candidate, Paul Jakes. The Daley administration underestimated the population of the "few sore-heads"

Mayor Daley spoke of and was forced to let Jakes run against him. Of course, he made it look like he was doing Jakes a favor, when he said he would "graciously" not challenge Jakes. His aldermanic foot soldiers were not so "kind" to their opposition.

Pat Levar, running for a fourth term as alderman of the 45th ward after an embarrassing defeat in the last city clerk election, challenged the signatures of his opponents. He was able to remove the most viable opponent, Mike Lappe, a popular 22-year veteran police officer, from the ballot. Lappe's ability to connect with the ward's countless city workers made him a threat. His signatures included many of those workers who were also forced into signing Levar's petition for fear of losing their jobs. Levar and the election board agreed that Levar's signatures were valid and Lappe's obviously were replications, although the argument could have been made the other way around.

Suffice it to say that the day after the ruling garbage men in the ward were busy removing Lappe signs from residents' front lawns on city time. So Levar will make more money running his illegal zoning change business.

Then there's Governor Blagojevich's father-in-law, the all-powerful Dick Mell of the 33rd ward. In the 2000 presidential election one of Mell's precincts had well over 100% voter turnout for Al Gore. More voters voted than were

registered and his precinct captain was very proud of his achievement. I am sure that sort of activity did not go down when his daughter's husband ran for governor.

Mell's ward is a moneymaking machine for Democratic candidates. A growing Hispanic population in the 33rd ward has sought to unseat Mell, but have failed miserably. Mell, as head of the city Rules Committee, was able to remap his ward exactly to suit his needs. Mell has also successfully challenged opponents' signatures.

Madelaine Haithcock of the 2nd ward refused to comment on the E2 nightclub disaster and the fact that the business in her ward was able to get away with so many licensing infringements. I am not saying there were bribes involved, just that Haithcock's silence is interesting.

First ward alderman Jesse Granato's campaign workers have been accused of keeping Hispanic voters from the polling places through lies and manipulation of absentee ballots. We also keep re-electing the wacky 42nd ward alderman Burt Natarus who has proposed countless nonsensical ordinances including the "recent no right turn on red" rule. He has refused to comment on allegations of corruption.

What last week's election proved is that we Chicagoans love being hoodwinked and lied to. We are against democracy and believe as beer-swilling ward boss Paddy Bauler believed when he said, "Chicago ain't ready for reform." This sore-head, though, has to disagree with all of you. Chicago is overdue for reform.

Corruption by Daley and his Democratic Party cronies and puppets just isn't funny anymore and those of you who put signs out for Daley and his pals should be embarrassed to have advertised your naivete in public.

Daley points out that corruption is as American as apple pie.

OPINION

Is the 'gloved one' laying his hands on kids?

by Cecilia Carboni
Staff Writer

"Living with Michael Jackson" aired on ABC earlier this month. British journalist Martin Bashir spent eight months with the King of Pop and his children in California, Berlin, and Las Vegas, filming a 90-minute documentary consisting of exclusive interviews focused on Jackson's lifestyle.

Questions arose about his many surgeries. Jackson claims to have had plastic surgery done on his nose only twice. Interviews done by other stations, such as NBC's Dateline, spoke to plastic surgeons who believe he has had at least 48. The total estimated cost of these surgeries run at about half a million. Even though it is Jackson's money, why would any sane person pay so much to destroy his or her face? According to Jackson it helps him breathe and sing better. Jackson has had extensive restructuring of his face and I don't understand how he can expect the public to believe that he went from having a smooth chin to a cleft one and then back with no surgery.

The interview also deals with Jackson's children. His first two children came from his marriage with former wife, Debbie Rowe. His third child is the product of a surrogate mother and Jackson's own sperm. There have been doubts to the healthiness of Jackson's

relationship with his children and their isolation from their mothers. The footage of Jackson dangling his baby out the window caused authorities to question his fitness as a parent. No normal person holds his or her child over a 4-story window. Granted, the fans wanted to see the child, although there is not much to see with that veil over its face. How psychologically damaging can it be for a child's face to be hidden in public? What relationships will these children have with society as they grow up?

Even more disturbing to the public has been his relationship with children not his own. His Neverland Ranch in California has its own fully staffed amusement park where Jackson entertains kids. The proclamations that children sleep over at the house were concerning, especially to learn that some even share his bed. He explains that it involves only tucking them in and reading them bedtime stories. Jackson views it as a loving thing to do and claims it is innocent, but one must consider past allegations against him. In 1993 he was accused of having sexual relations with a young boy. Investigators on that case were disturbed to find that Jackson had installed an alarm in his home that would sound whenever someone approached his private bedroom. Eventually the child molestation case was settled out of court with the boys' parents.

Jackson felt deeply betrayed by Bashir's interpretation of him. He accused Bashir of misrepresenting him and released a response on Fox in the form of "Take 2; The Interview They Wouldn't Show You."; footage filmed by Jackson's personal cameramen over an eight month period, including an interview with former wife Debbie Rowe defending Jackson.

It basically tries to give viewers another side to the story and discredit Bashir, who Jackson believes has been misleading and hypocritical. One scene that was recorded by Jackson's cameramen shows Bashir praising Michael as a loving parent. While not defending Michael's bizarre antics, this was perhaps discrediting to Bashir. Regardless of how strange many see Jackson as being, Bashir appears to have been unfair with his representation.

I cannot say whether Jackson poses a danger to children or not. Perhaps he is an abuser and a pedophile. Perhaps he just has some strange Peter Pan-like complex, eccentric but not malicious. I don't believe he ever grew up and he still keeps himself in his own fantasy, one he has gone through all lengths to create. Most people with traumatic childhoods learn to cope later, however, Jackson has a ton of money that puts him above the responsibilities other people need to deal with. This gives him more room to

indulge, where the average person is learning to function in their own life and put aside those issues. Either way it's not very healthy for young children to be sleeping with strangers.

Over all, I question the soundness of the children's parent's judgment. Jackson is not kidnapping these children, there are parents that are consenting and sending their children to him. What are their justifications? Do they believe he truly is not a threat, or if they do, is money the object that calms their conscience?

Despite the concerns on his responsibility as a parent and the

accusations of abuse, many stand behind Jackson. Over 200 teens between the ages of 12 and 16 assembled on the Hollywood Walk of Fame to pray for him believing all he needs is support and counseling.

Jackson has talent, but I believe there's a line to draw fame should not be a shield. If you had a neighbor like him, would you be as compassionate? The mutilation of Jackson's face alone shows instability. It is not necessary to storm his castle with torches yelling, "Kill the monster!" I just think people should reevaluate where the lines of self-expression and destructiveness blur.



Bush gets his ass into someone else's ass

by Chad Nelson
REV Editor

September 17th, 1998, Texas sheriff's deputies reported to the apartment of John Lawrence, after receiving a phone tip about an armed "black" intruder at the residence. Upon entering, they found Lawrence engaged in sexual activity with Tyron Garner. Instead of apologizing for a misunderstanding and leaving the apartment embarrassed, the officers arrested Lawrence and Garner, charging them with violating the state's 138-year-old law barring sodomy. More than 24 hours later Lawrence and Garner were released on \$200 bail each, and were given a court date. A county criminal report convicted both men of a Class C misdemeanor, which carries up to a \$500 dollar fine.

A Texas appeals court overturned the decision because of its unconstitutionality. A 1974 amendment decriminalized sodomy for same-sex partners and thus the law punished only certain couples for oral or anal sex. That ruling was itself overturned 7-2 by an appeals court panel the same year. Now, the case is soon scheduled to go before the Supreme Court as Lawrence and Garner vs. The State of Texas, with a decision expected in June.

George W. Bush, the self proclaimed Worldwide Superhero of Freedom and Democracy, whose idea of a free and just society is one in which we drop bombs on innocent civilians and send the mentally handicapped, let alone anyone, to the electric chair, said the Texas Sodomy law is a "symbolic affirmation of traditional family values." Lawrence and Garner, however, feel it also upholds the values of a Big Brother-type loss of privacy, and discrimination based on sexual preference.

These two issues will be the main strategy for Lawrence and Garner's legal team. What I find incredibly odd and ultimately disturbing is that the privacy issue is considered the strongest case they have. Doesn't it seem ludicrous to think that discrimination based on sexual preference, just like discrimination based on race, gender, or even food preference, should be a less obvious breach of constitutional rights than privacy? Isn't it the clearest sign that something in Texas smells fouler than its oil refineries? You would think the Supreme Court would declare the Texas law unconstitutional without a second thought. Well if you think that, you're quite wrong.

In 1989, the Supreme Court upheld a Georgia Anti-Sodomy law because Georgia law applied to both same and different sex couples. Hence, couples consensually desiring to have sex any way they see fit are not free to do so. More specifically, same-sex couples are automatically denied the rights free sexual expression because Anti-Sodomy laws criminalize the majority of options open for same-sex couples to engage in. In effect the ruling criminalized homosexuality, and ultimately it robbed individuals of their ability to choose.

Texas and Georgia are two of 16 states that still have Anti-Sodomy laws on the books, and Texas is one of four states, including Arkansas, Kansas, and Oklahoma, with Anti-Sodomy laws only targeting same-sex relations.

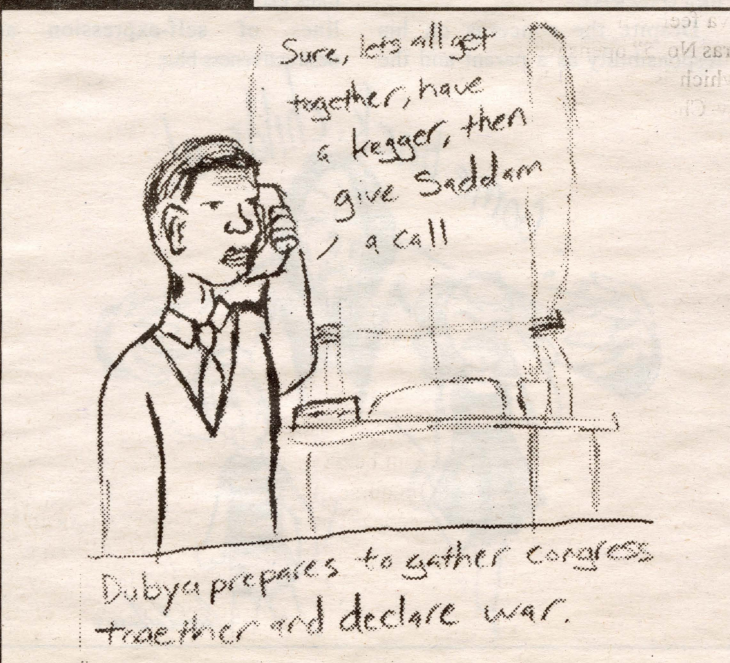
Now some may ask "Well, how often is this law enforced?" Not often directly. However, Anti-Sodomy laws have been used to prevent homosexuals from adopting children. Besides that, the fact that anyone should have to go through four plus years of legal battle, as Lawrence and Garner have endured, just because they choose to have sex with someone is completely absurd. Just the idea that the law still exists anywhere in this country shows just how flawed our legal "justice" (there exist so many other words that I could use, but I am trying to be as uncontroversial as possible) system really is.

This case represents the type of thinking that American law is based on; dominance and subjugation. The unequal treatment of people has a long tradition in this western society. Sometimes, it's slaughter and slavery that are the manifestations, as Africa, Asia, North and South America have felt, but now it has "evolved" and "civilized" itself. Now we call it law, but it still has the same effect; it discriminates, it regards certain people as inferior, it hampers an individual's ability to choose freely the life he/she wants to lead. That privacy is going to be the main issue of the case serves to highlight these flaws. It shows that equality can be skipped over at will by our government, and the process can be hid behind legal semantics and technicalities.

This shouldn't even be a discussion, it should seem obvious to most people that discrimination is wrong and laws that promote it are atrocious. Somehow though, we haven't progressed that far here, and unless the Supreme Court rules this law unconstitutional, it doesn't look like we will anytime soon.

DRAWING BOARD

BY JENNI LADA



Thou doest protest not enough

by Joe Hertel
Staff Writer

I am a Viet Nam War Veteran, so what I will say in this article, I say with conviction of spirit through my personal experiences. I believe the protest movement in the United States during the Viet Nam War was much different than the protests being held today against a war with Iraq, mainly because the Viet Nam protestors were calling for an end to a long and arduous war, with no end in sight, whereas today we are protesting starting a war! The protests today are far more individualistic with heartfelt feelings of belief that this war is not necessary, compared to the concern as to how much longer the war in Viet Nam would go on without resolve.

I am against a war with Iraq at this time, because I believe it is not a war to protect America, but to protect America's interests. I do not see an immediate threat from Saddam Hussein to this nation, although he is a tyrant and must be removed, but that is primarily up to his own people. Will protesting a war help, or is it a waste of time? I believe it will help, not in preventing a war, because the president will have his war if he is determined to do so, but it will help in letting the rest of the world understand that the American people do care about how this country is run and shows our support or non-support of those who run it.

During the Viet Nam War we heard a phrase that went: "My Country, right or wrong!" (Which was in a toast given by Naval Commander Steven Decatur

in 1816). Carl Shurz said it better a half century later when he stated: "My country, when right, to be kept right and when wrong, to be put right." And this, I believe, is more of the true feelings of Americans. This is a foundation of freedom of speech, which includes legitimate non-violent, yet aggressive, protest.

The protest movement against a war with Iraq has its instigators and troublemakers. Any pro or con group does, because there are extremists who operate from warped and deluded ideals. There are some in the movement who hate American ideals, and seek to destroy the foundations of our freedom by using those very foundations to further their contemptuous efforts. I have no compassion for these self-righteous maggots that prey on our society while taking advantage of its privileges. For the most part, I believe the protestors of today are honest, concerned citizens who feel a war with Iraq at this point in time is wrong. And I agree with them.

I have no problem with anyone who is against war, such as a conscientious objector. But I believe we owe our nation a service, and our patriotism, and, if a war is inevitable, then we must support our troops, our young men and women, who have been called to serve. We can hate the war, but not the warrior.

If you are against war, and it happens, then serve your country in another way, without picking up a weapon, as many brave men and women before you have done, and subsequently wound up in jail. Pick

up a pen and write, or raise your voice to be heard. Will you simply run away because you are afraid to die? No one wants to die, and I, sure as hell exists, don't want my son fighting in a war, but I do not want to see him run away from responsibility, either.

I love my country and I served when called because I believed the war in Viet Nam was right. I didn't want to go because I was afraid to die, but I felt it my duty. I believed in my government. Today, older and wiser, and a survivor, I am skeptical and far less trusting. And I earned that right, and the right to share with you my concerns as to the legitimacy of our involvement in a war with Iraq or anyone else.

These are critical times, and we must be on the defensive, prepared to protect our freedoms against those who seek to destroy our way of life, both foreign and domestic. When we see political maneuverings and decisions in favor of the interests of a few, or the vendetta of one, and this country being led down a path of uncertainty and deception, then our right to non-violent protest must be acted upon, and the degree of that protest will assert how this country feels about the decisions of those we elected to power.

So, if you are against the war, then say so; if you support the war, then say so. Just don't be silent! Silence, the apathy of the citizens, or their fear to protest what was going on, is what brought forth Nazi Germany. And be prepared to support your belief with legitimate reasoning and alternatives. That is what this country is all about.

MAIL BAG

LETTERS FROM OUR READERS

Dear Editor,

I wish to take exception to several of the statements in the letter to the editor from Prof. Harry White, printed in the February 18, 2003 edition of The Independent. While I support his freedom, both personal and academic, to express his opinions, he seems to have forgotten the primary purpose of a University is that we deal with truth, and the search for it.

His letter contained at least one BLATANT FALSEHOOD, and another statement that, without providing any attribution, can only be considered "creative thinking" on his part. Since it was written by a (supposedly) learned member of the faculty, it may have actually set back the cause of academic freedom.

Quoting Prof. White:

...our military, whose reach covers the globe, has caused more deaths throughout the world than has ever occurred in the history of inhumanity. Does he know something about the magnitude of deaths caused by the U. S. Military Forces that no other person knows of? Does he have any facts to support this statement? He won't - because it is FALSE!

Perhaps he needs to take a 100 level class in History to learn how to conduct academic research that will allow him to distinguish between fact and fiction. In it he would also find out for himself the names of some of the organizations that REALLY caused a significant number of deaths "in the history of inhumanity." For starters, he could acquaint himself, academically of course, with such organizations that are better known by their acronyms, such as the SS, GESTAPO, SA, KGB, NKVD, and GPU.

If he cared to continue on with more advanced History Courses he would learn about others that are better known by their location, such as Nanking, Katyn and Babi Yar.

The unattributed statement he made is as follows:

So-called pro-lifers tend to be people who support war, favor capital punishment and the right to bear arms to a greater extent than the rest of the population.

Where is the data to back up this statement? If it actually does exist, why didn't he cite its source in his letter? Without the answers to these questions, it has the same degree of believability as his statement on the U. S. Military.

A final small point. Prof. White signed his letter, "Harry White, English Department." Based on this method of identifying himself, can we infer that he speaks for the entire English Department?

R. J. Brule

Dear Editor,

Black History Month is supposed to a time for my people, as well as our fellow Americans, to better understand the struggles that we've endured over the past five centuries. I was extremely surprised when the history department added an African American course to the schedule. I rearranged my job and school schedule to add this last minute course to my schedule.

The first day of class was exciting. We (students) were greeted by an energized Dr. Johnson. She seemed to have an enormous amount of knowledge about this area. During the first couple of weeks in the course, I was eager to answer almost any question that Dr. Johnson asked. My eagerness to answer questions, let alone go to class, dwindled when the "N" word was being used in the classroom setting. I first felt that she was only using this derogatory term in an education context. But on February 13th, 2003, she read a speech that was given by a former Governor of South Carolina aloud in an extremely quiet and alert classroom. The speech explained how the Governor didn't feel that blacks at South Carolina State University shouldn't receive more than the \$5,000 funding that they were given.

The only problem was that the Governor referred to blacks as niggers. At first I was at ease with her saying the word one time. But when she continued to read at ease with saying the word nigger, I became very uncomfortable. My comfort level sank to an all time low when the class, 95% caucasian, looked at me for some type of response after she says this. I've never felt so lonely before, embarrassed, and demoralized in my life. After class, other students would ask me how I felt. I only replied with a facial gesture. They sensed my discomfort. And one in specific (Desmond, History tutor) said that he would rather talk with her or write her a letter explaining my discomfort with her saying the word. Now she uses the word Negro when referring to the word nigger. It still doesn't erase the memory of she saying nigger.

I spoke with a professor that I felt comfortable with about the situation. Ms. Sochen told me that I should speak with her. But I feel really intimidated by her now. She isn't the same energized teacher that I saw on the first day of class. I spoke to my parents and they told that I should drop the course if felt that uncomfortable with her. And I will. I don't believe that any student or person of color should be demoralized like I was. I also belie that the word nigger should never be used in the classroom setting, even if it's in an educational context. This Black History Month will be on that I will remember for years, because I was reminded by someone who I should trust that I am still a "Nigger."

Anonymous

Editor's note: The Independent doesn't not encourage the use of racial or ethnic slurs.

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REV

extremely local entertainment ~ pull-out section

Zwan ain't no Smashing Pumpkins, thankfully

by Dan Demchuk
Distribution Manager

Sailing tragically, my desolate ship suddenly washed upon the stygian black shores of unknown and unnameable, and the rising mist of newborn day carried me upon the thick wafts of airy dew.

I drifted for eternity and reached out eternally for the stirring wind of changed spaces until an independent voice harkened me in the leftmost direction.

I saw the Black Swan drifting gracefully, an ennobled entity, its spirit a luminescent darkness. It blinked one eye at me over its left wing and entreated of me a binding "Declaration of Faith," whispering without stirring, "Come With Me."

I mounted the Black Swan, grasping the black plumage upon its back, and we rode the midnight wave of rainbow lanes stretching forever before our future.

The black sun rose behind the mist and the rainbow glow illuminated the swells of settling sea as the Black Swan winked again and motioned with a nod to the sky.

This time I felt the heaving swell "Of A Broken Heart" as dejectedly whispered, "El Sol," and I watched the six pointed "Star Of The Sea" blink out, the black sun reaching equinox.

He sadly uttered below his breath, barely audible over the hiss of oceanic blackness, "Mary...", and banked left through the dense clouds presenting a crystal clear view of the symbiotic rotational rise of the sister sun, equally as black with desire to overcome and overtake its predecessor star.

Three fiery phoenixes swirled and chased each other before our flight, inadvertently accompanying our quest for the "Heartsong" of Zwan, enervating our desire for discovery. Ahead in the distance a swirl of lost notes &k &k twisted lightly into the darkness of the day and the tense shock of recognition overcame me. The "Endless Summer" was ending. We spiraled down from the rainbow path, soaring over the treetops, following the trail of floating music escaping into the atmosphere.

The blinding forest abruptly ends and the rolling black hills succumb to the icy blackness of glaciated terra firma and I



Photo by Jim Marshall

Billy Corgan and gang take listeners on a psychedelic adventure on their new album

suddenly realize the import of our directional shift and the impermanence of settling down.

The music has led us to the place of origin, the beginning and the end of our quest, for the circularity of the rainbow spiral was no coincidence indeed. They start and finish as one, breaking through the barriers and boundaries of convention.

I saw my ship broken at the foot of the stygian sea clearly now that the midst of the

mist had dissipated, and a warm sense of honesty honestly served as impetus to live, create, and be reborn in the circularity I've discovered herein.

The Black Swan ends our ride, landing next to the explosion of color shattering the hills and vales, and I dismount. The three phoenixes chase their fire into and around the winding lanes of hue bending into the darkness with the recognition of our journey's

finality and disappear behind a black cloud.

The rising notes swirl and bubble from the crag in the earth like misty spray from the geyser of color bursting beside me and as the cloud cover above cracks and rains down black rain upon me,

I finally understand what JT LeRoy and Billy Corgan found so comfortingly amusing. This quest was necessary. This is the discovery of Zwan.

Shorter gets the better end of his new album *Alegria*

by Caleb Avraham
Special Contributor

Ladies and gentlemen, Wayne Shorter has done it again! Shorter's new album *Alegria* is a musical masterpiece, steeped in the tradition of late 60's Jazz-Fusion. Wayne Shorter, a saxophonist and composer, heralded the Jazz-Fusion movement during his stay with the Miles Davis quintet (1965-68).

Back then, the movement was originally known as Cultural Jazz because of its use of strong neo-African rhythms and traditional African Instruments. This style also fused electric instrumentation with modern Be-bop Jazz, which gave it its unique sound.

After his stay with Miles, Wayne Shorter and former Davis band mate Josef Zawinul formed the fusion group Weather Report. Under the Tutelage of Shorter and Zawinul, Weather Report soared to new innovative heights, making Fusion a legitimate art form.

Although Shorter doesn't use any electric

instruments on this album, the old Cultural Jazz-Fusion feel is forever present in this album.

The first song, entitled "Sacajawea," opens with a little ten-second playful intro by Shorter on soprano sax. It then goes into a nice upbeat melodic mixture of soprano sax, tenor sax, and rhythm section that follows throughout the song. The last minute or so goes into a semi-chaotic rhythm lead by Shorter on soprano.

The second track (originally composed by Leroy Anderson) is a smooth but up-tempo ballad that begins with a nice medley that includes flute, oboe, bass clarinet, and of course Shorter on soprano.

The song moves along quite nicely and never becomes lazy and sluggish (most ballads often do). The next song, "Vendiendo Alegria," starts off as a traditional Be-Bop jazz

ballad, but moves into a quick paced melody accompanied by trombones and trumpets. It has a kind of Bosa Nova feel to it.

"Bachianas Brasileiras No. 5" opens with a mellow conga solo, which is replaced by a beautiful cello solo by Charles Curtis. The

congas, rice shakers, and tambourine gives this piece some flavor from Brazil that has both cool and warm overtones. The fifth track, "Angola," is a really hip

piece. It has some of everything, from the upbeat tempo to the large array of instruments used.

The highly African influenced rhythms of this piece leave nothing to be desired and are truly one of the best pieces on the album. The sixth track is simply an interlude that gets us ready for what's to come next. What's next

"...but it also includes a return to 'cool,' that is to say a return to the old days of be-bop."

you say? Track seven, "She Moves Through the Fair," a slow, melodic ballad that features two amazingly beautiful solos by Shorter on soprano and tenor.

"Orbits" offers us something else. At times it's a ballad, in other sections a waltz, and still in others a mixture of cultural sounds and traditional Jazz.

The ninth track brings us something cool and hip, a "12th Century" set to an upbeat jazz arrangement.

This song utilizes elements of orchestral arrangement without losing the smooth earthy feel of this album. The last song on this magnificent album is entitled "Capricorn II." This song is an easy-going piece that allows us just sit back and relax without becoming too relaxed.

Of course, there are the patented cultural overtones, but it also includes a return to "cool," that is to say a return to the old days of be-bop. I recommend this album for any serious fan of Jazz music, especially for those interested in cool, solid, cultural Jazz.

A hometown hit!

by Daniel Peikes
Staff Writer

Here is one for the thespian in all of us, especially if you have a sense of local pride. *Chicago*, nominated for twelve Academy award, is a musical based on the 1970's adaptation by Robert Fosse, based originally on Maurine Dallas Watkins, writer for the Chicago Tribune in 1926. Fosse is well known for his choreography, and this film follows in that tradition with amazing dance numbers.

It is directed by Rob Marshall, who has also done television adaptations for *Annie* and a musical version of *Cinderella*. Marshall is supported by an all-star cast that includes Renée Zellweger, Catherine Zeta-Jones, Richard Gere, Queen Latifa, Taye Diggs, and Lucy Liu.

The story centers around a character named Roxie Hart, played by Zellweger, as a young entertainer who is trying to break into the 1920's Chicago jazz scene. After seeing a show by her idol Velma Kelly, played by Zeta-Jones, where Velma was arrested at the end for killing her husband and sister because she caught them sleeping together, she goes home to screw around with Fred Casely, a furniture salesman that claims to have contacts in show biz.

After having his way with her he leaves Roxie, telling her that he has no more

influence in the jazz scene than she does. At which point she takes her husband's gun and blows him away. She ends up in Cook County Prison with her idol Ms. Kelly. Through a "favor" from Matron "Mama" Morton, played by Queen Latifa, Roxie ends up with Attorney Billy Flynn, played by Richard Gere, representing her. He is less of an attorney and more of a PR master.

Flynn is also representing the now infamous Kelly. Flynn uses the media to develop sympathy for his two clients. At the same time, Velma and Roxie are bidding for the media's attention to advance their respective careers. The two of them fight it out in a cunning battle of wits.

Zellweger did an excellent job as Roxie Hart. She was able to play all the emotions of the part without sounding too ditzy or whiney. Zeta-Jones added a dark element to the film that was needed to drive the plot as Velma Kelly. Queen Latifa on the other hand was almost satirical as Mama Morton. Gere makes a modest attempt at singing and dancing as Flynn, who knew he wasn't half bad at it.

This movie had sex, lies, deceit, and murder, all essentials for a quality film. But seriously, the story moved well, the actors did a good job portraying their roles, the music was great, and the dance scenes were wonderful. As a theater lover, I would definitely suggest going to see this film.



Cool comedy classic captures campus crowd

by Joe Hertel
Staff Writer

Friday evening last, as I entered the Stage Center Theater, I asked myself: "Can a guy who considers The Simpsons to be the best thing on television, enjoy a three hundred year old play on religious hypocrisy written by a Frenchman?" The answer is yes.

Within the first few minutes I realized I was in for a treat as Madame Pernelle, played wonderfully aggressive by Michelle-Marie Merrick, took center stage (reminding me of my late Aunt Minnie) and chastised her family for doubting the sincerity and piousness of Tartuffe, and thus we are introduced to a crisis that will continue to mount until it reaches an ending that sweeps over the audience in a wave of approval and feel-good response.

The play takes place, well, I don't know. Director Jen Goode was marvelously creative in placing the time of the action in a setting that was, for lack of a better description, timeless. This was done through the costumes designed by Tina Haglund. Each character having an outfit that overlapped decades of style, from the 1920's to the present,

and displaying both European and American influence.

So when did the action take place, and where? We are being told, through the dress and minimalist stage setting, that it doesn't matter. And, it doesn't because this kind of treachery and deception has happened and will continue to happen.

The two lovers, Valere (Ben Fishbein), and Mariane (delightfully played by Angela DeMarco), introduce a subplot which provided numerous outbreaks of laughter throughout the performance. Angela DeMarco gave us a character who reminded me of a disorientated Alice in Wonderland, and Mariane's "little girl party dress" costume accented the well displayed comedic talent and range of emotions presented by Miss DeMarco.

Valere and Mariane are saved from their lovers' naiveté by the sensible Dorine (Bernadette McHugh). From the beginning and throughout the play, McHugh gives us a strong character who provides transition from plot to sub-plot, keeps the other characters working together and has a definite handle on the cunning and crafty Tartuffe.

Damis, energetically played by Manuel Valle,

the hot-head son who discovers Tartuffe trying to seduce his mother, winds up being disowned by his father, Orgon, for accusing Tartuffe of lecherous behavior. Darting around the stage and in and out of the wings, Valle gives us stage animation that I have not witnessed in a long time.

Orgon, effectively played by Merrick Hughes, can't see the forest through the trees, and is so totally taken in by Tartuffe, we feel he deserves whatever happens. And a lot happens. Orgon tells his daughter Mariane that she will marry Tartuffe, he even deeds over his house and possessions to the malevolent monk, and, at the climax, has lost everything and soon will be on his way to jail. He should have listened to his wife instead of his mother!

Stunning Angela Walsh graces the stage with her sophisticated portrayal of the beautiful Elmire, Orgon's wife. And thus, lust is the downfall of the monk who seeks carnal, rather than spiritual pleasures. But Orgon still won't believe that his wife had been propositioned, until she desperately persuades her husband to hide while she invites Tartuffe for another try at her. Even as the old monk begins to paw and claw at the statuesque object of

his desire, Orgon remains hidden, waiting until the last possible moment to reveal himself, much to his wife's dismay.

Moliere himself would have chosen Tim Carroll to play Tartuffe. Carroll's convincing presentation impressed the audience that we too could be ultimately deceived by this charming, charismatic pseudo-priest. Until the climax, when Tartuffe is exposed as the scoundrel he is, we are persuaded he'll succeed in his deception.

The denouement relieves the tension as we learn from the Officer (Will Aragon, who also plays the Loyale and Laurent) that the King has recognized Tartuffe as having a long criminal record and many aliases, as so has the monk arrested, restores Orgon's home and belongings and forgives his indiscretion. Orgon, in appreciation, forgives his son; welcomes him back to the fold, and allows Mariane and Valere to at last be married.

The cast and crew of Stage Center Theater have given us a professional and creative presentation of Moliere's classic and they should be well proud of their endeavor. This entertaining and uplifting performance shouldn't be missed. I enjoyed myself and you will too. Go see it.

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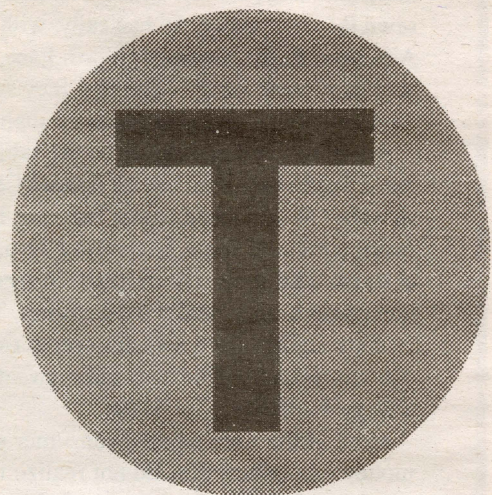
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Tizmoret is the ticket to leave you in a tizzy



**QUEENSBOUND
TIZMORET**
the queens college hillel a cappella choir

by Daniel Peikes
Staff Writer

Tizmoret is a Jewish *a Cappella* group out of Queens College. They recently released their second self-financed album *Queens Bound*. Make no mistake, this group has a lot of talent. They sing a wide range of songs, from traditional Jewish music to pop. *Queens Bound* is a very solid album. If, like me, you are one of those people that refuse to buy an album for just one song, you have nothing to worry about. While not every song on the album is amazing, there are no "bad" songs on this album. If you can appreciate a *Cappella* strictly for its artistic value, you will appreciate this album. They do some great covers, including "Moon Dance" and "Hot Stuff."

Tizmoret does a wonderful job fusing a *Cappella* with other styles. Now, this album is not for everyone. If you absolutely detest a *Cappella*, then this obviously is not the album for you. In addition, if you cannot deal with music in languages other than English, then stay away as well. Their voices blend very well in a vocal symphony that could put many three-piece bands to shame. One of my personal favorites is their rendition of "Flash Gordon," originally written by Queen. You can feel the passion of their version of "America the Beautiful" and "The Star Spangled Banner."

They do tend to show off their talent a bit. They have both a live and a studio version of a song called

"I'm a Train" originally by a group called The King's Singers. In this song, the entire group blends their voices in order to give the impression that they are an actual locomotive huffing down the tracks. What makes it even more amazing is the fact there are actual words and they make the words sound like a train. Of course, there is not much more to the song than the words, "I'm a train." The song takes a lot of talent but has no real content. Why they put to two versions of a song like that on one album is anyone's guess. Another song that I was not a huge fan of was "Share a Load," which tells a story of two people that meet in a laundry mat. The song, in my opinion, is a bit cheesy. It includes a discussion between the two people that have just supposedly met at the laundry mat. They talk about the fact that the price of coffee is way too expensive at "Starducks." Then they recognize each other from a *Cappella* camp.

The album overall is pretty good. On a scale of one to ten, I give it a seven. It has bad and good songs. It is not short either. It includes twenty-five tracks. Still not convinced? Check out the clip archive on their website, at www.tizmoret.com. Their web site is also the only place that you can order either of their two CDs. They sell *Queens Bound* for \$18.00 or \$15.00 if you are a student. Their first self-titled album is available for \$10.00. If you find yourself in the New York area when they're performing live, I recommend you check them out. I have seen them live and they are intense!

Buble swings when he sings on self titled debut

by Joe Hertel
Staff Writer

Vancouver vocalist, Michael Buble (pronounced Boo-blay) makes his American album debut with a CD entitled, well, *Michael Buble*. Now I would pick up a CD titled *Frank Sinatra*, or *Paul Anka*, but if I were perusing the racks for swing music, I would not recognize Buble's name and would pass over the album. But after listening to the cuts on the CD, I realize that this guy is good, very good. And I will remember the name, and so should you.

Michael Buble is 25 years old, but has musical experience that began in his early childhood, as he listened to music his grandfather encouraged him to appreciate. Combining the music of his grandfather's and parent's era, he also grew up with music from his own era, and gave himself a repertoire of decades of swing music from Ella Fitzgerald to Lou Rawls; from Louis Prima to Van Morrison.

Of course, I like swing. I grew up with it, and listening to Buble sing, it brought back the good feelings I had when hearing this type of music. Buble has the delivery of a Frank Sinatra and a style similar to Bobby Darin. But Buble is a swinger, and not a crooner. His handling of slower melodies is somewhat weak, as in "Broken Heart," which sounds like a good singer at a karaoke bar, and he is too young to attempt the raspy quality of someone who for years has been drinking and smoking too much on the nightclub circuit; thus it appears strained. But his young, vibrant voice is smooth in its delivery of faster paced songs like "Summer Wind" and "For Once in My Life," which got my feet

tapping as I listened. I would have liked to hear his rendition of "Mack the Knife," which was not on the album. The musical arrangements by Bill Holman and David Foster lent strong support to Buble's voice, and the instruments blended nicely in the background, never overpowering the singer.

I imagine the most difficult thing for a singer to overcome is the rendition of an old standard that we all remember someone else singing (Who can ever top Judy Garland's "Over the Rainbow"?). When Buble sings "Fever," I cannot help but hear Peggy Lee's version, or Frank Sinatra when Buble sings "Come Fly With Me." No, it's not easy, but Buble does a very good presentation, and it's not fair to compare; rather, just enjoy.

It is not a perfect album of cuts. Most albums are not. There are always one or two songs that we are not particularly fond of, but over all, this is a CD I would play during a romantic dinner at home. Buble has chosen a few old standards like "For Once in My Life," "Come Fly With Me," and "The Way You Look Tonight," and added newer selections such as "Moondance" and "Put Your Head on My Shoulder," and performed them in his own unique style. He gives the listener a well-rounded version of what he can accomplish in his delivery. And his delivery and style are best when he just lets himself go and belts out a song.

As he professionally emerges, I think Buble will find his niche, and he has a very good one in his musical selections. He swings, and that is what he should continue to do. If you enjoy swing music, this is one album you can add to your collection.

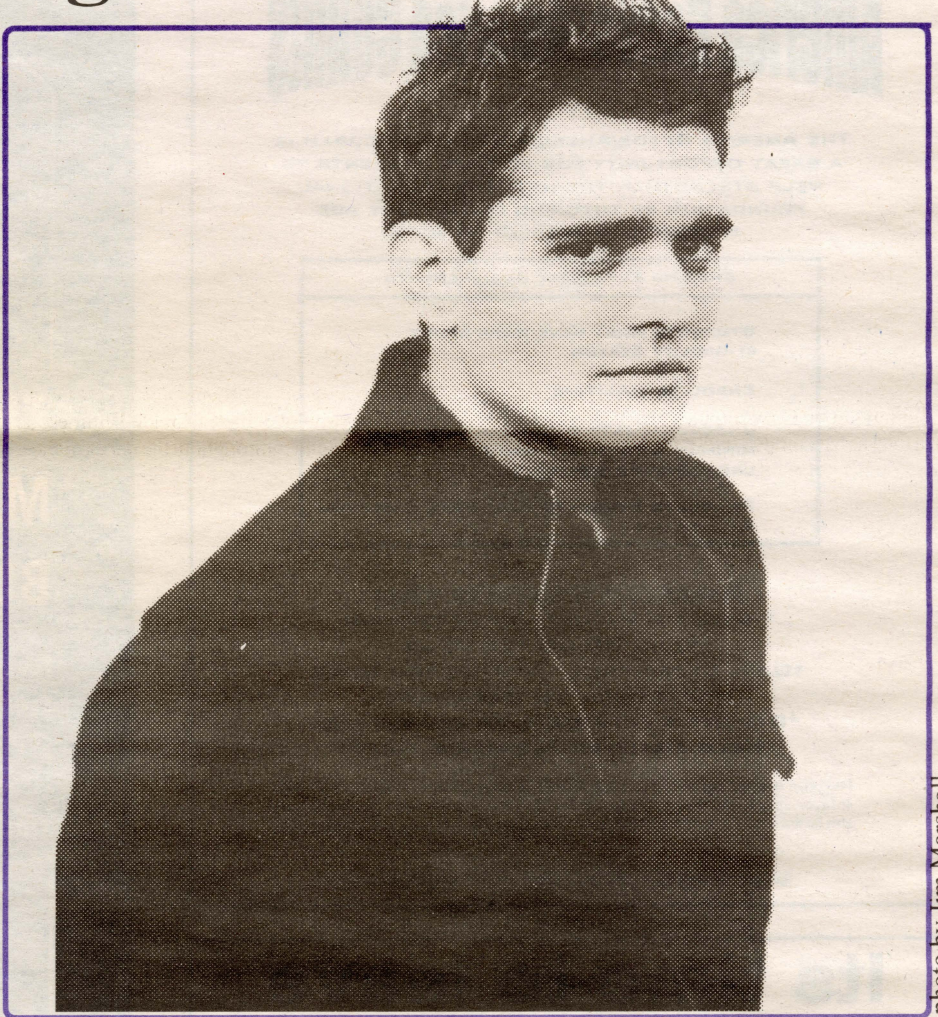
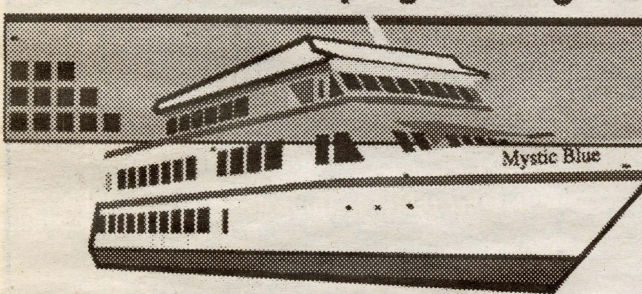


photo by Jim Marshall

Twenty five year-old Buble brings back the good old days of swing.

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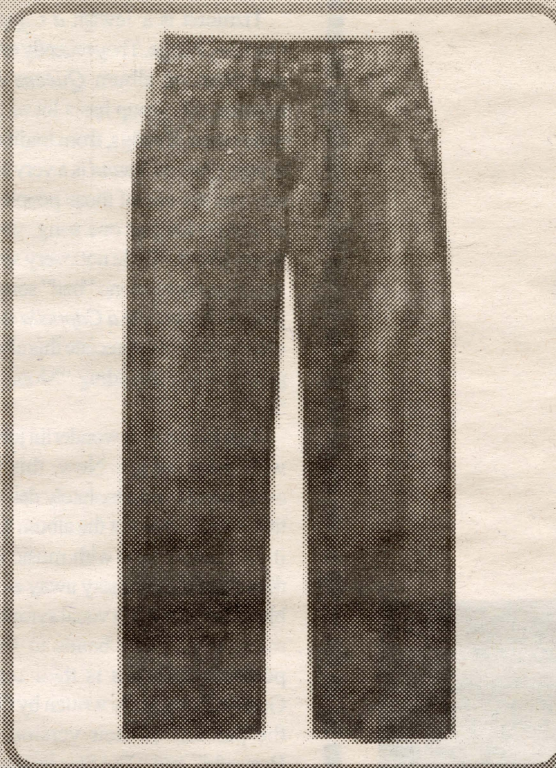
Retail vs second hand, does the price add up?

by Stacy Sonenthal
Staff Writer

When one thinks of clothes, what would be the first thing that comes to mind? Some people would think that a store like Abercrombie is the only place to shop. It definitely has the latest stylish clothes, but the price for fashion is high. The question is then posed, "Is quality worth spending a whole paycheck for?" Do Abercrombie clothes really last long enough to justify a \$36 price tag for a simple T-shirt? Or \$60 for a simple pair of pants?

When talking to students on campus about what they thought about a high-end retail store such as Abercrombie as opposed to less affluent clothing stores, the answer was almost always the same. The prices may be outlandish, but the majority think that the clothes are worth it.

But not everyone can afford to drop hundreds of dollars for clothing. In fact, many find it an appalling idea, when there are more monetarily friendly options out there. It's possible for a consumer to buy the same quality clothing at Target or Wal-Mart, for example. While Target and Wal-Mart have their own name brand of clothing, some consumers believe the quality is



equally as good as well as affordable. And in reality, the makers are using the same processes and the same materials. There are just different name brand tags being sewn into each piece. So basically, with Abercrombie, American Eagle, Guess, or North Face, the consumer is paying more for the label that they sew inside their clothing, not for a higher grade of quality clothing.

Bringing another subject to the table, what about those thrift shops that are all around Chicago and the suburbs? While those stores may not have the latest fashion trends, there is nothing wrong with those clothes. The majority of thrift stores carry clean, inexpensive, and usually used clothes. To lay out fifty or sixty dollars for a sweater seems ridiculous when you can possibly find that same sweater used at the Village Thrift Store for \$1.60.

Most of the time when a consumer spends a lot of money on clothes, they do not realize that they could purchase at least twice as much clothing at thrift shops or stores like Target for the price of a single high-end retail clothing item. Some thrift stores to look at might be Kiddo Ditto in the suburbs, where they have clothes for all ages, The Village Thrift store, and The Unique Thrift Store in Chicago. There are so many stores in the Chicago land area, that the possibilities are endless.

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Malpractice insurance is a real racket

by Atoor Lawandow
Staff Writer

Medical liability insurance rates have reached crisis levels nationwide. From spending \$60 million annually in 1960, the spending by 1988 had reached \$7 billion; an 1100% increase, and still it continues to rise. This rise in liability rates is causing high malpractice insurance rates for healthcare workers, many who find it far more practical to retire early, or to simply stop practicing than to pay outrageously high sums of money for insurance premiums each year.

The high malpractice insurance rates are in one way the result

of high awards to plaintiffs in malpractice lawsuits. For example, the biggest jump of 175% was between 1994 and 2000, where awards to plaintiffs in medical malpractice lawsuits went from \$362,000 to \$1 million. In these lawsuits the most claimed injury was death and brain injury. Many believe that the reason for this sharp increase in awards is the fact that juries have grown accustomed to seeing large sums of money being given away on television on shows like "Who Wants to Be a Millionaire?" and "Survivor," therefore they are more likely to award astronomical sums of money to plaintiffs simply because they believe it to be the norm in our society.

Another reason as to why premium rates for physicians and healthcare workers continue to rise is the cost of litigation. Every year 10,000 medical malpractice lawsuits are filed, each of which takes approximately 45 months

to be resolved. During the 45 months that it roughly takes for a malpractice lawsuit to resolve a claim, ample sums of money must first be paid to lawyers working on the lawsuit; in fact, 57% of insurance premiums go towards paying attorney fees.

This problem is arising in almost every state in the country, but it is more evident in West Virginia, Pennsylvania, and more recently in Nevada. The Pennsylvania Medical Society reports that a typical general surgeon in that state pays \$65,984 per year in insurance premiums. As a result, the state of Pennsylvania's medical society is finding it harder and harder to recruit new physicians into the state. Most new

doctors are scared of practicing in Pennsylvania, because of the fact that even one or two malpractice lawsuits brought against them could very well drive them into bankruptcy. States with high malpractice insurance premiums, such as Pennsylvania, are suffering from a lack of medical staff and medical specialists. More and more hospital wings in these states are being shut due to bankruptcy, early retirement by the physicians, or the healthcare staff is simply leaving these states to avoid paying high premiums.

So far the most progressive solution being proposed for this problem is a tort reform. The tort reform would set a cap on the sums being awarded for non-economic damages (i.e. pain and suffering, inconvenience); the cap proposed is set to \$250,000. California for example, places a cap of \$250,000 on non-economic damages; this cap applies in cases of both injury and

death. In some states with very high insurance premiums the economic cap is set very high or it is simply nonexistent. For example, in West Virginia the cap is set to \$1 million on non-economic damages, and the state of Pennsylvania provides no cap.

This constant threat is resulting in the "defensive practice of medicine." Surgeons are refusing to perform high-risk and possibly life-saving operations on patients in some states, for the fear of being slapped with a lawsuit and being driven into bankruptcy. Meanwhile, people from all over the world come to our hospitals to be treated by our physicians, our technologies, and facilities because our system is among the best in the world. Yet here we are with our excessive greed and ingratitude deteriorating the very system which has helped us prolong our life-spans, freed our society of epidemics, and continues to work towards finding new cures for diseases that threaten our very existence.

An economic cap must be set on non-economic damages; physicians and healthcare workers should be given the chance to practice without a constant threat being posed to their practices. A society with a disease-ridden population is a weak society; therefore, the existence of a strong medical network in a society would make for a stronger society. One can easily argue that the flourishing of our own society is partly due to the strength and modernism of our medical faculty. So in order save the fabric of our society from falling prey to our own greed, we must first stop the medical staff from being driven into bankruptcy and early retirement, by setting economic caps on medical lawsuit awards.

"OUR EXCESSIVE GREED ... DETERIORATING THE VERY SYSTEM WHICH HAS HELPED US PROLONG OUR LIFESPANS."

Civil liberties continue to take beating

by Benny Boyas
Staff Writer

If you are the type that, for whatever conceivable reason, frequently gets pulled over by the police, you might have noticed how their actions towards you seem to follow a pattern. You see, the officers' actions and their accompanying consequences are dictated by these funny little commandments called laws. Thou shall not smoke weed. Thou shall not operate a motor vehicle like Speed Racer in a school zone. The problem is that these laws can get very confusing at times, even for legal professionals. So we dare not venture into the realm of mind-boggling judicial lingo that ultimately seems unfair to some, not stringent enough for others.

Laws are basically rules that corporate, elite, and very wealthy white males, bored out of their very minds, thought up of in mysterious smoke-filled rooms to make us all miserable slaves to their interests. No, wait. That's what a leftist and very liberal acquaintance of mine preaches. In reality, laws serve a more palatable purpose: to govern and maintain the social order of society. That's good stuff right there. I could steal your vegetables and slap your momma without serious ramifications if laws did not exist.

So police officers acting out on the reasonable suspicion or probable cause, subjective judgments that are themselves placed under strict scrutiny, (police monitor the people, thus we all monitor law enforcement), must ensure that their actions are permissible under the same principle that justifies them to begin with: the law. So if Officer Friendly (or not so friendly) wants to search your trunk for narcotics and make

you late to class, he better have a damn good reason to do so other than for curiosity.

Somewhere along our history we conformed to such intrusions, and we did so because we refused, as we do so today, to keep up with the laws that govern us. Do I propose that you subscribe to The Criminal Law Reporter and set your VCR's to tape *The Practice*? Not quite. The solution to this epidemic? Well, there is no apparent solution. And so the infringement of our constitutional rights prevails. This is what's tough about being American.

We are simply too preoccupied with this vicious cycle called life to notice how our law changes through time.

But so what? Personally, you are not a criminal and never have done anything wrong. You go to school, go to work, get a paycheck, spend some of it on weed (in violation of Illinois Compiled Statute Chapter 720, 550, Sec. 4) and life is good, right? The grim reality is that America's conformity with the illegal practices of our system of justice is growing at a disturbing rate, contrary to what you might expect it to be. And it is because of this lax attitude towards this arena that we face the danger of additionally forfeiting our civil liberties. It doesn't seem to bother most of us that in the wake of 9/11, many American citizens are being held in custody without official charges of a crime, and simultaneously being denied the opportunity to seek legal counsel, even though the constitution guards and guarantees these basic rights (it's somewhere in there, just take a look).

Earlier this month, very little media attention was given to a decision granted by a federal appeals court in St. Louis with regards to executing one who is deemed insane. A 1986 Supreme Court decision clearly stated held that this was cruel and unusual punishment under the 8th amendment. Yet this recent decision side-stepped the issue of law of the previous case by not overruling it (which of course is not permissible because precedent case law decisions by

the Supreme Court become law that cannot be reversed by lower courts), but by creating a new standard that was not addressed

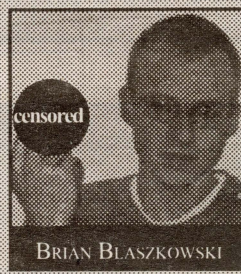
beforehand, by allowing death row inmates to be medicated, and according to the court, because the medicating "cured" them of their insanity, the court did not violate the Supreme Court standard. This is almost certain to be headed towards the Supreme Court, for it places medical practitioners in an unethical position and goes against the oath sworn upon by them. Why treat someone if the treatment will result in their execution?

This case will someday be branded into a prominent status in law and become historically significant at the Supreme Court level. Maybe we should make a little effort to learn what we're entitled to, and the law that's changing before our eyes. Our society embraces certain values and an ideal moral ethic. How could we allow our fundamental fairness to lose significance in the shadows of pop music, fashion trends, and reality TV? Perhaps this occurred with the aid of distracting, trivial leisure pursuits. And with a little weed.

"I COULD STEAL YOUR VEGETABLES AND SLAP YOUR MOMMA WITHOUT SERIOUS RAMIFICATIONS IF LAWS DID NOT EXIST."

Slumber party exposed

WHAT DOES IT MEAN TO BE LUCKY? I'LL BET A BIG PART OF IT IS NOT HEARING "LET'S JUST BE FRIENDS" FROM EVERY WOMAN ON THE PLANET. BUT STILL, I SORT OF LUCKED OUT A COUPLE WEEKS AGO. I MANAGED TO WRIGGLE AND SNEAK MY WAY INTO A WOMAN STRONGHOLD, A GATHERING TO END ALL GATHERINGS, AN EVENT WHICH HAS PLAGUED THE MINDS AND FANTASIES OF MEN SINCE THE DAWN OF TIME.



BRIAN BLASZKOWSKI

Yes, gentlemen, I was invited to an All-Girl Slumber Party. I'll repeat that, because I think some of you are missing the point. I, Brian Blaszkowski, who for the past 22 years and some odd months has been a man, was invited to an All-Girl Slumber Party.

The gods are toying with me. Ignored the obvious implications (the girl who invited me doesn't consider me a man and, in fact, thinks of me as more of a girl) and instead focused on the positive aspects. Every guy has thought of what happens at a girl's slumber party. Some of us have crashed the slumber parties of our sisters with water balloons and shaving cream. But this goes beyond that, my friends. This slumber party is post-puberty.

Oh, the possibilities. ... I'd be an even worse journalist than I already am if I didn't accurately record the event for reporting, so despite the amount of alcohol flowing throughout my bloodstream, I kept a critical eye open, watching every move of the girls. I felt like Jane Goodall must have felt when she lived with the monkeys, except Jane is a woman, and the girls are not monkeys, and I am not a scientist.

OK, bad example. Anyway, I paid close attention and noted the effects a slumber party had on women. I took notes, I conducted experiments, I tried to take pictures. ... So anyway, what follows is a journal of my thoughts throughout the evening. You can very easily track my progress throughout the night as I move from "sober and excited" to "not sober and excited." The times are approximate.

5:23 p.m. — Having doubts about the party. Wondering if it will be fun, second-guessing my masculinity for being invited in the first place. I make the hasty decision that arriving to the party already drunk will make things more fun.

6:13 p.m. — My ride appears. We go to a McDonald's to eat. I overestimate my appetite. She accuses me of "making a scene." I'm asking questions about slumber parties, so I can behave properly. She looked confused when I asked about the oil wrestling.

7:12 p.m. — We find the apartment and park 17 miles away. I'm colder than I've ever been in my life. Thoughts of pillow fights and games of Truth or Dare keep me warm.

8:34 p.m. — Our hostess's sisters arrive for the party, with our hostess's puppy. Hostess demonstrates her love for her puppy by getting on all fours and hopping around the apartment, playing with the dog and making high-pitched yelping sounds. For fifteen minutes. I pretend it's not happening and drink some of the beer I brought.

9:07 p.m. — I get introduced to the girls who show up. The hostess answers the phone and quite distinctly says, "Sorry, you can't come over. No guys allowed." She then looks at me and laughs. I don't think it's very funny.

10:22 p.m. — All the girls are here. They discuss the varying reason why men suck. Not one of them seems to notice that I'm a man. Someone wants rum and cokes, so I make a few. I've moved from "tipsy" to "tipping over."

11:45 p.m. — Someone brought a card game called "Scruples." I become irrationally angry when I lose and accuse everyone of cheating. I ask the hostess when the pillow fight starts, so I can get a good seat. They take away my camera.

1:03 a.m. — The girls all take turns doing each other's hair. I am not allowed to participate because I'm going bald. It is at this time that I realize there will be no pillow fights. I feel used and betrayed.

1:48 a.m. — Have inexplicable urge to watch the Lifetime channel. I want to call all my guy friends and tell them they're lying pigs. The assimilation has begun.

2:36 a.m. — We try to play an electronic trivia game. I dominate the game. The victory is bittersweet when I notice everyone else stopped playing almost immediately. Have an urge for "mixed drinks." This makes me scared.

2:53 a.m. — My manhood shrieks in agony as thoughts of meaningful relationships and feelings flow through my brain. I think to myself, "I will make a great mother someday." This thought doesn't strike me as odd.

3:12 a.m. — Possession of a penis now a distant memory. Testosterone being sublimated by a raging tidal wave of estrogen. I want to talk and cry and share my feelings. Group hug is initiated, and I have no impure thoughts.

3:46 a.m. — A supreme battle of wills begins as I fight to once again recognize my penis. Memories are pulled up from my subconscious. Sweet, sweet liquor makes the pain go away.

5:02 a.m. — Victory is mine! I am once again Brian. This is demonstrated by me walking my platonic friend to her bed, so she can get some sleep. A chorus of "Awwwww's" makes me shudder.

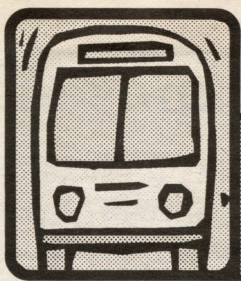
5:40 a.m. — Sleep takes me and makes me its bitch.

7:02 a.m. — I conquer sleep and wake up my ride so she can drive me home before she goes to work. I collect my things and take one final look around the room, respecting the power that is the All Girl Slumber Party. I resolve to re-read all of my buy a Sports Illustrated Swimsuit edition as soon as possible.

7:05 a.m. — I remind myself that I won't be buying the magazine to look at the backgrounds and read the articles.

There you have it. A completely skewed and flawed accounting of an all-girl slumber party. It was a very interesting time, and I think I've gotten over the fact that the hostess invited me because she doesn't see me as a full-fledged man.

Now, I'm off to go buy drapes.



The Commuter

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

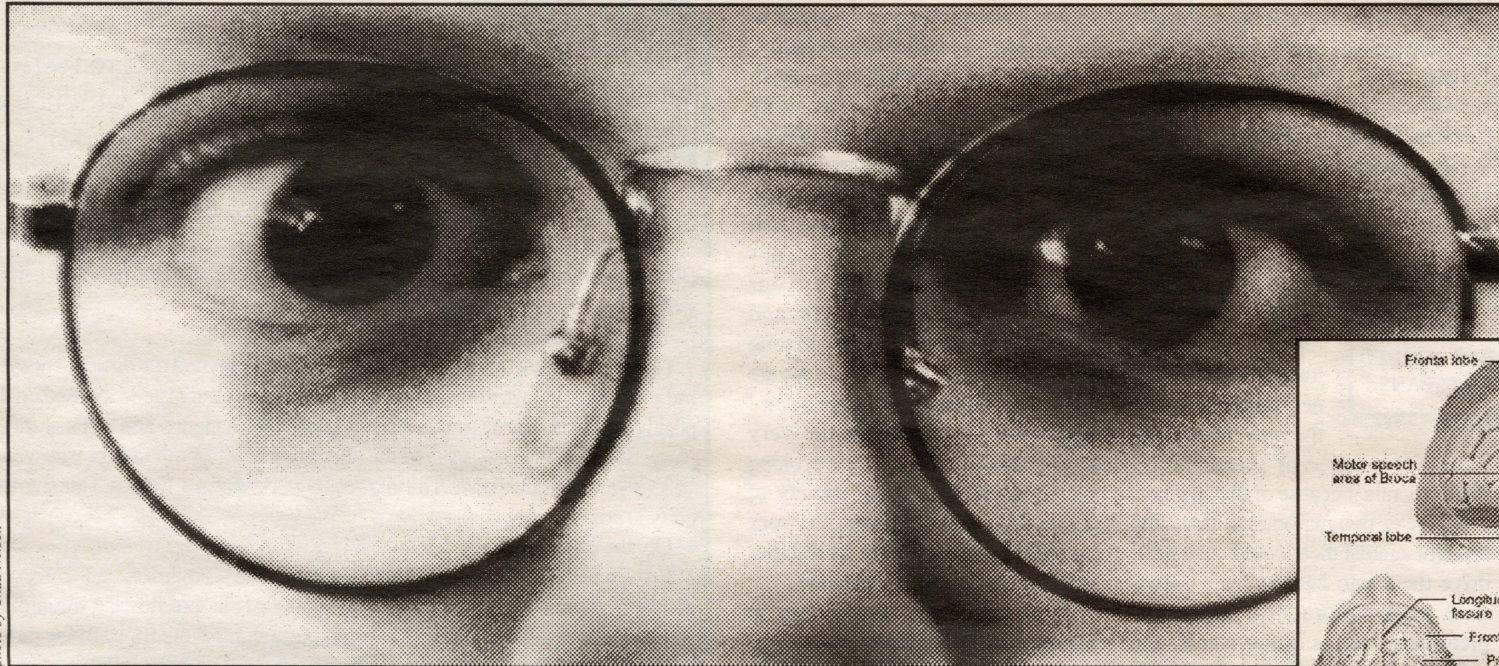
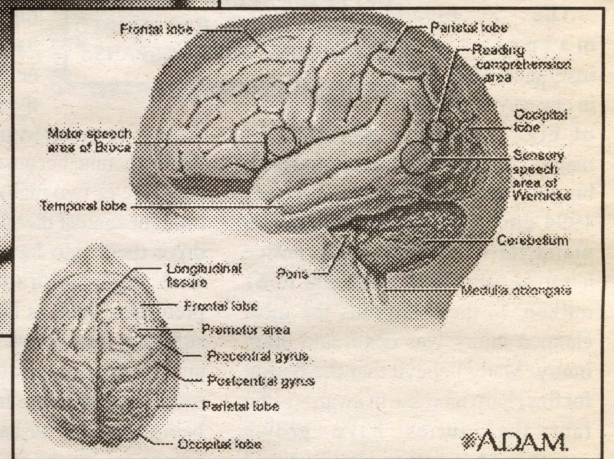


photo by Chad Nelson

Left: Sleep deprivation is one of the most common problems students are faced with each semester.

Below: The sleepier you are, the more active the brain's prefrontal cortex is.



Is losing sleep keeping you up?

by Dan Peikes
Staff Writer

At 6:30 AM, the alarm clock goes off, alerting you to the fact that you have to get up. Starting the morning ritual with a quick hit to the snooze button to grab five more precious minutes of shuteye, then getting up and trudging out to school for that hellish 8:00 AM class may seem like the hardest thing in the world. The room spins as the professor opens his or her mouth to begin the class. And then, you are out like a light because you got only about 4 hours of sleep the night before, and your body has decided to over-ride your education with a basic bodily function. This is the world of sleep deprivation, and it can be a dangerous place.

According to the National Sleep Foundation (NSF), their "2002 Sleep in America Poll" showed that almost half of all drivers,

particularly young male drivers, admitted to driving while drowsy. The National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) estimates that people falling asleep at the wheel cause about 100,000 automobile crashes, 71,000 injuries, and 1,550 fatalities every year. Though the NHTSA admits that the actual numbers are probably higher, because unlike alcohol, weather, and speeding, drowsiness is much harder to identify as the cause.

But it seems that some people work best under pressure. There are people who appear to be thrust into overdrive during a time when most fine motor skills and comprehension skills are impaired. To discover why this phenomenon was occurring, a team of researchers from the UCSD School of Medicine and the Veterans Affairs Healthcare System, San Diego used functional magnetic resonance imaging (fMRI) to monitor activity in the brains of

sleep-deprived subjects performing verbal learning tasks. They were somewhat surprised to learn that regions of the brain's prefrontal cortex (PFC) displayed more activity in direct correlation with the subject's sense of sleepiness; the sleepier the subject, the more active the PFC.

Also, the temporal lobe, a brain region involved in language processing, was activated during verbal learning in rested subjects but not in sleep deprived subjects. Additionally, a region of the brain called the parietal lobes, not activated in rested subjects during the verbal exercise, was more active when the subjects were deprived of sleep. The parietal region normally performs somewhat different functions in the learning process than the temporal region. Although subjects' memory performance was less efficient with sleep deprivation, greater activity in the parietal region

was associated with better memory. These findings hinted at stress being a factor to push the body to overcome physical fatigue and perform at a reasonable level even while impaired. But it comes at a high price.

Fiscally speaking, sleep deprivation costs businesses about \$150 million dollars a year in reduced workplace productivity. Tack on the cost to insurance companies for all the auto accidents that were mentioned earlier. It's unfortunate that many people think it a desirable trait to be able to work with little or no sleep. This idea is even reinforced by top political figures. Former President Clinton proclaimed on the campaign trail that he had gone 48 hours without sleeping. Senator Dole did a similar thing when he was running for president. He claimed to have been up for seventy-eight straight hours and was pushing for ninety-six.

Your body needs sleep. All the experts agree on this simple fact. What nobody is quite sure of is what sleep really is and why you need it. Researchers say that it recharges your brain in some way. A study done on brain activity of people that had been awake for thirty-five hours showed certain parts of the brain just completely shut down. Research has shown that people that sleep seven or more hours a night live longer than those that sleep six or less hours. "Sleep deprivation is bad for your brain when you are trying to do high-level [thinking] tasks," according to J. Christian Gillin, MD. "It may have serious consequences both on performance and on the way your brain functions." You will function better and live a longer, healthier life if you sleep at least seven hours a night. Just consider what lack of sleep will do to you during your commute to and on your commute back from school.

Make sure your pet is the cat's meow

by Joe Hertel
Staff Writer

Pets can provide affection and adoration, companionship and love. They can also be a pain in the rear if one hasn't planned ahead. When choosing a pet that is right for you, here are some things to consider.

Different animals have different needs and require certain amounts of time and money to be invested in their care and happiness. To make sure your pet and you are right for one another, here are some well-known factoids, and anything else I could dig up (yeah, pun intended!), about the most common household pets.

Cats can make the best pets. They are low-maintenance; you do not have to walk them. They are self-cleaning, except on those occasions you must rescue them from the occasional crawl space or air vent. Cats, for the most part, are extremely affectionate. Simply petting a cat can calm one's nerves, and is rumored by some in the medical community to have therapeutic powers. Felines do not require a lot of space, and can be content even in the smallest studio apartment, like mine.

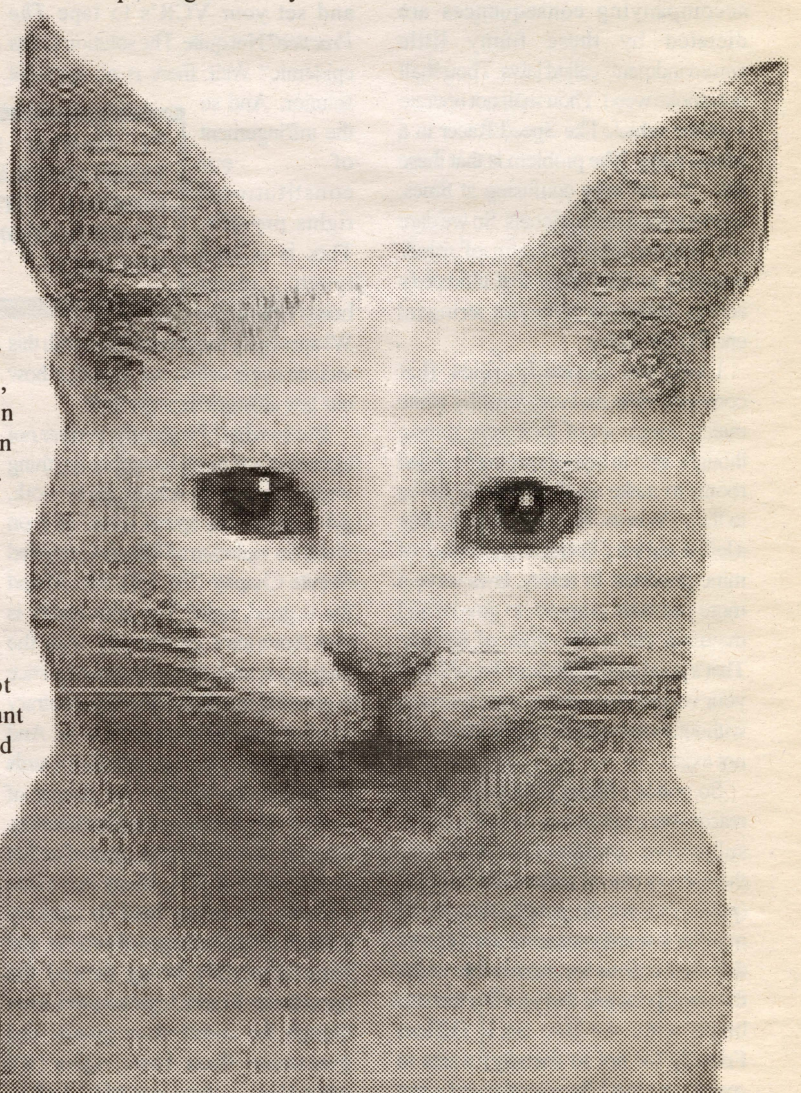
One drawback of cats, though, is the stinky, smelling litter box. Unless you can train your cat to use the toilet and flush, prepare to scoop some cat turds on a regular basis.

Dogs are a close second. They also require lots of affection, more so than cats. They have to be walked around outdoors constantly, and it is expected of the owner nowadays to dispose of their feces as if it were toxic waste. It is best to walk a dog at least twice a day, for their health and fitness. Dogs can get neurotic if locked up or confined to a small area. Dog owners, ideally, should have a back yard at home, or at least live near a park. Other than that, dogs are great. They come in all shapes and sizes, and will put up with just about anything that you can throw at them.

Reptiles are another option, for those who want an exotic pet. They come in the neatest variety, from the chameleon and newt, to the gecko, iguana, and water dragon. Some of them, like snakes, eat live mice, which is cool. Reptiles are, for the most part, inexpensive and low maintenance. For each type, you need to know its needs. There are books to read, and, of course, the pet store guys to ask. I especially like snakes and iguanas, which seem to be the mellowest reptile pets, besides

turtles.

Basically, if you are a pet owner, or considering it, keep all this in mind, and plan accordingly. Having a pet can be very rewarding, and there are many without homes. If you have any doubt about the amount of time and money that you can afford to give to caring for a pet, you should probably not own



We can all still learn a lot from Mr. Rogers

by Scott Plencner
Senior Staff Writer

The airy part-time philosopher Ralph Waldo Emerson wrote of what it was to have succeeded. His words were unusually clear and succinct. To have succeeded, Emerson said, was "to win the respect of intelligent people and the affection of children." A successful person, Emerson added, finds "the best in others." And most important were his parting words, "To leave the world a little better... to know even one life has breathed easier because you have lived. That is to have succeeded."

Since Fred Rogers passed away after a violent bout with stomach cancer, much praise has been directed toward the television pioneer by the most esteemed and learned of men. The recipient of thirty honorary degrees from the most prestigious universities, Rogers' work in the field of child psychology and education has not gone unnoticed.

Much has also been said of the love children had for their TV neighbor and Mr. Rogers above all else always found the very best in others and hoped to help them see the potential he saw in them. And the world is a little better because Fred Rogers lived in it. He never led any revolutions or dramatically did away with social ills with anger and just fury. Mr. Rogers changed the world simply and quietly armed only with his patience, humility, hopefulness, and love. Emerson would have to agree with me then when I write that there have been few men as successful as Fred Rogers.

We college students still have a lot to learn from Mr. Rogers, even though it seems we have long outgrown King Friday and the Kingdom of Make-believe. We each sometimes slip into an existence clouded by self-importance and pompousness. We are often just in the anger and outrage we find ourselves consumed with and we protest and fight and make a lot of noise. We become jaded, sarcastic, even cynical. We want to make a difference, that is sure, but we don't want to do any of the work required to do so. Mr. Rogers showed us how to make a difference and his example is there for even us "brilliant" college students. And we should make his example ours.

Mr. Rogers challenged the world in such peaceful and loving ways it can realistically be described as beautiful. His show was rebellious in that it was unapologetically like nothing else on TV. Rogers never sold out and remained firm and patient even though the trends were never in his favor. He was as humble as he was relentless and patient.

Humility is one of those tools that we have set aside in today's world. In fact, humble people are looked down upon in this country ruled by the rugged individual. Mr. Rogers was absolutely humble. He put others beside himself in his work, and it was fruitful. Humility naturally leads to fruitfulness. Although humble, Mr. Rogers carried himself with dignity and selfless pride and absolute respect for his audience, even though they were mere children.

Rogers reminds future educators that

they should be model adults when they teach children. We should be moral, upright, honest model citizens. Social critics have often pinned social problems like crime and drug use on the fact that there are few model male citizens for children to look toward. Mr. Rogers, thankfully, was on TV every day and showed the children watching and all of us what a true man looks like. A man is not someone who pontificates, brags, strongarms others. A man is everything Mr. Rogers was—proper, loving, responsible for others.

Mr. Rogers stressed love in everything he not only said, but also in everything he did. Everything he wrote, even those books written for an adult audience, passionately carried a message of love. Mr. Rogers urged us to act at all times with the kind of empathy and love for others that he modeled so eloquently for us.

If we felt no one loved us, Mr. Rogers always gave us enough love to build upon. He reminded us so importantly that we are each special. He was adamant in urging us to trust in ourselves and to know that we are all unique and important to the grand scheme of things. That sounds corny, but it's the foundation of a healthful soul.

Love makes the world work and, as Paul wrote in Scripture, love is patient. Mr. Rogers changed the world in very small, incremental ways with his invitation to love. It's hard to remain firm in your love when the whole world is ignoring you, but he was resilient.

It was no surprise to find out that



PHOTO COURTESY OF PBS

Mr. Rogers visits Russia with a furry friend to spread love

Mr. Rogers was an ordained minister. What a perfect ministry he has led for Christ! He showed us the importance of wonder and awe in our relationship with the world God created, whether it be in the World of Make-believe, his field trips, or videos of wax being poured into crayons. Mr. Rogers never cast the first stone. He never made accusations about the world or pointed his finger at the others who sin.

So many Christians tend to point and separate themselves from the problem of sin. Rogers attacked sin at its core, urging for forgiveness and the love that follows forgiveness. He once wrote that, "there is no greater enemy of evil than forgiveness." He warmly reflected the love of God that he recognized in the blessings of his own life. He had faith in that love and the providence that comes of it. Fred Rogers humbled

himself in his ministry to God's will and was blessed to be used by that higher power for higher things.

Next time you find yourself watching Mr. Rogers' Neighborhood, if it isn't replaced soon with inane negative programming, put aside the cynicism of adulthood and really listen to what he has to say. He is not just talking to children.

If you are able to humble yourself you will hear how wonderful you really are and you will be empowered. I guarantee this to you. He has left us the gift of his program.

Mr. Rogers has died, but he also has truly lived, and we all better because of it. He was man at his very best. Although all of us who once called him neighbor and teacher will miss him dearly, he remains in our hearts as vibrant and joyful as he was in life.

America's Love of Asian Media

by Jenni Lada
Staff Writer

Most Americans recognize and identify best with the Asian media imports which make it overseas to the United States. Whether it comes in the form of the latest feature movie, a new anime series on Cartoon Network, or manga comic books, the appeal is still generally the same. Americans see this exotic new import as uniquely different in story and design from American offerings, welcoming it with open arms.

When it comes to movies, some of the best known favorites are the hokey old Godzilla movies and the badly-dubbed martial arts dramas of the 80's. Godzilla has gained fame despite his laughable appearance and the insanely bad cut scenes, to become beloved reptile icon rather than a feared monstrosity, bent on destroying Tokyo. And movies like *Crouching Tiger, Hidden Dragon* and the numerous Bruce Lee movies draw in viewers with unbelievable storylines and intricate fight scenes. People look at these movies and see fantastical ideas which could never happen in their own lives, but allow them for a moment to believe they too could rebound off a wall and snap-kick someone in the head.

It's even common to see these Asian elements brought to the small screen, most commonly in anime form and geared towards an older audience. While more commonly known, *Pokemon*, *Yu-Gi-Oh*, and *Digimon* are the mainstream, daytime

television geared towards kids; series directly aimed at adults and teens, like *Cowboy Bebop*, *Inuyasha*, and *Evangelion* are presented on cable at later hours. Each of these shows the striking differences between American and Asian animation. The eyes are usually enlarged, people are exceedingly beautiful, and the stories involve situations which are highly unlikely. Even the series' which try to present a normal view usually have some fantastic or unusual edge to them.

There are also literary works that are being written or translated for American audiences. The popular yet controversial *Memoirs of a Geisha* by Arthur Golden is the historical fiction story of a young woman becoming one of the most well known geisha in Japan from 1929 to the present. The book *Battle Royale* by Koushun Takami has also gained acclaim after being translated into English. It's considered to be a modern day *Lord of the Flies*, where high-schoolers are dropped on a deserted island and forced to fight one another to the death. Also, many of the popular manga comic books are being translated, yet still left in the "right to left" reading format familiar to most Asian languages. Among the most popular are *Chobits*, by the art group

Clamp; *Ragnarok*, by Myung-Jin Lee; and *Mars*, by Fuyumi Soryo.

With the digitalization of the world, Asian entertainment imports are drawing American attention and support through the internet at a staggering rate. On *Yahoo!* alone, 481,000 website matches with information on Godzilla can be found. And martial arts movies are viewed as both as an art form and as a fun way to waste an afternoon with friends. Anime series, along with being available on television, can be found at any nearby Suncoast or Best Buy store at reasonable prices, making them accessible and inviting to people. Plus mangas are now available in WaldenBooks stores, and many Asian novels can be found on best seller lists or on recommended reading lists.

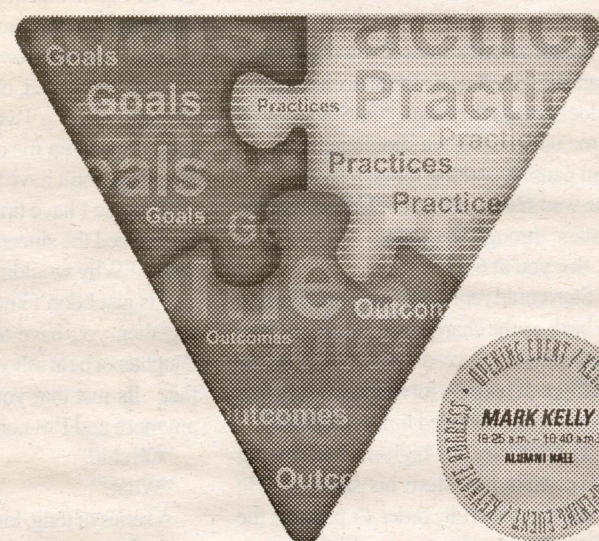
Perhaps the exotic element of Asian media is what draws people in to view these movies, series, and books as something incredibly special. There's no lack of appeal in the actual content after all. The characters are practically perfect, and lead interesting, if not outlandish, lives. They have skills and appearances that generally exceed what is possible in real life, yet live as though it is absolutely normal.

Most of the situations in any of these movies, books, and shows are, in a way, otherworldly. In a time and place that, while similar to our own, has a unique edge to them that makes them seem believable and almost probable. This look into the dreams and fantasy imagery of another culture is what keeps Americans coming back and clamoring for more. After all, everyone wants to fly.



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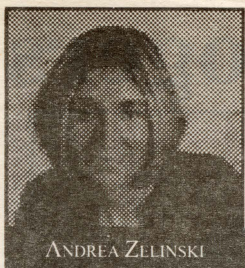


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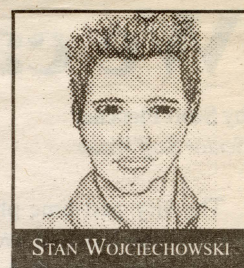
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ANDREA ZILINSKI

2002 ICPA AWARD WINNER

STAN'S LIFE



STAN WOJCIECHOWSKI

Throughout the past issues, we've learned of Stan's well-kept secrets. Further, we've learned of Tori's. Her suspicions about Stan's past and her insecurities of his feelings towards her have begun to drive her mad. Unable to take it anymore, she searched out Crystal, Stan's daughter's mom. Grasping for anything that may help her cope or understand Stan, Tori attempted to dig into Stan's past through Crystal. Catching on to her tricks, Crystal set Tori straight by giving her a lesson on life with Stan. Skillfully revealing his intimacy problems, Crystal challenged Tori's love for him and vice versa. Quite taken aback, Tori thinks Crystal may be right. Keep reading to discover Stan's intimacy dilemma and more.

Stan dropped to the couch as he let his backpack fall to the floor. Stretching, he reached for the telephone on the coffee table.

What's Tori doing? Maybe we could catch a movie tonight.

He picked up the phone and dialed the first five digits of her cell phone before he hung it up.

Damnit. I have night class tonight. Shit. He picked up the phone again and dialed Sid's phone number.

Rin-"What?" demanded a strong, heavy voice.

"It's Stan. Sup, Sid?"

"Nothin. What's up?"

"Not much. Are you going to class tonight?"

"Fuck no," answered Sid. "Are you?"

"Shit," he paused. "The midterm is next Thursday. I really need to go" he trailed off.

"Midterm?! Oh shit," he complained in a thick groan. Stan can feel Sid the wheels turning his his head. "Can I borrow your notes tomorrow?"

Stan sighed, feeling the pressure through the phone receiver. "I would if I had a ride. But as it stands, I can't even get to class, let alone give you my notes. I don't know how the hell I'm going to get there."

"Shit man. I can't fail that midterm," Sid insisted.

"Sid, I'll lend you my notes if you drive me to class," Stan suggested as he lifted his head up to read the clock across the room. "It's 5:30 now. If you pick me up by 6:30, we should get there on time," Stan paused, waiting for an answer.

The line was silent. All he could hear was the irritating static through the phone.

"Okay. See you at 6:30."

Before Stan could reply, Sid hung up. Placing the phone back on the charger in the kitchen, Stan picked up the remote, settled himself back on the couch and flipped channels for a little while before his eyes gave in and allowed him to doze off.

Nearly an hour later, the high-pitched ringing of the phone woke him from his slumber. He stumbled off the couch in order to pick up the phone in time. Nearly tripping over his backpack he made a mad dash to the kitchen.

"Hello," he said in a rush.

"Hey, its me," said a soft, familiar voice.

Stan rubbed his eyes with his free hand. "Tori?" he said through his groggy tone.

"Yeah, its me. What's wrong?"

"Oh, I've been sleeping," he said as he took the cordless phone back into the living room.

"Okay," she paused for a moment. "I thought something was wrong."

"No, nothing."

"Are you sure?"

"Yeah," he said impatiently. What's with her



today?

"Oh. Well, I just wanted to talk to you. We haven't spent that much time together lately, and I got the feeling something was wrong," she paused. "Do you have time to talk?"

"Yeah," he replied, oblivious of the time.

"Good, because I've been feeling like you're forgetting about me or something.

Like you don't have time for me anymore."

"Of course I have time for you!" Stan replied as he realized the sincerity in her

voice. "Why wouldn't I?"

"It's just I don't know. Any time we try to get together, you have to go to work, or see your daughter or be at school. It's not that I don't respect that. Its just that you don't make time for me anymore and I'm not sure why we're toge-

"Oh shit!"

"What?"

A series of long, loud honks invaded the living room from the front driveway. "I really have to go. Sid said he'd give me a ride to class tonight."

"But you just said we could talk-"

"I'm really sorry, but I have to go. I love you. Bye!" he exclaimed as he hung up the phone and put his shoes back on. The honking continued in long, loud stretches. Damnit! Why did I sleep so late?! He slipped his shoes on and fetched his backpack and jacket from the floor.

After locking the front door, Stan dashed down the front steps and approached Sid's black Sunfire. Pulling the passenger door open and throwing his backpack in the back seat, he realized the man in the driver's seat was no one else but Sid's older

brother.

"Hey man, what's up," Stan said as he shut the door. "Where's Sid?"

"He had something to take care of," he said as he flicked his cigarette out the window onto Stan's driveway. "Besides, I have my own shit to take care of at Northeastern."

The drive to school was relatively quiet aside from the pounding speakers behind the seats. Sid's brother sped through the traffic down Foster as Stan discretely clutched the passenger side door.

They reached the campus only moments before Stan's 7:05 class. Realizing the time, Sid's brother became restless looking for a parking spot. They drove up and down the crowded isles of the lot, competing with neighboring cars for a spot.

"Why don't you just park in the lot by the science building? There were some spots in the back," Stan suggested.

Sid's brother flashed him a hard look. "Kiddo, last time I checked, I was driving."

Stan sunk down in the seat, wishing he would find a parking spot already.

Just then, they passed a woman walking the opposite way through the Fine Arts building lot.

"Now that's what I'm talking about," Sid brother said under his breath as he sped down the lane to circle back and follow the student. Turning the car around, he caught up to the woman as she reached her car. She took her time unlocking the door and settling down in the car. "Come on bitch. Any day now!" Sid's brother yelled inside the car. After a few moments, the woman got out of her car, locked the door, and headed back towards

the building. "You stupid wh--"

"There's a spot," Stan pointed out. Two isles over, a man in a dark jacket was opening up his car door. "If we hurry, we can get it."

Sid's brother sped down the parking lot and swiftly turned down the isle. "

"Shit, I think that guy over there is waiting for it too," Stan observed.

"Well, that tool isn't gonna get it."

"What?"

Before Sid's brother could reply, the car pulled out of the space, leaving a vacant spot wanted by Sid's brother and his opponent. He slammed his heavy foot on the gas and attempted to slip into the spot. The opposite car, a 99 Grand Am didn't wait ether. Both cars frantically raced towards the narrow sliver of pavement. The nose of the Grand Am began to slide into the spot when Sid's brother smashed the front of the car with the Sunfire.

Stan's head flew forward, nearly hitting the dashboard. "Shit!" he exclaimed as he gained his balance and sat up straight. "You f*cking hit hi--"

Before Stan had finished, Sid's brother had jumped out of the car and began yelling at the guy in the Grand Am. The driver opened up the door and yelled back. Before Stan blinked, Sid's brother had hopped over the damaged cars and grabbed the driver.

Measuring to about the same height and build, the driver of the Grand Am fought back. He pushed Sid's brother off him and turned back to his car. Sid's brother charged at the guy, pushing him against the car. He began to furiously hit the guy in the face. The driver found the energy to push Sid's brother off of him and kick him in the legs.

Meanwhile, a crowd had gathered around the incident. Over a dozen people stood and watched as the two men continue to beat the hell out of each other.

Stan had now gotten out of the car and entered the crowd. He momentarily contemplated trying to help Sid's brother, and then realized that it probably wouldn't help the situation without getting his own ass knocked around.

The two men were now boiling with rage. Sid's brother's mouth was dripping blood from the right side while the driver of the Grand Am had a bloody nose. Neither seemed to care nor acknowledge their injuries. Sid's brother, at a point of fury, charged the other guy and decked him across the face. As the guy lowered his head to take in the blow, Sid's brother kneed him in the stomach and pushed him to the ground.

OH shit! This is getting out of hand!

Sid's brother starting violently kicking the guy on the ground when a Public Safety police car pulled up to the crowd.

"What the hell is going on here!" yelled of the officer as Sid's brother backed away from the guy and raised his hands in the air.

"Just get it over with," Sid's brother replied as he turned and put his hands on the hood of the car. "I've been through this shit before, kid," he said to the officer. "Just get it over with."

The officer then called for backup. Within minutes, the parking lot was overflowing with police cars. Sid's brother continued to stand with his hands on the hood of the car until an officer put handcuffs on his wrists.

Sid's brother turned to Stan as he dropped the car keys for Stan to pick up, "make sure you get that damn parking spot."



"Look Mom! We made BIG money!"

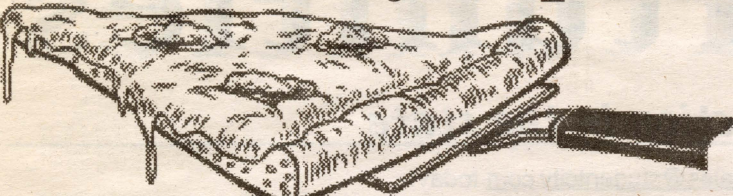
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The history of pizza



by Cecilia Carboni
Staff Writer

Pizza is one of the staples of the American diet. Most people, however, do not seem to wonder where it came from and how much it has evolved. There have been historical facts that suggest the Egyptians, the Greeks, and the Romans all ate a variation of what we recognize as pizza crust nowadays. It was basically a flat bread topped with herbs and vegetables to add flavor.

In the Middle Ages, the bread was made with ingredients available to the poorer populace. It was generally made from such things as wheat flour, olive oil, lard, and natural herbs. It was during this time that cheese was added, to flesh out the meal. Actually, the usage of mozzarella cheese was the result of an invasion. Asian groups brought water buffaloes with them when they came to conquer Italy, and the tradition of mozzarella being the official pizza cheese began. Even today, mozzarella cheese made from the milk of water buffalos is considered the best in the world.

But pizza had not achieved it's full status as the fast food of choice yet. Pizza would undergo yet another revolution as the wheels of history turned further. The introduction of the tomato by European explorers returning from Peru and Mexico gave way to new, saucier options. Originally thought to be poisonous, that idea was slowly overcome due to people eating them and not dying, and the tomato quickly became an important part of European cuisine. The city that lead the way in the art of pizza making was Naples, starting in the 17th and 18th centuries. But there were no pizzeria franchises early on.

Young boys would walk around with small tin stoves, calling out to attract customers to their fresh baked wares. The first pizzeria opened in 1830, named "Antica Pizzeria Port Alba." This historic establishment is still open today.

But the pizza still hadn't evolved to it's current, modern state during the 18th century. The credit goes to Rafaele Esposito for perfecting the round, edible masterpiece. He worked at a pizzeria and is known as the maker of what has come to be the standard pizza we have today. The story has slight variations. What is known is that Rafaele baked a special pizza for King Umberto I and Queen Margherita of Italy.

Some variations state that they were visiting the pizzeria, while others say that he was summoned to the royal court to serve it. Regardless, Rafaele wanted the pizza to be patriotic in nature, and so he used tomato sauce, mozzarella cheese, and basil to create the red, white, and green Italian flag. The Queen fell in love with it and it was decreed the standard. On an interesting note, the pizzeria still has a thank you note hanging on the wall from the head of the royal household. Talk about celebrity endorsement.

Over the years, pizza emigrated over to America along with the people who made it. It's developed distinguishing variations from region to region. Regardless of how pizza made, it is a favorite among many cultures and perhaps one of the world's most widespread and oldest culinary dishes. The actual word "pizza" comes from the latin word "picea," which describes the blackening of bread in an oven. But luckily, the majority of pizza-makers try not to make it true to name.

Dyslexia, and what it really is

by Anne Johnson
Staff Writer

What do Vincent Van Gogh, Tom Cruise, Napoleon, Albert Einstein, Cher, General George Patton, Lewis Carroll, Whoopi Goldberg, Harry Belafonte, Agatha Christie, and Greg Louganis have in common? This group of famous individuals, in addition to being known for their talents, have also been reported in the media as having dyslexia.

The word dyslexia literally means "poor language" and was first described as a visual problem over a hundred years ago by W. Pringle Morton in England. Today, dyslexia is considered a disorder that affects the ability of an individual to process information such as reading, spelling, writing, and math. It is sometimes called the "hidden handicap" because its symptoms are hard to identify. Generally, people with dyslexia are of average to above-average intelligence but do not test well, have difficulty with reading, writing, spelling, reading comprehension, handwriting, and organizing written material. These individuals sometimes have difficulty with directions, putting their thoughts into words, and are easily distracted. Poor motor skills have also been associated with dyslexia.

Eventually, it was discovered that dyslexic individuals did not necessarily have visual problems and that dyslexia was actually of neurological origin. What was found was that dyslexics actually lack the ability to break down words into "phonemes" which are what scientists call the smallest segments of speech. For example, the word "cat" is made up of three phonemes: "kuh," "aah," and "tuh." While most individuals are able to hear these three sounds, dyslexics only hear one sound. The "sounding out" process is essential when learning to read and this is perhaps where dyslexic individuals begin to find difficulty. New brain imaging technology has further shown that the brains of dyslexic individuals work much harder to understand and analyze sound patterns.

There have been many advances in the treatment of dyslexia. One successful program is the Lindamood Phoneme Sequencing program that helps students in their inability to break down words by helping them identify how sounds feel when they are made. Also effective has been Davis Dyslexia Correction Program, which has provided help with writing skills. Computers, with their spell-check and voice synthesizing features, seem to be an excellent resource for dyslexics.

Early detection is very helpful and promising studies in Finland have scientists closer to developing tools for the discovery of the early signs of dyslexia. Parents will have to become advocates for their children and must look for early signs of falling behind in their children. Researchers suggest playing language games with their children such as pig Latin before children enter school. Also recommended is the reading of the books of Dr. Seuss, as the author's rhyming and wordplay will help children understand the sounds of language.

Our educational system places such an emphasis on reading and writing to measure achievement that unfortunately, dyslexic individuals have had severe blows to their self-esteem as a result of testing and performing poorly throughout their academic careers. Girard J. Sagmiller relates his frustration, "being dyslexic is like running a 100 meter race. In your lane you have hurdles, but no one else does. You feel that is unfair but you try running like the others anyway." Raising self-esteem is an especially important step in the education of dyslexic students, as is getting the proper tutoring and counseling in study practices. Dyslexia does not make anyone less of a person, as the aforementioned list of formidable figures will attest, but it will make the person have to work harder to understand and wade through what others may get to more easily. This has often led to the dyslexic person striving harder than anyone else, and achieving far greater things than they expected because of their perseverance.

Common qualities of dyslexics

Not sure what symptoms to look for? Check out these common traits to see if you may be dyslexic.

General

- ☐ High IQ, yet may not test well academically
- ☐ Tests well orally, but not written
- ☐ Feels dumb
- ☐ Has poor self-esteem
- ☐ Hides or covers up weaknesses with ingenious compensatory strategies
- ☐ Easily frustrated and emotional about school reading or testing

Vision, Reading, and Spelling

- ☐ Reading or writing shows repetitions, additions, transpositions, omissions, substitutions, and reversals in letters, numbers and/or words.

Writing and Motor Skills

- ☐ Trouble with writing or copying
- ☐ Pencil grip is unusual
- ☐ Handwriting varies or is illegible
- ☐ Clumsy, uncoordinated, poor at ball or team sports
- ☐ Difficulties with fine and/or gross motor skills and tasks
- ☐ Can be ambidextrous, and often confuses left/right, over/under

Math and Time Management

- ☐ Has difficulty telling time, managing time, learning sequenced information or tasks, or being on time.
- ☐ Computing math shows dependence on finger counting and other tricks
- ☐ Knows answers, but can't do it on paper.
- ☐ Can count, but has difficulty counting objects and dealing with money.
- ☐ Can do arithmetic, but fails word problems;
- ☐ Cannot grasp algebra or higher math.

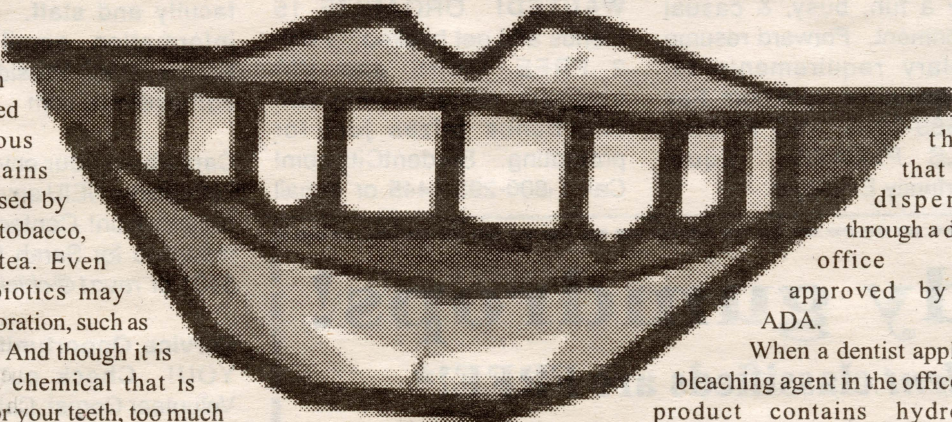
The perfect smile hides many things

by Shana Stone
Opinions Editor

In American society there are many people that continually try to improve their appearance through different means. People will get nose jobs, tummy tucks, lip injections, and the ever-prevalent Botox to smooth out lines in different areas of the face. With all that said, there are also plenty of people looking to perfect their smile. We all notice people's teeth after all, especially when someone speaks, smiles, or laughs. We see their teeth and may notice hidden flaws; be it a chipped tooth, spaces between the teeth, or even an overbite. Another flaw that is distinct and noticeable, though minor due to it's cosmetic nature, is the discoloration of the teeth. But no one wants to flash a Harvest Gold-colored smile at anyone, and therefore a quick fix is constantly sought to solve this problem. And depending on the amount of time and money one may want to pay, there are some options available to the orally upset.

Tooth discoloration can be caused by various factors. Stains may be caused by age, colas, tobacco, coffee, or tea. Even some antibiotics may cause discoloration, such as tetracycline. And though it is touted as a chemical that is beneficial for your teeth, too much fluoride may cause teeth to change color. There are many different remedies to create a brighter, whiter smile though, so don't despair. The key though, is not to go too white or your teeth may look completely fake. After all, teeth are not supposed to be perfectly white; teeth should have some yellowness to them unless your profession is being a game show host. Some of the methods of tooth whitening are at a dentist's office, at home bleaching, and whitening toothpastes.

The American Dental Association (ADA) has some guidelines and information for



people to follow before and during their whitening procedure. On their website, ADA.org, they state that whitening products can be categorized into two major groups. One is peroxide-containing whiteners or bleaching agents, and the second is whitening toothpastes (dentifrices). When a dentist dispenses products to be used at home they usually contain 10% carbamide peroxide, which is the most commonly used active ingredient in tooth whiteners that are for home use. There are bleaches that can be purchased over the counter to whiten teeth, but only

those that are dispensed through a dental office are approved by the ADA.

When a dentist applies a bleaching agent in the office, the product contains hydrogen peroxide in concentrations ranging from 15 to 35 percent. They are sometimes used in conjunction with a light or laser, which quickens the whitening process. There are also a few whitening toothpastes that are approved by the ADA. These toothpastes contain polishing or chemical agents to improve the appearance of the teeth by removing surface stains through gentle polishing, or some other non-bleaching process.

Before beginning an at-home procedure of tooth whitening it is best to speak to your dentist, as misuse of tooth whitening products can cause permanent dental

damage. He or she can advise you on what method is the best to proceed with, and can outline the risks and possible problems. There is no guarantee that a whitener will correct all types of discolorations, especially the over-the-counter options. Plus, there are so many different types of bleaches on the market. There are porcelain veneers, bleaching trays, gels, toothpastes, etc. It may be hard to decide what is the best route to go, but always look into all possible options, and above all, get a professional opinion before proceeding with any type of cosmetic dentistry. It may not be for everyone and tooth whitening does have its drawbacks and horror stories, much like any other cosmetic procedure. Therefore, it is best to be cautious before running out today and buying a store-brand tooth bleach that was recently advertised to work miracles on your less than sparkling teeth. Always read the directions and remember: if it seems to good to be true, it probably is.

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Wanted

WANTED! Students to write for NEIU's Latino publication, "Que Onde Sola." Interested? Call ext. 4583 of visit E-041

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Organizations

Hip Hop is Art. It's everything around us consisting of vision, vocals, music, rhythm, B-Boys, DJ's, emcees..... Your opinions! Your Input! Join the Hip Hop Organization every Thursday 1:40-2:40 p.m. in room FA-247.

The Black Heritage Gospel Choir is extending its membership to all NEIU students. Come join us in singing songs of praise. Tues. and Thurs., 1:40-2:50, FA 152. -President T'challa Williams

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

The Muslim Student Association meets on Thursday FA 107 and Friday Prayer/ is held in CLS 2094 at 1:15 until 2:00.

Feminist Majority Leadership Alliance: meets on Tuesdays in CLS-2094 at 1:40. To join listserve, send a message to femajority-l@neiu.edu with your name and e-mail address.

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 Pamela Barnes, BMC President, at p-barnes@neiu.com

Care about your environment? Let's start a NEIU environmental organization! Contact or leave message for Sarah (773) 561-5131 or 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.

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Fraternities, sororities, clubs, student groups. Earn \$1,000-\$2,000 this semester with a proven Campus Fundraiser 3 hour fundraising event. Our programs make fundraising easy with no risks. Fundraising dates are filling quickly, so get this the program. It works. Contact Campus Fundraiser at (888) 923-3238, or visit www.campusfundraiser.com

Hillel presents "Purim Comedy Hour" with comedian Aaron Freeman. Thursday, March 13 in SU-003.

Personals

MQ: You are so much more to me than you can imagine. Through thick and thin, I'll be yours. I'm here to help you through. I'm loving you.

I'm looking for a girl who is nice, will talk while walking with me on the beach in the summer, and ... ahh, who am I kidding, I want a girl who will go to the bar and get smashed with me. Then have wild hot love making in my house. - M.G.D.

My apology to the world around me: I have seen the bottom and I'm going straight to the top. To Biviana, Samantha, Mom thank you and I love you guys. Andrea, Emily, and the rest of the people at the best paper on the planet, I am tired of trying to be something I'm not, so thanks for being so gracious while I pretended to be something else. I wish I could take it all back, but now I will make sure there won't be anything else I need to.

To my surprise, you were much more than you appeared to be. You are smart, capable, and a chess player. Not to mention looking like a Greco-Roman statue. I am in quiet awe, despite the previous problems we have had.

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