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## Independent- Apr. 13, 2004

Andrea Zelinski

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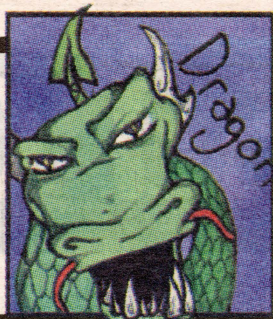
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Tuesday, April 13th, 2004 Volume 20 Issue 15

# INDEPENDENT

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Illinois

## NEWS

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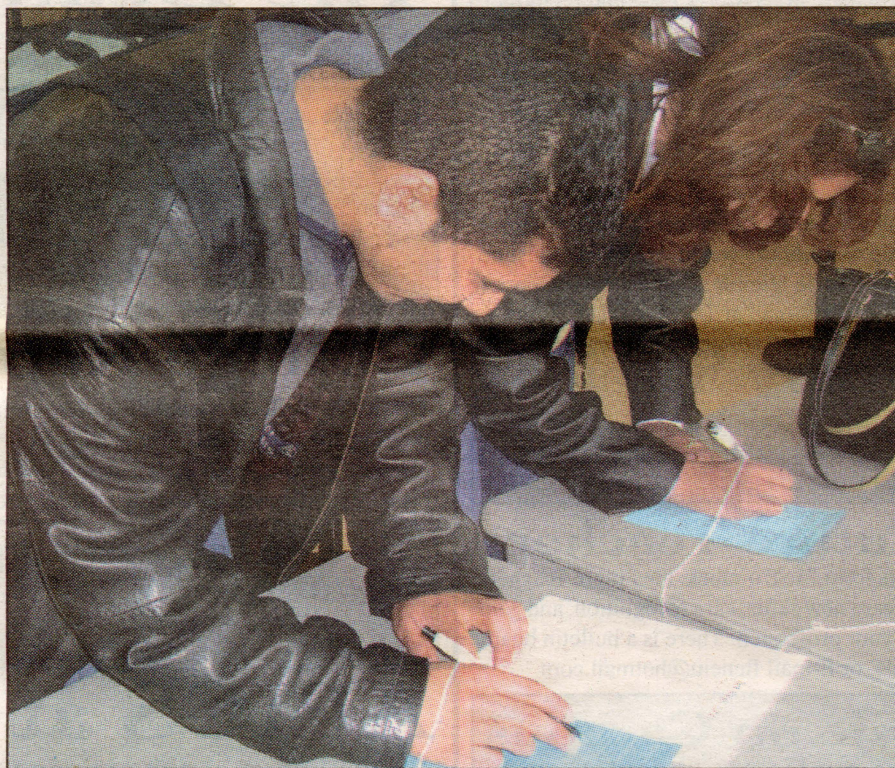


"Walt Sommers told me there was nothing they could do about people voting more than once."

-Juan Martinez, Presidential Candidate

## Vision Party cruises

Young, Otero, Anarwala and Long take executive offices, new IBHE Rep. Nazario  
Rose abandons presidential bid to campaign for surprising runner-up Juan Martinez



Student Government Elections were hotly contested. 1,400 students voted like those above, and candidates were gracious in defeat and victory. The whole story on the election continues on pages 4 and 5.

"I'd just like to thank everybody for getting the chance to serve them."

-President Elect  
Kendra Young



photos by Cecilia Carboni

## Fire causes traffic snarl

by Tom Robb  
Co-News Editor

Fire engulfed an Asian food warehouse in the 5800 block of N. Pulaski, snarling traffic and shutting down Pulaski from Foster to Peterson for part of the day on Monday April 5<sup>th</sup>.

The fire was a five-alarm blaze and a full one-third of the on duty Chicago Fire Department responded.

The *Independent* spoke with NEIU Public Safety officers who stated that the fire did not affect Northeastern other than with regard to traffic. NEIU Public Safety Officers did assist the Chicago Police Department in controlling and re-routing traffic.

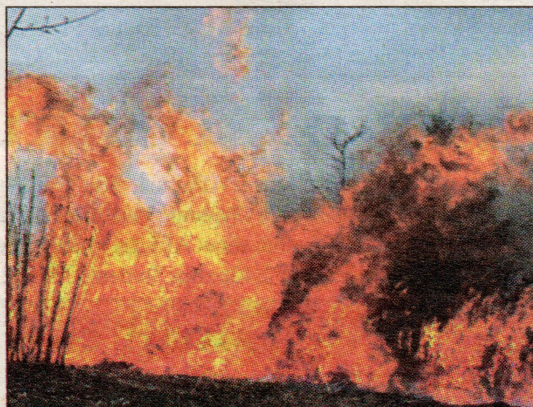
The blaze began at 12:30am Monday morning. ABC News quoted Pat Howe of the Chicago Fire Department stating "This was a huge fire and took a lot to get the water to the fire. It took a lot of manpower to get in." The cause of the blaze is still under investigation.

## No worries about scorched earth; "safe" fire subdued



photo by Andrea Zelinski

Students and professors gather near the PE Building to see ecology in action, courtesy of the Environmental Studies Department.



photos by Hamibal Tehrani

by Staci Sonenthal  
Office Assistant

On Tuesday April 6, the Geography and Environmental Studies Department conducted an ecological burn. This burn was sponsored by the Geomaniacs (Geography Club), and has been a tradition in years past.

The burn consisted of some areas between the WTTW Channel 11 television station and the PE building. The burn, however, was controlled. Neighbors, as well as the fire department, Public Safety, and the community were notified by committee workers.

The leader of this event, Mr. Bill Howenstine, started this ecological burn tradition many years ago. Mr. Howenstine has come out of retirement to take part and be leader of this project.

Part of this event was attended by the Fire Department as a result of concerned neighbors that were unable to be notified about this controlled burn.

However, Public Safety had everything under control and was on site, along with the committee workers, ensuring the event would be as successful as planned.

No people, buildings or other land on Northeastern's campus were affected, only the see Ecofire, page 9





#### Office Hours

Monday-Thursday

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

Friday

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

#### Telephones

Editorial (773) 442-4577

Advertising (773) 442-4585

Fax (773) 442-4579

#### E-mail

neiu\_independent@yahoo.com

**Andrea Zelinski** Chief Editor

**Brian Rohloff** Associate Editor

#### Franklin Silencieux

Opinions Editor

**Jenny Lada**

News & Features Editor

**Tom Robb**

News Co-Editor

**Chad Nelson**

REV Editor

#### Patrick O'Brien

Production Manager

**Cecilia Carboni**

**Duncan Macnab**

Production Editors

**Len Grayes**

Photo Editor

**Joe Hertel**

Copy Editor

#### John Bracich

Business Manager

**Jonathan Gronli**

Distribution Manager

**Staci Sonenthal**

Office Assistant

#### Michael Wilson

Media Consultant

#### Cartoonists

Cecilia Carboni

Brian Hagy

Jenni Lada

Michelle Zelinski

#### Photographers

Hanibal Tehrani

#### Senior Staff Writers

Benny Boyas

Dan Demchuk

Joe Hertel

Daniel Peikes

Scott Plencner

Atoor Lawando

Dave DeSmedt

#### Staff Writers

Elana Barron

Azucena Beltran

David Cavazos

Juan Diaz

Violette Green

Jonathan Gronli

Amy Harris

Conor Heyback

Mary Meyer

Jessie Moen

Staci Sonenthal

Andrew Valkanas

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Illinois 60625

# Around Campus

## Music Scholarship Auditions

On Tuesday, April 20th 2004 in the Recital Hall, there will be three scholarships up for grabs. The Sachs Memorial, Harold Berlinger and Pianists scholarships will be auditioned for. The auditions will take place from 3 to 5pm. Deadline for application is April 16th, contact Dr. Elyse Mach, extension 5913 for details or visit room FA 136.

## Student Stress-Free Zone

During finals, come to Student Union room 214 and enjoy food games and free massages, and relax between finals. May3-5 from 9am-3pm. School ID is require for admission. Sponsored by the Student Government.

## Business Etiquette Dinner

Dine, learn and socialize! The Business and Management Club presents its 12th annual Business Etiquette Seminar and Dinner. On Saturday, April 17th 2004 at the Ramada Plaza Hotel at 4500 W. Touhy in Lincolnwood. Reserve seats now. Tickets are \$15 for NEIU students, \$35 for non-students. Contact Lynn Payer at extension 6120 or visit CLS 0044A.

## Summer tutoring jobs

The Summer Transition Program prepares high school graduates for a successful transition to college. STP is currently hiring Peer Advisors and Tutors for this summer's eight-week program. Stop by A-111 and schedule an interview. Candidates must be sophomores with a minimum GPA of 3.0. Deadline for applications is April 1, 2004.

## McNair Achievement

The Ronald E. McNair post-baccalaureate program is accepting applications from Juniors and Seniors to participate in its McNair Scholars program. Benefits include an annual \$2,800 research stipend, paid graduate school visits, faculty mentoring and academic and career guidance. Stop by B-141 for details or call 773-442-4253 for details.

## NPB Student Employment

The Programming Board is hiring for several positions, including Outreach Coordinator and Advertising and Promotion Coordinator. Both positions pay up to \$5.95 an hour, with up to 15 hours weekly. Students must be enrolled for 6 credit hours or more to be eligible. Contact Tony Courier with Student Activities at ext. 4661 or E-mail at T-Courier@neiu.edu.

## Group Therapy Sessions

Every Tuesday from 12 PM to 1PM in the Counseling Office, an open-ended group experience where students can talk about issues in a supporting environment. Contact Jane at 773-442-4656 for details.

## Attention Future Teachers

If you're not busy Monday nights from 7 to 8 o'clock, the Future Teachers Club is meeting in CLS 2005. Learn new skills, earn recognition, and gain valuable insight and info about your profession. There is a bulletin board near CLS 3010 with more details, or E-mail ftneiu@hotmail.com

## Mostly Music on Campus

**Friday, April 23 at 8:00 pm,** Mykola Suk performs Liszt's musical vision of *Dante's Inferno: Apres une lecture du Dante* (Fantasia quasi Sonata). Co-sponsored by the Cliff Dwellers Arts Foundation. Tickets \$20 and \$10 for students.

#### Pianist Series:

**April 25 at 4:00 pm,** *Exploring America's Rich Musical Heritage*, with Marie Alatalo on piano, and Julia Bentley, soprano. Seating is **Limited**. Tickets \$25 and \$15 for students.

For more information contact Mostly Music at NEIU at (773) 442-4978.

## Power of Tongue

Women's Services, the Office of Student Affairs & The Women Studies Program present Ge'ylah, a Talented & Dynamic Performance Poet, who will take the audience through 50 works about African American women's history. Thursday, April 29th 1:40 to 2:40pm in Student Union 214.

## Spring Workshop Series

A Conquering Anxiety Test Workshop will be held on Thursday, April 15th 2004 from 1:40pm to 3:00pm, in Room B 152. Reserve your seat by April 13th by calling Michelle Morrow at extension 4606 or Barbara Bales at extension 4612.

## College Democrats

The NEIU College Democrats are coming to campus soon, and you can get involved by contacting Cesar at cesaratwork@yahoo.com or Jeremy at etheridge2@yahoo.com for details.

## Honoring Secretaries

President Salme Steinberg invites the university community to a reception honoring NEIU secretaries in the Golden Eagles room from 2:30pm to 3:30pm on Wednesday, April 21st.



## SGA Finance Meeting

The Student Government Association is holding its Finance Committee Meeting in CLS 2005 on Thursday, April 22nd at 1:40pm.

## Dance Talent Waivers

Open to all students, an audition for talented dancers to use their skills to earn tuition waivers. Tuesday, April 27th at 1:45pm in the Fine Arts Recital Hall. Routines will be two minutes long. For information, E-mail Venetia Stifler at venetias@comcast.net.

## Women's Self-Defense Course

Course is WSP 105-41 Self-Defense: Model Mugging. Reference # 13505 for 1 Credit Hour. The course consists of three six-hour sessions facilitated by Martha Thompson of IMPACT Self-Defense and the NEIU Sociology Department. Contact Women's Studies at extension 4552 for details.

## The Dean is in...

Speak with the Dean of Students Michael Kelly, in the Village Square on Thursday, April 29 during activity hour.

## Pine Ridge Donations

Class SWK 314 is collecting donations of canned foods and other foodstuffs for Youth Struggling for Survival (YSS), to help ease suffering on the Pine Ridge Reservation in South Dakota. Drop donated items near the Information desk in Village Square, or call Carrie at 773-216-7742. For more info [www.youthstrugglingforsurvival.org](http://www.youthstrugglingforsurvival.org)

## College Republicans

The NEIU College Republicans are organizing on campus, and are offering the opportunity to students to bring conservative speakers to campus, get campaign experience and debate the Democrats. For info, NEIUrepublicans@yahoo.com or [www.proudrepublicans.com](http://www.proudrepublicans.com)

## Activists 4 Americans

Community service, workshops and work with undocumented students to improve education skills. Meetings are every Tuesday and Thursday in B-158 during activity hour.

## APICS at NEIU

The NEIU chapter of APICs presents Eileen Mcconnell of Comcast on Tuesday, April13th at 1:40pm in FA 202. Management strategy and operations will be some of the topics discussed.

## UPI Members Meeting

General membership meetings of the University Professionals of Illinois NEIU Chapter will be held on April 14th from 3-4:30pm in CLS 3105 & April 15th from 1:40 to 3pm in the lower level library classroom.

## Stage Center Theater

Campus theater presents "The Game of Love and Chance," a comedy written by Pierre de Marivaux, a play about a couple who come face to face with social class issues and true love. Play runs from April 8 -10, 15 -17, and 22- 24 all performances are at 7:30. Tickets are \$10 for the General public and \$8 for students. Free for NEIU students with ID's. Call the Box Office at (773) 442-4274.

## 2004 Student Awards

On Thursday, April 15th 2004, the university will honor students who have distinguished themselves this academic year. A reception will be held after the ceremony. The program begins at 7pm in Alumni Hall.

## Saluting Class of 04'

The Office of Alumni Affairs will host its annual graduation celebration event on Monday, April 19th 2004. This event is a one-stop information fair and reception. To register, call the office at 773-442-4205 or E-mail [alumni@neiu.edu](mailto:alumni@neiu.edu)

#### Bughouse:

**NEIU's Online Community**  
[bughouse.neiu.edu](http://bughouse.neiu.edu)



## "Instituting" more classes on weekends this fall

by Andrea Zelinski  
Chief Editor

After a year of planning, the university will address the shortage of classrooms and courses by implementing a program expanding the number of classes available called the "Weekend Institute for Professional Development," starting in the Fall 2004 semester, according to Lawrence P. Frank, Provost.

The Weekend Institute is an initiative implementing more Friday and Saturday classes, expanding the school week. The additional classes offered will specialize in Pre Education and Professional Studies.

"As you know, we are very crowded, and we... have a lot of students who don't get the classes they want to register for," said Frank.

The expansion is designed to add sections and times for busy students. "We're trying to make more classes available to people who we think are underserved right now," said Frank.

"If we're going to have serious expansion in the number of sections, its going to have to be in places where we have time slots that honestly, probably are not people's first choice but that are available. And those primarily are early in the morning and on Saturday," said Frank. Ten to twelve sections have been added to the fall schedule of classes.

Two tracks will be offered focusing on Pre Education and Professional Studies. Ten courses will be included in each track in order to receive a certificate of

completion. According to Frank, courses in the Pre-Education track include all classes required for the College of Education.

According to the *Schedule of Classes, Fall 2004*, courses are "selected to enhance [students'] skills in both the business and organizational environment." Offerings include writing, computing, public administration and non-business accounting.

Both programs will consist of 10 courses for a total of 30 credit hours. According to Frank, students finishing the program will receive a document of completion. The classes will be applicable towards a Bachelor's degree.

In light of budget cuts, pay for instructors will be allocated by tuition. "The additional cost of adding these sections would be borne by tuition, so its not coming from someplace else," said Frank.

Classes will be assigned to professors by the deans of the respective colleges and departments. "In the first year particularly, it's not going to be much of a change because, of course, we already do courses on Saturday. So, this is just going to be a relatively small number of additional sections on Saturday," said Frank.

Due to the added classes, student facilities such as food services will be opened on Saturdays. Other student facilities though, such as advising or health services, have not been solidified.

The Weekend Institute will be available to the Main Campus, Center for Inner City Studies Campus, and El Centro Campus.

## Teachers Union will not back down given state budget cuts

### *Governor slashes budget by 2% following 17% decrease over past two years*

by Andrea Zelinski  
Chief Editor

Given the 2% public higher education cuts from Governor Rod R. Blagojevich's budget proposal for the Fiscal Year beginning July 1, 2004, Northeastern administration and the University Professions of Illinois (UPI) may face a more challenging negotiation.

After 2 years of accepting low salary increases in order to aid the University through economical problems, UPI teachers' contracts will be up for negotiation this year.

According to Edmund Hunt, Acting President of the Northeastern Chapter of UPI, the unions still expects to be given a substantial raise.

"The problem is when you cut all of the fat, then the only thing left to cut is flesh and bone, muscle and bone...two percent doesn't sound like much, but two percent of muscle is a lot, it's not the same as losing two percent of fat," said Hunt.

According to a letter from President Salme Steinberg to members of the University Community dated March 3, 2004, the Governor's budget proposal includes "overall General Revenue Funds reductions added up to about 17%...over two years."

"[State Legislatures] sorta say, well, who cares... we cut you before and you're still teaching classes so it must not have done any damage," said Hunt on state budget proposal.

While the budget may be reduced

from the state, Hunt insists salary, as well as class assignment will still be addressed.

"We have to ask for a fair salary. We have to ask for a fair work load, because if we don't, our university loses people. And it loses the best people. People go somewhere else," said Hunt.

According to Steinberg's letter, she has "every confidence that now, as always, the university and the union negotiating teams will bargain in good faith and work together within the parameters defined by labor law."

The negotiations will begin at the end of April.

## Professors fight for higher ed in Springfield

by Duncan Macnab  
Production Editor

This past March 24<sup>th</sup>, 150 representatives, sponsored by the University Professionals of Illinois, traveled to the Illinois state capitol in an attempt to lobby for more money for colleges and universities across Illinois.

Two NEIU representatives, in a "Stop the Bleeding Campaign," went to try to stop Governor Rod Blagojevich from any further cuts. Others in attendance were the Illinois Education Association, Service Employees International Union, and a few of whom were students.

"Almost a 10% decrease in [NEIU's] budget compared to what it was in 2002," according to Professor John Murphy, will be the cause of the proposed two percent cut in the state's budget. Murphy added that this is the major reason for the tuition increase.

Murphy is involved with circulating petitions against this cut, which students are encouraged to sign as well. Also, he attempting a letter writing process that students are welcome to join. The school will not be able to find out the results of their lobbying until the end of this month.

Murphy added, "If any students are concerned about rising tuition, lack of needed classes, or over crowding of classes, [they] should contact their elected official." Murphy is worried that NEIU has a very weak voice at the lobbying event, and will not have the appropriate leverage to create more funding for NEIU.

He also added that students can mail Governor Blagojevich at 100 W. Randolph St. Suite 16-100, Chicago, Illinois 60601; or they can email at [governor@gov.state.il.us](mailto:governor@gov.state.il.us)



Patrick O'Brien  
FirstThingNEIU@yahoo.com

## First Things First...

## "There's still work to be done"

For 19 years, Jackie Harper has called Northeastern home in one capacity or another. In June, Harper is stepping down from her post as Director of Women's Services and the Returning Adult Program.

The *Independent* had the opportunity to sit down with Harper and ask her about the Northeastern she has seen evolve since she first stepped

foot on campus, and about the relationships and connections she's made over the years.

The mission of Women's Services is to serve and support women and foster an atmosphere that expands the possibilities for women students.

Harper also stressed that the Returning Adult Program had an important role in building a diverse and unique experience for students,

as these returning students often have interesting stories to tell and special contributions to make to the university community.

Harper also sees a campus that has become a place for lasting relationships and connections, a statement that belies the theory that this commuter campus has no student life beyond the classroom. "I think there's more happening outside the classroom," she observed.

Harper then discussed her involvement with student groups such as the Feminist Majority Leadership Alliance and Gay Lesbian Bisexual Alliance, and some projects they've supported, such as the Pathways to Peace Program and The Clothesline Project.

The Clothesline Project is the touring display of domestic violence and child abuse survivors, who create t-shirts to confront the demons of these crimes.

Harper also commented on the H.O.M.E controversy of last fall, as she accompanied several members of her department upstairs to support students who had confronted and began to debate the two men whose anti-homosexuality stance had drawn the ire of students.

Harper was direct about what

H.O.M.E's presence meant to this campus: "It's an opening; it invites other people to go and put up signs with name calling and scrawled messages. It [H.O.M.E on campus] sort of says to people, it's legitimate to do this kind of thing."

Asked if this was a safe campus, Harper said the situation was "mixed" for students, and she thought that some number of students could feel "invaded or harassed, or unsafe."

"I think in the last two years gay students have become more active. When they first started to organize a GLBA, people would tear down the signs."

When asked about women and their safety on campus, both intellectually and physically, Harper said that students bringing about awareness of womens issues was much more effective than anything the administrative departments could do.

Then the question was posed to Harper: has anything changed much since she walked onto campus for NEIU women?

"I hear fewer complaints about the faculty and staff. And I'm not sure if that's because things have changed... maybe it's a natural turnover."

"Younger faculty come... and

they're more likely to have egalitarian views about women in a learning community. It's part of the changing order of things. That doesn't mean I don't think there isn't work to be done."

Harper then talked about what happens when gender bias and harassment become a part of the classroom: "I think it has a stifling, a dampening effect."

When faced with gender bias in the classroom, women have choices, according to Harper.

"You make choices based on the rule of the classroom and the situation, choices you may not be consciously aware of."

"And women shouldn't have to make those choices. But a good climate for women isn't just the absence of this. It has to be proactive."

Harper sees her departure as a semi-retirement, not a farewell. "I'll be teaching a class in the fall, I don't know what else it's going to be. I'm ready to do something different."

"I think maybe the thing I value the most about NEIU is the richness of different experience there is here. I think there's a lot for people to learn here that isn't a part of their formal education."

There's more work to be done, indeed.



Women's Services and Returning Adult Program Director Jacqueline Harper is stepping down after 20 years of service to Northeastern.



# Your Student Government Elections:

## Vision Party slams opponents; Young, Otero win big



President-Elect Kendra Young

by Atoor Lawando  
Senior Staff Writer

### Kendra: New student body president

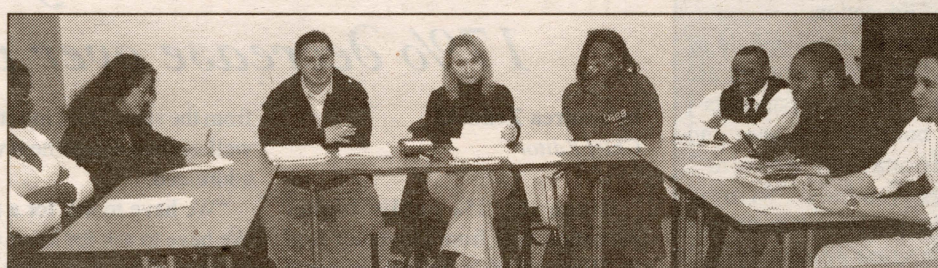
"I'm just so grateful to the student body. I'm glad that so many people came out to vote... I'd just like to thank everybody for giving me the chance to serve them, I'm gonna do the best to serve the students."

These were president Kendra Young's words immediately after the results of the 2004 student body election were announced.

Kendra Young, the presidential candidate for the Student Vision Party, won the presidency with 637 votes, beating Juan Martinez, an independent nominee and her fiercest rival by 137 votes.

As for her campaign issues, Young told the *Independent* that her party ran on a "proven record of action." She went on to list some of the things that her party was able to accomplish on behalf of the students.

These include, according to Young, "...adding courses to the curriculum of the Education Department to help students graduate on time, and [we] were able to negotiate with administration to bring the parking fee that they



Members of the Election Committee, who decide matters of voting discrepancies.

had raised from \$36 to \$90, back down to \$69, the price that it is today."

### Looking Out for Number 2

In the race for the vice presidency, Omar Otero from the Student Vision party came out victorious with 700 votes. His closest rival was Marilu Rodriguez, an independent.

Also running for Vice President were Dennis Franklin, a Sex Team candidate, and Sir Williams of the Student Action League.

New Speaker of the Senate Mohamad Anarwala, a Student Vision candidate, took home 722 votes, beating Alexander Patt, a Student Action League member, by 145 votes.

Evelyn Nazario-Rose from Student Action League won as IBHE-SAC Representative with 667 votes.

Vice President Nazario-Rose told the *Independent* that she was very glad that Student Action League and the candidates running as independent got a chance to work together as a team in this student election.

Running against Nazario-Rose was Elias Lekkas from the Student Vision party.

### To recount or not to recount

Because Nazario-Rose beat Lekkas with such a small margin, only 18 votes, the Student vision Party demanded that a recount be held.

The Election Committee agreed to do a recount for any candidate wishing to have one, as long as a margin of less than 25 votes existed.

Furthermore, the candidate who wished to

have a recount was required by the Election Committee to submit an official request form by 3pm on Monday April 12<sup>th</sup> for a recount to take place on Tuesday April 13<sup>th</sup>.

As to whether or not Lekkas would be submitting a request for a recount to take place, Lekkas had this to say to the *Independent*.

"Basically, I don't want to look like a sore loser, a whiny baby, I lost fair and square, the better woman...the better candidate won. I congratulate her and wish her the best of luck in IBHE."

"The Student Vision Party will keep working for the students, and we'll see you next year."

### Student Vision Party dominates Senate

In the race for senate, 6 out of the 10 open seats went to candidates from the Student Vision Party. The winners from Student Vision were Danielle Vargas, Victor Carrizal, Nicole Johnson, Marilyn Greer, Jason Salamy, and Gus Alrahi.

For those candidates running as independent there were 3 senatorial seats. The candidates running as independent were, Alberto Boni, Luis Mariz, and Lusi Carnala. Miguel Mosqueda took one seat for the Student Action League.

### The race for NPB

The winner of the NPB (Northeastern Programming Board) race was Juan Martinez, an independent, with 357 votes. Omar Otero from the Student Vision Party came in second with 309 votes, and Elias Lekkas also from Student Vision came in third with 196 votes.



Vice-President Elect Omar Otero

photos by Cecilia Carboni

### Election Turnout

1,441 students voted in the Spring 2004 SGA (Student Government Association) elections. 1,441 students out of the approximately 11,000 who currently attend NEIU means that about 13% of NEIU student body voted in this spring's election.

### Accusations of misdeeds

Several sources that wished not to be identified claimed that students were seen voting multiple times, by using different student I.D. cards. Allegations, however, could not be confirmed as of yet by the *Independent*.

Furthermore, independent candidate Juan Martinez brought to the attention of the *Independent* staff that candidates from the Student Vision party, including Kendra Young, were campaigning within a non-campaigning area at CICS.

Martinez had a photograph depicting Ms. Young campaigning in what Martinez has charged "a non-campaigning zone."

Also, Martinez told the *Independent* of the Student Vision Party members, "We have witnesses that say that [they] have voted more than once." More on the election fallout as it happens in the April 27<sup>th</sup> *Independent*.

## Candidate debate missing some faces



Astrid Maldonado

by Violette Green  
Staff Writer

The SGA candidate debate took place on April 1<sup>st</sup> in the Student Union. Candidates that were present were running for SGA President, Vice President, Trustee, Speaker and Senators. Also present were candidates for a position on the Northeastern Programming Board.

It appears that most NEIU students had no interest or did not know about the debate, because the room was composed of mostly candidates and reporters.

Absent from the debate were all members of the Student Vision Party. Kendra Young, Omar Otero and rest of the group running for positions in the SGA did not attend. Gary Gaspard, the current SGA president is a supporter of this party.

A student named Matt, who has no known connection to the SGA, was chosen to moderate the event since there was no official moderator. First up were students Evelyn Nazario-Rose and Juan Martinez who are running for President. Nazario-Rose wants changes on the Finance Committee policies, better academic advising, and to maintain NEIU's reputation. "I am offended when people refer to Northeastern as Northeast," she said. Juan Martinez challenged her, wanting her to "get down to business." He wanted issues like the U-Pass and undocumented students to be looked at, and an emphasis on spending student's money on the students. He ended his turn with, "I just want a chance."

Candidates for Vice President Denise Franklin, Marilu Rodriques and Sir Williams were up next to convince people to vote for their party. Franklin spoke about how it takes awhile to learn how to get things done when one is in the SGA Senate. Marilu Rodriques

spoke quietly about how she feels up to the task and will bring "new ideas," stating that she "wants to represent the students." She is running on the ticket with Juan Martinez. Sir Williams was cut off after he went on at great length about the U-Pass.

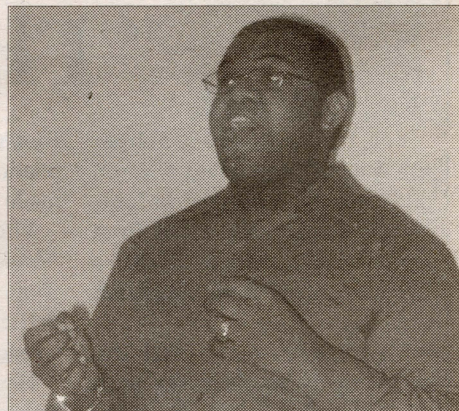
Astrid Maldonado said she is running for Trustee "because of the abuse of student's money." She stated that she wishes to connect with the satellite campuses El Centro and CICS. Others running for Student Trustee are Juan Martinez and Sir Williams. Again issues like the U-Pass were brought up. Martinez believed that "more part-time students should become full times students, and then a lot of other problems can be fixed."

Running for Illinois Board of Higher Education representative, Nazario-Rose explained that there needs to be accountability for the money that is spent. She explained that in the SGA "voices have been stifled."

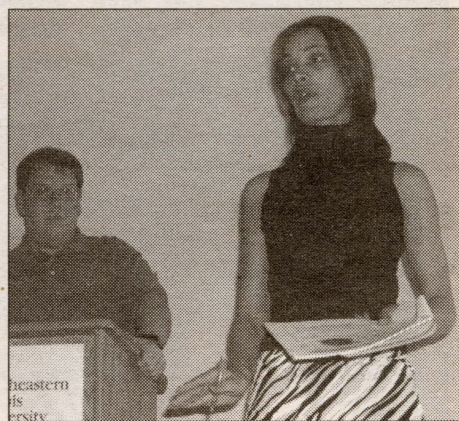
When the time came for questions, the candidates were allowed 30 seconds to answer. Undocumented students: what is going on with them? Martinez said nothing specific except that undocumented students have been at Northeastern for 16 years. Nazario-Rose wants those students protected. Vice presidential candidates were asked, "How are you going to reach out to the students?" "A suggestion box," said Denise Franklin.

Senators were given a time to speak. Much of it was similar to that of their various parties. Finance reform in the SGA, unification of the student body, and students working for students. Some of the candidates running for Senator that were present were Miguel Mosqueda and Luci Carnada.

In the end, the debate was more of candidates speaking on their platforms and demanding change in the SGA.



Sir Williams



Evelyn Nazario-Rose



Denise Franklin



Marilu Rodriques



Juan Martinez



# Races, recounts, rivalries and fallout

## Election Analysis

### Cooperation will be rule of the day

by Patrick O'Brien  
Production Manager

With the results in, and with no prospects of disqualifications and elections being overturned as has been the case in the past, the NEIU Student Government should soon get down to the business of helping students make campus life a little easier.

Kendra Young promises that there will be no more of the bickering that has engulfed past Senate meetings.

Young hopes to share an open relationship with the students, one that benefits individual students, not just organizations and clubs.

The individual student does seem to warrant the attention at NEIU; student organizations have had no trouble acquiring funding for events in this current or any past administrations, and the Finance Committee has turned few if any down for funding.

The spirit of cooperation that Young and her fellow Vision Party Members seem to anticipate will be

forthcoming; with a strong majority on the Senate and all three primary executive positions in their court, the SVP has the mandate necessary to push through just about any initiative it see fit to.

It remains to be seen what that will entail. Young and Vision Party founder Gary Gaspard have pointed to their success in getting the parking appeals process adjusted, to helping get more sections of classes offered, and to improving the school's image.

One thing that will not improve the school's image is the perception that the SGA is run by a dominant group, rather than all the members of the student government.

It is unclear what role, if any, Evelyn Nazario Rose will play as the Illinois Board of Higher Education (IBHE) Representative, but with no voting right in the Senate and precious little clout being left to the Student Action League (SAL), the ball is in the Vision Party's court.

It's time to see if the Vision Party can make good with all the power they can handle.

### Vision Party, Student Action League have history of turmoil

by Patrick O'Brien  
Production Manager

The two parties that faced off in this year's Student Government elections have a spirited past.

The Student Vision Party (SVP) of current SGA President Gary Gaspard has been together for three years in various incarnations, while the Student Action League (SAL), was formed in Spring 2002 by several students to challenge Gaspard's running of the SGA.

Several Honors students, including the graduated Jacob Heiss, founded SAL.

In spring 2002, three SAL candidates swept the three top SGA executive offices. Lukasz Dobrzynski as President, Georgia Logothetis as Vice President and Caleb Avraham as Speaker.

The three did not immediately take office, however, as their victories were disqualified in a controversy involving illegal campaigning.

The SAL charged the Election Committee with fraud, as Sheree Cole and Duene Otero, who ruled to disqualify the SAL's election victory, headed the election commission.

As of this date, Sheree Cole is still a member of the Election Commission.

April and May of 2002 were then just the first battle. In the fall of 2002 Gaspard and his former Vice-President Kendra Young, were elected to the SGA, and squabbles between the SVP and SAL dominated that Senate.

The spring 2003 elections saw the graduations of Dobrzynski, Logothetis and Avraham, and the SAL fielded Evelyn Nazario Rose and Luis Monterroso as its only successful executive candidates, for Vice President and Trustee, respectively.

This last year has seen Nazario-Rose challenge the authority of Gaspard, and both have barely contained their dislike for each other.

With little support in the Senate and fierce opposition from Gaspard and Young, Nazario spent most of her Vice-Presidency practicing partisan

politics.

The Senate was thus divided into polarized camps, with Vision Party members in control of the Northeastern Programming Board, Finance Committee and a majority of Senate seats, and Nazario-Rose, Sir Williams and Michael Magee the last remnants of the Student Action League.

Young herself then ran for her Senate seat and captured the presidency last week, and it remains to be seen what will happen next.

In an E-mail made available to the public, Gary Gaspard listed the following elected members of the Student Vision Party:

#### Executive Offices:

**Kendra Young**  
President

**Omar Otero**  
Vice President

**Mohamed Talha Anarwala**  
Speaker

**Fyeta Long**  
Trustee

**Senators:** **Danielle Vargas**  
**Victor Carrizal**  
**Nicole Johnson**  
**Marilyn Greer**  
**Jason Salamy**  
**Gus Alrahi**

The SAL stands nearly decimated, and only Miguel Mosqueda was elected to the Senate, along with IBHE representative Evelyn Nazario Rose, who withdrew from the race for President.

The SVP also elected four members to the Northeastern Programming Board (NPB): Omar Otero, Elisa Lekkes, Fyeta Long and Jermont Montgomery.

In his E-mail, Gaspard also said that "Hopefully there will be no fighting between the President and Vice-President."

With their opponents mostly defeated, the SVP has a strong grip on the SGA that may or may not be challenged.

The Vision Party seems to have defeated the SAL once and for all.

### Martinez weighs in on election

by Patrick O'Brien  
Production Manager

Presidential challenger Juan Martinez filed several charges against members of the Student Vision Party for election wrongdoing.

"We filed several complaints of sexual harassment," Martinez told the *Independent*.

"Honestly, I think the election was a joke." Of Gary Gaspard, Martinez was adamant, "He's trying to take over the Student Government."

Martinez also complained that members of the Student Vision Party made statements alluding to his group of candidates being, "undocumented students trying to take over the government."

Martinez also alleged that some students may have voted more than once, although it is not clear whether that benefitted anyone in particular.

In an E-mail made available to the public, Gaspard named Lusi Carnalla as a Vision Party member, but Martinez emphatically stated that Carnalla was a member of their group of candidates, running without party affiliation.

Martinez thought it was a ploy to claim part members. "I guess he's doing it to try and intimidate us."

Martinez told the *Independent* that Carnalla was being sexually harassed by Elias Lekkes via Gaspard, who was speaking to Lekkes via a cell phone, according to Martinez, while the groups were campaigning at the Center for Inner City Studies (CICS).

There will be hearings on allegations of election violations on Tuesday, April 13th at 1:40 pm in Student Union Room 214.



photo by Cecilia Carboni

**Juan Martinez alleges that there was rampant voter fraud, with hearings to be held before the Election Committee April 13th.**

## SGA resolves to boycott Coke

by Daniel Peikes  
Senior Staff Writer

A bill was brought before SGA on March 30<sup>th</sup> to boycott coke products on campus. The bill, senate bill 03300401, was introduced by Senator Otowolla.

Currently nearly all soft drink products from vending machines, and a majority in the cafeteria on campus, are supplied under contract with the Coca-Cola Company.

There is an alternative Mexican brand soft drink, Jarritos, available in the

cafeteria, but only during cafeteria hours.

Those sponsoring the boycott claim that Coke has violated human rights at many of its South American bottling plants, most notably the one in Columbia.

The claim states that working conditions are unsafe in these plants and tactics such as physical force, kidnapping, and even murder have been used on union members that have tried to speak up.

Speaking from the gallery in support of the bill was Alfredo Gomez, who is a representative from the international alliance to boycott Coke.

Gomez was quoted as saying, "We are trying to change coke's business practices through positive pressure."

Furthermore he added, "The boycott means that the student stand in solidarity with the Colombian workers," and, "We have no choice on campus, bottom line we should have choice."

The bill was brought to a vote by the sponsor Senator Otowolla, and it was seconded by Vice President Nazario-Rose, who stated "I look forward to working closely with you and members of the Senate will also, to help with your cause."

The bill passed by a vote of 11-0 with only one abstention.

Professor Grammeos spoke briefly also, saying, "As a professor here, getting paid by the state of Illinois, I resent getting this product pushed in my face."

It is reported that DePaul and UIC have also joined in on the boycott. Currently we are in the first phase of the boycott. Updates and developments in this process will be reported upon as they occur.

*Atoor Lawando contributed to this report*



# Cross-campus construction:

by Azucena Beltran  
Staff Writer

It will take up to 17 million dollars and over five months of work to have the garage partially open in the beginning of fall semester. A 50% increase in the number of parking spaces is what is expected when the new parking garage is finished. But this huge project will certainly will not come easy. Work is scheduled to start on April 12, at which time there will be no parking west of the library. Compensation for those lost spaces includes the allowance of Level 2 Parkers to park in Level 1 spaces after 3pm.

Northeastern Illinois University officials will release a statement to staff, students and faculty of the parking conditions for the last three weeks of the semester.

According to Joseph P. Kish, Assistant Vice President for Facilities Management, one bid would have set a deadline by the end of September, while the second one would have cost extra to have an accelerated completion date by the end of August.

However, it was decided that the price for August completion was too high, therefore NEIU has accepted the terms of the University receiving beneficial occupancy of the southern portion (540 spaces) on the 30<sup>th</sup> of September 2004.

If the completion takes longer than expected, Northeastern Illinois University is considering various options as to where fall semester students will park.

The first phase of the arduous construction will be to break the asphalt pavement of parking lot G. There are major water, sewer, and electrical lines underneath the site that need to be re-routed in order to start the foundation work. There is also a heating and cooling line that

## Before



photo from archives



photo courtesy of Facilities Management

## Parking Garage construction starts this week

## After

Starting the second week of April, construction on Lot H will monopolize the entire parking facility.

has to be connected to the garage from the library. This is in order to provide these services to the public safety and parking offices that will be located on the north side of the facility. This phase alone will take several months.

After Commencement, a new phase will start in which the Bryn Mawr entrance will be closed to all traffic except delivery and construction vehicles. Parking lots

surrounding the garage will be modified, and the access road will be widened to three lanes to allow for entry and exit to the new facility. Several other aspects of the parking lots will change as a result of the construction.

The landscape is one of those, as removal of trees and shrubbery has already begun and will continue. Several stop signs will be placed throughout the lots in

order to improve the flow of traffic. Fewer and larger islands will be constructed, and a new concrete pavement will also be placed on the east side of the garage.

The new garage will now have a total of five parking levels, instead of the previously planned four. This new addition explains the 17 million dollar cost that had previously been 15. The facility will have the appearance of an academic

building with open spaces that resemble windows to be placed in order to permit the flow of air and exhaust smoke. One nice feature that will stand out will be the two side by side glass elevators that will run down the side.

Parking permits will NOT be checked at the entrances, but the university may go to a different type of decal than the current hang tag. A decision has not yet been made.

## SWK 314 students are collecting donations for the Pine Ridge Reservation in South Dakota

\*All items will be given to YSS, a non-profit organization

Do you know that...

- The unemployment rate is from 85-95%? There is no industry, technology, or commercial infrastructure to provide employment.
- The median income is \$2,600 per year?
- The school drop-out rate is 70% and the schools are in the bottom 10% of funding by the U.S. Dept. of Education?

Items needed include: flour, sugar, canned goods (i.e. soups and chili), school supplies, and plastic reusable cereal bowls and cups.

\*They may be left in the boxes in Village Square by the information desk or contact Carrie @ (773) 216-7742

for more info: [www.youthstrugglingforsurvival.org](http://www.youthstrugglingforsurvival.org)

This PSA is brought to you by the Independent

## A wild goose chase

Student concerned parking lot construction may disturb mother goose

by Patrick O'Brien  
Production Manager

A NEIU student named Sarah Moloney is concerned that a furry creature near the site of the new parking garage near the library is in danger.

A mother Canadian goose has found a home on a median in parking Lot G, where construction is scheduled to begin on Tuesday and continue for the foreseeable future. The *Independent* visited the area near the southeast corner of Lot G.

And while the bird does appear in good health, she is also very stationary.

Moloney is concerned the goose will be cooked, or paved over. "She bunkered down among the tall grass...not easy to see unless you are looking for her."



photo by Cecilia Carboni

This Canadian goose has laid eggs near the library.

Sarah Moloney made a plea to ensure the goose's safety: "I don't want her to be displaced or harmed in all the mess."

The *Independent* is following up with members of Facilities Management as this report goes to print.



# Projects you'll see from now until Fall

## Auditorium construction delayed by lack of contract

May open  
in Fall after  
lengthy wait

by Azucena Beltran  
Staff Writer

Construction of the auditorium has been going on for several years now, and people are starting to wonder when it will finally be finished.

The *Independent* talked to Joseph P. Kish, Assistant Vice President for Facilities Management, to find out what was delaying the construction.

According to Kish, when the construction first started, there was no specific contract set with R/Rudnick & Co. of Wheeling Illinois, who is the general contractor. Since there was no contract, there is no deadline.

The contractors are set to finish mid-April, but this does not mean the end of all work. The contractors will only finish their part and then NEIU will continue finishing the project.

When asked to comment on this, Kish stated the he himself was not optimistic that the company would keep their prediction on the completion date.

NEIU workers are set to finish by the beginning of July when the first shows are scheduled to start.

Yet only a selected number of productions will be able to use the space for a period of time.

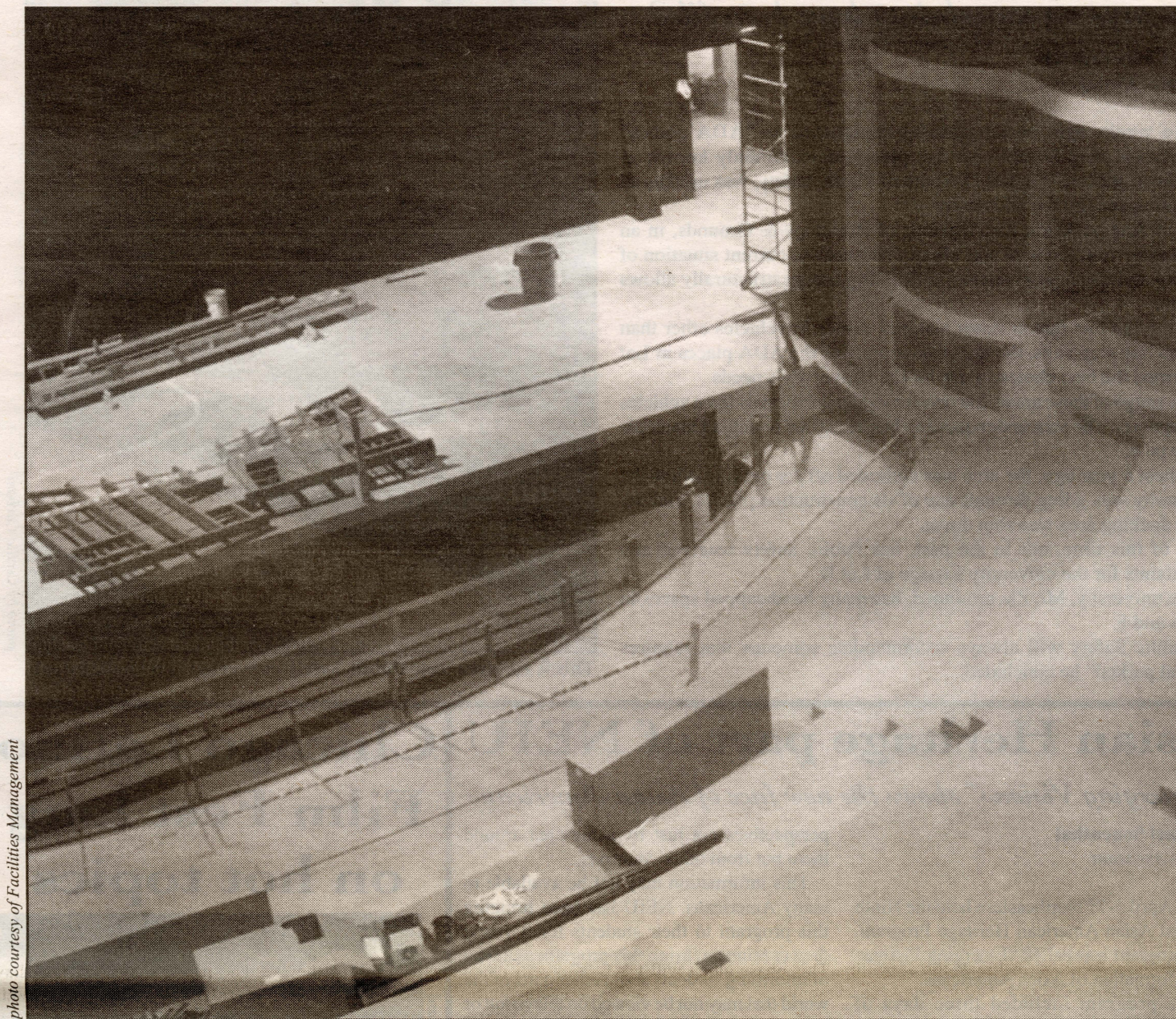


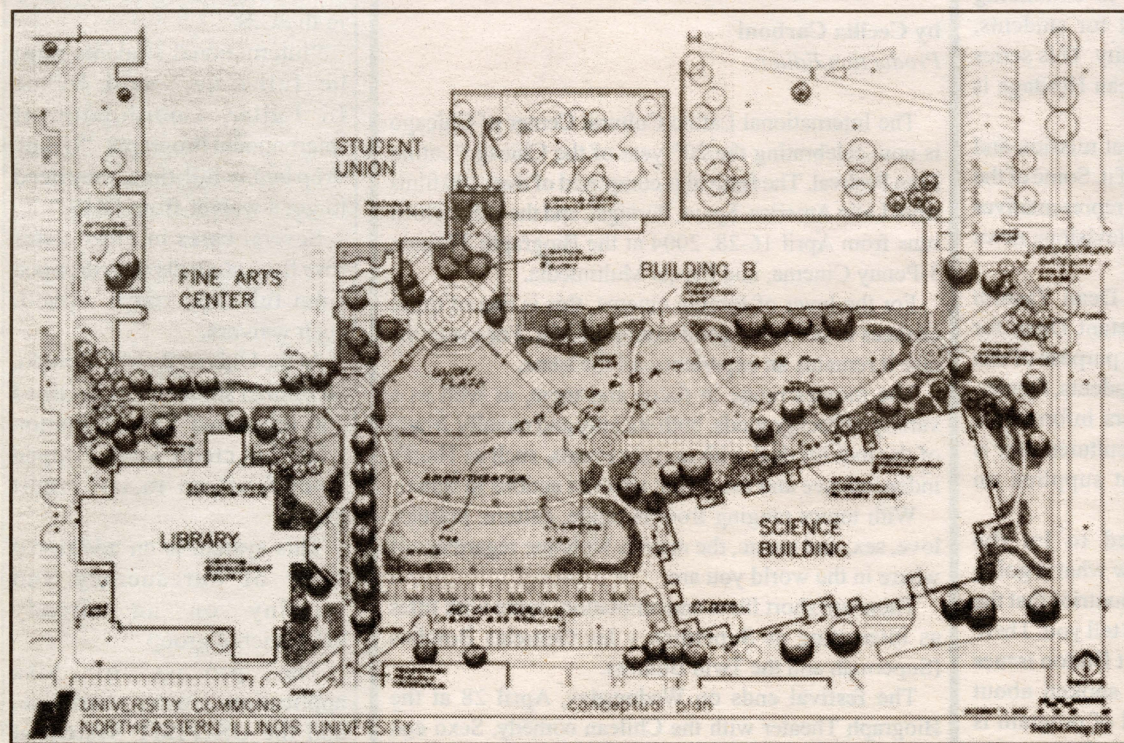
photo courtesy of Facilities Management

photo by Andrea Zelinski

The auditorium has been under construction for several years, and those working on the project are doing so without a contract.

## The "Great Park"

A big change in store for area between Library, Student Union and Science Building; green space, lighting to replace parking



by Azucena Beltran  
Staff Writer

The construction that began in the summer of 2003, creating the pathways outside the Student Union is not over yet.

The construction done was only one phase of the multi-level project taking place to completely renovate the area.

The space between the library, the Student Union, Building B, and the Science Building will be completely changed to a green area called the

"Great Park." This plan consists of renovating all the building entrances into the same design as the front of the Student Union.

The same concepts will go into them, like different light posts, benches, trees, and spotlights to provide better visibility.

The parking lot will eventually be taken out as well. The land will be leveled up and grass will be planted, providing a green space for students to enjoy.

Announcements will be posted as work commences in any of the phases.



photo from archives

## Main entrance to Science Building opens doors

by Patrick O'Brien  
Production Manager  
with Andrea Zelinski  
Chief Editor

The Science Building is undergoing a major renovation that will last until July 31, 2004.

The upgrades will include a new elevator and a new vestibule with two sets of doors, where cold air (or hot air) will be locked in, making the building itself warm in the winter and cool in the summer.

The project's cost is around \$500,000, with all the money coming from state capital appropriations funds.

The building will also be made more handicap accessible by sloping the front entrance, replacing the existing steps. The east side of the entrance inside is where the passenger elevator will be located.

The front elevator will then be taken out of service later to be modernized. The elevator will not allow access to the lower lounge area in the Science Building, however.

The main benefit will be energy efficiency and convenience in the front area of the Science Building.



# Disabled no, deliveries yes

*Handicapped spots near loading dock and Public Safety are being utilized for deliveries, not accomodating disabilities; Zia says no complaints have been filed*

by J. Louis Bracich  
Business Manager

Two weeks ago, parking places designated as "ADA places" (Americans with Disabilities Act places, or commonly known as "handicap parking") in Lot D, South of Public Safety, was used as an unloading area by the University.

According to Ralph Zia, Director of Buildings & Grounds, in an email interview, the area was chosen because the current situation of loading and unloading material in Building E only structurally allows trailers.

Citing the fact that at times material comes in vehicles other than trailers like step vans, the area that comprises the ADA places in Lot D seemed the best choice to use for the University's needs.

The usage of these areas, Zia noted, to unload materials from vehicles is temporary. The area under question has been used to unload materials in the past.

Almost a year ago, the area was cordoned off for parking when the university was going through one of its construction phases, and the main docking area was shut down.

As of this time, nor in the past, has Public Safety received any complaints for the university's usage of Lot D.

The university, Mr. Zia reminded, has many handicapped spaces in lots A and F.

"Public Safety will always accommodate someone that requires special parked" he concluded.



photo by Cecilia Carboni

This is the area near Public Safety converted to a loading dock.

## Asian Heritage part of NEIU

*"Emerging Visions" shows the new face of Asian-Americans*

by Staci Sonenthal  
Office Assistant

On April 5-7<sup>th</sup> Northeastern held the Ninth Annual Asian American Heritage Program. The program was called "Emerging Visions: Transformation of Asian Americans."

The program included three days of speakers as well as events that ran as early as 9:00am to as late as 9:00pm. The events were held in Golden Eagles, Alumni Hall, Village Square and SU-214.

When asked about the event, Salme Steinberg, President of NEIU, had this statement: "Northeastern Illinois University is immeasurably enriched by the contributions from persons who are closely connected to the historic civilizations of the East and South Asia. We have the opportunity to learn from our Asian American members."

"Our students, faculty, and staff of Asian heritage form a foundation for cultural and commercial partnerships that will build additional opportunities for Northeastern Illinois University. We look forward to continuing our relationship with the Asian American community in order to accomplish this goal."

Events covered topics from discrimination in the work place to Taiwan in the Twenty-First Century.

The events were really informative in the sense that the students were getting

perspectives not just from the area around them but from other countries.

This information may not be available to many Americans. NEIU has been bringing this program to their students for 9 years; they continue to bring this program as a way of informing students about other parts of the world that may not be viewed on television or readily available for those students to visit.

Dean Murrell Duster of Academic Development had this comment about the program, "The stated purpose and mission of the university is to facilitate the acquisition of knowledge, abilities, and attitudes, which will form a foundation for lifelong learning among its students."

"Diversity provides the opportunity to broaden our understanding of the human experience and contributes to enhancing the educational environment for students, faculty, staff and the community. This series of programs on Asian American Heritage is dedicated to that mission."

The university stands by that mission and this program was an example of it. Some of the speakers were as prominent as representatives from different countries to televisions news anchors, an NEIU staff.

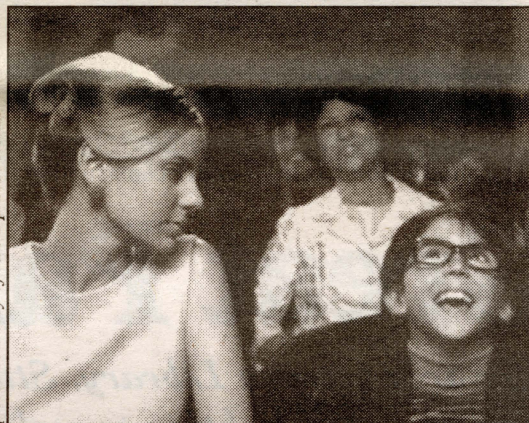
One of the speakers was Dean Yasmin Ranney. Dean Ranney, Assistant Dean for Academic Development: "The purpose of this program was to bring to the students, faculty, staff and community members information

about other cultures that is normally not supplied on campus.

We wanted to let the students know what is going on in other countries that the news doesn't tell you. There are many Hot Button issues that are not spoken about and this kind of program is there to make those issues priority."

"It is a way of getting the word out on things around the world that is not just about the war in Iraq. This program has been a success for many years and NEIU is proud to have programs like this on campus to enrich the students learning as well as broadening their horizons."

## Chicago Latino Film Fest long on hot topics



A scene from the opening movie, *Valentin*

by Cecilia Carboni  
Production Editor

The International Latino Cultural Center of Chicago is now celebrating the 20<sup>th</sup> year of the Chicago Latino Film Festival. The festival is comprised of over 100 films from Latin America, Spain, Portugal, and the U.S., which runs from April 16-28, 2004 at the Biograph Theater, 3-Penny Cinema, and Facets Multimedia.

For the lover of foreign cinema, this is one of those chances to see some good examples of it. For everyone else it remains an experience all the same.

The movies range in focus and topic, as well as a variety of backgrounds, both socially and racially. Many of the movies deal with current events, such as Haiti's independence and the recent terrorist actions in Spain.

With topics ranging from struggle, culture, politics, love, sex, and music, the movies hit home regardless of where in the world you are.

There are short films and animation, some with titles as interesting as *Superman y las Gemelas Bombas* (Superman and the Twin Bombs).

The festival ends on Wednesday, April 28 at the Biograph Theater with the Chilean comedy, *Sexo con amor*. The film's director, Boris Quercia, will be present. The closing party will take place at the Sangria Café where Los Tropicicos will perform salsa and merengue for a night of dancing! Tickets for the after-party are \$50.

Film schedule and information is available at [www.latinoculturalcenter.org](http://www.latinoculturalcenter.org), and a daily schedule will be available on the ILCC hotline, (312) 409-1757. Biograph Theater is located at 2433 N. Lincoln Ave, 3 Penny Cinema is at 2424 N. Lincoln Ave. Facets Multimedia is on 1517 W. Fullerton.

All films are in Spanish with English subtitles unless otherwise noted. General admission is \$10, students, seniors, and disabled are \$9.



photo by Hamid Tehran

Speaking about the transformation of Asians

## Patriot Act makes life hard on visiting students

by Andrew Valkanas  
Staff Writer

Several universities have begun charging international students additional fees due to surveillance requirements imposed by the Department of Homeland Security.

The fees are due to a program called SEVIS, the Student and Exchange Visitor Information System, which monitors foreign students and is used by the new Bureau of Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) to keep close tabs on international students.

NEIU is a part of this program, which was mandated by Congress in the USA PATRIOT Act. The school started sharing data with SEVIS when the program became live last January.

The information shared includes a great deal of personal information, including financial information and coursework.

The university, though, does not plan on charging any sort of excess fees for its administration.

"We already pay too much," said prospective international student Mellisa Barzaga.

"It's not cheap studying as an international student. With all the hassles and verifications, adding on this kind of fee is just too much."

International students pay non-resident rates for tuition, which are double the cost per credit hour.

In addition, international students are required to take courses full-time and have severe restrictions on working in the U.S.

"International students must be full-time," said Rubee Li Fuller, Coordinator of International Programs. "If they drop below full-time, they need to get a waiver from DHS."

Several cases in other states rose from students who dropped from full-time status without such waivers.

At the University of Colorado, an Iranian student was detained and processed for deportation when his credit load dropped from fourteen to ten credit hours.

This system is an additional layer of bureaucracy and scrutiny on an already beleaguered group.

The process of visa application is more restrictive, and the US-VISIT System at all ports of entry irks many visitors.

"I think less international students will come to the US," continued Mellisa Barzaga.

NEIU has the most ethnically diverse population in the Midwest and the second most in the country, many of whom are foreign nationals and exchange students affected by this legislation.



# Republicans come out of the closet

*NEIU Republicans organize on campus*

by Elana Barron  
Staff Writer

Northeastern's halls are replete with signs which proclaim liberal views such as, "No restrictions on abortion," "No to war," and "Stop the occupation."

Despite the numerous signs decorating the walls of Northeastern, some students have noticed the lack of conservative signs. The

university, like many others, tends to befall on the left politically.

Recently, students have noticed that views other than liberal are no longer even voiced.

In response to this unspoken aversion to conservative views, Northeastern students are organizing a new Republican Club.

In the past, students who have openly voiced their conservative views have suffered the consequences.

Shana Stone, a former NEIU student and writer for the Independent, recalls suffering for simply voicing another opinion in an article regarding the Socialist Club.

In response to her conservative opinions, she stated that she received strong, disparaging letters from Dr. Harry White of the English Department.

"After this, I could never take one of his classes...I wouldn't risk it," she said, looking back.

Further, she says, she was frequently "harassed" in the halls by members of the Socialist club after disagreeing with their views.

In short, there are students who feel Northeastern does not welcome conservative ideas, and that professors and student clubs alike have stifled any conservative voice.

Thus, students see a void that will be filled by the Republican Club.

Greg Gibas, the media director of the Republican Club, said, "Students who do not share the liberal viewpoint will now be able to participate in activities that coincide with their political leanings."

Further, they hope to combat the stereotype they feel has been forced upon conservatives. They want "to help redefine" a conservative, Gibas said.

Simply, "We want students to know there is another view besides the far left," said Brian Geier, chairman of the new club.

Since the signs have been posted, Geier has been receiving emails and phone calls from closet conservatives.

In addition, many students have come to the club's informal meetings during the campus activity hour. Currently,

the club is still pending approval from the SGA. In the next SGA meeting, approval for the club should be granted.

The thirty necessary signatures have been collected and an advisor has been found—Dr. Stuart of the Economics Department.

Further, the club is already an official member of the College Republican Federation and has attended the Federation's events.

In order to ensure the freedom to exchange ideas, the Republican Club has also launched a website ([www.neiurepublicans.com](http://www.neiurepublicans.com)) containing conservative articles by Northeastern students.

In addition, the website supports discussion boards in which students are able to discuss different issues. Currently, the board is discussing Bush, Iraq, affirmative action, abortion, gay marriage, etc.

In addition to balancing the dialogue of the university, the Republican Club also will present numerous opportunities for its members.

As they point out, many prominent Republicans were members of the College Republican Federation.

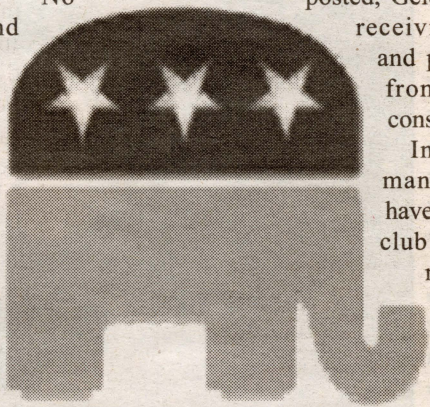
Through the club, members will meet Republican politicians and participate in election campaigns.

Further, the Republican Club hopes to bring conservative speakers to Northeastern's campus.

The Republican members hope that through their club, they will open Northeastern up to a free exchange of ideas.

As they say on their website, they wish to hear from everyone, "regardless of political views."

The new Republican Club should offer Northeastern students the opportunity for an exchange of diverse opinions.



# Psychics here on April Fools; students miss irony

by Jenni Lada  
News & Features editor

On April 1<sup>st</sup> from 10am - 3pm the Northeastern Programming Board arranged for two psychics, Clang and Barb, to be available to provide free readings for students in the Student Union.

Both Clang and Barb have visited our school before on similar events to provide insight into the turbulent lives of students and faculty alike.

It was a productive day for them, as both of their tables were always attended and a line had also formed almost reaching the cashier's office.

The basic reading consisted of the psychic first doing a Celtic cross tarot spread, expanding on that by reading about 4 to 6 cards concerning a specific concern for their visitor, then tossing 3 dice with various zodiac signs and house numbers to get more depth.

When Clang was asked how she believed the Cubs would do this season, she replied, "I think the Cubs will do well this season., but I'm not 100% sure they'll win. I know they'll do well though."

She then went on to discuss what she thought threw them off last year. "When the fan caught that ball last year? That was what turned the tide. That was what threw them off."

Though everyone knew it was all in fun and for entertainment purposes only, it didn't stop anyone from having a good time.



photo by Cecilia Carboni

Psychics Barbara and Clang (pictured here) read the fortunes of dozens of students in Village Square. Lines to see the two were long for most of the day. The event was sponsored by the Northeastern Programming Board.

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## Ecofire, from page 1

mapped out areas.

This burn is an ecologically safe way of preserving the savanna and wildflowers the Native Americans maintained 100 years ago.

What was being burned was the prairie grass along with the buckthorn woods grass along the walk ways between buildings. Periodic fires, set by lightning or by the Native Americans, held back many woody species and permitted a growth of flowering plants to grow under the oaks in the savanna community.

This burn was started in 1988 by faculty and students of the geography and environmental studies. The faculty used this oak savanna as a teaching laboratory for ecosystem restoration.



# Jury will decide what's art for NEIU's annual Art Show



"Communication with Vacancy" series by Julie Connick

by Joe Hertel  
Senior Staff Writer

The NEIU Art Department presents the annual juried Art Show beginning April 19<sup>th</sup> and running through May 21<sup>st</sup> at the Fine Arts Center Gallery, located in the Fine Arts Building near the auditorium.

The gallery will display 35 pieces of art of diverse mediums created by NEIU students who have completed undergraduate work in the art department. Mediums will include, but not be limited to, photography, painting, printmaking, sculpture, ceramics, metalworking, and computer graphics.

Diane Simpson, an established Chicago-based sculptor, is this year's juror,

and will select the winning works from 35 displayed pieces. Awards consist of 1<sup>st</sup> place \$350, 2<sup>nd</sup> place \$250, 3<sup>rd</sup> place \$150, and two merit awards of \$50 each. Funding for the student awards is provided through the Office of the President at NEIU.

The thirty five works displayed in the gallery will be chosen based on formal excellence and conceptual creativity from an estimated 150 submissions by students. A reception for the student artists will be held in the gallery on Thursday, April 22, from 1:30 until 3pm.

Students participating in the juried show submitted their works prior to April 9<sup>th</sup> (they were allowed up to four entries each), and selection will take place this week by gallery personnel, after which students chosen will be notified.

The exhibition, according to the art department, reflects the diversity of NEIU's campus, as students use the visual arts to

explore multiple cultural, social, and political topics in their work.

The exhibition is free. Gallery hours are Monday, Wednesday, and Friday, from 8:00am until 5:00 pm, and Tuesday and Thursday from 9:00am until 4:00pm.

For additional information contact John Brunetti, gallery coordinator, at 773-442-4944.



photos by Cecilia Carboni

## Virtual Dormitory: Bughouse is where NEIU gets together

by Benny Boyas  
Senior Staff Writer

Exclusively for NEIU students, faculty, and staff, Bughouse (<http://bughouse.neiu.edu/>) offers a place for groups and individuals to engage in a variety of discussions.

Though the introduction of Bughouse two years ago proved to be popular, problems surfaced that stifled its success. The project was pulled for dramatic overhaul due to lack of accountability for what was posted on the internet-based roundtable.

But the return of the defunct web forum has not gone unnoticed. With almost 100 members registered in its early stages, the forum is currently growing in membership and variety of uses, differing slightly from the original intended purpose.

Initially designed with the goal of creating a more cohesive student body within the commuting university, Bughouse designer Cameron Rex and faculty advisor Erick Howenstein teamed up in 2003 to bring life back into the project.

"I'd often heard students complain that there's not much

of a sense of community here. They come to classes and then go to work, and mainly miss out on the important social aspect of college life," said Howenstein.

One factor of Bughouse that appeals to many is the option to remain anonymous to other users. According to Howenstein, "This is to encourage candid discussion without fear of reprisal." Evidently, students have not hesitated to capitalize on this.

With its growing mass-appeal, this "virtual dormitory" is rapidly growing into a place where users can reach a large number of people.

Consequently, documents and remarks have already been posted that scrutinize the use of school funds, actions by the Student Government Association (SGA), as well as adequacy of particular professors. Yet, however popular it may seem now, the Bughouse project was in danger of never returning.

Though initial plans called for a speedier return, a reallocation of funding under a newly elected SGA body caused a setback. Further impeding its reappearance was an evolving administration, which no longer included key figures that initially backed the program.

A Bughouse task force committee coordinated meetings

and demonstrations with top university officials, and eventually won them over.

And so far, the results have been satisfying for the originators of Bughouse. "For me it is an interesting online community. We expected it would start out slowly, but we are confident that over time it will take off," said Rex.

In order to become a registered user, one must have an active NEIU E-mail account. Graduates may retain their Bughouse login as long as they remain active users, and do not remain idle for more than 365 days. This is to ensure a safe, secure environment is continuously offered.

Currently under development, a revised version of Bughouse is expected to be released soon. In addition to a user-friendly interface, the updated version will also feature improvements, such as security updates in the php-based technology that it operates under.

"But by far the most useful aspect of Bughouse is to provide a general meeting place for the NEIU community at large," said Howenstein. "It's been difficult publicizing the board, but...once the word is passed around, and more people take advantage, I suspect it will be a mainstay and more specialized forums may emerge. We expect it to become a valuable aspect of university life."

## Segregation, never!

*Brown V. Board decision celebrated in panel discussion featuring Dr. Kenneth Addison*

by Franklin Silencieux  
Opinions Editor

A panel of educators met at NEIU to discuss and commemorate the anniversary of *Brown vs. Board of Education*, the landmark 1954 court decision that ended segregation in school.

The discussion consisted of short lectures by five teachers and authors followed by a question-answer session. The hosts told the sizeable audience that despite the court decision, desegregation has not yet been fully achieved.

They encouraged all the future leaders and educators to believe they can each make a difference. With this positive attitude, "We can only go up."

Dr. Kenneth Addison, author of the upcoming, *Beyond Race* and teacher at our school, discussed the contrast between "egalitarian intentions" and the "truth in behavior," the ambivalence Americans had towards equality decades ago.

Addison went through the history of education for blacks. For someone who's taken Education class 305, this was all review: the lynchings, the flip-flop court decisions, the Civil Rights Acts, the "separate but equal" laws and the burning of schools.

He also discussed the inferior status of blacks and how it affected their personalities,

how white saw danger in association with them, and how recently, academic tracking created more segregation.

Dionne Vance of UIC gave a more localized history lesson about the migration of blacks in the south and west sides of the city, how they expected a more open-minded society and found ghettos, containment efforts, inadequate transportation to schools, jerrymandering, and funding problems.

Roberto Sonobrio of DePaul University discussed the impact of the court decision on Latino students, the de facto segregation that remained in place, the relationship between racial identity, and school performance and its effect on daily life.

Therese Lynn read two stories about individuals who had to become activists, challenging the system, renovating their own schools.

She encouraged us to be aware, to visit schools, to be activists through art or social action, and to participate.

Before you dismiss all this as history, remember many of these events and the boycotts it took to address them happened in the late 70s.

Talking to a multi-racial audience of young future teachers and older, liberal-minded professors, the panel was certainly preaching to the choir, but it's a message they want to hear.

## "I wish I could write like that"

by Jonathan Gronli  
Distribution Manager

Li-Young Lee came to do a poetry reading at the Golden Eagles room on April 9<sup>th</sup>, an event organized and pulled off by the proud members of Apocalypse. Their reason to bring Lee to our campus was a celebration of Asian heritage.

Li-Young Lee is an Indonesian-born poet. He and his family immigrated to the United States in the 1960s. He is the author *Rose* and other books with his works in them. His poetry reflects on writing as more of a spiritual and religious endeavor in life. His third book deals with his relationships with his family, the spirit, and his own mortality.

"Man I wish I could write like that," Mary Meyer said of Lee in an opening remark. Apocalypse came up with the idea to bring in Li-Young Lee after throwing around names of people to bring on to our campus. "A member of the organization suggested Li-Young Lee, and the group enjoyed his work." After talking to another one of the members, Tom Mollo, it was found out, was the one who actually suggested Lee.

After Meyer's introduction Li-Young Lee had his own things to say about writing. He said that all great art seems haunted by something else, that writing poetry enriches and threatens to shatter a person's personality, causing a challenge for the writer.

After saying this little speech on poetry and writing, he went into his reading. He also brought some of his ethics of poetry and life into what he was saying outside of the poems. After the reading, during the reception Lee had agreed to do a book signing to close off the night.

Future plans for the semester don't include more author events. *Apocalypse 11* is to be released by the end of the semester and will include an audio CD of the works in the magazine. A party will be held to in celebration of the release of Apoc. 11, open to the public.



Li-Young Lee gives some hands on advice

photo by Cecilia Carboni



by Jessie Moen  
Staff Writer

## Redundancy isn't much of a sweet sound to follow

Well last week I acquired a copy of Sugarcult's new CD *Palm Trees and Power Lines*. I listened to it in my car on the way to school, and I have decided that it is a very decent CD. By decent I mean that it is not great, I don't hate it, but there was nothing special about it at all. Nothing that really stuck out that would make me remember it.

Sugarcult fits in the "punk" style of music. The problem I have with punk bands is that they are all the same. They all have the same basic elements, a lead singer with a high nasally voice, a bass guitarist that only knows like three riffs and plays them in every song over and over-again, and a drum set that consists of only a snare and a cymbal. This causes all the songs on the album to sound

alike and therefore make it very boring to listen too.

When the CD started, I heard the first song and thought, "Hey this an't too bad!" Then I heard the second song and thought, "Hmmm, this sounds a lot like the first one." Then each song after that I had pretty much the same reaction. It's hard to get into a CD when you think you are still listening to the first song through the length of the album!

There was no variation in any of the songs. It started with a certain guitar beat, then that same beat continued for the rest of the song and jumped over to the next song. Plus the vocals were very similar in all the songs also. The songs would basically start at a certain pace and a certain style, and never change through the rest of the song. Even during breaks in the singing, which is usually used for the guitarist or drummer to show off by doing crazy riffs and such, there was no variation.

This would be a good CD for people who like bands such as Good Charlotte and New Found Glory. It would be good for people who don't necessarily like a lot of different guitar styles, and vocal styles. As for me, I have to have variety, change, difference in style, and more than one type of song on the CD! So on a scale of 1-10, I would give this CD a 4.



photo courtesy of www.sugarcult.com

## Scooby Doo soundtrack is 2 bad

by Andrew Valkanas  
Staff Writer

There are three kinds of movie soundtracks. The first kind is when you have a movie with original scoring by some classical or jazz or some other oddball style that you wouldn't normally hear, for the simple and sane reason that it's no good. The second kind is again music from the movie, except that it's stuff you would probably have listened to had you known of its existence prior to seeing the film.

Then there's the third and most evil kind of soundtrack, the kind where a committee of people without a clue sit around drinking some overly expensive beverage and place the worst songs they could think of, or the only people desperate enough to sell out, and make a chafing experience. The Scooby-Doo 2 soundtrack is just such a compilation.

The blend of music on this disc is awful. Simple Plan starts the pain off. A self identified punk band, this group's feel made me think that they played a cover. A quick glance on the playlist shows several covers, and they share one characteristic of appointed covers: they are as grating on the ears as several dozen knives are to a block of cheese. Back to the point, this group supposedly got the endorsement of Good Charlotte. Groups like this are why I think those in the industry shouldn't be recruiting more sacrificial lambs for the altar of corporate music.

Ruben Studdard makes an appearance on this disc, and his "Shining Star" has fallen and left a crater. The track barely has any of his voice in it, and the rest is a chaotic mess that someone with a synth and too much time on his hands successfully passed off to Warner. A couple other urban artists - Big Brovaz with "Thank You" and the reggae Apache Indian "Boom Shak-a-lak" - appear,

and both dissatisfy. In particular, I think that the title of Apache Indian's track was what was chosen, not the track. Upbeat reggae is hard enough to pull off, but add a horrible background track, weird sound effects placed for shock value, and lyrics that are utter crap, and you have the makings of a loser.

2 Unlimited's early 90's anthem "Get Ready for This" is track nine. Why this song's even here is baffling to me; isn't it enough that, until the Baha Men let the dogs out, this was the most annoyingly exploited song out there? The B-52's "Love Shack" is also on this disc, as is that most infamous B-side "Play That Funky Music" by Wild Cherry. Unless Velma and Daphne finally get over the pretense and start going at it, which I doubt, I don't want to hear another novel track that had its time in the sun and has since wilted. And if you want narcotic, up-tempo, J-pop that will dig into your skull and not leave, trust Puffy AmiYumi to do the job with the tail track, "Friends Forever."

I guess, though, that the crappy music and the lamest of special features - a WEblink to a music video (save your money: <http://scoobydoomusic.com/simpleplan.php>) is about all the film actually warrants. After all, the film itself is another spectacularly bad piece of celluloid that makes money because it has a virtual DOG in it. I keep thinking about Kevin Smith's two-minute treatment of Scooby in Jay and Silent Bob Strike Back, and keep coming to the same conclusion: his version was more interesting, it had what everyone interested in the characters really wanted to see, and featured a real canine.

If you would like a taste of what our government's most special guests in Camp X-Ray get to hear, buy this CD and play it endlessly. I know that after listening to it for this review, if I were forced to listen to this agonizing sequence again, I would have confessed to everything they asked me.





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## Jazz extravaganza in the Village Square



photos by Hanible Tehrani

Village Square played host to various jazz artists on Thursday, April 1, from 4:00 to 6:30 pm.



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Neighborhood Bike Tour	9 - 5 pm (Helmet Recommended)
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Peace Fire	9:30 pm between WTTW and NUU PE building
Open Mic	11 am - 3 pm Village Square

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# Marsalis' loses the 'Magic' touch with latest release



photo courtesy of www.montreuxjazz.com

by **Benny Boyas**  
Senior Staff Writer

For decades now, jazz connoisseurs and classical music aficionados alike have pleased themselves with the repertoire Wynton Marsalis has bestowed upon humankind. From his tender Carnegie Hall works, his colorful revisions on the Peanuts' soundtrack, and his contemporary adaptation of the Ellingtonian big band structure, Marsalis has both surprised and mesmerized, simultaneously establishing himself as the premiere trumpet player of his time.

His holistic mastering of his domain in performance, technique, and arranging style is unparalleled. Yet to much dismay, Marsalis' latest release, *The Magic Hour*, seems more like a private shindig for himself, rather than a celebration of the jazz idiom.

Due partially to their own talents, but primarily because trumpet players are followed by other band members in jazz band settings with regards to style and dynamics, many of these virtuosos descend into abysmal projects fueled purely by selfish, self-celebrating egos. Sadly, Wynton Marsalis is no exception to this reoccurring trend.

Much like Arturo Sandoval, Maynard Ferguson, and others, Wynton has found himself to be a victim of his own ego, having sacrificed his ability to create fresh and balanced arrangements for a record that seems to be more like an attempt to inconspicuously show off his own bone chilling talents. After all, it is his quartet, and people will buy the album because his name is branded into its cover. But will they be satisfied?

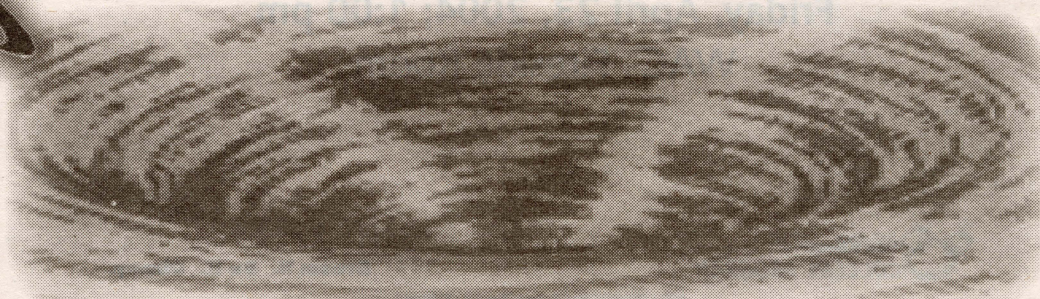
In part, yes. *The Magic Hour* does indeed possess some tracks that exceed mediocrity. "The Feeling of Jazz" sucks you in with Diane Reeves' sensuous scats and glissando vocals, both infested with transparent passion for the blues. The call-and-response chemistry between Marsalis and Reeves, mastered through years of working together with the Lincoln Center Jazz Orchestra, is presented here at its best. Wynton growls, shouts, bites, whimpers, and squeals through his horn in perfect synchronization with Reeves.

"Baby, I Love You," again supplemented by superb vocals, this time by Bobby McFerrin, is memorable largely because of his singing. And the penultimate "Sophie Rose-Rosalee" gives his followers a dosage of Wynton's lush and almost seductive tenderness. Equally annoying however are "Big Fat Hen" and "Free to Be," with their uneventful monotony. But compositely, the whole collection fairly illustrates that Wynton has a strong supporting cast. And that's its main problem: the rest of the quartet is deprived from the spotlight, taking the backseat to their leader's ambitious creativity.

The title track allows them to shine somewhat, and only because it hardly possess any musical form. Kudos must be awarded for pure effort on this arrangement - a blend of what easily can be a dozen individual songs - all trimmed to short increments chained together by a recurring theme. Somewhat of an imitation of "Flight of the Bumblebee," this repeating theme will certainly annoy even the most hardened jazz extremist. Wynton is joined by Eric Lewis on piano in this chromatic frenzy, where Marsalis dominates, half-valving through the upper register, sounding more like the sustained sound of shoes screeching on a wooden basketball court than the lustrous tones listeners are accustomed to hearing from the supreme artiste with a global following.

Yet if you love Wynton Marsalis, acquiring this LP for your collection is by default a necessity. But if you are not yet a Marsalis disciple, bypassing his latest work is not only permissible, it is recommended. Even hardcore fans will have a difficult time digesting some of the muck that is pervasive throughout. And the things he does right are not readily apparent: repeated forceful listening will bring to light some wonderful arranging techniques.

But these are overshadowed by distracting leaps, distasteful abuse of the plunger mute, and occasional collective blandness. Altogether, this album leaves you wanting more. But you just don't get it, no matter how many times you replay the album. Equivalent to Michael Jordan playing professional baseball, this latest endeavor is painful to endure. Let's just hope Marsalis has learned his lesson, gets off his soapbox soon, and returns to his natural waters, so we can enjoy his work once more without resentment.





# Eat on the Cheap:

by Mary Meyer  
Staff Writer

&

by Juan Diaz  
Staff Writer

## Dal Pang Yi Korean Noodle & Snack House

Let's start backwards: the check is brought to the table, filled with unrecognizable scratches except for four digits at the bottom that read \$15.00. You and your friend are bordering on uncomfortably full after a course of Korean dishes, and you wonder how that price can be correct.

It's all in the side dishes. With every meal comes nearly a dozen small bowls filled with an assortment of spiced vegetables such as *kim chee*, tofu, egg and other less identifiable foods, each one refilled as you pluck the last morsel from the bowl with your chopsticks. Or perhaps soup is one side of the day, and you are enjoying a simple briny broth with tender seaweed. Accompanying this assortment of side dishes is a bowl of rice sprinkled with purple beans, which gives it a reddish-lavender hue. Each visit reveals a new combination of colorful dishes.

This is all in addition to the large dish of *bul-go-gi*, the marinated strips of beef and vegetables you have chosen as your main dish. Or you are feeling adventurous and ordered *oh-jing-uh-bok-um* (say that five times fast), squid stir-fried with vegetables. The only complaint is the chewy-ness of the meats. For a dish with less exercise for your jaw, try the *mool man doo*, Korean dumplings with meaty fillings and soft, tender skins.

One very strong word of caution: if you plan on kissing anyone in the next 72 hours, including a peck on the cheek for Great-Aunt Bea, carry along a travel toothbrush and a mini bottle of Listerine. You will need it. Repeatedly.

Sit back, enjoy your complimentary tea (and soup and vegetables and tofu and...), and enjoy the experience at Dal Pang Yi.

Dal Pang Yi is a modest, but nice place. This infuriates me as it makes my usual bits of sarcasm difficult to apply. I apologize in advance.

If you don't know where Dal Pang Yi is, then you've already passed it. It's located on a stretch of unassuming storefronts where only fluency in Korean will get you real enlightenment. How did "Eat on the Cheap" find Dal Pang Yi? I guess my stomach has a better grasp of Korean than my brain does.

However, my stomach's Korean seems to be limited to marquees. When ordering a meal, I like to know what I'm getting into. Luckily, Dal Pang Yi has two menus: one solely in text and the other with photographs of the more popular meals. Squid may not sound appetizing, but a picture may just change your mind. Sometimes you just need purty pictures. Ain't that right, English majors?

The place itself is pleasant to the point of mundane. But there are some interesting things going on at Dal Pang Yi. First of all, there are the booths—well, there are none. However, there are large wooden barriers standing behind most of the tables. These screens allow you the privacy of a booth without sacrificing the comfortable freedom of a table. The rather severe green and blue palette of the décor is toned down by the use of green plants.

You're going to have to work on your eye contact though. The staff checks in just enough to make sure you're not running low on side dishes. Even then, it's from an unobtrusive distance. If you don't make eye contact, you're going to wait a long time for your check. This isn't a bad thing; this coupled with the quiet atmosphere makes for a leisurely meal.

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photo by Duncan Macnab

In an area with so many Korean restaurants you'll need this picture.



photo by Cecilia Carboni

One order of dumplings will get you quite the variety.

# Dead and loving it: It's no Broadway but...

by Jenni Lada

News & Features Editor

Zombie movies have always been a staple of horror films. The great tragedy is that none of them are really ever scary. Of course I doubt they really could be, it seems like the best that you manage with a sloth-like, undead cannibal with no intelligence is to maybe just unnerve your audience. If you're looking for the remake of Dawn of the Dead to suddenly change all that and terrify you, save your money.

Instead, the Dawn of the Dead remake accomplishes the same things as the zombie movies that came before it. It entertains you, gives you something to think about, has pretty good special effects, but doesn't scare you. Quite the contrary. Instead you'll probably find yourself laughing aloud at some of the situations. And if you see it with friends you really can have a great time mocking the whole thing.

The premise of the movie is this: zombies have popped up practically overnight and since then everything's been shot to hell. The main character is a nurse whose name I can't remember. In fact I don't remember any of the characters names except the dog, which is very sad. It pretty much tells you that they're somewhat disposable... except for Chip the dog. Who could ever want to dispose of him?

The nurse is at work and a weird man comes in who's near death. She leaves her shift and comes home. The radio starts to announce a major alert and she changes the channel. She gets home and her husband and

her ignore the TV news, turning it off to, ehem, 'play.' In the morning they are awoken by the neighbor girl (Or is it her stepdaughter? Who knows...?) who is missing half of her face and growling. The girl runs at the husband, latches onto his throat, and is then thrown off by the nurse and pushed out the door. The husband dies and immediately resurrects. The woman grabs her car keys (at least she's smart, I'll give her that) and heads for the bathroom. She escapes out the window.

Now as she's driving away from her suburban hell, husband running behind her and really doing pretty good until he spots a neighbor who'd make a tasty snack, the camera pans back and we see that miraculously overnight everything has completely fallen apart and no one really seems to be doing much of anything to stop it.

Some guy tries to steal her car at this point and she ends up driving off the road into a tree. An incredibly cool cop character, Ving Rhames (the best character in the movie), ends up finding her. The two walk down a road and run into a white guy and married man, Mehki Phieffer, and woman. The three see the mall and decide to head into there.

So for the rest of the movie we basically see a small group, which grows to a large group,



Photo courtesy of movies.vahoo.com

Come watch us be chased by those zombies.

surviving the outbreak as best they can in a mall. Of course in the end you know things have to fall apart, and they do, and at first the movie seems to end in a cliffhanger. However if you stay through the credits, like my friends and I did since we were laughing at the movie and discussing various zombie insights, you will see an epilogue of what happens to the surviving characters. It isn't pretty.

It was a very entertaining film though. The special effects and music were especially phenomenal. And they took care to add in many humorous scenes in order to show they really aren't intending the feature to be super-dramatic. However, I find it very hard to believe that a 350-lb woman who's gasping for air when she's alive is going to be able to run like the wind, fat ripples jiggling hypnotically all the way, when she's a zombie.

It also seems unlikely that the legless

zombie would be smart enough to use stealth techniques to drop on the characters while they're in the parking garage. And if the disease is spread when a zombie bites you (it must logically be in their spit or blood) then why is it when Ving Rhames is in the same water fountain with an open cut as a bleeding, dying zombie, he doesn't get infected?

But on to the important question: is it better than the original? I can't really say it was better, but it really wasn't any worse either. The original left a cliff-hanger and was really more funny unintentionally. It was a B-movie and proud of it. Plus it had funny bikers and a hare Krishna zombie. The remake has more closure, better effects, and even though it was supposed to be a big deal, it seems like they wanted to keep that B-movie style and humor in it. Plus it had the celebrity zombie shooting game. Both had their ups and downs and are amusing movies in their own right.



# Commentary

## Editorial

A newspaper should be free from any influences that may destroy its integrity. The same goes for any media organization. The readership of a newspaper, magazine, newsletter, or listeners to a public radio station expect that their source of information is not tainted. This is particularly true in news and local events coverage, the coverage should be unbiased. If, for once second, the reader or the listener thinks they are being sold a bill of goods, that radio station or magazine will lose its credibility. Credibility is very hard to reclaim once people think your newspaper or magazine has been corrupted by a corporation or even a local student government.

No media organization should serve as a propaganda wing for any corporation or government organ. Once again, credibility is the key concern here. Credibility of your personal self and your organization should be guarded with the utmost care at all times. Yet, this vital thing is constantly under assault, particularly if you are one of your student body's main source of campus news. These assaults do not come outright, like attempting to bribe a reporter doing a story on a scandal, but also in the form of blackmail and extortion. These last two, in connection with our media organizations here at NEIU, can come in the form of threats to an organization's budget.

Every fiscal year, every media group on campus has to submit a budget to first the Media Board, and then onto the Finance Committee of the Student Government Association (SGA). The budget then goes to the Finance Committee, the student Senate then votes or amends the final budget; should there be any amendments to the budget, there is then a final vote. Between the time of an organization's preparation of a budget to the Finance Committee vote, is when the political bullshit starts. SGA or those within one of the two dominant parties knows that a media organization depends on SGA's approval to survive. That's when so-called political scores are settled, if members of your Student Government feel that coverage has been negative on the Senate, or that one of the media organizations had a fallout with an executive member, Senators come back with hints of budget cutbacks.

Recently, your student paper has come under such an attack. And this is not, dear reader, just your newspaper that has come under such an assault. Several members, off the record, from various other student groups have come to us claiming the same thing. It is time, to remove politics from the funding of your public sources of information! This is not WLS radio or the Chicago Tribune, which is beholden to some corporate pay master, this is your paper! When members of the Student Government Association come to us and claim that we need to have a constant positive coverage of their actions and cease covering anything of negative consequences on the student body, or else they would shave our budget. That dear readers, is a line in the sand we will not cross!

We formally ask that Student Government be removed from the process of approving any media organization's budget. Instead, all budgets should be submitted to either the Board of Trustees or a third party. In many colleges with a successful media/communications have formed public media companies owned by the schools themselves (think a university version of NPR or PBS). The process of keeping your public student-run sources of information and music has itself lost its integrity. We are here to serve you, not to be some corrupt pseudo-political organization's propaganda whore.

## Michigan Ave. so expensive, even the speech isn't free

by Tom Robb  
Co-News Editor

We live in a country that takes as its first law, its first Amendment to the U.S. Constitution, the freedoms of speech and assembly. But on the exclusive Michigan Avenue, the Magnificent Mile, things are so expensive, even speech isn't free. On March 20<sup>th</sup> 2004 demonstrators were denied Michigan Ave. On the same day last year, they were arrested en masse.

On March 20<sup>th</sup> 2004, as many know, there was a protest downtown commemorating the one year anniversary of the start of the war in Iraq. The demonstration was also set up to commemorate another event, the arrest of over 800 people when anti war demonstrators tried to march down Michigan Ave. one year earlier.

In 2004, after the City of Chicago denied a permit for Michigan Ave. citing interruptions to business and traffic, leaders Rev. Jessie Jackson, Andy Thayer, and others "negotiated" with police trying to get the them to allow the march to go down North Michigan Ave. They were told no, in no uncertain terms, and with an army of police in riot gear and no less than 11 Cook County prison busses parked along the police-mandated march route down Clark St.

March 20<sup>th</sup> 2003 saw the beginning of the war, but it also saw between 10,000 and 15,000 anti-war demonstrators march through the loop and take over Lake Shore Drive. That was accepted by the Chicago Police but at the two points

where the marchers tried to move down Michigan Ave. They were met first at Michigan and Oak with the threat of gas (police donned gas masks and took out pepper spray guns before protesters called for a retreat) and at the second point at Michigan and Chicago where over 800 were arrested, including this reporter despite wearing press credentials!

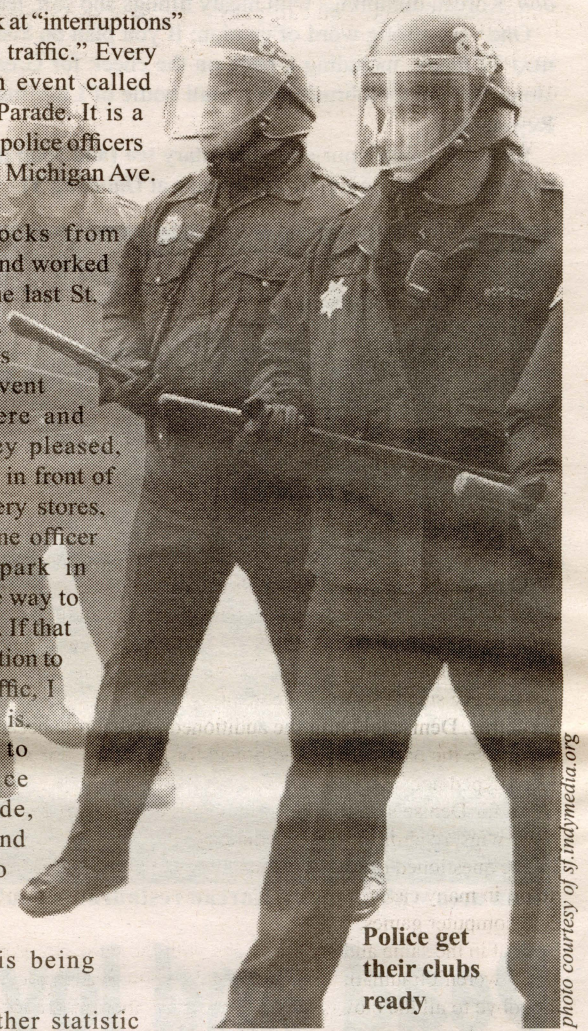
We should look at "interruptions" to "business and traffic." Every year there is an event called the St. Jude Parade. It is a parade honoring police officers and it goes down Michigan Ave. on a Saturday.

I work 3 blocks from Michigan Ave. and worked on the day of the last St. Jude Parade. Police officers attending the event parked anywhere and everywhere they pleased, in loading zones in front of hotels and grocery stores, in fire lanes. One officer even tried to park in front of the drive way to a parking garage. If that is not an interruption to business and traffic, I don't know what is. I do not want to deny the police of their parade, but if "traffic and interruption to business" is the standard, then Mayor Daley is being hypocritical.

There is another statistic

from both the 2003 and 2004 marches. Zero complaints of damage. Zero arrests or complaints for trespassing or damage to property. At the 2004 march there were 3 arrests.

What is the message that is sent in this most "democratic" of cities? Michigan Ave. is so expensive, that even speech is not free.



Police get their clubs ready

photo courtesy of sj.indymedia.org



Joe Hertel  
OldManNEIU@aol.com

## Old Man on Campus *Allowing Wounds to Heal*

What if I had never served in Viet Nam?

I would not have the nightmares, waking up in a sweat at night, that I still have on occasion, and I wouldn't have the ability to hear helicopters (choppers we called them) approaching moments before my friends hear them. I would not have the ghosts of war visiting me throughout my life, reminding me of the faces and scenes I had witnessed - the little girl by the side of the road crying... the blank stares of civilian casualties stumbling past me.

I would never have experienced the physical and mental stress of living in fear, day and night, wondering if I would make it home alive. And I would not be able to tell the difference between fireworks and semi-automatic gunfire as I am able to do each Fourth of July and New Year's Eve.

I would never have met my first love, a beautiful Vietnamese girl with whom I spent many happy hours until she was blown apart in a rocket attack. Would she have died anyway (I know part of me died with her), had I not served in Viet Nam?

I would not have met my wife of thirty years through pen pal letters, but then, I also would not currently be living alone.

I would not have started a Vietnam Veterans of America chapter in my neighborhood,

or involved myself in veteran's affairs. I would not have been curator of the Viet Nam War Museum for fifteen years, nor would I have been active in the Vietnamese Refugee Community, working with boat people, teaching English and citizenship classes. I guess my life would have been pretty aimless and uneventful had I not served in Viet Nam.

What if I had not served in Viet Nam? I would not be as passionate in my beliefs, steadfast in my convictions or determined in my goals. I would not be so intolerant of racism, bigotry, prejudice and hate. I would not be so skeptical of our government nor unbelieving in the words of my President. I would not believe so strongly in the sanctity of life and preciousness of freedom. I would never have seen the worst men can do to one another, but would also not understand the meaning of sacrifice, heroism, courage and bravery.

There is so much about having served in Viet Nam that I hate. Things that I saw that no one should ever see; things I did that I am not proud of, but had to do. But the experience has also strengthened me and influenced my life and made me into the person I am today.

What if I had not served in Viet Nam? Well, I wouldn't be so nervous, I wouldn't be so apprehensive, I wouldn't be so defensive or distrustful. But, and more importantly, I would not be living life so fully, loving so tenderly, caring so deeply, working so diligently, writing

so passionately; laughing so heartily had I not served in Viet Nam.

What if? Well, I really don't like to think about that. But if you ever look introspectively at your life and ask yourself: "What if..." Sure, you can imagine how different things might have been if you had done this instead of that.

Life is a series of decisions, its being thrown into situations that demand response. It's called living, and you take whatever comes and make the best of it. Life is precious. Life is survival. Life is brief, a vapor, here and gone. And what we experience and how we respond can make us into beings with substance, fortitude, and determination. It is not so much what life does to us; rather what we do with our life experiences.

You'll make right choices and wrong choices. You will do things to be proud of and, you will also do things that will make you cringe when you think about them. All of your experiences, and how you handle them, make you the sum total of who you are.

And, you will be hurt.

The secret of survival is when you are wounded, to allow the wound to heal. If you pick at it or leave it unattended, it will fester, become infected, and possibly kill you. If you allow the wound to heal, you will have a scar. And, when you look at the scar, you will remember the pain, but that's all, you will just remember.



photo courtesy of Joe Hertel

What if I had never served in Viet Nam? I cannot imagine the person I would have become. I do not regret my decision, painful as it was back then, because it has made me a better person in the long run. I cannot see myself in any other light. I survived. I am who I am because of the Viet Nam War experience, and I'm proud of it.

My only regret is that I can't help thinking, sometimes, on thunderstorm nights, "What if... she had lived."

(My thanks to Professor William Hartmann for proposing: "What if...")



# So the FCC won't let us be

by Jessica Moen  
Staff Writer

Anyone who has not been locked in a closet for the past few months has heard about the Janet/nipple thing. Because of this one stupid incident, The Federal Communications Commission (FCC) has decided to pass a bill that would charge huge fines to broadcast outlets for saying anything they consider "indecent."

So who does this effect, you ask? First off, it greatly effects radio shows such as Howard Stern and Mancow's Morning Madhouse. It used to be that they could pretty much get away with anything on the radio. You could swear, tell bad jokes, all within "reason" of course. But now that "reason" has gotten strict. You can't say any bad words at all, and pretty much can't do anything that would offend anyone in any way, shape or form.

What fun is that? I mean, come on! If you don't like what the radio has to say then don't listen to it! I guess the FCC thinks we're all too dumb to realize what offends us or not (must be all that damn violence on TV!). No one has a mind of their own anymore. We need the FCC to think for us, to tell us what we want to listen to. And we don't want to listen to Stern make a joke that may contain a sexual innuendo. Nope, no way.

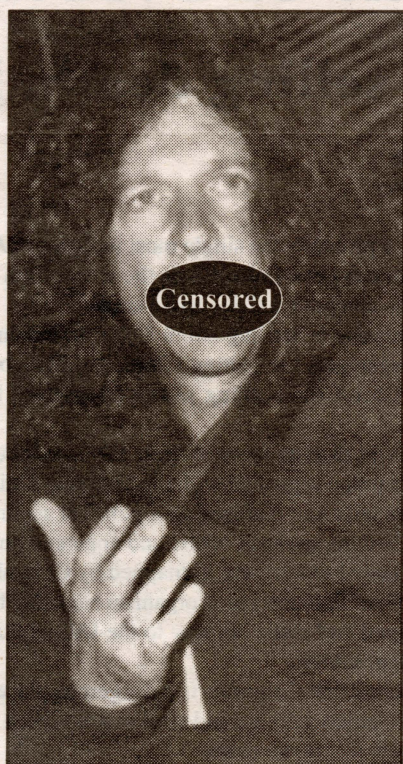


photo courtesy of www.howard-stern.info

The King can say what he wants.

that we can't be allowed to say what we want on the radio or anywhere else.

The government is trying too hard to protect us from the "evil radio people," when we are perfectly capable of protecting ourselves from it. There are much worse things in the world than slightly offensive radio shows like famine, plague, reality TV shows. So for the love of \*BLEEP!\*, lay off Michael Powell, and let Stern rule the airways once again!

I admit I never really listen to Howard Stern, but that doesn't mean that no one else can. Why should anyone have the authority to say what we want to listen too? If a parent is too stupid to realize what is appropriate for her 5 yr. old to listen to on the radio then she/he shouldn't be allowed to own one! Ever heard of Radio Disney? And if you can't find a decent station for poor little Billy, then buy a freaking CD player!

More importantly, what ever happened to freedom of speech? It is our right as free human beings to listen to or say whatever we want. We have the right to listen to filth on the radio and we also have the right to say "I don't like this," and simply change the station! We fought hard and earned the right to say the word, "ass" on the radio. It is simply unconstitutional to say

## VOICE OF THE CAMPUS

# Devil's Juice



I know I can't stop you. As a reader, you have your mind set on how you feel about everyday issues that affect our society. There aren't enough statistics to throw at you to make you change your instincts towards what's right and wrong. An entire arsenal of moral-soaked ammunition wouldn't budge many corpses from their

ideals.

However, I'm not here to change how you feel, and I don't want to. Despite the last comment, morals are something I rarely sling around. I pretend that its for the sake of others, but truth be told, I know my moral scale would get me kicked around from many sides. I digress, but keep that last paragraph in mind for as long as my picture stays next to this column.

There are a lot of things I object to people doing, but I don't believe they are inherently "wrong" or "evil" or "immoral." Few things in life, besides child abuse or rape, and some instances of murder, get that label from me. No, there's just certain things that bother me a little, and then bother me a lot when people aren't responsible with them.

I don't mind a glass of wine with my dinner. I had a quarter of a glass of Kaluahi at a Christmas get-together with friends. Needless to say, I walked out around two that night, and they walked out somewhat fuzzy the next morning. Is there anything wrong with that? By no means. We had a great time. It was the first time I had ever been to a party with any substantial amount of alcohol, and my friends knew how I'm not very keen on drinking. I ended up not minding it because I saw that they were responsible in imbibing their devil juice...I mean beer.

I dislike the notion of people being drunk. Its not that I care about their livers, I can't help getting flashes of car wrecks and other misc. consequences. There are so many cases of people getting in their cars drunk, and a family getting a newly polished gravestone to put up. The birth date and current year only total up to five. So many instances where people pass out and wake up next to a stranger. That or they wake up to realize they have been abused. Did they use condoms? Could that person have a STD? When your brain shuts down you can't tell. I won't even get into how alcoholism affects families.

Does all this make alcohol bad? No. My glass of wine at dinner doesn't cause large metal bodies to violently collide. My friends having a little beer didn't lead to strange bedding arrangements in the morning. Its called responsibility and common sense. Drinking in a safe environment with people you can trust, and maintaining some semblance of consciousness, is the key to keeping alcohol in its rightful place. At this point, I don't even fathom why someone would try to drive.

As far as what lies further down the spectrum, people who abuse alcohol in everyday life; these people affect not only their families but also everyone around them. Their children might grow up thinking that the actions of an alcoholic family member are normal and acceptable, regardless of possibly violent attitudes associated with them. They may also lose out on so many opportunities in life because they think that you can't have fun without being three sheets to the wind. Please don't become the perpetrator of those beliefs.

So how does all this affect you, the reader? For those of you who don't drink, you don't have to feel like the oddball. You don't need to succumb to peer pressure to have a good time. To those who drink, for your safety I recommend the previously mentioned points. For my safety, and that of any children I wish to bear in the future, I plead that neither you, nor anyone you know, drives drunk. Regardless of age, we are all in college to send our lives out on new paths. Think of what you want in life. You can enjoy it, but there is a line for how much. Sometimes we pay high prices for crossing it.

Marijuana is also included in my list of things I don't quite agree with. That, however, is my problem, and if you do it, then I will not stop you or tell you you're wrong. I have many friends who partake in the activity. As before, I simply ask for consideration. Around fifteen percent of car crashes are marijuana related. A number of job related accidents happen because someone's high. If you're going to do it, do it in your basement. (I have faith in my readers that they wouldn't leave children unattended, if they have any.) Mostly, don't do it when you're at work. Would you like your important business messed up because someone's getting high during office hours? Would you like your surgeon stoned out of his mind during surgery? Well I don't like my extra large French fries handed to me by any of the guys from Half Baked. Lastly, I know many pot-smokers are going to bitch, but I really like going to concerts and really hate being stuck in clouds of Mary Jane, regardless of where I stand. Maybe I'm a square, but I think I have the right to complain without getting shunned off. Just because the concert's heavy metal doesn't mean I need to be exposed to anything more than a mosh pit. One time I had an entire glass of whiskey, mixed with God knows what, dropped on my head from a balcony. If you think that's fine, then just let me know what major event you'll be at in the next couple months, and we'll see what you think afterwards.

This topic is quite a hefty one. I can't tackle every aspect of it, and I don't want to devote more columns to it (unless I get emails addressing the subject). I want to make it clear, I have nothing against people who engage in these activities. I simply ask, as a bystander, that you respect us boring individuals. Even if I were to engage in them, I think you could appreciate my responsibility, regardless if you care about who I am. If you don't, that just may mean the loss of someone you do care for.

## Mail Bag

Dear Editor,

There are a couple of things I would like to address in relation to Joe Hertel's article about this semesters Children's Theatre Workshop production in the March 30 issue of the Independent.

In the article Joe said, "I kinda wonder if Denise and Fred felt a little bit uncomfortable in their assigned roles." Immediately after the performance Joe asked Denise that very question and she told Joe that she didn't. So Joe knew before he wrote the article that Denise Deer was comfortable with her role as "Cleaning Lady."

I'm very surprised at Joe for writing the article and encouraging the publication of a statement he absolutely knew to be untrue. Denise told him she auditioned for that role because she wanted it and that she was pleased, not uncomfortable, to receive the part she had auditioned for. Joe is the one who called her "an ebony Carol Burnett foil." Joe is the one who stereotyped her.

As for Denise's "afro-wig," that wig is of identical design to all of the other wigs worn by all of the other clowns who wear wigs, regardless of their ethnicity.

Joe questioned the appropriateness of the play for children. I feel I must point out that the content of the show is similar to or, in many cases, much milder than most of what children in this age group see on television, in movies, and in video and computer games.

I sat in the same audience with Joe with the same children and we both know the students had fun. They weren't afraid. They weren't traumatized. I watch every show and after every show I watch the children leave smiling. I watch them say goodbye to all the clowns who wait to greet them in the lobby after each performance. Some of the children even ask for autographs.

I hope that next time Joe comes to the theater he comes without preconceived notions and that he can write an honest and impartial response to whatever show he sees. And that he make a reservation.

Carolyn Bonner

Senior, communications, media and theatre, and  
Booking and publicity coordinator, Children's Theatre Workshop

## Mail Bag

To the Editor:

I am an active member of the theater department here at NEIU, as well as the Stage Center Theater. Upon reading the column written by the "Old Man on Campus," Joe Hertel, I was considerably disturbed. The first half column focused on the use and the impropriety of the use of a BANG-flag gun in a clown show. With all the censorship that is growing these days, it is a hot topic. I am not sure where I stand on that. Perhaps the teachers of the schools or the parents, being forewarned of the BANG-flag gun could decide whether it is appropriate for their children or not. I can say that in this show, *A Cluster of Clowns*, there is no promotion of violence. Having grown up in a household where there was a gun present, I can say with confidence, that at least in my situation, I would have not gone home after seeing this show and had any desire to play with or use my father's gun. However, because it can be different for different children, the parents and teachers should consider whether or not the show is appropriate. The schools and teachers are given material on our show and are aware of the content, so they do have that option.

Moving onto the topic which concerned me the most, I was very disturbed by the implication that the director of the show, Anna Antaramian, is racist. The "Old Man on Campus" brought up the casting of our show and stated that it was stereotypical and wrong to have casted an African -American in the role of both the Cleaning Lady and the Gentleman Drunk. Having been in Children's Theater, Joe Hertel should remember that students request what roles they would like to play and, more often than not, get them. In this particular case, both of these actors requested these roles. What I have difficulty understanding is why this was mentioned in his article because he asked the actors about this immediately following the show and it was explained to him that these actors desired these roles. Having this understanding, why then write an article trying to vilify both the director and the playwright? Moving on, Hertel also mentioned the use of a green afro wig for the Cleaning Lady. Being the costumer for the show, I can say this is not so. Her wig, along with ten others, were all purchased at the same costume shop, and were various colors of the same CLOWN wig. I can say with certainty that there is no secret, racist agenda in the production of this children's show, *A Cluster of Clowns*.

In short, I am deeply disturbed about the article written by the "Old Man on Campus," and I hope that in the future his articles, or reviews of Stage Center productions will be more thought-out and less deceptive.

Michelle Tapkowski

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## Letter Policy-

Letters to the Editor must be signed, contain address and telephone number for verification. Aprox 300 words in length or less. Subject to editing for style and space at editors discretion. Editor reserves right to omit any work submitted. Published on first come first serve basis.



# Should Coca Cola be kicked out of Northeastern?

## Propaganda rots your teeth

by Cecilia Carboni  
Production Editor

I'm sure a couple of you have gone to one of the Coca Cola vending machines in the last few weeks and found a Killer Coke sticker looming over the options. Propaganda such as this has been circulating the school, and the group has gotten the Student Government Association (SGA) to boycott Coke on campus. I'm here to defend my Sprite Remix.

The first thing that one needs to understand about Columbia is the current political atmosphere. They have been in the midst of turmoil for the last 40 years. In June 2003, the International Confederation of Free Trade Unions reported that 184 Columbian workers were reported dead in 2002. Amnesty International reports at least 60,000 deaths in Columbia since 1985, and countless more have been kidnapped or tortured.

No one's denying they were killed, but the debated is over Coke's involvement in it. So far the Columbian Attorney General, one Columbian court, and the U.S. District court in Miami, has absolved Coca Cola of any involvement.

FEMSA, the bottling company in Columbia, has even taken steps to ensure the safety of the union leaders by providing transportation, paid leave, job transfers, extensive life insurance, and cell phones for emergency use that are actually used by speakers of the Killer Coke campaign on tour through U.S. universities.

SINALTRAINBEC, the labor union that has filed the allegations against Coca Cola has even publicly stated that it has "no single indication" that the bottler had links to the paramilitaries. The Miami court dismissed them for that lack of factual or legal basis to the claim. The IUF, an international union with ties to representatives of bottling employees has even released statements rejecting SINALTRAINAL's claims.

The Killer Coke campaign blames plant managers as the ones inciting violence against workers. SINALTRAINAL lists Jose Libaro Herrera Osorio as one of the victims among murdered union leaders, when, in fact, Herrera was a plant manager himself.

Coke may own 46% of shares, but the majority of bottling companies are independents that buy supplies from Coke and then bottle and distribute themselves. One such company is Coca Cola Enterprises, the bottler located in Niles that supplies NEIU's vending machines.

The Killer Coke campaign has its supporters largely on college campuses. One of the handouts to the SGA shows a long list of clubs who endorsed the measure. What worries me is the spirit of blind rebellion that seems to so easily wave through the minds of those in higher education.

The Killer Coke website has a list of Coke CEO's and how much they make, as if its some sort of indicator. Why does it matter that CEO Philip Humann has 668,826 shares of Sun Trust Banks? Does this point to some strong correlation with immorality? Perhaps it does, and we should then start worrying for the morality of those who bring suits against Coca Cola asking for compensatory and punitive damages ranging from \$50 million to \$6 billion dollars.

Four of the union leaders on the speaking circuit are still on Coca Cola's payroll. That seems hypocritical. Why would you be taking their "blood money" if you have an issue with them? Is it standard union practice to sue the company and then still cash the paychecks that allow you to speak at Loyola next to a poster of corpses floating in a Coke glass? Sometimes we seem simply eager to kick the giant in the shins without thinking of what it entails.

I say we keep Coke on this campus, and that next time SGA members vote towards something, they do a little of their own research.

## Stop selling death, I mean Coke

by Tom Robb  
Co-News Editor

Coca-Cola is probably the single most recognized American consumer product sold in the world. You can get a Coke across the world from Kuwait to Columbia. From China to Canada, you can have a Coke and a smile.

But not everyone is smiling about Coke. In Columbia, the Sintrialias Bottling Union leaders and organizers are getting killed, and have been since the mid 1970's, in some cases in the Coca-Cola bottling plants themselves by government paramilitary death squads.

Coca-Cola will dispute some of these facts, so let us get specific about sources. Louis Cardona was a union organizer with the Sintrialias Union in Columbia and is in the United States with his wife and children on a political asylum visa--not easy to get in this post 9/11 world. Cardona spoke at NEIU and appeared on WZRD Radio.

Cardona claimed that he was kidnapped by Columbian paramilitaries shortly after the murder of another Sintrialias union organizer named Gill inside a bottling plant in Columbia. Cardona escaped and made his way to the United States where he and his family were granted political asylum.

Coke has stated that Columbia is a dangerous place filled with drug dealers and thugs, where politics, union activity, and civil war are just a way of life. People die all the time. That is just how it is down there.

The Union was only trying to strong arm the company for money. But you can't connect this to Coke. Coke can also claim that bottling plants are independent, and they have little control of them.

The fact is that Coke's stake in that "independent" plant is 46%. If a business had one single client that represented 46% of its business, it would do what it was told. All you have to do is to look at Wal-Mart to see that paradigm in action.

There is motive for Coke to want to suppress union activity, and there is a long history of violent union busting in the history of unions across this country and around the world.

Besides Cardona there are organizations like Amnesty international and Human Rights Watch who have made these observations as well.

Coke states on a web site set up to address this issue that a court case in Miami against Coke was thrown out of court regarding this issue.

The fact is that Coke did not deny many of the charges of Cardona, Amnesty International, and Human Rights Watch in that trial. The case was dismissed due to the U.S. court's lack of jurisdiction in Columbia.

So student activists have made convincing cases that Coke has blood on its hands in Columbia. The Student Government has passed a resolution calling for Coke to be removed from campus and 22 student organizations support the campaign to remove Coke.

Mark Kipp of Auxiliary Services stated to the *Independent* that he is concerned about the impact of removing Coke on the local bottler in Niles. NEIU will not go without soft drinks, if a company like RC Cola comes in to fill that void. Not only would that create jobs to counter those lost to Coke, but, in the case of RC, a Chicago based company, the money would not go to Atlanta, but stay here in Chicago.

The students have spoken. Remove Coke from campus.

## Parking lies

by Azucena Beltran  
Staff Writer

Seventeen million dollars is the cost of the new construction of the parking facility. Sure that sounds like a lot of money, but that is how much it costs to undertake a construction of that magnitude. But money is not the urgent issue (really, it isn't). The amount won't be fully paid by students and it won't be paid right away. That will take about 20 or so years.

The question and concern that has surfaced on campus is, "Where am I supposed to park?" But then again doesn't that question come up everyday anyway? The answer, I don't know. Maybe it'd be easier to take the bus in order to avoid looking around for parking. Half of the parking lots will be closed. The construction will only take three weeks out of the semester, but it will still be three hard weeks. You don't drive, you say? Well then that changes things...NOT! Believe it or not some pathways will also be closed, mostly the ones behind the library and the fine arts building.

So much work has to be done that I seriously don't think it will be done by the time fall semester rolls in. The bid set was that at least 500 spaces would be open by the start of the semester, but there are serious things to consider. For example, weather conditions might impair work in certain days. Mechanical conditions and difficulties might be another complication.

Northeastern does not exactly have the best record at keeping deadlines, as with the auditorium that has been in construction for several years and is still under works. The courtyard in front of the bookstore is another example. The renovation of that small area took so much time and also passed its deadline, not by weeks, but months.

The parking structure deals with complicated procedures, like rewiring and relocating many electrical and sewage lines under the parking lots. There will also be the placement of a completely new line for heating and air conditioning that will be connected from the library. These are complicated things to do and anything could go wrong that could make the deadline later than expected. It will get even harder during the winter months when weather conditions can freeze machinery or workers refuse to work under extreme conditions. Living in Chicago one can expect anything from the weather. It may take days, even weeks, out of the work period.

Be prepared to look somewhere else for parking, because if the university sets a deadline, we have learned that the completion date is only known when we actually see it. The past has taught a hard lesson to staff, students and faculty. Don't count on deadlines. It is very rare when a construction deadline for a project of this magnitude actually happens when it is supposed to. I truly do wish to the full extent that it is done in time. It will spare many much suffering.

## Don't CICS and El Centro count?

by Benny Boyas  
Senior Staff Writer

NEIU students unconsciously relish the comfort that comes with having well-lit walkways and parking lots. For emergency situations, "Code Blue Emergency Phones," are available throughout campus, recognizable by the bright-blue light on their peaks. Constant roving patrols are conducted by public safety personnel.

These uniformed individuals are available for personal escorts if a student should desire one for fear of personal safety. All of these points attest to the fact that NEIU is actively providing a safe, secure learning environment. Unfortunately, this isn't the case at other campuses.

At El Centro, you will not find a public safety squad car in sight. Instead, a contracted security officer, demanding a student ID while unarmed, without a radio. In case of an emergency, find the nearest telephone and dial 911. There are no pay phones at El Centro.

You will find is a stretch of Pulaski Blvd., which is poorly lit at nighttime, where students park their cars, or wait patiently for public transportation. Though parking fees are deducted for those attending El Centro, the official parking offered to students is a back row of a Jewel parking lot, ominous at night. And no escort service is available. But does this really matter, since statistically, El Centro is safer than the main campus?

According to the latest safety and security information report available, the prevalence of crime at off-campus sites, such as El Centro and Center for Inner City Studies (CICS), is virtually non-existent. A three year analysis,

beginning in 2000, shows a pair of burglaries which occurred in 2002 at unspecified locations.

While the bulk of crimes occurring on NEIU property happened at the main campus, the report cites 27 burglaries, 6 motor vehicle thefts, 7 assaults, and 1 drug violation in the same time frame, all being categorized as having occurred in the public domain. But what about the gang related drive-by-shooting that occurred in front of El Centro last month? Will that go classified as having occurred on public property?

After all, NEIU does not own a stake of Pulaski Blvd., nor does it have any responsibility to patrol the city streets. If ruled to have happened on public property, the end result could be a skewed statistical presentation. One must consider this when interpreting the annual safety report. The way the data is currently collapsed could actually be misleading.

Officially, the only crimes that occurred at the external sites were those burglaries. But what if the victims of the "public property" crimes, those other assaults and motor vehicle thefts, were El Centro/CICS students? Those 27 burglaries could have happened in front of El Centro's doors, therefore having occurred on public property. Those 7 assaults could be CICS teachers, mugged in route to their cars.

Additionally, with a lack of public safety personnel at these places, the possibility of crimes being underreported is not far-fetched. Students fearing retaliation could be hesitant to call police for fear that their attacker(s) will return to the scene. Without the presence of uniformed officers, the victim could be placed

in harm's way once more.

But state law does not mandate that NEIU furnish public safety officers at these other sites. Chapter 110, of Illinois Compiled Statutes (ILCS) 680/25-45(11) merely states that members of NEIU's police department have the right to be conservators of the peace on all university property when the exercise of such power "is required for the protection of University properties and interests, and its students and personnel." But the law never specifically dictates a bona fide requirement of providing for the safety of these other branches.

If one student would have been hurt or killed in the shooting at El Centro, the controversy would have terrorized the administration for its lack of protection. Fortunately, that didn't happen. But why wait for bad things to happen? Why charge an equal amount for education, and provide unequal environments?

Unless students, faculty, and staff speak out against this disparate treatment, it will take a tragedy to get the attention needed to alleviate this unfairness. And when that does happen, when the next incidence of violence or theft occurs, everyone will wonder why there was no help available.

For now, we can only wonder why this is happening, and what the official response will be when the university is confronted. Until then, make sure your parking fees and student fees are paid off, which in one way or another help pay for the protection you will not receive if you are an off-campus student, so that the university may not cite a lack of money for failing to provide a safe, learning environment.



# Eagle's Nest

## Lifestyles of the Northeastern community



You are up late, waddling over to your bathroom to grab a drink of some of that tasty dihydrogen oxide, or simply water. You then slowly turn the knob to get your fix. But what's coming out of the faucet isn't just water. Well water is a solvent, which means it can pick up all types of natural and unnatural pollutants, and those need to be cleaned out so you can safely drink it. Water doesn't come straight from Lake Michigan to your faucet, there is fairly simple process that water goes through to make it safer for you to drink.

Chicago didn't always have this treatment. Initially the city just put out pumping stations further out to sea. You can still see these cylindrical structures out in the lake. But then Chicago needed a way to clarify the water.

This process starts from the intakes (our lake). There are two plants that the water goes to next in Chicago: South Water Purification Plant (serving the south) and Jardine Water Purification Plant (serving central and north Chicago). Water then goes through the process of chemical addition of Aluminum Sulfate or Alum, Polymer, and Chlorine. This is done to kill any and all germs, to settle the solids in the water, to improve taste, and eliminate odor.

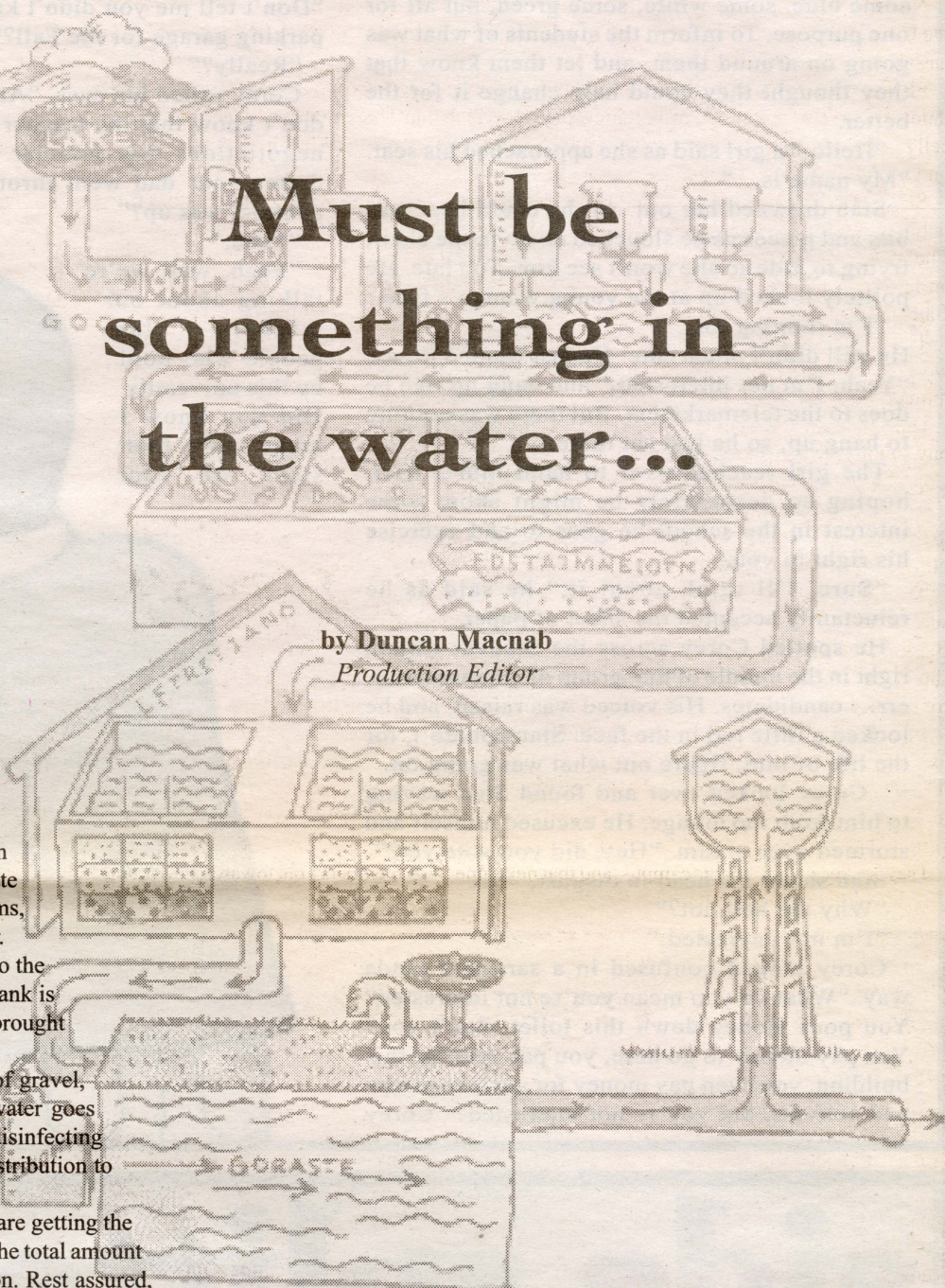
This leads us to the settlement tank. This calms the water down so the solids can, for a lack of a better term, settle to the bottom. The next tank is the coagulation and flocculation tank; this is where more solids are brought together for the next stage.

Next is the filtration stage where the water flows through a layer of gravel, then sand, then smaller grains to trap all remaining solids. Then the water goes through one final disinfection process where chlorine, fluoride, and other disinfecting chemical are used. Finally the water gets to the storage tanks ready for distribution to your friendly faucet.

At every stage Control Engineers test and retest the water to ensure you are getting the safest and cleanest water possible. The amounts of chemicals are very small! The total amount of chemicals needed to clean 100 gallons of water is roughly about a teaspoon. Rest assured, you are drinking mostly water, but thanks to these essential chemicals, you are drinking safely. Now, keep drinking that wonderful natural liquid we can't live without.

## Must be something in the water...

by Duncan Macnab  
Production Editor



## The science behind that incessant sneezi...sneezin...ACHOO!

by Daniel Peikes  
Senior Staff writer

So you are sneezing and have a runny nose, itchy eyes, and headaches; it seems like a really bad winter head cold. Well if you thought that, you might be wrong, because folks, it is allergy season.

What are allergies actually? Allergies are an overreaction of your immune system to perfectly harmless substances such as pollen or pet dander. The materials that the body over reacts to are called allergens. Allergies are very common, about 20% of Americans have them.

What happens in an allergic reaction? First the body starts forming a specific type of antibody called an IgE. The IgE's then attach themselves to a type of blood cell called a mast cell. There tends to be many mast cells in the GI tract and the airway where allergies tend to occur. The mast cells eventually explode, spreading all sorts of chemicals throughout the body. One of these chemicals is histamine. Histamine causes most of the symptoms of allergies. Allergy symptoms can be classified into three categories: mild,

moderate, and severe.

Mild symptoms include congestion, hives, rash, and itchy, watery eyes. Mild reactions usually do not spread to other parts of the body and are not serious. Moderate symptoms include itchiness and trouble breathing and can spread to other parts of the body. Severe allergic reactions are also known as Anaphylaxis. Anaphylaxis is a rare condition that can be life threatening. The symptoms may start mild and eventually become more serious and spread to the entire body. The symptoms can include varying degrees of swelling that may make breathing difficult, diarrhea, cramps, vomiting, abdominal pain, and mental confusion and dizziness.

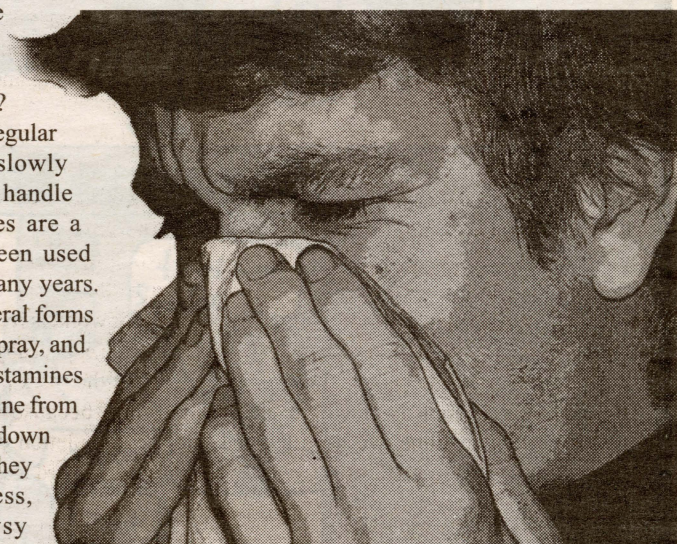
So what can you do to prevent allergic reactions? Well you can try to allergy proof your home, by keeping windows closed therefore keeping the irritating substances out. Also don't use fans because they can stir up allergens. Filter your air, cover your air conditioning with cheese cloth and use a high efficiency particulate filter in your furnace.

Don't forget to clean your filters and air ducts at least once a year. Keep the humidity in your house at less than 50% in order to

prevent mold growth. If you have pets, keep them outside. If you must keep them inside, keep them out of bedrooms and bath them regularly. Stay away from musty areas where molds grow such as attics, basements, garages, barns, and compost heaps. Have these areas cleaned regularly. Air out damp clothes before storing. Dry clothes quickly, do not let them sit in the washing machine and develop mold.

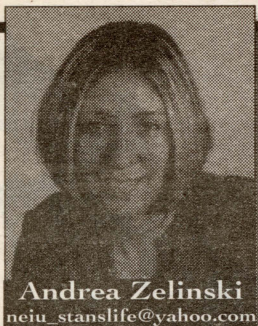
What do you do if you already have allergies? Well first you can take regular allergy shots that will slowly increase your ability to handle allergens. Antihistamines are a type of drug that has been used to control allergies for many years. They are available in several forms such as liquid, pill, nasal spray, and eye drops. How do antihistamines work? They prevent histamine from binding to your cells. The downside to antihistamines is they tend to cause drowsiness, although non-drowsy formulas are available.

Decongestants are also prescribed very often in order to relieve nasal and sinus pressure. There are also combination antihistamine and decongestion medication available. Different prescription medications for the treating allergies have also become more common. Consult a physician before starting any drug regimen.



Don't let allergies slow you down

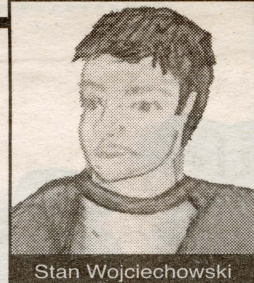




Andrea Zelinski  
neiu\_stanslife@yahoo.com

# Stan's Life

General Apathy



Stan Wojciechowski

He just sat there in the Student Union while dozens of people crowded around Village Square for some election. What did he care? Stan had simply plopped himself down in one of the seats and, like most of the students at Northeastern, ignored what was going on around him.

Student elections were rolling. People were passing out fliers left and right. Some pink, some blue, some white, some green, but all for one purpose. To inform the students of what was going on around them, and let them know that they thought they could help change it for the better.

"Hello," a girl said as she approached his seat. "My name is..."

Stan drowned her out. All he could hear was bits and pieces as he slouched down in the chair, trying to hide so she won't see him. Too late. He politely looked up at the young woman's face.

"I'm running for..."  
He still didn't much care. He just wanted to say, "Yeah, I'm not interested," and hang up like he does to the telemarketers. But there was nothing to hang up, so he just sat there.

The girl reached over to hand him a flier, hoping so desperately he might show some interest in the school he goes to and exercise his right to vote.

"Sure, I'll think about it," he said as he reluctantly accepted the sheet of paper.

He spotted Corey across the Student Union, right in the middle of that group of telemarketers, err... candidates. His voiced was raised, and he looked a little red in the face. Stan couldn't, for the life of him, figure out what was going on.

Corey looked over and found Stan waving to him from the lounge. He excused himself and stormed over to him. "Hey, did you vote yet?"

Stan shook his head in disgust, "No."

"Why the hell not?"

"I'm not interested."

Corey looked confused in a sarcastic kinda way. "What do you mean you're not interested? You pour money down this toilet, don't you? You pay money to go here, you pay fees for this building, you even pay money for student groups and activities, but you're not interested?" Corey

shrugged in disgust.

Stan stood up for himself. "You know what, I'm not."

"Do you EVEN know what goes on at this school, Stan? Do you?" He pulled out a copy of a flyer and pointed at the front page. "Did you even know that the student government wants to spend \$16,000 on a party?" He flipped to another page, "Don't tell me you didn't know we're getting a parking garage for the Fall?"

"Really?"

Corey rolled his eyes. "And don't tell me you don't know that the teacher's contract is up for negotiations this summer. Remember all the drama your dad went through when his labor contract was up?"

"Yeah,"

"Yeah, well we're talking about our teachers, the people who hold up this university. Did you know I make more than some of your

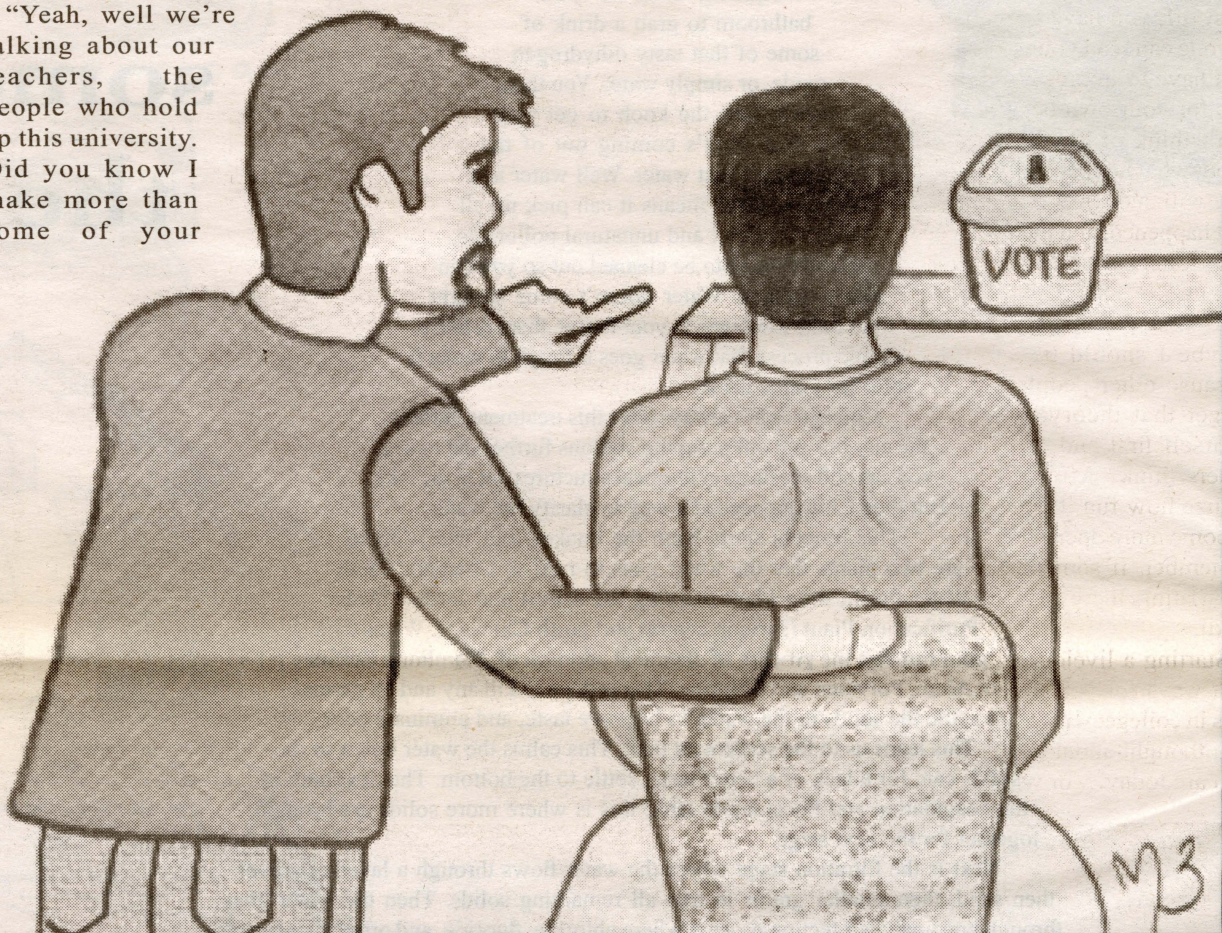
professors?"

"Get out!"

"I'm serious," he paused. "I work at a clothing store, and I make more money than 2 of my professors," Corey stopped. "Get your head out of your ass and get involved, man. You pay to be here, but you don't give a shit about what happens. Its disgusting," he paused, "this whole place is disgusting."

"But why support this student government? They're just training to be corrupt politicians anyway? You know Senator Gutierrez went here right?"

"Yeah, but that's not the point. The point is you need to get involved. *All* these people need to get involved. Wake up and smell the Starbucks, man. This is your school too."

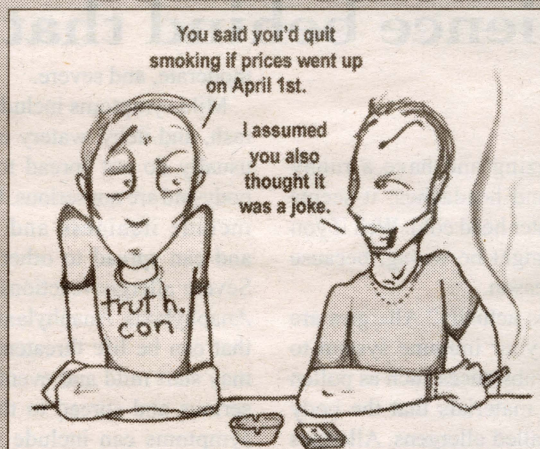


## side splitters

Michelle Zelinski



Cecilia Carboni



& David Cavazos

Azucena Beltran





# Enteries to the life you want to remember

By Jessica Moen  
Staff writer

College is a very important time in our lives, and it is important that you remember it just as it was. The best way to do that is to keep a journal of everything. But what fun is writing something down if you can't share it with others? That is why you could start a live journal.

Livejournals, or blogs as they're commonly called, are all over the internet now. They are great because not only can you share your thoughts with everyone, but you can read them as well! Heck even Howard Dean has a blog! You can write down anything you want, any way you want. The best part about them is that there are no guidelines!

Ok, so I convinced you to get a live journal finally. Now, how do you write in it? Well here are a few tips on how and what to write about. First off, you have to realize that even though anyone can read your journal, that doesn't mean you have to impress anybody. You are writing this for your own benefit. If you are stuck and can't think of anything to write about, write about what happened that day. As you progress, you will suddenly remember something crazy that happened, and then you can write about that. They can be as long or as short as you want, so go nuts!

At first you might feel a little like, "Hey, maybe I should be careful of what I write because other people are reading this." Well forget that theory! You are writing this for yourself first and foremost. Who cares what others think? After a while you will start to realize how fun it is to write in these and will become more open about sharing anything. Just remember, if someone doesn't like what you are writing, there are a million other journals to read!

Starting a livejournal, or blog, is one of the best ways for you to remember your life as it was in college: what you did back then and what you thought about it that made you the person you are today... or will be someday.

# CLIFFS NOTES on Cliffs Notes

So you're just realizing that you only have a few more weeks in the semester and you still need to write that term paper on Shakespeare's Hamlet. Is it humanly possible to read and understand it in that short period of time? Maybe not, but fortunately you have access to handy Cliff Notes.

We all know what Cliff Notes are, but how did they come into being? The brains behind the books was Cliff Hillegass, who developed them in 1958. After finishing his graduate studies at the University of Nebraska, he got his first job as a college bookstore representative for Long's College Bookstore, currently the Nebraska Book Company.

Cliff got the idea from one contact in Canada, Jack Cole, who owned a book company which produced study guides called Cole's Notes. These were only released in Canada. After Cliff had a chat with Cole, he suggested that Cliff should do something like it in the States. With that, Cliff hopped on the train and created Cliffs Notes in late 1958, beginning with 16 Shakespeare study guides.

Nearly fifty years have passed, and the Cliff Notes library is still growing. Though the main competition is Spark Notes, it is still the brand used most often by students studying the greats in literature or cramming for those annoying standardized tests. In 2000, Cliffs Notes expanded their audience by entering the Web, so that even more students can access the study guides. For more on studying really fast, log-on to [www.cliffsnotes.com](http://www.cliffsnotes.com)

by Duncan Macnab  
Production Editor

A TONY SCOTT FILM  
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# Campus Spotlight: *El Centro under recognized and appreciated*

by Andrew Valkanas  
Staff Writer

Nestled between a massive, shuttered warehouse and a supermarket showing signs of age lies a two-story building that shares the feel of these dated structures. The exterior is unassuming, and looks hastily patched. Only an awning and a large blue sign alert that this is El Centro, one of NEIU's satellite campuses.

Stepping inside the structure, though, is a shock. The interior is fresh and new, with more space than one would assume from the exterior. The common area is filled with chairs and small tables, covered with copies of school pamphlets and publications. A small study space lies between two offices, and a full computer lab is next to the main corridor.

The classes at El Centro are smaller than they are at the main campus, both in room size and, as a result, number of students. The classes taught at El Centro, though, have a more casual feel about them. "You get to know all the students and teachers," said student Soa Quispe, who is taking four classes at El Centro this semester.

There are a fair number of classes taught at the El Centro campus. This semester, 44 classes were scheduled, and of these, four were cancelled and another eight were relocated to the main campus. The recent expansion of facilities has allowed 56 classes to be scheduled for the fall semester, almost all of which are general education courses.

During the day, it serves another purpose, as home to the Antonia Pantoja High School, run by Aspira. The school serves nearly 100 students, all of whom were former dropouts and are between the ages of 16 and 21.

Students, faculty, and members of the community are alarmed, however, at the recent incidents of violence and gang activity at the school. "Gang signs are being flashed by their students. [A gang sign was] etched into the vending machines," said Ruben Oliveras.

This may be a difficult proposition. NEIU signed a multi-year contract with Aspira for use of the facility, and those funds have helped pay for the expansion, which has more than doubled its size and increased the number of classrooms from six to eleven. "It wasn't the best idea, but now that they're here, we have to work things out," said Raquel Sandoval, between classes.





**Horse (1918, 1930, 1942, 1954, 1966, 1978, 1990, 2002):** A wanderer that looks for stability and freedom. Love to be in the crowd, but are secretly insecure about their presence and tend to fade out in time. They are smart but somewhat impatient and miss many opportunities because they give up too early. Compatible with Dog or Tiger.



**Goat (1919, 1931, 1943, 1955, 1967, 1979, 1991, 2003):** An imaginative free spirit. Idealistic in love, yet they tend to worry incessantly over small issues that end up driving away their partners. These Goats would do well to find some time and relax, while being careful not to drift away in daydream. Compatible with Pig and Rabbit.



**Monkeys (1920, 1932, 1944, 1956, 1968, 1980, 1992, 2004):** Exactly what we think of them: clever, energetic, and quirky. Not only are they a party staple but they are also very intelligent and diplomatic. In love, very exciting mate, but not always too good at long-term. This curious creature can be too curious for its own good. Compatible with Rat or Dragon.



**Rooster (1921, 1933, 1945, 1957, 1969, 1981, 1993, 2005):** Straight-forward and honest, these are the most observant of the flightless birds. Always in control of their surroundings, they maintain high standards for themselves and their friends. This is why they need to sometimes loosen up, or they run the risk of driving away more easy going signs, such as the Rat. Compatible with the Ox and Snake.



**Snake (1917, 1929, 1941, 1953, 1965, 1977, 1989, 2001):** A paradox of sorts, the Snake is both loud and introverted at the same time. Very good with money matters and make good diplomats. Analyze situations well and are hard workers but it takes them a while to get started. Confidence is what balances them. Compatible with Rooster and Ox.



**Dragons (1916, 1928, 1940, 1952, 1964, 1976, 1988, 2000):** Possess all the luck and power associated with the mythical creature. Dragons are though to be lucky in love and work. These social butterflies just have to be careful to keep their egos' in check in order to lead a happy life. Compatible with Monkey or Rat.

## Chinese Zodiac: The 12 step program

by Cecilia Carboni  
Production Editor

Unless you are adverse to the taste of Chinese food, I'm sure you've ran into those paper placemats with the Chinese zodiac on it. Everyone likes to find their corresponding animal and that of their friends, and giggle about the similarities. But where does it originate from?

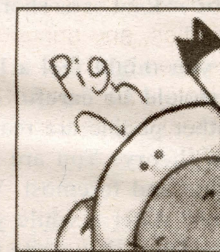
There are several variations of the legend that explain why these specific animals represent the zodiac, the order of the animals, and their personalities. In one story, Buddha invites all the animals to meet with him, and the twelve animals represented were the only ones who came. Each year was named in the order in which the animals arrived. Another story speaks of a race held by the Jade Emperor of Heaven. Rat is the first of all the animals in the cycle, and was considered to possess great cunning because he tricked Ox to get there before him.

In general, the animals represent the full 12 year cycle of the Chinese lunar calendar. In fact, their calendar never starts or ends on the same date for two consecutive years, and one century is actually only 60 years.

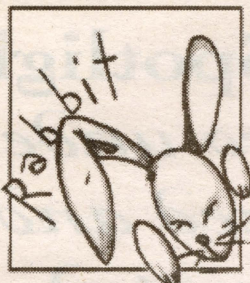
Each animal's personality is also influenced by the elements of Metal, Wood, Water, Earth, and Fire. Each element thus lends its properties to that sign. These are elements you're not going to normally find influencing your Chinese restaurant place mat, which is why it is good to research your sign. There are plenty of good books about it in local libraries or on-line that can give you a fuller explanation. Three or four lines are fun, but still very general. Even if you don't believe in it completely, you'll find there's a lot of good advice and wisps of ancient wisdom woven into the tapestry that the cycle represents.



**Dog (1922, 1934, 1946, 1958, 1970, 1982, 1994, 2006):** Loyal and all that usual stuff, but this pooch might have a hard time trusting others. Prone to making little white lies to avoid confrontations and conflicts. Stubborn, in business and love they need to learn to trust their partners and then they will find some peace. Compatible with the Tiger and Horse.



**Pig (1923, 1935, 1947, 1959, 1971, 1983, 1995, 2007):** This little piggy is one of the most generous signs. It is loyal to friends and family and always works hard to make sure everyone is happy. Highly intelligent, and with an appreciation for the finer things in life. Their life lesson is learning to expand their group of friends and make themselves more assessable to others.



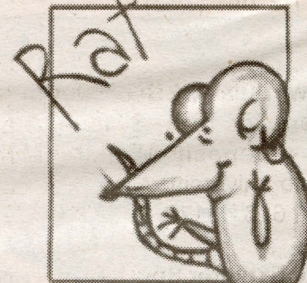
**Rabbit (1915, 1927, 1939, 1951, 1963, 1975, 1987, 1999):** This bunny is a warm, sensitive being with a wide range of friends and family. Very sweet, but sometimes timid, yet very protective. Dislike arguments and breaks down when faced with conflict. Learning to be more self-assertive is the goal of this sign. Compatible with Goat or Pig.



**Tiger (1914, 1926, 1938, 1950, 1962, 1974, 1986, 1998):** Born leaders. Charming personalities, they like to be the center of it all. Bold but also prone to especially bad mood swings when under stressful times. Achieve the most when they learn to pace themselves in life. Most compatible with the Horse and Dog.



**Ox (1913, 1925, 1937, 1949, 1961, 1973, 1985, 1997):** Patient and economic with their words. Can be quite eccentric and ill-tempered. Very easy-going when not angry, although still stubborn. Are very dependable and close to their family, the introvert at parties. They are most compatible with Snake, Rooster, and Rat.



**Rat (1912, 1924, 1936, 1948, 1960, 1972, 1984, 1996):** Charming and talkative, overall social. They are perfectionists, but tend to acquire clutter. While their ambitions may seem lofty, they usually are very successful. Hot-tempered. Extremely loyal to their close friends. Compatible with those born in the years of Dragon, Monkey, and Ox.

## Professor Profile: Dr. Brian Torosian's opus

by Elana Barron  
Staff writer

Dr. Brian Torosian is a professor whom many students have encountered at Northeastern. Torosian, who seems to have found extra hours in each day, teaches the general education music courses and classical guitar, directs student concerts, and performs throughout the Midwest and on the radio.

Torosian graduated from Northwestern, completing his dissertation on classical guitarist and composer J.K. Mertz. Further, his *Selected Operatic Fantasies of Mertz* includes five pieces by Mertz that have been out of print for the last century. He found these pieces while digging through libraries and archives throughout America.

After he graduated, Torosian continued to study. In the summers of '94-'96, he

learned under Oscar Ghiglia, the prized student of Andres Segovia (the Babe Ruth of classical guitar), at the Accademia Musicale Chigiana in Siena, Italy. For those who are musically ignorant, this academy is to music as Harvard is to law, only it is harder to be accepted. Torosian received the Diploma of Merit, one of the highest awards given.

Torosian, as he teaches his students, knows that effort and dedication are the keys to success. In his youth, he practiced for hours along with the radio and records. Today, he practices 3-8 hours each day. Even his dedication to the Cubs does not interfere; he watches the games with the sound off, allowing him to practice.

Torosian's classes primarily deal with music which most students are unfamiliar and often adverse. MTV does not play 7<sup>th</sup> Century Gregorian Chants--at least not recently. However, Torosian works to relate music to the students. "That's the purpose of

teaching...to make information accessible to the learner," he said. Torosian does not believe in simple memorization. He teaches students to relate the basic concepts of music to their preferred music. Students leave his class with a greater appreciation for not only classical music, but their favorite music as well.

In addition to teaching, Torosian directs students' concerts, which allow them to perform for fellow students, family, and guests. He has also created the Classical Guitar Series at Northeastern. Renowned musicians, such as Robert Guthrie, perform at NEIU and teach master classes. In the next series, Torosian's instructor, Oscar Ghiglia, will perform and later speak to the NEIU community.

In between classes and organizing concerts for his students, Torosian performs on the radio, in concerts, and recently with the Chicago Symphony Orchestra. In addition, he composes "fusion" music, which he describes



Music to your ears in a Fine Arts class

as a blend of "rock, country, and jazz." Dr. Torosian, nevertheless, finds time to be readily available for his students...and the Cubs.



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**2001 Ford Explorer Sport, SUV.** Only \$230 a month upon credit approval, assume this lease for next 32 months perfect

condition. Call (847) 853 - 1999.

**#1 SPRING BREAK COMPANY** in Acapulco is now offering 3 destinations! Go Loco in Acapulco, Party in Vallarta, or get Crazy in Cabo-all with BIANCHI-ROSSI TOURS. Book by Oct. 31-get FREE MEALS! Organize a group and travel for FREE. Call for details. (800) 875-4525 or www.bianchi-rossi.com.

**One-bedroom apartment for rent:** near school, near the Kimball El. Central Park near Carmen. For more information, call Piedad Montoya, (773) 539 - 5462.

**32MB Fuji Compact Flush Cords** \$20 each or 2-for \$30. Contact Mike at m-magee@neiu.edu

**1994 Ford Probe 64 K. New** trans! CD Runs great, 1800 OBO call (773) 531 - 9056.

**Apartment near lake - studio** apartment, laundry room available includes, heat and water. "L" is two block for \$500 call Misbah (773) 716 - 6503.

**Book your next vacation,** cruise or hotel by calling 1-847-673-3413. Ask for Dushan or leave a message if he is not available.

**Looking to invest?** Condo for sale. Walk to all locale! Located near Devon/Clark & \$129,999. Call Oscar Gil @ (773) 463-7700 or (773) 457-6502 (Cell).

**Garden apartment for rent,** one bedroom, laundry room available, all utilities paid. Near Montrose & Central. \$575.00, call Amalf. (773) 545-6198.

**3-Bedroom apartment near** NEIU, 1 bath, kitchen, and living room. Low rent. for more info call hashmi @ (773) 593 - 5182.

## Services

**PartyLite consultant** available for in-home presentations. Great hostess specials ! Call Laura Hadley @ (773) 339 - 6553. **Tutor for ENG 101-2, ESL,** test prep (IBST, TOEFL), pre-credit English. Contact Diane at kiwi\_gigi@hotmail.com.

**Learn to dance!** Professional Dance instructor, Hit salsa clubs & meet lot of guys/girls. Also do Quincane-ras. Call for Info. Silvia @ (773) 419 - 8668 or e-mail yasodhara\_saj@yahoo.com.

**Tax Services,** file your through Jackson Hewitt and recieve \$20 discount on tax preparation fee. Call (773) 716 - 6503 to make an appointment.

## Wanted

**Responsible animal lover** to walk dogs in lake-front area. Will need someone with a flexible weekday schedule. Must have transportation. Call Melissa @ (773) 510 - 6607.

**R/L guitarist/writer, 30 yrs exp.** Seeks rhythm section (bass & drums or percussion), for once/wk development of original material. Age not a consideration, but strong rhythmic sensibility and improvisational spirit are. bonzadog@hotmail.com.

**"HEALTH and FITNESS"** Exploding new company is looking for health minded individuals for promotion, advertising, and other marketing areas. NO TELEMARKETING!!! Reference 1099. Call: (773) 631-2616

**Guitar and Bass Lessons,** first lesson is free. Learn any style of music! Call Keith at (773) 283 - 1974 for more information or email @ szx431@juno.com.

**New World Resource Center-** 1300 N. Western Avenue. LEFTWING BOOKSTORE, reading room, and meeting space needs help! Volunteer two 3-hour shifts Tues-Fri 3-9pm; Sat-Sun 12-7 p.m. No experience necessary. Will train. For information email Rob.Bunting@uop.com, call (773) 227-4011, or stop by and check us out.

**Female Basketball Players wanted,** any female interested in playing in a basketball league tuesday evenings. Contact Lisa (773) 517 - 7224 or deijja20@yahoo.com

**Seeking "Urge Overkill"** poster from Double Door Show (Feb. 14 & 15) or other. Name your price and call Michael @ (847) 985-9081.

**Graduate students to apply** and qualify for Tuition Waiver to study in Jamaica, Summer II. Details: eland325@earthlink.net & binahabibi@hotmail.com. Deadlines are approaching.

**Jamaica Waiting! Summer II** International Study Abroad. July 3, July 17, 3 credit hours. For details, E-mail jade\_stanley@sbcglobal.net, eland325@earthlink.net, j-karr@neiu.edu

## Organizations

**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.

**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.

**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 dmpecoraro@hotmail.com.

**The Muslim Student Association** meets on Thursday FA 107 and Friday Prayer is held in SU 214 at 1:15.

**Feminist Majority Leadership Alliance:** meets on Tuesdays in FA153 at 1:40. To join listserve, send a message to femajoirty-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 staff. For more information email Pamela Barnes, BMC President at P-barnes@neiucom.

**Care about your environment?** Let's start a NEIU environmental organization! Contact or leave message for Sara (773) 561-5131 or rev01@chickmail.com.

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

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

**Join UPRS! We promote Puerto Rican** history, culture, and a better understanding of our present reality Call ext 4583.

**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. Dates are filling quickly, so get this the program. It works. Contact Campus Fundraiser at (888) 923-3238, or visit wwwcampusfundraser.com.

**Sustainable Land Use Group (SLUG),** a NEIU environmental group, fostering environmental sensibility. For more information, email SLUG at neiu\_SLUG@yahoo.com.

**FUTURE TEACHERS CLUB:** Education majors wanted!

Meetings held Mondays and Thursdays. See bulletin board near CLS 3010 or E-Mail ftcneiu@hotmail.com

**Have an opinion about** literature? Join Apocalypse Literary Arts Coalition. Meetings held Thursdays at 1:40 in E-035. Phone x 4582.

**Anthropos-New Anthropology** club upcoming events- Morgue tour, story teller/folksinger. Next Mtg. 03-11-04 CLS 3046, 1:40 - 2:40. Join us. For info: c-bulicek@neiu.edu

## Personals

Where the heck are our staff writers, only a handful of writers for this issue weren't editors. Take stories and take 'em often. Make your editors edit other people's work. Give O'Brien a break (His ego is big enough, hehe!). - Duncan

# Oh goody gumdrops!

## The Independent classifieds are FREE!\*

Limit one ad per person/organization per issue. Ads must be 20 words or less. There is a 25 cents charge for each word over 20 words. All classified ads must be ordered in person at the Independent office in E-049.

For more information, please call John Bracich, Business Manager at 773.442.4585

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

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

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