

9-19-2005

Independent- Sep. 19, 2005

Patrick O'Brien

Follow this and additional works at: <https://neiudc.neiu.edu/independent>

Recommended Citation

O'Brien, Patrick, "Independent- Sep. 19, 2005" (2005). *The Independent (1988-present)*. 333.
<https://neiudc.neiu.edu/independent/333>

This Newspaper is brought to you for free and open access by the NEIU Student Newspapers at NEIU Digital Commons. It has been accepted for inclusion in The Independent (1988-present) by an authorized administrator of NEIU Digital Commons. For more information, please contact neiudc@neiu.edu.

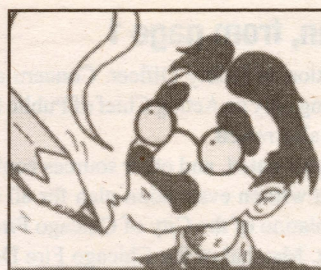


No longer a childhood
game, it's reality,

page 4

Another chapter in
textbook rift,

page 5



Marxism is back!!
page 6

Carpal Tunnel, it's
not just for nerds,
page 6

NORTHEASTERN ILLINOIS UNIVERSITY

Monday, September 19, 2005

VOLUME 22 ISSUE 5

INDEPENDENT

CHICAGO, IL

13-TIME 2004 ICPA AWARD WINNER

PLEASE RECYCLE THIS PAPER

For Goodall,
assuring the
future starts
now

photo by Azucena Beltran



Goodall is a renowned
conservationist worldwide.

by Jessica Wacker
Production Assistant

Over 800 people were crowded in Alumni Hall last Friday, as acclaimed scientist, activist, and conservationist Dr. Jane Goodall called for action amongst the peoples of the world.

"We need a critical mass of people with the right values ... who understand what it is we must do to ensure a future," said Goodall. "[In Africa] the flooding is getting worse, droughts are getting worse, and the multi-nation corporate companies are coming in, taking over huge amounts of land, and draining out the natural resources so the rich can continue to

SEE GOODALL, PAGE 2

Emergency plan "in draft form" since 2003

by Tom Robb
News Editor

In the wake of several events over the summer and fall, such as the chemical spill and fire, the *Independent* asked to see Northeastern's Emergency Procedures Manual. Public Safety Director Jim Lyon said, "It's in draft form."

Upon further investigation it was discovered that the University Emergency Management Plan has been in draft form since 2003. The *Independent* also learned that the university is currently searching for a candidate to fulfill the newly created

SEE PLAN, PAGE 2

Blagojevich visits CCICS

Announces "tenfold" funding increase for HIV/AIDS program statewide

by Tom Robb
News Editor

Surrounded on the stage of NEIU's Jacob H. Carruthers Center for Inner City Studies (CCICS) by state and local politicians, NEIU administrators, and the Consul General of South Africa, Governor Rod Blagojevich announced a new program aimed at addressing a "crisis" of HIV/AIDS in the African-American community.

The governor announced that the funding for the new HIV/AIDS program, BASUAH (Brothers and Sisters United Against HIV), will be greatly increased. "Our budget director's on vacation," Blagojevich said to his audience at CCICS, "we're not going to just double the funding, we're going to increase it ten fold."

The BASUAH program is aimed at raising HIV/AIDS awareness in the African-American community, as well as bringing out AIDS testing vans to what the Governor referred to as "often ignored areas like East St. Louis." These testing vans will be able to produce HIV/AIDS test results in 20 minutes.

In addition to the BASUAH

SEE CCICS, PAGE 3



photo by Tom Robb

Governor Blagojevich listens to 22-year-old Brandy, an HIV-positive woman who thanked the Governor for supporting the BASUAH outreach program and challenged him on other shortcomings related to AIDS care, including affordable housing and care for the homeless.

McKernin pushes for state of the art (department)

by Patrick O'Brien
Editor-in-Chief

Art Department Chair Mark McKernin is trying to get the art program at NEIU accepted into a very exclusive club for art departments, a club that counts only 248 institutions of higher learning, nationwide, among its members.

This exclusive organization of which NEIU could be a member of in a few years, is NASAD, the National Association of Schools of Art and Design. In the state of Illinois, only nine schools are members, including University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign, Bradley University and the School of the Art Institute of Chicago.

The process to become accredited by NASAD, and thus become a member, is a long detailed one. To help with the process, NEIU contacted James A. Broderick, professor emeritus at the University of Texas at San Antonio. He has consulted many schools on how to improve their art program, and thereby gain accreditation by NASAD. In his report of NEIU, he determined what steps are needed to be taken in order

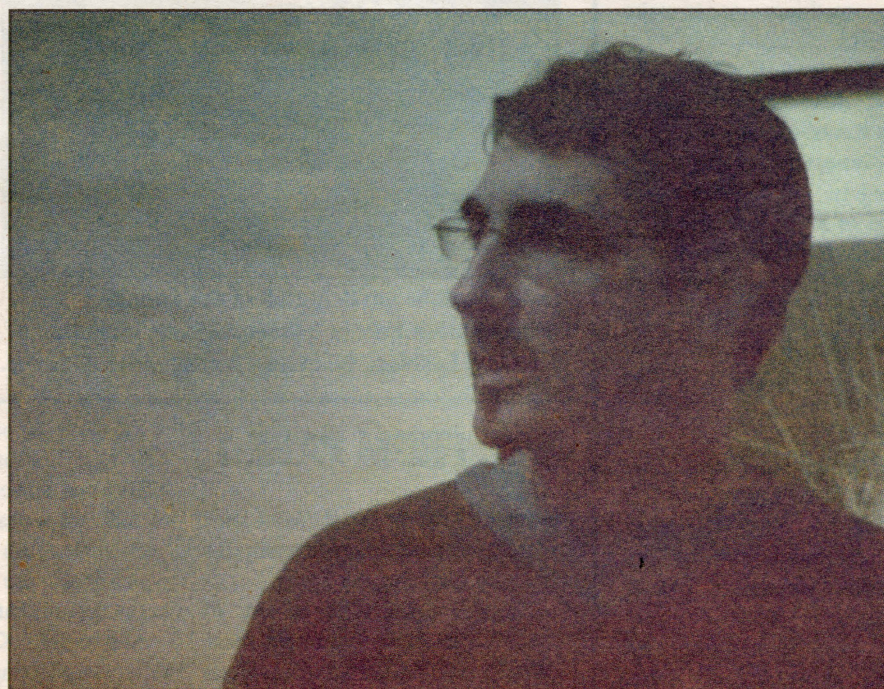


photo by Jason Shaw

meet NASAD's standards.

To McKernin, the possibility of being a NASAD school means more than just membership in an exclusive fraternity of art programs around the country. "To me, it says that everything this place says it is, is true. Anyone coming here, going through this

SEE ART, PAGE 2

Mark McKernin, Art
Department chair, stands
by at the grand opening
of the art exhibition
Friday, Sept. 16
in the Art Gallery.

Goodall, from page 1

live unsustainable lifestyles."

Student Robin Matthies felt Goodall gave a much-needed voice to the issues discussed. "Bringing someone as influential as Jane Goodall to spread a message of peace is so important," said Matthies.

Goodall, who is best known for her work with chimpanzees in Gombe, Africa during the 1960s and 70s, now travels 300 days a year working to promote world peace and environmental awareness on a global level.

She has received multiple awards and honors, including being invested by United Nations Secretary General Kofi Annan as a UN Messenger of Peace in 2002, and was dubbed a Dame of the British Empire in 2004 at Buckingham Palace.

Goodall welcomed the audience by using the greeting call of the chimps she began studying as a young woman over 40 years ago. Her speech, entitled "A Reason To Hope," was part autobiographical and part informational, as Goodall recalled to audiences her experiences studying chimpanzees in Africa, and her decision in 1986 to become an activist for world conservation and peace.

In her speech Goodall explained that the world's problems are all interconnected and encouraged the audience to learn to respect nature and become involved in helping a world in crisis.

She worked to outline her main point, that global peace between people cannot be achieved until it is understood that there must first be harmony with nature.

Although Goodall's speech focused on heavy issues, such as the threat of global warming and future wars fought not over oil, but over water, she reminded the audience her message was one not of despair but of hope. "Is there hope?" asked Goodall. "Of course there's hope, if we get together." Goodall was doing more than just lecturing on activism, felt student Sophia Lopez. Goodall was inspiring people. "She wasn't just talking to an audience, she was talking to us, giving us a message from her heart," said Lopez. "That's a very powerful thing, saying 'you really can change something; you can make a difference.'"

Goodall spoke to audiences of the differences made by groups such as Roots and Shoots, a part of the Jane Goodall Institute founded in 1977. "The main message of Roots and Shoots to everybody is that every one of us makes a difference everyday of our lives," said Goodall. "We all have a choice as to what kind of impact we make ... These kids are changing the world as we speak."

After the speech, a book signing was set up in Village Square. The line stretched from the table across from the information booth to the hallway connecting to the B Building.

"She is such a wonderful person," said Christie Vohs, director of Music at NEIU, who was involved in coordinating Goodall to speak on campus. "She signed every book, every item that night [after the speech]."

NEIU had been attempting to get Goodall to speak on campus for over a year, according to Vohs.

Plan, from page 1

position of Safety Officer. Concern about the effects of having only an Acting Chief of Public Safety for two years was also raised.

Lyon stated, and other sources confirmed, that there is not a written evacuation plan for all buildings, which is a violation of the City of Chicago Fire Code. According to Lt. Marshal of the Chicago Fire Department's School Inspection Bureau, "An Emergency Evacuation Plan is required at a place of public assembly."

Director of Buildings and Grounds Ralph Zia, who is also heavily involved in the drafting of the University Emergency Management Manual, stated that he was not aware of that requirement.

Public Safety has several manuals with sets of procedures for specific situations, such as bomb threats and terror attacks. Many of the buildings have floor coordinators who have certain responsibilities in an emergency. However, not all buildings have current evacuation plans, said Lyon. Some do not have evacuation plans at all.

Lyon said, "ideally we're shooting for the end of the fiscal year" to complete the plan. Zia said he would "like to see it sooner rather than later ... we need to accelerate this."

The plan includes the installation of placards with evacuation routes posted in buildings. The lack of posted evacuation routes was a concern raised by some students after the recent small fire in the Science Building.

Zia agreed that the university needs a safety officer to assist in the drafting of the University Emergency Management Plan. Zia told the *Independent* that NEIU's administration had just funded and posted the new position of a safety officer, who would oversee all safety issues related to the buildings, staff, and students.

The process of writing the Emergency Management Plan began under the former Chief of Public Safety Don Challis, along with Facilities Management, in August 2003, though Challis only served as Chief for four months.

Lt. Jack Baker, who served for over 20 years in Public Safety, was installed as Acting Chief from 2003 until the summer of 2005, when he retired and Lyon took over.

According to Zia, Baker's role as only Acting Chief affected the speed at which the Emergency Management Plan was being put together because he did not know how long he would hold the position. "We're so heavily reliant on the current leader" of Public Safety, and the search for a permanent Chief, according to Zia, "kept getting delayed and extended and delayed and extended."

VP of Student Affairs Melvin Terrell, to whom Public Safety reports, did agree to a request for an interview but was unavailable before press time.

Staff Writer Jennifer Marie Bergdahl contributed to this report.

Student Organization Fair full of opportunity



Over 50 clubs participated in the annual Organization Fair in Village Square, including the Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual, Transgender Alliance.

ART, FROM PAGE 1

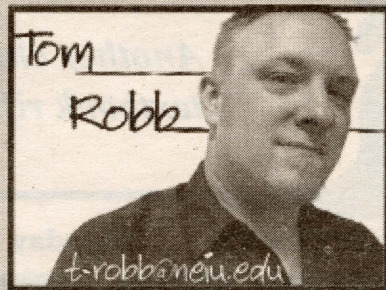
program, will leave on the same level as students at any other university. It's something to hang our hat on."

NASAD provided a set of recommendations to address some deficiencies that the Art Department would have to address before it met the organization's standards, including making available non-Western art history courses, an area of need that McKernin said is being addressed with a search and screen committee. The committee is working to find prospective candidates to fill that teaching position.

The Art Department serves a little over 150 majors and minors at NEIU, and makes do with a budget of \$28,500 a year, a budget that is even smaller than it was 15 years ago, which does cause some consternation in the department.

Although McKernin did not seem to be complaining about the lack of resources available to him, the report by Broderick did say, "budgetary support for the department appears to be modest." It is not clear, given the state of Illinois' current budget crisis, where additional funding could be made available to better support the department, which like many other academic departments at NEIU, has

A Closer Look...



Who is valued and who is not?

Priorities in Katrina's wake

Normally this column is for analyzing the news that affects us as students in our small community on campus. Every once in a while our connection to the larger human family cannot be ignored, and national issues must be addressed. Katrina and its aftermath is one of those times.

To the students who have been hurriedly enrolled at this institution, whose lives were devastated by Katrina, the university community knows you are here and bids you welcome. We grieve with you and cannot begin to imagine your struggle.

Many campus organizations are conducting donation drives, including the Student Government Association, Kappa Alpha Kappa Pi Nu Chapter, and the Socialist Club. It has been said before in these pages, but it bears repeating: wallets need to continue to be opened. The relief effort will not be over any time soon in the South. It needs to be a priority.

To the politicians who bungled this, to the media who reported blacks as vicious looters and whites as doing what they had to do to survive, you have much to answer for.

Singer Kanye West said, "George Bush doesn't care about Black people." I have to wonder if that is the case.

The President's own mother said, "so many of the people in the arena here, you know, were underprivileged anyway, so this—this is working very well for them."

This was not lower Manhattan. We did not see the fireball now etched in our collective psyche. This was worse, much worse. But whom did it affect? The movers and shakers at the top of World

Trade? No, it was poor folks, folks who were left feeling like they were disposable.

It was people who, when the powers that be said, "evacuate the city," replied, "but I have no way out, I have no car." It was people who waited in putrid squalor in the Superdome and Convention Center in New Orleans, not just waiting for help, but for any information at all, while Homeland Security Director Michael Chertoff said he did not know people were still in the Convention Center. Maybe it was not on his radar.

It was on the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration's radar. It was on the Weather Channel's radar. It was on the radar of every other weather forecaster in the country. So why was it ignored for so long?

I know the President does not want to talk about blame, but I wonder in this post-9/11 era, post Katrina world, was Kanye West right? Why did some people get ignored until it was too late? Don't they matter as much as the rest of us?

Among these questions, people here on this campus can do their part to put right these criminal missteps by making our newest students from the Gulf Coast feel welcome. Give them whatever they need to help return some sense of normalcy to their lives.

CHIMEXLA
Chican@-Mexican@-Latin@ Student Union
Enhancing our knowledge and expanding our culture
through university and community action!

CHIMEXLA NEIU's only Chican@/ Mexican@ Latin@ organization is currently reorganizing not only it's membership but also it's constitution. If you are interested in joining please attend our first

MEETINGS EVERY TUESDAY
DURING ACTIVITY HOUR 1:40-2:40
MEET AT E-041
DOWNSTAIRS FROM BECK'S BOOK STORE



Advertisement

Clubs rally to support Katrina victims

by Tom Robb
News Editor

Campus organizations kicked off significant efforts to provide relief for Gulf Coast states ravaged by Hurricane Katrina, as well as for recently enrolled students who were relocated here from the affected areas.

The Student Government Association (SGA), Alpha Kappa Alpha Pi Nu Chapter (AKAPN), the Black Heritage Club, Black Student Movement at the Carruthers Center for Inner City Studies, the Black Caucus, and the Socialist Club are mounting relief efforts.

The SGA effort will be split into two parts. The SGA, in conjunction with Fenwick High School and the Liberty Christian Center, will "adopt" the town of Ocean Springs, Miss., which saw severe damage from the storm.

SGA President Evelyn Nazario-Rose stated that she will personally drive a portion of the money and donated supplies to Ocean Springs in a donated truck from Midway Moving and Storage in October.

The other part of SGA's relief effort will give money and supplies to students who resettled at Northeastern.

SGA Vice President Cesar Miranda stated that as of the Wednesday after the SGA relief effort began, they had collected over \$250 and six bags of clothing.

Anna Metoyer, vice president and program chairwoman of AKAPN, said their program, HK1 (Hurricane Katrina #1), started two weeks ago, collecting relief supplies and money. AKAPN's relief effort will be coordinated through the national Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority who is manning emergency disaster relief and informational phone banks in Woodstock, Ill.

Metoyer stated that while she was unsure of the amount of money the AKAPN drive had raised as of last Wednesday, she did point to a three-foot tall box of house wares and several bags of goods that had been collected after only a few days.

Rachel Cohen of the Socialist Club stated that while other organizations did not wish to be political about the disaster, her organization did feel a need to examine the politics behind it. "A lot of people are upset because things are being blown open as far as the type of racism, patronage and poverty this country runs on."

Cohen stated that the club raised just under \$50 in one day of their relief drive. Cohen said their effort would be in conjunction with the greater Chicago area's International Socialists Organization.

Jermont Montgomery of the Black Heritage Club told the *Independent* that they will be collecting money at the NEIU Talent Show. They will also collect money at a Steppers



photo by Mario Go

Professors as well as students contribute to the relief effort mounted by at least six student organizations.

Party, which will be sponsored by the Black Heritage Club, AKAPN, the Black Caucus, and the Carruthers Center Black Student Movement. The party is scheduled for Oct. 7, with entertainment by DJ Virgil Pilot, the Sound, and dance lessons. For more information contact

William "Doc" Speller at w-speller@neiu.edu.

In addition to the campus clubs' relief efforts, Dr. Conrad Worrill, director of Caruthers Center for Inner City Studies, left for hurricane ravaged areas on Saturday, Sept. 17, to work on relief efforts.

CCICS, from page 1

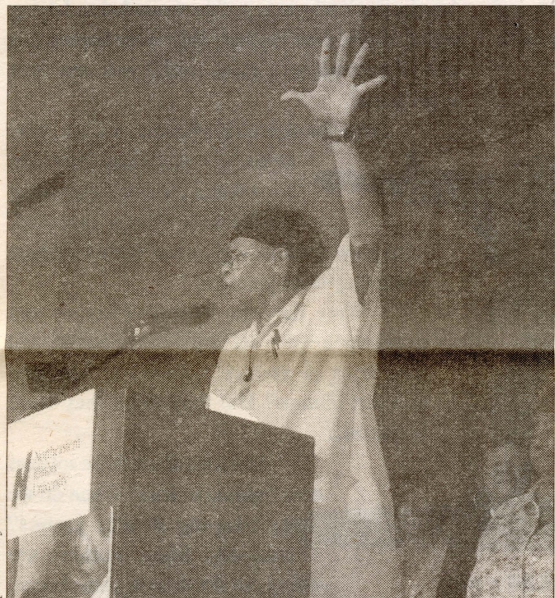


photo by Tom Robb

CCICS Director Dr. Conrad Worrill, who hosted the Governor and other speakers, including State Sen. Reverend James Meeks.

program, Blagojevich also increased the AIDS Drug Assistance Program by \$3 million to a total of \$36 million, according to his press release.


One speaker, a 22-year-old named Brandy who is HIV positive, broke down in tears, thanking the Governor, yet asked him biting questions.

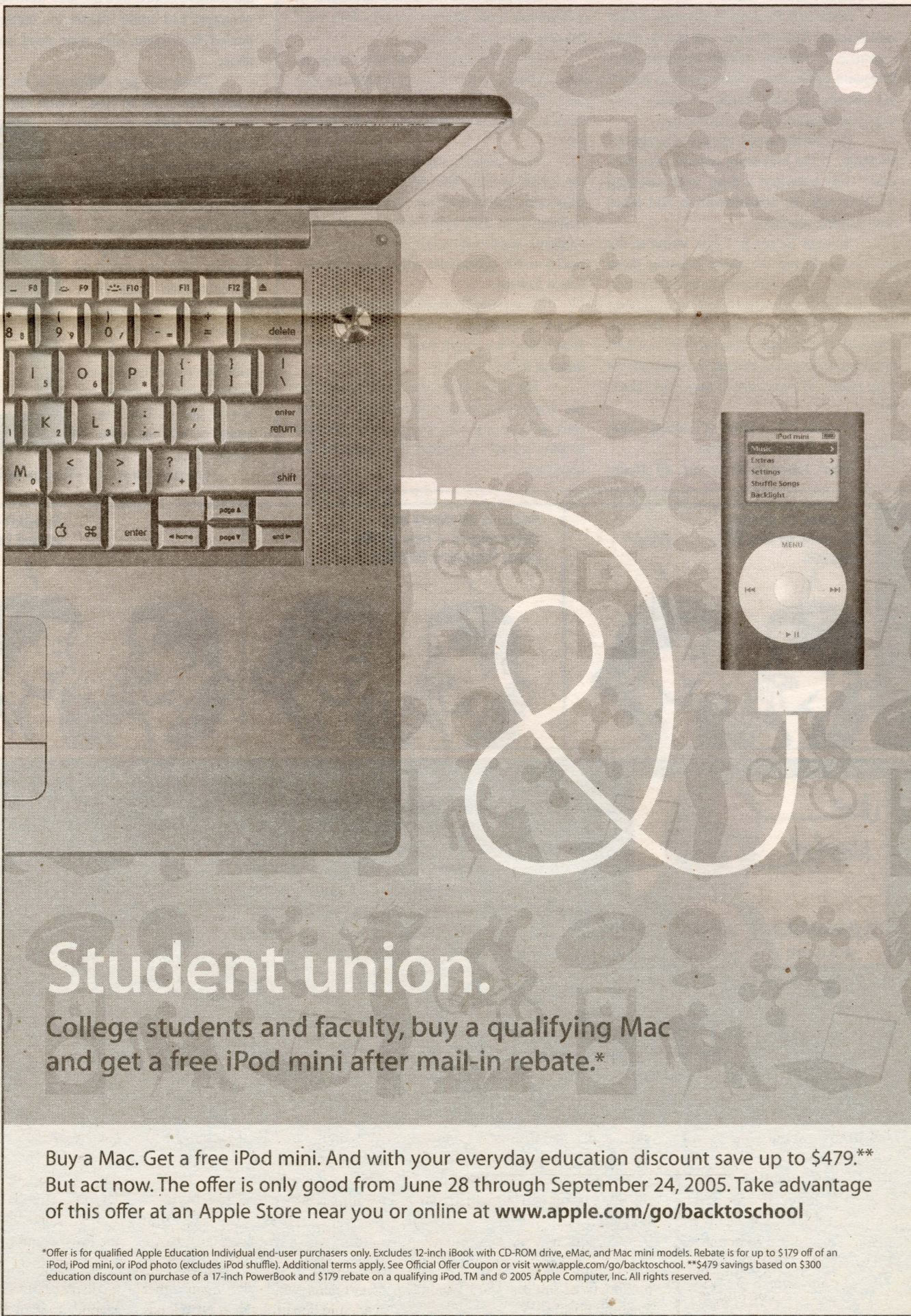
Teary-eyed she spoke: "I want to ask the Governor a few questions, for those young people out there homeless with HIV ... is there any way you can help us with affordable housing and job training ... so they can have support groups mainly on the South Side and West Side. There is none on the South Side or the West Side ... It's been a rough three or four years, I think I'm getting better every day."

Assistant Director of CCICS Dr. Lance Williams spoke with the *Independent* about the role of CCICS in the African-American community on critical issues. "It's a continuation of the center's relationship to the African-American community, particularly as it relates to pressing issues." The center has always been involved with pressing community issues since it was created 40 years ago, said Williams.

The Council General of South Africa Yusef Omar also spoke. He said he was here in part to "foster people to people exchange through education, culture ... the sister state agreement is most welcome. I believe there is mutual and tangible benefit for both sides, particularly from the South African perspective ... we can learn from the clinical management of AIDS, we can definitely benefit from the training here."

A host of other speakers, including Robin Robinson, State Senator Rev. James Meeks, and WGCI Radio personality "Crazy" Howard McGee, spoke about HIV/AIDS, their personal experiences with family members or others close to them, and other needs within the African-American community.





Student union.

College students and faculty, buy a qualifying Mac and get a free iPod mini after mail-in rebate.*

Buy a Mac. Get a free iPod mini. And with your everyday education discount save up to \$479.** But act now. The offer is only good from June 28 through September 24, 2005. Take advantage of this offer at an Apple Store near you or online at www.apple.com/go/backtoschool

*Offer is for qualified Apple Education Individual end-user purchasers only. Excludes 12-inch iBook with CD-ROM drive, eMac, and Mac mini models. Rebate is for up to \$179 off of an iPod, iPod mini, or iPod photo (excludes iPod shuffle). Additional terms apply. See Official Offer Coupon or visit www.apple.com/go/backtoschool. **\$479 savings based on \$300 education discount on purchase of a 17-inch PowerBook and \$179 rebate on a qualifying iPod. TM and © 2005 Apple Computer, Inc. All rights reserved.

Advertisement

Editorial

Fairweather support for professors?

There are no more picket signs. No faculty marches with noisy pots and pans. Classes are going on as usual. Then why are we still feeling the effects of the long past faculty strike? Particularly in our pocketbooks?

Although the strike began on Nov. 19 of 2004 at 6:00 a.m., the contract was not signed until eight months later—in mid-August.

Despite the signing of the contract, the question of who will pay professors for advising student clubs is yet to be resolved, and therefore, there are still some student clubs that do not have a professor advising them.

Before the strike, professors were paid to advise student clubs as part of their service to the university. This is no longer the case. One proposed solution is to pay professors with student activity fees.

Although Provost Lawrence Frank said Student Activity Fees will not be used, a source in Student Affairs said that Vice President of Student Affairs Melvin Terrell has already set aside Student Activity Fees to pay professors for club advising.

The 20-day strike greatly affected the students. Like bickering parents, students were torn between siding with striking teachers and the administration and other non-striking teachers.

Student James R. Cook wrote to the professors during the strike echoing these sentiments: "The students have been put in the incredibly awkward position of having to decide to cross a picket line, because some of the part time teachers are not part of the union and have threatened the students with failure of their class if they don't show up."

Despite this conflict of interest, Cook proceeds to support the union.

Many letters such as this, all giving

support for the professors, are proudly displayed on the union's website.

While there were some students who continued going to school, others created the group Students for Faculty Rights and joined the professors and staff on the picket line.

These same students went where UPI members could not go, and demanded answers from President Steinberg.

Students overwhelmingly supported the professors during the strike, and now they may be asked again to support their professors by paying them through their own student activity fees.

Students must ask themselves how much more support they are willing to give to professors. The student activity fees are dedicated for students and letting the administration use these fees sets a bad precedent.

The next time the administration is in a financial bind, student activity fees may become the quick solution.

Many students have quickly come out against this solution of using student activity fees. Many of these students are the same students who joined professors on the picket line.

They eagerly joined professors during the strike to fight the administration, and frequently questioned the administration's dedication to their professors. These same students should not so quickly turn their backs on the professors when they are now asked to help.

Our support for professors should not simply be passive. If using student activity fees means we might have one or two less dances, so be it.

The focus of the university should be the academics, and using student activity fees will assure that professors continue to play a part in student lives outside the classroom.

Toy soldiers

by Joe Hertel
Opinions Editor

Freddie, Jose, Rich and I would play "war" at least once a week. We played army in two different ways. The question we asked each other when we gathered after school was, "Do you want to play 'little' or 'big'?"

If we played "little," the rubber toy soldiers were gathered together and assembled into a battlefield of dirt, rocks and popsicle-stick barricades. Back then, you could buy a bag of 100 soldiers in assorted poses for less than a dollar.

They even had bags of "good guys" and "bad guys," the only difference being, ironically, the color. We had hundreds of soldiers ready to engage in battle by the base of the old apple tree in my yard or Jose's mom's flower garden.

There were rules of engagement. As we tossed dirt clumps or small stones at the advancing armies, they toppled over in the intense carnage. If the soldiers landed face up, they were considered wounded and could reenter the battle. If they landed face down, they were dead and stayed there.

There is a toy cemetery in the backyard where Jose used to live, which still contains the rubber bodies of scores of mutilated toy soldiers who were given military burial.

If we played "big," the yard became "no man's land," and we used our Mattel "super-burp" weapons and cap-pistols to dispatch each other. On a sunny summer afternoon you could hear the rat-a-tat-tat of our weapons as we chased each other over bushes and around trees. Jose's mom would not let him play unless he was one of the "good" guys.

Getting shot

War is not child's play.

and having to fall down was difficult in Jose's yard because he had an old dog named Sandy whose only outdoor activity was crapping anywhere she wanted to. Many a times a truce was called while one of us went home and washed the dog poop off our arms and hands.

We died in battle over and over, sometimes winning, sometimes losing. In the end, when our mothers called us for dinner, we would resurrect ourselves from the battlefield, prepared to fight again another day. After all, it was only a game. It was only pretend.

Ten years later I was in Viet Nam. A real soldier.

This was real war. Dog poop was replaced with feces coated punji sticks, soda pop cans we kids used as grenades were replaced with soda cans packed by the Viet Cong with gunpowder booby-traps.

Cap pistols and super-burp toy guns were replaced with 7.62 mm rounds of ammunition, AK-47s, M-16s. And when people got shot, it hurt. When people died, they stayed dead. No one's mother yelled out a window telling us to stop and come home for dinner.

Maybe that's why many of the wounded and dying called out for their mother. They were hoping this was all pretend, all a game, and it was now time to go home.

After the skirmish, after the carnage, after the body counts, I could not help but wonder if those dead young combatants, enemy included, also played with toy guns and rubber soldiers when they were younger.

Were they the backyard heroes and neighborhood platoon leaders who led their men to victory with water balloons and dirt clumps? Did they think they were invincible?

And what about those soldiers now fighting in Iraq? When do we stop playing deadly games?

Especially when mothers are yelling out it's time to come home.

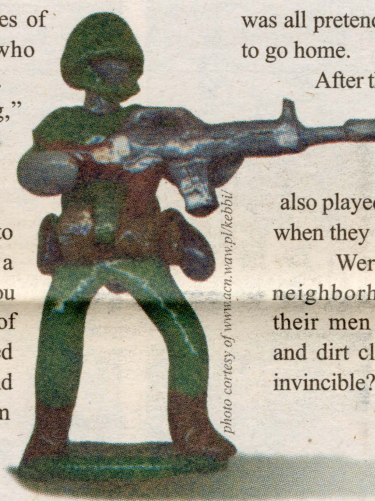
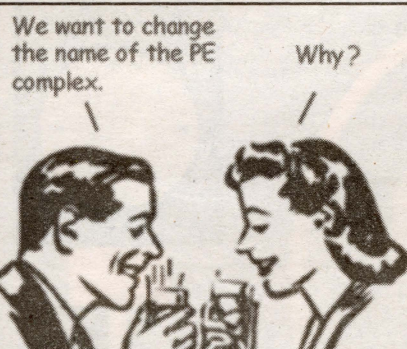


photo courtesy of www.acm.nwpl/kebbu

Another point of view



Because students are referring to it now as the Penis Exposure Building.



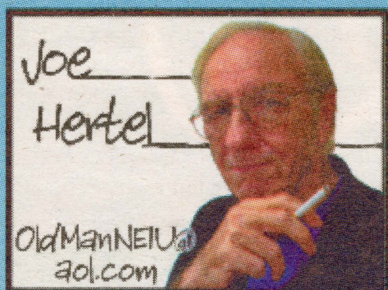
So what do you intend to call it?



Therapy & Athletics building.



by Joe Hertel



Old Man on Campus

Teensy weensy spider

For the third time this summer I went out to the back porch and dusted away all the spider webs. Don't those guys ever learn?

I don't like spiders. They're creepy. Ever since I saw a movie about a giant spider sucking people dry, I shy away from them. Usually, if I see a web, I'll leave it alone. The only time I destroy a web is if it is too close to my living space. Like, say, the Uptown area.

I don't squish the spiders or poison them. Unless they are

a deal.

They can have the basement area and the fence. But no doorways or porch area (where I sit and have a beer). Sometimes, as I'm sitting there on the stairs, I watch the spider swing to and fro, weaving its web, and I feel a tinge of remorse knowing I'm going to be knocking it down shortly. Yet, as soon as I do so, the little sucker will be back weaving it again.

I admire their determination in standing their ground even when a force they cannot contend with consistently destroys what they have

attacking me in the house, I do not harm them since I believe all life is sacred. Murdering a spider is only justifiable to me if the damn thing is crawling too close for my personal comfort. Otherwise, we have

built. The little buggers don't know how or why they lost their life's work, but they set out to rebuild immediately.

Life is like that. Everything we have can be swept away in an instant. One swish of the broom and we are forced to start over or give up and die.

I don't know how many times that little spider is going to rebuild its web; likewise for us, when the broom of doom sweeps through our lives, taking all that we have worked for with it. We have to rebuild with determination, and sometimes we even choose a new course or location. But we have to rebuild.

Our lives are like that spider web. We keep enlarging it, connecting silken strands of experience one after another, weaving a tapestry of familiar

experiences, decisions and friends.

It starts out small enough, but as we age, the web becomes more intricate. If the broom comes early on, starting over isn't too traumatic.

If it's later on, after we have lived securely for a long time building and traversing our web of life, then when it is destroyed it becomes extremely difficult to deal with the devastation and thought of starting over.

We have seen this past year, catastrophe after catastrophe around the world. There were the big ones such as the tsunami and hurricane Katrina. Hundreds of thousands of survivors, like the spider, washed out the downspout of dreams.

But there are also individual personal tragedies. They occur every minute of the day when jobs are

lost, family members are killed in accidents or life savings evaporate.

There are victims of crimes such as robbery, burglary, abuse and murder. There are major disasters to make us, as a community, more aware of life around us, but there are also the personal tragedies we seldom hear about until there is direct involvement.

Life is a wild ride and ya gotta hang on. So if the broom sweeps away all that you have worked for and built, don't sit there asking why. The spider doesn't know why, nor does it seek to blame, it immediately starts rebuilding.

After the rain, we must be like the Teensy Weensy spider and climb up the spout again.

Closing the book on textbook prices

by Elana Barron
Associate Editor

On Sept. 6 the *Independent* ran the story, "Throwing the book at textbook prices," which discussed the high price of college textbooks and the unfair practices of textbook publishers. This was the fourth story printed in this newspaper in less than two years. In other papers, such as the *New York Times* and *Chicago Tribune*, dozens of similar stories have been published.

In the past couple of years little has changed. The same statistics are repeatedly used, such as the *New York Times* report that according to the Consumer Price Index, textbook prices rose 238 percent in the past 20 years. Over the same period of time, regular consumer goods increased a mere 51 percent.

Like most topics that get enough media attention, politicians decide to join in.

In 2003, Oregon Congressman David Wu sent out numerous press releases asking Congress to take action against the unfair practices of textbook publishers. He eventually persuaded the General Accountability Office (GAO) to

conduct an investigation of textbook publishers and their prices.

Then, the Illinois government and Governor Rod Blagojevich decided to join in. In an April 2004 press release, he asked, "Why are students and their parents being slapped with enormous book bills ... due to what looks like price gouging?"

Due to the GAO report and the renewed commotion it has caused, even though the report mostly confirmed what newspapers and students have been saying for the past few years, Illinois Lt. Gov. Pat Quinn decided to join in. He is now pushing an initiative that would make textbooks more affordable.

The Illinois Board of Higher Education has also chimed in—but give them credit; they have been participating in this issue for the past couple of years. In their report they discuss different recommendations to combat textbook prices.

One who is unfamiliar with government bureaucracy may assume that now some actual action will happen, and not just another report.

However, why must students wait for the government to take

action for them? College students have repeatedly shown in the past their ability to ban together and protest and boycott.

Students can boycott these overpriced textbooks by turning to other forums to buy cheap used textbooks. Websites such as **e.campus.com**, **GetCheapBooks.com**, and **textbooks.com** offer numerous cheap textbooks.

Half.com, which is affiliated with ebay, offers extremely low priced textbooks, plus it gives students the opportunity to sell their own textbooks. For example, an ecology textbook that was bought for \$50 at Beck's Bookstore can be bought for under \$10 at Half.com. The large *Riverside Chaucer* can be bought for \$20 cheaper on this website than at Beck's. Even Bughouse has a forum that allows students to exchange books.

In addition to online resources, Northeastern students can also develop their own resources for used textbooks right on campus.

Northeastern had a Book Exchange program, which was a website that allowed students to sell and exchange books. Unfortunately, it was terminated prematurely, according to SGA President Evelyn Nazario-Rose. In the recent Sept. 6 issue, Nazario-Rose said, "I plan to re-implement the book exchange program. I plan to have it operating and in place by the spring semester."

As students, we may not be able to execute much control over the federal government. However, the SGA is our governing body. Do not sit back and wait for others to take action for you. Let your Student Government know how they should utilize your student activity fees.

Until then, utilize the numerous online resources to find cheap textbooks.



College bookstores may not offer the best price, but there are other alternatives on the internet.

Making it here isn't North-easy

by Patrick O'Brien
Editor-in-Chief

Going to Northeastern Illinois University can be a bit of a challenge in the ego department.

Let's face it, this isn't Harvard. Or Yale. Or even Eastern Illinois.

It's a working-class, middle-class, balance two jobs while you whittle away at that degree-type of university, and most of us are okay with that. Many of the students here view this place as a way station or a stepping-stone.

If you believe the *Chicago Tribune's* editorial staff, NEIU has become a school where people do little more than pass the time before moving on.

On May 16, 2005 the *Tribune* cited NEIU as a barometer of the Chicago Public School's poor performances, referring to the 18 percent graduation rate of students within six years as proof that both public schools and this public university were failing students.

Anyone who has spent enough time at NEIU can tell you that it takes longer to make it here. But there's good reason for that.

We aren't just students, we have lives. Not frat party, jello-shot, pin the tail on the coed lives. We have jobs, most of us full-time jobs.

A lot of us have kids, wives, husbands, and families of all sorts. Not mom and dad let me drop my laundry off and pick up extra cash during spring break type of families.

Many NEIU students have the rent is due and I don't care if your term paper is due, too, sorts of lives.

And in this category, the Harvards and Yales of the world can't quite stack up.

Many of the people here would be the first college graduates in their family, if they manage to make it.

They aren't living off the legacies of their parents or families' accomplishments; they're trying desperately to climb out of a work a day existence to a better life, where no one will remember that little school in the city they graduated from.

And like everything else in life, NEIU doesn't hand you a Bachelor's on a silver platter, you have to work for it.

You have to fight the bureaucracy and the budget cuts and the high price of books and the shortages in classes and skyrocketing tuitions and paying the bills and keeping the boss, the professor, the wife, the husband, the kids and yourself satisfied in the process.

No one at NEIU lives off a trust fund, dare we say.

And before anyone imagines that this is an attempt to justify a graduation rate that is abysmal, let it be known that the students of Northeastern are doing all they can to get out of here, degree in hand, to face an uncertain world filled with the Harvards, Yales, and *Chicago Tribune* writers who may not know what it's like to finish the third shift just in time for 8:00 a.m. Spanish.

We're not complaining, but just don't say do better and ignore the circumstances. Look closer. This is one of the hardest-working groups of college students you'll ever find.

And it does not take a *Tribune* editorial for us to realize that.

Editor's Note: This piece originally appeared in the Independent on June 1, 2005, and was published as a letter in the Chicago Tribune on June 3, 2005.

Family is everything

by Cecilia Carboni
Graphics Editor

The organization fair is a beautiful thing. About 20 percent of all groups have tables set up. Chained to these tables are members of the group, some of whom are sleeping or are simply inattentive to passers-by, while others are ravenous for fresh meat.

What I noticed this year, in relation to past years, is how many of these tables are now representing what seems to be NEIU's flourishing Greek life. Tables that are brightly colored in the group's own signature colors are filled with pamphlets, lettered paddles, and smiling people.

What is the draw of sororities and fraternities that are starting to infect our commuter university?

Having been to Urbana-Champaign on a Saturday night, my view of Greek life is composed of tipsy girls walking unsteadily from house to house in high heels and petite skirts and groups of people all passed out on the unevenly leveled living room floor with the TV on.

The sororities and fraternities at our school, however, seem to be of a different variety, yet the stereotype remains in many students' minds.

Almost every organization on campus is prone to their rambunctious nights. (I've seen more than one member of mine do a late night jig of intoxication.) Maybe it's because some of us have more of a presence than the average student.

The *Independent* puts out a paper, WZRD broadcasts, *Apocalypse* puts out a magazine, and SGA ... well, they try to hold productive meetings.

The truth is that people join sororities/fraternities for the same reason any of us join anything. They use these groups as a vehicle for getting oriented around school and to help make friends or contacts.

It is essentially a group of people all driving to one common goal that unifies them. As Lori of Theta Chi Omega says, "With an [other] organization you're constantly going in and out, with a sorority you're like put into this group of friends for life."

So what is their goal? Besides the creation of support and lifelong bonds, these organizations also do extensive community work. Members of Theta Chi Omega not only go to the beach, but they hold fundraisers and get involved in the community.

Jenny Benitez of Sigma Lambda Gamma tells me how they go to the child day care center on campus to do crafts with the children, they have ice-cream socials, and volleyball games. The girls also go to the Children's Museum to do volunteer work, as well as the Rainbow House, an organization that deals with domestic abuse.

Meanwhile, the boys at Sigma Lambda Beta, a predominantly Latino chapter, use the fraternity as a similar vehicle for meeting people they can just "chill with," in the words of Victor Reategui.

But they aren't all play and no work either. They also have done fundraisers for Children's Memorial hospital, bake sales with benefits going to charity, and one year, the boys even helped build a playground.

Lastly I spoke to Olga Gomez and Wilfredo Velez of the recently coed Latino sorority/fraternity, who said "You get the best of both worlds ... it's not only girls, it's not only boys."

Besides the usual community work, they have participated in the Walk for Sclerosis, as well as for Breast Cancer and Aids Walk. "We don't consider ourselves as a fraternity, we consider ourselves as a *familia*, and like a real family, you have your brothers and sisters."

Velez addressed the negative connotations of fraternities as well. "Were not trying to shape people into images of us ... we're trying to build tomorrow's leaders and help them become the best version of themselves, not what we want them to be."

Letters to the Editor Policy

Letters to the Editor must be signed with an address and telephone number for verification. Submissions must be approximately 300 words in length or less.

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

Published on first-come, first-serve basis. Send letters to: *Independent*, E-049, 5500 N. St. Louis, Chicago, IL 60625 or neiu_independent@yahoo.com

Eagle's Nest

Lifestyles of the Northeastern Community



Students vulnerable to Carpal Tunnel

by Elizabeth Rodriguez
Staff Writer

Carpal Tunnel Syndrome? Isn't that something that only computer programmers get?

Actually, Carpal Tunnel Syndrome (CTS) affects about three percent of American adults, and its causes are not always related to prolonged computer use. According to the Risk Management Society, any number of repetitive motions can cause CTS, such as the motions used in meat packing and jack hammering.

For college students, at least those who are not taking Meat Packing 101 or are not members of the Jackhammer Enthusiasts Society, the computer proves to be the CTS-causing culprit. Most people experience CTS as a pain or prickling in the fingers, which can extend to the forearm, elbow, and shoulder. In extreme cases, these symptoms can weaken grip strength, which can lead to diminished agility or muscle atrophy, said Doctor Anthony J. Viera in the journal of *American Family of Physicians*.

One of the best ways to prevent CTS is to never use a computer. Since this is not entirely feasible for most students, limiting computer use as much as possible is the next best thing. The American Academy of Family Physicians identifies more than 20 hours of computer use per week as "a risk factor for ... tingling and numbness."

If extended computer use cannot be avoided, the journal of *Risk Management* recommends "simple ergonomic solutions," which will help prevent CTS. This includes exercising, stretching out the tendons in the wrists and hands, and taking breaks from the endless typing and clicking.

Making the computer workspace as comfortable as possible is also helpful in preventing CTS. This involves adjusting the monitor and chair to the correct heights to prevent any strain or unnatural positions of the head and hands.

Sadly, for some, this information can do little to alleviate that uncomfortable burning sensation, or at least the one experienced in the wrist. For those who have already developed CTS, self-administered relief can take the form of ibuprofen or aspirin, a wrist splint, or stretching exercises. According to *Risk Management*, long-term treatment may require something more advanced, such as "steroid injections, deep massage, [or] ultrasound to reduce inflammation." Of course, consulting a doctor is the first step to any treatment.



photo by Jessica Wacker

Students should limit computer use to 20 hours a week to reduce their risk of Carpal Tunnel.

Where were you?

Connect to everyone, anywhere

by Jenni Lada
Features Editor

"Where were you last weekend? I tried calling you three times and couldn't get a hold of you! ... You were out of town? Well why didn't you tell anybody?"

Ah, the familiar litany a last-second traveler hears upon a return from a quick excursion from an exotic locale like ... Wisconsin Dells. It happens to all of us. We get a chance for a quick road trip, and on the way out the door we forget to alert family and friends through e-mail and voicemail messages to explain our absence. Who has time to change a message for callers when you're trying to find a clean shirt?

Thanks to the new web

site Where Are You Now? (WAYN.com), this is no longer a problem. Once you make an account, you're able to account for your whereabouts at all times. Going to Vegas over Christmas? Let people know now, and your friends might be able to plan a trip at the same time. Checking out the Dells for the weekend? Head to a computer before you go and you're all set. Then while you're gone, if your friends can't reach you, they can go to your page and immediately know where you are.

Maybe you're going with family out of town for a trip. While family is nice and all, sometimes you want some time away from their sometimes smothering ways. WAYN.com can also help you meet and connect with people who will be in the same place at the same time. That way you can hit a museum for family fun earlier in the day, and then the clubs at night with new friends.

Perhaps the nicest part about WAYN.com is that you can also keep track of where you have been and make notes about your past trips. Want to always remember what happened on that fateful night at the beach in Hawaii? Just jot it down and maybe even add a quick picture to enhance the memory. Where were you three weeks ago? Check your account and you'll definitely know.

Thanks to the website Where Are You Now, you can save yourself from the chorus of complaints you'd normally face from people who you forgot to notify before each trip.

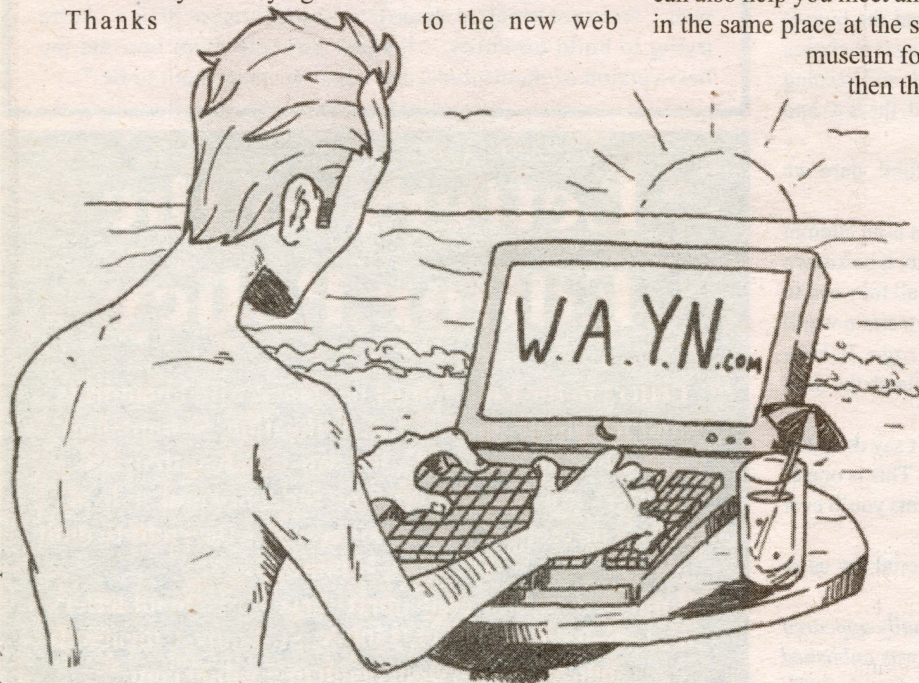


image by A.R. Lopez

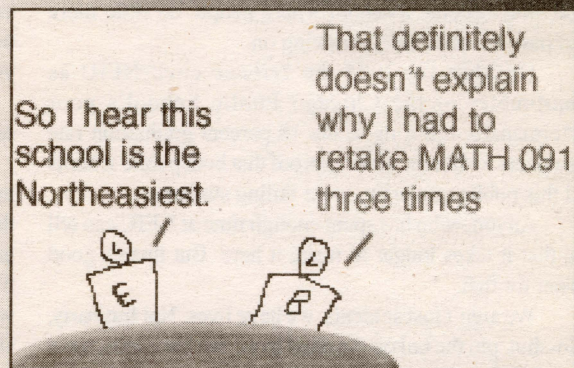
Side Splitters

Marxism



A. R. Lopez

Existentialism and the Brain



D. Gordon Macnab

Got an idea?
The Independent is always looking for artists
and cartoonists.
neiu_independent@yahoo.com
Ext. 4577

Allergy eye drops:

An alternative to needle vaccination

by Michael Sy
Staff Writer

This allergy season brought new medical alternatives for seasonal vaccinations. Allergy eye drops are one of many recent new ideas developed.

A statistical analysis posted in August of this year by the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases stated that 54 percent of 50 million Americans are allergic to one or more strains of allergen. The treatment of allergy and allergy symptoms costs the U.S. healthcare system \$18 billion a year.

Other medical alternatives to needle vaccination, in addition to allergy eye drops, are being developed to optimize safety in allergy treatment due to the growing concern over whether conventional standard vaccination methods are still the best form of allergy treatment, or if they are necessary at all.

In the American Academy of Allergy, Asthma & Immunology's guide of allergy and asthma medication, the treatment of effects range from temporary symptom relief of seasonal allergies, to having decongestants in addition to antihistamines, to even homeopathic drops. There are few adverse side effects and restrictions, such as allergy rebound, or restricted use for those allergic to aspirin and other non-steroidal inflammatory drugs.

So far, allergy eye medications have proven harmless, so now we must ask how safe is

needle vaccination?

According to the Center for Disease Control's web site, "persons administering vaccines should follow necessary precautions to minimize risk of spreading disease." As all precautions are made to sterilize vaccine components, there are still some dangers left to be aware of.

According to Vaccine Liberation.org and the Center for Disease Control's National Immunization Program web site, "The introduction of any bacteria, bacterial filtrate or vaccine could cause a reaction in the body resulting in blood clots from intense microbial activity that could attach to blood vessels or organs. It impairs their function or completely obstructs them, resulting in organ death." This reaction is called Schwartzmen Phenomena.

Another possibly dangerous effect of needle vaccination is the use of a chemical component used in many vaccines called thimerosal, a vaccine preservative that prevents bacterial contamination. As good as this chemical sounds, the problem is that one of the ingredients in this preservative is mercury. Mercury absorbs sulfur, and it will kill other molecular structures to absorb that sulfur from them. If it can't absorb the sulfur, then it will bond to sulfur atoms and deprive it from the blood cells, enzymes and proteins. Antibodies also have sulfur, so the mercury will kill them too, eventually tearing down the natural defense system.

In 1999, the American Academy of Pediatrics and the American Academy of Family Physicians sought to remove thimerosal from infant recommended vaccines, as reported in the Center for Disease Control's web site. Infant vaccines are now manufactured, at most, with only trace amounts of thimerosal.

Science can only go as far as necessity demands, but for now we wait. We cannot be sure how safe allergy eye drops are compared to needles because more time must be taken to see if there are any complications. For now, those of us afraid of needles must wait until they can be perfected and still bravely face the jab in order to save us.

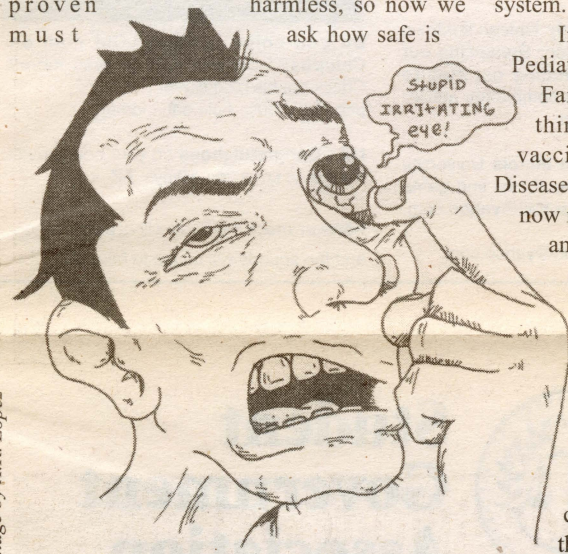


image by A.R. Lopez

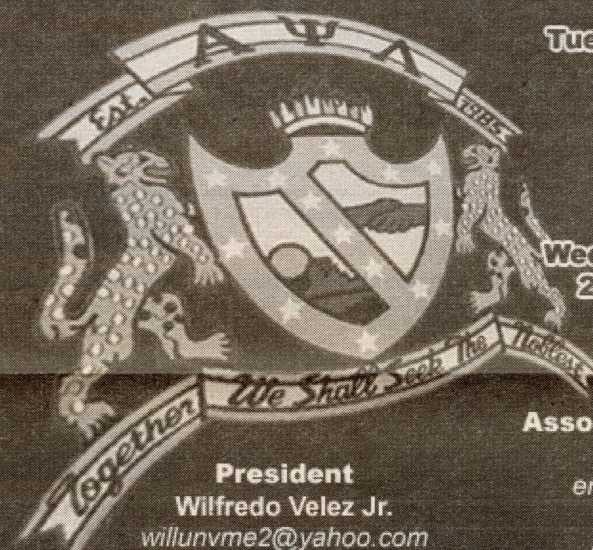
Join the Northeastern Illinois University's Baseball Club



For general info. and game dates, e-mail
neiu_baseball@yahoo.com.
To join the team, e-mail neiu_baseballclub@yahoo.com

Informational Meeting

The Nations First and Largest Co-ed Latino Oriented Fraternity



Tuesday, Sept. 20th, 2005
1:40 pm - 2:40 pm
FA 255
and
7:00 pm - 8:30 pm
S.U. 217

Wednesday, Sept. 21, 2005
2:00 pm - 3:30 pm and
7:00 pm - 8:30 pm
S.U. 217

Associate Member Educator
Maurice Davis
enonomous1@yahoo.com
or e-mail us at
alphapsilambda_neiu@
yahoogroups.com

President

Wilfredo Velez Jr.
willunvme2@yahoo.com

Up to the challenge?

Let's Get Personal



Sharron Evans likes a good challenge.

Here at Northeastern, students have seen everything from sexual harassment charges during student elections, disqualifying elected students without a trial, even approving \$20,000 for a dance held after the semester was over.

So what does this have to do with Evans?

Now, everything.

Evans is the new director of Student Activities and advisor for the Student Government Association (SGA), a group replete with complications, complaints, and sometimes a pinch of controversy.

"I mean it happens," Evans said. "I've seen it happen at Illinois State. I've seen it happen, you know, somewhat at Columbia as well ... Politics is a gray—it's never a black and white."

Evans, 31, was the associate director of Organization Advising Programs and Services at Columbia University in New York before returning to Illinois to be closer with her family. She is a graduate from Illinois State University where she got

her Master's in Human Services Counseling and worked for several years as Hall and Area Coordinators.

Now as director, Evans manages the overall operations of Student Activities, which hosts 72 different clubs on campus. The department reserves rooms for events; provides information on how to renew charters or request money from student government, and keeps tabs on how much money clubs have in their account. All of this is in addition to leadership training and advising the student government.

Evans is looking forward to being SGA's direct advisor, working closely with its officers and senate. "I like new challenges. I like new surroundings," Evans said. "I'm in [SGA] meetings when decisions are made. [I am] there as an advisor, as a resource."

Evans knows she will wear several hats "to help ensure the students are making constructive and fair decisions when it comes down to allocating money to these clubs who are applying for event by event." She said she knows about the SGA's track record and is fully prepared for it.

In the past year, "it sounds like [SGA had] very strong leaders, probably to the point that was, very autocratic, let me say," commented Evans. "Because people weren't



photo by Delia Bleahu

Sharron Evans talks about her new role as Director of Student Activities.

getting along there was a lot of blockage going on where it kept SGA from functioning."

She describes herself as driven and straightforward, which will help during the SGA's fall elections in October. "I tend to be able to focus and put my energies into it and push forward and get done through the adversity that may take place," she said. "Just going for it, that's what I do."

"The student leaders I've met so far in government, they seem very open to making

it work," she noted. "Not to say they won't have their challenges."

Evans can be reached at the Student Activities Office located on the second floor of the Student Union. Otherwise, she can be found at SGA meetings year-round.

I'm just looking forward to a really good year," said Evans. "It's kind of energizing to be here and starting over again in a different environment and see how things go."

Around Campus



Monday, September 19

Hurricane Katrina Relief Drive-

September 19 - October 7,
9:00 a.m.- 5:00 p.m.
Bins for donations will be placed around campus to accept your donations. There are two bins for two relief efforts. You may choose which effort to support.

Social Organization of Anahuac-

Speaker Alberto Lopez and Guest Sergio Ramirez Munoz, Ocelocoatl.
Golden Eagles 11:00 a.m.- 2:00 p.m.

Organic Matter-

Noelle Allen and Eric Wert,
September 19 - 30, Fine Arts Center Gallery,
Mon, Wed, Fri 10:00 a.m.- 5:00 p.m.
Tues, Thurs 9:00 a.m.- 4:00 p.m.

Tuesday, September 20

Clean Water for Africa-

Fund raising project for Blood:Water Mission, a non-profit organization to address the HIV/AIDS crisis in Africa. Physical Education Building,
10:30 a.m.- 1:30 p.m.

Role of Women in the Nahuatl-

Speaker Alberto to Lopez and Guest Sergio Ramirez Munoz, Ocelocoatl.
Golden Eagles 11:00 a.m.- 2:00 p.m.

Wednesday, September 21

Sergio Ramirez Munoz-

Mexico/Aztec misconceptions and contributions to the world discussed.
Student Union 003, 11:00 a.m.- 2:00 p.m.

Thursday, September 22

Educational System of the Nahuatl-

Speaker Alberto Lopez and Guest Sergio Ramirez Munoz, Ocelocoatl. Golden Eagles
11:00 a.m.- 2:00 p.m.

Movie Day, "Crash"-

A film that examines the complexities of racial tolerance in America. El Centro
6:30 p.m. - 10:00 p.m.

Artist Concert-

Jane Kenas-Heller, soprano, with Irwin Heller, clarinet, Kathy Cowan, mezzo soprano, Brian Torosian, guitar, and Michael Melton, piano.
Fine Arts Center Recital Hall, 1:40 p.m.

Clean Water for Africa-

Fundraising project for Blood:Water Mission, a non-profit organization to address the HIV/AIDS

Clean Water for Africa cont.

Crisis in Africa.
Physical Education Building,
5:30 p.m.- 8:00 p.m.

Friday, September 23

Movie Day, "Crash"-

A film that examines the complexities of racial tolerance in America.
Golden Eagles
7:00 p.m.- 10:00 p.m.

Have an event?

Let us know.

E-mail the Independent at
neiu_independent@yahoo.com
or call at ext. 4577

Golden Opportunities

2004 ICPA Winner for Best Classified Ad Section in the state

For Sale/Rent

Walk to school! Kimball/ Foster. Great big 2br/6 rm. apt. Available 10/1. \$865 inc. heat. Call Mary (773) 216- 1353.

Close to campus. Big, 3br apartment near Pulaski/Lawrence. Available immediately. \$950, includes heat. Call Yvette (773)463-4265.

For Sale - 1999 Jeep Grand Cherokee - 85 K miles, perfect cond. inside out. For more info call (773) 934-0425.

98 Chevy Monte Carlo - V6 3.1 L, excellent condition, \$5500 OBO. Call Karen (847)-826-8813

For Rent - Charming first floor 2 br apt. in vintage two flat. On Kimball between Irving & Addison. (773) 539-7347

Wanted

Swim coach needed. Great part-time opportunity for current/ex swimmer! State Championship Masters Club looking for talented coach with experience. Up to 10 hrs/wk, up to \$22/hr, based on experience. Respond ASAP. E-mail: sulli560@comcast.net; ktbmail@sbcglobal.net

The INDEPENDENT is looking for writers, photographers, editors, cartoonist and designers who are looking towards advancement. Will pay. For more information, e-mail neiu_independent@yahoo.com.

Roommate Wanted (Female preferred), just remodeled apartment, spacious kitchen/living room & wonderful bathroom. Logan Square area. Available Now! (708) 781-5765.

The INDEPENDENT is seeking business- minded students interested in working in a small environment. Looking for sales representatives and students who can work on marketing plans. For more information, e-mail Andrea at

neiuadvertising@yahoo.com.

Spring Break 2006 with Student Travel Services to Jamaica, Mexico, Bahamas and Florida. Are you connected? Sell trips, earn cash and travel free! Call for group discounts. Info/Reservations 800-648-4849 www.ststravel.com.

Services

Brother's Construction. 20+ years experience. Drywall, plumbing, kitchen and bathroom renovations, roofing, concrete work, etc.. Free estimates. (773) 394-1649.

Clubs

IV Christian Fellowship! Jesus ... who is he and what does the bible say? Come for discussion and worship. Tuesdays 1:40 p.m. Fine Arts 153.

Rush Theta Chi Omega. 9/19/05 - 9/23/05. Join us for a different event on each day. Mon-Fri. For more info, contact Georgia at (847) 732-8125.

Join Union for Puerto Rican Students! All Boricuas welcome. For more information: QOS office located in Student Union building E-41.

Join Sigma Lambda Gamma! Enhance your college experience, make lifetime friends and sisters, and unforgettable memories! For more information contact: NEIU_GAMMITAS@YAHOO.COM

Alpha Psi Lambda - Latino Interest Co-Ed Fraternity now seeking the noblest. For more information contact Wilfredo Velez Jr at (773) 401-4302 or alphapsilambda_neiu@yahoo.com

GLBTA - Northeastern Gay Lesbian Bisexual Transgender Alliance (GLBTA).

Every Thursday in Fine Arts building room 107 at 1:40 p.m..

Chemexia! NEIU's only Chican@/Mexican@Latin@Organization! Enhancing our knowledge and expanding our culture through university and community action! CHIMEXLA@gmail.com

Join the Northeastern Illinois University Baseball club. For general info and game dates, e-mail neiu_baseball@yahoo.com. To join the team, e-mail neiu_baseballclub@yahoo.com

Personals

Do you enjoy reading "Old man on Campus?" Do you want to read more? Check out his blog site at <http://bughouse.neiu.edu/oldman>.

MZ - Congratulations on your new arrival! It's a boy! Love you always. AZ

Forever more the birds will cease to sing and the sounds will cease to hear. AB



Student Government Association

Fall 2005 Meetings

Thursday, September 22nd
B 152 (1:40 - 3:00 pm)

Thursday, October 6th
B 152 (1:40 - 3:00 pm)

Thursday October 13th
Jacob Carruthers Center for Inner City Studies
(2:00 - 4:00pm)

Thursday, November 1st
B 152 (1:40 - 3:00 pm)

Thursday, November 17th
EL Centro (4:00 - 5:30pm)

Thursday, December 1st
SU 214 (1:40 - 3:00pm)

Classified Ads are FREE!



Limit one ad per person/organization per issue. Ads must be 20 words or less. There is a 25 cent 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 Andrea Zelinski, 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: _____

NEIU I. D. #: _____

Run Date (s): _____

Today's Date: _____



Staff

Patrick O'Brien Editor-in-Chief
Elana Barron Associate Editor

News Editor Tom Robb	Office Assistant Mario Go
Assistant News Editor Nick Gaudio	Cartoonists Cecilia Carboni
Opinions Editor Joe Hertel	A. R. Lopez
Features Editor Jenni Lada	Amanda Johnson
REV Editor Dino Pollard	Photographers Delia Bleahu
	Jason Shaw

Production Manager Azucena Beltran	Senior Staff Writers Violette Green
Production Editor D. Gordon Macnab	Jonathan Gronli
Production Assistant Jessica Wacker	Jessi Moen

Graphics Editor Cecilia Carboni	Staff Writers Deborah Goldbaum
Photo Editor Dorian Barrios	Mario Go
Copy Editors Joe Hertel	Elizabeth Rodriguez
Deborah Goldbaum	Michael Sy
	Sarah Purlee
	Jennifer Bergdahl
	Ben Merrell
	Anna Zimowska
	John Billis
	Connie Herring

Business Manager
Andrea Zelinski
Distribution Manager
Krystian Zyszczyński

Michael Wilson Media Advisor

The Independent is published every week except during semester breaks. Deadline is five (5) days prior to the issue in which a contribution is to appear. Views expressed in letters are those of the university community, and not those of the Editorial Board.

The Chief Editor is responsible for the content of the Independent and views presented do not necessarily represent those of the administration, faculty, or students.

The Independent is a member of the Illinois College Press Association and Associated Collegiate Press.

Independent,
Northeastern Illinois University,
Room E-049,
5500 N. St. Louis Ave. Chicago,
Illinois 60625

Office Hours
Monday - Thursday
9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.
Friday
9:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

Contacts:
Editorial (773) 442-4577
Advertising (773) 442-4585
Fax (773) 442-4579
neiu_independent@yahoo.com