

10-25-2005

Independent- Oct. 25, 2005

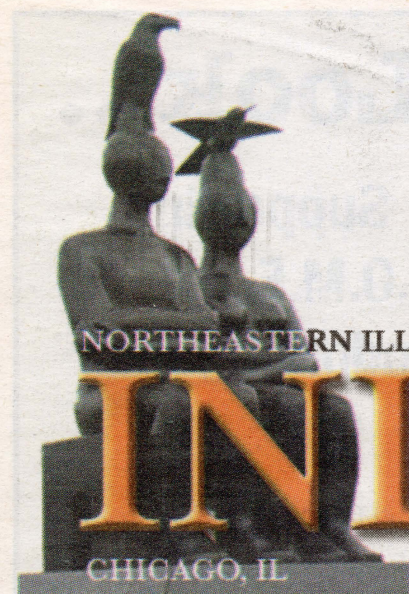
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Scare you're
pants off fun, Pollard's
Picks for Halloween
Pg. 9



Young and old
enjoy the White Sox on
campus.
Pg. 15

NORTHEASTERN ILLINOIS UNIVERSITY

Tuesday, October 25th, 2005

NORTHEASTERN ILLINOIS
UNIVERSITY
VOLUME 25 ISSUE 19
OCT 31 2005
ARCHIVES

INDEPENDENT

CHICAGO, IL

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Tuition increase parallels lack of state funding

by Andrea Zelinski
Business Manager

Tuition for the 2006 academic year could climb as much as \$10 per credit hour for some undergrads and \$13 for some grad students, or 7.9 percent, according to a proposal presented to the Board of Trustees last month.

The proposed increases are meant to offset expenses from university operations, including salaries, increasing course sections, academic programs, tenure-track faculty, student advising, and improvement of the physical campus in the midst of stagnant funding from the state.

"It's an environment of level state funding, increasing demands for salaries, for new academic programs, for deferred maintenance," said Mark Wilcockson, vice president of Finance and Administration. "And basically, you have to figure out a way to fund those things."

This offset is due to the state reducing the amount of money it funds to state intuitions of higher education, including Northeastern, in 2003 and 2004.

Starting in 2005, the university began receiving slight increases,

though the total state funds were still less than they were four years ago.

In 2001, Northeastern received \$42,610,100 from the state, which has since dropped to \$39,247,700, according to the President's Report to the Board of Trustees, dated Sept. 22, 2005.

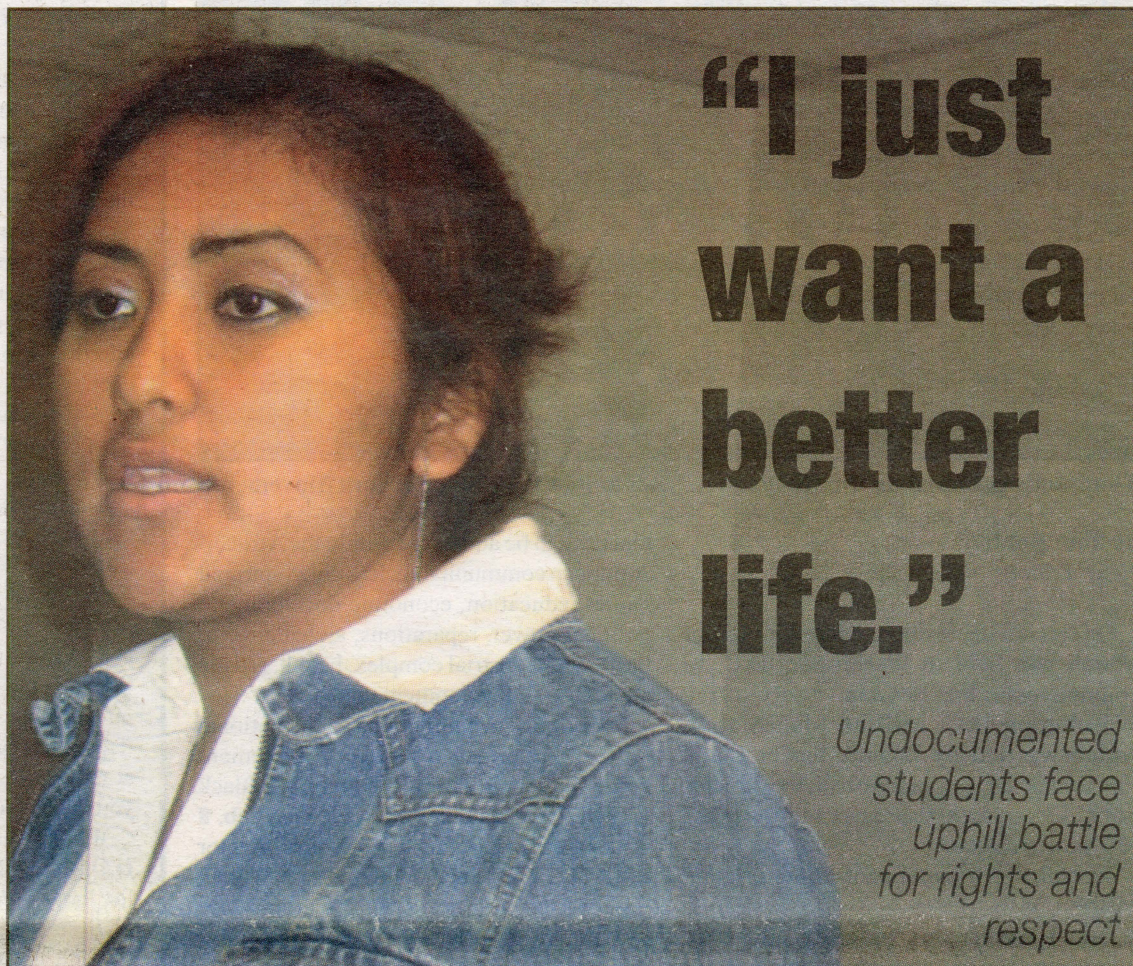
The drop in funds totals a 7.9 percent decrease, or \$3,362,400 over the past six years, despite the growing demands of the university, like the need to increase course sections and new academic programs.

State funds and tuition are the two major revenue sources for the university. According to Wilcockson, with level state funding, a rise in tuition will offset the expenses.

"When we were getting increases from state funding ... our tuition increases were never above four percent," said Wilcockson. "So the likelihood of returning to those kinds of tuition increases [are] depending upon the state making some contribution to the increased cost at Northeastern."

The state is also requiring the

See Tuition, page 4



"I just
want a
better
life."

Undocumented
students face
uphill battle
for rights and
respect

photo by Tom Robb

NEIU student speaks at the the Equity in Action event at El Centro on Oct. 11.

by Tom Robb
News Editor

Marilu Rodriguez is a 19-year-old Political Science student. She is also an undocumented immigrant, not a citizen, or a resident alien, but a student with no permission to reside in the U.S. Rodriguez took a big chance and went above the radar.

Rodriguez gave a tearful presentation and spoke on a panel with three other students at the El Centro Campus in a forum on undocumented students for the 11th Annual Equity in Action Conference on Oct. 11. She produced and screened a documentary about undocumented students and their plight.

"When we don't say anything, how are people going to know we exist?" asked Rodriguez.

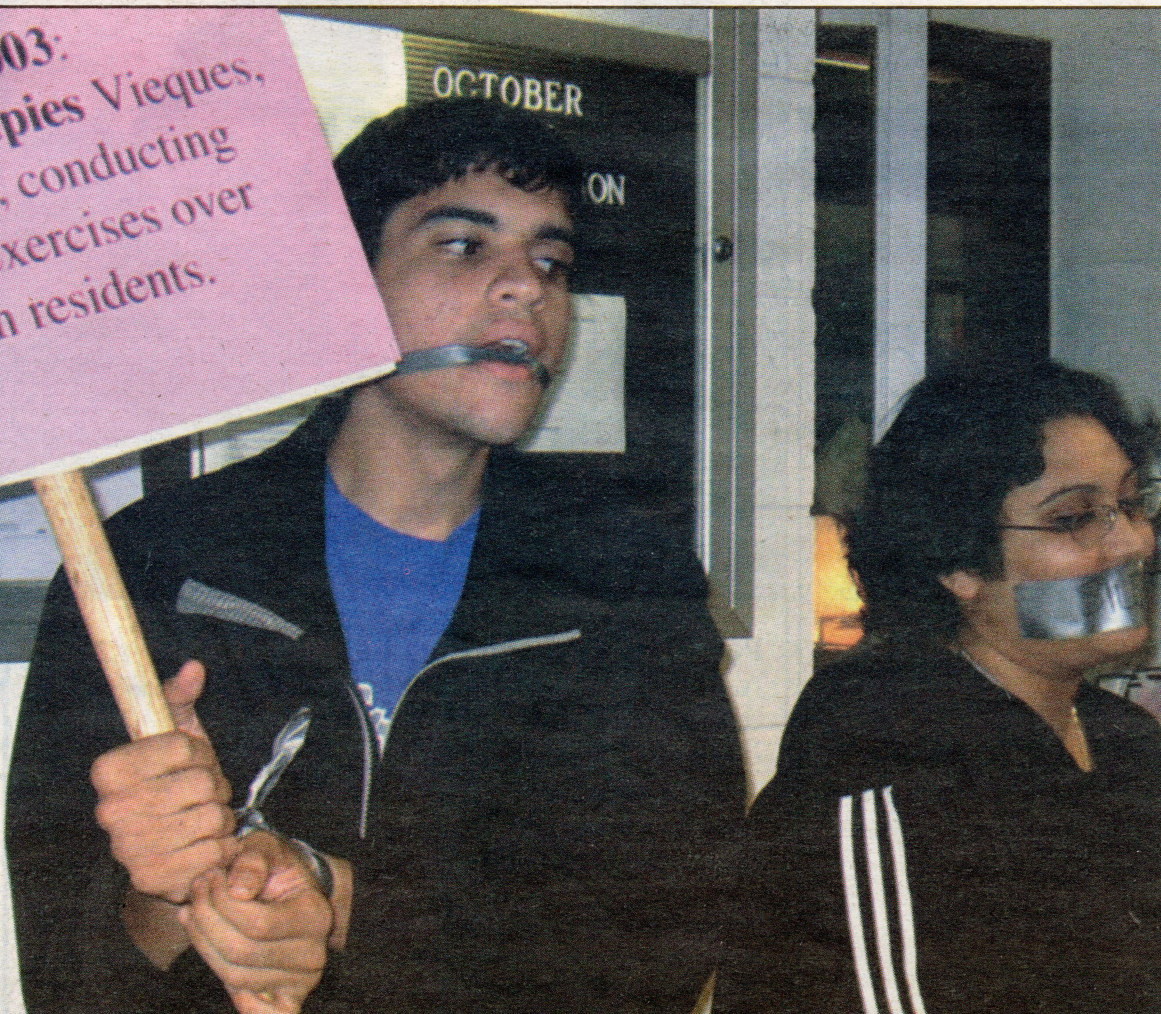
When asked if she feared being so public with her status, she replied, "I'm not worried because I feel passionate about the issue; if they're going to deport me for that, fine."

See Undocumented, page 5

1941-2003:
U.S. Navy occupies Vieques,
Puerto Rico, conducting
bombing exercises over
civilian residents.

"It makes sense that
we were silent
because our people are
silenced everyday."

-Yvonne Nieves,
Que Ondee Sola, UPRS



Silent protest speaks volumes

by Sarah Purlee
Staff Writer

Silence is golden, and at times, very powerful. Latino students may have proven this on Oct. 11 during a silent procession. Approximately 15 students demonstrated against war and for civil rights as they silently marched throughout the NEIU campus.

The march lasted an hour and covered most of the campus. Students wanted to communicate the unfair treatment and unequal rights of Latinos in Puerto Rico, Mexico, and Central America.

Issues such as dishonesty in

See Silent protest, page 3

Two students, who could not give their names, take part in a civil rights protest for Latinos around the world on Oct. 11.

CCICS Director speaks at Millions More March



Washington Post photo by Lois Raimondo

Thousands gathered on the Washington Mall to join the Millions More Movement.

by Tom Robb
News Editor

On Oct. 15 the Millions More Movement March was held in Washington D.C. to commemorate the 10th anniversary of the Washington D.C. Million Man March, which was led by Islamic leader Louis Farrakhan. Dr. Conrad Worrill, the director of CCICS, spoke at the recent Million More Movement march.

Worrill was a participant in the original Million Man March, which encouraged African Americans to unite and take responsibility for changing their current situation, and was a National Co-Convener of the recent Million More Movement march.

"Millions More Movement will continue to unearth the organizing and mobilizing for the just demand of Black people in America for Reparations," Worrill is quoted on the Million More Movement's web site.

"We march this year because there are two Americas, where gaps continue to exist," said Rev. Jessie Jackson on the group's web site.

The organization's web site, www.millionmanmarch.org, cites ten areas

that need to be addressed within the African-American community, such as unity, spiritual values, education, economic development, political power, reparations, a challenge to the prison industrial complex, health, artistic and cultural development, and peace.

Worrill has been involved in the national African-American reparations movement and is the chairman of the National Black United Front, as reported in the past Feb. 8 issue of the *Independent*. Assistant Director of CCICS Dr. Lance Williams said Worrill was involved with the Million More Movement as a national leader in these areas.

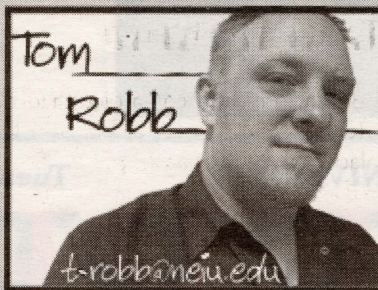
"A lot of people are going from the building (CCICS) who are plugged in through other groups," said Williams.

Unlike the Million Man March, said Williams, there are not large convoys of buses centrally organized to travel from Chicago to Washington for the march, rather smaller organizations, churches and individuals are renting one bus at a time.

The Million Man

See Millions,
page 4

A Closer Look...



Supporting
H.O.M.E. means
endorsing their
message

When talking to administrators about H.O.M.E. (Heterosexuals Organized for a Moral Environment), a common talking point continues to come up: it's all about free speech and we should encourage debate.

While informed debate is a good thing, there are some issues with H.O.M.E. First of all, the university community was told after H.O.M.E.'s appearance in 2003 that there was a moratorium on outside groups in Village Square. Magically, for no apparent reason, except that maybe students forgot, that moratorium went away.

The issue of whether or not H.O.M.E. should be on campus is a subject for debate. What is not up for debate is that the administration said H.O.M.E. would not be back on their own in Village Square—and they were.

Vice President of Student Affairs Dr. Melvin Terrell told the *Independent*, "It (the moratorium) existed in 2003; this is 2005. I can't tell you when it ended."

Why not Dr. Terrell? Student Activities and the Student Union report to you. You are the one who should have that information. You were on sabbatical, but if there are major developments that happen at the university, does your staff not brief you when you come back?

When researching the story on H.O.M.E.'s 2003 appearance on campus, the *Independent* found that the University of Illinois at Chicago's policy was if an outside group wanted to table at their university, the group had to be sponsored by an organization from the campus community.

H.O.M.E. actually had that in 2004 when they came at the invitation of the NEIU College Republicans Club. After that appearance the GLBTA (Gay Lesbian Bisexual and Transgender Alliance) did not

have mass protests and calls for change. They didn't like it, but they accepted that a group on campus put themselves out there endorsing H.O.M.E.'s message.

That is the rub: the College Republicans were on this campus day in and day out. They had to look other students in the eye and justify the need to have H.O.M.E. on campus. This time, they were not invited.

When H.O.M.E. is given resources by the university, without a sponsoring organization, it is seen as an endorsement of their message by the university. We have a non-discrimination policy that H.O.M.E. would seem to violate.

Many students say they feel threatened by H.O.M.E. Even our SGA President Evelyn Nazario-Rose said she felt physically threatened. This group on campus gives the message that gay bashing is acceptable.

If a group was to try to come to this campus and say that blacks are less evolved because of some bogus science, they wouldn't last 10 seconds, but because the gay issue isn't quite as clear in some peoples' minds, then saying that gay men have higher rates of rectal cancer is acceptable? I think not.

Even law schools have barred the military for a discriminatory "don't ask don't tell" policy. Why can't the administration here take such a stand?

Would it be unreasonable to ask outside groups to be sponsored by an organization or even have a single sponsoring student? Otherwise students will see that the university condones hate groups and their bogus science.



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100 year old floors replaced at CCICS

by Deborah Goldbaum
Copy Editor

The last time some of the floors on the first, second, third, sixth, and seventh floors at the Carruthers Center for Inner City Studies (CCICS) were replaced, the Wright Brothers made their first flight at Kitty Hawk, North Carolina, in 1903.

The area around CCICS was becoming largely African-American, as the weekly African-American newspaper, the *Chicago Defender*, urged "African-Americans to leave the poverty of the South for new opportunities in the North."

Current renovations at CCICS mark the first since Northeastern acquired the property in the early 1970s. CCICS will see further improvements if the current \$71 million the Illinois Capital Development Board request is approved by the State Legislature in Springfield.

The first phase of the project began last spring and was completed in August, said Lance Williams, the assistant director of CCICS.

Director of Maintenance and Construction

Gary Bryan said the floor project had been completed. "The project replaced all the bad places where the substrate, which is the material under the tile, was weak. It was wood, but it was replaced with concrete." There was more information in the Facilities Management Bulletin on NEIU's web site, which included a list of capital requests. One of these capital requests was for a remodeling project for CCICS.

According to the aforementioned bulletin, "The original tile was cracking which was causing the tile to fail." It also explained, "The project removed asbestos floor tile on the 1st, 2nd, 3rd, 6th, and 7th floors. It also replaced tile with vinyl tile flooring, and repainted the area."

The rest of the remodeling, according to Facilities Management's bulletin, is "in response to programmatic changes since 1972."

The capital request describes the remodeling: "The remodeling Phase I renews existing interior finishes and the exterior façade, modernizes the H.V.A.C. (heat ventilation and air conditioning) and utility systems, updates the lighting systems, adds a Building Automation System, replaces fixed equipment, and remodels interior areas."

Carruthers Center commissions statue honoring its namesake

by Tom Robb
News Editor

A new statue honoring the late Dr. Jacob H. Carruthers will be dedicated at the Jacob H. Carruthers Center for Inner City Studies (CCICS) in early December, according to Dr. Lance Williams, the assistant director of CCICS.

The statue will be done by noted sculptor Ausbra Ford and will be placed in the lobby of CCICS near his other work, the "Cartouche" (the pyramid shaped sculpture).

Ford is a professor of art at Chicago State University, a member of the Kemet Institute at CCICS, has lectured at the Smithsonian and Chicago Field Museum, and sits on the board of Chicago's DuSable Museum, according to The History Maker's web site, a scholarly site dedicated to African-American history.



Sculptor and native Chicagoan Ausbra Ford.

Duckworth's artistic journey

by Ben Merrell
Staff Writer

Modernist sculptor Ruth Duckworth spoke on Oct. 5 as part of the Presidential Lecture Series. Duckworth is best known among students as the creator of "Serenity," the sculpture in the center of campus.

After an introduction by University President Salme Steinberg, the 86-year-old Duckworth walked on stage with the aid of two canes.

In a talk filled with humorous asides and technical details, the German-born artist gave the audience a guided tour of her artistic life from her

move to England to escape Hitler's Germany, to her move to Chicago in 1964.

After receiving a commission from the University of Chicago, she had her two German shepherds sent from Liverpool and has been here ever since. "When you bring your dogs over," she said, "you stay."

Chicago has been an important aspect in Duckworth's career, as most of her major commissions are located in the city. In addition to her work at Northeastern, she has pieces on the University of Chicago campus as well as the Chicago Board Options Exchange.

See more on Duckworth in REV, page 10

Silent protest, from page 1

military recruitment and the murders of hundreds of Latinos weekly at U.S. borders by "Minute Men," a civilian anti-immigration group who patrols the Southwest border of the U.S., were addressed.

"To march silently is more dramatic and impacting because it forces us and others to reflect," said procession member and NEIU student Yvonne Nieves. "It makes sense that we were silent because our people are silenced every day."

The marchers felt the silent procession was a success because it was impacting. According to Nieves, "It was scary to put our paperwork out there and have some of it thrown back in our faces, but

someone has to do it."

Students witnessing the procession were given handouts explaining the message of the demonstration. The march was peaceful and demonstrators were well received by the student body.

The idea of silence was for the marchers and witnesses to react to each other without creating a place for hostility. One of the issues addressed were Minute Men, who demonstrators claim kill Latinos trying to cross the Mexican/American border.

The colonization and lack of voting rights of Puerto Rico and military recruitment practices regarding Latinos were also addressed.

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Abandoning Guantanamo is one of the two recognized methods for returning that land to its rightful owners. [The other method: *obtaining consent* from the U.S. government.] Since the U.S. president can order troop movements (in effect, "abandoning" that site) without consulting with Congress, I will proceed immediately to do just that. I will also encourage Congress to normalize relations with Cuba. That, unfortunately, the U.S. president cannot do by himself, though it is an action long overdue.

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NEIU Katrina relief rolls south

SGA President Nazario-Rose trucks donations to Houston

by Tom Robb
News Editor

Student Government Association President Evelyn Nazario-Rose is bound for Houston, Texas this week as she trucks in donated clothing and money originally collected for Ocean Springs, Miss., to displaced residents now living in shelters in Houston.

"A great deal of the resident of that whole area, where Ocean Springs is, were relocated to Houston, Texas. We contacted Ocean Springs last week and they recommended that we go to Houston where there are still 30,000 people living in shelters,

not trailer parks, shelters. That is where the greater need is," said Nazario-Rose.

Nazario-Rose explained that Ocean Springs is active and is "not deserted," but that the greater need, according to officials from Ocean Springs, are the shelters in Houston.

Nazario-Rose will bring clothing to Houston in a donated truck and will give half of the \$781.25 in donations collected for rebuilding materials for Ocean Springs. The other half of the money will go to students from hurricane affected areas who have resettled at Northeastern.

Nazario-Rose said that the

effort headed by SGA collected 20 boxes (18 x 18 x 24") of clothing and six larger "speed pack" boxes (approximately 3 x 2 x 3") full of clothing, along with the financial donations.

Nazario-Rose will also be bringing supplies from other Chicago donation drives to Houston. She will be collecting items from the Liberty Christian Center at 5447 W. Addison in Chicago and the Moody Bible Institute at North and Clark in Chicago.

The SGA, along with other campus organizations, have been holding this drive since early September, as reported by the *Independent* on Sept. 19.

Donated goods from NEIU that are going to hurricane victims.

Tuition, from page 1

university, along with all public universities, to contribute \$1.1 million a year to the Illinois state group health insurance plan, as well as contribute to the State Universities Retirement System for increases in employee salaries above six percent. This includes promotions and raises of six percent or more for employees.

"What this means for tuition is that not only has the university been allocated decreasing state appropriations, but Northeastern is seeing a pattern of being required to pay additional state expenses out of these decreasing state resources," states the President's report.

"Because the university operating budget has two primary funding sources - state appropriations and student tuition revenue - any reduction in available state funding results in greater pressure on student tuition

revenue to fund university operating expenses or to reduce University services and programs," according to the report.

Due to the 2004 Truth in Tuition Act, all Illinois public universities were required to guarantee new undergraduate students the same rate of tuition for four straight years. Every academic year thereafter, freshmen and transfer students have paid a different price for tuition than their elder peers.

Only students who enrolled before the fall of 2004 will feel the tuition increase by as much as 7.9 percent, or \$10 per credit hour.

The increase would be in addition to increases in mandatory fees for all students, which totals \$5.50 per credit hour. Mandatory fees include the Student Union Fee, Computer Resources Fee, amongst others.

Under the proposed increases, an undergraduate taking 12 credit hours a semester could feel a difference of \$186 a semester, or \$372 a year. That is almost enough money to buy the largest iPod available.

Students covered under the 2004 Truth in Tuition will feel an increase of \$5.50 per credit hour in mandatory fees. That means an increase of \$66 a semester or \$132 a year.

The university's Board of Trustees has not yet approved the proposed increase in tuition and fees. A vote is expected at the Board's February 2006 meeting.

According to Wilcockson, other state universities have not yet announced their next year's tuition increase.

Pool reporting by Tom Robb

Millions, from page 2

March 10 years ago was criticized for its exclusion of women and religious leaders from faiths other than Islam. Participating organizations for this year's march include those of women and other faiths.

Participating organizations include the Nation of Islam, the National Council of Negro Women, the NAACP, the National Urban League, the Hip-Hop Summit Action Network, the Southern Christian Leadership Conference, Rev. Jesse Jackson and the Rainbow/PUSH Coalition, Rev. Al Sharpton and the National Action Network, and the Congressional Black Caucus.

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Campus cops' new digs under construction

by Mario Go
Senior Staff Writer

The Parking Facility construction project has reached phase III. This includes the relocation of department offices and the construction of a new office in the ground level of the Parking Garage for Public Safety.

The current Public Safety office space will be given to the Graphics Department and the Parking offices will be given to academic and Campus Recreation Departments, which are still being determined at this time.

Gary I. Bryan, director of Maintenance and Construction for Facilities Management and project leader of the Parking Facility, said, "This project completes the Parking Facility project and provides a long term home for Public Safety and Parking."

According to Bryan, the contracts were awarded on June 24, 2005,

and "are tentatively scheduled for substantial completion on 17 November 05, pending delivery of materials." Bryan expressed his hope to move Public Safety and the Parking Office staff into the new offices during the upcoming semester winter break.

The total construction cost is \$1.4 million. Bryan said, "The new Public Safety Office provides much needed additional space for officers and administrative staff, as well as rooms for interviews, evidence storage and the dispatcher. It also consolidates parking operations and provides a security presence within the Parking Facility while centralizing the location of the Parking Office."

Companies that were awarded contracts include F.H. Paschen, Great Lakes Plumbing & Heating, Voris Mechanical Inc., A & H Plumbing, and Grace Electric. All of these companies have completed other projects for NEIU in the past.

Undocumented, from page 1

Rodriguez's documentary showed other undocumented students who spoke about the sense of hopelessness undocumented students face. "People in my situation, it will make it a lot harder, it will drive you insane," said one student in the documentary. "It's like a dead end," said another.

"We're not here to take anybody's jobs, we're not here to take anybody's tax money, I just want a better life," said another student.

"It wasn't my decision to come to this country," Rodriguez, who came as a child, said tearfully. "It hasn't been easy."

There are roughly 700 to 800 undocumented students at Northeastern, according to Faviola Tovar-Kallas, who spoke at the event and is an NEIU Admissions Councilor.

"We're not here to take anybody's jobs, we're not here to take anybody's tax money."

-Undocumented student

Under Illinois law 93-007, NEIU allows undocumented students who have graduated high school, or obtained a GED, and have lived in Illinois for three years to apply, and if accepted, receive in-state tuition rates. Tovar-Kallas said that the law was not a guarantee of admission. Students' academic standing must meet NEIU's admission standards.

Tovar-Kallas came to the U.S. herself as an undocumented immigrant from Mexico at the age of eight and has since obtained U.S. citizenship.

Other undocumented students are not so eager to share their situation, even with close friends. "I get questions and I have to lie, even small things like not being able to drive. I tell people that my glasses were broken on the day of my high school Driver's Ed exam," said one undocumented student who did not wish to be identified.

Diego Bonesatti of the Illinois

Coalition for Immigrant and Refugee Rights told the gathering that employers encourage undocumented immigrants to acquire fake Social Security cards and other documents to work in the U.S.

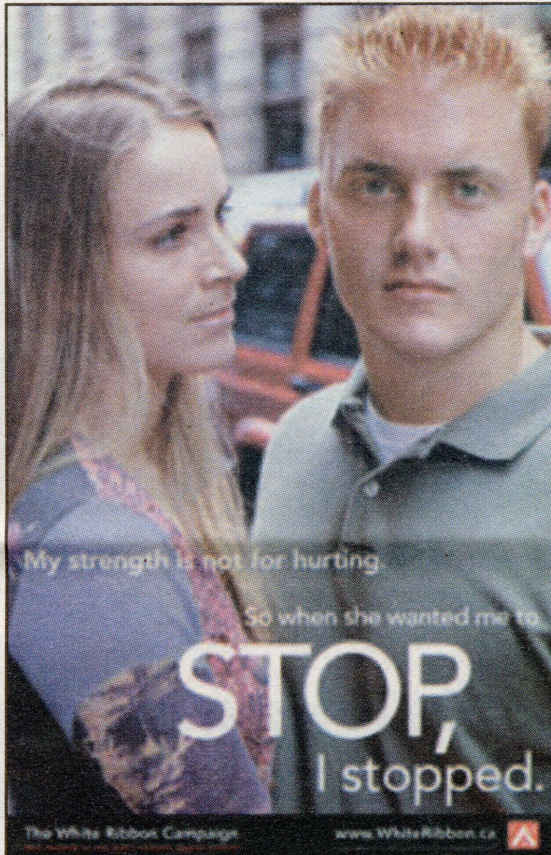
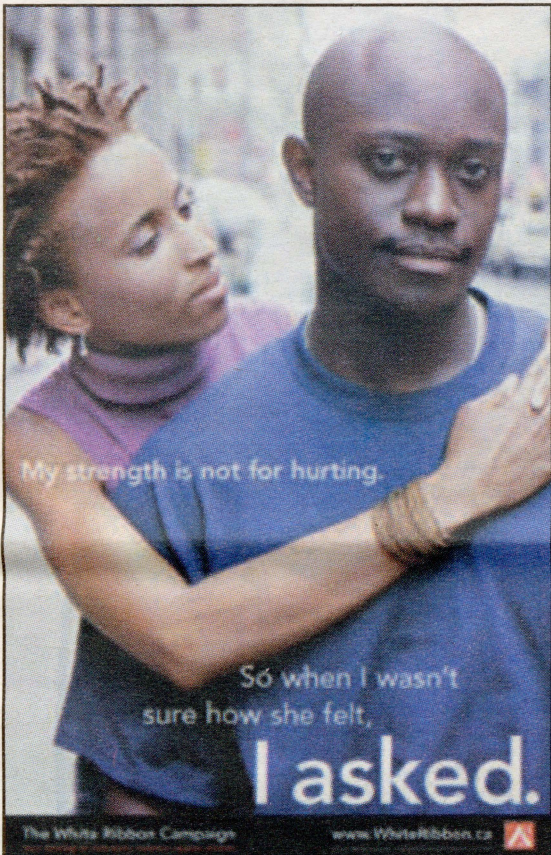
"They say 'these people coming for public benefits' is complete and utter bullshit," said Bonesatti. He said that the Social Security Suspense File (SSSF), where Social Security tax monies are held when names and numbers do not match, totaled \$389 billion. The SSSF was audited in 2002 and it contained \$8 billion for that year alone.

Bonesatti said that there is legislation pending, sponsored by U.S. Senator Dick Durbin (D-IL), called "The Dream Act." The act would allow an undocumented immigrant living in the U.S. for five years, who is attending college, in the military or performing community service, to get permanent residency.

One undocumented student, in response to The Dream Act, said, "It would give so many students the chance to pursue what is supposed to be the American Dream."

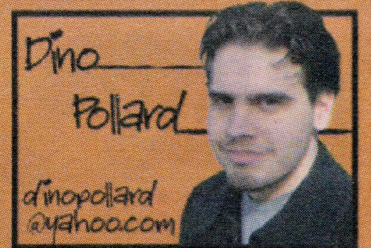
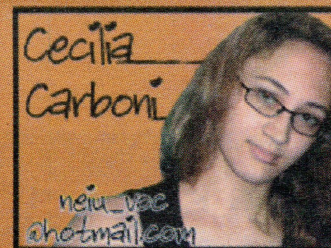
\$389 billion in Social Security tax monies remains unclaimed by undocumented workers who obtain false Social Security cards.

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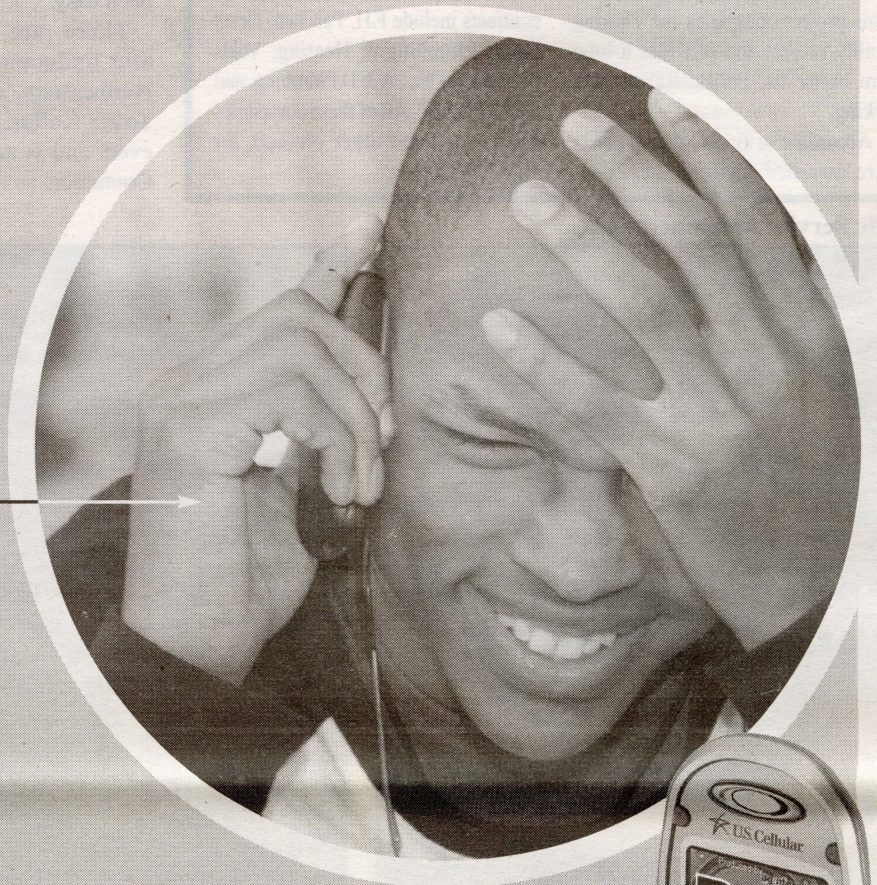


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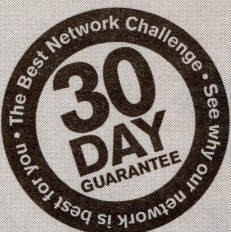
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Editorial

Budget cuts cause tuition increase

For several years, tuition and fees at Northeastern have been climbing higher and faster than many students had anticipated. Beginning next fall, students could see an increase in their tuition by as much as 7.9 percent, or \$10 a credit hour.

Each year, for many students, the bill they already receive in the mail is getting to be more than they can afford.

For students who began in the fall of 2004 or later, tuition and fee increases mean as little as \$66 a semester. All others could pay as much as \$186 more a term.

Before students march over to the president's door, there's something they should know: it's not the university's dirty little Halloween trick on students. It's the state's fault.

Due to a lack of funds distributed from the state budget, public universities across Illinois are not receiving as much money as they did last year. Many schools are getting big, fat 0 percent raises while a few universities with friends in the legislature are receiving 0.1 percent, if that.

At one point, Northeastern received over \$45 million in state funding. That money helped pay teachers, hire new professors, even increase course offerings. But that was in 2002. This school year, the university received only \$39 million. That is despite the raise in inflation and the steadily increasing needs of a growing student body.

Factor in other increases, like employees raises, especially after the union negotiations last year, the rising price of gas, and adding more courses. All this while the university receives the same amount as it did last year, and less than it did years before.

This is not saying that Northeastern makes the best out of all \$39 million it receives. As our business professors teach us, there's always room for financial improvement. However with a stagnant budget, the university still has to fund these expenses, and it's going to come out of our pockets.

Unfortunately, the rising cost of tuition is making it harder for low-income students to finish school, according to an article in the *Chicago Tribune* on Oct. 19, 2005. The article quoted the College Board, a non-profit group, who announced the findings last week. They found that a student's chance of not only attending, but finishing college, holds a strong correlation to their family's income. The higher the income, the higher the chances of finishing school, it said.

Being that Northeastern prides itself on affordability, the university has a problem on its hands. They can raise tuition and run the risk of increased student dropout, or cut programs and department budgets to keep tuition down.

What would you choose?

A missed opportunity for social interaction

*Less than 4%
of students use
Bughouse*

by Dino Pollard
REV Editor

One of the major problems with a commuter school such as NEIU is the lack of personal connection people may feel with their fellow students. Without dorms or a campus life comparable to most universities, many students at NEIU simply keep to themselves. NEIU is nothing more than a place to attend classes. For obvious reasons, this makes it difficult for students to socialize with one another. But there is an alternative.

That alternative is Bughouse, NEIU's online community. Located at <http://bughouse.neiu.edu>, Bughouse is a place where students can chat with other students via Bughouse's interactive message board, use private messaging, or get on their soapbox with Bughouse's blog feature.

Conversations on the message board cover a broad range of topics. There are separate forums for different discussions, such as politics (once a

dominating force on the board, but it has since died down), video games, movies, news, academia, or just general conversation. Blogging has since become a craze on the Internet, and Bughouse offers students their own soapbox, which they can use to share their feelings on just about anything.

Bughouse also offers a selection of games to pass the time, such as Tetris, Pacman, Simon, or Space Invaders. Bughouse keeps track of your score every time you play, so you can try and beat your personal best, or go for the highest score on the forum.

For the past two years, the forum has offered a unique experience for students who use it. It allows for socialization between students and provides a friendly and relaxed environment where people can engage in intelligent discussion or just joke around with each other.

Despite NEIU's student population of over 12,000, Bughouse has fewer than 500 registered users. And of those users, only a small percentage is actually active on the board. It would be nice to see more students on Bughouse joining in. The board offers a fun, relaxed community where people can feel free to speak their mind, a community many NEIU students could find beneficial to their college experience.

This school may not have dorms, but there's no reason that NEIU can't provide a rewarding, social experience for students. Bughouse is a very good way to achieve this.



image courtesy of bughouse.neiu.edu

Another point of view

Wow, thanks for inviting me!
This is a great place!



All these beautiful women! I'm
like a kid in a candy store.



You know this is a lesbian bar.



So, what do you think my
chances are?



Old Man on Campus *A really scary story*



Gather 'round everyone and I will tell a scary tale. It has no joyous ending; no one lives happily ever after. Dim the lights and sit closer. Do not get too comfortable, for the tale I will tell will make you afraid, very afraid. It is a true story about a place wherein sinister beings and monsters who prey on children live ... especially on Halloween.

There was a time when all the neighborhood children would go door to door dressed as little goblins, skeletons and fairy

princesses trick-or-treating, playfully enjoying the one day a year that filled their bags with candy, gum and cookies. It is not an exaggeration to say that our haul for the day would fill three shopping bags of treats, enough for the entire year!

We would start around three o'clock, up one side of the street and down the other until five, when we broke for supper. We would meet again after dinner for the evening shift, which lasted from six to around eight p.m. We were hard working ten-year-olds.

All through the afternoon and evening, bands of roaming goblins,

superheroes and little monsters would relay to one another which houses had the best treats, in one of the earliest implementations of results-effective time management. We even returned a second time to the best hand-out houses (usually the ones which were decorated with pumpkins and hay bales), hoping our reappearance would not be detected.

This was back when there were no flame-retardant costumes with safety masks so a kid could see. It was also back when we didn't worry about razor blades or pins stuck in the apples, or candy laced with PCP or rat poison.

It was back in the days when parents didn't have to accompany kids as they went through the neighborhood. Much to my chagrin, mom would make me haul my little sister around, which impeded my

hustling more candy.

Neighbors didn't worry about liability if a kid choked on a piece of candy. My dad would say, "You shouldn't have stuck the whole thing in your mouth at once, ya pig!" as he dislodged the morsel from my throat.

Today, kids can't go house to house trick-or-treating in the evening because the neighbors won't open the door. The people inside the houses are just as fearful as the parents outside as to what could happen. And all treats now-a-days are obtained by going to local stores in the neighborhood, rather than residences, and must be inspected thoroughly; no unwrapped candy, no fruit or homemade cookies.

The costumes have all but disappeared. Now it's roving bands of pre-teens hitting the stores for

goodies, not even bothering to dress up. And the goodies have dropped in quality to pre-wrapped tiny little sample packs, which do not even fill one small sack at day's end.

There will be activities planned at schools and perhaps a kid's party at someone's house afterwards, but the fear of being poisoned, attacked or slicing one's lips open on a razor blade, will keep little kids off the streets. The sinister real-life monsters who take pernicious pleasure in harming kids have prevailed, thus destroying the age-old tradition of neighborhood trick-or-treating.

Today, there are just too many real-life monsters, and they operate not just once a year, but every day. One may even reside in your neighborhood. And that is truly scary.

UNESCO gives out tricks instead of treats

by J. Louis Bracich
Special Contributor

George Orwell, had he been alive today, would shriek in horror at what transpired this past week in Paris at the United Nations Education Scientific & Cultural Organization meeting. Why would he react in such a manner to some congregation of culture or trade personnel in the City of Lights? Because at this meeting protectionism has come to mean cultural diversity. You see, dear reader, this was a meeting not so much in defending indigenous cultures, but preventing the importation of American culture. Outside of this, the implications are much more serious than just restricting Hollywood cinema.

The United Nations Education Scientific & Cultural Organization, or UNESCO, was established just after WWII to promote humanity above any differences. "Since wars begin in the minds of men, it is in the minds of men that the defences of peace must be constructed." This quote appears in the preamble of UNESCO's constitution, written by the poet Archibald MacLeish.

The organization helped sponsor many initiatives ranging from student exchanges to international treaties, all in the hope of promoting better human relations. This was all fine and dandy until around the 1970s and '80s when many nations in the West witnessed the forum become a tool for the Communist bloc. In 1984, President Reagan withdrew America's membership from UNESCO. But, in 2003, despite protests from many in his political base, President Bush had the U.S. rejoin UNESCO. Indeed, the U.S. quickly took up 22 percent of UNESCO's tab!

Fast forward two years later, and we see that the international organization has once again been hijacked by special interests. This time it is trade representatives and lobbyists, from industries ranging from books to wine making, who are corrupting UNESCO. This has culminated in a draft treaty dubbed the "Convention on the Protection and Promotion of the Diversity of Cultural

Expressions," or CPPDCE.

At first glance, one may think that there is nothing wrong at protecting a culture. The problem herein lies that the CPPDCE doesn't do what it sets out to do, except allow protectionism—mainly against American products.

Yet, despite all these arguments against "U.S. hegemony," nothing is said about the other side. Countries like France have imposed limits on such things ranging from cinema to magazines to food. France funds virtually every film made there, and imposes limits on imports. It has labelled some industries "cultural heritages" and slaps levels of protectionism on them. Case in point: its wine and auto markets.

Canada has levelled similar restrictions on film, music and magazines. (Ironically, many of the films or television shows it says "no" to are actually filmed in places like Toronto or Vancouver!)

The draft was spearheaded by Canada and France, both looking to enact protectionist measures. The World Trade Organization has regulations that would prohibit such measures, but the new UNESCO treaty will give them cover. Now the already heavily subsidized film industry in Canada and the "zombie companies" that make up France's already inefficient uncompetitive agriculture markets will be protected.

Regardless of whom you voted for in the past elections, or whom you believe you are ideologically affiliated with, this issue transcends all of this. Once you stop learning from other people, once you close your eyes and ears, you stop learning ... and you stop living.

You may hate Hollywood, you may hate the record companies, but they will not be the real victims of the recent actions at UNESCO. Do not think they have not hedged against this possibility. It will be the independent musician trying to pass her/his music along in Chicago, the idealist who pens a novel in Prague, the small press comic book artist in Tokyo. It will be the official censorship of ideas in favour of saving lobbied interests.

VOICE OF THE CAMPUS

Invaders on campus?



"I NVADERS" WAS ONE TERM I HEARD. THEY ARE PORTRAYED AS SOME SORT OF PLAGUE, SOME SORT OF BLIGHT UPON THE AMERICAN LANDSCAPE. THEY ARE RECKLESS

CRIMINALS PREYING UPON THE SYSTEM, AND I SHOULD WARN YOU THAT THERE ARE CLOSE TO 800 OF THEM AT NEIU ALONE. THEY SIT IN YOUR CLASSES. THEY WALK THE HALLWAYS. AREN'T YOU AFRAID?

Incredible how devious a creature the undocumented immigrant becomes through the words of people who call themselves patriotic. Incredible that there are people who think that anyone actually wants to live in this condition—as if being undocumented is some sort of lifestyle choice.

The Equity in Action conference recently touched upon issues involving students who find themselves in this category. Some concerns surrounding the topic include in-state tuition rates, state and federal grants, private scholarships, and opportunities for work during that time.

An opportunity for attending public state colleges has emerged in recent years, but you can still throw that dream college out the window, no matter how great your grades were in high school.

Imagine not being able to drive, get a job, or receive any financial aid. Imagine turning down scholarships, turning down job offers, turning away dreams. Imagine being afraid to get anywhere close to Canada. The list of obstacles is high. If being a college student wasn't hard enough, then this only makes it worse.

Most difficult is the stigma involved in being in this situation, as if obtaining citizenship doesn't involve one of the largest bureaucratic machines currently in place. A rusty monster that has only been recently updated to serve the paranoia of a state that needs scapegoats.

I have heard these students in classes give out their social security number substitutes (courtesy of NEIU) in class with their head low and voice quiet. That is what has led to the university relying more on ID numbers. Trying to justify the reasons for why you live as you do must be a touchy subject, especially when everyone notices that you don't have two valid forms of ID in your wallet.

Economically though, it's a great advantage for the country. The rising middle class is the undocumented worker. They work hard at jobs few people want, and then spend that money heartily. Recent articles in economic magazines have discussed how big businesses are catering to these groups because of the value they hold. And certainly, the fact that many of them pay taxes can't be bad, considering that none of them will ever receive a refund check.

But opponents to those laws seeking to help undocumented students find higher education argue that in-state tuition will rob U.S. citizens and legal immigrants of opportunities during critical economic periods.

In a country where the Statue of Liberty is highly iconic, it seems that few actually read the inscription. How can those that seek shelter here do so if they are reporting to a government that grants them more hoops to jump through than comfort?

MAILBAG White compliments the *Independent*

Dear Editor,

I have been around long enough to remember when the *Independent* went by another name (but old enough not to remember what it was). The current staff is doing as good a job at putting out as good a paper as NEIU has ever had—even

during its new edition-per-week trial period. So you're wrong: people do notice.

It's too bad that the university does not offer better support for the work students do on the paper. Mike Wilson and I tried to establish a program years ago, but it died on an administrator's desk. Quality

journalism in this country is in short supply these days, but you shouldn't despair of your own work.

Harry White

Professor of English

P.S. Having talked with him, I think Dan Milsky's been misrepresented and still could be interviewed regarding his response to H.O.M.E.

MAILBAG *Atlas Shrugged* discussed at NEIU?

Dear Editor,

I was pleasantly surprised to see such a comprehensive review and critique of Ayn Rand's novel *Atlas Shrugged*. I am an older student and have been an Objectivist for many years. To hear Ayn Rand even mentioned on a college campus, let alone NEIU, is quite a shock. Both reviewers' points are all well taken, and let me offer some comments. When reading *Atlas Shrugged* the reader must remember the context of the novel.

Mrs. Rand literally and figuratively saw the Communist Revolution come to her home in St. Petersburg. She saw firsthand the revolution and what it did to all people, rich and poor, intellegencia and academia, business owner and worker.

The novel is a culmination of all she went through in life and her much loathed philosophy of Objectivism. The novel is long compared to the standards of today, but a novel of that length was not so extraordinary when published in 1957. The characters are caricatures because that is the style of Hollywood, where she made her career as a writer in films. Having read most of her works I would actually suggest reading *Anthem*, the story is shorter and far more entertaining.

Respectfully,

West Anson

Spring 2006 Student

P.S. Remember always, "Who is John Galt?"

MAILBAG Someone's not happy with Pollard's Picks

Dear Mr. Pollard,

The fact that you claim to have nothing against comedies produced for the sole sake of entertainment is hard to fathom after listening to your unsuccessful efforts to deconstruct the "senselessness" of *Napoleon Dynamite*. You attest there is a "fine line between a stupid comedy and one that is just plain ridiculous." It doesn't take a film student to inform you that you are wrong. The appeal of "stupid comedies," as you so cleverly refer to them, is their ability to entertain

audiences—to give us something to smile about while engaged in our tedious workdays. No one watches films like *Spinal Tap*, *Dumb and Dumber*, or *Half Baked* with aspirations of uncovering hidden meaning in their content. Besides providing us with pure, unadulterated laughs, these films allow us, the viewers, to draw parallels between the characters and scenarios involved and our own lives. In *Dumb and Dumber*, countless viewers were invited to reminisce about the time that they or someone they knew lit a match near their butt while letting one rip in

hopes of creating a flame the size of a blowtorch. And who could empathize with the mortification Ben Stiller suffered on his prom night in *Something About Mary*? The events that unfolded during that fictional, totally imagined scene lurks in the minds of young boys and adults to this day.

So my question is this. What makes *Napoleon Dynamite* any different? In a rampage to get your opinion out there, you have blinded yourself from seeing that this "stupid comedy" is as equally satisfying to the viewer as any other. For anyone

who has attended school in a rural, behind the times area, *Napoleon Dynamite* provides many inside jokes and common stereotypes that you, being an urban know-it-all, interpret as being "completely random and insulting to the viewer's intelligence." Instead of babbling on and on about what a cliché, undeservingly marketed film it is, you should spend more time learning about films that are more worthy of recognition than the truly overrated *Lost in Translation*.

And one more thing. As for the "lack of appeal" you disgrace each character for possessing ... haven't you learned in all your years of film classes that it is not necessarily appeal that links us to a character? The capacity to identify a character as possessing traits of our own or someone close to us is what draws us into their worlds. Who has an Uncle Rico, 40 years old, and still reliving his glory days as the

high school quarterback? Anyone have a brother, Kip, who spends all his time "hooking up" online? Who went to school with Pedro, the teenager who looked like he was 30 years old? Obviously, not you.

Anyone who had the delight to watch *Napoleon Dynamite* will tell you they weren't looking for anything "deep" or "arty," ideas you claim have been sold to us by MTV. We watch it for the exact reasons you watch *Something About Mary* and *Dumb and Dumber*—for a cheap laugh! So the next time you decide to be "critical," aim to be less of a hypocrite and try to sound a bit more intelligent by refraining from using lines like "it's insulting to the viewer's intelligence." What does that say to me and the rest of the world who loved it?

Rachel A. Nusret
Student

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TOP TEN UNDEAD UNDERRATED HORROR FILMS

Pollard's Picks



It's Halloween and you're looking for something to watch. Unfortunately, everyone's looking for a good horror movie, which means many classics won't be available. So put down *Redneck Zombies*, take a look at this list and pick out one of these underrated horror films.

10. *A Nightmare on Elm Street 2* (1985)

Many dismiss it because it is the only movie in the Elm Street series that doesn't deal with the Elm Street children. While not as good as the first or third installment, it is easily far superior to the later films in the series.

9. *Shadow of the Vampire* (2000)

What if Max Shreck, star of 1921's *Nosferatu*, was a real vampire? That's the concept behind this film starring Willem Dafoe as Shreck and John Malkovich as F.W. Murnau. A great companion piece to *Nosferatu*, so pick them both up.

8. *From Dusk Till Dawn* (1996)

Many people think this movie is horrible simply because they don't realize that it's supposed to be. Robert Rodriguez and Quentin Tarantino made this film as an homage to the midnight movies of the '70s that would run from dusk till dawn.

7. *One Hour Photo* (2002)

Robin Williams proved once again that he is more than just a comedic actor when he played

Sy Parrish. An employee at a one-hour photo booth, Sy becomes obsessed with a young family whose film he has been developing for years. A very creepy, yet sympathetic role for Williams that will give you chills.

6. *Stir of Echoes* (1999)

If this film had come out a year earlier, it would have enjoyed the same success that *The Sixth Sense* did. Kevin Bacon plays a man, who after being hypnotized, begins seeing visions of the ghost of a young girl.

5. *The Omen* (1976)

As one of Richard Donner's finest films, the story centers around a father (Gregory Peck) who discovers his son is the Antichrist. A great performance from Peck, and Harvey Stephens is disturbing and chilling as little Damien.

4. *Frailty* (2001)

Fenton (Matthew McConaughey) confesses to an FBI agent (Powers Boothe) that his father's (Bill Paxton) visions have led to a series of murders. A great directorial debut from Paxton, combined with a great ending.

3. *Event Horizon* (1997)

A spaceship, after vanishing inside a black hole, has returned. A rescue crew goes out to investigate, and on the ship they are confronted with disturbing images from their own past. Smart and terrifying,

it might surprise you that the director, Paul W.S. Anderson, also directed the laughable *Alien vs. Predator*. Laurence Fishburne has his usual commanding presence and Sam Neill provides a terrifying foil for the crew.

2. *The Exorcist III* (1990)

Forget *The Exorcist II: The Heretic*—this film was the true sequel to *The Exorcist*. Based on William Peter Blatty's novel, *Legion*, Blatty also wrote and directed *The Exorcist III*. Lt. Bill Kinderman (George C. Scott) returns to investigate a serial killer who may be connected with the exorcism of Regan MacNeil and the death of Father Damien Karras. A worthy successor to *The Exorcist* that is usually dismissed simply because it is a sequel.

1. *Alien* (1992)

Alien is the bastard stepchild of the *Alien* franchise. After the action-packed *Aliens*, many expected something similar and were disappointed. But David Fincher made a wise choice when he went with a much darker approach to this film that echoes the original *Alien* film. Even despite the studio meddling in his work, Fincher managed to make a movie which not only equals the quality of the first two films, but the director's cut is head and shoulders above all the other movies in the series.

Cute, cuddly and violent

by Olga Bagramovich
Staff Writer

Happy Tree Friends is a fun cartoon, with a deceiving name, that's filled with lots of excitement. A cartoon featuring very cuddly bunnies and bushy-tailed squirrels chopping each other into oozing bits of fuzzy red meat is definitely *not* for a child's eyes to see, and it may be too much for even some adults. The series, now available on DVD, is filled with blood, guts, pulling teeth, breaking bones, some road kill, and lots of furry animals.

Happy Tree Friends was created by Rhode Montijo and Aubrey Ankrum, who ran the first episode in 2000, and it has grown in popularity ever since. The cartoon got its jumpstart at Spike and Mike's Sick and Twisted Animation Festival, which segued into a feature on MTV.

Each episode of *Happy Tree Friends* has a modest run

time of two or three minutes packed with full-length violence. All the animals talk in very muffled and jumbled voices that make them seem oh-so cute and cuddly. There are about 16 episodes on the DVD, which also features different characters. The special features on the DVD highlight their own special characteristics, like one cute hedgehog named "Flaky" because of his non-stop dandruff. The DVD also includes twisted games that you can play with the furry animals. In the games you can pour explosives and watch furry animals die with laughter.

In each episode, the animal dies a gruesome death with its guts splashed around the concrete. But, it's all right; they're only cute little cartoon characters! It's okay to laugh at them because they're not real. In every episode after a violent scene there is a message to the viewers, such as "Help the environment" or "Be kind to each other."

It's a fun cartoon if you want to have a big laugh. Five million people watch *Happy Tree Friends* every week. Approximately 800,000 subscribers today purchase the fun, furry animal dolls, t-shirts, and DVDs.

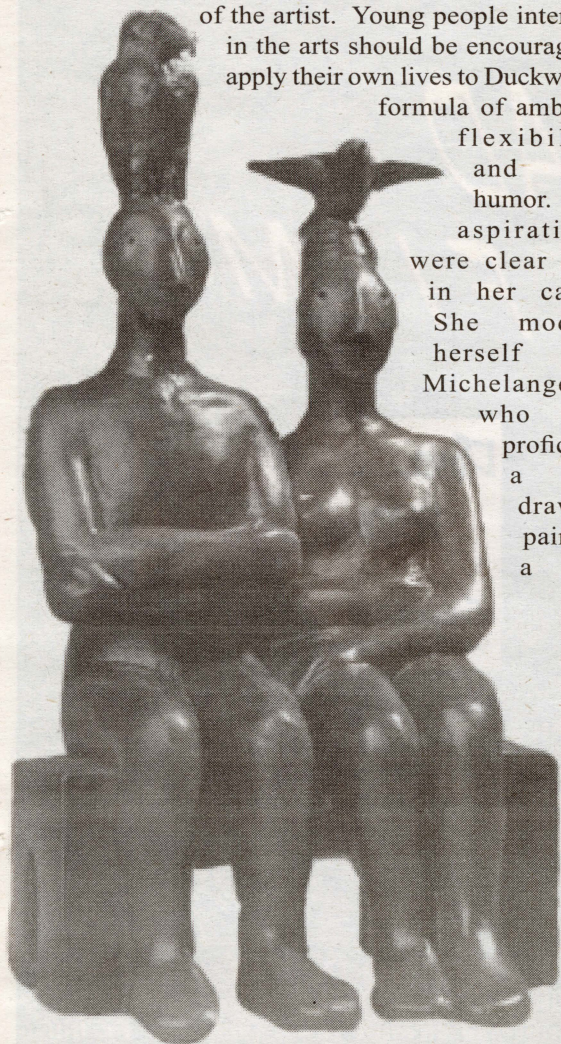
You can purchase a series of *Happy Tree Friends* at most video stores. If you're not sure what to buy someone for the holidays, this is a fun gift that will leave any recipients laughing.

Ruth Duckworth, *a true artist*

by Ben Merrell
Staff Writer

In her lecture earlier this month at Northeastern, Ruth Duckworth gave the audience a lesson in the life of the artist. Young people interested in the arts should be encouraged to apply their own lives to Duckworth's

formula of ambition, flexibility and good humor. High aspirations were clear early in her career. She modeled herself after Michelangelo, who was proficient at drawing, painting, and



sculpting. In her work from this era, a preoccupation with primitive forms was already evident. Many of her pieces look like they could have been unearthed at an archaeological dig.

Duckworth is known at Northeastern as the sculptor of "Serenity," which is found between the Science Building and Building B.

When Duckworth first came to Chicago in 1964, she had a solo exhibition featuring bronze figurines and large ceramic jugs. The Dean of Geophysical Sciences at the University of Chicago bought one of the pieces, and he asked her to do a wall mural for the new department building. It was her first major commission.

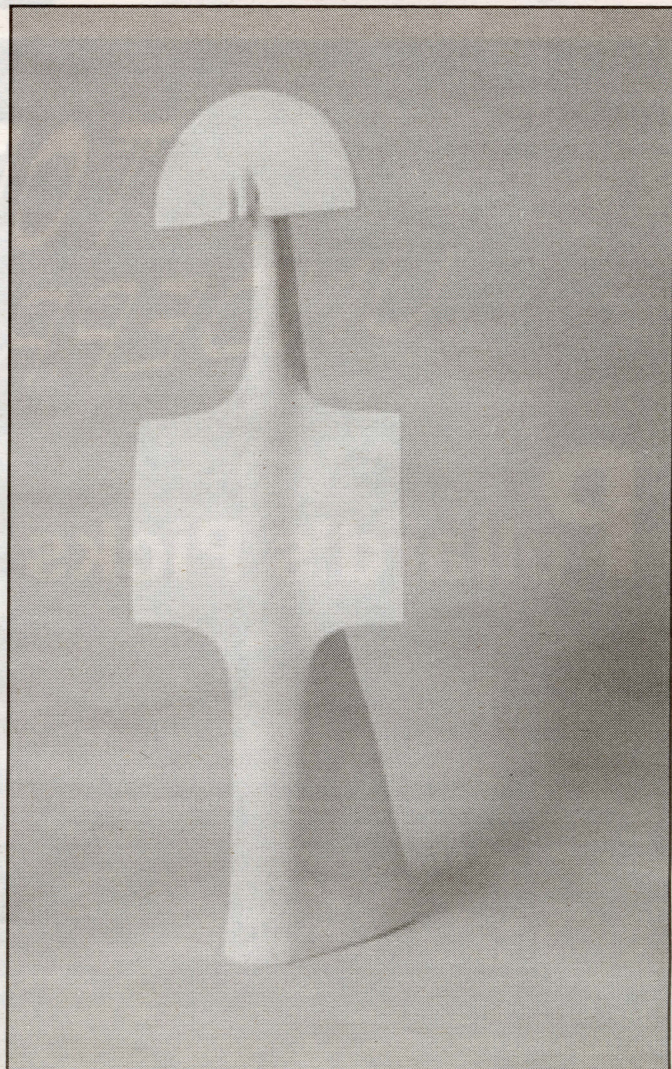
She immediately thought, "You don't get a commission like that in England," and decided to stay in the U.S. The slides of the wall mural were among the most striking of the night. As the audience gasped and hummed approvingly, Duckworth explained that the elevation lines of Mt. Fuji inspired the concentric circles, which dominate the work. All four walls and the ceiling of the foyer are covered with multicolored clay; even the lighting is housed in clay cylinders.

More commissions followed, including a wall mural, which now hangs in the Chicago Board Options Exchange, depicting Chicago as a "pre-Columbian city" with adobe pueblos instead of steel and glass skyscrapers. She also produced much of the smaller porcelain and ceramic work for which she is most well known. Most of her pieces are untitled, which she says lets the viewer "have their own ideas."

Often after a slide of a sculpture was shown, she would remark that the piece is now lost or destroyed. Her response to this loss is to move on to the next project. Even at the age of 86, she continues to move forward. When asked what her

next dream was, she responded, "I haven't dreamed it yet."

Spoken like a true artist.



Images courtesy of americanartmuseum.org

Comedy with a Latino flavor

by Elizabeth Rodriguez
Staff Writer

Mix one part sketch comedy with a splash of salsa and you get a review of the best sketches of the ¡Salsation! Theatre Company in a production called *That Latino Show!*

¡Salsation! describes the show as a "comedy with a Latino flavor." While some of the sketches lag with too few laughs to propel them forward, the overall energy of the performers and their colorful characters kept its Northeastern audience chuckling and engaged. The company was invited to perform as part of Hispanic Heritage Month.

A staple of the show is the use of Hispanic stereotypes, particularly at unexpected moments, such as the Chiquita banana lady and the Fanta dancers popping up here and there throughout the show. While the show does reference many Hispanic stereotypes, the references are not indictments of prejudice against those who use and perpetuate them. Rather, the stereotypes are revealed for what they truly are: ridiculous and laughable.

One of the funniest sketches of the show involves a commercial for the Al Pacino School of Hispanic Acting, where actors can learn the "necessary" skills for portraying Hispanics on screen, such as stabbing and drug trafficking. Another memorable sketch is a spoof of Harry Potter, or in this case, Harry Perez, who attends a school for magic, not in Britain, but in the inner city. There he faces typical inner-city school problems like budget cuts and inadequate supplies.

¡Salsation! has a certain knack for mixing popular culture with current political issues to make serious points in a lighthearted way. One particular sketch exemplifying this talent involves the character Willy Wonka, who moves his famously enchanting chocolate factory to Mexico in order to

save money on labor. Rather than having Oompa Loompas as workers, exploited Mexican workers take up the candy-making and musical numbers, but with significantly less gusto.

Following the structured sketch show, ¡Salsation! spent about half an hour taking a limited number of suggestions from the audience to spin interconnected scenes through long-form improvisation. One particular suggestion, coffee, yielded a slew of entertaining scenes about coffee addicts. The characters in these scenes were interesting, like the Starbucks employee who chews coffee beans in hopes of getting caffeine into her system more quickly. However, the characters and their quirks become the focus of the scene, causing plot progression, and therefore the scene as a whole, being left to wither.

However, the feeling of experimentation and daring that settles over the performers as they throw themselves into these completely unrehearsed scenes is not only admirable, but also fun to watch.

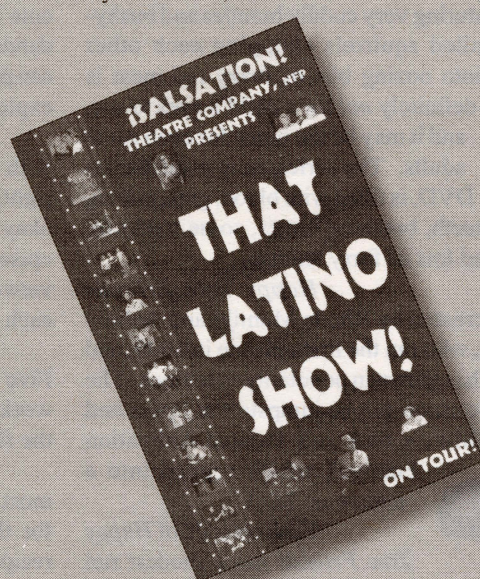


Image courtesy of salsation.com

WAR POVERTY RACISM

2005 MIDWEST
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STUDENT MOVEMENTS OF THE 1960s WHAT DO SOCIALISTS MEAN BY
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Advertisement

Vermeer Quartet combines music and art

by Sarah Purlee
Staff Writer

On a brisk Saturday evening, Frank Lloyd Wright's Unity Temple opened its doors to the first of a series of concerts. Fine arts met architecture, as the world-famous Vermeer Quartet performed a full-length concert featuring the works of Joseph Haydn, Paul Hindemith, and Antonin Dvorák. The beauty of the music was finely matched with the magnificence of the architecture. The event was

truly a treat for anyone who appreciates any fine art, because it combined two main aspects of art—visual and auditory.

The concert opened with Haydn's Quartet in G major (Op. 76), followed by Hindemith's Quartet #3 (Op. 22), and concluded with Dvorák's Quartet in E major (Op. 80). The performance was outstanding, and left the audience in a state of awe after the finale. The sound resonated off the perfectly calculated walls and balconies beautifully, and made a magnificent impression.

The artists in the quartet included Shmuel Ashkenasi, Mathias Tacke, Richard Young, and Marc Johnson. The quartet has performed in every major city in North America, Europe, Japan, and Asia. The members are from all over the world, so naturally, they have a unique blend of culture.

The Vermeer Quartet was named "Outstanding Artists of the Year" by the *Chicago Tribune*, and their music is enjoyed by those who enjoy and are interested in untraditional classical music.

Unity temple is located in the heart of Oak Park and is considered an acoustically perfect venue for small ensembles. The surrounding area was perfect for an evening out because of the diverse selection of dining and entertainment. Oak Park is easy to get to, and Unity Temple was conveniently placed within walking distance to everything the town had to offer. Overall, the concert was exquisite, the atmosphere was beautiful, and the experience was

priceless. This was the first of a six part concert series that extends until the end of April. Tickets are reasonably priced between \$12 and \$22, and seating is widely available. For more information regarding concert dates, visit www.unitytemple-utr.org.



The Vermeer Quartet's beautiful music graced Unity Temple.

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Avenged Sevenfold:

Hell bent for success

by Michael Sy
Staff Writer

The strong and gritty vocals of M. Shadows, the energizing guitar playing of Zacky Vengeance and Synyster Gates, the drums of The Reverend, and the bass playing of Johnny Christ make up the rising star band known as Avenged Sevenfold. These five young men hailing from Burbank, California, have received critical acclaim for their unique sound of punk mixed with metal. Now, after two successful independent album releases, *Waking the Fallen* and *Sounding the Second Trumpet*, they have made their major album debut with *City of Evil*.

On Avenged Sevenfold's web site, vocalist Shadows said, "In Southern California, you're really brought up in the whole punk world. At the same time, we were growing up listening to Pantera, Megadeth, Metallica, and Slayer records. So then you think, 'I want to play in that kind of band, but I want to play in this kind of band.' Then you pass that point and all of a sudden you're just writing music and it comes out naturally. But that's what happens cause of all the different influences we have. And we're definitely not afraid to put anything in our songs if we think it calls for it."

Many songs in their latest album, such as the first track, "The Beast and the Harlot," are very animated and sharp edged. "Burn it Down" has a pounding, soulful force that sounds like a ritual procession of a pagan tribe. They are true affirmation of pain and anger. "Bat Country," possibly the most popular song on the album, entrenches the

listener in a dark pleasure—rhythmic and with the most exotic colors of the abyss. "Strength of the World," tells a very poetic story of a young man whose family was brutally murdered and was thus driven by a need for vengeance that was so strong, he would satisfy it at the cost of his own salvation. It is considered poetic in the sense that since he was inflicted by great evil, he sought vengeance and became great evil. It is still a very tragic song.

Even before they became popular, Avenged Sevenfold enjoyed a large fan base and critical appeal. What highest degree of success their star will rise to is only measured by how high into the heavens they can reach.

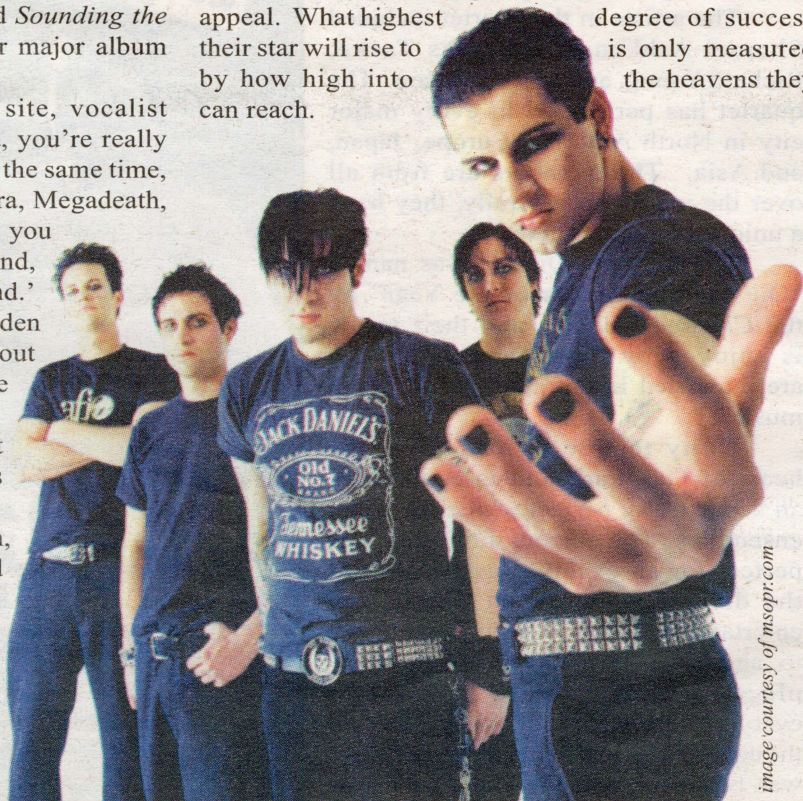


image courtesy of msopr.com

When hip-hop meets theatre

by Connie Patricia Herring
Staff Writer

The hip-hop comedy *Soundtrack City Chicago* will have you laughing until tears roll down your cheeks. A one-of-a-kind comedy, it's not simply a play with many actors playing different parts, but a one-man show starring the human beat box, Yuri Lane. With this production, Lane has brought something different to the theatre—the power of hip-hop.

The beats set off a vibe that hyped the audience. In this production, Lane plays about eight characters, addressing many issues of urban life in Chicago. In one scene, he played Tiffany, a club-hopping, struggling actress who just wants to become a star. He also talked about the property of houses and the rising prices of homes in urban Chicago. One compelling and realistic scene in the play addressed issues of construction and Latino workers.

The voices matched every character of the play. Every character had their own personality, and Lane made sure that the audience could recognize the differences between the characters. Each character seemed to have problems that were showcased through Lane's acting and beat boxing, which kept the audience waiting with anticipation for more. The scenes were somewhat out of place, which made the audience unsure of what would come next.

Combined with audience participation, the innovative play was a pleasure for all who were present. Who could ask for better entertainment?

Bloodsuckers at NEIU

Vant to see something really scary?

by Joe Hertel
Opinions Editor

Getting students to attend campus events can be a pain in the neck, but this is one event you should attend. And, for students of NEIU, it's free!

Beginning on Thursday, Oct. 20, Center Stage Theater presents a play that really sucks. Actually it's one of those characters who sucks.

The play is *Dracula*, based on Bram Stoker's novel and adapted to the stage by Steven Dietz. It is directed by Dan Wirth, professor of Communication, Media & Theatre, whom you would know if you have taken a Voice and Diction class recently.

According to the Dramatists Play Service catalog, the play is "Rich in both humor and horror."

According to Wirth, the play will not be tongue-in-cheek humor, but presented in a more serious theatrical style.

Considering the amount of work that has gone into set design, construction, lighting and wardrobe, the play also promises to be visually entertaining and interesting.

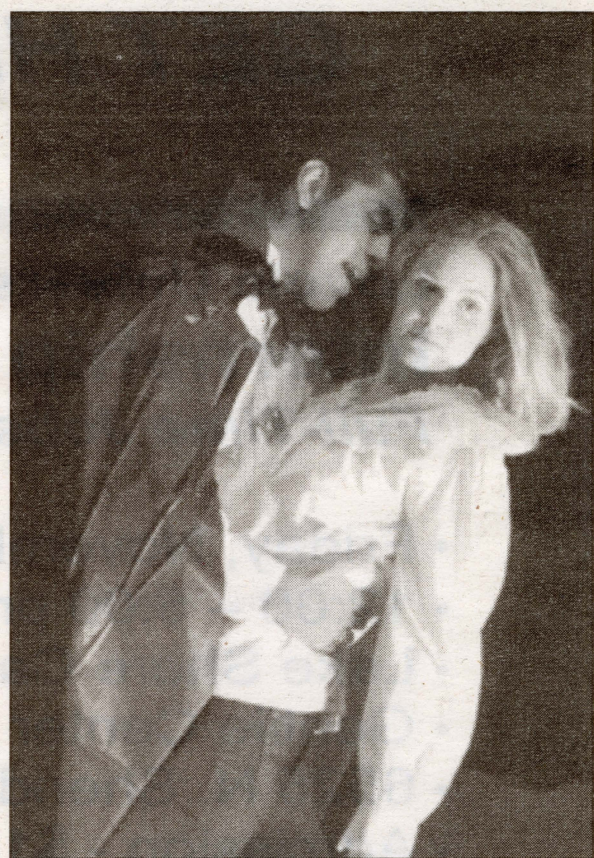
John Rodriguez, a professor of Communication, Media & Theatre, whom you would also know if you have taken any of his Stagecraft courses, designed the set, which consists of three major arches and a variety of props, including a skeleton lashed to a ship's wheel, a humongous coffin and a rolling double bed with interchangeable headboards. And bones. Plenty of bones.

The current theater practicum group spent hours making assorted bones to decorate the set. Although it may sound tacky, the arches were inspired, according to Rodriguez, by certain European catacombs in which the subterranean tombs are decorated with the bones of their occupants. The lighting effects (over 50) will enhance the foreboding decayed-designed set, providing the eerie atmosphere needed for the stalking vampire and his unfortunate victims.

Halloween is coming soon and the Stage Center presentation of *Dracula* sets the mood for the season with a story we are all familiar with. With cast and crew consisting mostly of NEIU students, Stage Center's productions are worthy of our interest and attendance. And, for students, the admission to the plays is free.

So get a date or come alone (if you dare) and enjoy an evening with *Dracula*. Afterwards, you may want to get a quick bite.

Scores of students and faculty work hard and long hours preparing to



Dracula (Juan Montano) taking his girlfriend (Stephanie Tichenor) out for a bite.

entertain an audience with high caliber presentations. Considering the moot point that the plays presented at Stage Center Theater are free to NEIU students, there is no reason we cannot show our support and appreciation by attending a performance.

Dracula will stalk NEIU's stage from Oct. 20-22 and Oct. 26-29. All shows begin at 7:30 p.m. Call the box office for more information or reservations at 773-442-4274.



images courtesy of neiu.edu

Eagle's Nest

Lifestyles of the Northeastern Community



Screaming yellow what?

Son of Svengoolie haunts Chicago

by Joe Hertel
Opinions Editor

Son of Svengoolie is a Chicago icon when it comes to horror movie hosts. Played for many years by Rich Koz, who has been around Chicago television for a long time, the character of Son of Svengoolie originates almost 40 years ago. Rich Koz worked with Jerry G. Bishop, a popular personality on WFLD, channel 32, back in the late sixties. It was then the station decided to air old B-grade horror and science fiction movies, lumping them in a late night time slot. It was called *Screaming Yellow Theater*. And its break segments consisted of, yep, screams.

It was a cheap format actually. There were just scary still shots between segments of the movie with a voiceover. And the screams. It was not long before Bishop got the idea to don a slapped together costume of hippie clothes and sunglasses with a long hair wig and introduce the movies as "Svengoolie," a name he made up.

The personality of Svengoolie grew, and with the oddball humor interspersed before and after commercials, the movie itself became second to the antics of Bishop and Koz. Kids loved it as well as aging hippies who were now parents.

When Bishop left the station and Chicago, he gave Koz permission to use the Svengoolie name, and when Koz left WFLD and joined the new WCIU, channel 26 in 1995, he brought the name, and the coffin trademark of the show, with him.

Instead of the old burned out hippie costume, the new "Son of Svengoolie" donned black clothes, a chimney sweep top-hat, and extreme dark eye sockets. The old psychedelic coffin, and the face on it, probably served as the inspiration for the "son."

Although there were other monster hosts over the years, Son of Svengoolie has outlasted them all due to Koz's ability to take the mundane and make it ridiculous. Flying rubber chickens and the phrase which has integrated itself into Chicago commentary, ("Berwyn?") prove that you can embellish the ridiculous and become famous.

Yeah, it's corny and droll. But sometimes you just have to say what the heck and rest your mind between exams and reports, watching someone like Svengoolie take us on a madcap journey into the absurd. Koz also hosts, without any makeup, *Stoogapalooza* on WCIU, and it is a matter of choice as to which program is the scariest. Or is that funniest?

For a history (and photos) of Horror programs in Chicago, like *Shock Theater* (1950s), *Creature Features*, and *Screaming Yellow Theater*, visit www.chicagotelevision.com.



Image courtesy of horror-wood.com

Map to the (deceased) stars

Daily death alerts

by Jenni Lada
Features Editor

Have you ever found yourself with the strange desire to know where your favorite deceased star or historical figure bit the big one? Or where they are spending their eternal rest? If there was some way to pay your respects? Maybe you just wanted to know if there is anyone interesting laid to rest in that mundane cemetery down the road from your house. The web site Find A Grave (www.findagrave.com) might just have the answers to your questions, as well as some other interesting information about various individuals' final places of rest.

In 1995, Jim Tipton founded Find A Grave to serve as a memorial and information center to honor those left behind and share information with individuals around the world. Find A Grave was created to become the ultimate virtual online cemetery, giving people the option to pay respects and homage to people left behind when they cannot do so in person.

Find A Grave is also a place for people to post known

information about both famous and non-famous deceased individuals, as a way of creating a lasting memory online. How is such a massive task like this accomplished? With the help of willing members who join the site (free of charge) and add information they know.

Find A Grave is a way to find information about cemeteries in your area, discover who is buried there, and leave fond wishes if you are unable to actually get there.

Find A Grave is a tasteful, yet somewhat darkly humorous, means of finding information on a topic that might be otherwise difficult to discover. For example, when first arriving at the site, the top heading will announce someone famous who died on that very date. Looking further down you can see some of the most popular searched people, look for people based on when they were born or died, recent obituaries, or look through stories of people who reconnected with family or discovered their history based on the site.

So, if you want to get into the Halloween spirit by looking up and paying respects to someone who passed on but isn't forgotten, or finding a cemetery with an interesting history near you to visit, Find A Grave is the way to go.



photo courtesy of google.com

Recommended fun Halloween treats

by Jessica Moen
Senior Staff Writer

Halloween is coming up soon and everyone is trying to make it as scary as possible. Well, try not to make your choice of treats be the reason it is the scariest Halloween yet!

There are several things to remember when buying candy. First, you cannot go wrong with chocolate! It doesn't matter if it has nougat, nuts, toffee, or is even just plain, it is always a sure fire hit. Also, the more of those ingredients added the better. Remember, chocolate and peanut butter are the greatest two ingredients to ever be put together in a candy bar.

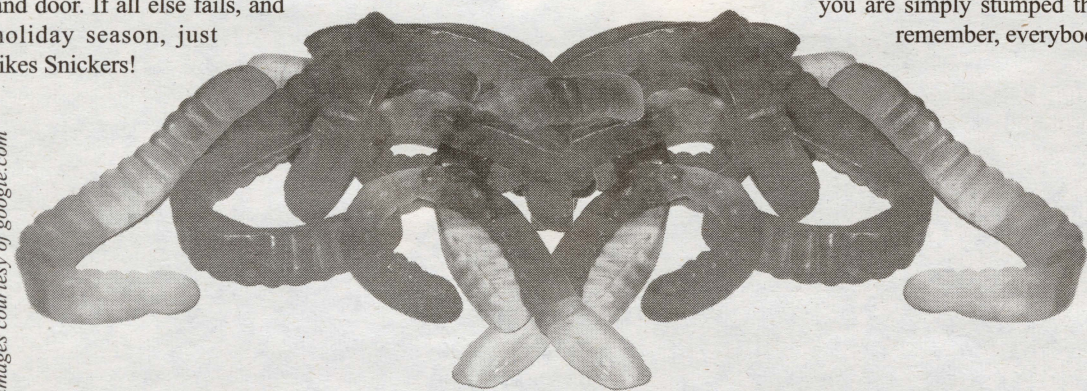
If you're not big on chocolate, then the next best thing is any treat where the main ingredient is sugar. If it has the word "sugar" in the title, BUY IT! Gummy treats are always good, too. They are full of sugar and are chewy. What more could you want? Suckers and lollipops, especially the kind with gum in the middle, are also guaranteed to get a smile!

So now you know what to buy, so here is what NOT to buy. Despite what your dentist told you, apples, unless they are covered in caramel and peanuts, are not a favorite among children, nor anyone else, at Halloween. Also, any candy that is sugar-free or fat-free is also taste-free. Do not give out coins, I repeat, do not give out coins! Well, unless they happen to be quarters or possibly dollar coins. Though you may think that children like money, a handful of pennies is only going to weigh down the bag.

The most important thing to remember when buying candy is to buy stuff that you like, too. How often have you bought eight bags of some generic candy that you couldn't even pawn off on your own kids? You will most likely end up with most of the candy you bought at the end of the night, especially if it rains, or even snows, which it always does.

If you follow all these tips you are sure to have a TP-free house, with hardly any eggs on your windows and door. If all else fails, and holiday season, just likes Snickers!

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Evelyn Nazario-Rose has more on her resume than being president of the Student Government Association (SGA). However, her list of accomplishments fails to reveal who she is and what makes her tick. The following is a question and answer session with her to find out what's going on in that head of hers.

What made you go back to school?

I got sick and tired of being sick and tired. And corporate America has a way of really just putting a bad taste in people's mouth sometimes. I'm not for the hustle and the rush of everything. I just felt that because of the fact I had so much to offer, and corporate America wasn't seeing that, I figured I needed to educate myself a little more in order to make myself recognized, shall we say. Or even noticed.

So, you're not for the 'hustle and the rush,' but you're president of SGA? Explain that.

It's sickening! It's disgusting the things that I do! It's almost insane! But I do it with love. And I guess that's why it doesn't seem like a big deal to me. It really doesn't.

How did you feel when you won the presidency by only four votes in the 2003 vice presidential election?

Wow. That was unbelievable. One, because I thought I was going to win by more, to be very honest. I didn't expect for it to be as close as it was. I thought that I was going to win by 50, 60 votes. So I was confident I was going to win, but I didn't think four votes was really going to be the deciding factor. That's when I seriously kept in my brain that every vote counts. Every single vote

Let's Get Personal

counts. It was exhausting, that evening.

In the 2004-05 election, you ran for two positions. What happened?

I was running for president and for IBHE-SAC rep (Illinois Board of Higher Education-Student Advisory Committee) and then I dropped my name from the presidency and ran and concentrated on the IBHE-SAC position ... It was the best thing I could have done for myself that year.

Why?

Because I believe had I been president last year, I would not have been able to be an effective president. I really believe that only because there were forces that be that I think that would have hindered the organization's success.

What forces that be?

Why are you putting me in that position? I'm trying to leave the past in the past, but I believe that Kendra [Young, SGA President 04-05] and Gary [Gaspard, SGA President 03-04] would have made it impossible for me to really be an effective president.

So, why do you think this semester will be different?

[Young and Gaspard] are not as influential on campus and really, they hindered a lot of this organization moving forward ... A lot of 'me' and never 'we.' And if it was 'we,' it was a select group that was a part of that 'we.' And that's not how it should be. And I certainly, from the very beginning that I ran that campaign, I said, this is about we not about me. This is about a group. This is about a collective effort. And I think that's what's different in this administration

Do you ever get, even a little cocky, Ms. President?

You get a position and you forget where you came from. And that's not me. I talk about being president and I still turn red in the face when I talk about it cuz it's just like, wow. What a cool feeling. Humbling, you know.

Meet Evelyn Nazario-Rose



photo by Delia Bleahu

Mother, student, and president of the SGA, Nazario-Rose talks about her duties.

Just humbling. You know, you run for it and you get it, but still ... My husband kept going around the house saying, "Well, I'm the president's husband," and it would just tickle me to death!

Do you feel you have big shoes to fill?

Certainly the shoes I had to fill were very, very small in my opinion. Ha ha. And I say that because of the feedback that I'm getting from individuals on our campus. Not just students—faculty and administration. I can certainly see why our organization really wasn't taken as seriously as it should be.

Why wasn't it taken seriously?

I believe because of the leadership behind it. The prior leadership behind it. You know, when an organization doesn't function, it certainly reflects on the leaders of the organization. If your organization isn't happy, they not going to want to work for you. They're not going to want to do anything for you.

So, what do you want to be when you grow up?

When I grow up, and I've thought about this,

I want to be a motivational speaker. I certainly want to empower other women, and our youth. I want to be a better mother, certainly. But most of all, I want to be a better human being.

Any last words?

I figure that being an influence on people is not a bad thing. It's when you influence them to make poor choices that reflects on who you are. And I certainly would not want to be held responsible for making poor choices for the students at this university.

The Basics

Age: 37 years old

Graduated with: BA, Board of Governor's Non-Traditional Degree in Liberal Arts and Sciences.

Currently pursuing: Masters in Educational Leadership in Higher Ed

Marital Status: Married for two years.

Children: three kids, ages 17, 15, 13

Superstitious beliefs

by Elana Barron
Associate Editor

"Throughout history, one person's superstitions was often another's religion," says Charles Panati in his thoroughly researched book, *Panati's Extraordinary Origins of Everyday Things*. For example, says Panati, the Christian Emperor Constantine believed Paganism was mere superstition, while the Pagan politician Tacitus believed the same about Christianity.

The same can be said about Halloween, a holiday rooted in superstition for some, but believed to be a religious celebration by others. According to Panati, Halloween, which originated in Ireland in fifth century B.C., was originally named "All Hallows Eve." This holiday was celebrated by the Celts who believed that on October 31 everyone who died that year would attempt to find a body to dwell in for the next year. In order to scare off these souls, the Celts would disguise themselves as demonic figures, such as goblins and witches. The Celts would walk through their houses and streets, attempting to make noise to scare off the wandering spirits.

In addition to Halloween, Panati explains the origins of some of our oldest superstitions, some dating back thousand of years. In the spirit of Halloween, here are the origins of various superstitions.

Knocking on Wood (2000 B.C.) – While many Christians maintain that the origin of this superstition is the wooden cross Christ was crucified on, this superstition is rooted in the beliefs of Native Americans and Greeks. They each believed the tree was where a god resided. (They believed this because the tree was frequently struck by lightning.) When someone talked too optimistically about a future event, it was considered bad luck, and they could only counter it by knocking the wood of the tree, thereby asking the god for forgiveness.

Broken Mirror (1 A.D.) – At this point in history, mirrors were not glass, but polished metals. The Romans would fill a "glass" water bowl, and the seer would read the future of the person who cast their reflection into the water. If the mirror broke, it was believed that the person would die, or that their future was so dismal that the gods thought it better for the person to remain ignorant. The seven years of bad luck theory stems from the Roman belief that one's health was kept in seven-year cycles.

Spilling Salt (3500 B.C.) – The Sumerians, Egyptians, Assyrians, Greeks, and Romans all highly valued salt because of its many uses, including seasoning food, preserving food, medicating wounds, purifying water, and most importantly, its use in religious sacrifices. Because of this reverence of salt, it was considered bad luck to spill this precious commodity.

Black Cat (Middle Ages) – This rising fear of cats, which were originally revered by ancient Egyptians, was due to the increasing fear of witches throughout Europe. Poor homeless women often fed stray cats, and these same women were often the victims of witch-hunts. Cats were deemed evil due to their association with the "witches."

Walking Under a Ladder (3000 B.C.) – To the Egyptians, a triangle represented the trinity of gods, and a ladder leaning against a wall creates a triangle. Therefore, when someone walked through this triangular space formed by the ladder, they were expressing their lack of respect for this godly space. The ladder itself, however, was still considered to be good luck because of various stories connecting the ladder to the gods. The ladder changed its meaning, however, after Christ's crucifixion because a ladder was leaning on the crucifix. The ladder symbolizing imminent disaster was continued by the English and French who forced criminals to walk under a ladder on the way to their execution.

North Side campus full of White Sox fans

by Andrea Zelinski
Business Manager

White Sox fans everywhere are taking pride in the team's recent success. Fans are watching every game and pitch with unblinking eyes. Controversy or not, fans can't get enough of the Chicago White Sox this season, and Northeastern students are following suit.

The day after the White Sox won the pennant, which made them the American League champions for the first time since 1959, several students came to school decked out in their baseball gear. Some wore championship White Sox hats, others wore Sox t-shirts and jerseys. It was clear that this North Side campus is loaded with White Sox fans.

"I love the Sox," said Jugar Singh, a student at Northeastern. He even has the White Sox logo on his cell phone. Signh watched every day of the American League Championship Series and insists his favorite games were the last.

"The last two games were really hairy," he said, "because Pierzynski's glove touch[ed] on the bat ... and then the other when the ball was caught by the spectator. And then Joe Crede comes in and hit a homer!"

With an average age of 28 at NEIU, it's safe to say most students weren't around the last time the Sox went to the World Series. However, plenty of faculty and staff still remember it well. "They were a great ball team," said Michael Wilson, media advisor in Student Activities. "They had no power, but they had pitching, they had running."

According to Wilson, who was 13 years old the last time the Sox saw a World Series, the Sox were known as the Go-Go White Sox, and "they were able to manufacture runs."

"This current White Sox team has a lot more power than the '59 team, but I think they ... should rely really on manufacturing runs," Wilson said.

Dave Lambert, a Criminal Justice student is also a fan. He watched the last series while hanging out with friends and he said he is going to watch every game.

"I think [the Sox] are going to win. Why?" asked Lambert. "Because of the people they are facing. They can easily beat the Astros or the Cardinals. No problem with that."

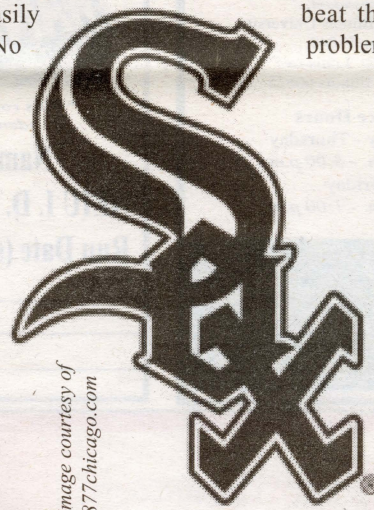


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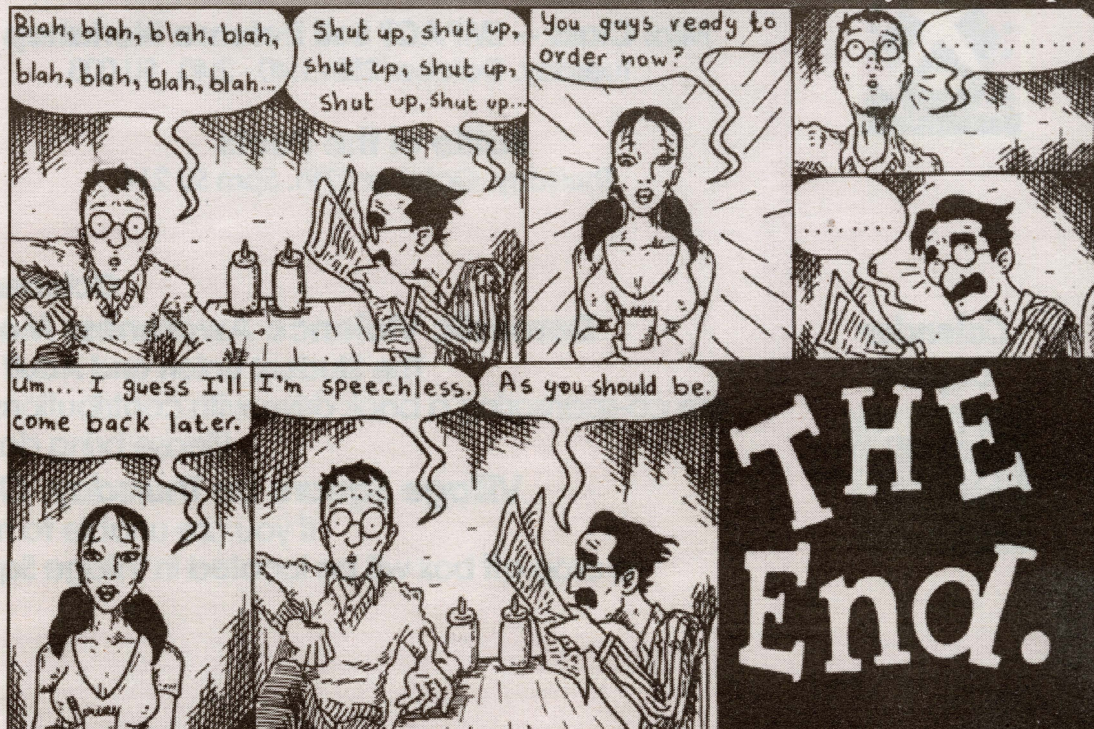
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Marxism

by A. R. Lopez



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

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independent@yahoo.com

Tuesday, October 25

Non-perishable food/toiletries/clothing/used cell phone drive for battered/abused women
Drop off location: Outside of the SGA Office.
Event runs through Monday, October 31.

Forbidden Photos: photo exhibition
Presented by Northeastern Polish Students Association. 2nd floor of the Student Union. Continues on through Friday, November 4. For more information contact Dr. Lidia Filus at (773) 442-5784 or Kamil Melcer at (773) 442-4759.

Khaled Hosseini: Author of The Kite Runner
8:00 p.m. in the auditorium. Event is free to the

Wednesday, October 26

Silent Witness Program (SWP)
Located in Village Square. All day event. Co-sponsored by Health Services

Wednesday, Oct 26 continued

Khaled Hosseini Q&A
10:00 a.m. in the NEIU Recital Hall. Event is free to the public. No tickets or reservations are required.

Thursday, October 27

The Third Annual Beta Beauty Pageant
hosted by Sigma Lambda Beta International Fraternity, Inc. 6:00-10:00 p.m. in the auditorium. Contact Juan at (773) 378-3761 or Pedro at (773) 640-7583

Clothesline Project (CLP)
Located in Village Square. All day event. Co-sponsored by Women's Studies and the Feminist Majority Leadership Alliance.

A presentation given by a delegation from the University of Guanajuato, Mexico
2:30-3:15 p.m. in SU-216. All faculty, staff, and students who are interested in studying and/or teaching in the University of Guanajuato, Mexico are welcome to attend.

Thursday, October 27

Senior Recital
Anna Zimowska performing with Jane Kenas-Heller, Angel G. Gonzalez, Robin Koelsch and Dorothy Slater. 7:30 p.m. in the Recital Hall. Free admission. Reception will follow

Friday, October 28

Diwali
Presented by the Indian Student Association. 7:00 p.m.-1:00 a.m. in the Auditorium and Alumni Hall

Monday, October 31

From Solidarity to Freedom
A conference celebrating the 25th Anniversary of SOLIARNOSC in Poland. Learn about the series of events that led to the Fall of Communism in Europe. 9:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m. in the Golden Eagles room. For more information contact Professor Lidia Filus at L.Filus@neiu.edu, (773) 442-5784 or Kamil Melcer at K-Melcer@neiu.edu, (773) 442-4759

Tuesday, November 1

State University Retirement System (SURS) Counseling Presentation
1:00-3:00 p.m. in Alumni Hall

Thursday, November 3

SGA Meeting
1:40-3:00 p.m. in B-152

Seventh Annual Inter-Faith Conference
"Many paths, one destination, our interconnectedness to nature and each other" For further information, contact the office of Academic Development at (773) 442-5449.

Friday, November 4

The Black Caucus, Black Heritage Club, Black Student Movement, and Pi Nu Chapter of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc. presents Talent Show
Admission free, donation of clothes or non-perishable food are encouraged to help victims of Hurricane Katrina. Located in the Auditorium from 5:00-10:00 p.m.

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 Now. \$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

\$850 / 2br - Beautiful, spacious and close to "L." Modern kitchen, hardwood oak floors, ceiling fans, sunroom, heat included, laundry included. Please call (773) 267-5489 for appointment or email: in2music@gmail.com.

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.

Part-time job with fund-raising events 1-2 mornings or evenings per week. Excellent people skills, organized, team player. Competitive salary. E-mail resume and letter to rtgannett@icefordemocracy.org

Undergrad seeks pt positions. Available on weekends only. Skills incl. cust. serv. cash hand: exp., child care. Please contact me @ (312) 730 - 3930.

Clubs

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 Wildfredo 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.

Chemexla! NEIU's only Chicana/ 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

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.

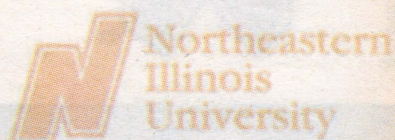
* This rate applies to members of the NEIU community only. An NEIU identification card must be presented at the time of purchase.

Name: _____

NEIU I. D. #: _____

Run Date (s): _____

Today's Date: _____



Student Union Programs

October - November

SU Presents



Chicago White Sox World Series Broadcast
October 25, 26, 27. All games 7pm in the Student Union

Mini Class -- IMPACT Self Defense Workshop
Tuesday, October 25th 1:40 - 2:40. SU 003

Battle of the Poets
Thursday, October 27th. 5pm SU 214

Movie and Munchies
Featuring *The Constant Gardner*
Friday, November 4th. 5:30 pm

Darfur Information Table
Tuesday, November 8th 1-4pm Village Square

Calendar Capers



October is Domestic Violence Awareness Month and National Book Month
The Student Union and Adult and Women's Services
are co-sponsoring a book drive with contributions to be donated to a local women's shelter.
Please bring donations to
Village Square on Thursday, Oct. 20th from 10am - 4pm
If you are unable to make it that day,
a drop off box will be located in Village Square for the remainder of the month.

Events Subject to Change.

For more information about an event, please contact the Student Union at (773) 442-6099 (www.neiu.edu/~sudept.) the Information Center at (773) 442-4290 or info-center@neiu.edu
Administrative Office: student-union@neiu.edu

