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Independent



NORTHEASTERN ILLINOIS
UNIVERSITY

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Vol. 36 Issue 4



CTU and CPS clash heads

pg. 9



'November' this October

pg. 11



Building a healthy lifestyle

pg. 18



Learn more about the candidates

A closer look into the lives and trials of Donald Trump (left) and Hillary Clinton (right) | Michael Vadon via Wikimedia Commons and Hillary Clinton's Facebook page

pg. 3 and 4

NEWS

The race to the White House: Trump



Photo by Michael Vadon via WikiCommons

Donald Trump's campaign slogan is "Make America Great Again!" amid lewd comments towards women and violent mannerisms towards minorities.

Rut Ortiz

Donald John Trump is the Republican candidate running for president in the upcoming November election.

According to biographies published by Fox News and biography.com, he was born in 1946 and is 70 years old. He was born to parents Mary Macleod Trump and Frederick Christ Trump and grew up in Jamaica Bay, N.Y. He has two sisters and one brother.

Early years:

His father is a son of German immigrants and became a real estate millionaire by developing residential real estate in the New York City boroughs of Queens, Brooklyn and Staten Island.

During his early years, Trump attended the New York Military Academy for his high school career. He graduated from the academy to attend Fordham University in New York before transferring to the Wharton School at the University of Pennsylvania and graduating with a bachelor's degree in economics with a concentration in real estate. After

graduating in 1968 he went to go work with his father and learn his real estate business.

His first marriage was to Ivana Winklmayr, a New York fashion model. She gave birth to his three children: Donald John Trump Jr., Ivanka Trump and Eric Trump. The pair had a very publicized divorce in 1992.

Trump then married Marla Maples, who he had been involved with while married to Winklmayr. Maples gave birth to his daughter Tiffany Trump in 1993. He and Maples went through a highly publicized divorce which was finalized in 1999.

Trump married for the third time to Slovenian model Melania Knauss, who is more than twenty years his junior. Knauss gave birth to their son Barron William Trump in 2006.

Trump has a total of five children.

Career and projects:

Trump became the president of his then father's real estate company in the early 1970s, wherein he renamed the company the Trump Organization. He began to make business ventures in the borough of Manhattan creating a buzz of pop-

ularity for himself in the real estate industry in New York.

After completing multiple projects in the 1970s and 1980s that catapulted him into high society, Trump expanded his real-estate empire by investing in the casino and gambling business. He opened a new complex in 1984 named Harrah's at Trump Plaza after establishing a partnership with the Holiday Inn Corporation, the parent company of Harrah's casino hotels.

Soon thereafter he bought out Holiday Inn and renamed it Trump Plaza Hotel and Casino. Years later he was able to acquire the largest hotel-casino in the world. He opened the Taj Mahal in Atlantic City in 1990.

In 1988 he purchased the Plaza Hotel in New York City and spent millions refurbishing it.

His real estate career made him a high-profile persona for television and in 2004 he began producing and starring in his own reality TV series on NBC called, "The Apprentice."

The volatility of business:

According to Forbes.com, Trump's net worth is valued at \$3.7 billion, down approximately \$800

million from 2015.

In 1989, he purchased Eastern Airlines Shuttle for \$365 million and renamed it Trump Shuttle. This business venture proved unprofitable and Trump defaulted on his loans, leaving the airline to merge with another company.

The real-estate market declined in 1990 resulting in a recession that affected the whole nation. The Trump Organization required an influx of loans in order to stay afloat.

And in 2016, Trump announced that his largest casino the Trump Taj Mahal would be closing its doors. This was amid multiple bankruptcies and a lengthy employee strike.

According to Forbes.com Trump has filed for corporate bankruptcy four times in: 1991, 1992, 2004 and 2009. He has never filed personal bankruptcy.

Aspirations for presidency:

Trump ran unsuccessfully for president in the Republican primaries in 1996.

A biography published on Foxnews.com states that Trump quit the Republican party in 1999 and switched to the Reform party and

then ran for president again in 2000.

Trump has ignited a number of controversies that have followed him throughout his campaign.

As a real-estate mogul, he has been sued for discrimination by the government of New York City for refusing to rent to African Americans.

He has called Mexicans rapists and criminals while pushing the idea of building a wall between America and Mexico, claiming he would make Mexico to pay for the wall.

Trump has made lewd and troubling comments concerning women, Muslims, the disabled and spearheaded the birther movement accusing President Barack Obama of not being an American citizen. The president provided his birth certificate as proof, silencing the accusations.

During a PBS Newshour interview, Trump responded to a charge that "some of his positions have been as inconsistent as his party affiliation, on issues like abortion."

"Well, look, I'm very pro-choice," Trump said according to the transcript. "And I am very, very proud to say that I am pro-life."

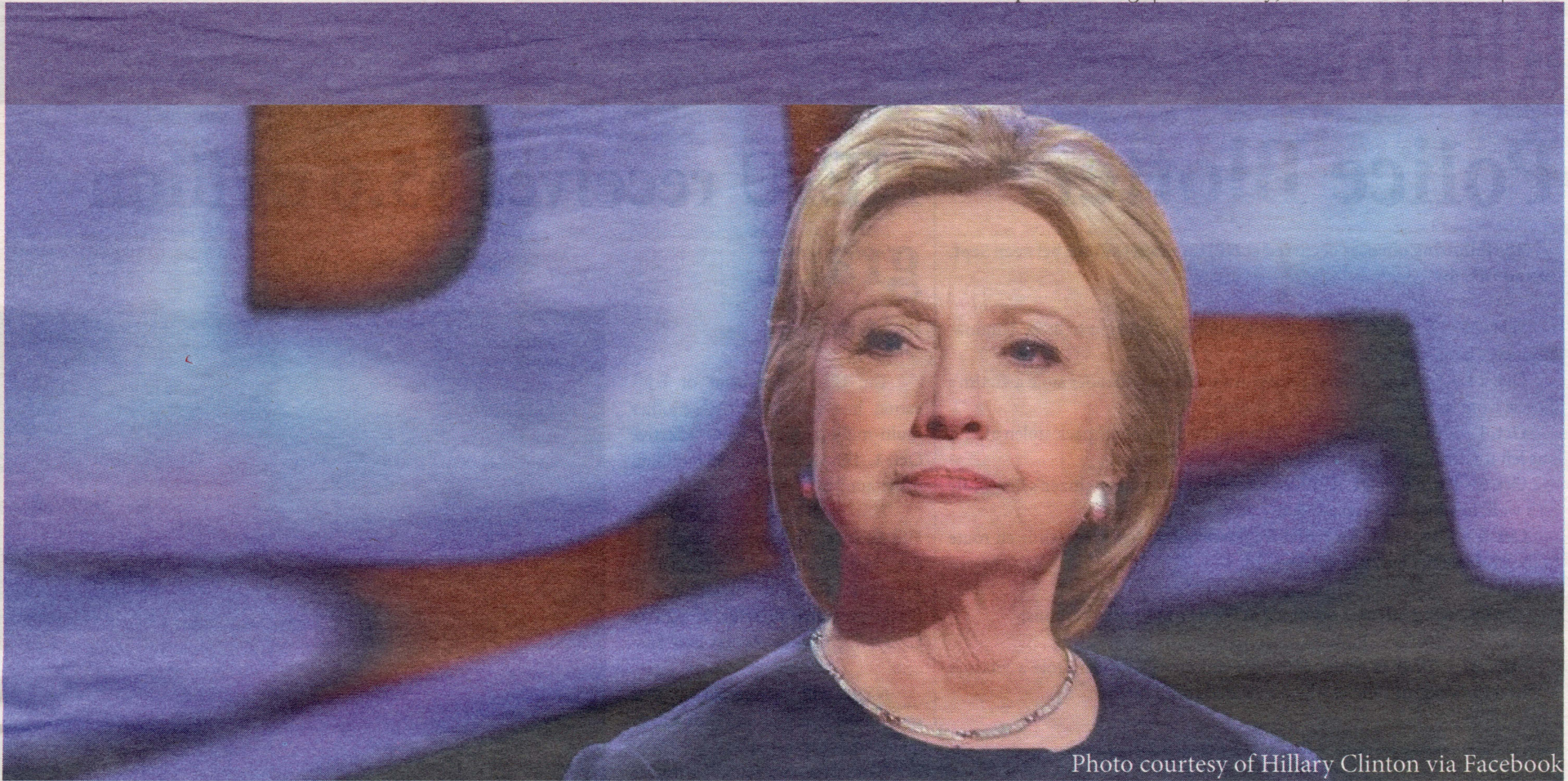


Photo courtesy of Hillary Clinton via Facebook

Clinton's campaign slogan is "Stronger Together" in spite of an ongoing investigation regarding the mishandling of government records.

The Race to the White House: Clinton

Christopher Starnawski

In this election, Hillary Clinton will try to do something that no woman has done before and that is become the president of the United States.

Regardless of which side you may be on, it is important to know her accomplishments.

Early years:

Clinton was born on Oct. 26, 1947 in Chicago, Illinois. She grew up in Park Ridge, Illinois where she was a straight-A student throughout school.

Betsy Eblin, Clinton's best friend in grade school said in a Frontline interview, "I was the new girl in class and someone told me that I was very lucky to be sitting next to Hillary

Rodham because she was captain of the crossing guard. I knew then that she was destined for great things."

Clinton graduated from Wellesley College in 1969. She then attended Yale Law, where she met Bill Clinton and graduated in 1973. Although the couple met at Yale, they would take separate paths after their graduation from law school.

Clinton enrolled Yale Child Study Center, where she took courses on children and medicine and completed one post-graduate year of study.

In 1974, Clinton moved to Arkansas and the couple got married on Oct. 11, 1975 in Fayetteville, Arkansas.

Years as first lady and subsequent political career:

Her husband appointed her to

lead the President's Task Force on National Health Care Reform in 1993. This was the first time a first lady took on such a political job.

She was elected to the U.S. Senate from the state of New York in 2001. During her time as a senator, she served on several committees including the committee for Armed Services.

Clinton announced her candidacy for the presidency in 2007 and was widely viewed as the frontrunner for the Democratic nomination. She would concede to Barack Obama but walked away with receiving more votes than any other woman in history.

President Obama appointed Clinton as the 67th Secretary of the State in 2009.

According to a report published by The New York Times on March 2, 2015, Clinton "exclusively used a personal email account to conduct government business as secretary of state" and "may have violated federal requirements that officials' correspondence be retained as part of the agency's record."

According to the same report, Clinton did not have a government email address during her four-year tenure and her aides did not take actions to preserve her personal emails on department servers as required by the Federal Records Act.

Letters and emails written and received by federal officials — such as the secretary of state — are considered government records and retained.

According to an updated New York Times report published on Sept. 2, 2016, the retainment of her emails came two days after the attacks in Benghazi, Libya in which all documents and Clinton's response to the attacks came under investigation.

Aspirations for presidency:

The final Super Tuesday primary was on June 7 and Clinton delivered a victory speech in Brooklyn, New York, approximately eight years to the day she conceded her loss to President Barack Obama.

Any questions, concerns or suggestions, contact us!



NEWS

Police Blotter

The following offenses occurred at NEIU's main campus between Sept. 30 and Oct. 5:

Sept. 30 – E Building: An unknown offender broke a hallway window. Engineers have boarded up the window.

Oct. 2 – Ronald Williams Library: An unknown offender stole a victim's bicycle from in front of the library building.

Oct. 4 – 3701 Bryn Mawr: A victim reported their backpack stolen after it was left unattended and gone upon the victim's return.

Oct. 5 – P.E. Complex: A citizen was bitten by another citizen's dog while on a walk to which CPD responded.

Oct. 5 – City Street: An NEIU employee fell on the street while en route to the professional building on Bernard.

The following offenses occurred at NEIU's El Centro campus:

Sept. 27 – Theft of under \$500: An unknown offender stole a victim's Michael Kors bag and wallet which included credit cards.

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4 lines for \$35

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Unlimited

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Activ. Fee: Up to \$30/line. Credit approval req. **Sprint Unlimited Freedom Plan** includes unlimited domestic Long Distance calling, texting and data with video and music streaming that may be optimized and 508 of high-speed Mobile Hotspot, VPN and P2P data. After the 5GB, MMS, VPN and P2P usage limited to 2G speeds. Third-party content/downloads are add'l charge. Int'l svcs are not included. All while on the Sprint Network. **Quality of Service (QoS)** Customers who use more than 2GB of data during a billing cycle will be de-prioritized during times and places where the Sprint network is constrained. See sprint.com/networkmanagement for details. **Usage Limitations:** To improve data experience for the majority of users, throughput may be limited, varied or reduced on the network. Sprint may terminate service if off-network roaming usage in a month exceeds (1) 800 min. or a majority of min. or (2) 100MB or a majority of KB. Prohibited network use rules apply—see sprint.com/termsandconditions. **\$5 Discount:** Select SDF and CL only. Receive a \$5/mo/line discount for lines 1-10 on Unlimited Freedom Plan. Avail. for select company/org. liable business lines, eligible company/agency employees or org. members (ongoing verification). Tax ID req. to establish business acct. Discount subject to change, avail. upon request and applies to monthly service for Unlimited Freedom Plan. No additional discounts apply. Account must remain in good standing to receive svc credits. **Other Terms:** Offers and coverage not available everywhere or for all phones/networks. No discounts apply to plan. May not be combined with other offers. Restrictions apply. See store or sprint.com for details. © 2016 Sprint. All rights reserved. Sprint and the logo are trademarks of Sprint. Other marks are the property of their respective owners.

NEIU receives \$5.6 million grant

Rut Ortiz

The U.S. Department of Education has awarded NEIU another multi-million dollar grant effective Oct. 1. This grant totals \$5.6 million distributed over five years.

This new award is a Title III HSI-Science, Technology, Engineering, Mathematics and Articulation Programs, according to Dr. Wendy Stack, executive director of NEIU's Center for College Access and Success.

NEIU will receive nearly \$1.2 million the first year and then subsequent amounts thereafter.

"Only HSIs can actually compete for this money," Stack said. "And it is a competitive grant."

NEIU's newest program called Exit on Time, will launch this month. The grant will assist the university in supporting students to complete their bachelor's degree in four years.

"Our focus is to increase retention of Hispanic and low-income students at Northeastern," Stack said. "Also to increase the number of that same group that go into STEM majors and are prepared to succeed in a STEM major."

NEIU has partnered with Triton College, a two-year institution, to bring the project into fruition.

Students have the option to complete their first two years at Triton and then transfer to NEIU to complete the remaining two years.

However, students do not have to start out at Triton to benefit from this program. Students can come into NEIU as freshmen or transfers.

The grant is geared towards supporting all STEM students, from

Courtesy of Dr. Wendy M. Stack

Dr. Stack's grant proposal earned the \$5.6 million award, which will help fund the Exit on Time program.

freshman to senior year.

Stack said grant writing is a collaborative process.

"I wrote the grant proposal with a number of colleagues at the center here for College Access and Success. We took the lead and designed and wrote the proposal with input from the College of Arts and Sciences, institutional research assessment," she said. "We got the largest grant in Illinois."

The monies will be allocated in a number of ways including an upgraded environmental science lab at NEIU, early outreaches to high

school students interested in studying STEM, summer programming and an upgraded math lab at Triton.

The grant will allow both institutions to offer more academic support to its STEM students, particularly in mathematics.

The model of the program will align introductory courses taught at Triton with those at NEIU so that in the event students do transfer, all of the credits they've earned transfer over as well.

The Exit on Time program is set to stretch across all NEIU campuses for STEM focused majors.

NEWS

Who is up for election? Senators of Illinois

Christopher Starnawski

Mark Kirk Senator (Republican)

Mark Kirk was born in Champaign, Illinois on Sept. 15, 1959. His educational experience is extensive which includes attending the Universidad Nacional Autonoma de Mexico, earning a B.A. in history at Cornell University, earning a master's degree from the London School of Economics and finally earning a law degree from Georgetown University.

Following his collegiate career Kirk served as an intelligence officer

in the Navy Reserve from 1989 until 2013 where when he retired with the rank of commander. During this time, he worked at the World Bank, the State Department, and practiced law before serving as counsel to the House International Relations Committee.

He was elected to the House of Representatives in 2000 and served five terms before winning his election seat on in Nov. 2, 2010. In January

2012, Kirk suffered an ischemic stroke which required surgery.

Kirk returned to his seat a year later receiving cheers from his peers and is considered it one of the greatest moments of his life.

Kirk Currently he serves on the U.S. Senate committee for Appropriations, Banking, Health, Education, Labor, Pensions and a subcommittee on Primary Health & Aging.



Courtesy of U.S. Government via WikiCommons

Illinois Senators Kirk and Duckworth are up for re-election.

Tammy Duckworth Senator (Democrat)



Courtesy of U.S. Federal Government via WikiCommons

Tammy Duckworth was born in Bangkok, Thailand on March 12, 1968. Her parents worked for the United Nations doing refugee work so she lived in many places growing up including Indonesia, Singapore, Cambodia and Hawaii.

Duckworth attended the University of Hawaii where she earned her undergraduate degree and obtained her Master of Arts in International Affairs at George Washington University. She decided

to pursue a political career and enrolled in the Political Science Ph.D. program at Northern Illinois University.

While attending NIU, she joined the Illinois Army National Guard Reserves. She trained as a Blackhawk pilot and was deployed to Iraq in 2004. While flying in Operation Iraqi Freedom, her helicopter was shot down resulting in the loss of her legs and function of her right arm. During her period of rehabilitation, she

became an activist for better medical care for wounded veterans and to help veterans facing homelessness.

In 2006 she was appointed as the director of the Illinois Department of Veterans' Affairs and became the first disabled woman ever to be elected into the U.S. House of Representatives.

On Nov. 8, Duckworth will look to become the first disabled woman to be elected into the U.S. Senate.

NEWS

State lawmakers' race holds high stakes for students



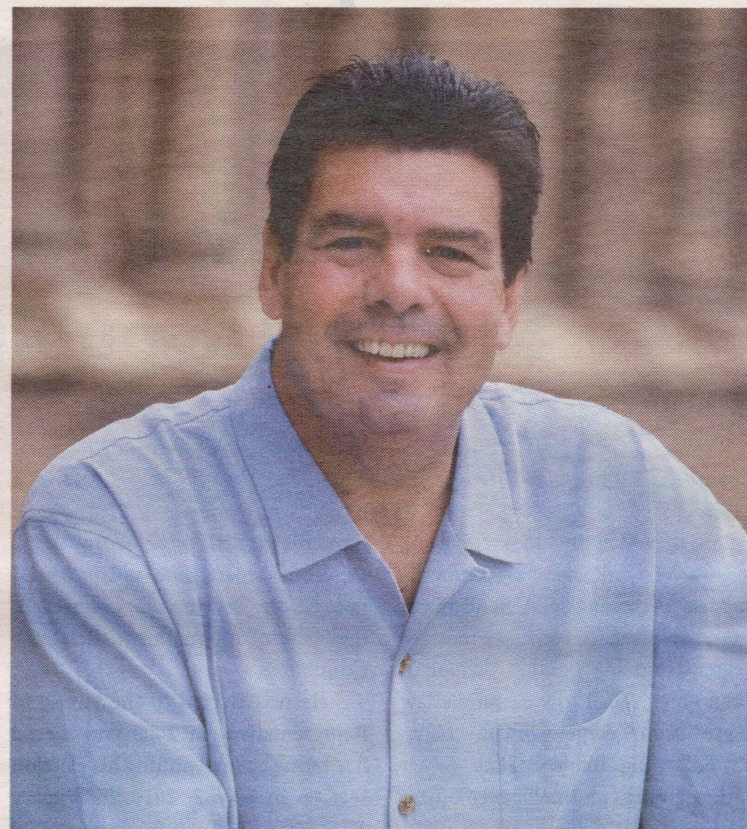
At a glance:

Merry Marwig

Democrat
Received donations from the Chicago Teachers Union.
Earned her B.A. and M.A. from University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign.

Michael McAuliffe

Republican
Voted five times against higher education and MAP Grant funding.
One year of college education. Never graduated.



Photos courtesy of Marwig and McAuliffe via Facebook

At the close of the last Illinois Assembly, there are 71 Democratic and 47 Republican representatives for a total of 118.

Terrie Albano

Merry Marwig and Michael McAuliffe may be unfamiliar to NEIU students, but their names will be on the same ballot this November as familiar ones Hillary Clinton and Donald Trump.

Marwig, a Democrat, and McAuliffe, a Republican and the incumbent, are running for the Illinois House of Representatives in the 20th district, which covers Chicago's 41st Ward, Norridge, Park Ridge, Rosemont and Des Plaines.

The outcome of that race and the Illinois General Assembly seats have consequences for NEIU and may mean the difference between passing a budget that funds higher education

and MAP Grants or continuing the stalemate in Springfield that has cost the state jobs and vital services.

Marwig and McAuliffe have been called proxies in the ongoing battle between Republican Gov. Bruce Rauner and the Democratic controlled General Assembly, led by House Speaker Michael Madigan. Money has been pouring into the two campaigns with McAuliffe getting the benefit of billionaire Rauner's deep pockets and those of his friend, hedge-fund mogul Ken Griffin, by a 3-to-1 ratio.

According to Illinois Sunshine, an online tool that tracks political contributions in the state, the McAuliffe campaign has almost \$1.7 million in its war chest and Marwig

has almost \$619,000. McAuliffe's top donor by far is the House Republican Organization, which according to an Oct. 1 Sun-Times article, gets its money from Rauner funneled through Citizens for Rauner and the Illinois Republican Party.

According to Vote Smart, a web-based project that tracks the votes, positions and the biographies of candidates across the nation, McAuliffe has voted with the governor on budget issues. He voted five times against higher education and MAP Grant funding between January and the end of May. McAuliffe never graduated from college and attended Triton College for one year from 1982-1983.

He took over the 20th district seat after his father, Roger McAuliffe, who

served as state representative from 1973, died in 1996. Before his father's untimely death, Michael McAuliffe served as his father's legislative aide and was an Illinois Department of Transportation employee from 1984-1997.

McAuliffe's opponent is a newcomer to politics. Marwig said on her campaign Facebook page that she cut her teeth with the fight to reduce noise from landing planes at neighboring O'Hare Airport.

She identifies herself as a daughter of a union painter and fighter for the middle class. Marwig received her B.A. and M.A. from the University of Illinois-Urbana-Champaign and is a homeowner and small business owner.

While her top donor is the Democratic Party of Illinois, according to Sunshine Illinois, she has received sizable donations from unions, including the Chicago Teachers Union. A central part of the budget war is Rauner's insistence that lawmakers adopt anti-union measures in order to "turn around" Illinois.

In an effort to counter the governor, unions have backed a number of candidates running for state and local offices with donations and volunteers.

Students can register to vote by using the state's Online Voter Registration Application, <https://ova.elections.il.gov>. The deadline to register is Oct. 23. Early voting runs from Sept. 29-Nov. 7. Election Day is Nov. 8.

Recap of the vice-presidential debate

Lawannah Boyden

Vice-presidential candidates Democratic Sen. Tim Kaine of Virginia and Republican Gov. Mike Pence of Indiana acknowledged each other peacefully at the vice-presidential debate on Oct. 4.

CBS News reporter Elaine Quijano hosted the moderated and asked the opening question using a quote from ID-Lloyd Benson.

Benson said that the vice-presidential debate was not about the qualifications for the vice presidency, but if tragedy were to occur the vice president would have to be able to step in without any margin for error to take on the role as commander-in-chief.

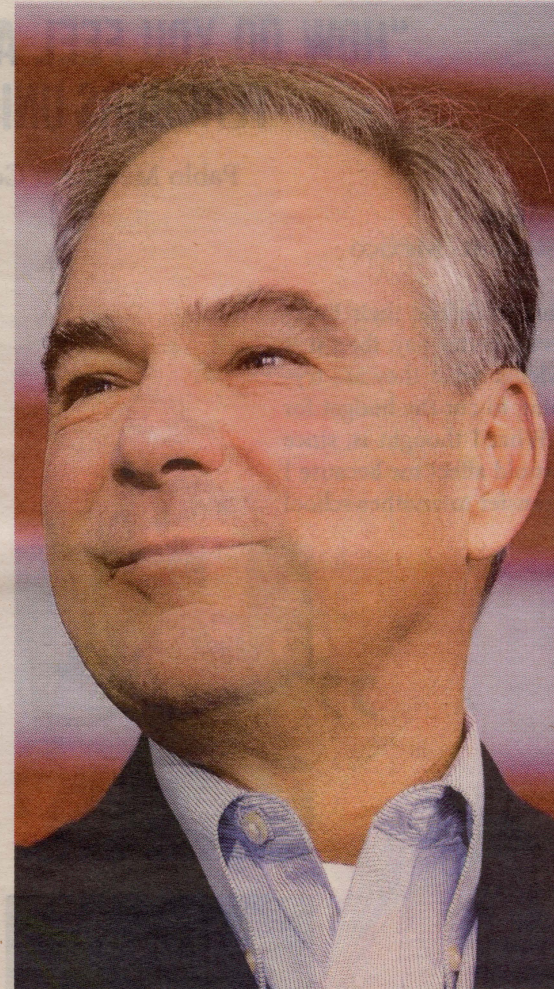
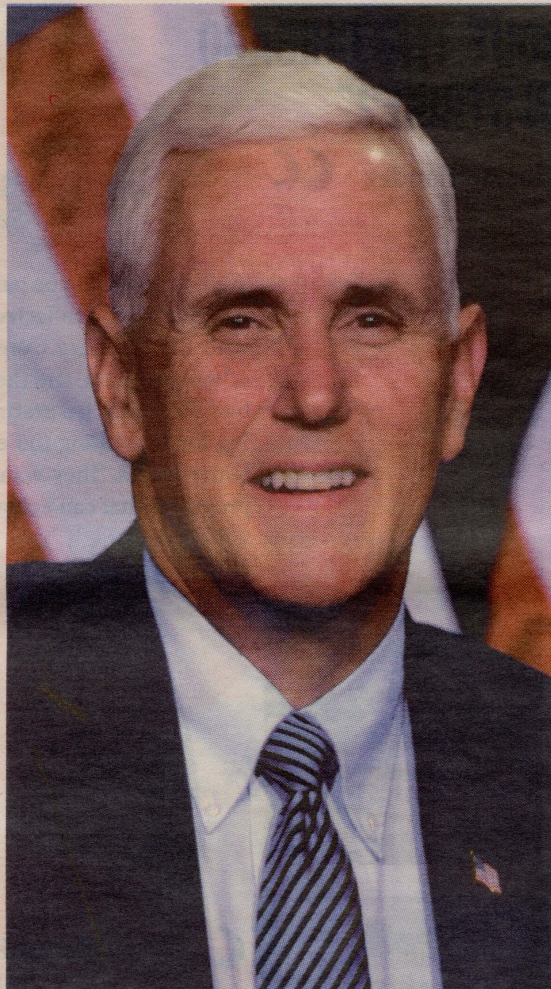
"What is the quality, temperament and experience that you have that would help you to step into that role?" Quijano asked.

Kaine opened by referencing a woman named Barbara Johns who staged a walkout at her school to protest school segregation that led to Brown vs. Board of Education.

He said that he desired to make the classroom safer and help the nation with his experience of serving in government. He said he has complete trust in Hillary Clinton and his view is that his role is to be her right-hand person.

Pence stated that this country has a failing economy and health care. He said he is the son of immigrants. He added that he would bring a lifetime of experience he gained serving as governor.

This discussion ended within five minutes into the debate with Kaine defending Clinton's actions in accepting foreign contributions while she was secretary of state. He added that Clinton worked with the Russians to decrease their weap-



Photos courtesy of Gage Skidmore and Tim Kaine's Facebook page
Vice-presidential candidates Mike Pence (left) and Tim Kaine (right) debated on Oct. 4 ahead of the November general elections.

ons.

Each candidate then answered the questions about the national debt. Pence stated that Indiana has cut unemployment in half and claimed a plan of 4 percent growth.

Kaine proposed free college tuition for families that earn under \$125,000 yearly, equal pay for women, raising the minimum wage and a tax plan that would provide tax relief for small businesses.

When asked about what they would do to protect Social Security, Kaine said that they will never,

ever engage in a scheme to privatize Social Security and will stand against efforts to do so by focusing on lifting the payroll tax cap.

On the other hand, Pence said that the Trump/Pence team will keep their obligations to their seniors and cut taxes.

Quijano asked if society is asking too much of police officers.

Kaine stated that the way to make communities and police safer is to build bonds between the two. He supports gun ownership. He feels that we can support the Second Amend-

ment and ensure background checks are already done in order to curb gun violence.

Pence said they want to put the safety of the American people first and contends that America is not as safe under President Obama. He said that they purport removing aliens who are criminals but no plans on those who are here and are not criminals.

Kaine said he wants to provide a path to citizenship for those who work hard, pay taxes while also enforcing border control. He also said

he and Clinton would form alliance with countries.

As Quijano attempted to ask about Syria, the debate spiraled into a tirade between the two candidates about Clinton's private email server containing classified information. Quijano managed to steer the discussion back to Syria and asked what would be done to help the Syrian civilians who are under attack by Russia.

Pence suggested rebuilding the military and establishing a safe zone to be able to combat these attacks.

Kaine said Clinton has the ability to stand up to Russia. He agreed that there needs to be a safe zone.

Kaine also raised the controversy around Trump's taxes multiple times throughout the debate.

Pence shot back in defense and said, "Don't you take deductions? The safe zones would have to be prepared to work with allies in the region to supply safe passage for citizens."

The two running mates participated in the only vice-presidential debate of the 2016 election.

Look for students

gathering in

solidarity of National

Day of Action, a

recap of the presidential

debate and NEIU's boot

camp on neiuiindependent.org

dent.org

OPINIONS

Golden Perspectives

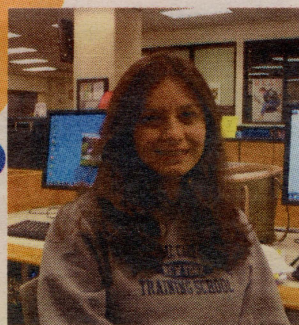
"HOW DO YOU FEEL ABOUT THE CHICAGO TEACHERS UNION STRIKE?"

Pablo Medina & Cecilia Hernandez

Cynthia Mendoza

International graduate student- Mexico

I think that because they're trying to defend their interests. If they feel that they deserve a better pay, then it is their right to protest or acknowledge what they are trying to say. I heard they were going to cut the budget for teachers and close the schools. What I thought is, since I'm an international student, it would affect me because I wouldn't have the resources to transfer to another school and pay more in tuition.



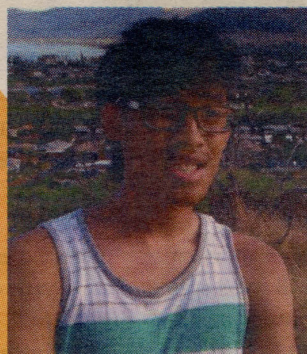
Jack Gehringer
Senior

Well, they need to be paid better, but at the same time, my internship is affected by that. I have an internship with the Culinary Community Center in their after school program, and their after school program is run by CPS, so it's frustrating. The union isn't really asking for something too extravagant, so they just want better wages. They want better wages and they want programs that can actually benefit their students, and CPS is making it hard for them to do that with the crap they're putting them through.



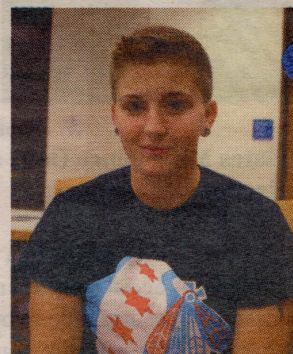
Ryan Susa
Junior

I'm appalled that the CTU are going on strike for the second time in under five years. This greatly affects me since I am currently studying to become a teacher; I have a high interest in teaching in Chicago. I feel that our leaders in our government, especially Mayor Rahm, haven't been very supportive of CPS, even after the first strike. There needs to be a higher interest in resolving problems within CPS because I feel they get neglected by our government.



Becca Peterson
Junior

I think that it wouldn't be necessary if the government would treat teachers with the same respect...that they treat a lot of other positions. I don't think they take the teachers' jobs very seriously. Yeah, there is an intrinsic motivation to teaching, but it is a job at the end of the day, and the job is to educate young people. If you're educating the next generation that's going to take care of you when you're old, that better be a damn respectable job. And I don't think it's given the sort of respect it deserves. In summary, I do support the strike because they're fighting for fair benefits and the things they deserve. They shouldn't have to fight for them.



School's in: The Chicago Teachers Union strike

Pablo Medina

The teachers may be out, but the schools are staying on schedule for Chicago Public Schools.

Though the members of Chicago Teachers Union will strike Oct. 11, CPS plans to keep the doors of public schools open for students to attend their regular schedules and have free breakfast and lunch for that day. In addition, Chicago Transit Authority will be providing free rides for students from 5:30 a.m. to 8:30 p.m. for as long as the strike takes place.

It is interesting to see how ready the school and transit systems are to prepare students for days without their respective teachers. It comes off as expected and dispensable, much like what CPS expects from the loyalty of its teachers.

The bigger problem stems from CPS' treatment of the situation, paying to have schools open instead of paying the teachers who are trained and hired to instruct them. It is as if CPS is saying they don't need the teachers to provide the education the students need.

Rather than fairly negotiate a contract satisfying both parties, CPS continues to strain its relationship with CTU members through scapegoating and pay and pension reduction every year.

Some parents, like Kowanna Henderson of Near West Side Chicago, have opposed the strike, for concerns of the welfare of the children and the difficulties for parents working on Oct. 11.

"I'm for the teachers. They need to get paid," Henderson told the Chicago Tribune. "But they need to come to a solution."

CPS and CTU must come to an immediate solution to avoid risking the neglect of the young students' education.

The ongoing budget impasse in Illinois has placed a heavy burden on the funding of public schools, and the prioritization of paying teachers fairly has fallen out of CPS' favor, as their budget charts show for the fiscal years of 2015 and 2016.

According to the CPS website, the organization reported a loss of \$110 million in state funding between 2015 and 2016, negatively affecting the teachers' salaries and funding for student programs. The website also shows the troubling decline in school operations, the most recent being a \$55 million cut for FY2015.

However, considering the state funds the schools outside of Chicago more than those inside of Chicago (outer city schools receiving \$2,266 per student and Chicago based schools receiving \$31 per student), it comes as no surprise where the real problem lies: The state simply does not appreciate the efforts of the Chicago schools.

Why else would the state be selective about its funding?

Illinois should be looking out for the teachers, ensuring a fair salary and pension and providing the students with new materials.

Would the strike have a strong effect on the politicians and administration responsible for extending the funding crisis?

Most likely not.

If the politicians have gone this far postponing the agreement of a new contract, then the welfare of the teachers is not in their mind. In addition, striking has now become an unfortunate tradition for the union, a final yet common resort to annual contract negotiations.

This doesn't necessarily mean I am against the strike at all. I'll stand with the teachers the whole way through because they fulfill an important role in society that no political figure can replace.

ical figure can replace.

Some teachers can get a lot of unnecessary crap to their already packed responsibilities and heavy work hours, such as advocating with parents and students with special needs to get services they need or even supplying basic classroom necessities not provided by the school out of their wages.

Teachers have to answer to inquiry from parents, draw up lesson plans, clean up after the classrooms, arrange tutoring hours for students in need, represent the faculty of the school and adjust their teaching to have it apply to the students' individual needs.

Some teachers, if they have financial problems, supplement the pay from their jobs with second and even third jobs.

Considering that the strikes have reflected Illinois's funding issues for a number of years, CPS has continued to make cuts, even with the impasse in effect.

There have been many strikes up to this day and they will continue until there is an appreciation of the work that educators do.

For CPS, teachers will either accept a reduced pay and pension or quit and work elsewhere. They never look at the cuts they have made in the past and ask themselves, "Are we the reason the teachers are angry?"

Reform starts with the community choosing leaders who are invested in them.

The strikes will not end until CPS and CTU buck up and unite to address the funding issues that halt the progress of our school system.

The politicians voted for by the people are responsible for the funding that will help Chicago students. The general election is closer than before, so vote for the leaders who can be trusted to handle the mess.



Robin Bridges

Thousands of students, parents, faculty and staff gathered at NEIU main campus for a one day strike and rally due to the still on-going budget crisis facing Illinois public schools.

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Always read the fine print

Photo by EFF Photos via Flickr

Eric Rodriguez

A new law has members of Congress rethinking their votes and has me rethinking my vote as well. Many members of both the House and Senate failed to consider the repercussions of a new law allowing individuals to sue countries for injuries resulting from war.

Recently, members of Congress from both sides of the aisle have had some buyer's remorse over their recent passing of a bill that allows victims' families of 9/11 to sue the government of Saudi Arabia for their involvement.

The bill is a nice gesture towards grieving families. However, its substance is inherently toxic towards American diplomacy and so deeply flawed that Congress should be ashamed for passing it.

The bill, formally titled "Justice Against Sponsors of Terrorism Act," has been under fire since its conception by critics from every side of the political spectrum. Most prominent-

ly, President Barack Obama vetoed the bill on Sept. 23.

In a letter to Congress, Obama warned that JASTA would be "detrimental to U.S. national interests." The bill was passed despite warnings from multiple high ranking defense officials, including Defense Secretary Ashton B. Carter.

Carter sent a letter to two high ranking members of the House Armed Services Committee, Republican Rep. Mac Thornberry and Democratic Rep. Adam Smith received warning that the law could "ultimately have a chilling effect on our own counter-terrorism efforts." The Senate still voted unanimously 97-1 to override Obama's veto.

When numerous members of Congress were asked about the decision and were finally confronted on the possible negative outcomes of the law, many members of Congress pleaded ignorance. Senator Mitch McConnell said after the override vote, "Everybody was aware of who the potential beneficiaries were, but

nobody had really focused on the potential downsides in terms of our international relationships."

JASTA sets dangerous standards for foreign diplomacy. It tarnishes the principles of sovereign immunity the U.S. has used for decades to fight terrorism. American soldiers who once were able to operate in foreign countries without fear of being sued may now be subject to foreign courts based on private stipulations.

American diplomats especially rely on sovereign immunity to protect them from hostile and wrongful suits. With the enactment of JASTA their worries might become a reality. The law allows other nations, especially ones afflicted by terrorist activity, to sue the U.S. government for wrongful deaths. For example, in cases of drone attacks, military bombings, military raids and any other foreign missteps by the U.S. in a time frame that the afflicted country finds suitable.

The idea that our elected officials, who had four months to read a one page law and vote twice on didn't care

to weigh the possible negative outcomes of the law is equally baffling as it is horrifying.

I'm not saying members of Congress should be mandated to read every word of every law. That would be unreasonable. However, when a law of such importance arrives and multiple red flags are raised by security officials and the President, I believe it is their civic duty to give the law its rightful attention.

The passage of JASTA, and especially that it was unanimous, shows a basic level of incompetence. Have our standards fallen that low for our public officials?

As a legislative body, we expect our elected officials to weigh the risks and rewards for laws proposed in Congress and to make informed decisions on legislation.

Isn't that why we elect public officials? When our elected officials make hasty decisions and don't weigh the risks and rewards of legislation, our lawmakers become fundamentally unfit for their job.

About Us

The *Independent* is a public forum for the university and community around Northeastern Illinois University. The *Independent* is completely student run and receives no prior review of its content by anyone other than its student editors.

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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.

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

A&L

Stage Center play gets vote this 'November'



"November" opens Oct 13 and has shows on Oct. 14, 15, 20, 21, 22 at 7:30 p.m. On Oct 15 and 22 there is a matinee show at 2:00 pm at stage center theater on NEIU's main campus. | Jason Merel

Grace Yu

"November" opens at NEIU's Stage Center Theatre on Oct. 13. It is a satire about a fictional presidential election, promising lots of laughs for theatre-goers who may be in need of some escapism this election season.

College of Arts and Science Professor, Rodney Higginbotham, is directing the production and chose the comedic work because it's relevant to today.

"It's too spot-on," Higginbotham said. "Perfect for this election year."

In the second act, a painful but

hilarious joke references policies discussed years ago in Congressional sessions – certain policies that have been recently proposed by the Republican presidential nominee.

"My jaw dropped when I read those lines," Higginbotham said. "The subject matter will immediately grab everybody's attention."

Written by David Mamet, a native Chicago dramatist known for works such as "Glengarry Glen Ross" and "American Buffalo," "November" is an atypical Mamet play.

Usually, his edgy, serious dramas are often populated by characters that

are on the side of rough, crude, and foul-mouthed. "November," however, is a farce and exaggerated, broad comedy.

The play's first run was on Broadway in 2008, originally starring Nathan Lane as President Charles Smith. The play is set during a fictional administration, and the time frame is somewhere between the Clinton and Obama administrations.

President Charles Smith is up for re-election for a second term, but he is no favorite. Brutally rude, ruthless, and the leader of a laughably absurd administration, Smith is a very despi-

cable candidate.

Smith is played by Robert Babcock in the Stage Center production. Be warned, Smith in "November" is extraordinarily foul-mouthed. He makes racist, disparaging remarks about almost any group you can name.

Joining Babcock is Kyle Medbery, playing the president's Chief of Staff Archer Brown and Emily Hosma, playing his speechwriter Clarice Bernstein. Additional cast members include Jose Navarete as "Turkey Guy"; Scott Barker as A Representative from the National Association of

Turkey and Turkey Products Manufacturers; and Dwight Grackle, a Native American.

Clocking in at about an hour and a half, "November" is relatively short for a typical full-length play, but it is sure to be thoroughly enjoyed, nonetheless.

Tickets are available now and NEIU faculty, students and staff can see the play for free by picking up a ticket at the NEIU Information Center or at the box office on the night of the performance. Showtimes are Oct. 13-15, 20-22 at 7:30 p.m. and Oct. 22 at 2 p.m.

Review: Family time in 'Visiting Edna'

Pablo Medina

Associating terminal illness with simple humor is a risqué move in entertainment, yet comedy and tragedy blend well in The Steppenwolf Theatre's production of "Visiting Edna."

Written by David Rabe and directed by Anna D. Shapiro, the world premiere of "Visiting Edna" opened on Sept. 25, starring Debra Monk as Edna and Ian Barford as Edna's son, Andrew. Tim Hopper, Sally Murphy and Michael Rabe co-star.

"Visiting Edna" takes place in Edna's home in Iowa. The themes of loss, relationship and distraction are emphasized in the decisions that Edna and Andrew make during the play.

Barford's acting as Andrew genuinely displays his emotion and approach to watching television, pretending to golf and drink with his friends.

Monk delivers her dialogue to each cast member with the appropriate sass and attitude.

She is not afraid to speak her mind and it shows through her words and gestures that Edna is not any old-timer, but rather a woman tired



Photo courtesy of Steppenwolf Theatre

"Visiting Edna" runs now through November 6 at Steppenwolf Theatre. The play features the work of Tony award winners: writer David Rabe and director Anna D. Shapiro.

of the losses and pain she has faced.

Rabe, Hopper and Murphy play personified forms of the angel of death, cancer and television, respectively. Both Cancer (Hopper) and Television (Murphy) approach Edna and Andrew in such perfectly irritating ways that their expressions respond with disdain.

Cancer and Television play major roles in the theme of distraction, as they both work as a bridge between fantasy and reality. The invasive

role of television is fleshed out in the play's dialogue, with one of the best quotes coming from Andrew's embittered argument with the television.

"You're an a-----!" Andrew yells at the television. "You're an a-----!" The television set responds.

Moments like this show the conflict between distraction and reality.

Struggle is another common theme for each of the characters.

Edna is unhappy with her rivalry with her sister and Andrew is desperately coping with his mother's terminal illness.

The complex role of television in both of their lives and the parasitic nature of cancer as a physical and emotional disease amplify the characters and their actions.

David Rabe's writing captures the fear and uncertainty of living with a terminal disease and shows cancer as a presence without remorse. It is a

haunting reminder of the loss of time and happiness.

The bitterly honest interactions between Edna and Cancer throughout the play contrast with the mostly endearing relationship of her and Andrew. It brought me to tears.

Another amazing quality from the theatrical performance was the realistic atmosphere of Steppenwolf's production.

With the use of a skybox (an elevated set piece that has clouds and sky on the inside and the exterior of the building on the outside), water from Lake Michigan and subtle wind effects, it truly depicted the contrast between the sunny optimistic mornings and the gloomy, ominous, stormy nights.

To add to the gloominess, the use of ambient music creates a chilling sensation, especially when Cancer, the Angel of Death and sorrow enter the scene.

Carefully constructed by David Rabe, Steppenwolf's production of "Visiting Edna" treads the line of minimalist drama and shows what a small cast and a single location set is capable of in the world of theatre.



Review: Bioshock Remastered

Melissa Johnson

"So far away from your family, from your friends, from everything you ever loved. But, for some reason, you like it here. You feel something you can't quite put your finger on. Think about it for a second, and maybe the word will come to you: Nostalgia," Andrew Ryan says toward the end of the game.

The first time I played "Bioshock" was in 2007 on the PS3.

It was pure magic!

I was enamoured by the the city of Rapture, a utopia at the bottom of the ocean.

I was terrified by the hordes of "splicers," superpowered deranged drug addicts, that would hound my every step.

I was entranced by the opening plane crash sequence and emotionally moved by the ending cutscene.

When the trailer announced that "Bioshock: The Collection" would be released Sept. 13, I felt the nostalgia coursing through my veins, like a

plasmid syringe to the arm.

The collection includes all three Bioshock games and all of their downloadable content, a museum of scrapped concepts and behind-the-scenes commentary from the series' Creative Director, Ken Levine.

Bioshock fans, myself included, are eager to dive back into the Rapture utopia of Rapture and the breathtaking city in the clouds, known as Columbia.

For the most part,

Irrational Games doesn't disappoint.

The original Bioshock benefitted the most from the 1080p HD face lift.

The game looks gorgeous!

Most of the play-through was spent ogling over the improved graphics. The water effects are much better.

The character models look like people now, rather than melted wax sculptures. There's even a sheen to the rusty neon signs that flood the city. Even the fish look better!

In "Bioshock: Infinite," the shin-

ing gold and cream tones of the floating city of Columbia were delicious eye candy as well, even though it got the least amount of remastering because it is a relatively new game.

The new polish isn't the only reason to praise Father Zachary Comstock.

The bonus goodies are really why you should buy "Bioshock: The Collection."

The interactive concept art museum you can walk through was my favorite extra feature.

The commentary is fascinating. For those interested in the process of making video games or writing engaging stories, the behind-the-scenes commentary is certainly worth watching.

On the other hand, "Bioshock" is still "Bioshock." What does that mean? It means you know exactly what you are getting.

Defeat the splicers in HD. Bring us the girl, wipe away the debt in HD. It's just "Bioshock" but in HD. Newcomers to the franchise would benefit

the most from this bundle.

It has everything fans love about the original games, but not much else.

Hopefully, the game may have been patched recently, but I had to reload the game multiple times.

The quality of the game's HD graphics is not consistent across all platforms.

The problems that occurred on the PS4 were instances of graphics not loading and occasionally, important progression sequences didn't happen.

PC and Xbox users reported having their games crash multiple times in addition to graphic problems and non-loading sequences.

It is likely these will be fixed eventually, if they have not been fixed already.

"Bioshock: The Collection" is a spruced-up repackaging of a nine-year-old beloved franchise that has been played to death by millions of people.

There is nothing new in terms of playable content and story, but that's

perfectly okay. When the original "Bioshock" came out in 2007 it was lauded as a masterpiece, receiving "Game of the Year" awards from multiple publications.

Nothing is going to top it and maybe nothing should.

Nothing has to.

The games are perfect as they are.

The real value of such a game is not found in what it can do, but in the lasting effect it has on those who experience it.

The franchise is very philosophical and tackles a lot of touchy issues from racism, government, religion, science, classism and more.

Because "Bioshock: the Collection" has released as a single entity for the new gaming platforms, now those experiences have a chance to be passed on to a new generation of gamers so they too can experience the game, as Ryan says, "And with the sweat of your brow, Rapture can become your city as well."



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A&L

Book review: 'Demand the Impossible'

Danny Montesdeoca

A revolution is imminent. A new resurgence of progressive ideologies that challenges the conventional way of thought is gaining momentum.

"Demand the Impossible: A Radical Manifesto" author Bill Ayers spoke about revolution and much more at his book launch last month at Experimental Station, a community center in Hyde Park.

At the event, he also confessed to the audience his one qualm with the Green Party is that: they only show for national elections.

"Why do we always have to aim for the White House," Ayers said. "We have the opportunity to make immediate changes at a community level every day."

Ayers also said that, "if you are not pissed off then you are not paying attention."

His anti-capitalist stance couldn't be more in your blunt. "What went wrong? The short answer, capitalism," he said.

In his book, he urges the reader to imagine a better future: not as the dream of an idealist, but as something tangible and within our grasp.

He calls capitalism a system that dehumanizes everyone and terrorizes the planet. "Capitalism demands expansion; its predatory heart is the rage to accumulate. It thrives on growth unleashed and unrestrained, but Earth says otherwise."

He calls out capitalists throughout the book. He calls the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation's mission statement "irritating, as it announces its belief that every child should have a chance to lead a full and productive life—not the right to actually lead that life, but merely a chance at it."

Ayers shows how demanding the seemingly impossible is realistic. Slavery was a mainstay in American society in the early 1800s, and abolition was seemingly impossible. Desegregation was also once seen as a seemingly



Courtesy of Haymarket Books

impossible dream. If those constructs were once seen as immovable and were brought down, then why can't that be the case today for capitalism?

He urges the reader to question "common sense" things that have become normalized or mainstream in our world.

For example, why is the United States the only industrialized country where it is legal to advertise prescription drugs?

"It serves no public health interest whatsoever, but it does indeed serve corporate wealth," Ayers said.

He follows that up by saying, "If universal health care is a human right, what else might be?"

Ayers believes in the people, and he puts it together eloquently "Every human being is of infinite and incalculable value." He says the one percent's greatest fear is our greatest hope:

'Demand the Impossible'

Continued from 14

A collective consciousness and common struggle.

Ayers also explains a simple solution to the economy and other social constructs: "All the rules of the economy are made up and put in place by people, and they can't really exist beyond or outside of human culture and politics," Ayers said. "Anything made by people can be unmade or remade by people."

Ayers has a brilliant mind, and his writing is relatable readers. His arguments are well formulated, but written with poetic flow.

His stance is direct, yet elegantly

phrased when he says things like, "We need to come together and get smart about the rich and the rest of us. After all, we are many, they are few."

This is a book that challenges the precedent way of thought and attitude that many may have about today's system.

It begs the reader to adopt a new outlook, to imagine a world with more of a participatory democracy based on love and a mutual level of respect and dignity for one another and the Earth.

This book is a must-read its contribution to a conversation that visions a more progressive future for our world.

Noam Chomsky on power and ideology

Danny Montesdeoca

On Sept. 26, Haymarket Books hosted Noam Chomsky at the University of Chicago where he gave a brief lecture entitled "Power and Ideology."

The doors to the event opened at 6 p.m. but a line had formed well before that.

People flooded the Rockefeller Memorial Chapel, and scrambled to find seats as close to the podium as they could.

There was a person selling the "Worker's Vanguard," a Marxist-Leninist newspaper publication. Another person handed out fliers to an event hosting Angela Davis who is known for her activism during the Civil Rights Movement. There was also a Green Party activist advocating for presidential candidate Jill Stein.

People chatted about the political climate of today's landscape; everyone eager to take their seats to await the main event.

A spokesman from Haymarket Books publishing company came out and asked everyone if they could please turn off their NSA tracking devices, eliciting laughter from the audience.

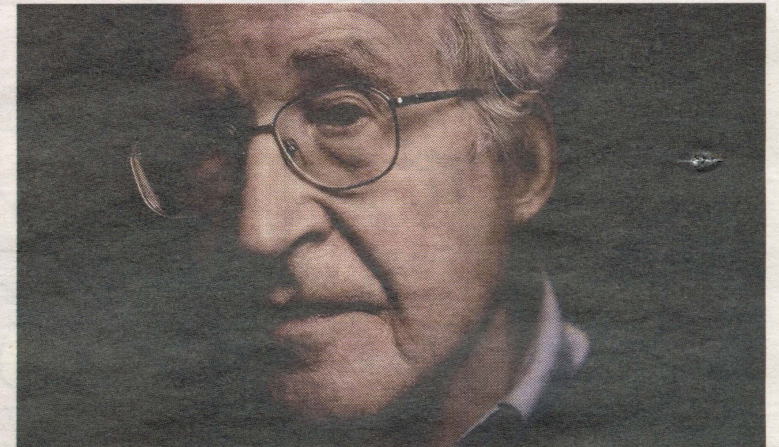
And then he came out. The man. The myth. The Chomsky.

The audience erupted in a standing ovation, and were in awe as the 87-year-old made his way to the podium.

As soon as the applause ended, Chomsky opened with a simple question: "Will organized human life continue to exist?"

He explained that humanity is currently in the sixth era of mass extinction.

"A man is a wolf to its fellow man," he said, referencing Thomas Hobbes, a 17th century philosopher.



Courtesy of Haymarket Books

Revolutionary intellectual, Noam Chomsky, discusses mass extinction, nuclear warfare and environmental concerns to liberal audiences.

Chomsky argued that nuclear weapons and the environment are the primary causes of the new era mass extinction.

"Nuclear weapons are the biggest threat to life on this planet," he said.

He referenced the "Doomsday Clock," a symbolic clock that represents how close the world is to a global catastrophe, being changed to depict three minutes away from midnight. The last time the hands were placed that close to midnight was in 1984.

He also told the audience of several instances where world leaders ordered the use of nuclear weapons, but it was the courageous defiance of the ordered soldiers that prevented a possible nuclear war.

Chomsky called for the abolishment of nuclear weapons, calling it "a tool of unnecessary imperialism for economic interest."

He then called for a more environmentally-conscious world. The number of species that are in danger of extinction, or are already extinct, is on the rise and it is all caused by the actions of humans.

We live in a world with a finite number of natural resources, and as humans are constantly demanding more.

After his lecture, Chomsky answered some questions from the audience.

When asked about Edward Snowden, he replied, "He should not just be pardoned, but honored. We should be asking whether the government should be pardoned."

Another question was asked regarding the refugee crisis in the Middle East. Chomsky responded that the "refugee crisis" is not limited to the Middle East, rather, it extends as far as the United States' immigrant situation.

When he was asked about student debt and loans, he replied by asking, "Why do we pay for education? There is no economic basis for it."

Finally, Chomsky was asked, "what gives you hope?"

"People like you give me hope," Chomsky said "People like you are in a position to address them (issues), and that's where the hope is."

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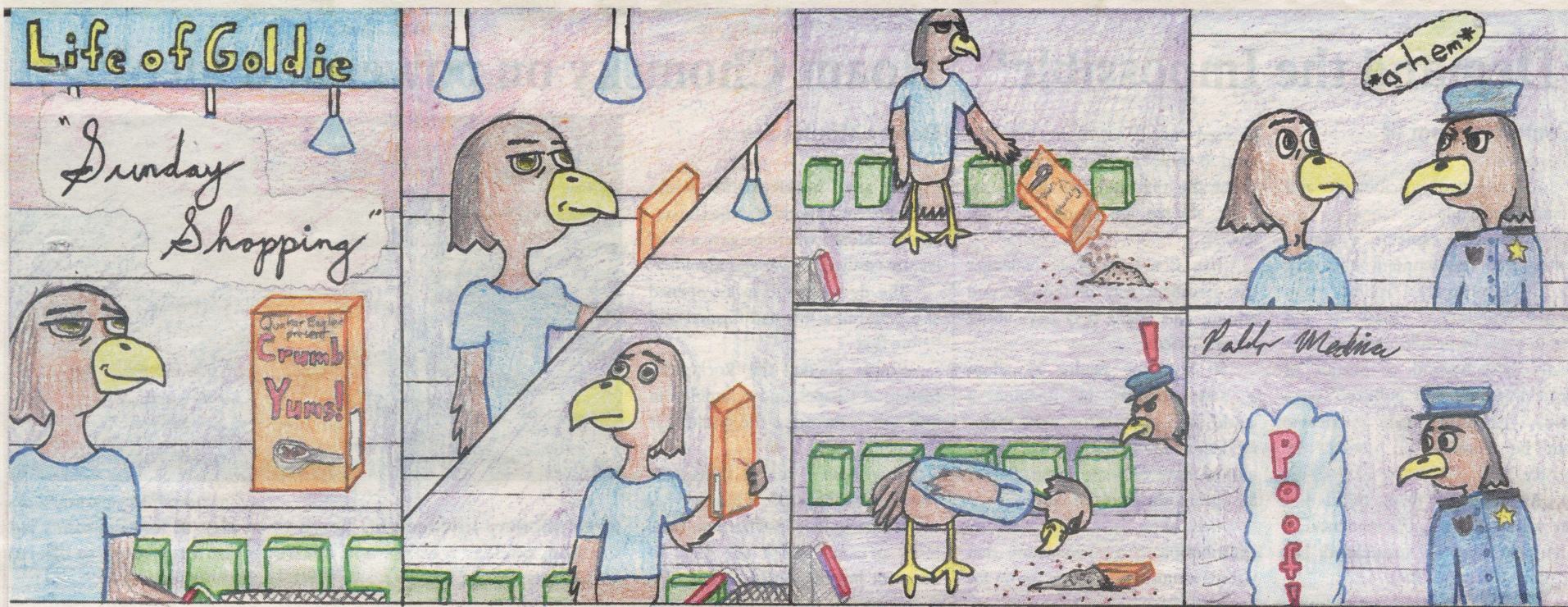
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SPORTS

Blackhawks preview: Same ol' story, same ol' song and dance

Brett Starkopf

This offseason wasn't much different than previous years for the Blackhawks. Again, they were forced to trade away fan favorites — this year was Andrew Shaw and Teuvo Teravainen, last year was Patrick Sharp — to clear up space. Again, they were unable to resign much needed depth players. And again, General Manager Stan Bowman found a way to dance around the cap constraints and put together another Stanley Cup contender.

Bowman addressed the Hawks lacking defense by signing veteran defenseman Brian Campbell and Kontinental Hockey League free agent

Michal Kempny. The Hawks signed 37-year-old Campbell, a member of the 2010 Championship team (but was traded due to cap constraints), to a bargain contract for one-year, \$1.5 million July 1.

He scored 31 points for Florida last season and has not missed a game in the past three seasons.

Kempny represented the Czech Republic during the World Cup of Hockey this past summer and showed he can keep up with the speed and size of NHL forwards. He will most likely be part of the bottom-third pairing, platooning with Michal Rozsival or rookie Gustav Forsling, who was a surprise during the preseason.

The Chicago Sun-times' Mark

Lazerus reported on Oct. 6 that Forsling might have solidified a roster spot. Lazerus said the 20-year-old Swede "very well could be one of the Hawks' best four or five defensemen right now," although four preseason games are a small sample size.

The departures of Shaw, Teravainen, Andrew Ladd and Bryan Bickell left holes to plug on offense for Joel Quenneville. Rookie centers Nick Schmaltz and Tyler Motte are competing for the vacant fourth center spot. However, Motte spent more time as a winger during preseason so it wouldn't be a surprise to see him on the left side of either Jonathan Toews or Artem Anisimov to start the season.

To balance the scoring, Quenneville is considering breaking up last season's Art Ross winner Patrick Kane and Calder Memorial winner Artemi Panarin. Kane and Panarin have spent the preseason on separate lines with hopes that, at the very least, there will be an influx of production for their top-two lines.

With Shaw's departure, the Hawks signed veteran Jordin Tootoo to a one-year, \$2.25 million deal. Tootoo adds depth and grit and that's about it. He is not known for his production but rather his physicality. He will spend most of the time playing with the bottom-six forwards.

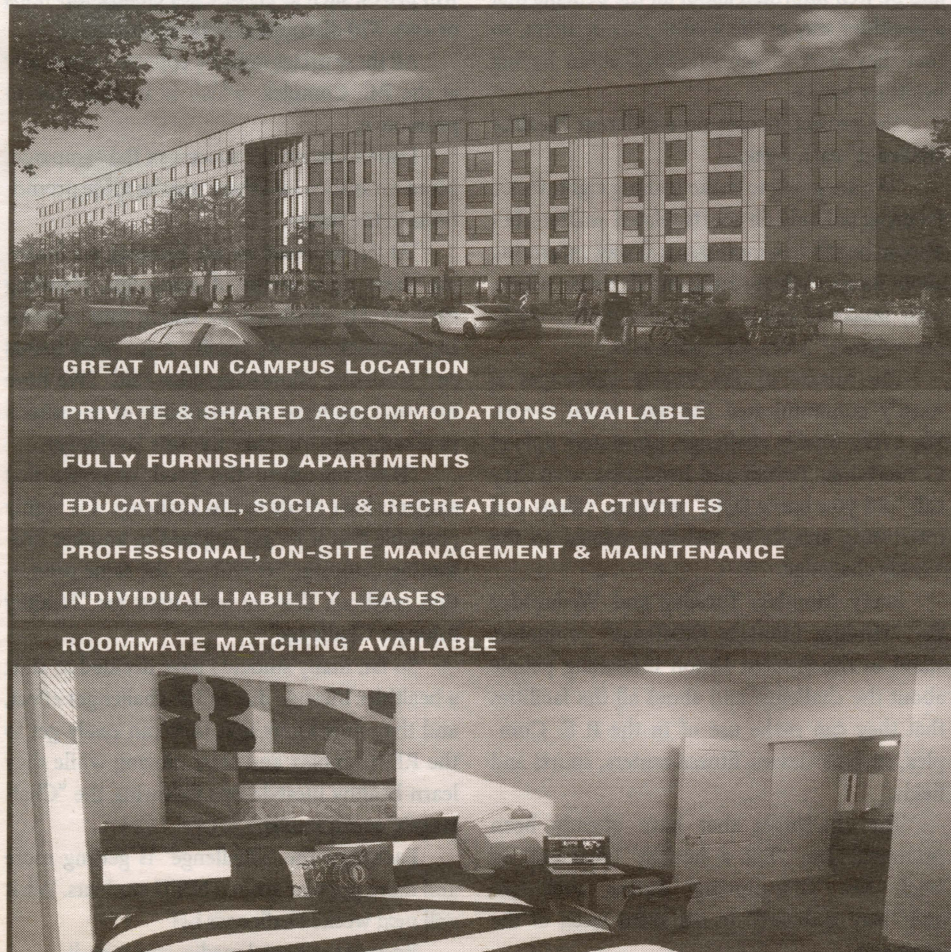
Although a relatively quiet offseason, the Hawks are still poised

for another Cup run. As long as their core of Toews, Kane, Marian Hossa, Duncan Keith and Brent Seabrook stay healthy that shouldn't be a problem.

While many of the Hawks represented their respective countries during the World Cup of Hockey, this was still a longer offseason than past years so the players should be rested and healthy for the first game.

The Hawks will still be a top-five team in the league this season, even though their record may not reflect it. While they may not win the Central, it wouldn't be a surprise if they play into June again.

The season begins Oct. 12 versus the St. Louis Blues.



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12:00 P.M. – 4:00 P.M.

***Steppenwolf Theatre Company**

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SPORTS

'Healthy Lifestyle Challenge' promotes campus rec

Idoia Solano

Clara Mora-Granados is a promoter of the "Healthy Lifestyle Challenge" and explained it as "a project focused on promoting a healthier lifestyle among NEIU students and also promoting Campus Recreation Center, which is actually the institution developing this project. In it, we approach different matters, all related to a healthy way of life."

With it, the students that have already chosen to carry out a healthy lifestyle are able to make the most out of the challenge by using all of the facilities and activities that the P.E. Complex has to offer.

For those students who believe their lifestyle is not healthy enough can get to know and be well informed about all the benefits that a healthier way of life would provide them, so that they start to get interested about having healthier habits.

The project focuses on a different "healthy challenge" each week.

"We are going to make it along eight weeks, focusing not only on sports related matters, but also on health in a more general way, informing about issues such as eating and drinking habits, daily intake of calories, before and after-workout routines," Mora-Granados said.

The release of the weekly challenges is mostly communicated through social media. For every weekly challenge, promoters upload to Facebook, Twitter and Instagram what they call "did you know facts," pictures, videos and interesting articles or websites related to the weekly challenge.

Every Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday the "Healthy Lifestyle Challenge" promoters stand in the Student Union informing people about the challenge and about all the facilities that they can make use of in the P. E. Complex, such as classes, fitness centers, courts and fields.

The challenges that have already been promoted are: "Eat a healthy breakfast" in week one, "Get moving" during week two and "Stay hydrated" in the third week of the campaign.

All of them have a common goal: Help get people to participate.

Anyone who wants to get engaged in the challenge can upload a picture to their personal social media (Snapchat being the most popular among the participants) related to the challenge of the week, using the #HealthyLifestyleChallenge plus the one of the weekly challenges.

"It has had a really good reception among the students," Mora-Granados said. "There was a clear need of a more regular activity like this in campus recreation social media, and the good thing is that we have taken advantage of the current power of social media in order to promote the campaign."

By doing this, the participants are eligible to win prizes, such as glasses, key chains, flip-flops or even \$10 discount at Folletts bookstore.

All these prizes must be collected physically at the P.E. Complex, which is another way to promote it.

Depending on the success of the campaign, Mora-Granados said there may be more promotions in the future.

"At the moment we are focusing on finishing these eight weeks of campaign, planning each weekly challenge by taking into account the feedback that we receive from participants and students," Mora-Granados said. "We have not yet considered the possibility of releasing a new campaign, or make this one last longer."

"However, given the good welcome that students have made to this challenge it is highly probable that if we get engaged in another promoting campaign we will use the same promotion methods that we have used for "Healthy Lifestyle Challenge".

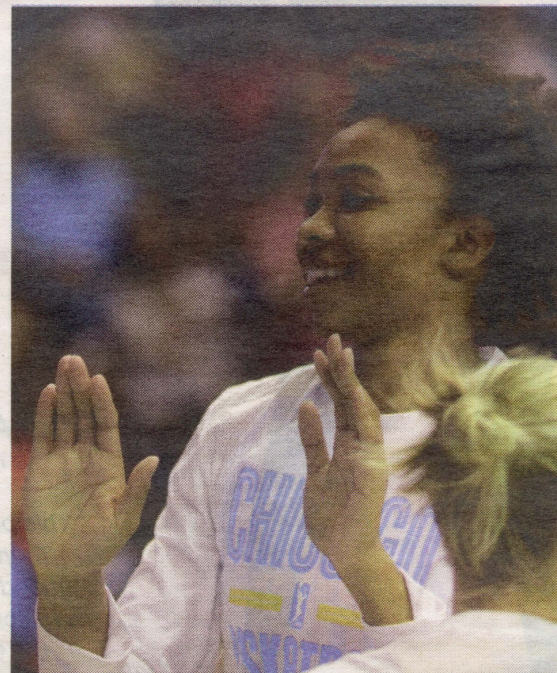
So far, many students have decided to start a healthier lifestyle due to the challenges effect, and they now know that they can easily get to the P.E. Complex and start moving while they learn healthy lifestyle tips following the "Challenge's" social media.

Each day, the "Challenge" is getting more and more popular among NEIU students. What will next week's challenges be?

Be aware of social media, stay tuned!



2016 LEADERS



Della Donne-less Sky eliminated from playoffs

The Chicago Sky lost to the Los Angeles Sparks 95-75 in game four of the WNBA semifinals Oct. 4 and were eliminated in the best-of-five semifinal round. The Sky (18-16) finished the season second in the Eastern Conference. (Top Right) Reigning MVP Elena Delle Donne, who finished the season tied for first in scoring (21.5 points per game), missed the second round with a thumb injury. (Bottom right) Without Delle Donne, guard Courtney Vandersloot led the way in the playoffs averaging 13.2 points and 6.2 assists. (Bottom center) Imani Boyette led all rookies

in field goal percentage during the regular season (55.4) and finished second in rebounds per game (5.6). She was also named to the all-rookie team. (Bottom left) The Sky huddle before the game against the Minnesota Lynx, May 18. (Top left) Cappie Pondexter stands during the national anthem, Aug. 26, before the Sky beat the Atlanta Dream. Pondexter, a 10 year veteran, surpassed Hall of Famer Lisa Leslie for fifth all time in scoring with 6,312 career points. | Spencer Jones and Brett Starkopf

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