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Independent- Apr. 15, 1997

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The Independent

Volume 13, issue 7

Tuesday, April 15, 1997

Chicago, Illinois

Ya just gotta have faith;

Religious leaders meet at Northeastern during Asian-American Heritage week

By THOMAS J. FOLEY
ASSOCIATE EDITOR

The Asian-American Coalition for Interfaith Harmony in a Global Society met at Northeastern to discuss the role of religion in society in general. In what may be indicative of the problems facing religion in today's society, the panel members, consisting of ten panelists from different religions, outnumbered the attendees at the beginning of the discussion ten to eight.

The talk began with each panel member speaking for about eight minutes apiece concerning some of the details of their particular religion and the message they deliver. After this, questions were entertained from the audience, such as it was.

Representing Hinduism was Sandhya D. Rao, Vice-President of the Council for a Parliament of the World's Religions, who described Hinduism as "the world's oldest living religion." People of Hindu faith believe primarily that each soul is potentially divine and that the object of life is to manifest the divine in each of us by exerting control over environment and society.

Representing Islam was Hamid Hai, President of the Islamic Host Group. "Islam," he said, "has three basic tenets: God is one; we will all individually stand in judgment before Him; and that He sent 124,000 prophets to all countries and areas of the world." He also stated that all religions are closer to one another than they realize, comparing their place in the world

to a mountain, where all come together at the top.

Rabbi Herman Schaalman, Emeritus of the Emanuel Congregation, briefly explained Judaism to the audience, telling about how Jewish people view

"One cannot be God-fearing and immoral at the same time."

-Rabbi Herman Schaalman
Emeritus of the
Emanuel Congregation

morality as the central point of religion. "One cannot be God-fearing and immoral at the same time," he said.

Balwant Singh, President of the Sikh Religious Society, spoke about

many of the reasons for the turmoil in which humanity seems mired. Lust, anger, greed and attachment are the main problems, but ego is the root of all of them, he claimed.

Harold Vogelaar, a professor at the Lutheran School of Theology, spoke primarily of Protestant contributions to modern day religious society, in particular the Reformation of sixteenth century Europe.

NEIU associate professor Saba Ayman-Nolley spoke on behalf of the Baha'i faith, reiterating the words of Baha'is founder. "If religion is causing enmity, abolition of it is preferable to its promulgation."

Sister Joan Monica McGuire, the Director of Ecumenical Affairs for the Roman Catholic Archdiocese of Chicago, recognized many of the

inflexibilities promoted by the Catholic faith, but also cited the Church's progressive stance in the last 30 years.

Ron Kid, a Dharma Teacher at the Kwan Um School of Zen, spoke for Buddhists, saying in essence that Buddhism is a "combining religion," citing the Korean Buddhist deity of Bodasathvia-Jesu, a combination of Buddha and Christ.

Father Demetri Kantzevelos of the Greek Orthodox Diocese of Chicago stated that differences are as important as similarities and that differences need not be the source of conflict, but of celebration.

NEIU professor Shu-Shin Wang spoke of Chinese Confucianism briefly, telling how Confucianism straddles the middle ground between religion and philosophy.

Clothesline Project puts spotlight on domestic violence

By LAURA HADLEY
STAFF WRITER

If you walk through Village Square on April 16th and 17th an array of shirts on a clothesline, you did not accidentally step into your neighbor's back yard. You will have stepped into the midst of The Clothesline Project, a display of T-shirts with the power to help heal the victims of violence and educate the public about the facts of violence.

In conjunction with the presentation of the shirts, an audio tape plays three sounds at spaced intervals. A whistle blows to remind viewers that approximately every 10 seconds a woman is battered, a gong sounds to indicate that more than 1 woman every 1 minute is raped in the U.S. and a bell tolls for the 4 women a day who are murdered by the partners who say they love them.

The Clothesline Project is making its appearance during Violence Awareness Month at Northeastern. It is the final presentation in a group of lectures and videos presented by Women's Services in an effort to help spread the word on violence of all types in America. Although domestic violence is the main focus of the Clothesline Project, the lectures of the week cover child abuse, violence based on sexual orientation and race and ways to protect yourself from being a victim.

Violence Awareness Month has arrived at an opportune time for Kate, a Northeastern student who found herself in a rough situation with her now ex-boyfriend Joe.*

For more than 2 years, Kate made the mistake of allowing Joe to gain control of her life, both with words and with the actions he used against

her. It began innocently enough with his wanting to spend a lot of time with her, on the premise that he wanted to get to know everything about her. He began to refuse to let her go anywhere by herself or with her friends because Joe felt that her desire to spend time with her friends showed that she really didn't care about him at all.

It wasn't until a year into the relationship that Joe hit Kate for the first time. It happened after a long night out on the town. They got back to his apartment at about 5:30 in the morning and Kate was eager to get some rest because she had to work that night. Joe had other plans that would keep her awake until it was time for her to leave. An argument ensued and when she tried to leave, he grabbed her and threw her to the floor.

Kate was able to get up and get away, but when she started work that night, she was surprised that

"It began innocently enough with his wanting to spend a lot of time with her..."

there was a visitor to see her. It was Joe, tired and drunk, wanting to talk and make up after the incident from the morning. Kate refused, turned and walked into the stockroom. When she turned again, Joe was right behind her and before she had a chance to do anything about it, he jumped at her and pushed her to the ground, all the while punching her in the face.

She filed a report with the police but didn't follow it up, telling her friends that he was just under a lot

DOMESTIC VIOLENCE

A woman is beaten every 15 seconds
2 in 3 female victims were related to or knew their attacker
Nearly 80% of women who are raped are raped by men they know
6 out of 10 women who are raped are under 18
3 out of 10 are under the age of 11

It is estimated that 25% of workplace problems such as absenteeism, lower productivity, turnover and excessive use of medical benefits are due to family violence. Medical expenses from domestic violence total at least \$3 to \$5 billion per year.

As of 1990, there were 3800 animal shelters in the United States and only 1500 shelters for battered women.

Domestic violence against women is not only damaging for the individual but also has a direct link to fetal death and homelessness of women and children. The March of Dimes names battery as the number one reason for birth defects, and it is estimated that half of all adult clients staying in American shelters that serve families with children have been involved in domestic violence.

of stress at work and that she was being unreasonable that morning. They got back together a couple of weeks later.

That wasn't the only time he hit her, though. Once he woke her up in the middle of the night and when she got mad at him he backhanded her in the face and gave her a bloody nose. He punched her in a grocery store parking lot once after accusing her of trying to hit him in the face with a freezer door. Twice she rode home in a police car after they noticed Joe following her down the street trying to apologize for hitting her. Once, she went as far as getting an order of protection when he tried to force his way into her apartment, but after a week she called him and

they decided to give it one more chance.

Kate did stick with that 'last chance' warning a month ago. One morning, after Joe had spent the night, he was being very rude to her, calling her names and telling her she was worthless. Though she asked him to leave, he refused and rolled over to go back to sleep. She again insisted that he get up and leave, but this time, he rolled over, put his arms around her and started to pinch her. When she tried to get away, he punched her repeatedly in the back and then bit her.

With the help of her roommate, Kate was able to get Joe to leave and when he called her from home, she told him, in no uncertain terms,

that the relationship was over, she didn't want to be hurt again and refused to give him anymore chances. To this day, she hasn't looked back and still refuses to talk to him.

Kate is one of the lucky women who was able to escape the pain and fear of an abusive relationship. She is also fortunate to have left the relationship and survived the ordeal. According to the National Coalition Against Domestic Violence, women who leave their abuser are 75% more likely to be killed than those who stay. That is because by leaving the relationship, they have broken, or have attempted to break, the control that the batterer has injected into the relationship.

The reason Violence Awareness Month has been such a blessing to Kate is because it has helped her to realize that she has not been the only one to suffer at the hands of another person.

There are many helpful resources accessible to you if caught in an abusive situation. If you are in immediate danger, the best number to call is still 911. At Northeastern, the Women's Services office at x3567 can refer you to an agency that can help with your situation, as can the Counseling Office at x6269. *Names have been changed for privacy.

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Campus Events

Special Event

Tuesday, April 15
1:30-3pm
Academic Development
Science Forums
Alumni Hall
1:30-3pm
Minority Mentorship Reception
Golden Eagles
1:30-9pm
Annual Environmental Activities

SCI102, CC216-217, Auditorium, Alumni Hall

Wednesday, April 16

8am-9:45pm
Clothesline
Village Square
6-9:45pm

EIDUL-ADHA

Heritage Room

Thursday, April 17

8am-6pm
Clothesline
Village Square

Friday, April 18

12N-2pm
CTC/ Ray Holloway
Raised South
7:30-9:30

Monday, April 21

10am-5pm
NPB Coffee House
Village Square

Monday, April 21

1-2:30pm
NDCI-Luncheon Awards
CC217

Tuesday, April 22

9am-7pm
Central Valley Studios/Com-
mencement Photos
Village Square

Wednesday, April 23

9am-7pm
Central Valley Studios/ Com-
mencement Photos
Village Square

Wednesday, April 23

12N-7pm
Salute to the Graduates Day
Village Square
6-8pm

Thursday, April 24

Graduate College Open House
Golden Eagles

Thursday, April 24

9am-7pm
Central Valley Studios/ Com-
mencement Photos
Village Square
4-6pm

Friday, April 25

Chemistry Awards Ceremony
CC218
7-9:30pm

Friday, April 25

Phi Alpha Theta/ History
Honors
Heritage Room

Tuesday, April 29

1:30-3pm
Irv Glicken Reception
Golden Eagles

6-8pm
Graduate College Open House
Golden Eagles
Thursday, May 1
4:30-7pm
Fourth Mentors' Reception
Village Square
6-7:30pm
UWW New Student Orientation
CC214

Meeting/Exam

Wednesday, April 16

9am-12N
Chicago H.E.L.P Coord.
Meeting
CC216

Thursday, April 17

10:30am-6pm
Deans of Graduate Colleges
Golden Eagles

Thursday, April 17

10am-2pm
Community Learning Project
Meeting
Golden Eagles

Monday, April 21

12N-9:45pm
Placement Test
Alumni Hall

Thursday, April 24

1:30-3pm
SUAA Meeting
Heritage Room

Friday, April 25

3:30-5:30pm
1st Year Bilingual CPS Teachers
CC219

Friday, April 25

1-4pm
Placement Test
Alumni Hall

Tuesday, April 29

12N-4pm
ACT Residual Examination
CC217

Workshop/ Lecture

Wednesday, April 16

1-3pm
SUAA Investment Workshop
Heritage Room

Thursday, April 17

10am-1pm
Multi-Cultural Craft Fair
CC217

Wednesday, April 30

1:30-3pm
Career Options Speaker
CC218

Wednesday, April 30

7:30-9pm
Student Workshop Lectures
CC217

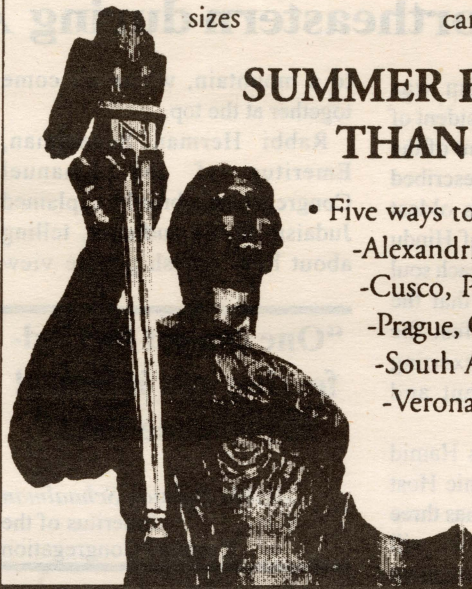
Bake Sale

Friday, April 18

10am-2pm
Future Teachers Club Bake Sale
Village Square

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Attention Seniors

Are you graduating in May?
Would you like to join your class in making a difference?
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- Scholarships for part-time students
- Funding for student presentations at scholarly conferences
- Funding for a prestigious speaker or to co-sponsor an annual lecture
- Support for student short-term International Study
- Exterior landscaping/Outside enhancement to the campus

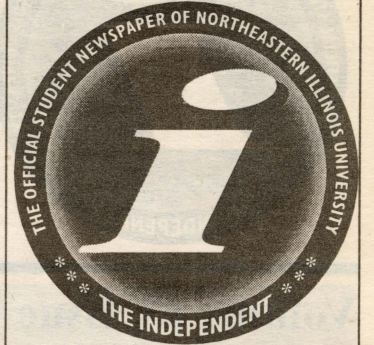
*You can pledge at the Graduate Salute. The first payment will not be due until a year after your graduation ceremony.

This ballot can be dropped off at the Commuter Center Desk, or you can call Lisa Cooper @ X6568. Watch *The Independent* for the results.

Spring 1997 Final Exam Schedule

Examination Periods	Monday April 28, 1997 Class Time During the Term	Tuesday April 29, 1997 Class Time During the Term	Wednesday April 30, 1997 Class Time During the Term
8:00 - 9:50 a.m.	9:00 - 9:50 a.m. MWF	8:00 - 9:15 a.m. TR	8:00 - 8:50 a.m. MWF
10:00 - 11:50 a.m.	11:00 - 11:50 a.m. MWF	9:25 - 10:40 a.m. TR	10:00 - 10:50 a.m. MWF
12:00 - 1:50 p.m.	1:00 - 1:50 p.m. MWF	10:50 - 12:05 p.m. TR	12:00 - 12:50 p.m. MWF
2:00 - 3:50 p.m.	3:00 - 3:50 p.m. MTR 2:50 - 4:05 p.m. TR	12:15 - 1:30 p.m. TR	2:00 - 2:50 p.m. MWF 2:00 - 3:15 p.m. MW
4:00 - 5:50 p.m.	4:15 - 5:30 p.m. MW 4:15 - 6:55 p.m. M	4:15 - 5:30 p.m. TR 4:15 - 6:55 p.m. T	4:15 - 6:55 p.m. R
6:00 - 7:50 p.m.	5:40 - 6:55 p.m. MW 4:15 - 6:55 p.m. W	5:40 - 6:55 p.m. TR	7:05 - 8:20 p.m. MW 7:05 - 9:45 p.m. W
8:00 - 9:50 p.m.	7:05 - 9:45 p.m. M 8:30 - 9:45 p.m. MW	8:30 - 9:45 p.m. TR 7:05 - 9:45 p.m. T	7:05 - 8:20 p.m. TR 7:05 - 9:45 p.m. R

Final examinations for Saturday classes: Saturday, April 26, 1997 at the same time and place as class meetings during the term. If a student identifies a schedule conflict affecting a formal examination, s/he should contact the professor within two weeks of the beginning of class to make alternative arrangements for taking the examination. Reasonable accommodations will be made if (a) the conflict arises because of a religious belief, or (b) the conflict is created by the examination pattern.



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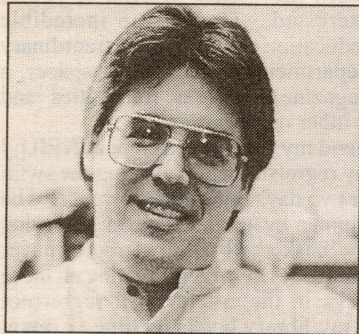
Quick Shots

by Kristin Mesikapp



We remember how lost we felt our first year. Imagine if you were a professor who could not hide your face in a crowd. Let's see how our first year professors dealt with the pressures.

How did you like your first year at Northeastern?



"It's been fun. It's been busy. It's been challenging. I'm working three times as hard as I ever have, but I'm having fun."

— John Kasmer, Biology professor

"I think that Northeastern is an exciting place to be. There are lots of programs for people to be involved in. Certainly everybody is very nice."

— David W. Rudner, Anthropology professor

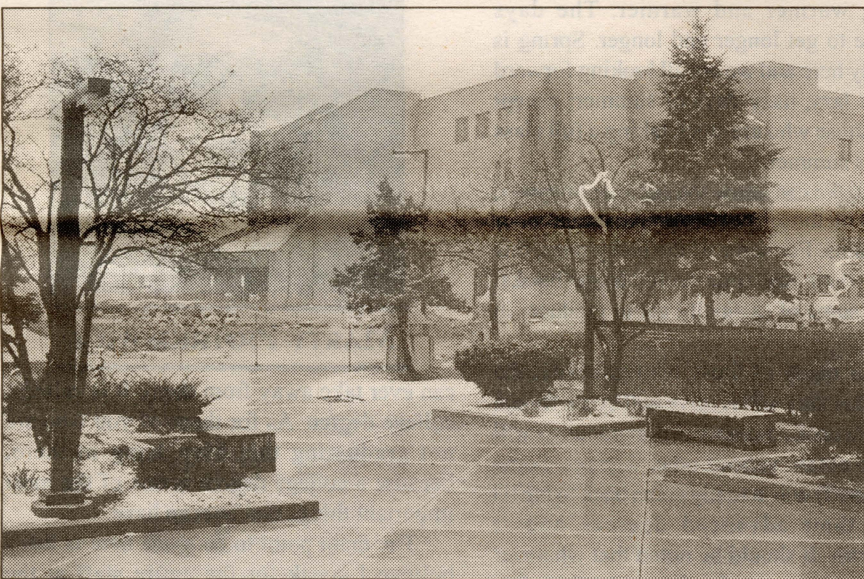
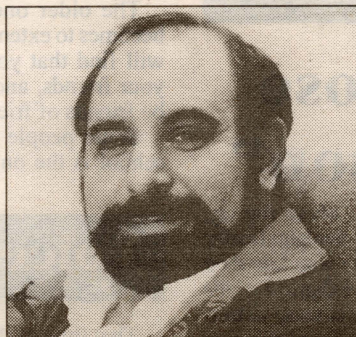


Photo by Thomas J. Foley

April (snow) showers bring May flowers?

Despite the freezing temperatures all week long, Friday's weather was particularly nasty, as freezing rain and snow blanketed Northeastern's campus and the entire Chicagoland area.

Mike's briefs



by Michael F. Buino
Editor-in-Chief

A memo from the President's office announced that the North Central Association team has recommended that the university be **reaccredited** for ten more years, the maximum reaccreditation period.

I wonder if the concerns the students voiced at the meeting will have fallen on deaf ears. I guess we will have to wait and see during the next ten years.

Looking for things to do on a limited budget can sometimes seem an impossible task. Here are a few ideas for entertaining things to do, even if you are strapped for cash.

The **Stage Center Theatre** opens their new production of **Boys' Life**. A play about sex, drugs, relationships, and male insecurities and narcissism. A modern comedy with themes that many of our generation can identify with.

The show will open Wednesday, April 17 and run for four consecutive days. The shows begin at 7:30 p.m. Get there early if you want a good seat. The cost for this entertainment is **free** if you are a Northeastern student, faculty, or staff member. Bring along a friend.

General admission is only \$8.00, seniors and other students only have to cough up \$6.00. This show does contain adult themes and language and it may not be suitable for younger audiences, so keep the kids at home for this one.

Help out a good cause and get a little exercise too, at the 5th annual **ChildServ Walk-a-Thon**. ChildServ, a child well-being agency, will hold its **Take a Step for Kids** walk on Saturday May 10. The walk will begin at 10:00 a.m. at Montrose Harbor. Registration starts at 9:00 a.m. Drag yourselves out of bed and stretch those legs for a good cause. For more information call Annmarie Malave at (773) 693-0300.

If you haven't been to the Chicago Historical Society lately drop by there at the end of the month and check out their new exhibition, **Altered States: Alcohol and other drugs in America**.

The new exhibit that opens on Saturday, April 26 contains photographs, film clips, posters, and lots of drug-related artifacts, including an 1850 hypodermic syringe with gold (rustproof) needles. Check it out. Suggested admission price for adults is \$3. Students 22 and younger only have to fork over a measly two bucks.

Here are some dates and times for lectures and presentations on and around campus. Northeastern's radio show, **Vantage Point**, hosted by **Speech and Performing Arts Chair, David Unumb**, airs Sundays at 6:30 a.m. on WTMX-FM (101.9). This should sober you up if you're coming in after a long Saturday night.

April 20: *A Shoulder to Cry On* - **Carol Rosene**, Executive Director, Founder, Bobbi Burrow Bereavement Center.

April 27: *Promoting the Arts* - **Joanne Scheff**, Adjunct Associate Professor, Consultant of Arts Management and Marketing, J.L. Kellogg School of Management, Northwestern University.

The annual **Student Awards Ceremony** will be held on Thursday, April 17, 1997 in the University Auditorium at 7:30 p.m. The presentation is held to honor students who have distinguished themselves during this academic year. A reception will be held afterward. Come to the event and show your support for these hard-working students.

Tuesday Talks continues its series of lectures and discussions on Teaching and Learning in the Global Village with a lecture by Management and Marketing Professor **Hamid Akbari**. He will be discussing **Human Rights in International Business Education**. The lecture will be held today, April 15, at 2:00 p.m. in the Heritage Room.

That's it for this issue. Good luck during finals and watch for the summer issues of the *Independent*.

Our next issue will be May 20. All submissions are due one week prior

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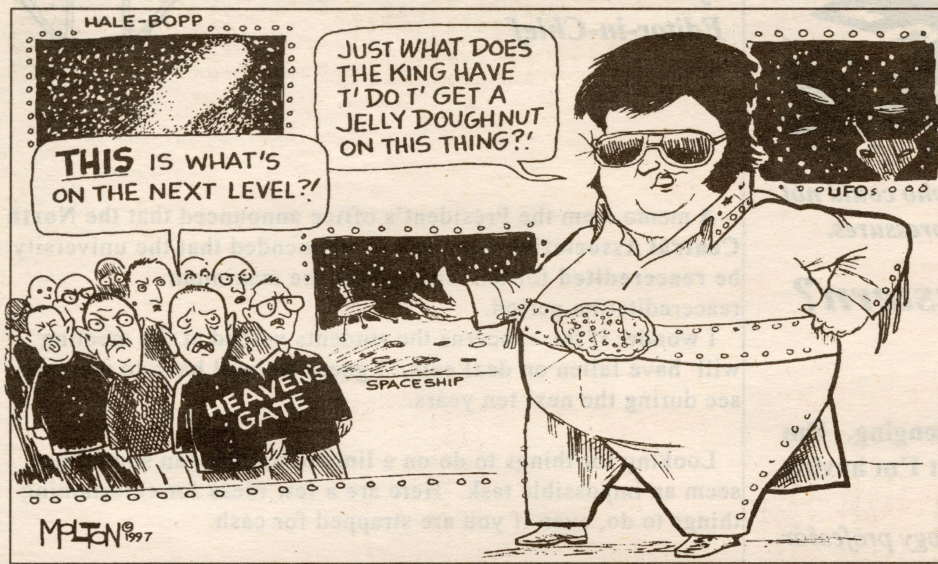
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Another Perspective



Letters to the Editor

“An urgent appeal to those of us who believe in reason”

I am writing this in response to the *Voice of the Campus* article written by Marty Piotrkiewicz in the April 1st edition of *The Independent*. In his column entitled “An Urgent Appeal to Those Who Believe in Freedom,” he wanted to let us know that the Illinois Legislature is considering a bill that will lower the blood alcohol level from .10 to .08 to determine the legal level for drinking and driving. He reason that anyone who “believes in freedom” will oppose this law. I believe in freedom, Marty, and I support this law. You say the current level of .10 blood level, that is 10% of your blood level is alcohol, is “good and just.” I disagree. The purpose of the law is to prevent the death and injury of people due to drunk driving, not to “take away your right to have some fun and enjoy yourself” as you stated. And the reason the legislature is considering lowering this limit is because there are still so many people losing their lives over somebody out to have some fun, getting high, and driving a car. That’s why I don’t think the current law is good. It needs to be more effective. If there weren’t so many traffic accidents due to drinking and driving, we wouldn’t need tougher laws. And, personally, I don’t think lowering the level from .10 to .08 is “much more strict.”

As far as your concern that this law will “only cause more delays in an already backed up court system, and that the costs of enforcement might lead to higher taxes,” I would like to offer this perspective; alcohol related traffic fatalities and injuries has lead to us paying enormous amounts in medical bills, health insurance, and car insurance. And hospital rooms throughout the state are filled with backups and delays due to all the people brought in involved in car crashes.

You know what line in your column really got to me, Marty? The one that made me sit down to

write this response? It’s the line where you say, “Let’s not forget the victims.” I thought, finally, some consideration of the people who lose their lives, their health, some acknowledgment of the complete devastation the families of these victims go through. But those were not the people you meant. You actually think the drunk drivers who have to face the legal consequences of their actions are the victims! You tell us these “victims” who drink and drive “might have their careers ruined and would be hit with various fines, lose their right to drive, face jail time and various other negative consequences.”

I will tell you from personal experience that those are **NOTHING** next to the consequences suffered by those of us on the receiving end of the damage caused by a drunk driver. Tell me, Marty, have you gotten a call telling you your favorite brother, or anyone you just loved with all your heart is dead because of a drunk driver? Have you had to identify a body after it’s been crushed by a car? Have you tried to live with knowledge that a magnificent person that you knew died just because somebody was, in your words, “out to have some fun” by drinking and then driving a car ... in other words for no good reason? Don’t you think those negative consequences are worth considering, too? You also tell us “the biggest reason to oppose this law is that “it would be another infringement on our right to enjoy the basic things in life.” Did you actually mean what you said, that the enjoyment of drinking and driving is one of the basic things in life?

Freedom does not mean we have the right to do anything we want without regard for the rights of others. Marty, I believe you have the right to drink all you want. I believe I have the right to be protected from being on the road with you behind the wheel. This is my urgent appeal to those of us who believe in reason.

ANN CENSOTTI

It is *your* opinion, not fact

This is in response to a letter written by Lynne and printed in the April 1, 1997 issue of *The Independent*. My first reaction was to dismiss the letter as an April’s Fool’s joke, however I came to the sad conclusion that diatribes such as hers are legion and are disseminated throughout the year by many who would impose their personal view of morality upon all. Although her letter brings out many issues which could be addressed, I will limit this response to that of the basic American premise of religious liberty. Lynne states “This homosexual behavior is abnormal and immoral according to the Bible.” A more accurate statement would have been: “This homosexual behavior is abnormal and immoral according to *my* understanding of the Bible.”

Lynne may be surprised to know that many reputable and highly respected Biblical scholars and theologians have come to the conclusion that the Bible neither addresses nor condemns a homosexual orientation. Lynne’s letter erroneously states her opinion of the Bible as established fact rather than acknowledging it as being her own personal understanding and reading of the Bible. Lynne goes on to authoritatively state “the behavior is still wrong!” She does not preface her statement with “*in my opinion* the behavior is still wrong!”

Lynne then concludes her letter by stating that public funds should not be used to support that which she personally believes is immoral. Lynne

should realize that she lives in America, not in a repressive regime whose public policies are dictated by some group’s religious conviction. For example, in Afghanistan the Taliban join with Lynne in being concerned about the public morality. They will not countenance anything they deem would lead to immorality. To that end, their women are forced to wear heavy, “full body” garments in public lest their female form pose a temptation to the wandering eyes of lustful men. Those caught walking in public without their bodies being totally covered are publicly beaten.

The Taliban are serious about upholding morality and letting the world know that “alternative lifestyles” will not be tolerated. Righteousness and purity will reign in their country! Like Lynne, the Taliban do not preface their pronouncements with “in our opinion.” They simply state their beliefs as fact. They have no question that they are right and anyone who disagrees with them is guilty of condoning immorality. Unlike Lynne, they have the power and authority to impose their personal convictions on all by making them a matter of law and public policy. Lynne should be thankful that she, and people like herself, live in a country where they are not allowed to impose their personal views upon others as a matter of law. By living in America, the freedom they grant to others (whether they are inclined to or not) assures their own freedom.

RONALD L. PEYTON

A final look back

As I count down my final weeks at Northeastern, I find it essential to reflect on what it is that has been happening to me for the last four (okay, five...) years here. I started here as a Political Science major in an effort to be Boutros Boutros Gali, then I switched to Criminal Justice in an effort to be a criminal. Then, I met this guy that I thought was cool and switched to Theatre. He turned out to be not so cool, but I had successfully found my major.

After finding my major I embarked on one of the coolest experiences ever. I met some of the most talented actors, actresses and professors, been to the most bizarre cast parties to ever happen, gained confidence, experience and formed the most incredible friendships ever. That is probably the most difficult thing to do at a commuter school.

How can you form lasting and meaningful relationships with someone you only see in class two or three days a week? That is why it is necessary to become involved in any and all extra curricular activities. I know it seems virtually impossible considering that almost everyone here goes to school and works full time. Speaking for myself, it can be done and it is worth it.

The older one gets the more difficult it becomes to extend one’s circle of friends. You will find that your co-workers will become your friends, and anyone else you meet will be friends of friends.

Some people believe that going away to school is the only way to really experience

“college life.” I disagree. My experience at Northeastern has been long, hard and fulfilling. This school, its professors and its student are not given nearly enough credit. I have gone to school full-time, worked full-time, been an active member of our theatre department and student newspaper and still found the time to party with the best of them away at school. The only difference for me is that I don’t have to share my room and I don’t have to clean up after a messy room mate or listen to their crappy music. When I have had enough of my friends, I get to go home.

If you feel that your college experience hasn’t been enough, it’s your own fault. Northeastern has plenty to offer if you’re really interested. There is an incredible physical education complex, an extraordinary theatre department, a student newspaper, a poetry magazine, sororities, fraternities and countless other organizations.

As I spend my final weeks here at NEIU, I ponder my regrets. I regret quitting the swim team after two days my freshman year (I’d be so much thinner by now). I regret never trying out for the basketball team. I regret never taking a chorus lesson. I regret eating all those bread sticks in the cafeteria. I regret not returning my library books on time. I regret not buying a parking permit for three years. That’s all. This is a good, affordable school and if you could not or did not go away to school, you should really count your blessings that you’re here.

KATHLEEN T. SHIEL

Voice of the Campus

That time of the year is upon us again. It is getting warmer and warmer. The days continue to get longer and longer. Spring is officially here and we are all looking forward to those lazy, hazy days of summer; except maybe those who are stuck taking a full class load this summer.

Before we can enjoy the summer however, we must hit those books in preparation for our final exams. For some of the lucky ones, this will be their last time to hit those books. Indeed, some of us finally get to graduate in May.

For many of those who graduate, the degree that they will receive will be a terminal one. Of course, a number of our graduates will go on to obtain various other degrees. Some (like myself) will actually come back to NEIU to get their advanced degrees and/or certificates. It should be noted that whatever our alumni choose to do after graduation, they will have earned something extremely valuable, something that will open a lot of doors for them, and something that no one



MARTY PIOTRKIEWICZ

can ever take away from them. It is called a college degree. As for those of you who are not graduating this May, hang in there, because a college degree is one of the most important things that one can have.

The main point to be made here is that I believe I speak for the entire staff at the *Independent* as well as everyone else at NEIU when I say “Congratulations!!!” to all of our graduates and the best of luck in your future endeavors.

Problems in the Computer Lab....

One of the potentially most useful rooms at this university can also be the most frustrating. The computer lab in the classroom building has problems with its administration, its equipment servicing, and with the students utilizing it. I am writing this column in the lab at this very moment and I really dislike the fact that I have to use it at all. Since I’ve been writing this column, other students have sat down next to me and really have been inconsiderate of the fact that students have to do work here.

The first two groups were both male and female couples (two computers were available to my left) where the male in each group did not even use the computer. They (the males) sit next to the females enticing them to have dates with them. The females were working on their computers but the conversation went on incessantly.

STUDENTS! This lab is for working on school assignments or other legitimate endeavors. PLEASE use common sense and do not be inconsiderate to others. Don’t hog a computer space when you are not using it. The chairs are for people to sit in, not to hold back-packs, books, or coats. Someone is trying to get a paper done and you might be holding them up.

The administration lacks common sense also. During the spring break, the computer lab in the classroom building and the library were open to students. That is until an administrator walked in and announced all the people on one side of the computer room had

to move to the other side because maintenance was going to be performed on half the computers. There was no common courtesy such as “I’m sorry but....” It was definitely handled wrong by the administrators who get their salaries because they are here to serve the students. Their salaries come from tuition, taxes, and from the grants and scholarships that bring money into the school. I came back the next day and they did the same thing.

The maintenance they performed should have been done before the lab opened or after the lab closed. No, I guess that is too logical. The third day I went to the library but alas, it was closed entirely for maintenance. There was no prior notice in any of these cases.

It is also noteworthy to inform the readers of the *Independent* that even though the labs were open, you could not make any printouts. That is, unless you were one of the employees or a friend of one of the employees. What good is a computer lab, utilized during break to catch up on some academic work, that won’t give you copies of what you did?

The administration of this school and of the computer labs should do a self assessment and realize where “bread is buttered.” Without the students, all these people would be out in the street. The lab belongs to us and when we are deprived access to it, when it is advertised to be “open” for us and it isn’t, there indeed is something wrong. Computer Lab personnel—get your act together, do your job properly!

JACK ARBUTHNOT

Secada sinks



Review by David Grzelak

Despite the assistance of hitmakers Terry Lewis and Jimmy Jam, Jon Secada can't save himself from his own success. His past hits *Just Another Day* and *Do You Believe In Us?* established his career out of the shadow of Gloria Estefan. His latest effort, *Secada*, he trips over his own musical shadow.

The majority of *Secada* is predictable as Secada's soaring vocal style appears on every single song on the album. The only slight derivation appears in the old school style *After All is Said and Done* where the disco brass and percussion solo give the album a desperately needed edge.

Sadly, the soaring, layered keyboards and mid-tempo beats provide the backdrop for a wall of snooze. *Heaven Is You, Get Me Over You*, and *Ready For You* stress nothing. The discoesque *I Live For You* and *It's Enough* are dry enough to absorb Lake Michigan. The sterile production of the gospel-like *Believe* distracts from the feel and heart of the music.

Secada himself doesn't lack effort. *Too Late, Too Soon* and *Forever (Is Long As It Last)* feature his vocal warmth and power. For artists to progress, they usually develop through change of style or personnel (producers). Apparently, Lewis and Jam listened to his past works too closely and with the first two tracks (*Too Late, Too Soon* and *Heaven Is You*) mimicked his past sound while adding slight derivations (choir of vocals). The net change is zero, and the musical and vocal dynamics of *Secada* equates to the hum of a refrigerator.

Secada, Jon Secada (EMI Records)
LYRICS: F A cliché-fest of relationship songs ("Cause I thought our love was strong" in *Too Late, Too Soon* and "Hold me tight in your arms, everything feels alright" in *Heaven Is You*)

MUSIC: D Professionally written songs are redundant in sound, redundant in form, redundant in tone, redundant in vocal structure, and redundant in redundancy.

PRODUCTION: F Clean, flawless studio album that is a complete injustice to Secada's awesome vocal abilities.

OVERALL: F

Whitney Houston, we have a riot

By DAVID GRZELAK
 ENTERTAINMENT EDITOR

A gay little boy grows up to be a big (in every sense, according to him) gay porn-star director... and his father is proud. This plot line is a subplot to take every stereotype (stage actor, runway models) of gay life and every conceivable sexual innuendo and blow them (the stereotypes) up in *Whitney Houston, We Have A Problem!* (Second City Skybox, Piper's Alley, 4th floor)

To begin the giant wink that the cast casts toward the audience, the play opens with (shock!) a show tune.

The father/son relationship initiates with the father (John Bonny) storming out of a 1st grade play, "Life on the Farm." His son Andy (Andy Eninger) upstages a female classmate and opens the barrage of sexual humor with wide-eyed innocence ("When the cocks get hungry, the farmers give it to them"). Eventually, Andy grows up and because of his physical gift ("I grew a great big penis") becomes a porn star in such flicks as *12 Angry Inches* and *Intercourse With A Vampire*, but

years for reconciliation ("I wish my father could love me for what I am").

Finding out what happens to Andy and his father is a case of deferred and immediate gratification. A Jane Austen send up, "Deep in June," where three lesbian sisters set in Austen-time vie for the favor of June (Judy Fabjance), opens the interspersing of sketches into the father/son subplot. A sketch involving an ad agency trying to create a "palatable" image of gays to the masses ("It takes more than a village, it takes village people") strikes at the selective (and archaic) perception of some toward gays.

The cast pokes fun at the gay community. In a police interrogation set up, the interrogator (Mary Beth Burns), the head of "Gay Quality Control," questions Rick (Rick Morrissey) about his knowledge of colors ("It's not pink, it's fuchsia, Rick!"), underwear, and musicals. Unfortunately for Rick, the interrogator and her "Wedge of Love" (the entire cast) brow beat him and use electroshock and attempt to "program" him into the correct answers.

Although a majority of the

sketches address gay issues, the strength of material thrives in non-orientation specific topics. Three nuns praying addresses the importance of appearance in society. Where one of the nuns thanks God for her appearance ("Thank you God, I'm perfect") while another wants to be like Jesus...physically ("I wanna be skinny like Jesus...I want my ribs to show like Jesus...I want washboard abs like Jesus").

Where the nun skit is as convulsively funny as controversial, the longer skits seem to lose some impact. When Oprah becomes victim of a kidnapping, James Bondage fights the evil of Octaklitty to rescue her. The sex jokes run a little thin as does the impact of the Grease send-up of the perils of a girl having a bisexual boyfriend.

However, these minor weaknesses cannot overwhelm the satirical bite and furious pace of the play as a whole. The number of sex-oriented jokes had to reach triple figures. One-liners spanned hit numerous targets (The Citadel, Richard Simmons and Gere). The cast of *Whitney Houston: We Have A Problem!* thrives on teaching without preaching and laughing at themselves and others. And, they know how to keep

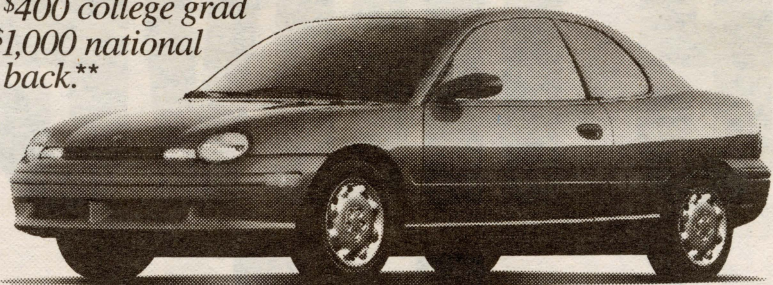


The Company of Whitney Houston: We have a Problem! the audience 'til the end when Andy and his father finally meet to reconcile...or not?

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The fashion of the business world

BY JEANNETTE ROCUANT
STAFF WRITER

For those who would dare to show for a corporate job interview sporting your favorite, all-purpose, too-small, 'been-in-my-closet-since-the-beginning-of...?-suit,' the Business and Management Club could salvage your prospective career. The club declared April Business Etiquette month and hosted an informative fashion show the April 7 in Alumni Hall. Club advisors Allen Shub and Mary O'Mally and club president Henry Cerdas lead the event in its seventh consecutive year.

It is estimated that within the first ten seconds of meeting someone that a first impression is made. It is also within these crucial seconds that a prospective employer musters a (somewhat) shabby first impression. Odds are (90% to be exact) that if they are turned off in the introduction, you are likely to remain unemployed. To help us avoid such sour lessons the hard way, the club hosted the seventh annual "Dress For Success" fashion show for students who eventually will be seeking a position in the corporate world.

Donna Panko, image consultant and president of Image Builders, Inc., was the commentator during the show. She said, "A person's posture, dress, and way of speaking can portray an immense amount about the person; surprisingly enough, what we say accounts for very little in comparison to our body language."

"In order to play the game, you need to know the rules," advises Panko. "We are always making first impressions...but we only get one chance during an interview."

The corporate world is conservative and if one ever considers entering this field, opt for polished, tailored looks and stray from the biting, trendy colors and obnoxious prints that are in fashion.

The expectations are relaxed in some corporations. In communicator positions at Ameritech, the guidelines are not as stringent; creative positions such as advertising and architecture are even more relaxed. Creative environments generally allow for more unique, less placid attires.

Panko estimates that the number of



Photo by Efrain Sanchez

Fashions for the working woman

businesses incorporating business casual dress days will increase. By the year 2000, 90% of businesses will adopt this practice.

"Employees consider it a perk, employers realize this and it costs them no extra money," explains Panko. "It makes the environment more comfortable by increasing the interaction between senior and entry level positions. This makes people more mobile, and people generally enjoy the job more."

The show consisted of sixteen female and male models (including Dr. Shub) and covered an array of attire suitable to various work situations.

If you plan on entering the dynamic world of business, the second half of the "Dress For Success" Fashion Show will continue at the Lincoln Radisson Hotel on Saturday, April 19 at 6 p.m. The fifth annual Business Etiquette Seminar and Dinner will also include business dinner etiquette.

"The purpose of the event is to dramatize the importance of social skills in the work place since nowadays many job interviews and other key business events are held at luncheons and dinners where senior management has an opportunity to observe how well individuals handle themselves in social occasions," explains Cerdas.

Peter Linden, graduate of the Culinary Institute of America of Height Park, New York will lead students through a dinner, instructing on proper business dinner etiquette.

Remember, prospective members of the corporate field: it is not so much *what* is presented, but *how* its presented.

Women's issues explored in new poetry collection

Review By Laura R. Hadley

What Wind Will Do (Miami University Press, Oxford, Ohio) is the third collection of poetry written by Northeastern professor of English Debra Bruce. It deals mainly with female issues, ranging from infertility and breast cancer to adoption and parent / child relationships.

The selection *Desire's Recovery* takes a close look at the aftermath of breast surgery. "Each touch seemed almost blasphemous for many months, even my husband's hands. We made the surgeon's words begin to fade, as stitch by stitch my skin was getting back it's silk." They are powerful words that vividly express feelings about an experience that can only happen to a woman and are best described by a woman. In just five stanza's, Ms. Bruce is able to effectively describe the fragility of a woman's image of herself.

In *The Usual Time*, we can hear the anguish of a woman's inability to become pregnant. "They see her slit the water, slipping in - her body tapered, tight. How could they know last month she timed her cycle, tried again, how many times she's tried, losing time?" There are many jokes that go around about a woman's clock ticking away and the urgency of the desire to have a child. Sometimes it's hard to envision the anguish that someone feels by living side by side with a woman who is able to have children. Through the verse, we are able to get inside the head of someone who is experiencing such pain.

"My sizzling son, who's almost six, who loves to talk and hates to sit, makes such a sudden, steep descent into silence... I look for trouble but it's just his book about the country where he was born..." Ms. Bruce has titled this selection *Kevin in Korean*, in honor of her son. It is only one of the poems in this book that spends time talking about her son and the views that others have of his Korean background. Another selection, *Sobachka*, also speaks of children and race, but in a slightly different way. It tells how children seem to accept the differences. "The preschool wall is splashed with brilliant-colored countries where each child was born, and the kids' tongues take to the tang of language as they gobble up each other's homemade latkes, spring rolls, chap chae."

The final theme covered in the book is that of parent/child relationships. *September Rondel* shows the sadness a mother must go through upon first sending her child off to school, "I watch you go. But suddenly you storm out of line, rush back to me, your breathing warm against my neck as I lift you, return with you to her to whom you now must turn in your distress." It is a scene with which many who have children of school age may be able to empathize.

Debra Bruce's book *What Wind Will Do* is filled with many other emotionally provocative scenes that help us to see clearly the things that are common to many.

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Chef Peter Linden

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Sonali sings soprano

By ERIN WALSH
STAFF WRITER



Soprano Sonali Rodriguez made a stunning impression as she took the stage for her senior recital. She stood poised while Jane Kenas played the introduction to Henry Purcell's, "Come all ye songsters." By the end of the very lengthy introduction, typical of Purcell, Rodriguez had the audience rapt. Throughout the evening, Rodriguez displayed vocal precision and clarity of tone. Her opening Purcell set had some good moments. She sang a very nice rendition of "Music for a while. She was joined by NEIU Music major Vanessa Anderson for the duet, "Sound the Trumpet."

Georg Handel's, "Oh! had I Jubal's lyre" put Rodriguez through some vocal gymnastics for which she earns a respectable nine point eight. Her shining moment, however, was "Let the bright Seraphim." The long instrumental introduction was played beautifully by Kenas and Michael McGrath on trumpet. Rodriguez sang with a pure, flute-like resonance, her voice spinning with energy and grace from beginning to end. The person sitting next to me said it was the best live performance of that song he had ever seen. I can't help but agree.

Her performance of "Vos me matasteis" by Joaquin Rodrigo was impassioned and thoughtful. It was followed by a charming piece, "De donde venis, amore?" which was performed with much character.

The audience was clearly moved by Rodriguez's rendition of "En Priere" by Gabriel Faure. The text of the song is a heartfelt prayer of faith and devotion. Rodriguez's peaceful reverence sent the message clearly.

The final selection of the evening was from the Rossini comic opera, "The Barber of Seville" Though Bugs Bunny's performance in the cartoons is a tough one to follow, Rodriguez managed. The aria, "Una voca poco fa," concerns a woman's fair warning not to cross her. Rodriguez charmed the audience with exaggerated facial expressions and vocal embellishments. It was a charming and humorous performance.

Sonali "Sunny" Rodriguez is a student of Dr. Ronald Combs. She will graduate this June.

Nothin' to Do

At the Auditorium (all shows at 7:30 p.m. unless noted.)

- Apr. 15 NEIU Chamber Ensemble, Peter Chang, director, 1:45 p.m.
- Apr. 16 New Music Concert, Nelson Mandrell and Jim Lucas, coordinators
- Apr. 18 Gala Chamber Ensemble featuring NEIU faculty Allen Anderson, Phyllis Hurt, Vincent Oddo, William Schutt, and guest artists Stephanie Meis and Gary Stucka.
- Apr. 22 NEIU Concert Band, Jonathan Martin, director
- Apr. 24 NEIU Chorus, Michael Melton, director
- Apr. 28 Richard Chapman, graduate recital, piano and saxophone

Stage Center Theatre

- Apr. 16 *Boys' Life*: "a portrait of contemporary males and the story of the sexual misadventures of three young urbanites and the women they encounter, 7:30 p.m.

Off-Campus Theatre

- Apr. 25 *The Odd Couple*: Jamie Farr ("Klinger") and William Christopher ("Father Mulcahy") {both from the 70's sitcom classic M*A*S*H} star in Neil Simon's Broadway classic, *The Hemmens* in Elgin (847) 697-3616
- thru May 5 *Nikki Giovanni: New Song for a New Day*: history and evolution of black females in the arts based on the works of black female poet Nikki Giovanni, Steppenwolf Theatre (Studio Theatre) (312) 335-1650
- thru Aug. 24 *Crack-Baby's Revenge; or, Mobius Dick*: another twisted tale from the creator of *Cannibal Cheerleaders on Crack*, Torso Theatre (773) 549-3330
- open run *I'm Not Rappaport...I'm Captain Asshole*: comedy about a bumbling superhero, Annoyance Theatre (773) 929-6200

Art

- thru Jun. 6 *Out of the Shadow of Ivan Albright: Twelve Contemporary Chicago Artists*, Illinois Art Gallery (312) 814-5322

Comedy

- May 3 Anthony Clark (from TV sitcom *Boston Commons*), Vic Theatre

Events

- Apr. 19 *Chaos: Radical Science Stuff*: hands-on exhibit that "explores the scientific theory that helps explain complex and unpredictable phenomena in our world," The Nature Museum (773) 871-2668

Concerts

- Apr. 19 Nubile Thangs, Double Door
- Apr. 22 Fountains of Wayne, Metro
- Apr. 24 Paula Cole, Park West
- Apr. 26 Deep Rave '97 featuring Chemical Brothers and Orb, Aragon
- Apr. 29 They Might Be Giants, Metro
- May 9 Better Than Ezra, Metro
- May 12 Crosby, Stills, and Nash, Star Plaza
- May 15 Luscious Jackson, Metro
- May 15 Max Roach, Pick-Staiger Concert Hall
- May 17 Dinosaur, Jr., Riviera
- May 28 Gwar, The Vic

Dare To Rock The Boat

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Debra Bruce performs readings from new collection of works

BY KATHLEEN T. SHIEL
STAFF WRITER

On Wednesday April 2nd, English professor and published poet Debra Bruce read from her new book *What Wind Will Do* in the Heritage room before friends, family, colleagues and students past and present. Debra Bruce teaches poetry to students at all levels. She offers introductory courses which teach the "basics" of poetry and offers much more advanced courses for students interested in writing poetry. Debra Bruce is extraordinary compared to most professors because she possesses a quality that is very rare; she is not

only an excellent teacher of poetry, she is also a beautiful and creative writer and reader of it.

Debra Bruce's poetry reading was accompanied by poet and friend Harvey Overton. Overton has often attended and contributed to Bruce's lectures for many semesters and was reading from his book in the Heritage Room as well. Bruce's father, husband and son attended the reading as she paid tribute to all of them individually in her poetry. Her poetry tells the story of her life: how she loves, the way she sees the world, the people in the world and how it affects her. Her poetry can be amusing or heartbreaking, but is always consistent in its intensity.

Bruce has the ability to control the emotions of listeners and

involve them in the moment her poetry is presenting. Students from her poetry classes care about what she has to say and are moved by how she says it. She is highly praised by her colleagues and the event was highly publicized throughout the English department and in all of the English classes.

In addition to reading from her new book, she read some poetry from her earlier collection "Sudden Hunger."

These books are available at Beck's and Borders Books and Music at 1629 Orrington, in Evanston, where she will be doing another reading with Paulette Roeske on Friday, April 25 at 8:00 p.m.



Debra Bruce reads her works.

Photo by Efrain Sanchez

Dave's RANT

By David Grzelak
"Ellen's Business"

Ellen is gay. Yay. Ellen's character is gay. Yay. Unfortunately, GM, Chrysler and Johnson and Johnson are not taking such a laissez-faire stance. Actually, if they were taking a stance, they'd be sponsoring the episode which airs April 30 on ABC.

But, we all know that gay people don't buy cars. That must be why GM and Chrysler pulled out (no pun intended). But wait! I have solid evidence that gay people buy cars. In the fall/winter 1997 edition of *The Lesbian and Gay Pink Pages*, there are ads for Honda. And Toyota. And Nissan. And Subaru. And Audi. And Ford! And look, here's "Chicago's Gay and Lesbian Newsweekly," *The Windy City Times*. In the April 10th issue, there are ads for Nissan. And Saab. And Volkswagen. And Subaru. And Ford!

Alright, so these local ads by local dealerships are a drop in the bucket compared to what these 3 companies lay out for precious seconds of prime time. What major companies would dare stake their reputation on sponsoring anything related to the gay lifestyle? How about Budweiser. And Citibank. Both are lead sponsors of *Lesbigay Radio Chicago (AM-750 during morning drive)*, an information, music, and political show for "gays, lesbians, bi-sexuals and their friends." Both have been sponsors since the inception of the show over a year ago.

It looks like major companies can survive despite supporting such a lifestyle. What can be the real reason? It may be as simple as black and white. There is a reason that black and white televisions aren't prevalent. Technology has advanced. There is a reason black and white television shows are on nostalgia networks. Society has advanced.

Or has it? The days of a husband and wife and 2.3 children have been over for years. There are single parent families, mixed race families, and gay parent(s) families. This is a fact. Divorce rates for heterosexual couples run at or about 50% and have for quite awhile. Divorce rates for gays and lesbians who wish to legally bind a committed relationship is 0%, because they can't get married! This is a sad fact. The issue is that the world is no longer black and white. It is Black and White and Spanish and Asian and Gay and Handicapped and everything else that makes such diversity beautiful.

To paraphrase a spokesman for one of the companies, the "gay" issue is a highly-polarized one. Highly polarized? What about abortion? What if Ross on *Friends* impregnated Phoebe and she decided to get an abortion? Based on the "highly polarized" criteria, they would have to pull the ad. What about Lite Beer? What if Jake from *Melrose Place* chose "tastes great" and Matt "less filling?" This "highly polarized" debate has raged on for decades.

Of course, the last example was silly, as is the stance taken by these three companies. Twenty years from now, we'll all giggle at them like we now giggle at sponsors of the past who have pulled the same stunt for similar "reasons." Unfortunately for GM, Chrysler, and Johnson & Johnson, they can't see the gold at the end of the rainbow.

Final Exam Question The Collect Call

What's the only number to use for all your collect calls that could instantly win you cool stuff (like classy Ray-Ban® sunglasses and Oxygen® in-line skates) every hour, every day?



- a) nope
- b) nope
- c) nope
- d) 1 800 CALL ATT
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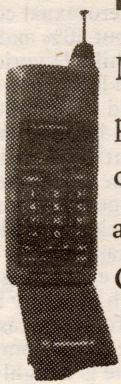
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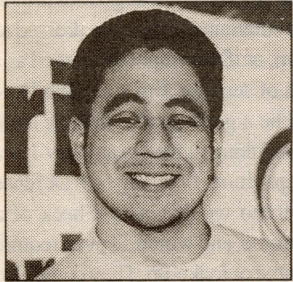
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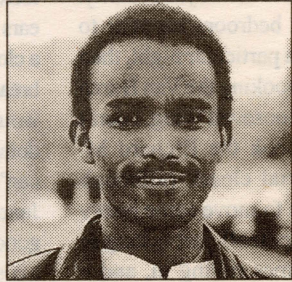
Quick Shots



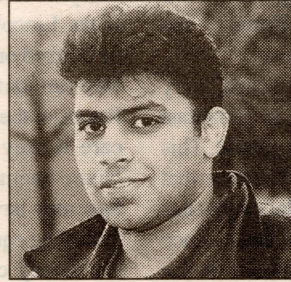
How do you alleviate stress during finals?



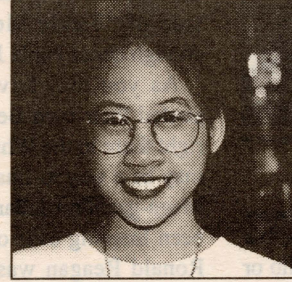
I always make sure to take time out for myself — whether it's going to the movies, or just going to the park, or taking a few minutes to meditate on my own.
—Erick Sosa
Speech Communications



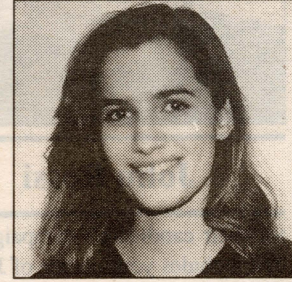
I play basketball. Since it is my favorite sport, it always relaxes me.
—Solomon Woldegiorgis
Business



I exercise — weight lifting and martial arts... and I take long hot baths.
—Khurram Nawab
Computer Science



I relax on my bed and listen to music.
—Alisa Tiemchaiyapul,
undeclared



To relieve stress during finals, I go shopping.
—Linda Adhami
Elementary Education

The little things...



LAURA R. HADLEY

Normally, I'm a pessimistic person and I find it difficult to focus on anything beyond the crisis of the day. It aggravates the hell out of my friends on days when I refuse to acknowledge the good things that are going on around me. But there's something about the spring air that truly makes me feel good. When the weather warms, I find myself thinking about the future and all the possibilities that life holds.

Spring is that time of year when I find myself with a positive attitude about everything. I can picture myself as the best selling author I've always wanted to be, and I can almost feel my hair blow in the wind as I imagine myself driving in the convertible I've always wanted.

And then there's my attitude toward my friends. Now, I don't want it to sound like I'm a mean, nasty person during the rest of the year because I'm not. I just don't often take the initiative to smile and say hello to everyone I see. In the springtime though, I find myself wishing everyone well. Smiling comes to me as natural as breathing.

What is it about the springtime that does this? It is commonly believed that love blooms in the spring (I've heard that it has to do with the brain's reaction to the sun, or something like that). No one has ever told me, though, if the position of the sun is capable of anything other than blinding drivers on their way home from work.

There are some not so positive things I've noticed about spring. First of all - allergies! I had allergies as a child and I remember being miserable. The sneezing, coughing and itchy eyes drove me nuts. Well, childhood was a long time ago and I really did forget how much I hated feeling like I had a 24 hour cold every day. Well, guess what; my allergies are back. The Sudafed people are going to love me this year.

The other negative thing about spring is having to work. I know that most of us don't like to work anyway, but spring makes it even more of a pain. Where I work, there are windows along the front of the whole store, and whenever I get the chance, I find myself staring wistfully outside, daydreaming about what I would do if I were independently wealthy and could get out of work for good.

Speaking of becoming independently wealthy, just imagine if I won the lottery or maybe even found that one of my favorite customers put me in their will and all of a sudden I had a million dollars. At this time of year, that could be very dangerous. I'd probably find myself standing on the street corner handing daisies to everyone who walked by. Another thing, I could liberate the Anti-Cruelty Society and take all the rescued cats and dogs to retirement homes across the nation.

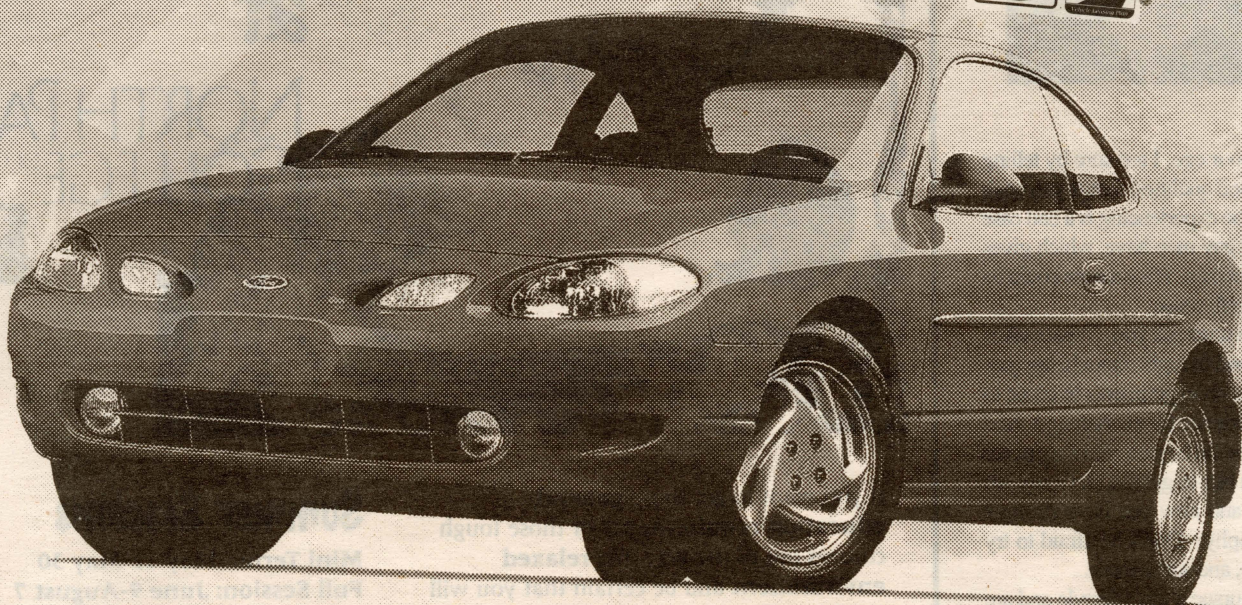
It's even worse in the office of the Independent (E-049), because we don't have windows and people continually come in to tell us what a wonderful day we are missing by being locked in the basement (thanks guys!). I don't know if they think it makes us feel better to know what we're missing or if they just don't realize how much we miss windows.

All in all, there are more good things going on this time of year. Flowers are blooming, trees are green again and summer is just around the corner. So, let's all enjoy the days ahead. Soon, we'll be complaining that it's too hot out.

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THIS MAN'S WORLD: BOOK OFTEN, BOOK EARLY

If you were to ask a realtor what were the three most important things in his business, he would undoubtedly reply: LOCATION, LOCATION, LOCATION. If you were to ask a politician the same question, he might say: DONATION, DONATION, DONATION.

It takes an incredible amount of money to run a campaign nowadays. Just ask former candidate Ross Perot. After spending millions of dollars of his own money, which he had earned creating pie-charts, he was forced to give up his campaign when radioactive parsley was discovered in the hors d'ouvres at his daughter's wedding reception. Ross put it quite eloquently when he later said of the event, "You can back the steam engine to the combine, but you can't make it thrash."

There are special people who spend hours on the telephone each day trying to raise money for their candidates. In addition to the numerous hours they spend on the phone, they are also responsible for organizing \$1000 a plate luncheons



John Rossi

for their candidate's campaign, but that includes your choice of Jello or Tapioca.

The Campaign Headquarters to Unearth Major Private Supporters, or C.H.U.M.P.S., as they are better known, generate all the necessary money for things such as the candidate's private plane, his private limousine, and of course his private tee-off at Beaucoup Dinero Country Club. I think the C.H.U.M.P.S. in this country have been saddled with this financial

responsibility for far too long.

Many people have criticized the Clintons for the methods by which they receive contributions. I, for one, applaud their inventiveness. Short of organizing a wide scale White House Garage Sale, they may have hit upon the best money making scheme this side of "Tickle Me Elmo," but enough about Paula Jones.

As you may have heard, they started their own Bed & Breakfast right there in the White House. This may be a way to finally reduce that Mega-gazillion dollar deficit that has been looming over our heads since Ronald Reagan was sworn in the second time. I would just like to make a few of my own suggestions, so that as a taxpayer, I can be sure the venture yields maximum returns.

If it's possible to charge, say \$100,000 per night, with dinner, breakfast, cable T.V., and a check out time of 10:00 a.m., just to sleep in the Lincoln Bedroom, then just think of what we could get for Wedding Receptions and Bar Mitzvas. We should not ignore these enormous

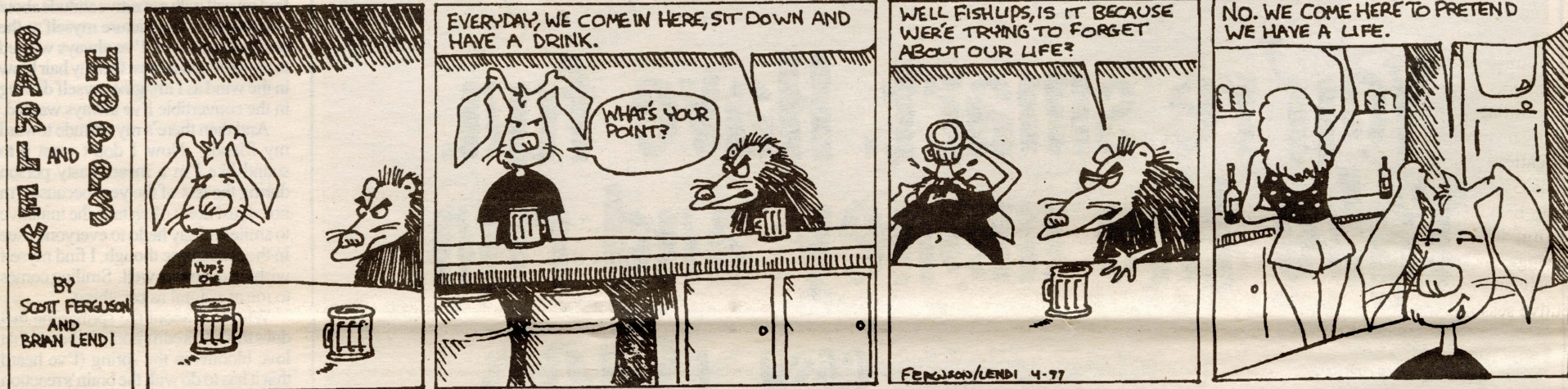
money making propositions. I think your average Wedding Reception might go for at least \$250,000. We could cut corners here and there, and remain patriotic at the same time by serving domestic champagne—this is America after all—let's give our vineyard workers a little job security. If the Lincoln bedroom happens to be booked on a particular night, then they can start booking the Van Buren Room, or the Roosevelt Wing. I don't care if they book the Richard M. Nixon memorial closet, (although they may have to move some heavy recording equipment) just as long as the money comes rolling in, and a private company can keep the books.

I think in fairness, the Clinton's should receive a percentage for their trouble, say 5%. In this manner, we could have the deficit cleared in no time, and enough cash left over so the Clinton's can begin a defense fund for the multiple law suits that are now pending.

Chelsea could help out too. I realize she'll be going away to college soon, but she could earn some

summer money and learn a valuable trade at the same time by organizing and booking Children's Birthday Parties. These could be simple affairs, held on the White House grounds. Maybe they could talk one of the army of Secret Servicemen hanging around looking bored with those gizmos in their ears to entertain the children dressed as a clown, or if this might be viewed as a breach of security, I'm sure Bob Dole would be a good sport—hell, he's not doing anything right now anyway. If we can't get him, Secretary of Defense Janet Reno would make a heck of a good mime, and wouldn't even require a costume or make-up. They could also organize some of the games like Pin The Tail On The Republican or Bobbing For Vetoes.

In conclusion, let me add that it might be a bit of work to organize these events, but as you can see, the money could be worth the trouble. We should be patriotic and book these rooms as often as possible, because if we don't, you know the Chinese will. After all, it takes more than one person to keep the country solvent, it takes a village.



Ask Booty La Roux

Dear Special Agent Booty La Roux:

I have a friend who is constantly hitting on me. I don't mind him hitting on me, but I am not gay. He knows I am not gay, but insists that I may have some gay tendencies deep down, - I truly don't. Please HELP!! How can I convince him I am not gay, and get him off my back. I am not homophobic, he is a good friend, just the wrong sex for me.



Tired of Running

Dear Tired:

Settle down. It can't be that bad. HE is feeding your ego, I am sure by telling you how good you look, reminding you of all your good qualities, things you wish to hear, but just not from him. What I think you may be experiencing is a bad case of gaydar. What is gaydar?- well its like a radar that gay men have, which gives them the ability to distinguish a gay man from a straight man. His antenna could be slightly damaged, or he has not fully developed his sixth sense.

Before Booty tackles your problem any further, she must ask you- What makes you sure that you are not gay? Have you sat down and thought about being gay, that you wish not to be gay? Or have you done hands on experiments to come to your conclusion? (Booty recommends hands on experience for everything.) And maybe being gay is not for you. That is fine, but you should be sure, you may never know what you could be missing out on. Would you like to get old, (let's say 30) and realize that you were latently attracted to men, and now you have stronger feelings for them than for women? Booty's philosophy: Don't be afraid to try something once, and if ya like it, knock it some more, and some more...

Once you know for sure that you do not wish to pursue a gay lifestyle and are trying to get rid of your friend, I have several solutions for you. One: Try completely avoiding the groping grover and cut off all contact with him. You may just do it for a while to let him know that you really are not interested in him. This may backfire; he may think you're playing hard to get. Two: You can take some self defense classes, and use some moves on him. (Though these aren't the moves that he may be looking for.) Three: Show him that all those good qualities that he says you have aren't really you. For instance, be very sloppy, tardy, forgetful, smelly, sticky, unreliable- you know, like every man on the face of the Earth. If all else fails, you can do either of two things, Get mace or pepper spray and put it to good use, or buy a dog, cat, rabbit, any type of animal will do, and tell him you want to be honest with him, and that you are into livestock.

Booty's philosophy: It can be very hard to get rid of an admirer that has his/her eyes set on you. Give it time and patience and he/she will soon move on to new and exciting conquests, or you may realize you want to remain his potential conquest. LOOK OUT FOR HORNY TOADS.

Good LUCK Love, BOOTY.

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Board of Trustees passes line-item funds transfer; Six faculty members also granted tenure

BY THOMAS J. FOLEY
ASSOCIATE EDITOR

The Northeastern Illinois University Board of Trustees met Thursday, April 10 in the Golden Eagles Room and approved a resolution that may well prove to be one of the most important ever passed here. Specifically, the resolution concerned the institution of line-item transfers between departments at Northeastern.

Lodged between other more routine pieces of legislation, the line-item transfer resolution should prove integral in dealing with the University's deficit. Previously, funds unused by certain departments had to be returned to the state, according to Illinois state law. The new resolution allows a legal means to circumvent the refunding of funds already allocated to the University by the state. This will have a positive impact on the student population of NEIU by making the University as a whole more financially efficient, resulting in better prepared and supplied academic departments.

Among other items included in the President's report was a recommendation for the granting of tenure for six Northeastern faculty members. Jeff Edwards of Counselor Education, Andrew Eisenberg of History, Carol Gaetjens of Psychology/Gerontology, James E. Hazeltine of Management and Marketing, Narendar Rao of Finance, and Zhonggang Zeng of Mathematics were unanimously approved for tenure after a brief executive session.

Also approved was a request for a funding increase to Architectural Services for Commuter Center remodeling and a request to address the need for waterproofing and painting in the C-Building.

Other business included the status of the monumental Division I fund-raising project. Leonard Iaquina, Director of Development, reported that the consulting firm, Campbell & Co., has been hired. He also announced a gala fund-raising benefit to be held at the Art Institute on May 16.

The status of the bond issuance, approved last Board meeting, was also discussed, along with the University's mission statement and a report from the University's legal counsel, regarding two pending charges of discrimination by Northeastern.

Northeastern's student member of the Board of Trustees Yahale Yadede also brought a couple of resolutions before the board. The first, passed unanimously by the Board, reiterated the purpose of the Commuter Center, which is primarily to be used by students.

The second of his resolutions, a measure to make Northeastern's administrators accountable to the Student Government for six annual reports concerning student fee usage, was directly opposed by the Board. President Steinberg called upon Director of Student Affairs Melvin Terrell to address the Board.

"I urge the Board of Trustees to not support this resolution," said Terrell. "Systems for accountability are already in place."

Yadede, sensing a reluctance by any of the Board members to second this motion, opted to withdraw it.

STRESSED?

Relax...

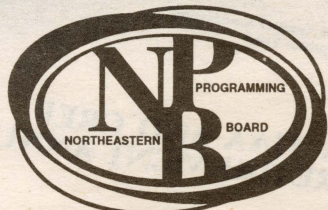
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Student Symposium offers something for everyone

BY THOMAS J. FOLEY
ASSOCIATE EDITOR

The Fifth Annual Student Research and Creative Activities Symposium blew onto campus Friday, April 11 along with the snow flurries. Unlike the snow flurries, though, the Symposium was a welcome flurry of activity. About the only complaint anyone had about it is that it didn't last long enough.

Activities took place in the Auditorium and in six rooms on the second floor of the Commuter Center and consisted of poetry, short story, and essay readings, as well as stage and musical performances. Essays covered such diverse fields as anthropology ("The Lapita People of New Caledonia and Vanuatu" and "Toward a Cosmology of the Mississippians"), biology ("Soluble Suppressive Factors in Pediatric HIV-1 Infection"), and Earth science ("Evidence of

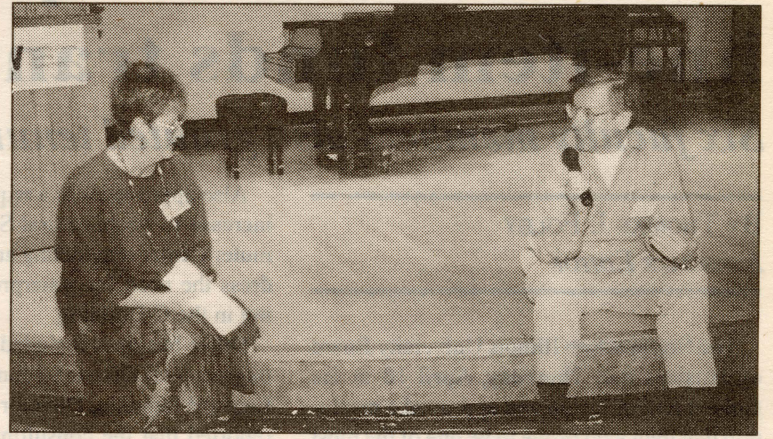
Explosive Eruptions from a Middle Proterozoic Terrain in Central Wisconsin"), as well as many other departments. After each presentation, three faculty discussants would examine the piece, offering advice, opinions or questions.

Of particular interest were the short stories read in the Auditorium. Mary Beth Kisner-Griffin read her story entitled "Raspberry Whip," a poignant tale of the mind-set of a murderer. Christine Simokaitis read her story, "Cornrows," about a young 'dead-heads' journey toward self-realization. For such a short piece, "Cornrows" was filled with tremendous symbolism, particularly symbols of journeying.

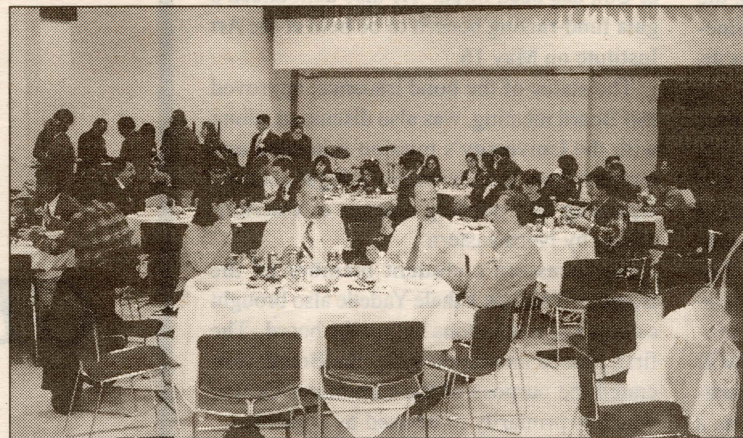
Thomas Hall read a short collection of his poetry, which he entitled "Death, Alienation, Sex, and Other Trivialities." Though the title of this collection calls death trivial, the author does not treat the subject as such. He does, however, approach it in an irreverent manner ("Death hangs

like a spectre above my head and asks, 'are you going to finish that?').

The Symposium concluded with a buffet lunch in Alumni Hall, during which many of the presenting students received awards for their accomplishments. Overall, a good time was had by all, although many did regret not being able to attend more events. One student asked, "Why don't they hold it over two days instead of one?" Good question, because NEIU needs more events like this.



(above) Donald Hoffman critiques Mary Beth Kisner-Griffin's short story *Raspberry Whip*.



(left) The Fifth Annual Student Research and Creative Activities Symposium Luncheon

(Photos by Paul Enziger)

Homeless people: The truth about who they are and where they come from

BY JENNIFER DICKERSON
STAFF WRITER

According to a 1995 study, more than 48 percent had worked within the year. Most shelters report that about one in five are currently working. Often the jobs are part-time, minimum wage, or even temporary. The fastest growing group of homeless people are women and children. Right now there are about 25,000 homeless youths between ages 14 and 20 in the state of Illinois. Every year this number increases. In truth, there is no sure way to calculate how many homeless in this country. Who are the homeless?

Homeless people are people who had a life at some point. Anyone can become homeless. Many of the homelessness are made up of women who were physically separated from loved ones. Physical violence might have encouraged them to leave their current situations, physical suffering, and mental stress. Some homeless women, youths, and/or men might have suffered from emotional strain, anxiety from school, work, family, or even friends. Most of these people fear that surviving is not possible.

Some typical families on public aid receive about \$367 a month to cover rent, utilities, clothing, transportation - mostly everything but food. How does the government expect them to live?

It is possible. There are shelters all over the state of Illinois. Shelters provide food as well as shelter, and positive support. Shelters help the homeless by offering hope.

Some schools deny admission to those youth who do not have a roof over their heads. There are some teachers and superintendents who refuse education to these unfortunates. Why? Because they are homeless. The Illinois Coalition for the Homeless is making a stand to end this nonsense. They are trying to convince legislators in Springfield to act on this situation. **FACT:**

In a Chicago study, one in five homeless people reported drinking

on a regular basis. About one-third suffer from mental illness (depression, emotional stress, etc.). Not all homeless drink to get drunk, but it does happen. Some of these people are too depressed to clean themselves up and start a new life. Most of them need support from other people. Homeless people that drink certainly need all the positive support they can get. They will not go anywhere if people don't give a damn. Sometimes, jobs offered to them would result in a cut or outright elimination of their aid, making them worse off than before.

Chicago is not the only place where homeless people live. The homeless are everywhere from California to New York to Alaska to Hawaii. There is hope. Support groups are located all over the state of Illinois, and shelters are, also.

One support group is called Lifesaver. Lifesaver's ideas include exempting homeless families from welfare cuts during homelessness. Lifesaver speaks up to remind the government that cutting costs on welfare will not help the homeless, on the contrary, it will give these people even less hope. With less money, what will these homeless people do?

NOTE: It is sad to say only a handful of people actually showed up for the Homelessness Awareness Rally held here on Thursday, April 3. This is addressed directly to the NEIU students. Where were you? Do you just pay lip service to their plight or do you actually give a damn?

John Donahue, a member of the Midwest Coalition for the Homeless has been giving a damn since 1980. He cares and is doing something about it.

Diann Niland also gives a damn. She has been working to help the homeless for more than 11 years. She says that despite all of her efforts, every year homelessness gets worse.

Lifesaver is a support group that gives a damn about who these people are and where they are going. If they are the only ones who give a damn, then homelessness will continue to go nowhere. So stand up, and give a damn.

Good Luck on Final Exams!

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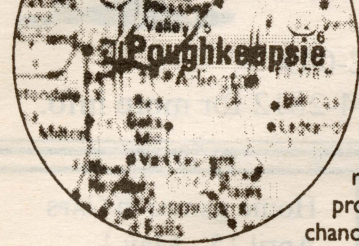
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Good Luck on Final Exams!
This is our last issue for the Spring Semester. Check out our next issue on May 20.



Big hitters and pitchers lead the way

By COURTNEY VIAMILLE
SPORTS EDITOR

Women's softball is on a complete turnaround after a rocky start. After starting off 3-13, the Eagles are fighting to get back to .500.

They got a big boost when they rolled over the University of Wisconsin Badgers on Thursday April 4th. If the bus trip was long on the way here, it must have been even longer on the way back, as the badgers were swept by the Eagles, who improved their season record to 11-16.

Long ball was the theme of the first game, and the Eagles proved they had more than enough firepower to meet the challenge. Seven Eagle players had extra base hits. The first game ended in a 10-9 shoot-out.

The Eagles boast two of the top hitters, not just in the conference but also in nation, in Shelly Willman

and Michelle Oswald. Willman has already been named Mid-Con Player of the Week for March 31st, and has been named the Mid-Con Player of the Month for March.

In the month, Willman batted .500 (30-60), scored 10 runs, had three home runs, and RBI's. She was also named to the All-Tournament Team at San Jose St.

In spite of the power displayed on this afternoon, another story was the strength of Jennifer Hines.

Hines, a sophomore, came on to preserve the victory for Andrea Quintanilla in the fifth inning. Then, after a short intermission, Hines came back to pitch a full game shutout in the second half of the doubleheader. The Eagles took this game 5-0.

On the afternoon, Hines scored four runs, pitched nine and two thirds innings, and gave up only three runs.

Hines (8-10) is the league leader in innings and games pitched. Quintanilla was pitcher of the week



Photo by Courtney Viamille

Chasing down a fly ball

last week for the Mid-Con Conference after going 3-0 vs. UIC, Loyola, and Wisconsin.

This was the Eagles second sweep of the season. The other was

against Bradley here at Northeastern. The first game of that double header ended in dramatic fashion when, in the bottom of the seventh with two runners on base,

Willman stepped up to the plate and crushed a homer to give the Eagles a 4-3 victory. The Eagles have also recorded impressive victories against Hofstra and UIC.

"We have done great against some top teams," said Head Coach Joyce Wellhoefer. "We just need to realize we can be competitive. We need to be consistent."

Since their sweep of Wisconsin, the Eagles have improved to 13-18, splitting games with Butler and Valparaiso, the worst team in the Mid-Con last season.

I've never heard of a two person rotation, but for the most part sophomore, Hines, and freshman Quintanilla, are doing the job. "They are up and down, but they are young," said Coach Wellhoefer.

The Eagles now stand at 13-20. There are only a few more chances to check the Eagles out. They play at the DePaul Tournament on April 19 and 20. They play at home against Wright State on the 21st, Western Illinois on the 26, and UMKC on the 27.

Men's tennis: Improving beyond belief

By PETE CUADRADO
STAFF WRITER

The men's tennis team dropped a match to Illinois-Chicago on April 2nd and was edged out on the 8th by Valparaiso, but the real story is the improvements the team has made.

On Feb. 1, the Eagles were crushed when they traveled to Bradley. They were just out of their league as the Eagles didn't even win one game.

Since then the Eagles have worked hard to improve themselves, even getting together on their own to practice. Now, they are starting to reap the benefits. The Eagles won their first match in over a

year. Now they feel that in a game, if they play up to their capabilities, they can beat the person across the net.

They should be very confident in the first round of the conference tournament as they are scheduled to duel with Chicago St., who they have already beaten. The tournament will be held on April 25 and 26.

Coach Anlauf has been very impressed with the hustle and effort this team has put into the season. The Eagles have gone into most matches one man short of a full squad, and they know is one of the reasons for their lack of success.

The Eagle will be playing the conference tournament at Chicago St.

Women's tennis heads to Conference

By PETE CUADRADO
STAFF WRITER

The women's tennis team (0-12) wrapped up their regular season on April 8th with a tough 1-8 loss at Valparaiso. The lone victory of the match belonged to Renee Horswill, their number one women's player, winning her match 8-5.

A highlight this season came against Detroit Mercy. The Eagles took the match down to the wire, before losing 3-4. Winning matches for them were; Michele Foley, #4 singles, 6-3, 6-1; Annie Haroldson, #5 singles, 5-7, 6-4, 6-3; and the doubles tandem of Melisa Lentz and Foley, who won 9-8. Also playing hard-fought matches were Nicole Redelberger and Diana Dicks, the

Eagles number two and six players respectively.

The women head down to UMKC for the conference tournament held on April 18th and 19th. They are awaiting some other matches in the conference to find out who their first round opponent will be. This will be coach Anlauf's first conference appearance with Northeastern.

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GOLDEN EAGLES' SPORTS CALENDAR

Home games in CAPS
April 15 - May 1

	Tuesday 15	Wednesday 16	Friday 18	Saturday 19	Sunday 20	Monday 21	Wednesday 23	Thursday 24	Friday 25	Saturday 26	Sunday 27	Thursday 1
SOFTBALL	DePaul 3pm		Valparaiso 3 pm	DePaul TBA	@ DePaul vs. St. Louis TBA	WRIGHT STATE 3 pm	Loyola 3 pm			WESTERN ILLINOIS noon	U Missouri Kansas City noon	
BASEBALL	ILLINOIS STATE 3:30 pm	NORTH- WESTERN 3 pm		WESTERN ILLINOIS 1 pm	WESTERN ILLINOIS 1 pm		Illinois - Chicago 7 pm	UW - Milwaukee 1:30 pm		Valparaiso 1 pm	Valparaiso 1 pm	UW - Milwaukee 1:30 pm
WOMEN'S TENNIS			Mid-Con Conference Championships									
MEN'S TENNIS									Mid-Con Conference Championships			
MEN'S GOLF			Mid-Con Conference Championships									

* Friday, May 2 - Saturday, May 3: Softball Conference Playoff @ #1 East Seed
* Thursday, May 8 - Friday, May 9: NCAA Play-in vs. Ohio Valley Winner

* Friday, May 9 - Sunday, May 11: Mid-Continent Conference Championships @ #1 West Seed
* May 15- May 16: Baseball NCAA Play-in Series (Mid-Con vs. MCC @ Mid-Continent Winner)