

Eastern Illinois University

The Keep

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February

2003

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## Daily Eastern News: February 13, 2003

Eastern Illinois University

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# Mertz found guilty of murder

♦ *Former student named as perpetrator  
in 2001 slaying of Shannon McNamara*

By Shauna Gustafson  
SENIOR WRITER

Former Eastern student Anthony B. Mertz is guilty of the murder of Eastern student Shannon McNamara, as determined by a jury Wednesday, after eight intense days of testimony, evidence and arguments.

The jury, composed of seven men and five women, found Mertz guilty of first-degree murder, home invasion and aggravated criminal sexual assault after about three hours of deliberations. An eligibility hearing will begin Friday to decide if Mertz is eligible to receive the death penalty. Court will not meet Thursday.

Mertz reacted to the verdict simply by closing his eyes as he was declared guilty of first-degree murder.

Family and friends reacted emotionally to the verdict, breaking the silence of the courtroom with tears and sighs. After court adjourned for the day, the packed gallery remained, hugging and crying over the final outcome.

"It was obviously emotional for the entire family,"

John Deutinger, McNamara's uncle said after the verdict was read. "There's no words. For me personally, this helps ... (but) it doesn't bring Shannon back."

State's Attorney Steve Ferguson said he was pleased with the verdict.

"It's very gratifying working with the family, they're a great group of people," Ferguson said. "You develop attachments."

He said the number of people sitting in on the trial was larger than normal.

"Consistently, this has been the largest gallery in my tenure," he said. Ferguson has served as Coles County State's Attorney since 1992.

He said the family simply said "thank you" after the verdict was read. McNamara's mother Cindy was overheard saying "Shannon won," as she and husband Bob left the courtroom Wednesday evening.

## First-degree murder

♦ First-degree murder is an applicable charge if the person commits the murder without lawful justification and:

— he/she either intends to kill or do great bodily harm to that individual or another, or knows that such acts will cause death to that individual or another

— he/she knows that such acts create a strong probability of death or great bodily harm to that individual or another

— he/she is attempting or committing a forcible felony other than second degree murder

## Aggravated criminal sexual assault

♦ Criminal Sexual Assault: The accused commits criminal sexual assault if he or she:

— Commits an act of sexual penetration (any contact or intrusion, however slight of the sex

SEE CHARGES ♦ Page 7A

Defense attorney Paula Phillips said she was sad after hearing the jury's decision, and said the police work on the case had been "incompetent and sloppy," and she was "amazed and appalled" the jury decided the way they did.



"I'm tired, sad," she said. "Now two lives have been destroyed instead of one."

Ferguson responded to Phillips' statement by saying the jury apparently did not agree. "I think the jury's verdict speaks for itself," he said.

Phillips said Mertz was "obviously scared," in regards to the decision.

"We prepared him when the jury came back with the last question it was probably going to be guilty (verdict)," she said.

The jury's last question to the court during deliberations was for a legal definition of what parts of the body are considered part of the female sex organ, in connection with the sexual assault charge.

Bob and Cindy McNamara left the courthouse soon after the verdict was read, not speaking with any media. Deutinger said the family is pleased with the jury's decision.

"Shannon was always a fighter," he said. "Shannon removed this predator from the streets."

The next stage in the trial will be the eligibility stage, in which the prosecution will present evidence that Mertz is over the age of 18 and has committed crimes making him eligible for the death penalty. Prosecutor Ed Parkinson said the jury will be asked to decide if Mertz is eligible. He said he expects this stage to be finished by midday Friday.

SEE GUILTY ♦ Page 7A



PHOTOS BY STEPHEN HAAS/ASSOCIATE PHOTO EDITOR

TOP: Father Chris Brey, of the Newman Catholic Center, leads a group prayer Wednesday afternoon outside of the Coles County Courthouse during deliberation in the murder trial of Anthony B. Mertz. The jury found Mertz guilty on all three charges after nearly three hours of deliberation, the jury found Mertz guilty on all three charges.

ABOVE: A friend of Shannon McNamara, one of many students present during the murder trial of Anthony B. Mertz, spreads the word on the payphone in the Coles County Courthouse after the guilty verdict on Wednesday afternoon.

# UPD officers goal — to protect and serve Eastern

By John Hohenadel  
STAFF WRITER

Courtesy calls, ticket writing and student discipline are all examples of jobs performed by a University Police officer.

UPD officer Janice Kozak had aspirations to become an Emergency Medical Technician or a firefighter, but she was denied several times.

Then she came to Eastern.

Kozak of Fox Valley, a town in northern Illinois, worked as a secretary at Eastern before a job opened in UPD, which she applied to and was hired.

Kozak became an officer after

12 weeks of police training at the University of Illinois at Champaign-Urbana and Eastern.

Kozak has worked on campus for seven years and knows the campus quite well.

"The first thing I do is cover the whole campus once," Kozak said, while patrolling campus Monday during the second shift. "I look for anything out of the ordinary or for something that has changed from the day before."

Kozak then called the dispatcher on her radio and asked about an unlocked gate at the Human Services building between Thomas Hall and Klehm Hall. The dispatcher told her it was "no big

deal" because it had been unlocked for the past four days.

Kozak did not have a ticket writer with her Monday, so some students who illegally parked their cars in the Coleman North Lot got lucky.

"I can see when the weather is yucky why kids would want to drive to class, but we just don't have enough parking spaces," Kozak said.

Kozak then pulled up to a student parked in a crosswalk by Coleman Hall. She told the student to roll down his window and politely told the student to move his car out of

SEE UPD ♦ Page 9A

## Some see University Police as bullies

By Tim Martin  
CAMPUS EDITOR

Only a few, raucous underage drinkers endure discipline from the University Police Department each weekend.

And even fewer ever receive a reprimand stronger than a campus citation or a report to Judicial Affairs.

So why is it that some students see the UPD as a bully?

"It seems like the UPD only

concentrates on busting kids for alcohol," Tom Hemberger, a senior speech communications major, said. "They have got to remember it's a college campus — they piddle around too much."

UPD Chief Deputy Adam Due said his staff took college youth into account.

"We understand that it is part of the college experience to make mistakes," he said.

SEE BULLIES ♦ Page 9A



COMING UP

# Get a full helping of soul food

By Jeff Stauber  
STAFF WRITER

The women of Sigma Gamma Rho are hosting their annual soul food dinner to recognize and share African-American culture.

A festive surrounding and home-cooked food will be provided at the gathering.

"It brings the campus community together, and everyone enjoys the food and warm atmosphere," said Shonda Clancy, a senior biological services major who is helping prepare the event.

The event is expected to attract more than 50 people as part of Eastern's celebration of African-American Heritage Month, Clancy said.

Dishes such as spaghetti, fried chicken, macaroni and cheese, corn, green beans, candied yams, cornbread and a dessert will be served, Clancy said. After dinner, students are welcome to stay and socialize.

"We'll probably watch a movie,

too," Clancy said.

"The dinner is absolutely free to everybody," she said, "but we will be accepting donations."

The donations go to Sigma Gamma Rho to offset some of the cost for the dinner. Any extra proceeds will be donated to one of the charities the sorority regularly sponsors.

"Last year, we were able to donate some of the money to Habitat for Humanity," said Taisha Mikell, a graduate student in the College of Student Affairs and a Sigma Gamma Rho member.

"This is our contribution to Eastern Illinois University in helping to celebrate African-American Heritage Month, while at the same time providing students some home-cooked food they wouldn't normally get," Mikell said.

The dinner will be served at 6 p.m. Sunday at the African-American Culture Center, 1525 Seventh Street.

Students are encouraged to attend, and admission is free.

# RHA hopes to cut through smoky air

Jamie Hussey  
STAFF WRITER

Stevenson Hall will look for Residence Hall Association support Thursday to reduce the number of smoking floors in the hall.

No number is available yet on how many floors wish to change to non-smoking.

The RHA also will consider donating funds to three groups.

Requests were tabled at last week's RHA meeting to donate to Camp New Hope, Habitat for Humanity and Up Till Dawn.

"I anticipated someone will take the requests off the table, and we will decide whether to give the groups funds from RHA," said RHA President Stina Heldman.

The money for Camp New Hope would help underprivileged

children at the camps.

Heldman said the money for Habitat for Humanity will go toward the organization's Shanty Town project.

Shanty Town is a Habitat project to raise awareness about poor living conditions. Habitat will build a "shanty town" in the Library Quad to help students experience what it is like to live in insufficient housing.

Up Till Dawn, a fundraiser for St. Jude Children's Hospital, also will look for monetary aide from the RHA.

Heldman said a lot of residence halls are interested in sponsoring individual teams to go to the Up Till Dawn activity, which challenges people to stay up until dawn.

The RHA meeting is at 5 p.m. Thursday in Lawson Hall.

## THE DAILY EASTERN NEWS

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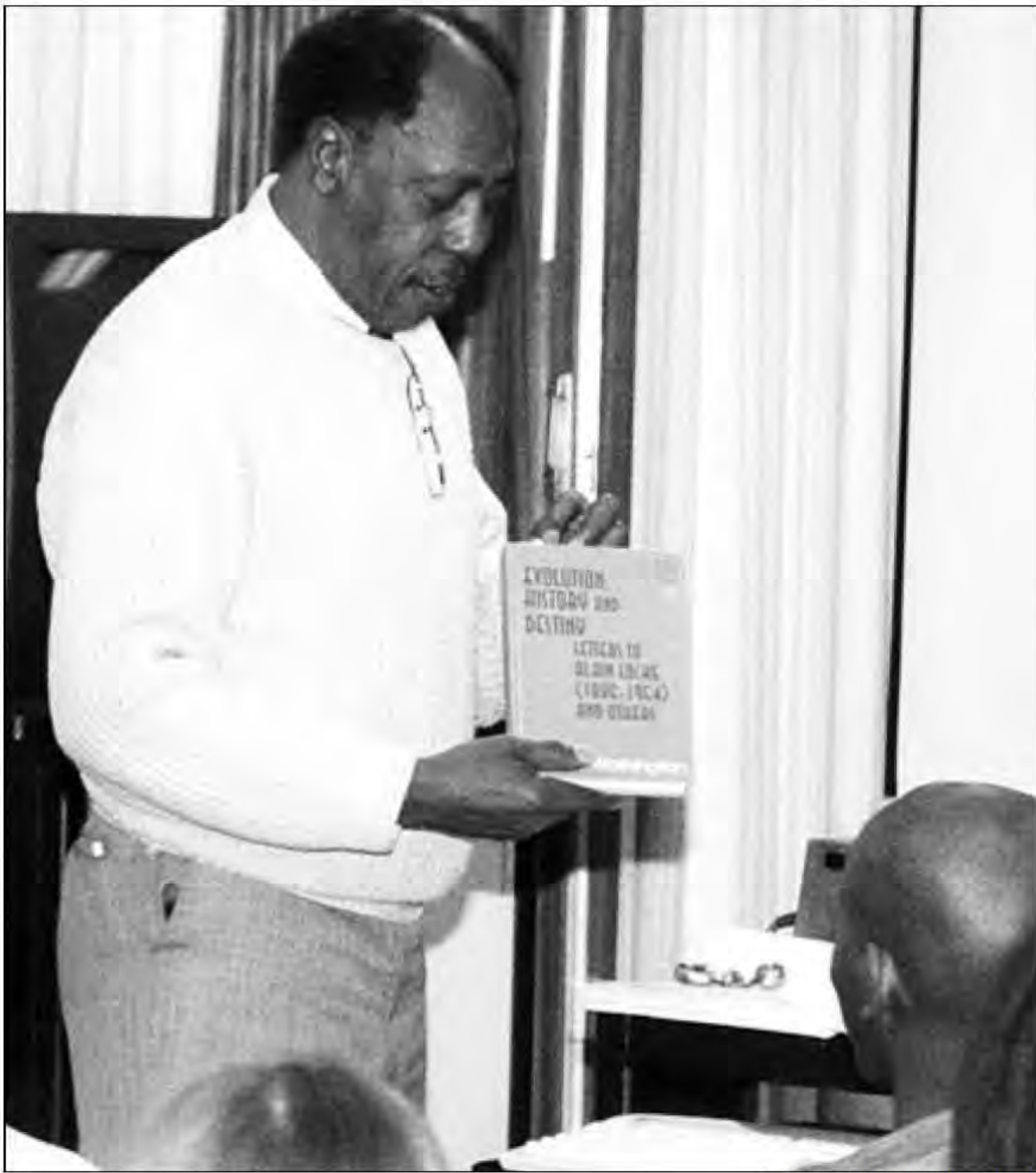
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PHONE: 217-581-2812 (fax 581-2923)  
EMAIL: majones@eiu.edu  
NIGHT STAFF:  
Night editor . . . . . Shauna Gustafson  
News Design . . . . . John Chambers  
Sports Design . . . . . Matt Williams  
Night Photo editor . . . . . Colin McAuliffe  
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COLIN MCAULIFFE/PHOTO EDITOR

Dr. Johnny Washington, of Southwest Missouri State University, talks to students and faculty about cultural identity Wednesday evening in the Charleston-Mattoon room of the Martin Luther King Jr. University Union.

# Speech pushes ideas of unity

By Jason M. Oljace  
STAFF WRITER

Johnny Washington discussed transcendence, evolution and how the two concepts are related in a speech Wednesday.

"We can work our way back to transcendence through evolution," Washington said. "I'm trying to get the world back to the unity we had at the beginning of time."

Washington is a professor of philosophy and African-American studies at Southwest Missouri State University.

He explained how destiny is part of transcendence, by defining destiny as "an ideal of transcendent unity towards which a people strive in successive generations."

Nobody defines destiny,

Washington said.

If one goes on the Internet to find a definition of destiny, "You might get retailers, you might get Destiny's Child, but you won't get a definition."

Washington said his thoughts on transcendence were influenced by his childhood during the civil rights movement. He was born in Gainesville, Ala., in 1946.

His grandfather was killed and lynched by the Ku Klux Klan, and his uncle was hung by KKK members but broke loose and survived.

Washington had an idea about destiny at a young age.

"At 10-years-old, I wanted to help Dr. Martin Luther King (Jr.)," he said.

Washington had a memorable experience with King.

"I was transformed in his presence," Washington said.

Washington said he believes in evolution and does not think that the theory excludes God.

"Behind the big bang lies God," he said.

The universe has stopped evolving and cannot go any further, according to Washington. He said the next step in evolution will be robots that will develop their own intelligence.

Shelly Buckwell, graduate student in counseling and student development, said, "It's one of the first lectures I've been to of this kind that was abstract in thinking."

A crowd of about 45 people came to see the presentation which was part of the African-American Heritage month celebration.

# School to host party for education

By Jennifer Chiariello  
ACTIVITIES EDITOR

The annual Jefferson Elementary School Chili Supper and Mardi Gras Carnival will serve a family meal and provide games and festivities to raise money to support education.

The evening will begin with a performance by the fifth grade band under the direction of Ginger Stanfield, said Kathy Armstrong, chair of the Jefferson committee of the Charleston Joint Parent-Teacher Association. Following the concert, a dinner consisting of a bowl of chili or a hot dog, celery and carrots, crackers, a cookie and drink will be served.

Pam and Alan Bumpus have been cooking the chili since their children attended Jefferson, Armstrong said. The recipe is

from Pam's father who made the chili while serving in the military.

The Mardi Gras Carnival will include a 50-foot inflatable obstacle course, free throw challenge, three-point shootout, pop bingo, sweet walk, pop ring toss, fish-pond, a 50/50 drawing and Mardi Gras mask with jewelry making. New to the carnival is an inflatable bungee run.

Shopping will also be available at the Buy One, Get One Free Book Fair, the silent auction and the kids' auction, Armstrong said.

The items for the auctions are provided by the students and their families, Armstrong said. Each class also donates a basket or gift to the auction.

"It's a social event to bring people to the school, and if we make a little money, that is good too," Armstrong said.

The event is sponsored by the joint PTA, which represents Mark Twain, Carl Sandberg and Jefferson school, Armstrong said. Money raised by the carnival goes to the PTA to pay for supplies such as field trips, equipment and library books.

"None is operating expenses. All proceeds go back to the kids and supports education," Armstrong said.

Advanced tickets are available for purchase. Family meal tickets are \$12 or \$3.50 for adults and \$2.50 for children. Game tickets are 25 cents apiece. Meal and game tickets will also be available at the door, a press release stated.

The festival is open to all members of the community and will be held from 5-8 p.m. Saturday at Jefferson school, 801 Jefferson Ave.



# Romance in the air

◆ Faculty and students share Valentine's Day tales of romance and plans

By Lisa Meyer  
STAFF WRITER

To some, Cupid's arrows seem to be right on target, but for many Eastern students and teachers, his aim is a little rusty. English professor Keith Spear said this Valentine's Day will be a memorable one.

Spear and his wife, Karen (who is also among Eastern staff), will be taking a trip to Chicago where they plan to stroll along the "Magnificent Mile" and go ice skating in Millennium Park.

Spear said, "We are just country people, so when we go the city and see the big buildings together and hold hands, it's just great."

Not everyone's Valentine's Day will be quite as entertaining. Many students, when asked what they will be doing for Valentine's Day, responded with "nothing" or said they were going home for the weekend.

When the phrase Valentine's Day was mentioned, immediate cringing, "uhs," or even laughter was a common reaction.

Nick Sempowic, a freshman industrial technology major says, "Valentine's Day is just there," and thinks it's just like any other day.

Claude Magee, director of TRIO, a student support service, thinks a student's attitude could be affected by Valentine's Day.

"Students could be affected by Valentine's Day if it is student with a boyfriend or girlfriend who won't make it home to go see him or her," she said.

Magee doesn't believe students become overly depressed or moody, but says he could see individuals becoming lonely if they have no one to share the holiday with.

Some students disagree with the holiday and feel students should not be lonely. Sophomore psychology major James Warpinki said he thinks of Valentine's Day merely as a Hallmark Holiday.

Jen Mariescalchi, a junior elementary education major, agreed with Warpinki's declaration claiming her boyfriend and she changed the day's name to "Mike and Jen Day."

"I think Valentine's Day is a stupid holiday for Hallmark to make tons of money," Mariescalchi said.

Thomas Yancey, a junior computer information systems major, intends to see the movie "Final Destination 2" so "all the females will get scared and get on me."

While Yancey attempts to win the hearts of frightened females, Liana Shiapitro, a freshman secondary education major, and Genevieve Maglia, freshman nursing major, will help hearts in another way. Shiapitro and Maglie will chaperone Lovington High School's "Have A Heart Day," where they will help students with

team-building activities and programs involving such things as self-esteem, bullying and sexual respect.

Cara Pschirrer, a counselor at the Counseling Center, thinks the attitudes students may express on Valentine's Day depends on their personality. Pschirrer agrees students may seem down if they don't have someone to spend the day with, but do not become depressed because of Valentine's Day. Pschirrer also recommended stu-

dents who know they will be upset, should plan to do something else on Valentine's Day.

Pschirrer says, "Students should try activities such as going out to eat with friends or just watching movies. Many students have made arrangements to go to their homes for the weekend."

Anesha Leach, a senior English major, said she will take Pschirrer's advice and go bowling as a Valentine's Day alternative with friends. Of the few festivities

offered in town, many of them have occurred prior to Valentine's Day.

The Lincoln-Stevenson-Douglas date auction was held Monday. Friends & Company, located in the Charleston town square, hosted their "Anti-Valentine's Day" party on Wednesday. Valentine's Day seems to be a less-than-romantic holiday for many students at Eastern, but Cupid might hit a bullseye somewhere around campus.



Lindsey Choy

"I'm going to a funeral and a show at DePaul."

Lindsey Choy,  
sophomore  
undeclared major



Anthony Hill

"I don't have a Valentines."

Anthony Hill,  
senior recreation  
administration major



Tijuana Johnson

"I'm going on a date."

Tijuana Johnson,  
senior sociology  
major



Kyle Wilson

"I'm going shopping for the person I care about, Elaine Hayes."

Kyle Wilson, senior  
psychology major

# Senate rejects anti-war resolution, approves allocations

By Avian Carrasquillo  
STUDENT GOVERNMENT EDITOR

After a heated debate Wednesday, the Student Senate voted down a resolution, opposing a unilateral, pre-emptive war on Iraq. The resolution had been tabled from a previous meeting.

In discussion, Student Senate member George Lesica moved to amend the third and sixth whereas of the resolution.

The third whereas stated all war brings destruction, pain and loss of life, which Lesica said was obvious.

The sixth said the Student Senate cannot speak for all students but has been asked by many

to speak out on the issue. Lesica said that no democracy speaks for 100 percent of its constituents.

The motion passed, and the third and sixth whereas of the resolution were removed.

Student Senate member Brice Donnelly used the example of Hitler's rise to power as a result of taking an anti-war stance and said that everything should be done to prevent Saddam Hussein from becoming more powerful.

The motion was voted down by a close vote of 14-13.

A resolution asking for an on-campus dentist was approved.

Student Senate member Amanda Sartore, who authored the resolution, was not present at the meeting. Sartore issued a state-

ment, saying if the resolution passed, she would look into the issue further to make sure no additional fees would be added to student fees.

In a request for a change in a bylaw, the bill was tabled indefinitely as the requested bylaw goes against the Student Senate constitution.

The request is for a change in compensation of executives from a dollar amount to a credit hour amount.

"The request should be looked into by a Constitutional Review Committee at a later date," said Ronnie Deedrick, student vice president for academic affairs.

An allocation request of \$75 from the Student Government

account for name tags was voted down. The final figures for the name tags do not exceed \$50, so an allocation request was not needed.

The University Board allocation request of \$28,000, which was allocated from the Apportionment Board reserve account, was approved by Student Senate. The \$28,000 will go to fix the lighting system in the Grand Ballroom of the Martin Luther King Jr. University Union. The Union will cover the additional \$28,000 needed to complete the project.

The allocation of \$11,168 from the AB for UB Special Events also was approved. The money will go toward Crazy Daze special events.

In new business, the request of \$273.85 was tabled. The request

was made by Ronnie Deedrick and George Lesica for compensation to the Illinois Board of Higher Education Student Advisory Committee meeting, which took place the weekend of Feb. 2-3 at Roosevelt University in Chicago.

In other business, several committee appointments were approved.

Bridget LaLonde was approved to the Student Relations Committee; Matt Kulp was approved to the Student Action Team; Lee Williams, Jamie Fester, Beth Allen and Heather Schroeder were approved to the Housing Committee and Kirsten Wilson was approved as a non-senate voting member to the External Relations Committee.

## MLK, JR. UNIVERSITY UNION

### Hours for Lincoln's Birthday

**Friday, Feb. 14**  
Building Open: 9:30 AM - 11PM  
Food Court: 11 AM - 11 PM  
First Mid Bank: 1 AM - 4 PM  
All other operations, including bowling alley, are closed

**Saturday, Feb. 15**  
Building Closed: All operations, including Bowling Alley are closed

**Sunday, Feb. 16**  
Building Open: 3:30 PM - 11PM  
Food Court: 4 PM - 11 PM

**Monday, Feb. 17**  
Union and all operations are open regular hours

Martin Luther King, Jr. University Union



Eastern Illinois University

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### EDITORIAL

# Spend wisely for students

The University Board is again trying to restructure its programming to offer more activities students want.

The UB wants to bring new "novelty" acts to campus such as a version of the popular "Build-a-bear" and a big chair as part of a stress-free night.

The UB also is helping cover costs of renovating lighting in the Grand Ballroom of the Martin Luther King Jr. University Union.

The Student Senate Wednesday approved an additional Apportionment Board allocation of \$11,168 for the novelty acts and \$28,000 for the lighting project Martin Luther King Jr. University Union.

This campus continually is stigmatized as boring. People constantly complain there is nothing to do; they go to Champaign, home, frequent bars or house parties.

These programming changes may be a change from that norm. Or at least, if they are not a permanent change, some entertaining diversion will be around for an evening.

On the same token, these events will mean nothing if they don't appeal to a good portion of the campus population.

Consider students' age and what they want before using the money on novelty acts no one is interested in attending.

The UB needs to bring events to campus students want to see. Get their input first because spending \$11,000 to bring an event only a few people attend is not a good way to spend student activity fee money.

The AB exists to fund the UB and four other boards, but this money must not be wasted.

With the current budget situation, the AB, along with many other campus entities, may find itself with less money next year.

The AB may not be able to dole out as much money to the five boards in their budgets and the AB reserve account. Money left over at the end of this year could go for next year to assure those boards get adequate funding.

It is the job of the AB to allocate this money as it sees fit.

If the AB sees new novelty acts as a fit use for its money, the UB needs to deliver.

The AB and the Student Senate made a good decision in supporting UB programming efforts, but it is only a good decision if the products of that money benefit the campus as a whole.

The editorial is the majority opinion of The Daily Eastern News editorial board.

**At issue**  
 The money University Board received from Apportionment Board

**Our stance**  
 The UB has the money it requested from AB, now it has to spend it wisely.

### OPINION

# This was Shannon's day



**Nate Bloomquist**  
 News editor and bi-weekly columnist for *The Daily Eastern News*

Bloomquist also is a senior journalism major.

He can be reached at 581-2812 or nbloomquist@eiu.edu

"Shannon won."  
 Cindy McNamara was overheard saying that statement after walking out of Courtroom 1 of the Coles County Circuit Court Wednesday.

Former Eastern student Anthony Blaine Mertz murdered McNamara's daughter, Shannon, a jury of seven men and five women ruled Wednesday evening.

The Charleston community, including Eastern, won as well. Justice was served, and a cold, calculating monster likely won't walk the streets of Charleston — or any other streets — again.

Shannon McNamara's brutal murder didn't go without consequences as State's Attorney Steve Ferguson promised it wouldn't in opening statements 10 days before the verdict.

But Mertz doesn't look like a cold-blooded killer. The broad-shouldered, soft-spoken former Navy man looks part all-American boy.

Wednesday, and the events of June 12, 2001, paint a far different picture.

He did all of the horrible things he was accused of and grinned on a daily basis about it. He strutted through the courtroom. He also planned to brag about it, a witness testified.

The coward's rotten existence in

*"The damage can't be repaired with a guilty verdict."*

a jail cell won't be a proud one.

While trying to gain an acquittal for Mertz, defense attorney Paula Phillips attempted to kill the pride and demean the hard work and dedication of local authorities.

Phillips drug the reputation of law enforcement in Coles County through the mud. She attempted to discredit an Eastern graduate and DNA expert. She called honorable people and former co-workers of Mertz, who worked in Lantz, liars.

She was unsuccessful on all counts.

What may not be repaired is Charleston's reputation. Mertz bloodied Charleston and Eastern's standing as a Mayberry.

Residents will deadbolt doors now. They'll look over their shoulders a few more times, or maybe they won't go out at night.

The area's innocence was lost through Mertz's guilt.

The damage can't be repaired with a guilty verdict.

Parents might still caution their children about attending Eastern. They might say a few

extra prayers at night. They'll pray there aren't more like him lurking in the shadows.

Because of this case, and too many others like it, fathers teach their daughters self defense, and best friends start self-defense groups such as "Girls fight back."

A crime Mertz can't be convicted of, but should be, is taking away the trust of so many.

Shannon's life touched many. She was active in her community and back home in suburban Rolling Meadows, few were better than her on the local high school track scene.

She was excited about teaching physical education at a high school, possibly to some of her classmates' children. She loved it at Eastern, her father Bob testified.

Her legacy of love lives on, and no one can ever snuff that out callously.

Phillips said during closing statements that the trial was "Anthony's moment."

But Shannon delivered the evidence. She tore into the monster during the struggle. She rattled the coward. She spoke through the jury's verdict and through the McNamara family.

Phillips lied.

This was Shannon's day.

Cartoon by Alex Nicol



Have a happy  
 Valentine's Day!

### YOUR TURN: LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

## Bush needs to think about citizens

In January 2002, King George Bush II's (President George W. Bush) State of the Union Address proclaimed (out of whole cloth) an "axis of evil," i.e., Iraq, Iran and North Korea. From that night forward his killing machine began to turn, slowly ... and now January 2003 at full tilt.

Using the United Nations as a stalking horse, George II protracted reluctantly through the U.N. somnambulism knowing full well Hans Blix would fight for the prosecution, and he did.

Lately, trying to put the face of unity upon his machinations against Iraq, Bush employs the Israeli Shroinists and the old Stalinist bloc of northern and eastern Europe.

He fulfills Donald Rumsfeld's divisive "New Europe," an unabashed daisy chain of bacchanalian propo-

tion that wants to seize markets and money from France and Germany, hoping to become U.S. imperialism's newest darling.

The madness of Bush II assisted by right wing think-tankers and grand viziers (Paul Wolfowitz and Karl Rove) take on the neurosis of columnist Charles Krauthammer.

The average American has ingested so much irrational hatred regurgitated by the bourgeois press against Saddam, his dehumanization has taken on a surreal proportion.

Meanwhile, in Bush's own realm, a slower death is worked upon his own people by the captain's of capitalism; 43 million have no health care, 43 million of the lower working class have tenuous employment. Then add 15

million people in who languish forgotten in unemployment, plus millions of seniors exist who can't afford medications.

Conversely, Wall Street gluttons and thieves loot the economy with impunity, as Boeing builds the King's war machine at huge profits — to be used against Iraqi women and children, committing the same atrocities Saddam is being charged with.

When the brain matter and plasm from Iraqi women and children are splattered upon Bush II's face and royal robes shall in turn tarnish every U.S. citizen as complicit in the

carnage wrought by a few. Is this any way for a born-again-Christian (Bush) to respond, or a nation to endure?

Against the thousands of Americans who have died in these hegemonic wars, tens of millions around the world have been butchered and starved in the name of negative consumerism. Finally, only a workers revolution will stop the outrageous process of synthetic capitalism, by seizing all means of production, the state, courts and social services.

Michael Strange  
 Charleston resident

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR: The Daily Eastern News accepts letters to the editor addressing local, state, national and international issues. They should be less than 250 words and include the authors' name, telephone number and address. Students should indicate their year in school and major. Faculty, administration and staff should indicate their position and department. Letters whose authors cannot be verified will not be printed. Depending on space constraints, we may edit letters, so keep it concise. Letters can be sent to *The Daily Eastern News* at 1811 Buzzard Hall, Charleston IL 61920; faxed to 217-581-2923; or e-mailed to majones@eiu.edu



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Guilty:

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1A

'It is no longer an alleged murder'

Ferguson began his closing statements Wednesday morning by saying although McNamara is dead, "her voice, her testimony, her evidence has been heard."

He told the jury McNamara had fought Mertz, resisted, and in doing so, created evidence that helped prosecutors convict him.

Mertz's credit card, a latex glove, a box cutter and above all, a DNA profile matching his under McNamara's fingernails, linked him to the murder.

Ferguson told the jury the way Mertz had abused McNamara and laid a scene before them the morning of the murder.

"He put her body on display as a warning ... an arrogant and defiant taunt," Ferguson said.

He also asked the jury to remember the testimony of several witnesses who said they saw Mertz open locked doors with a credit card, one of whom was a former friend, and labeled this as Mertz's design the night he broke into McNamara's apartment.

Ferguson also reminded the jury of testimony from Coles County jail cellmates who said Mertz gloated over what he had done.

"He relished being able to dish out details," Ferguson said.

Ferguson also revisited testimony regarding DNA, and went over the definition of each charge and why Mertz was guilty of each. He closed by saying a guilty verdict was the fair, just answer.

"Shannon McNamara has given you the evidence," Ferguson said. "The state doesn't want your sympathy, Shannon McNamara's family doesn't want your sympathy. They want justice."

'This is Anthony's moment'

Phillips accused law enforcement of having "tunnel vision" regarding the case, and said if investigators had not immediately targeted Mertz as the only suspect, others might have just as easily been matched to the crime.

"The moment this partial credit card was found ... Anthony Mertz was guilty as far as the state was concerned," she said. "It's not our job to prove Anthony innocent."

She questioned DNA evidence and the expert witness the state called in connection with it, accusing the evidence of being slanted toward Mertz. She also questioned the methods in which the crime lab handled the DNA evidence, and if the procedures were reliable.

"All the evidence would lead you to believe there was some sort of contamination," she said. "Garbage in, garbage out."

Phillips also tried to explain Mertz's statement's to police as nerves during interviews the night of his arrest. She said anyone would have reacted as he did if



told by police that he or she committed a crime.

"Wouldn't you be if someone was telling you over and over that you did it?"

She pointed out the absurdity of Mertz leaving so much evidence behind, and asked the jury if they really thought he was "stupid" enough to leave his credit card behind and not leave town.

Phillips also said the state was "really reaching" to show there had been an aggravated criminal sexual assault.

"You can't rape a dead person," she said.

The state gave a brief rebuttal to Phillips closing arguments, restating its view on the testimony regarding DNA, as well as other evidence, and negating continued references to Brian Beavers, a neighbor of Mertz's also being a potential suspect. Phillips had implied Beavers also knew how to open doors with credit cards, and could have stolen Mertz's that was found at the scene.

"Did he (Beavers) also borrow Anthony's DNA?" Ferguson asked.



SKETCHES BY GUSTAV GERHARDT

# CAA to focus on health courses

By Jamie Hussey  
STAFF WRITER

The Council on Academic Affairs will discuss a class revision and a new course proposal Thursday.

The class for revision is Health Studies 3770, Health Services Administration.

Health studies professor Julie Dietz currently teaches it. She said the class will be changed from HST 3770 to HST 4770.

"If the class revision gets approved by the CAA, it will also be offered to graduate students," Dietz said.

She said there was a push from the Gerontology Program to offer the class to graduate students.

Dietz said the reason for the revision is because time passes and the update will make it more current.

"The class now addresses the administrative theory and process-

es in and how they relate to health services," Dietz said.

The new course proposal is for a new senior seminar. The class will be titled EIU 4126G, Body, Health and Society.

Health studies professor Susan Woods will initially teach the class.

"There has been a tremendous interest in the last 10 years in the meaning of the body in society," Woods said.

The new interest in the body spans across disciplines, which is why Woods thought it would be a good topic for senior seminar.

Woods said the class will address topics such as image and representation of physical aspects in the media.

Discussion of images will include femininity, masculinity, ethnicity and sexual orientation. Woods said the class will include presentations on how the media affects individuals' health.

# Workshop's lesson: Happiness is a choice

By Matthew Kent  
ACTIVITIES REPORTER

Being happy is a choice that comes from within all individuals.

"Fifty percent of happiness comes from DNA, and the other 50 percent is us choosing to be happy," said Cara Pschirrer, of the Counseling Center. Pschirrer led a workshop Wednesday titled "Choosing to be Happy."

About 45 people attended the workshop Wednesday with hope of finding choices that will make their lives happier.

She listed nine different choices people can make to make their lives happier.

"I see happiness as a recipe and the nine choices as the ingredients," Pschirrer said. The first choice Pschirrer mentioned was intention.

"You have to have a mindset in order to be happy — this is a learned behavior," she said.

Accountability means assuming full responsibility for actions, thoughts, feelings and refusal to blame others.

"It is a lot easier to blame others than take the blame ourselves — we must take full accountability for ourselves," Pschirrer said.

She also said being able to identify what makes a person happy is important.

"Standing up for yourself and doing anything that makes you happy is the key."

Pschirrer also said repressing problems doesn't help.

"When we repress a problem, it doesn't go away, and it will hold you back," Pschirrer said. "You can't turn anything into meaningful until you deal with bad emotions."

People must have options in order to be open to new possibilities, Pschirrer said.

"You have to be flexible and have options," Pschirrer said.

Another element in being happy is being appreciative.

"We need to appreciate our qualities, especially living in the U.S. being thankful for what we have," Pschirrer said.

Sharing emotions and listening with friends and family also is essential to being happy.

Charges:

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1A

organ of one person by an object, the sex organ or mouth of another person) by the use of force or the threat of force

— Commits an act of sexual penetration and the accused knew that the victim was unable to understand the nature of the act or was unable to give knowing consent

— The accused committed aggravated criminal sexual assault if he or

she commits criminal sexual assault and any of the following aggravating circumstances existed during:

— The accused displayed, threatened to use, or used a dangerous weapon or any object fashioned or utilized in such a manner as to lead the victim under the circumstances reasonably to believe it to be a dangerous weapon

— The accused caused bodily harm to the victim

— The accused acted in such a manner as to threaten or endanger the life of the victim or any other person

— The criminal sexual assault was perpetrated during the course of the commission or attempted commission of any other felony by the accused

Source: Criminal Law and Procedure for Illinois Practice by Chase Leonhard

Compiled by  
Carly Mullady, city editor

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The New York Times Crossword

Edited by Will Shortz

No. 0102

- ACROSS
- 1Diagnostic data, informally
- 5"Chitty Chitty Bang Bang" screenwriter
- 9Office correspondence
- 14Gas's partner: Abbr.
- 151958 Pulitzer winner
- 16Rod Stewart's ex
- 17Tropical tuber
- 18Botch
- 19Wrap up
- 20It may allow you to make an entrance
- 22Single-named supermodel
- 23Woody Guthrie's "I Ain't Home"
- 24Football Hall-of-Famer Ford
- 26Some people pass on them: Abbr.
- 28Suffix with verb
- 29"\_\_\_ there?"
- 33Update a factory
- 35Pipe problem
- 37Data
- 38Focus of an interplanetary search
- 42It may be abstract
- 43Remove roughly
- 44Took pains
- 46In stitches
- 47South-of-the-border title: Abbr.
- 50Go for the bronze?
- 51Some speeding vehicles' destinations, briefly
- 53Drive forward
- 55Ordination, e.g.
- 57Comeback, maybe
- 61High hat
- 62December 13th, e.g.
- 63Act like an ass
- 64Like some skies
- 65They can get rough
- 66"\_\_\_ cost you!"
- 67Halfhearted
- 68Vigorous
- 69Misses

ANSWER TO TODAY'S PUZZLE

S T V G E T V H Q I D E I

L T L I S V E S E R N Z V

A V R B S E D I R E L I W

X C V R C E S I M E L I R

T E J W I S R E N Y I

V R S N M E S E A O R I S

I N O R V E I N N O N

E J I T I N E S I T E I N I

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S D R N E T O N I O G

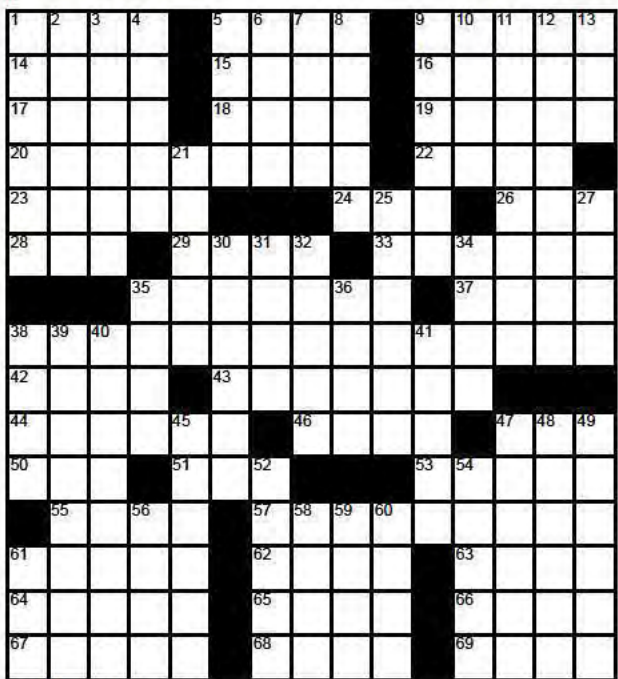
N V W I Q R V C I R V W S

J V C E R N I N R O R V I

V N V I V E E G V C E T E

S O W E W T H V D S E V T

- DOWN
- 1"C'mon!"
- 2Los \_\_\_
- 3Dress down
- 4Pooh-pooh
- 5Ste. Jeanne
- 6Mexican water
- 7One who has it coming?
- 8Tennis great who never won Wimbledon



Puzzle by Elizabeth C. Gorski

- 9Devil dog
- 10Ca, Ga or Pa
- 11Tubes on a plate
- 12Intermittently
- 13Aphid's sustenance
- 21Spa handout
- 25Heretofore
- 27Member of the rose family
- 30Revealing top
- 31Dust Bowl figure
- 32No quick reads
- 34Feature of the Earth
- 35NBC host
- 36"American Gigolo" star
- 38Part of V.M.I.: Abbr.
- 39Stamp and sign, perhaps
- 40"Louder!"
- 41Cover-up in 47-Down
- 45Didn't go straight
- 47Ancient military hub
- 48Amnesiac's lack
- 49Univalent chemical groups
- 52Cager's favorite sound
- 54Head honcho
- 56Actress Polo
- 58Guess
- 59Navy commando
- 60"\_\_\_ est per cipi" (old Latin motto)
- 61Yoga class need



Bullies:

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1A

Although the UPD does not regularly arrest students, Kathryn Kusch, a freshman fashion merchandising major, said she wishes for more personal respect.

"Personally, I live in the dorms, and they can kind of force you to admit that you are drinking," Kusch said.

Chris Schultz, a freshman industrial technician major, spent a weekend in jail for using a fake ID and agreed the UPD could use its time better.

"They should worry about other things, like a guy's car getting busted, or drugs, or violence," he said. "I think the only way they keep this university running is busting college kids by making them pay fines."

One possible reason for students' lackluster perceptions is the leniency the UPD can offer, Due said.

"We have more options than jail," he said. "We can send cases to the Judicial Board and campus citation."

The flexibility, which should accommodate students, has given the UPD a reputation around campus as a group of rent-a-cops or police officers that do not hold the same powers other police officers have.

"We go to the same police academy as everyone else, and we have all

the qualifications," Due said. "I have heard people say 'A campus police officer cannot stop me.' But guess again — we can write them up or send them to jail just as quickly as anyone else can."

Roger Cunningham, assistant chief of the Charleston Police Department, said the UPD and Charleston police forces work together in a mutual-aid agreement, and the two forces pass on information to each other.

"They're definitely sworn police officers," Cunningham said.

Due said the UPD actually has greater jurisdiction.

"We have county-wide jurisdiction, whereas Charleston can only preside over the town," he said. "But the major difference is that customer service here is a big deal — I'm not saying it's not important for Charleston, but it carries a little more weight around here."

"We're here for the students."

Although many students show frustration about the stiff alcohol policy, those same students are content and more importantly, safe.

"I have always felt safe, and I have been here for three years," said junior special education major Megan Loftus. "And the majority of my classes are at night, and even when I am walking back, I still always feel safe."

UPD:

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1A

the crosswalk, then continued on her way.

Campus police usually patrol alone.

"It is department policy that we have one officer per vehicle, because two-man squads typically get into more trouble," Kozak said. "They do things they are not supposed to do. Also we don't have enough manpower, though we do double-up in emergency situations."

Kozak continued to circle campus.

"There typically is not much action on Monday afternoons," Kozak said, and just then she got a call on the radio.

A car outside of the Martin Luther King Jr. University Union needed a jump start. Kozak turned on her lights to get to the broken-down car, which was blocking the west lane of Seventh Street.

When she pulled up to the vehicle, she ran a quick background check on the driver. Once the guy passed the test, Kozak charged the car and got back to work.

On the weekends, Kozak appreciates the sight of lit-up residence halls. She said it brings her attention to the fact some students are actually here to learn.

"I think alcohol is the biggest problem on campus," she said. "I don't mind drinkers that don't cause trouble. It's the ones who go out and blatantly act drunk that draw the attention of us police officers."

Kozak runs into out-of-control students more often on the weekends but doesn't see them as much of a problem.



COLIN MCAULIFFE/PHOTO EDITOR

Officer Matt Bridgeform, of the Charleston Police Department, fills out information in his squad car Wednesday afternoon outside the police station.

"I like working with college students, they rarely get on my nerves," she said. "I like talking to them, even the kids who do cause trouble I like working with, because I can send them a message when they're young."

All UPD officers carry firearms, but she said it has never come to the point where any of the officers have had to use one.

"As far as I know, nobody here has ever fired their weapon, but every officer has had their weapon out of its holster," Kozak said.

UPD is here to serve students, and Kozak assured students when they see the blue squad cars driving around campus they shouldn't worry about getting pulled over.

"I can tell the difference between an honest mistake and an obvious broken law," she said.

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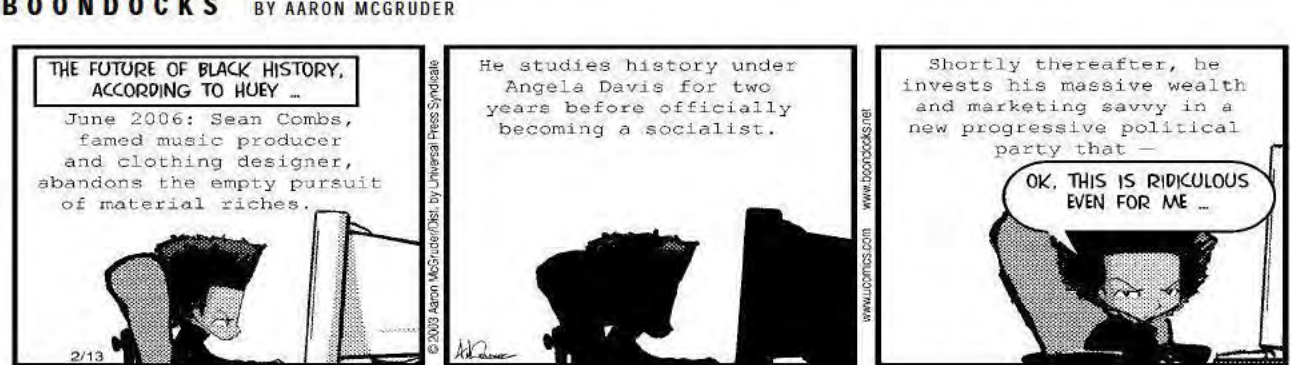
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OVC NEWS

# English hands down suspensions for brawl

◆ *OVC interim Commissioner penalizes players and coaches*

By Matt Meinheit  
SPORTS EDITOR

Ron English, Ohio Valley Conference interim commissioner, responded to the events of Tuesday night's Eastern Kentucky-Tennessee State men's basketball game Wednesday. Following a bumping and elbowing incident between Eastern Kentucky's Shawn Fields and Tennessee State's Cedric Bryson under Eastern Kentucky's basket, play was stopped and the two players were assessed technical fouls and ejected from the

game. While the penalties were being assessed, Tennessee State's Josh Cooperwood pulled an Eastern Kentucky player backward with his arm wrapped around the other player's neck. Cooperwood's actions resulted in both benches clearing. Bryson and Eastern Kentucky's Champ Slaughter and Kenyatta Dix were thrown out of the game for separate fighting incidents, and according to NCAA rules, all three are suspended for their teams' next game. English also suspended Cooperwood. Eastern Kentucky's Sherard Rogers, who threw a box of mini-basketballs at a group of players during the melee, was suspended immediately by head coach

Travis Ford. Following Ford's suspension of Rogers, English decided not to impose any further penalty. English was not available to comment but was quoted in a press release saying, "In reviewing the tape made available to us, the one-game penalty for those noted is appropriate." English went on to say, "This situation did not include wild swinging, punching and kicking by multiple players. There were a few select punches thrown, and the game officials were able to identify those individuals involved and took the appropriate action." English commended the officiating crew of Mike Stuart, Tracy Woodson and Patrick Evans for

their handling of the situation, and the ejection decisions they made. English also stated he fully supports their decisions to restart the game when each team had only four eligible players remaining. According to English, the three game officials praised Ford and Hosea Lewis, Tennessee State interim head coach, for helping to get their teams back to their respective benches. But English also said the coaches job, in the first place, is to keep their players on their bench, so both coaches would be assessed a one-game suspension consistent with OVC policy. Joanne Glasser, the president of Eastern Kentucky University, was present at the game and apol-

ogized to Lewis after the game. She also apologized in a phone call to James Hefner, president of Tennessee State University, for what occurred. In the press release, English said, "I cannot express strongly enough the disappointment that the entire OVC family feels over the events that occurred on Monday night. This type of behavior has no place in athletics and no place in the OVC. This conference is committed to ensuring that this type of event does not occur in the future. The coaches and players in the OVC have worked hard over the course of the last decade in areas of sportsmanship and fair play. This incident serves as a reminder that we must continue that resolve."

## Racing: Panthers battle Racers for fourth spot in the conference

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 12

first-round home game in the OVC Tournament with Murray behind them in the fifth spot. A win over the Racers could also put them in charge of the tiebreaker because of their win over first place Morehead. "When you are playing head to head, it's easier to distance yourself from the other teams," Samuels said. If anything concerns Samuels entering the game, it's Murray's inside game. The Racers lead the

league in rebound margin (5.8) and are second in blocked shots with 4.6 per game. "We have to keep them off the boards," Samuels said. "A couple of late rebounds were critical when they beat us here. We have to be tough inside the lane." Something Samuels will not have to be concerned about is the health of the No. 3 scorer in the nation, Henry Domercant. The senior guard injured his ankle in the second half against Morehead Saturday but will have no problems making the start for Eastern. Senior center Jan Thompson went down with an injury against the Eagles, but he also is expected to be in the lineup for the Panthers. The Racers have a balanced

*"We have to keep them off the boards. A couple of late rebounds were critical when they beat us here."*

—Rick Samuels

trip with a critical match up against Tennessee-Martin at 6 p.m. Saturday. The Skyhawks (12-10, 5-6) sit in the sixth spot and would be tied with the Panthers with a win. Eastern knocked off Martin earlier in the season at Lantz Arena in a 68-60 victory. "The little things could be huge there," Samuels said. "Execution offensively will be huge for us. It'll be a tough match up." Samuels hopes they can put their road troubles behind them and solidify their spot in the conference standings down the final stretch before the OVC tournament. "This has been the hardest road trip for us," Samuels said. "The Murray/Martin road trips have been the toughest."



### Men's Basketball Standings

	OVC	OVERALL
Morehead State	10-2	16-7
Austin Peay	8-2	15-6
Tennessee Tech	7-3	14-9
Eastern Illinois	6-5	11-12
Murray State	5-5	12-9
Tennessee-Martin	5-6	12-10
Eastern Kentucky	4-7	10-12
Southeast Missouri	4-7	9-14
Tennessee State	0-11	2-20



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Regroup:  
Both teams look to end losing skids

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 12

Both teams are coming off two-game losing streaks and would like to get back on track before the start of the OVC Tournament. The Panthers are currently a game out of fourth place in the OVC.

With a win Saturday and a Morehead State loss to Tennessee-Tech, the Panthers could move into the fourth spot and possibly earn a first round home game in the OVC Tournament. This would be a great accomplishment for the Panthers, but Wunder knows the team's success will be measured by its ability to win on the road.

"These last four games are critical for us," she said. "We have to prove to ourselves that we can win on the road, just in case we don't get a home game in the tourney." Eastern has three road games in the next three weeks against past opponents it has beaten at home earlier this season. Wins over Tennessee-Martin, Murray State and Tennessee State would give the Panthers great confidence and a good seed going into the OVC Tournament.

Wunder says the Panthers shouldn't look past Tennessee-Martin this weekend, but they should also realize what is at stake. The Panthers last four games will provide a good opportunity for them to end the season on a positive note.

"Knowing that we have beaten them before gives us great confidence going into Saturday," Wunder said.

		
Women's Basketball Standings		
	OVC	OVERALL
Austin Peay	10-0	18-3
Eastern Kentucky	8-2	16-6
Southeast Missouri	8-3	14-7
Morehead State	5-6	12-10
Tennessee-Martin	5-6	8-14
Tennessee Tech	4-6	9-12
Eastern Illinois	4-7	5-17
Tennessee State	2-8	4-16
Murray State	1-9	5-16
Thursday's Matchups		
Tenn. Tech at Morehead State - 6 p.m.		
Tenn. State at E. Kentucky - 6:30 p.m.		
Saturday's Matchups		
Eastern Illinois at Tenn.-Martin - 4 p.m.		
SEMO at Murray State - 4 p.m.		
Tenn. State at Austin Peay - 5:30 p.m.		
Tenn. Tech at E. Kentucky - 6:30 p.m.		

After defeating the Skyhawks by 11 points in their last meeting, the Panthers should be confident going into Saturday's game. The Panthers believe a road win Saturday would help set a positive tone for the rest of their season.



COLIN MCAULIFFE/PHOTO EDITOR  
Junior forward Ronesha Franklin drives past an Eastern Kentucky defender Monday at Lantz Arena.

Dream:  
Moyer gets chance to continue career in front of family

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 12

In 2001, he had his breakout year by tying for the team lead in sacks, with four, and was named "Ironman of the Game" July 8

against Orlando, after catching two touchdown passes and making three tackles.

Moyer returned near his hometown of Orangeville when he was drafted by Chicago in the first round of the dispersal draft Dec. 10, 2002, after the Bobcats disbanded.

He was happy to come back and share his experience with his family.

"My mother and father go to every game, and they are my

biggest fans," Moyer said. "I bought 14 season tickets for the rest of my family. They are all supportive and love it that I play near home."

Moyer earned second-team All-Arena honors and was a finalist for Lineman of the Year in his first season with Chicago. He tied for the league lead in fumbles forced with four, and tied career highs in both tackles (21) and sacks (four).

This season, the Rush has start-

ed slowly by dropping their its two games of the season. Moyer is optimistic the team will come back to the form last of year's team that advanced to the semifinals of the playoffs.

"We just have to continue on with what we have been working on," Moyer said.

"Our defense hasn't been bad, and once that spark hits the gas, I think that we will explode. It's better to be in that slump earlier in the year."

John Moyer Bio

Position: OL/DL


Height: 6-3

Weight: 265

AFL Experience: 4

Birth Date: feb. 24, 1975

Hometown: Plantation, Fla.



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DARKNESS FALLS (PG13)  
Daily 5:30, 7:50, 10:15  
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## SPORTS

## Panther sports calendar

THURSDAY	M basketball at Murray State	7:30 p.m. Murray, Ky.
SATURDAY	W basketball at Tenn.-Martin	4 p.m. Martin, Tenn.
	M basketball at Tenn.-Martin	6 p.m. Martin, Tenn.

## WHERE ARE THEY NOW?

## Former Panther 'Rush'es dream

◆ Eastern graduate John Moyer, a one-time Panther defensive end, continues playing the game he loves for the Chicago Rush

By Matt Williams  
ASSOCIATE SPORTS EDITOR

Former Panther football player John Moyer is continuing his dream, after spending two years in the blue and white uniforms at Eastern from 1995 to 1996.

Moyer is currently a starting guard and defensive tackle for the Chicago Rush, a team in the Arena Football League. He said getting paid to do the thing he loves makes this a great experience for him.

"As far as the experience, anytime you can continue on after college and play a sport you love while making a living, doing it is amazing," Moyer said.

Moyer, a second-team all-Ohio Valley Conference selection in 1996, gives credit to Eastern head coach Bob Spoo's system for part of his current success with the Rush.

"Anyone who is brought up in their system becomes a better athlete," Moyer said. "I loved Coach Spoo and (Roy) Wittke. They were two great individuals and great to play for."

Moyer had to make a big transition moving from college to the arena league. At Eastern, he was primarily a defensive end but took on both offensive and defensive responsibilities when he

"Anyone who is brought up in their system becomes a better athlete."

—John Moyer

entered the league four years ago with the Florida Bobcats. He said his athleticism is what got him recruited to Eastern in the first place.

"It was (difficult) at first, but when I was recruited by coach Wittke, it was because he liked athletic people," Moyer said.

Before Moyer began his career in the AFL, he had a short stint with the Indianapolis Colts. He made it down to the final cuts in training camp, but was unable to make the final roster.

"That was an incredible experience to be in an NFL training camp," Moyer said. "It was a dream of mine just to be looked at and participate with a team."

Moyer made 13 appearances with Florida in his first season, but was hampered by an ankle injury in his second season and only played in eight games.

SEE DREAM ◆ Page 11



SUBMITTED PHOTO

John Moyer spent two seasons as a Panther under head coach Bob Spoo and is now playing in the Arena Football League for the Chicago Rush.

## MEN'S BASKETBALL

## Racing away from home



COLIN MCAULIFFE/PHOTO EDITOR

Senior guard Henry Domercant dribbles between his legs against Morehead State Saturday. Domercant will be in the starting lineup despite suffering an ankle injury against the Eagles.

◆ Panthers take four-game win streak on the road Thursday against Murray State

By Matt Williams  
ASSOCIATE SPORTS EDITOR

The last time Eastern traveled to the Regional Special Events Center it suffered a 47-point loss at the hands of Murray State in the first round of the 2002 Ohio Valley Conference tournament.

The memory of the defeat still floats around the Panthers locker room.

"I don't think it's in the back of our minds. I think it's in our minds," Eastern

head coach Rick Samuels said. "We don't ever want to be in that position again."

The good points the Panthers (11-12, 6-5) can pull from this is they are on a four-game winning streak and are coming off a victory over top ranked Morehead State.

The Racers (12-10, 5-5) are also on a streak of their own. They have dropped their past two games but look to break out of their slump.

"The good thing is that we feel good

about ourselves," Samuels said. "Murray has lost a couple, so they are going to be anxious to get going again. Games at this time are always crucial."

The Panthers have been unlucky on the road this season with only two wins in 12 tries.

This game proves to be important, not just for another game in the win column, but because Eastern currently sits in the fourth and final spot for a

SEE RACING ◆ Page 10

## WOMEN'S BASKETBALL

## Panthers attempt to regroup at Martin

◆ Eastern aims for first road win of the season against the Skyhawks

By Lamon Woods  
STAFF WRITER

The Panthers will try to regroup this weekend as they visit the Tennessee-Martin Skyhawks in search of their first road win. Coach Linda Wunder knows it will not be an easy task.

"Tennessee-Martin is a very offensive-minded team," Wunder said. "They basically look to outscore their opponents."

Eastern will have to play 40 minutes of solid defense if it expects to come out on top. "We have to play great defense that will hopefully lead to some easy baskets for us on the other end," Wunder said.

Stopping Tennessee-Martin's two leading scorers, forward Julie Young (19 points in the last meetings) and forward Amy Watson (18 points in the last meeting, 16.5 for the season), will be vital for the Panther's success.

"We focused more on Amy (Watson) last game, but we will be prepared for both of them this time," Wunder said.

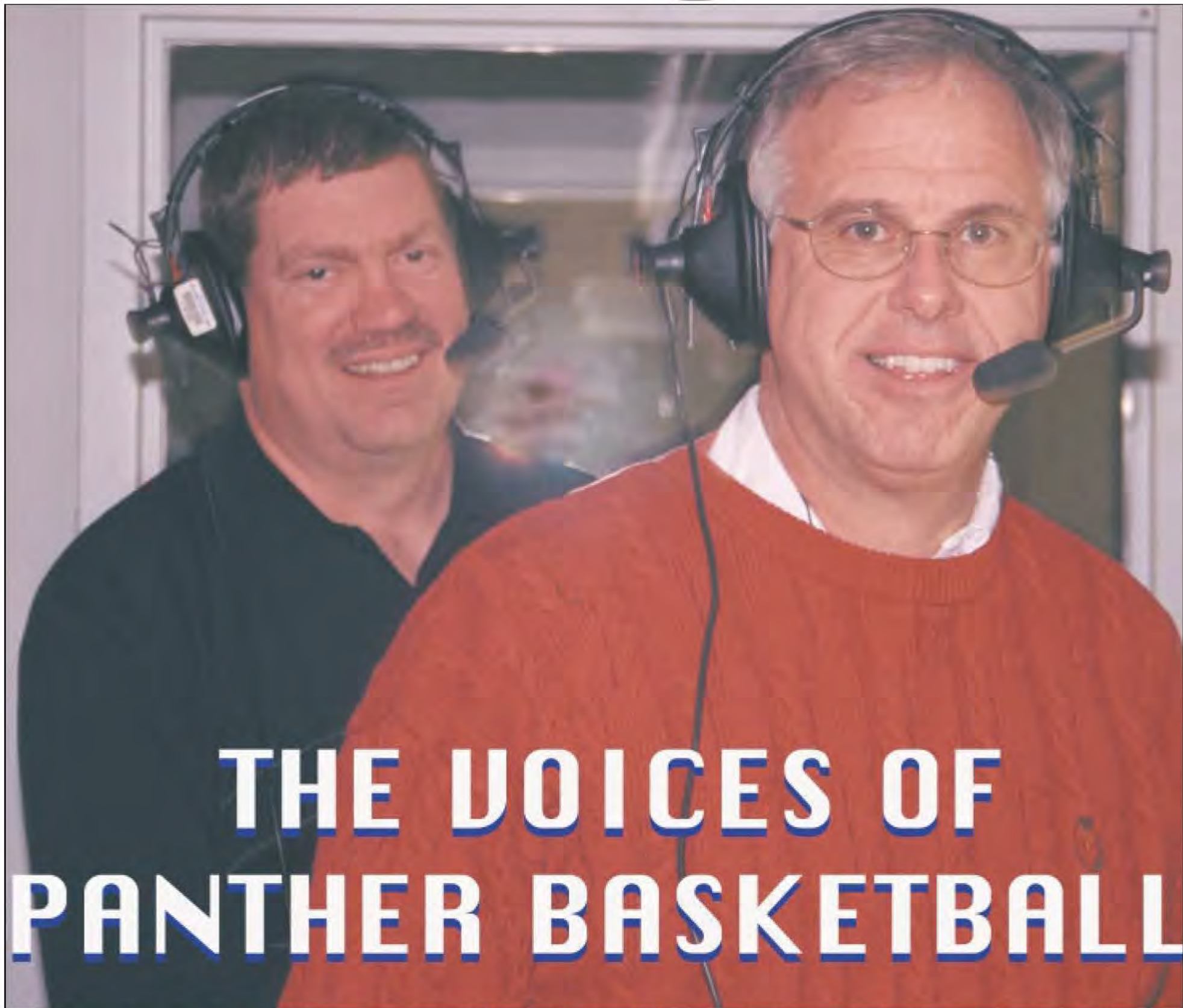
The Panthers won the first meeting 81-70 at Lantz Arena.

The Panthers will have to do their fair share of scoring Saturday to repeat their win earlier this season. Big efforts will be needed from junior guard Lauren Daily (14 points in the last meeting, 13.0 points per game for the season) and senior Brooke Gossett (17 points in the last meeting, 10.3 for season), along with steady contributions from the rest of the team.

"We shot the ball well last game," Wunder said. "We will need that again if we expect to win."

SEE REGROUP ◆ Page 11





# ◆ Eastern professors Mike Bradd and Jack Ashmore reflect on Eastern's best teams and players of the last 20 years

By Ben Turner  
VERGE EDITOR

Everyone who follows sports knows the voices of the game that have become celebrities because of their broadcasting careers. John Madden, Harry Caray, Howard Cosell and Marv Albert are household names. Fans who follow one particular pro or college team also become accustomed to the squad's commentators.

The voices of Eastern basketball are more than just commentators, they are also Eastern professors. Mike Bradd and Jack Ashmore are faculty members in the speech

communication department. They've been broadcasting Eastern basketball games on local radio stations since the mid '80s.

Ashmore is an Eastern graduate (class of '76) and is originally from Oakland, Ill. He started announcing Charleston High School games at 19 and still does all the home and away games on WEIC. Because of his busy schedule, he can only do color commentary for Eastern home games.

Bradd graduated from Bradley University in 1980 after growing up in Cooksville, just west of Bloomington. His first job after college came at WLBH in Mattoon

as news director. Bradd started doing Eastern games during their '84-'85 season, although at the time he was asked to do color as now retired play-by-play man Marc Stuart was wrapping up his career.

Bradd took over play-by-play in the fall of 1988 and Ashmore has provided color for the majority of the home games since. For road games, Bradd will either work by himself or Dave Kidwell or Pat Osterman from the sports information office will fill-in. Kidwell said Bradd is always 100 percent prepared and his presence on road games is just to give Bradd periodic short breaks.

A few different stations have carried the telecasts during their careers. Starting out on WLBH, Eastern games have also been carried on WCBH (before it became The Party and was a classic rocker out of Casey), one year games were split between WEIU and WEIC, WACF from Paris, and this is the third season WHQQ has carried the games.

Bradd said Double Q is the ideal station for the games because it is located in Coles County and the Cromwell group can cross promote the games on their three other local stations. Kidwell agreed saying the Cromwell group stations

can advertise the games to the most diverse demographics.

"Ideally, we'd love for everyone of all ages to listen, but the ratings show WHQQ's demographics are similar to those who would listen to the games on the radio," Kidwell said.

Bradd and Ashmore have different influences because each grew up in different areas of Illinois.

"I listened to the stations out of Bloomington. They always had really good play-by-play people," Bradd said. He credited Jim Durham as his earliest influence. Durham did play-by-play for SEE VOICES ◆ Page 6B



## THE FAVORITE FIVE

Verge editor, Ben Turner discusses the best radio the Midwest has to offer.

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## THE FAVORITE FIVE...

## Midwest radio stations



Ben Turner  
Verge Editor

He is also a  
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Contact him at eiu-  
verge@hotmail.com

5. WEFT FM 90.1 Champaign – A non-profit, volunteer run station, WEFT provides 24-hour musical diversity. WEFT is one of the only stations I have ever encountered that plays practically every genre of music humans have ever invented. I'm not kidding either: blues, jazz, world, hip-hop, ambient, metal, punk, alt-country, bluegrass, industrial and the list goes on and on. Opinions are also expressed on talk segments that cover a wide range of topics and community news. If you're looking to expand your musical horizons, WEFT will do so more than any other station I have ever encountered.

4. WMVP AM 1000 Chicago – The home of ESPN radio in Chicago, WMVP carries many of the syndicated ESPN programs but does have a live and local afternoon drive team of Mac, Jurko and Harry. Jurko's real name is John Jurkovic, a former Eastern defensive lineman who was named the Gateway Conference defensive player of the year twice in the late '80s. Jurkovic had productive years with the Green Bay Packers and Jacksonville Jaguars during his NFL career, and his time with The Packers creates interesting reactions from some listeners.

WMVP is also home to Bulls basketball with Neil Funk and John Paxson, White Sox baseball with John Rooney and Ed Farmer and covers University of Illinois at Chicago basketball as well. Chicago Sportscenter updates follow the national updates, typically twice an hour, and any games that are ESPN radio feeds can be heard as long as don't interfere with the home town teams.

3. WXRT FM 93.1 Chicago – I love XRT because Iggy and The Stooges might be followed by Bob Marley and The Wailers. You never know what's coming next and that's what makes it great. Unlike many stations in the Chicagoland area, XRT adds more than just singles and prefers to play multiple cuts from an album.

The closest thing to a college format on the commercial portion of the band in the area, XRT offers the most diverse rock music of all the commercial outlets. XRT has been playing quality rock music in Chicago for over 30 years. The DJs aren't as annoying as some of the other alternative stations and are very knowledgeable about music in general.

2. WONC FM 89.1 Naperville – North Central College's radio station is my favorite source of rock music. WONC blends classic rock with punk and indie selections. Powerful and informative WONC pretty much covers the entire Chicago suburbs, but many of the Chicago college stations keep its signal from reaching the city.

Broadcasting 24 hours a day and commercial free, some of WONC's personalities are a little annoying but they encourage feedback and they play requests. The late night programs will frequently have guests from the local music scene and play lots of Chicago punk rock. WONC's expanded college radio playlists allows the station to appeal to more than just the college radio fan.

1. WSCR AM 670 Chicago – The Score is my favorite Midwest radio station because unlike all the music stations in the state, no matter when I turn on WSCR I like what I hear. The primary reason for this is because while fans of music have many different opinions on what they like, sports is more of a universal source of entertainment. The personalities on The Score aren't afraid to tell it like it is, and those of us that are fans of Chicago sports teams know that many of the teams deserve the criticism.

Home of local sports like Chicago Blackhawks hockey and University of Illinois basketball, The Score also carries the NFL playoffs, college football and NCAA tournament matchups thanks to feeds from

Westwood One. The midday tandem of Terry Bohrs and Dan Bernstein are my favorite personalities but The Wiseguys (Mike North and Doug Baffone), Dan Jiggets and nights with Jonathan Hood are also very entertaining and informative. I never seem to wake up in time to catch the morning drive team. When I go home for breaks I become addicted to The Score proving that it is my favorite Midwest radio station.

## Honorable mention

- ♦ WLUP FM 97.9 – Chicago
- ♦ WHQQ FM 98.9 – Mattoon
- ♦ WWHP FM 98.3 – Farmer City
- ♦ WILL FM 95.1 – Kenosha, Wis.
- ♦ WBBM AM 780 – Chicago
- ♦ WGN AM 720 – Chicago
- ♦ WGCI FM 107.5 – Chicago
- ♦ WZNX FM 106.7 – Decatur
- ♦ WEIU FM 88.9 – Charleston

## More Favorite Fives:

Jeremy Pelzer, junior social science major

- 5. WBEZ FM 91.5 – Chicago
- 4. WZZN FM 94.7 – Chicago
- 3. WKQX FM 101.1 – Chicago
- 2. WLW FM 88.7 – Chicago
- 1. WMAD 92.1 – Madison, Wis.

Jack Ashmore, professor speech communication

- 5. WXET FM 107.9 – Mattoon
- 4. WDWS AM 1400 – Champaign
- 3. WSCR AM 670 – Chicago
- 2. KMOX AM 1120 – St. Louis
- 1. WGN AM 720 – Chicago

Mike Bradd, professor speech communication

- 5. WEIU FM 88.9 – Charleston
- 4. WHMS FM 97.5 – Champaign
- 3. WJBC AM 1230 – Bloomington
- 2. WHQQ FM 98.9 – Mattoon
- 1. KMOX AM 1120 – St. Louis

Ben Erwin, junior journalism major

- 5. WONC FM 89.1 – Naperville
- 4. WCRX FM 88.1 – Chicago
- 3. WLLI FM 96.7 – Joliet
- 2. WWCT FM 105.7 – Peoria
- 1. WYKT FM 105.5 – Wilmington

Kelly McCabe, Associate Verge editor

- 5. WXRX FM 104.9 – Rockford
- 4. WGN AM 720 – Chicago
- 3. WPGU FM 107.1 – Champaign
- 2. WXRT FM 93.1 – Chicago
- 1. WMAD FM 92.1 – Madison, Wis.

Next week's topic: (By request) The most influential albums of the last 20 years. Any genre, any artist.

Voice your opinion email your favorite five to eiuverge@hotmail.com or drop off your picks at the newsroom, 1811 Buzzard. We welcome lists from students, staff and faculty. Students please include your year in school and major. Deadline for submissions is noon on Wednesdays.

Do you have a topic that you think would make a good favorite five? Do you feel strongly about your picks and want to write a column? Let the staff of The Verge know, feedback from readers makes our day.

We're always on the lookout for more staff writers, so if you want to write a review of an album, movie, book, video game, concert or play let us know. Don't know what to write about? E-mail us at eiuverge@hotmail.com and we'll add you to the weekly Verge mailer with story ideas and review possibilities.

Do you think The Verge isn't diverse enough and your favorite bands don't get any coverage, well don't just sit there, voice your opinion and E-mail The Verge.

## New Music on WEIU FM 88.9

Rock (5-9 p.m. daily)

- ♦ Dance Disaster Movement – We are from Nowhere
- ♦ Kissing Chaos – Enter With a Bullet
- ♦ Red Hot Valentines – Calling off Today EP
- ♦ Furtherseemsforever – How to Start a Fire
- ♦ Sincebyman – We Sing the Body Electric
- ♦ Rye Coalition – Jersey Girls EP
- Jazz (afternoons until 5 p.m.)
- ♦ Aoki, Hussinger, Jarman – Trio
- ♦ Mark O'Connor – In Full Swing
- ♦ George Barnes – Don't get Around Much Anymore
- ♦ Irvin Mayfield – Half Past Autumn
- Hip-Hop (9-midnight Friday and Saturday)
- ♦ Mariah Carey featuring Camron – "Oh Boy" remix
- ♦ Nastics and Binks – "Frequency"

## Top 10 albums in sales at Positively Fourth Street

- Records for the week of Feb. 4 - Feb. 10
- 1. 50 Cent – Get Rich or Die Tryin
- 2. Bonnaroo – Live double album
- 3. Jack Johnson – Brushfire Fairytales
- 4. Eminem – The Eminem Show
- 5. Zwan – Mary Star of the Sea
- 6. Kid Rock – Cocky
- 7. Aaliyah – I Care 4 U
- 8. Audioslave – S/T
- 9. Phish DVD – Live in Vegas
- 10. Missy Elliot – Under Construction



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# Character chemistry works like a charm again in sequel

By Ryan Rinchiuso  
STAFF WRITER

"Shanghai Knights" is a movie using so many clichéd ideas it has no reason to work. The movie is not original and the story is something that has been used one way or another in many different buddy pictures and action comedies. Yet, thanks to the appeal of the two main characters and the actors portraying them, "Shanghai Knights" overcomes all of its problems and becomes a very enjoyable film.

"Shanghai Knights" takes place a few years after "Shanghai Noon" and sees Chon Wang (Jackie Chan) as the sheriff of Carson City, Nev., and Roy O'Bannon (Owen Wilson) living in New York as the hero of a trashy dime novel series. The two are reunited after Wang learns from his sister that their father was murdered and the Great Seal of China was stolen. Wang, who vows to avenge his father, travels with Roy to London, to track the killers down. While in London, the two encounter many famous people, fall in love and save the day.

"Shanghai Noon," when released three years ago, was not a big hit and was killed by "Mission: Impossible 2". When released on tape, however, many people found the fish-out-of-water story of

"Shanghai Knights"  
David Dobkin, director  
☆☆☆

Jackie Chan in the Wild West and the great chemistry between Chan and Wilson to be appealing. This movie did so well on video and in foreign markets the makers believed it merited a sequel. Although "Shanghai Noon" mixed many genres together, it did not feel forced. The idea of seeing Chan tackling the old west seemed like a good idea and the film worked.

The ideas behind "Shanghai Knights" feel much more forced, as if the makers did not have any ideas and just stole many successful formulas from other films and mixed them together. Since it is a sequel, the locations have to be new, grander and bigger, the action more intense and the story had to include many new characters. The film is a buddy movie and the two leads are now friends, so new characters had to be introduced to be their antagonists, which include a troublesome child (the kiss of death in most movies) and a London police officer.

Although the story was not original and felt forced, the movie is still a very enjoyable two hours.

Wilson and Chan, when in the right movie have so much charisma in them it is impossible not to like them. Thankfully this is the perfect role for both of them and they shine separately in their scenes and even more when they are together. Wilson, with his slow, aw-shucks delivery, and Chan, with his bad English and fun fight scenes, are better partners for each other than anyone they have been teamed up with in other movies.

Chan, in "Shanghai Knights," also gets to use his frantic style of fighting better here than in any of his other American films. The scene where he gets to honor one of his heroes, Gene Kelly, with an umbrella and "Singing in the Rain" playing in the background was a remarkable scene that proves to everyone how graceful he is and that he could anchor a musical successfully.

While not as good as "Shanghai Noon," it is much better than most sequels and keeps about 95 percent of the magic together for this movie. The plot and story are of no importance and take a back seat to the two stars. The chemistry makes the film, and I for one would not mind seeing a third film with these two paired together, but hopefully the writers for this movie would bring something new to the film.



Jackie Chan and Owen Wilson team up again in "Shanghai Knights".

# Nick Cave and The Bad Seeds don't sleep through 11th studio album

By Matt Rennels  
STAFF WRITER

On October 21, 1996, Nick Cave wrote a letter to MTV, graciously withdrawing from the running for best male artist.

The leader of The Bad Seeds started with sincere acknowledgment for years of support. He then marked out any further nominations in years to come as he felt the award should be presented to someone who felt willing to let their music compete with others.

His noble point is made, some poetry is spoken, and three paragraphs down Cave is speaking of a bloody cart of severed heads and glittering prizes-three paragraphs after any MTV executive cared.

In the early '80s, Cave was fronting the Birthday Party, a band with roots as the forefathers of gothic music. After the band broke, Nick gathered members from both

Party and a band called Magazine.

From here on, Cave and the Bad Seeds cranked out 10 albums of music that pranced towards politics and danced on darkness. Even today, Cave doesn't know how to shut up, as it is made clear on "Nocturama" the Bad Seeds' latest released on Mute Records, a Euro label comprised of Moby, Goldfrapp and Erasure.

The group's 11th studio release is a good one. Neither he nor his backing band has lost a bit of the flame as apparent on "Babe, I'm on Fire," the final course of the album which drives for 38 stanzas and a dozen choruses.

Now that's just a taste and I may have given you too large a bit to digest, but chew slowly, the Bad Seeds are always a lot to swallow.

Since their '84 debut release, "From Her to Eternity," Cave and the B. S. (did they play that?) have built up quite a following while only

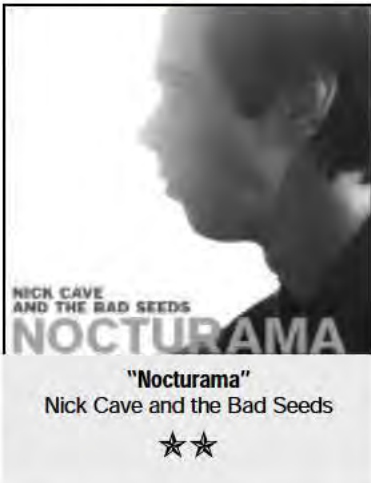
brimming the mainstream, never quite spilling over. The most commercially successful album the group released was 1996's "Murder Ballads", which caused Cave to give MTV his two cents.

"Nocturama" strikes a bearing similarity to that letter dated six and a half years ago. The music is both enticing and effective, the lyrics are smart, but the songs just keep going long after they should have ended.

The opening track, "Wonderful Life," is a beautiful groove about the finding of love. The song pushed five minutes when it could have been wrapped up at four minutes, although at this point I was more than willing to forgive it.

The bona fide ballads are the treasures on 'Nocturama.' From the previously mentioned "Wonderful Life" to "Right Out of Your Hand" both shine on the record.

Immediately following is "Bring



It On," a track that gets going and never stops as Cave declares his love for a woman and states how he plans to stick with her through the thick and thin.

"Dead Man In My Bed," is an organ pounding track as Cave

sounds like a grizzled Tom Petty scowling out words that question death, a question that he has often asked.

The second half of the album weakens as indulgence rises alongside bland songwriting. The plateau of good is rarely reached on such tracks as "Still In Love," "She Passed By My Window" and "Rock of Gibraltar," a song that would comfortably fit into the John Denver catalog.

And then came the final thrust of energy, a thrust of mammoth proportions in "Babe, I'm On Fire." Verses one through 10 I can handle, but 28 more stanzas of torment and hyperactivity I cannot.

Cave is a very talented man. His message is very sincere but sometimes he gets carried away. Ever had that smart kid in the class who knew everything and would be really cool if he'd just shut up? That man is Nick Cave.

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# Tummler returns to Friends & Co. riding high after 'Early Man'

By Ben Turner  
VERGE EDITOR

This Saturday Friends & Co. will host another Champaign based project when Tummler roars into town.

Tummler's intense, stoner rock sound has taken the band all over America. In March they will headline the Small Stone Records showcase at the South by Southwest music festival held annually in Austin, Texas.

Frontman and guitarist Brad Buldak and drummer J Vance has seen some highs and lows with their outfit since forming in 1996. After releasing their demo on the Bartlett-based Small Unmarked Bills Records, Tummler sent their demo to about 25 prospective labels but Buldak said Man's Ruin Records was the label they desired most.

After playing shows with fellow Man's Ruin acts like Gaza Strippers, Alabama Thunderpussy and Solar Rods in late 1999, the buzz from fans and bands was enough to convince the owner of Man's Ruin, Frank Kozik, to sign Tummler.

"We were floored when Kozik asked us to release our next record," Buldak said. "People would buy Man's Ruin releases just for Kozik's artwork, with all the hype surrounding the label, it was the pinnacle of where we wanted to be."

Tummler joined the Man's Ruin lineup at SxSW in 2000 and in October "Queen to Bishop VI" was released. Tummler was flying high but just as things were really taking off the band ran into some major detours.

According to Buldak in one year Man's Ruin went bankrupt, the band lost two of its original members and their website lost its server. After playing 50 or 60 shows in 2000, Buldak estimated Tummler only played live 10 times in 2001.

Things began to take a turn for the worse when former bassist

Steven Hill began to get sick of the Chicago to Champaign commute he was making to practice. Guitarist Jason Casanova lost his job at the University of Illinois and after searching for work around the CU area he moved to California.

Swampass bassist Jason Ginchy offered the band his services after hearing of their opening. Ginchy joined the band in March of last year and his first show with Tummler was at Friends in April. To complete Tummler's current lineup Buldak tapped his friend Ryan Jerzak, who he had played with in the early '90s in a project called Morgue. According to Buldak, Jerzak is a musical prodigy and was giving guitar lessons as early as 15.

"Our original lineup was great, but it's even better now," Buldak said "I feel like I'm the worst one on stage which is good because playing with better people elevates the music as well as providing me a bigger comfort zone as the frontman."

Because the band was in such a state of turmoil, their Small Stone debut "Early Man" also kept getting pushed back. According to Buldak, Tummler had a "hand shake deal" with Small Stone two years ago after the label's owner saw the band perform at the Emissions from Monolith hard rock festival in Youngstown, Ohio. The lineup changes were followed by a writing drought as Vance and Buldak attempted to craft the new material.

Buldak said that laying the tracks down in the studio was painless once the lineup problems were straightened out and the material was written. He attributed the ease of the recording to the abilities and professionalism Ginchy and Jerzak brought to the band.

According to Buldak, the band was shocked when Small Stone approached them about headlin-

ing the showcase at SxSW. Ginchy said this was primarily because the band is such big fans of the other Small Stone acts appearing which include Puny Human, Men of Porn, Five Horse Johnson, Halfway to Gone and Dixie Witch.

Tummler will make the most out of the trip stopping in Coloumbia, Mizz., Little Rock, Ark., Lawrence, Kan. and Oklahoma City, Okla. on their way to Austin, Texas. Buldak gave a couple different reasons for this sort of strategy.

"If you drive straight there and back you don't make any extra money for food and gas," he said. "Momentum is also key to live music, if you take too much time off, the next show won't be as good. I'd hate to drive to Austin and not have the momentum."

Recently Tummler has contributed covers to tribute albums of Lynyrd Skynyrd and St. Vitus. The Skynyrd tribute will be released on Game Two Records. "Workin' for MCA" was the song the band recorded, and according to Buldak, it was "Tummlerized" by recording the chorus in half-time rather than the traditional double-time.

Their St. Vitus cover also appears on "Early Man" although it's not listed on the liner notes. Raven Moon Records will release the tribute album with Tummler's version of "War is Our Destiny." Buldak said Tummler and many other similar sounding bands owe a lot to St. Vitus because they were the misfits of the punk rock scene in the '80s and one of the few bands to carry the stoner rock torch after Black Sabbath.

"They were on SST Records with the likes of Black Flag and The Meatmen but they were instrumental in exposing punk rock crowds to our type of sound," Buldak said.

Buldak went a little deeper in describing how the stoner rock



PHOTO BY AND COURTESY OF SARAH KOTTWITZ

Brad Buldak, guitarist and frontman of Tummler.

genre draws from a lot of different influences. In his experiences, southern rock, punk and metal can all be primary influences in crafting a band's deep and heavy sound.


Rebreather will open the Saturday night show. Hailing from the rural areas outside of Youngstown, Ohio, the band has been together for three-and-a-half years.

Rebreather's latest effort "Need Another Seven Astronauts" was released on the Pennsylvania based Infernal Racket Records on Thanksgiving.

Frontman and guitarist Barley Rantilla said the deal was made after the label's owners saw the band perform at Emissions from Monolith in May. Jake Harnett on guitar, Chad Fondak on bass and Jeremy Koerber on drums rounds out the four-piece.

The band's first two EPs will be released as a single album by Deep Send Records in the spring. Rantilla said the band would be recording their second full-length this week and will most likely shop the album.

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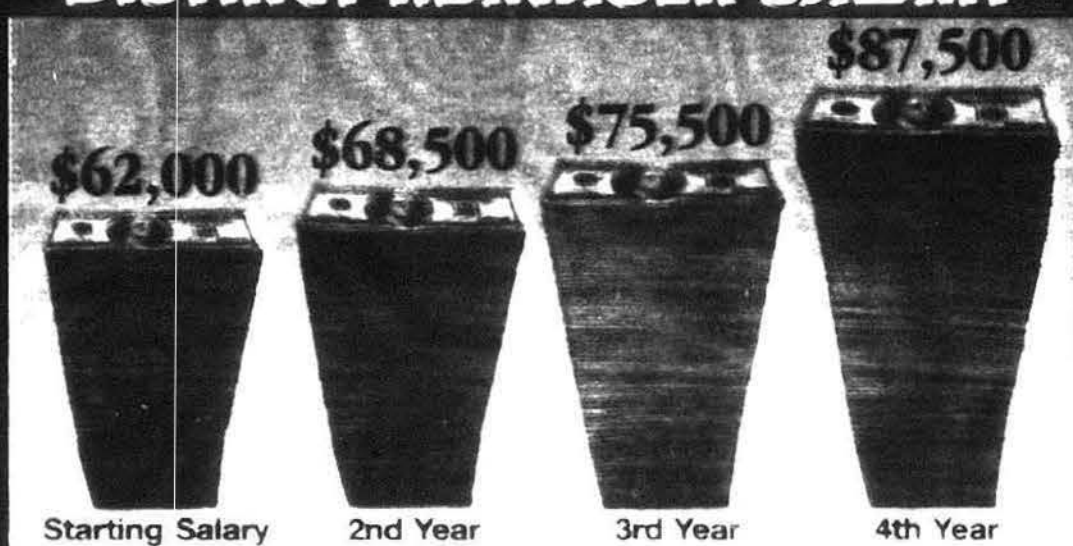
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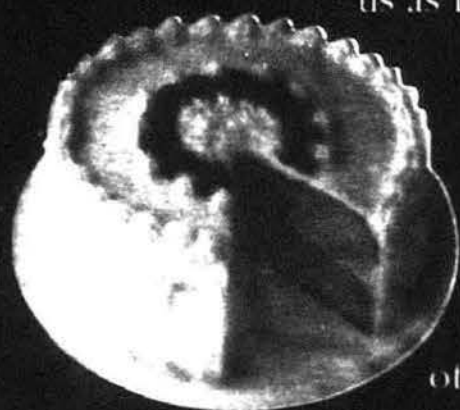
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# 56 Hope Road to bring its own genre of music to The Uptowner

By Greg Walker  
STAFF WRITER

Chicago-based band 56 Hope Road will be bringing its self-proclaimed "acoustic hip-hop sex rock" to Charleston for a show at The Uptowner this Saturday. The members of 56 Hope Road have a hard time describing what musical category they really fit into, citing many influences such as Medeski Martin and Wood, Paul Simon, Dave Matthews Band and Phish.

Although this is 56 Hope Road's first time playing Charleston, it isn't bass player Chad Sanders first time being at Eastern Illinois University. "I once ran in a track meet at Eastern," he said.

One of the elements of the band that makes them somewhat unique is Sanders' choice to play an upright bass, which he first started playing while he was a student at Milliken University in Decatur. Sanders also describes their music as "acoustic booty rock."

Frontman and acoustic guitarist, Steve Goveia, draws inspiration from everywhere for the band's music as well as for his lyrics.

"Our lyrics can be political and fun, but we mainly want it to be something that is danceable to. Something that people can groove with is good," Goveia said.

Goveia shares the primary vocal responsibilities with his fellow acoustic guitarist Dave Hamilton. Drummer Greg Fundis and key-

boardist Steven Mann complete the rest of the band's lineup which they refer to as "the foundation."

According to the band's Web site, the group's music and lyrics are also, "soaring melodies and unflaggingly earnest lyrics."

56 Hope Road supports live recordings of their shows and in the future hopes to put some of the recordings on their website for fans to download.

The Uptowner books quite a few shows over the course of the school

year but the staff is particularly looking forward to this weekend.

"These guys are pretty big in Chicago so we're glad to have them here, and I loved their CD," Chris Eitel, The Uptowner's booking agent said.

At 10 p.m. this Saturday you will have the chance to experience the "fusing gypsy acoustic guitar parts, funky bass, vibrant sax, and unbridled drums." Plus find out the what they mean by "acoustic hip-hop sex rock."

## VOICES:

### Two NCAA tournament appearances among highlights

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1B

Bloomington high school teams while Bradd was growing up before moving on to The Bulls and later to TNT to broadcast NBA games.

"Art Kimble was the first guy to pay me to do games. I've borrowed a lot of stuff from him over the years," Bradd said. Kimble is known throughout the state for broadcasting the basketball state tournament on television. Bradd worked with him in college at WJBC in Bloomington.

Ashmore, on the other hand, admitted his influences were more from the pro level. Vince Lloyd and Lou Bodreau broadcasting Cubs games, Harry Caray while he worked for The Cardinals and even Skip Caray calling St. Louis Hawks basketball games before they moved to Atlanta.

Bradd and Ashmore try to keep up-to-date on what's happening in the professional sports world. This fall they jumped at the opportunity to see the Bears in Champaign, each purchasing season tickets. Although Bradd asks "Are the Bears a professional team?"

When it comes to amateur basketball, each broadcaster has their specialty. Ashmore is well versed on the happenings at the high school level, while Eastern men's basketball head coach Rick Samuels keeps Bradd updated on what's happening throughout the Division I collegiate level. Samuels votes in the weekly coaches poll and keeps a close eye on who's hot and shares his knowledge with Bradd before tapping their pregame interview.

"Because of this job, I can probably tell you more about mid-majors, people like Butler or how some middle-size school's doing versus who's leading in the Big 12," Bradd said. "Jack knows way more about high school than I do, I have to ask him

about high school stuff. I can't tell you who's good. I don't see that many games anymore."

Samuels has been head coach longer than Bradd and Ashmore have done games together, a rarity in today's coaching-carousel climate. In his 23rd year, Samuels has the third longest tenure of active Division I coaches.

During their 15 years of broadcasting, Eastern has had its fair share of quality players as well as changed conferences. Eastern became a Division I basketball school prior to the '81-'82 season and used to play in the Mid Continent Conference with the likes of Western Illinois, Northern Iowa, Southwest Missouri State, Illinois at Chicago and Cleveland State. Today, Valparaiso and Western are the only remaining members as many of the schools now play in the Horizon League. Bradd said the rivalries were better when Eastern was part of the MCC, but now they should call it the All Continent Conference thanks to the likes of Southern Utah and Oral Roberts being members.

"It was a good league for Eastern for several years and then when it changed it was something we had to get out of as quickly as we could," Ashmore said.

Bradd echoed those sentiments and said the amount of travel was getting out of hand. He remembered one road trip that took the team to Troy State in Alabama and Central Connecticut. Eastern joined the Ohio Valley Conference before the '96-'97 season.

Kevin Duckworth is Eastern's most recognizable basketball product after he was drafted in the second round of the NBA draft and played in the NBA finals with the Portland Trailblazers. Ashmore said the '85-'86 team, which Duckworth was part of, probably was the best Eastern squad since going to Division I, but both men agreed Duckworth may not have been the best player on the team.

Small forward Jon Collins was a two time MCC player of the year and was drafted in the sixth round of the '86 NBA draft. Both broadcasters agreed Collins is Eastern's most underrated player.

Ashmore nominated guard Jay Taylor as a debatable choice for the most talented player ever to don an Eastern jersey. Taylor won MCC player of the year in the '88-'89 season and scored 47 points against Chicago State. Bradd said that former guard Kyle Hill was Eastern's most spectacular player thanks to his ability to make "Sportscenter-type" plays. Taylor and Hill rank second and third respectively behind current star Henry Domercant on Eastern's career scoring list. Domercant is a great player, but may not be as physically gifted as some of the others.

"Henry is a talented kid, but he has maximized his potential through hard work and I have a lot of respect for that," Bradd said. "He hasn't had as much scoring help as Duckworth and Hill, so it's remarkable to watch what Henry's accomplished against defenses that are geared to shut him down."

The NCAA tournament expanded from 32 to 64 teams following the '83-'84 season. Eastern won the '85 MCC tournament, but the league was too new and the tournament winner wasn't guaranteed an automatic berth. To compound the frustration, Cleveland State beat Eastern by four in the final of '86 MCC tournament, received an automatic berth and reached the Sweet 16 in the NCAA tournament, one of the first mid-majors to make a splash in the NCAAAs.

Eastern has made two trips to the NCAA tournament during Bradd and Ashmore's time behind the mics.

In 1992, the berth came as somewhat of a surprise after an experienced Eastern squad had a disappointing regular season but got hot at the right time and won the MCC tournament. Eastern got shipped out to the West Regional and played as a 15 seed in Boise.

"In 1992 it was like God decided Eastern was only going to go to the NCAA tournament one time, so he's going to send them where all the big guys are," Bradd said. "Bobby Knight was there and we played Indiana, Shaquille O'Neal, John Thompson with Georgetown. The who's who of college basketball."



BEN TURNER/VERGE EDITOR

Rick Samuels discusses the happenings around division one college basketball with Mike Bradd before the Feb. 8 game vs. Eastern Kentucky.

In 2001 after Eastern came back from a substantial double-digit lead to beat Austin Peay in the championship game of the OVC tournament, earning an automatic bid to their second NCAA tournament, this campus had a unique aura for the week prior to spring break. From tourney t-shirts flying out of the Union Bookstore to fans making their plans to join the team in Kansas City, the basketball team's accomplishment was the biggest thing on campus.

"The most fun team was two years ago. That team had great chemistry and they played a fun style," Bradd said. "They had two great scorers who were two of the top five in the nation. There would be three or four plays every game where you'd be like 'wow that was great play.'"

"Those were special years because of the national attention thanks to ESPN and CBS making the tournament one of the most highly covered sports events in the world," Kidwell said. "It's a weeks worth of national attention which a school our size could never create any other way."

Feedback from students is typically non-existent, but members of

the community have expressed their thanks for the on-air service. Ashmore receives a little more due to his work with Charleston High, but sometimes Bradd will receive some from assistant coaches who don't go on road trips or Coach Samuels' wife.

"It's a commercial venture, money is made on the sale of the broadcast," Ashmore said. "It's nice when people can't go to a game, they let you know they appreciate the broadcast."

The life of a college professor can be hectic but rewarding. Finding time to broadcast the school's sporting events and teach classes is a balancing act many people would like the opportunity to perform. Although they do get paid and it is time consuming, it's just as much fun as it is work. Isn't that one of the reasons why many of us are attending college-to get into a line of work we enjoy?

"There have been nights where I just as soon stayed home, but I never felt that way once I got there," Ashmore said. "Once I arrive at the game, I am always looking forward to calling it and I suppose the day it stops being fun is the day I'll quit."

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# Keller Williams keeps groovin' with 'Dance'

By Casey Cora  
STAFF WRITER

If you are Keller Williams fan, chances are you've been fortunate enough to see one of his live shows. And, chances are, after that show, you asked yourself what can he possibly do next? The answer comes in the form of "Dance," released on SCI Fidelity Records.

Williams has been at it since 1994, when the release of "Freek" put him on the proverbial map. In the years following, he has found himself in the studio, whether intimately acoustic (1998's "Spun") or as a superb frontman (see 1999's brilliant collaboration with the String Cheese Incident, "Breathe"). The

saga continues as Keller is reincarnated as a pseudo-house DJ.

"Dance" touts itself as The Official Laugh Remix, in reference to Keller's runaway 2002 hit record, "Laugh." All of the tracks on "Dance" lived previous lives of clean and entertaining ditties. Enter the raw talent of K-Dub, where each song, through the use of state-of-the-art computer technology, takes on not just a new life, but a new existence.

Some of the remixes are barely recognizable, while others maintain the beats that made the songs great in the first place. "Tweaker," for instance, combines the recognizable backbeats of "Freaker by the Speaker," overlapped with a few

synthesized lyrics.

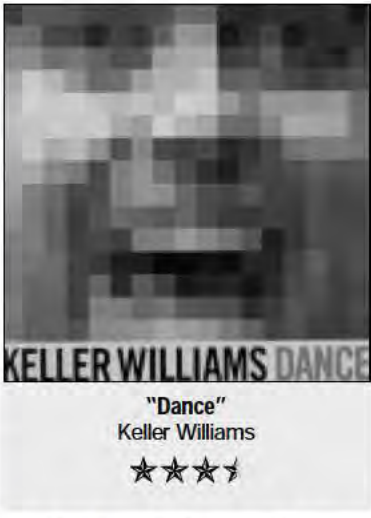
"Mental Floss" is a perfect example of the fusion of styles that demonstrate Williams' talent on the guitar as well as techie-DJ. The song begins as a guitar-laden, foot-stomping groove that suddenly stops and slides into a digital realm of flutes, bongos and synthesized fun.

"Dance" is not just about techno beats layed under Keller's music; in fact, it's far from that. The computer generation of the music provides a reasonable excuse to move from Caribbean to jazzy ("Flabbergasting") and tribal beats to violins ("Barker") in under 30 seconds, which captures the spirit of the whole album.

It's hard to find any complaints about this record, but if I can be picky, it needs more of Williams' often underrated voice. Most of the sparse words on "Dance" are generated through a computer, which is a shame because tracks like "Bazooka Speaker Funk," where the mesh of his voice and the technical wizardry shine, are exchanged for more flighty travels into digital music.

Keller Williams is undoubtedly enjoying his success, and his Midas-like ability to turn everything he touches into proverbial gold continues on "Dance."

Catch Keller Williams live in St. Louis at The Pageant April 4.



# 'Age of Mythology' is another great creation from Ensemble Studios

By Lisa Rowe  
STAFF WRITER

After waiting months for its release, "Age of Mythology" has lived up to the hype. Boasting realistic 3D graphics, complex civilizations and hundreds of game play choices, PC gamers find it hard to stop playing.

"Age of Mythology" (AOM) was created by Ensemble Studios, the same creators of such strategy games as "Age of Empires" (AOE) I and II. Topping off their previous success with AOE I & II, AOM offers over 30 epic campaigns, all with options to adjust the difficulty level, multi-player options for online game play, as well as deathmatch and versus mode. All are essential to getting the most out of your AOM experience.

There are nine different civilizations you can choose from, three in each the Greek, Norse and Egyptian categories. Each civilization has different abilities and have various choices during game play. Each civilization can choose which god to

worship when they advance, granting of special abilities and aiding them in various military, economic and social ways.

At the beginning of each campaign, civilizations are given a hero to help further the advancement of buildings and armies. Heroes and their abilities vary in the civilizations, so check into which abilities you would like before starting a game.

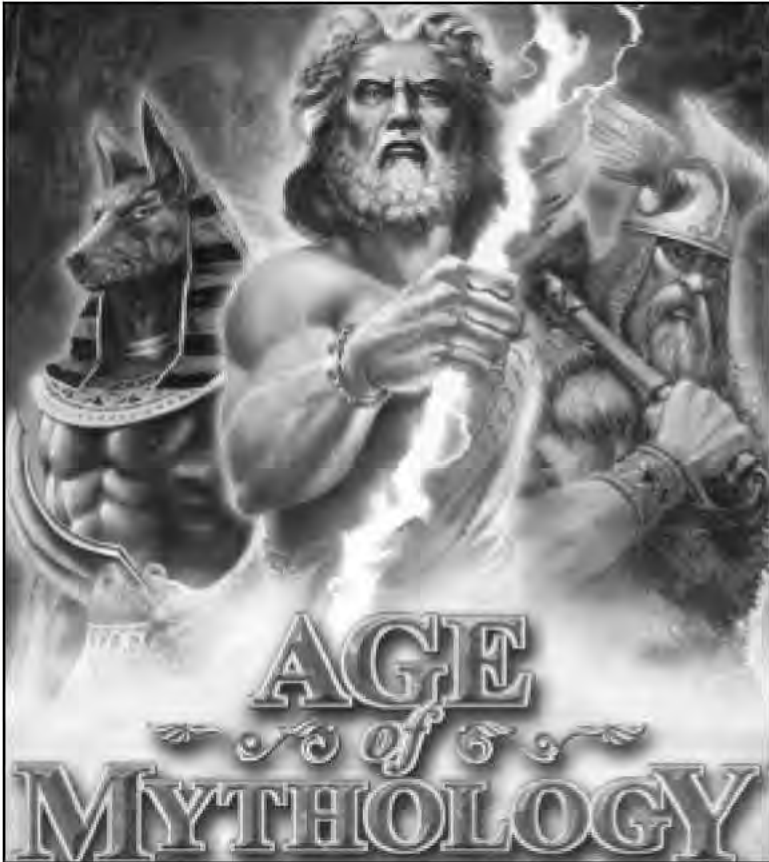
Throughout game play, the gods may choose to bless you with their godly powers. These powers are usually gained by building temples, monuments or, in the case of the Norse civilization, going to war with others. God powers can be used to aid your civilization or to help you offensively against aggressors. Gods can grant you powers such as forest fire, lightening storm, frost, prosperity, meteor, rain and much more. Word of wisdom though, don't use your god powers right away! They are few and far between during campaign play. By the way, if you have this game or plan on purchasing it, type in BAWK BAWK BOOM. This god power is proba-



bly the coolest I have yet to find!

By building monuments, temples or fighting, you gain favor with the gods, which allows you to create mythological units to use in battle. These units are very powerful, and only specific army members from the different civilizations can be used to defeat them. Such myth units available include fire giants, anubites, cyclops and mountain giants. Although they are costly and take up a large portion of your population, these myth units can be the deciding factor in most battles.

Overall, "Age of Mythology" has the most advanced graphics for a strategy game that I have seen in the past year. Campaigns are well formed and character development definitely is top notch. I recommend AOM because of it's superb graphics, wide variety of game play options and general cool godly powers.



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# Johnny Cash is still the man with ‘American IV’

By Mike Scales  
STAFF WRITER

At home this past Christmas break, I drove my car alone in the snow and cried. It was nothing big, just a good, healthy cry – a cleansing, if you will. Now, I never hit the gravel without my music.

Can you guess who I had blaring through my speakers that evoked in me such emotion? Well, I tell ya, it was the man in black. It was the scoundrel who shot poor Delia and the one who fell into that burning ring of fire. It was the almighty Johnny Cash. On “American IV: The Man Comes Around,” Cash’s fourth installment for American Recordings, 15 songs take 15 different directions and each one of them burns with that booming voice and cool country swagger.

It is said that when playing someone else’s song, Johnny Cash will go over it again and again, studying its every word and note until he feels like he wrote it himself. On this

album, Cash continues this tradition of adapting more modern classics, stripping them down to basic country style, and shedding new light on songs you never thought could be done any other way. The more recognizable tunes remade on the album include Paul Simon’s “Bridge Over Troubled Water,” Depeche Mode’s “Personal Jesus,” “In My Life” by The Beatles and the traditional Irish song, “Danny Boy.”

My absolute favorite cover on “The Man Comes Around,” however, is the second cut on the album, a beautifully arranged version of Nine Inch Nails’ “Hurt.” In the second verse, Cash grimly declares, “I wear this crown of thorns upon my liar’s chair. Full of broken thoughts I cannot repair.” With the help of the album’s producer, the legendary Rick Rubin, Cash ends “Hurt” with the same loud, distorted clutter heard in 1994’s original version. It is a great tribute to Trent Reznor’s writing and producing abilities and a true work of art in itself.

Though the remakes are nothing less than exceptional, “The Man Comes Around” should not be mistaken for a cover album. Originals by Johnny Cash and traditional country songs balance the record very well. The title track, and first cut on “American IV,” plays like a powerful sermon. It is based loosely on the book of Revelations and other biblical sources. According to the CD’s liner notes, “The Man Comes Around” was inspired by a dream Cash had in which he met Queen Elizabeth II of England who said to him, “Johnny Cash! You’re like a thorn tree in a whirlwind.” Possibly sent down to Cash from the Man himself through dream, the song paints unbelievable images like “a golden ladder reaching down” and “one-hundred million angels singing.”

Of course, what would a Johnny Cash record be without a run from the law or the last request of a dying man? In “Give My Love To Rose,” Cash tells the story of a man

just released from prison who he finds dying in the street. The man requests, “Tell my boy that Daddy’s so proud of him and don’t forget to give my love to Rose.” Cash’s version of Sting’s song “I Hung My Head,” recounts the tale of a boy who accidentally kills a man riding his horse. After running, he finally faces his crime, is tried, then sentenced to death. “I pray for God’s mercy, ‘cause soon I’ll be dead. I hung my head...I hung my head...”

As if Johnny Cash couldn’t have done this record by himself, he’s backed by a superb cast of studio musicians and various guest performers on “The Man Comes Around.” “I’m So Lonesome I Could Cry,” a Hank Williams remake, features the voice of Nick Cave, while on “Bridge Over Troubled Water,” Johnny is accompanied by the sexy vocal styling of Fiona Apple. John Frusciante of Red Hot Chili Peppers also makes an appearance, playing acoustic



“American IV: The Man Comes Around”  
Johnny Cash  
☆☆☆

guitar on “Personal Jesus.”

If in need of a deep spiritual cleansing or simply fed up with the contemporary country crap put out by Nashville nowadays, pick up Johnny Cash’s “American IV: The Man Comes Around” and you will be saved.

## Kissing Chaos another powerful edition to the Fueled by Ramen lineup

By Ben Erwin  
ONLINE EDITOR

Unwittingly coping its name from the moniker of the cult classic comic book from Oni Press, Austin, Texas’ Kissing Chaos skillfully blends hardcore, emo and even metal on “Enter With a Bullet.”

Formed in the wake of fellow Austin outfit Pop Unknown, and garnering further hardcore pedigree with ties to the likes of Mineral and Sparta, Kissing Chaos comes off similar in scope to the likes of Quicksand and Planes Mistaken for Stars in lyrical content and musical delivery. Produced by Rory Phillips (of Slowreader, and whose production credits include Recover among others), “Enter With a Bullet” balances polished melody with flashes of hardcore ferocity throughout the course of its scant 15 minutes.

With its first release for Fueled by Ramen, Kissing Chaos expands on an eccentric roster including the dissident likes of Frodus, Mid Carson July and a slew of other groups lacking clear musical delineation or label. Despite its length of a mere five songs, “Enter With a Bullet” is a diverse and powerful record destined to catapult its members past the notoriety brought by the much-beloved Pop Unknown.

“Lost Evidence” kicks off “Bullet” with a mix of hoarse screams and slickly harmonized



“Enter With a Bullet”  
Kissing Chaos  
☆☆☆

singing, giving the tune a feel somewhere between hardcore in slow motion and emo. With screeches and melody bleeding liberally together, the song sounds, at times, oddly reminiscent of Thursday without the sniveling. It is in the song’s string accompaniment, however, that Kissing Chaos shows its musical range and ability to blend the two so seamlessly in the last minute of the track.

With its metallic, palm-muted opening chug and churning guitars tearing through thudding drums “Enter With a Bullet” still doesn’t quite equate to traditional hardcore in tone or tempo, but flexes the

group’s metal muscles. The track stands out if only for its intricate arrangement and the variety it offers to the EP.

Expanding melodies with echoed vocals and layered guitar, “Communication Discontent” comes off as Sparta-esque as Kissing Chaos again blends rock and emo into a tuneful but fierce song. Likewise, “The Tradition of Betrayal” mixes sentimentality with healthy doses of guitar and pummeling drums. Although not emo in the classical sense, the track shows the members of Kissing Chaos could easily transform themselves into pop darlings tailor-made for radio.

With its intense start/stop dynamics and guttural howls, “The Power of Intent” stands as the only track on “Enter With a Bullet” fully approaching the hardcore aesthetic lyrically, musically or emotionally. Providing the perfect ending to the album, “Intent” finally utilizes the pedigree of the group’s members and producer. Ending in a crescendo of feedback, “Intent” compensates for much of the poppier overtones often permeating the album.

Although short, “Enter With a Bullet” offers the next best thing to Pop Unknown and, with time, the group could become a driving force in hardcore if only it can stay together for more than this single five-track EP.

## 50 Cent tries to “Get Rich” with new CD

By Tim Edwards  
STAFF WRITER

50 Cent’s debut LP “Get Rich or Die Trying” is hot. It is one of the best albums from a new artist in a long time. This album has hip-hop classic written all over it.

50 Cent created his first claim to fame with his guest appearance on the Madd Rapper’s “How To Rob.” In the song, 50 Cent spoke of how he would rob all the platinum rappers. This caused some rappers to take shots back at him.

While signed to Columbia Records and waiting for his LP to be released, the unthinkable happened when 50 Cent was shot nine times. Later, after he recovered, he was dropped from Columbia and had to deal with artists using their pull to stop him from getting signed to a new record deal. Eminem then decided to take a chance on the New York rapper.

On this album, 50 Cent spits about many men who want him dead in “Many Men (Wish Death).” In this song he raps about how he survived the shooting. He considers that event to be a sign that his purpose must be fulfilled on this earth before he dies.

“Patiently Waiting” features Eminem and explains how much 50 Cent endured before he got his chance to shine. 50 Cent and Eminem’s rhyme exchange went over very smoothly as if they had been rapping together for years.

The lead single “In Da Club” is blazing the airwaves as well as



“Get Rich or Die Tryin”  
50 Cent  
☆☆☆☆

music television. It has been number one on BET’s “106 & Park” and MTV’s “TRL”. This is the club anthem for the winter and DJs love spinning this record.

On “Back Down,” 50 Cent takes a stab at Murder Inc. He questions Ja Rule’s sexuality and lays into Murder Inc. for being extorted for illegal activities.

“Gotta Make it to Heaven,” is about how he doesn’t trust most people. The rapper tells an emotional story about how he feels he is in hell. He spits about how hard life has been for him and that the thought of going to heaven is his only way to escape the madness.

In all, 50 Cent has put out a high quality product. I believe this will be an album people will remember for years to come. 50 Cent has a unique aura because of all the controversy that surrounds him which makes him bigger than life.

## Marvel and DC on the big screen

This Friday, “Daredevil,” a movie based on rather obscure comic book hero, will be released nationwide. In the coming months “X-Men 2” and “The Hulk” will also be on the big screen. Both films will be disappointments if they’re not big hits this summer. What do all of these movies have in common other than they are comic book movies? They are all Marvel superheroes, or more importantly, they are not DC superheroes.

Comic book movies are huge and pretty much have been since the first “Superman” movie was released in the late ‘70s. Combining well known characters from people’s youth with huge sets and stunts are almost surefire ways to make a hit. Yet, until a few years ago, the only big movies released were the “Superman” and “Batman” movies.

Then the popularity of “X-Men” and more importantly “Spiderman” made all kinds of comic book movies popular. Still, the only ones being released are from the pages of Marvel and not DC. The reason for this is simple, DC is owned by AOL-Time Warner. Marvel can shop around at different studios because the company has no ties to any studios and have made deals



Ryan Rinchuso  
STAFF WRITER

with such companies as Fox, Universal, New Line and Columbia Tri-Star. Meanwhile DC only can be distributed by Warner Brothers, a company having difficulty bringing the heroes to screen. Warner Bros., throughout the ‘90s, was very consistent with the Batman films. While the quality of the films was not consistent, the release schedule was and fans could expect a new Batman adventure every three or four years. After the debacle of “Batman and Robin,” Warner Bros. has been trying to bring the storied franchise back to popularity.

Warner Bros. has flirted with the idea of making a fifth Batman film, with a fresh start and title like “Batman Beyond” or “Batman: Year One” with director Darren Aronofsky. These ideas were swept to the side when Wolfgang Peterson was hired to direct

“Batman vs. Superman.” This film was put on the shelf after Peterson decided to direct “Troy” first.

After it became evident that “Batman vs. Superman” would not be ready for summer 2004, Warner Bros. tried to revive just Superman. The director of the “Rush Hour” movies, Brett Ratner, and the creator of “Alias”, “J.J. Abrams, was working on the Superman franchise with a script titled “Superman Reborn.” Regardless of who directs the film no one has been cast and a release before Christmas 2004 seems unlikely.

Getting two of the most recognizable characters in the history of pop culture into a new movie should not be this difficult. Stars, directors, and writers looking for a guaranteed hit should be begging to get involved, yet the problem is Warner Bros. does not know what they want. Meanwhile they could be making films with characters like Wonder Woman, Green Lantern and The Flash, but other than the occasional preliminary talks, nothing has been accomplished. This superhero boom will not last forever and if Warner Bros. falters it will be the fans of DC comics who suffer.

### CONCERT CALENDAR

<b>Friday</b> ♦ David Walker, pianist Jackson Avenue Coffee 8 p.m. no cover	♦ Fastball Feb. 21 The Abbey Pub Chicago	♦ George Clinton and Parliament Funkadelic March 23 Ambassador Entertainment Center St. Louis
♦ Amy White Band Gunner Bucs 9 p.m. \$4	♦ Medicated Goo Feb. 22 The Uptowner	♦ Frank Black & the Catholics March 28 & 29 Double Door Chicago
<b>Saturday</b> ♦ 56 Hope Road The Uptowner 10 p.m. \$2	♦ Nada Surf Feb. 27 Courtyard Café Urbana	♦ Dave Matthews & Tim Reynolds April 3 Elliott hall of Music West Lafayette
♦ Tummler, Rebreather Friends & Co. 10 p.m. \$2	♦ Chevelle, 30 Seconds to Mars Feb. 28 Murat Egyptian Room Indianapolis	♦ Robbie Fulks, The Siderunners April 5 Friends & Co.
<b>Sunday</b> ♦ George of Medicated Goo Acoustic night at The Uptowner 8 p.m. no cover	♦ The Arrivals, Methadones & Saltwater Vampires Feb. 28 Friends & Co.	♦ Al Green April 12 House of Blues Chicago
<b>Upcoming shows</b> ♦ The Tossers Feb. 21 Friends & Co.	♦ Common, Talib Kweli, Gang Starr March 8 House of Blues Chicago	♦ Counting Crows April 18 Lantz Arena
♦ Nastics, Binks Feb. 21 University Ballroom		



## Outcome of Michigan case could close the door on Affirmative Action policy

Would Rice or Powell have risen to their ranks without the help of Affirmative Action?

by Avian Carrasquillo  
Editor in chief

The University of Michigan is among several universities that rely on race as criteria for admissions, but that could change. The U.S. Supreme Court is expected to decide whether race can play a part in admissions during its current session that concludes in June. The court's decision should not affect the criteria used at Eastern.

Dale Wolf, Director of Admissions at Eastern, said admissions criteria at Eastern is a lot different from Michigan, which operates on a points system.

"At Eastern, we don't adopt a point system," Wolf said.

Eastern's application has a line to determine race, but Wolf said Eastern doesn't give points for it.

"We look at a lot of other factors to determine admission," Wolf said.

Eastern could examine other admissions methods pending the case's outcome.

"What we do here is not out of compliance with what other public institutions do in terms of admission," Wolf said. "I don't think the outcome of that case would necessarily affect how we do things here, but we could examine their procedures."

Johnetta Jones, Director of Minority Affairs, said that Affirmative Action is needed.

"A lot of people don't think

"A lot of people don't think of Colin Powell, or Condoleezza Rice as an Affirmative Action case"

-Johnetta Jones  
Director of Minority Affairs

of Colin Powell, or Condoleezza Rice as an Affirmative Action case, but, the fact is, without Affirmative Action, Colin Powell and Condoleezza Rice wouldn't have had the opportunities available that got them where they are today," Jones said.

According to Jones a diverse environment prepares students for life after college.

"College is supposed to prepare students for the real world. The real world is full of diversity, so where better than a college campus to have a multi-cultural environment," Jones said.

Bill Davidson, Eastern's Speaker of the Senate, said the Student Government takes no official stance on Affirmative Action. "It could if a resolution was written and brought to the senate," Davidson said.



Secretary of State Colin Powell, and Assistant to the President for National Security Affairs, Condoleezza Rice

photo courtesy of Associated Press

please see **Action** page 5

## Miss Black EIU enhances tradition

by Marcia Buie  
Staff writer

Just a couple of weeks ago Eastern was facing no contestants for the Miss Black EIU pageant. But that has since then changed with three young women now competing for the title.

Shayla Scott, sophomore business major has decided to do the pageant because she wants the experience for bigger things to come, but her main goal was to continue the pageant. Shayla had heard a couple weeks ago that Eastern was facing no contestants, so she felt obligated to run. Shayla also felt the pageant symbolizes African American heritage and as an African American she needs to represent it to the fullest. "African American women have a reputation of being strong, and dedicated women, I really want our image to stay positive," Shayla said.

Shayla feels this pageant is a good way to get its audience to not only understand African American heritage but also to appreciate it as well.

Kaylynn Gordon, freshman, undecided



Pictured left to right: Miss Black EIU contestants Kaylynn Gordon, Shayla Scott, and Angela Beard

photo by Colin McAuliffe

ed major said her main reason for participating in the pageant is for the experience. "I need to break out of my shell of shyness", Kaylynn said. "I have been in my comfort zone for way too long."

Kaylynn had many other reasons for joining the pageant as well.

"EIU needs to see the fresh new faces on this campus."

Kaylynn

please see **Pageant** page 5

### Look inside for

#### LoveSick?

Eastern Students surveyed about Valentines Day.



page 4

NAACP and Black Student Union in charge.

page 5

Alan Page tackles Education and other issues as Supreme Court Judge after career in football.

page 6

## Minority Today celebrates Black History Month

see page 3 for Calendar of events



## Staff Editorials

# Don't blame it on Affirmative Action.

by Joaquin Ochoa  
Managing Editor

I've heard a lot about the University of Michigan since the controversy over its admission practices. In particular Affirmative Action and the pending case. Some feel that the outcome of the Michigan Affirmative Action Case could set a precedent to end Affirmative Action altogether. Remarks by President George W. Bush do not allude to this and I hope that if Michigan loses it doesn't open the doors to further attack on this policy.

Bush released a statement on January 15 which states that the quota system that the University of Michigan uses to achieve diversity is flawed. Michigan's Points system awards 20 out of 150 points on race, only 100 is needed to be admitted.

"Those 20 points awarded solely on race are often the decisive factor," Bush says, "At their core, the Michigan policies amount to a quota system that unfairly rewards or penalizes perspective students, based solely on their race."

I agree with the assessment that attributing points to students based on race is unconstitutional, however, I don't believe the cries from opponents of affirmative action on the grounds of reverse racism and unwarranted preferences, when it's obvious that it's not Affirmative Action that should be attacked but the policy employed by the University of Michigan. Michigan is only doing what Affirmative Action asks of them because it was designed to help eliminate past discrimination based on race, color, religion, sex and national origin.

The University of Michigan should not be attacked on the grounds of reverse racism but only on the fact that they are employing a fundamentally flawed point system that gives a quantitative value to something unquantifiable—race.

e-mail Joaquin at: joa\_kin8a13@hotmail.com

The opinions expressed in the editorial do not necessarily reflect the views of the Minority Today staff.



by Ryan Vila  
manofsteal33@yahoo.com

### Letters to the Editor

All letters must include the author's name and contact information, and must not exceed 300 words. Not all letters will be published and we reserve the right to edit for spacing. All letters to the editor can be sent to:

MinorityToday@hotmail.com

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# Advice column goes too far

by Avian Carrasquillo  
Editor in chief

A recent advice column in the February edition of Vanity Fair written by "Dame Edna", a fictional character created by Australian comic Barry Humphries offered some unfavorable comments about Latino's. The questionable comments are as follows:

"Dear Dame Edna,

I would very much like to learn a foreign language, preferably French or Italian, but every time I mention this, people tell me to learn Spanish instead. They say, "Everyone is going to be speaking Spanish in 10 years. George W. Bush speaks Spanish." Could this be true? Are we all going to have to speak Spanish?

-Torn Romantic, Palm Beach

Dear Torn,

Forget Spanish. There's nothing in that language worth reading except Don Quixote, and a quick listen to the CD of Man of La Mancha will take care of that. There was a poet named Garcia Lorca, but I'd leave him on the intellectual back burner if I were you. As for everyone's speaking it, what twaddle! Who speaks it that you are really desperate to talk to? The help? Your leaf blower? Study French or German, where there are at least a few books worth reading, or, if you're American, try English."

Vanity Fair representatives issued a statement saying they "regret that certain remarks in our February issue by the entertainer and author Barry Humphries, in the guise of his fictional character Dame Edna, have caused offense to our readers and others." After reading this garbage, I have to say I was really offended.



Dame Edna offends Latino's with latest column.

photo courtesy of Dame Edna's web site

Especially as a Latino that has dedicated his life to writing. I've heard the column defended as comedy. I've even been reminded that Dame Edna is a comedian, but that's not an excuse for racist comments.

I think you have to draw a line somewhere, and whether people like it or not, Dame Edna crossed that line. Would people still be laughing if Dame Edna had defended the holocaust, or the 9-11 terrorist attacks for the sake of a good laugh. I think not.

Ironically this is the same Vanity Fair issue with actress Salma Hayek featured on the cover. In one respect the publication is honoring a Latina, and in another instance they are bringing down the entire race.

To say that there's nothing worth

reading in the Spanish language, except Don Quixote is not just incorrect, it's insulting. The contributions by Latino author's are great and far-reaching.

Some great works by Latino authors I've read include, Borderlands/ La Frontera: The New Mestiza by Gloria Anzaldua. The House on Mango Street, by Sandra Cisneros. The four agreements, by Dan Miguel Ruiz, just to name a few.

With recent Census statistics showing Latino's as the largest minority at roughly 37 million. I have one thing to say to Dame Edna, if you haven't found much worth reading in the Spanish language, just wait, you will.

e-mail Avian at:avian\_carrasquillo@yahoo.com

## Minority Today Staff

Editor in chief  
Avian Carrasquillo

Managing Editor  
Joaquin Ochoa

All Other Editor Positions Available.  
If interested, email:  
MinorityToday@hotmail.com

### Contributing to this issue

#### Staff Writers

Carly Mullady  
Bianca Sisson  
Joe Ciraulo  
Tim Edwards  
Josh Roberson  
Alicia Spates  
Jesse Wu  
Marcia Buie  
Kerry-Ann Malcolm

#### Photography

Stephen Haas  
Colin McAuliffe  
Matt Wills

#### Adviser's

Joe Gisondi  
Annette Samuels

#### Publisher

John David Reed

#### Business Manager

Betsy Jewell

#### Advertisements

Steve Leclair



# Profile:

## Black Student Union and NAACP look to themselves as voice for minority community

by Bianca Sisson and Carly Mullady  
Staff writers

Many Black student organization's are celebrating Black History Month, Minority Today examines a few as the presidents discuss their organizations, upcoming events, their experiences and their goals.

"Black Student Union is a way for minorities to voice their opinions about what's going on at Eastern," said BSU President Erica Robinson, Junior Business Management major. "It fulfills the needs of the minority community."

The Black Student Union is a multicultural organization that meets at 7 pm every Tuesday at the African American Cultural Center and currently has about 40 members.

"Black Student Union is not just for Black people" Robinson said. "It is for the entire minority community."

Robinson has been involved with Black Student Union since her freshman year. She was elected for president last year.

Sherman Thomas, senior English / African American Studies major and president of the NAACP, was elected in the same manner.

The National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP) is a fairly new organization on campus. The group meets at 7 p.m. every other Thursday at the Phipps Lecture Hall. The organization has 67 members.

"When it (NAACP) got started I was just a member, then somebody elected me and I ran," Thomas said. "This February will be a year since I have been president."

Thomas says that he has many future plans for the NAACP.

"We want to do more work with the AIDS epidemic," Thomas said. "We also want to increase minority enrollment and try to unite the fraternities and sororities more than what they are," Thomas said.

This month, the NAACP will be sponsoring a visit from Michael Eric Disen and will sponsor showings of both American History X and Panther, two compelling films.

A Family Night will also be held. "We hope this will call together the student body," Thomas said. The Family Night will have a libation cer-



Erika Robinson, President of BSU states, "Black Student Union is not just for Black people" Robinson said. "It is for the entire minority community."



Top: Black Student Union members pose for a group shot  
photo by Stephen Haas  
photo courtesy of BSU

emony and a time to pay homage "to those who passed before us," Thomas said.

These February features are just a few of many year round events.

"We're not into the whole 'it's February, we're going to have a lot of events' thing," Thomas said. "We hold events all year."

Past events include a "Think Tank" forum where campus problems were addressed with possible solutions. Alumnus Pastor Hughes was present for that event.

"We want our events to cause social consciousness," Thomas said.

Robinson also has many plans of her own for the BSU.

"We are going to sponsor a Black Expo," Robinson said. "We are going to have Black owned businesses sell clothes and even offer job opportunities. We also annually sponsor Miss Black EIU," Robinson said.

The Black Student Union also has outreach programs and educational programs.

The biggest thing that the NAACP has done so far was get Jesse Jackson to come to the campus.

"That was a big thing," Thomas said. "Jesse had never been here before," Thomas said.

Another accomplishment was how they got the Student Senate to promote diversity. Thomas got the Student Senator's to go to diversity events and get to know the people that are running them.

Both student leaders agree that being president over these organization has taught them a lot.

"Being president of BSU has taught me patience and motivation," Robinson said.

For Thomas the leadership spotlight has done a lot for him.

"Since I have been president over the NAACP I have increased my leadership skills and my speaking skills," Thomas said. "I also am more apt to speak out when I see something wrong."

"We would like to see students show more support because nothing is going to change, unless we show up in numbers," Thomas said.

e-mail Bianca at: biancassison2yahoo.com  
e-mail Carly at: Car\_lzma832yahoo.com



Contestant, Kaylin Gordon, practices her talent in the Grand Ballroom

photo by Colin McCauliffe

## Pageant:

### Contestants glad to be in pageant

continued from page 1

wants the audience to know African Americans have come a long way, and have a great culture to take pride in and celebrate.

Angela Beard, a freshmen communications disorder major, is running for the pageant because she wants to take part in the celebration of African American heritage, not to mention the experience she is going to gain from it.

"So far the pageant has taken a lot of my time, but I know its going to pay off, because we are going to unify on that stage and uplift and praise our ancestors," Beard said.

The talents of these women range from singing, dancing, acting to reading poetry, all of which is celebrating African American history and/or delivering a message. All three of these women hope to send a message to all who watch that Afro Americans love and take pride in Afro American history. Also all of these women would like to thank 2002 miss black EIU Kia Gowder. "She has been a huge help to us."

Beard added, "Without her expertise on the pageant, I think it would have been much more difficult to get involved."

e-mail Marcia at: Ciadaesha@yahoo.com

## Action:

### Future of Affirmative Action in air

continued from page 1

Minnesota Supreme Court Justice Alan Page addressed the issue of Affirmative Action at a recent lecture at Eastern last month.

"We can't afford another generation of children, especially African-American children disconnected from the educational process," Page said.

The key lesson to be learned is that if there is a level playing field people will stop complaining. The challenge for all of us is to level the non-sport playing field. As you know at a national level the base for the case in the United States Supreme Court issued over Affirmative Action. Such a program seems to be the catalyst of almost everyone and everywhere. From those the program was meant to help, to those that have problems with the program. We all seem to have lost sight of Affirmative Action's original purpose; to help the underprivileged and to act as a vehicle to give these people opportunity. The fact is, if we achieved equal opportunity we wouldn't have to talk about affirmative action," Page said.

Despite Page's respectable stature as a Supreme Court Justice Page said,

"Every day I step outside my home I'm reminded that I'm black."

e-mail Avian at: avian\_carasquillo@yahoo.com

After reading

Minority Today

Please Recycle it!



# ..... Lovingly yours, EIU Students

## Students sound off on Surveys regarding Valentine's Day

by Marcia Bule, Kerry-Ann Malcolm, Josh Roberson, Alicia Spates  
Staff writers

**A**s Eastern students flee the campus in droves with the excitement over a three-day weekend, Valentine's day seems but a coincidence lost in the shuffle. Minority Today attempted to find out from Eastern students how big of an emphasis Valentine's Day has on them.

Many women at Eastern said they anticipated the upcoming holiday and the annual showerings of candy, flowers and a romantic meal by their significant other. However, many single ladies that do not have this opportunity feel that too much is being publicized about Valentine's Day. "It's a commercial ploy to connect money with emotions," said Holly Henschen, a junior political science major.

"It's a great way for Hallmark to make a buck," said Kate Clary, a junior art major.

Instead of spending this day on a romantic date, most single women will pursue other activities.

Diana Montgomery, a senior chemistry major, said her plans for Valentine's Day include working, watching sappy movies and finishing her chemistry lab report.

Sarah Aldrich, a freshman early childhood education major, said this day is meant for her to get sleep.

Kristin Lutes, a freshman therapeutic recreation major, said this day will be spent with family because they will make her happier than any guy ever will.

Since Valentine's Day falls on a three-day weekend, many ladies like senior Amanda Nydegger are going to take advantage of this opportunity for romance.

"We've always been in different towns and Valentine's has been in the middle of the week for the last couple of years," said Nydegger.

Shovonne Woods, a sophomore pre-nursing major, said her weekend will be spent in downtown Chicago with a special someone that has a whole weekend of plans for her. "He knows it's another day that he'll have to spend on me," Woods said.

When asked what a man's thoughts were of Valentine's Day, many women felt that the their relationship status determined their thoughts.

"For the single guys, whatever comes up comes up," said Hiral Patel, a freshman accounting major. "But the boys out there with girlfriends will have to do something for their lady since we're all very high maintenance."

While most women showed an interest in Valentine's Day, most men remained apathetic. The men's idea of Valentine's Day is a frequent thought focusing on just about every woman's mind. Do men have the same view on Valentine's Day as the women? Do they feel that Valentine's Day is overrated? Or do males even think that Valentine's Day has a meaning?

With these questions in mind, the men



of Eastern were asked the same questions as the women were. When asked what this day meant to him, Eric Borgstorm, a senior journalism major, simply responded, "Cupid."

Even though many answers involved fewer words, many men see Valentine's Day as a celebration of love. "It means showing your significant other that you care about him or her," said Jason Michalski, a freshman business major. Matt Pollett, a junior speech communication major, said he sees Valentine's Day as a day to be thankful for his beautiful girlfriend.

A majority of the men surveyed believed the day had too much emphasis and it meant nothing to them.

Joshua Wilkes, a senior english major, said Valentine's Day is a "commercially-oriented holiday."

Jason Bly, a senior art major, said the day doesn't mean much to him.

"Why have a day set aside to express and celebrate love when any day could be used for that," said Bly.

As far as Valentine's Day plans, many men said either didn't have any ideas or they didn't plan to do anything special or unique.

When asked what a woman expects on this day from them, many of their answers varied.

Tremaine Williams, a junior journalism major, said women usually expect a dozen roses and dinner, but they know not to expect much because money is an issue for college students.

"Women are emotional and want to be shown love in presents, or words, or what comes from your heart," said Tristen Markhem, a junior art major.

Andy Panici, a sophomore Journalism major, said he will be buying a gift so his Valentine will not get mad at him.

While a large majority of students at

Eastern will spend this day searching for Mr. or Mrs. Right, a small few have already found that special someone.

Delena Natoli, a junior elementary education major, told Minority Today the story of her engagement. "We were at Navy Pier on the Ferris wheel, and when we got to the very top, he told me that whenever he's with me, he feels like he's on top of the world," said Natoli. "Then he proposed".

Delena's family was not as surprised as she was, since her boyfriend received permission from the family before proposing. "My family knows he's very positive, the one condition they have is that I wait until I graduate," Natoli said.

For Rhianna Echols, a sophomore nursing major, her engagement story was simple.

"It was very unexpected, I turned my back to get something, and when I turned back around he was on his knees," said Echols.

Rhianna's family is also delighted about the engagement. "My family is very happy, some more than others," said Echols.

Many students that are engaged receive much criticism about being too young for this commitment, but the joys of being married still exists, not in their minds but in their hearts.

"People spend their whole life looking for that special person, and I feel like I just happen to have found that person at a young age," Echols said.

Rhianna's advice for young couples is to not let anyone on the outside have an influence on what's on the inside. "Nine out of 10 times, the individual knows what's best for themselves," Echols said.

e-mail our staff writers at: [minoritytoday@hotmail.com](mailto:minoritytoday@hotmail.com)



# Black History Month

## February

So far...

Jan 20 - March 15:  
Photographic Images  
and the History of African  
Americans in Coles County  
Display Cases, Old Main,  
ground floor.

January 29 - 31:  
Beyond Words: Museum  
of Oppression. Grand  
Ballroom (pictured)

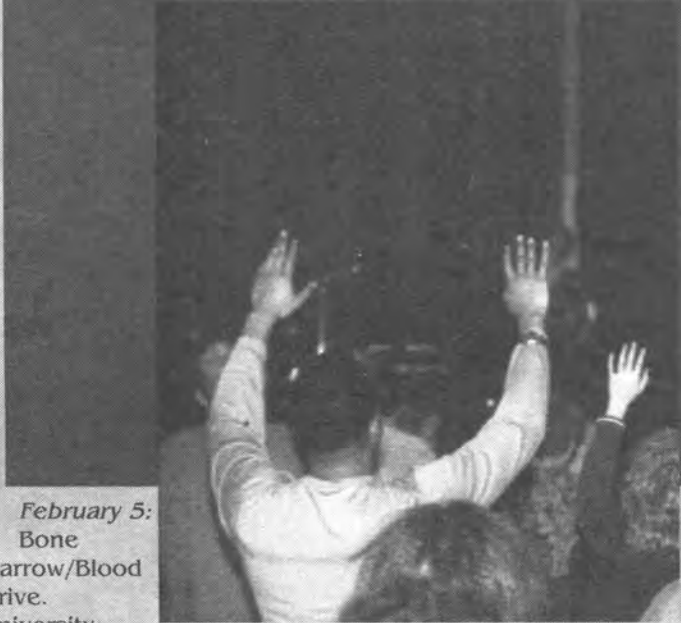
January 29:  
Barry Scott-"Tribute to  
Martin Luther King" Grand  
Ballroom (pictured)

January 30:  
Opening Doors  
Workshops. Luncheon  
speaker: Alan Page. Grand  
Ballroom

January 31- March 2:  
Art Exhibit: The Eye  
stands for Mr. Imagination  
Brainard Gallery, Tarble Art  
Center.

February 1:  
African American her-  
itage Dinner  
Entertainment: Reggie the  
Hooper. Grand Ballroom  
(pictured)

February 4:  
Lecture: Dr. Cassandra  
Veney - The Ties That Bind:  
African American Linkages  
To Africa—From Dubois to  
Garvey, From Jazz to Hip  
Hop. 7th Street  
Underground



February 5:  
Bone  
Marrow/Blood  
Drive.  
University  
Ballroom

Panel:  
Raising Interracial  
Children. Effingham Room  
University Union.

February 9: Concert:  
Gospel Explosion. Grand  
Ballroom (pictured)

February 12: Lecture:  
Dr. Johnny Washington,  
"Cultural Identity and  
Intercultural  
Communications in the  
Workplace." Charleston  
Mattoon Room



Watch WEIU TV for Black  
History Month Specials

Events to come...

February 16:  
Sigma Gamma Rho - Soul  
Food Dinner. 6 pm African  
American Cultural Center on  
7th Street.

February 17-21:  
Black Student Union Week  
(events to be scheduled)

February 18:  
Lecture: Dr. Cameron  
McCarthy - "Strangers in the  
Villages: James Baldwin,  
Popular Culture and The Ties  
That Bind." 4:30 pm Phipps  
Lecture Hall - Science Building

February 21: Comedian:  
Jabar Phillips. 9 pm, 7th  
Street Underground

February 22:  
Miss Black EIU. 7 pm Grand  
Ballroom. Admission charged

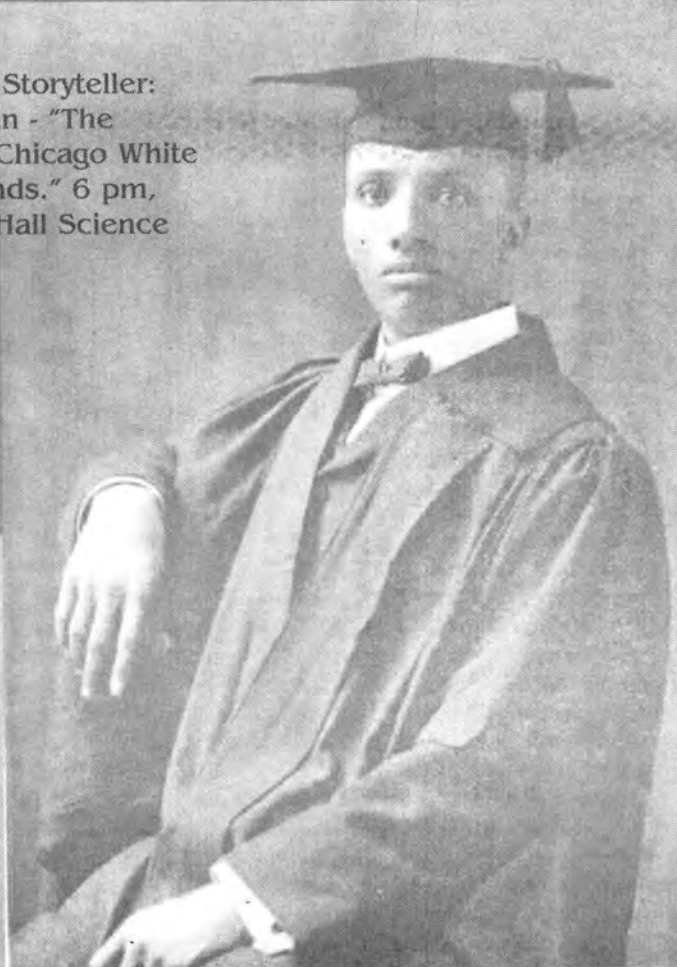
February 26:  
Lecture: Bud Edwards -  
"Black and White And Shades  
In Between." 7:30 pm,  
Effingham Room MLKing Union

February 26:  
Dance Group: STEP Africa. 7  
pm, Grand Ballroom admis-  
sion charged

February 27: Storyteller:  
Susan O'Halloran - "The  
Education of A Chicago White  
Girl in Ten Rounds." 6 pm,  
Phipps Lecture Hall Science  
Building

### Carter G. Woodson, (1875-1950)

Noted Black scholar and historian and son of former slaves, founded the Association for the Study of Negro Life and History in 1915, which was later renamed the Association for the Study of African American Life and History (ASALH). Initiator Black History Week, February 12, 1926. For many years the 2nd week of February (chosen to coincide with the birthdays of Frederick Douglass and Abraham Lincoln) was celebrated by Black people in the United States. In 1976 it was expanded and became established as Black History Month.



# Black History



# Alan Page tackles education

## From pro football to Minnesota Supreme Court

by Avian Carrasquillo  
Editor in chief

Chasing down quarterbacks with the famed Minnesota Vikings "Purple People Eaters" defense of the 1970's, Alan Page envisioned a life outside of football.

That goal took him to law school and eventually made him the first black Supreme Court Justice in Minnesota. Now off the field, Page tackles issues like education, character and grace, which were the cornerstone of his Jan. 31 lecture at Eastern's annual Opening Doors Conference sponsored by the office of Civil Rights and Diversity.

"To the extent that I've had success, whether on the athletic field or in law, it is due in some important degree to being prepared, to being focused," Page said.

Being able to keep my eye on the ball so to speak. It has also been due to those people who helped mold and shape me as a person along the way. I'm reminded of my law school days where I learned some very important lessons about being prepared in my first-year contracts class.

Instead of lecturing my professor would ask questions of those of us who are under enlightened to help lead us to enlightenment, and it used a little intimidation along the way. Even though I always came to class relatively well-prepared and had performed in front of hundreds of thousands of people in a football stadium I was panicked in this setting. Making myself small in this particular instance was not going to work. What can a person do? After surviving the first couple of days I began to notice the professor would only call upon those that looked afraid, and he never called on people that raised their hand. So I started raising my hand. Then finally one day I raised my hand and as luck would have it he called on me. Without thinking I stood up to answer his question and my mind went blank and stayed blank. As I scrambled for my thoughts I had momentary empathy for all those quarterbacks I had been chasing. Then somehow it hit me I had to say something, anything, so I started speaking and whatever I said must have been okay. But the lessons that I learned were these. First, preparation is important. With preparation in that context it

means coming to class with your assignments done. It also means that you size up the situation and respond appropriately. Second I learned that sometimes we create our own greatest obstacle, where our fear is greater than the actual situation. Third even if our fears cause us

to stumble, with great preparation we'll pick ourselves back up," Page said.

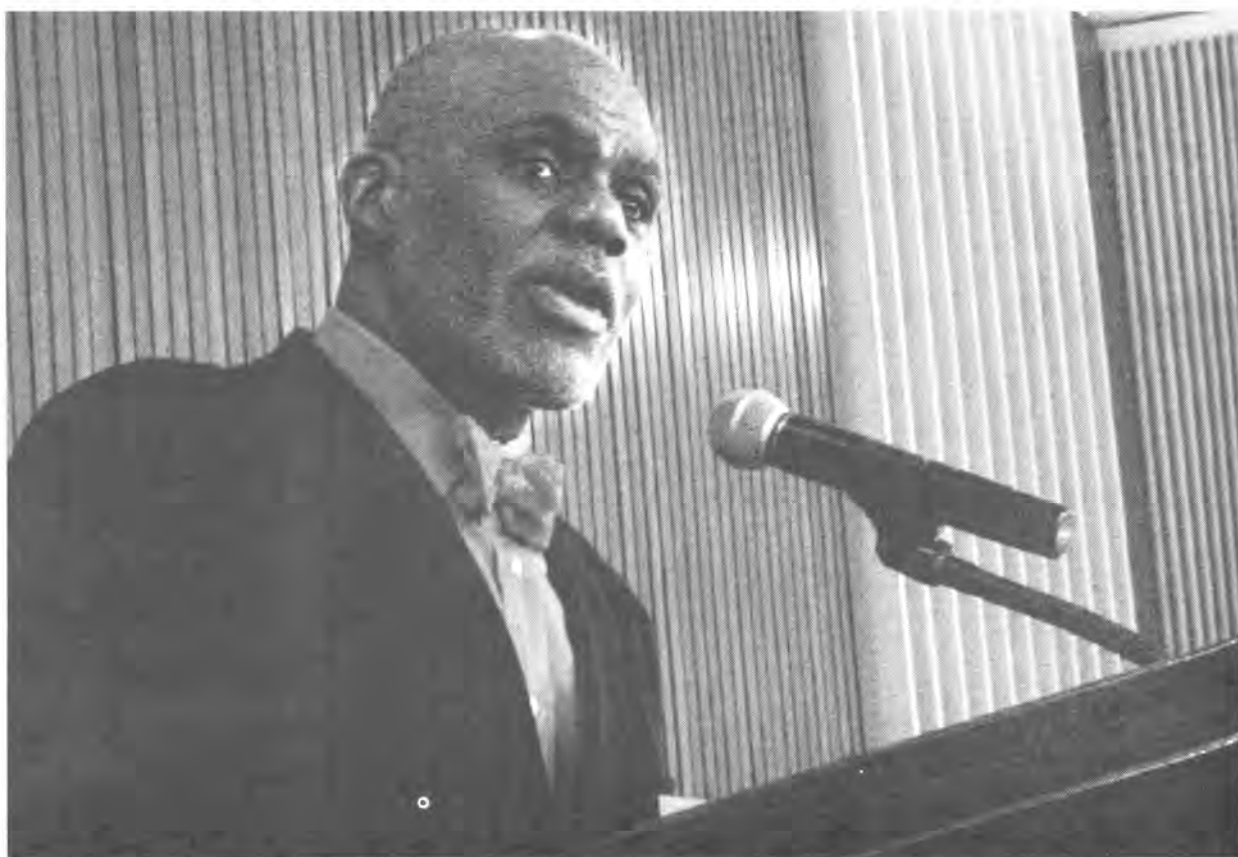
Page said that education has always been important for him, but that wasn't always the case for his teammates, and that there needs to be a change made.

"As a child, I had parents who knew and understood the value of an

education that were good role models," Page said

"Over the years as a football player, I saw too many young men that were great athletes, but could not perform particularly well in the classroom. I couldn't understand why there was this contradiction between academics and athletics. It became clear to me what the problem was in 1978, when I played for the Vikings. When I arrived in training camp we had this defensive line coach that thought the best way for me and other

defenseman to get better was to read plays out



Minnesota Supreme Court Justice Alan Page stressed education, character, and grace at his Jan. 31, lecture.

photo by Matt Wills

loud from the play book. I don't know how many of you have read a defensive play book, but the most difficult words are offense, defense and tackle. There was nine defensive linemen that year who had spent three or four years at some of this nation's best post-secondary institutions. Out of that nine, four could not read the play-book. These were men who had graduated from these post-secondary institutions, who had all graduated high school and, yet, could not read a simple

play book. I learned to read and write in first, second

and third grade and that's where they failed them. It was at that point that I dedicated myself to encouraging and motivating young people to pursue academic opportunities," Page said.

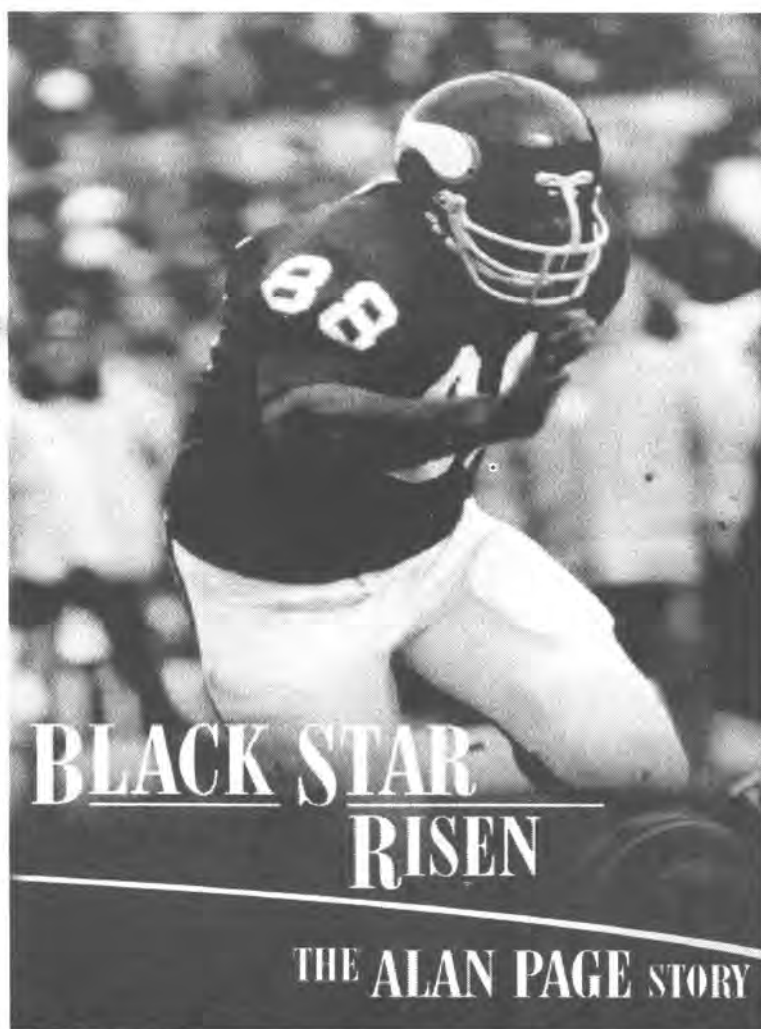
Page stressed that every child should have the opportunity to learn, and that children must be prepared our children to be tomorrow's leaders. Page said role models should be chosen must chose role models by the content of character as noted by Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.

"I would say the problems of discrimination are the problems of those who discriminate an don't let someone else's problem dictate how you lead your life," Page said.

That said their are always hurdles and obstacles, and discrimination is one of them, that doesn't mean it should control one's life," Page said.

Cynthia Nichols, Director of the Office of Civil Rights and Diversity said she started early in the fall looking for speakers to bring to Eastern and had heard a lot of positive things to say about him.

"I enjoyed his speech very much, I think he raised a lot of important issues in a short amount of time. I hope people continue to think about the issues he raised," Nichols said.



**BLACK STAR  
RISEN**

**THE ALAN PAGE STORY**

Top: Page runs down an unlucky quarterback as a member of the famed Minnesota Viking's "Purple People Eaters" defense.

Photo courtesy of the Alan Page Foundation web site

e-mail Avian at: avian\_carrasquillo@yahoo.com

### Profile

Alan Page  
Lifetime Achievements

Born: August 7, 1945

All-American at Notre Dame in 1966.

Was a member of two national championship teams.

1967 Graduate of Notre Dame, where he recieved a B. A. in political science.

Played 15 NFL seasons with the Minnesota Vikings and Chicago Bears.

1971 Player of Year with Minnesota Vikings, first defenseman in NFL history to win the award.

Earned a degree from the University of Minnesota Law School in 1976.

Six-time NFL All-Pro

Inducted into Pro Football Hall of Fame in 1988.

Created the Page Educational Foundation in 1988.

Elected to Minnesota Supreme Court in 1992



# Get On Track

## With Minority Issues

Minority Today

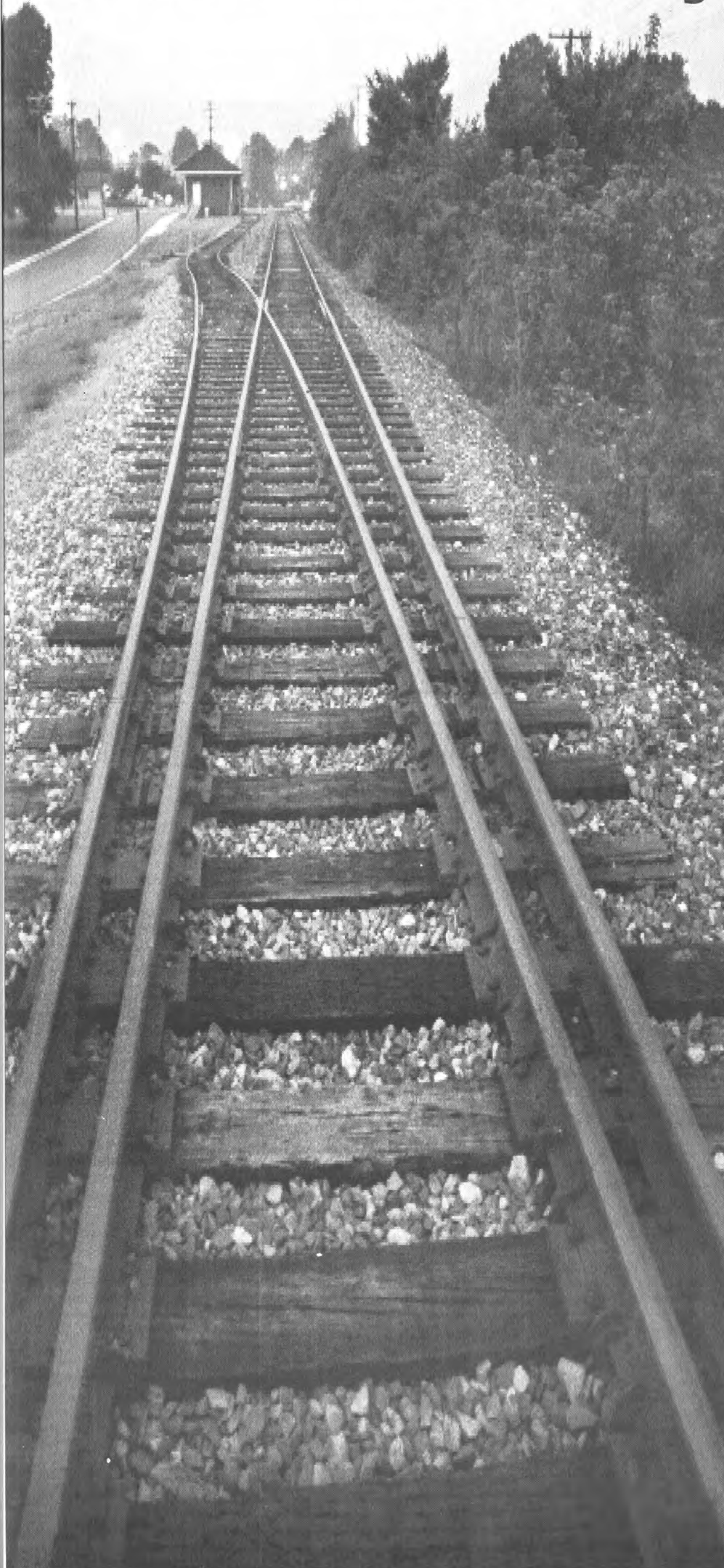
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# Backstage

A different perspective on entertainment

## Unwrap this!

### Hidden Beach gives sample of talent

by Tim Edwards  
Staff writer

In my opinion Unwrapped Volume 2 is one of the most innovative offerings in the hip-hop genre in years. The LP is a follow up to the first volume of Unwrapped which featured an array of songs from prominent jazz musicians covering some of today's hottest hip-hop titles by artist such as Nelly, Mystikal and many others. The first project was directed primarily by one of the craftiest ladies in jazz Patrice Rushen. The innovation and cre-

ative groove discovered by the experimentation of the Volume One L.P was further enhanced and replicated to perfection on Unwrapped Volume Two.

Hot keyboards by Rushen are joined in a medley of hip hop/jazz covers with some of the most prominent jazz artist of our time including Karen Briggs who has an unchallenged mastery of the violin as she covers Coolio's hit "Gangsta's Paradise" and she takes Nelly's hit "Hot In Here" and Jay-Z's "Girls, Girls, Girls" to astronomical heights. Listeners will be well pleased with these well calculated grooves done by the best in the business.

Also returning on the Unwrapped 2 venture will be A Tribe Called Quest and their classic "Electric Relaxation" which is sure to have older hip hop fans drooling for this long overdue revampment. As noted by many hip-hop journalist this group was among the first to blend rap and jazz thus making them the ideal group for a project such as Unwrapped.

Also featured is saxophonist Mike Phillips and trombonist Jeff Bradshaw who comes through with his ferocious style and Jeff Lorber.

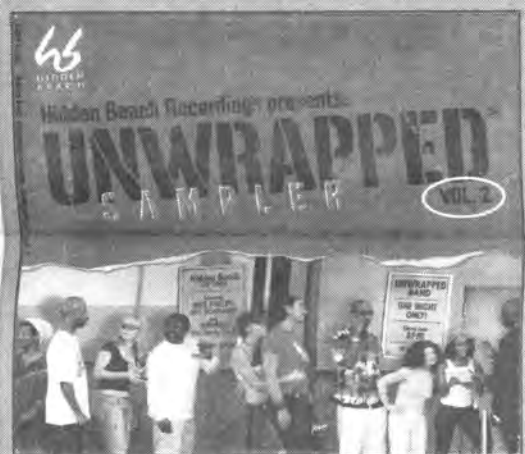
The main ingredient on the entire project is the gaping hole left by modern day mainstream hip-hop.

Many traditional fans are left searching for a new sound, something that defines them. Hidden Beach has had a stroke of genius by bringing together the two worlds of hip hop and jazz thus breathing fresh air into a genre that is starving for originality and craftsmanship. Contemporary songs mixed with traditional musicianship and scientific orchestration makes for a venomous combination of the most potent styles ever to emerge from the black experience.

e-mail Tim at: clockdollar2@hotmail.com

#### CD Review

#### Unwrapped II Various Artists



Label: Hidden Beach Records  
Genre: Hip Hop



## Nas reestablishes hip hop prowess with God's Son

by Joe Ciraulo  
Staff writer

Nas, whose real name is Nasir Jones, was a protégé of Main Source leader Large Professor. Nas made his debut on the Main Source track "Live At The BBQ." He was later signed by Columbia Records and recorded his gold-selling debut *Illmatic*.

The second album, *It Was Written*, employed the talents of many top producers, including Dr. Dre, DJ Premiere, the Trackmasterz and Mobb Deep, and included guest appearances by Lauryn Hill of the Fugees and Jo from Jodeci. *It Was Written* was also an instant hit and solidified Nas's standing as a hip-hop hero.

After a few lackluster albums Nas has finally returned to star form with *God's Son*.

The newest Nas album has been one of the hottest selling albums since it's December release, pitting the artist with other talent in the music industry like; Kelis and Claudette Ortiz of City High, Alicia Keys, the late 2 Pac & J. Phoenix. The album features the track I Can, which gives children an uplifting message that they can do whatever they want, if they set their mind to it. There isn't a track on the CD that disappoints. Nas fans will be pleased, and new Nas fans will be born.

e-mail Joe at: bignine@yahoo.com

#### CD Review

#### Nasir Jones God's Son



Label: Columbia Records  
Genre: Hip Hop



Poet turned Broadway performer in Def Poetry Slam

photo courtesy of Def Poetry Slam

## Poetry, the newest performing art

### Increased popularity, Def Poetry Slam brings written words to life

by Jesse Wu  
Staff writer

Interest in poetry has increased throughout America in the past few years.

"I haven't noticed any change in popularity," said freshman elementary education major Chad McDowell.

Some students don't notice a change, but poetry's surge in popularity became evident last fall when Russell Simmons took his HBO show Russell Simmons' Def Poetry Slam to Broadway with Def Poetry Jam.

Poetry slam contests, in which spoken word artists perform original works before an audience, began in a Chicago bar in 1984, according to the National Poetry Slam website.

"Sales of poetry books have soared 30 percent in the past three years at Barnes & Noble, the nation's largest book retailer," according to a recent article in The New York Times. Poetry may continue to increase its following since Poetry magazine was recently granted \$100 million. Additionally, a recent Pepsi Blue commercial employed a spoken-word poet to promote its product.

Poetry's commercial success can be attributed to media tar-

geting urban markets. But success does not come without criticism.

In a recent New York Times review of Def Poetry Jam, critic Ben Brantley wrote "This is poetry for the stage, not the page, and it exists completely only in the moment it is being performed."

Mark Christliff, English professor and lifelong poetry fan, said, "A general criticism of popular poetry is that it does not have as much depth as academic poetry." Content should not be sacrificed over performance, "although some performers can communicate ideas clearly," Christliff added.

"Some performers can be distracting," Tim Engles, English professor and advisor of The Vehicle magazine, said. But Engles thinks any entertainer should balance content and performance.

Both Christliff and Engles agree that despite some criticism, most of the poetry community accepts any newcomers to the artform. But novices should be reminded there are other forms of poetry other than spoken word, the current trend in popular poetry.

e-mail Jesse at: Jesse420@uplink.net

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