

## NEWS BRIEFS

Evan Bayh

Democratic Senator Evan Bayh announced on Feb. 15 that he will not seek another term in the Senate. Bayh was elected to the Senate in 1998 and has since held the position.

In a statement he made in Indianapolis, he expressed dissatisfaction with Congress' recent functioning.

"I have had a growing conviction that Congress is not operating as it should," Bayh said. "There is too much partisanship and not enough progress."

Bayh also said he will continue to serve society outside of politics. Though he did not cite a specific objective, he mentioned the possibilities of "creating jobs by helping grow a business, helping guide an institution of higher learning, or helping run a worthy charitable endeavor."

Bayh was elected Governor of Indiana in 1988, serving two terms. In 2006 he opened an exploratory committee on the prospect of running for president in 2008, and was later a main contender for the vice presidential nomination, according to the Indianapolis Star.

### Convocation

Dr. Jocelyn Bell Burnell bridged the gap between science and the humanities at convocation on Wednesday, Feb. 24. The speech, titled "Poems of Space—Astronomy and Poetry," engaged poems about comets, the night sky and the size of the universe, as well as other astronomical topics.

Burnell is known for her discovery of pulsars, or pulsating radio stars, as a graduate student at Cambridge University, England, in 1967. Pulsars are stars that have gone supernova and emit electromagnetic radiation, which pulsates due to the stars' quick rotation.

Burnell has been honored with many prestigious scientific awards and honorary degrees, and in 2007 was named a Dame Commander of the Order of the British Empire. She is currently the president of the Institute of Physics, a scientific organization that promotes physics in order to benefit society. She is also active in the Religious Society of Friends.

### 24-Hour Theatre Project

Prepare to be entertained by the result of the 24-Hour Theatre Project tomorrow night at 9 p.m. The project is a theater production made entirely within 24 hours, and involves volunteer directors, actors, writers and stage crew who use their imaginations to create a set of short skits within the allotted time. The Earlham Theatre Company's Mask and Mantle produces the project.

### Leeds

The Leeds Gallery began to feature the photography of Michael Godsfil, a professor of art at Knox College in Galesburg, Ill. this past Monday. The exhibit, titled "Ancient Echoes in Stone," presents Anasazi ruins in Canyon De Chelly in Arizona and Inca ruins in Peru.

The Artist's Statement on display says that the locations are "special places, infused with a quiet spiritual energy. My hope is that my photographs have captured some of that special energy and are able to impart an equivalent emotional experience to you, my viewers."

The exhibit will be on display until Friday, March 12.

## Faculty approve neuroscience major

By Micah Sommer

Staff reporter

Earlham students interested in the inner workings of the brain will soon be able to major in neuroscience. On Wednesday, Feb. 10, the faculty approved the update, which is a revision of the current psychobiology major.

In addition to a different name, the major will include three new classes and a larger credit requirement.

Professor of Biology Bob Rosenberg was a driving force behind the change. A neuroscientist by training, Rosenberg arrived at Earlham in fall of 2009 and soon began discussing with other science faculty the possibility of updating the psychobiology major.

"The word 'psychobiology' describes where neuroscience is at the interface between psychology and biology," Rosenberg explained. "[However,] it's a word that is out of date, it's used at very few places, and out in the world, 'neuroscience' is the word that is used to describe this field now."

In December, Rosenberg, Professor of Biology Amy Mulnix and Professor of Psychology

Kathy Milar proposed the change to Earlham's Curricular Policy Committee (CPC). On Feb. 8, CPC recommended to the faculty that the neuroscience major be approved.

Professor of English and CPC Member Nate Eastman said that CPC realized when reviewing the proposal that the faculty never formally approved the original psychobiology major.

"There were lots of other things going on at that time ... and the major never went before the faculty," Eastman said, explaining that at that time the college was also transitioning from quarters to semesters.

Eastman said that the process for approving the neuroscience major was very quick, compared to a brand new major such as environmental studies, which "was in the works for years."

Rosenberg echoed this statement, saying that the faculty approved the change with "very little discussion."

The neuroscience major includes one new required class and two new electives.

The required class, Topics in Neuroscience, will be a one-credit, discussion-based seminar for declared and prospective ma-

jors. Rosenberg, who will teach the course beginning next fall, explained that students in the class will be exposed to the latest advances in neuroscience by examining recent publications in the popular and scientific press.

"The field is incredibly diverse, and we wanted to just expose neuroscience majors to the breadth of the field in a way that introduces them to the stuff that's going on right now in research," Rosenberg said. "And the other motivation for that class is to build a community of neuroscientists."

The two new elective courses are Research in Developmental Psychology: Cradle and Grave, to be taught by Professor of Psychology Vincent Punzo beginning next fall, and Sensation and Perception, to be taught by Milar beginning in spring 2011.

"[Sensation and Perception] is a classic neuroscience course that most colleges have, and Kathy has been wanting to teach it for years," said Rosenberg. "Now is an opportunity for her to put that class together."

The major's credit requirement will be increased from 38-41 to 44-46. Additionally, some formerly optional classes will be

required and vice versa.

Psychobiology major Max Shannon, junior, said that the change is "definitely a good thing."

However, he noted that the updated requirements place less of an emphasis on behavioral study, which might limit possibilities for some students.

The changes to the major requirements will not affect juniors and seniors who have already declared a major in psychobiology, Rosenberg said. Shannon, however, intends to make the switch to neuroscience.

Noting that the name neuroscience is much more widely used, Shannon said, "I'd rather have that on my diploma."

Rosenberg hopes that the revision of the major will bring in more students interested in the field.

"I can't understand why anyone wouldn't want to be a neuroscience major," Rosenberg said. "Understanding the brain and how it works and why we do what we do at a sort of mechanistic level, I just think is so amazing and it's such a growing field."

## Pollan to speak on food, public policy

By Sasha Benderly-Kraft

Staff reporter

Environmental and nutritional activist Michael Pollan will give a talk specially designed for Earlham tomorrow evening. Though Pollan is currently on a speaking circuit to discuss his latest book, *Food Rules: An Eater's Manual*, tomorrow he will present a talk entitled "Connecting the Dots: Nutritionism, Health and Agricultural Policy."

Pollan, who teaches journalism at University of California, Berkeley, is best known for his book *The Omnivore's Dilemma*, published in 2006. In that book, Pollan analyzed the sources from which we get our food.

Tomorrow's talk will be deeply linked to this premise: Pollan's main conceptual framework is that the way modern American society produces food is directly linked with public health, and thus that changing the way we look at food production is crucial to improving how we live our lives.

Pollan stands opposed to the practice of choosing food for scientifically calculated nutritional values. In his second most recent book, *In Defense of Food* (2008), Pollan argued that nutritionism—the valuation of food by specific nutrient contents—complicates and detracts from eating habits, coming to a simple, catchy conclusion: "Eat food. Not too much. Mostly plants."

Due to his influence on the food-oriented side of the environmental movement, Pollan has been a highly demanded speaker in recent years. Lynn Knight, Earlham's Events Coordinator, says that Pollan was booked for this talk last year, and that it correlates with the college's current interest in sustainability and environmental policy, such as the recent creation of an Environmental Studies major.

In addition to his talk, Pollan will lead a session of Assistant Professor of Education Jay Roberts' Environmental Colloquium, which, for this semester, is focused on generating an assessment of Earlham's sustainability.

Knight says this classroom element is crucial to Pollan being more than a speaker—having him available to students is seen as a crucial way of examining the ideas he puts forward.

Roberts is likewise highly enthusiastic about Pollan's presence in his classroom.

"We are working from Paul Hawken's book *Blessed Unrest*," Roberts said, "which is about the environmental movement as one of the key social movements of this moment. Hopefully Michael Pollan can provide some perspective as to what's really going on in that movement."

When asked about Pollan's specific appeal, Roberts pointed to the universality of the question of food.

"Food touches everybody, across boundaries, so it's a strong point on which to build coalitions," he said.

Roberts characterizes the food movement championed by Pollan as an "unlikely alliance" of many social groups that defies traditional stereotypes of environmentalists.

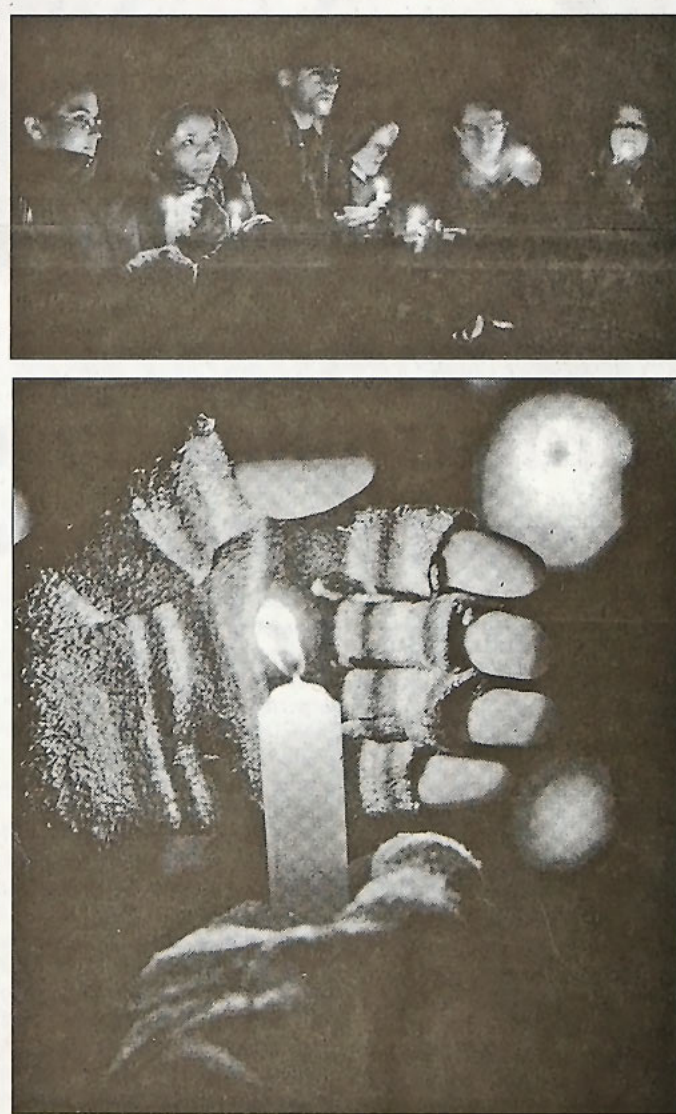
"These days, it's not just the stereotypical 'elitist hippies' that care about food—it's coming to the forefront of our collective consciousness," he said. "The big idea is that since everyone eats, food can transcend self-interest."

This increased consciousness is showing its face in many aspects of our day-to-day life—not least of which is the fact that every one of the tickets to Pollan's talk has been sold out for a week.

For instance, Sodexo is in the process of creating a sustainability inquiry to improve their food policy. Roberts sees this as evidence of the thought currently put into questions of food, but wonders how deep it truly runs.

"Is this really a paradigm shift, or just a trend?" Roberts asked. Pollan's talk might shed some light on this question, or at least provide an idea of how to look at the food movement for the future.

"Connecting the Dots: Nutritionism, Health and Agricultural Policy" is tomorrow at 7:30 p.m. in Goddard Auditorium. Tickets are sold out.



Photos by Elsa Haag

## Vigil lights up week of Haiti awareness

A small group gathered on the Heart on Wednesday for a candlelight vigil to honor the victims of the earthquake in Haiti and raise awareness of the continued need for aid. The lights around the Heart were turned off for the event.

The vigil was part of a series of events called Haiti Week at Earlham. Earlham's chapter of Amnesty International and the Earlham Progressive Union organized the events.

On Monday, Dr. Rami Saydjari presented his work as a surgeon in Haiti and the sponsors of the week encouraged students to wear red and blue, the colors of Haiti's flag.

Tuesday, senior Jake Haisely, along with French professor Aletha Stahl and Director of Safety and Security Cathy Anthofer, hosted a teach-in at LBC. (See page B3 for photo coverage of this event.)

On Thursday sponsors showed "The Agronomist," a documentary that focuses on Haitian journalist Jean Dominique, who was assassinated in 2000 for political reasons.

The week will culminate tonight with the Rab Rab Celebration Dance, which will feature Haitian food and live music by the New Measures. The dance begins at 10 p.m. Cost is \$5.



# COMMUNITY

SECTION B

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 26, 2010

## Khai Pung adds enthusiasm to orchestra

By Jonas Shellhammer

Staff reporter

Khai Pung, Earlham's new orchestra director, began his professional journey into music in Beijing, where he received his bachelor's degree in orchestral conducting at the Central Conservatory of Music.

While he is only filling in for the on-sabbatical director Forrest Tobey, he still hopes to make his own particular mark on Earlham's orchestra — in his own words in an e-mail interview, Pung said he wants to create an atmosphere in which "knowing the composers well, how the sound should be" is more important than what he terms "merely technical stuff."

"I wish when they walked out of rehearsals and after the concerts, the students could talk

about their understanding of the music we've worked on, and how the composers' works should sound like even if it was in my perspective," said Pung.

Pung, originally from Malaysia, heard about Earlham's open position when a member of his faculty at the College-Conservatory of Music (University of Cincinnati) told him about Forrest Tobey's short leave. He jumped at the chance to take the position, and applied.

Once here, Pung applied his style, and reactions have been appreciative. Senior Sami Hamed, international relations major, thinks that his novel approach is great.

Hamed said, "It's great to get a new perspective — as a percussionist, I sometimes don't get much work, but he's got me working hard to get every detail

down perfect."

Another student, freshman Sarah Crane, also described her experience with Pung as positive.

"I'm really enjoying how Khai is bringing his own personal touch to the Earlham orchestra. He has an amazing level of enthusiasm and energy," she said. "He sets high expectations, but through his energy and his own passion for the music he has an amazing way of making us feel that we can achieve it."

Crane also commented that

part of Pung's approach is to keep students involved, saying, "He treats us like colleagues, asking our opinion on how he wants to set up the concert and whether

the repertoire he chose was right for the orchestra."

Pung's initial venture into music started long before he attended music school in Beijing. When he was 5, he started piano lessons; violin lessons at 7,

and voice lessons at 8 years of age. When he was 10, his parents allowed him to take lessons on the erhu, a Chinese form of the violin, and moved him on to the

dulcimer when he was 13.

When he was 10 years old he was appointed conductor of the band in his school. In high school, he was elected to be the conductor of both the orchestra and choir.

It was not until he was 20 years old, however, that his parents allowed him to pursue a career in music.

Pung is happy that his career has taken him to Earlham College. When asked about what he hopes to achieve while here at Earlham, he maintains that "as a director of an orchestra consisting of music and non-music majors, I would work on bringing out the character of the music we are playing." From the opinions of his students, it appears that he is off to a good start.

**"He sets high expectations, but through his energy and his own passion for the music he has an amazing way of making us feel that we can achieve it."**

- Sarah Crane, freshman

## Swingsation, Sweethearts dances bring twirls



Photo by Abby Kathan

From left to right freshmen Katie Chickadonz, Ben Gunter, Yoni Glogower, Claudia Greene, and sophomore Emily Pfeiderer breaking it down on the dance floor at the Sweethearts Dance.



Photo by Alex Pianetta

Sophomore Dante Spellazga (right) and freshman Leila Hunter share a laugh while dancing at Swingsation, Earlham's annual benefit dance for the local United Way.

## Student films documentary on generations and conflict

By Alishba Zarmeen

Staff reporter

Junior Wilmer Chavarria has a passion for filmmaking and the technical skills to make that passion work in the world.

After being raised in a family of journalists, Chavarria is beginning to make independent films and assist with professional filmmaking.

Chavarria started his media experiences early in his childhood in Nicaragua, where his family owns a small television and radio company for his hometown.

Through his family Chavarria assisted with producing media. In addition to the technical aspects of filmmaking, he helped with other parts such as speaking and analyzing current affairs.

Last semester Chavarria participated in the New York Arts Program, where he said he received a broad range of opportunities.

"I was expecting them to treat me as a normal intern but I ended up doing very serious work, like editing for them," he said. "I worked for a company whose movies have been screened in various famous film festivals and I was firsthand editing videos for them which were going to be sent to the clients."

He added, "I felt like I was doing what I wanted to do. Not necessarily learning new things but putting in practice what I already knew. It was really a good experience and I took great advantage of it."

Director of Instructional Technology and Media Wes Miller said of Chavarria's abilities, "It's

the fact that he takes out time to practice his skills that he has mastered them so well."

Chavarria recognized that his experience and skills in media made Earlham an odd choice for someone with his background, but he said he has more interests than just media.

"It's more the fact that I already know how to do film and media that I don't want to go in a classroom and study what I already know and start learning from zero," he said. "I wanted to go to a place where I could still do all of that and be myself and make myself stronger in something else, such as politics and religion. If I know how to make movies, I want to be able to know what to make them about."

**"My movie is about what we all do as a people and is the product of the whole Earlham community in the joint effort of making peace."**

- Wilmer Chavarria, junior

Last summer Chavarria worked on an independent project which was funded by President Doug Bennett's discretionary fund.

Chavarria jokingly said that he stole the idea for the project from senior Eduardo Granizo, who suggested he and Chavarria should make a movie about war and post-conflict situations.

The two decided on a project involving Nicaragua and Palestine, but Granizo was unable to obtain transportation for the film, so Chavarria solely took on the responsibility of proposing the project.

Chavarria's main goal of the project was to record testimonies from the old and new generations in order to observe the differences between each generation's understanding of conflict.

"I wanted to see and try to understand the young generation

who are still going through a conflict between Israel and Palestine," Chavarria said. "I wanted to compare how different generations understand wars."

Junior Alma Raymer, peace and global studies major who worked with Chavarria on the film project, said, "The resistance and recent conflicts have changed something so profound in the population that the channelization of that energy and passion in a positive manner is much required."

Chavarria plans on releasing the documentary this spring. At this point, he is focusing more on quality of the movie rather than the speed of its release.

"My team and I don't want to rush," he said. "[We] want to have something which is polished."

Although Chavarria and his team are unsure about the title of the documentary, Chavarria hinted that since the title of the project was "Keeping the Breath of Peace Alive," the title of the documentary will likely be along those lines.

Chavarria's team included Raymer, Indiana University East student Patrick Malloy, former Earlham student Monika Tippie, and Chavarria's brothers Dino and Pedro Chavarria. Also included were Chavarria's friends Louis Martinez, who is based in Nicaragua, and Mujahid Sarsur, who contributed much to the Palestinian portion of the film.

Chavarria took this opportunity to thank everyone at Earlham for all the support and trust they gave him.

"My movie is about what we all do as a people and is the product of the whole Earlham community in the joint effort of making peace," he said.

A preview of the Davis Project can be seen by searching "Breath of Peace" on YouTube.

- ADVERTISEMENTS -

### Kazue Fukuda Hawkins Endowed Fund Lecture:

Journalism in Mexico: From the Drug Wars to the Impunity of the Government.

Tuesday, March 2, 7:00 p.m. in Goddard Auditorium, Carpenter Hall.

Adela Navarro Bello is co-director of "Semanario ZETA" along with Cesar Rene Blanco Villalon. She has co-authored with J. Jesus Blancornelas, Francisco Javier Ortiz, and Franco y Hector Javier Gonzalez Delgado "Time Passes, from Lomas Taurinas to Los Pinos", which investigated the assassination of presidential candidate Luis Donaldo Colosio.

Among her many awards and acknowledgements are the International Freedom of the Press Award, President of the Jury of the National Journalism Award, the Ortega y Gasset Award and the Anna Politkovskaja Award.

The Kazue Fukuda Endowed Fund focuses on speakers or performers who are either themselves victims of prejudice or war, or whose particular message or performance addresses these issues and celebrates the indomitable spirit of those who overcome and survive such experiences.

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# COMMUNITY

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 26, 2010

SECTION B2

## Punch Brothers strum to packed theater



Photo by Abby Kathan

The Punch Brothers playing on Feb. 12 in Goddard. From left to right Gabe Witche on fiddle, Chris Thile on mandolin, and Chris Eldridge on guitar. The band played progressive bluegrass to a packed theater.

## Genetic puzzle could explain social evolution

By Emma Grygotis

Staff reporter

Assistant Professor of Biology Chris Smith is guiding students through cutting-edge genetic research with the help of *Pogonomyrmex barbatus*, the harvester ant, and its complex, genetically-defined social and reproductive systems.

Harvester ants are common in the desert southwest of the United States, and are closely related to the more famous inhabitants of classic ant farms. Smith, however, who maintains several colonies in the basement of Stanley Hall, describes them as having "one of the most messed up genetic systems of any ant you'll ever see."

Smith's research is funded by the National Science Foundation, which approved a half-million dollar grant written by Smith and his colleagues at Arizona State University while he was completing his post-doctoral work. A portion of the funds was transferred to Earlham when Smith joined the faculty last fall.

Thanks to the grant and rapidly improving technology, Smith and his colleagues were able to produce a fully sequenced ant genome in just a few months on a budget of \$100,000. These fig-

ures are down from the several billion dollars spent on the human genome project, which produced a sequenced database of the human genetic code after more than a decade of research.

The funding has also made possible the purchase of a real-time polymerase chain reaction machine for Earlham, which will allow Smith and student researchers to measure gene expression levels in developing individuals.

### In the classroom

This stage in the process is scheduled for the upcoming summer. In the meantime, Smith's students are already benefiting from the resources the project has offered. His evolutionary genomics class spends its lab periods working with the sequenced genome.

Though the genome will ultimately be added to the growing database of sequenced genomes as a resource for other researchers, Smith has more work to do before publishing the final results.

Junior Hilary Albers, a biology major in the class said, "Every lab is a puzzle." She describes the process as tedious and sometimes frustrating, but rewarding.

Each student has a flash drive containing the sequenced code, recorded as long chains of A's, T's, C's and G's. The letters rep-

resent one of four nucleotides, the molecular units of the genetic code.

Much of the class's lab work relies on tools such as the National Center for Biotechnology's genetic databases, which they use to identify known sequences in the ant genome.

This is possible because many portions of the genetic code are highly conserved, undergoing very few changes despite having evolved independently for millions of years. The genes for insulin in ants and humans, for example, are nearly identical.

"What we're looking for in the ant is relevant to all species across the animal kingdom," said sophomore Sean McGuire, who is interested in potential applications for humans. Not only are many of the sequences the same, but the processes the students are learning will be important to the rapidly expanding field of genomic research.

Smith cites teaching as one of the key reasons he chose to work at Earlham. He is learning and refining the process alongside his students, and as he points out, "the best way to learn is by experience."

### Blurring species lines

Another set of student researchers will be joining Smith for his summer research. Their

task will be to identify which specific sequences are involved in the ants' development into adulthood.

The ants (*Pogonomyrmex*) in question are especially interesting to Smith and his colleagues because rather than being a true "species" by the usual standards, they are actually a hybrid between *P. barbatus* and a related species, *P. rugosus*. In these cases, a functional colony consists of two distinct lineages bound together by obligatory mutualism. Neither lineage could survive more than a single generation without the other.

Like many social insects, harvester ants have a two-caste system of reproductive queens supported by large colonies of sterile workers. Usually, the two differentiate during development due to external factors such as diet, which allows the colony to control when a new queen is produced.

In contrast, the caste of each harvester ant is determined genetically. Reproducing individuals are the offspring of a queen and a male of her own lineage. However, for a colony to function, it must be made up primarily of workers, the sterile offspring of a queen and a male of the other lineage.

The genetic determination

found in red harvester ants is rare and difficult to explain by any current evolutionary models. The system is complicated by the fact that queens and workers are almost unrecognizable as the same species. For example, they are extremely different in size and while workers have a maximum life span of one year, queens are known to live for 30.

### The future: a human model?

Smith and his colleagues want to learn how the two castes can share so much of the same genetic code, yet are so vastly different in adulthood. Although his individual project has no stated objective beyond expanding scientific knowledge, Smith believes it could have significant implications down the road by greatly increasing understanding of genetic mechanisms at the molecular level.

His research is part of a much larger global effort to establish ants as a research model for other fields, which range from disease transmission in social systems to comparative genomics. Their combined efforts are summarized in an article entitled "Ant genomics: strength and diversity in numbers," which was published in the January edition of *Molecular Ecology* and co-authored by Smith.

## Voices on the Heart

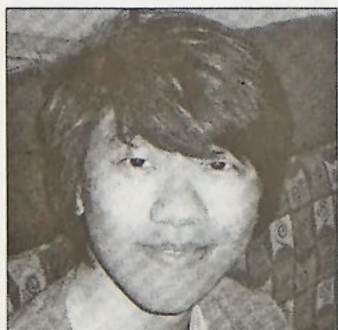
Compiled by Simon Levine, photos by Leah Pope

This "Voices on the Heart" has students answer the question "what was your favorite part of the Winter Olympics?"



"Shaun White saying 'There are five people in the world who can do this trick and of course I'm one of them.'"

SPENCER ZIMMERMAN,  
JUNIOR



"The national anthem of Canada, because I lived there for three years."

STEVEN GOTAMA,  
SENIOR



"I'm not really interested because I have homework to do."

LAURA GADSON,  
FRESHMAN



"I really, really, do like ice hockey, but Shaun White was far superior to everyone else."

ULDIS ELKSINITIS,  
SOPHOMORE



"I wanted to watch because it's the first time we had a Colombian in the Olympics."

DAVID ARISTIZABAL,  
FRESHMAN

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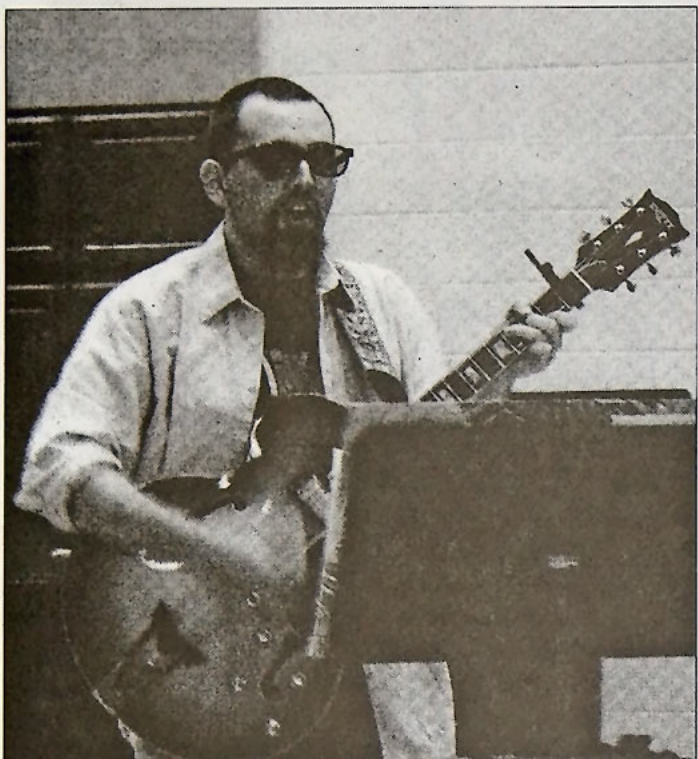


# COMMUNITY

SECTION B3

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 26, 2010

## Students display compositions at recital



Photos by Abby Kathan

Left: Senior Michael Savan performs part two of his composition on guitar. Right: From left to right Senior Alex Arnold on computer/sampler, junior Michael Skib on violin and senior Casey Muyskens-toth on cello perform Alex Arnold's original composition "Tendrils." These performers were part of "All About Cookies," put on by students from Music and Piano Instructor Pavel Polanco-Safadi's composition class. The recital also featured original pieces by juniors Jordan Korth, Michael Skib and Micah Sommer, and freshman Alexis Kidd. And of course, there were cookies offered as refreshments.

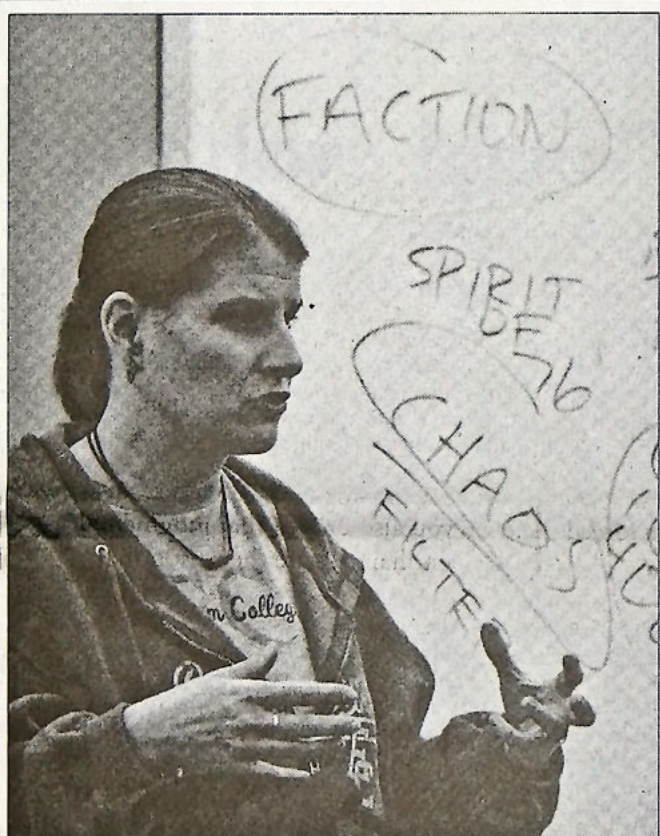


Photo by Alishba Zarmeen

## Teach-in for Haiti

Cathy Anthofer, director of campus safety and security, speaks at the teach-in for Haiti on Tuesday night. The teach-in was designed to promote discussion and raise awareness of Haiti both before and after the earthquake, particularly beforehand. It discussed the history of Haiti, and what makes for effective aid and relief work there. The speakers were Anthofer, student Jake Haisley, senior, and Aletha Stahl, professor of French.

- ADVERTISEMENT -

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## Theatre puts on "Streetcar"

By Faith Woodside

Staff reporter

STELLA! This famous line resounded through the halls of Richmond Civic Theatre during Saturday's performance of "A Streetcar Named Desire." This Pulitzer Prize-winning play by Tennessee Williams is an intensely emotional piece, and certainly a big undertaking for everyone involved in its production.

"I felt the desire to honor, to do it justice, be true ... bring it off in the way the author wanted it to be perceived," said Director David Cobine. It is fair to say that Cobine succeeded in his goal, for the depth and tenderness of Williams' play was evident from the opening scene to curtain call.

The play centers on the relationship between Blanche DuBois, played by Krista Falcone, and Stanley Kowalski, played by Andy Dudas. The story begins when Blanche, a delicate and dreamy woman, comes to stay with her sister Stella, played by Kristy Jackson.

As the play unfolds Blanche, Stella and Stanley are pulled into a spiral of their own desires, culminating in the final mental and emotional breakdown of Blanche. Falcone and Dudas gave

solid performances that captured the complexities of Blanche and Stanley.

The depth and range of the characters in "A Streetcar Named Desire" contribute to why the play has justifiably earned the title of an American classic. Tennessee Williams' script is beautiful in its subtle development of individuals utterly lost between fantasy and reality.

In casting a play with such emotionally intricate characters, Cobine looked for individuals "that seem[ed] to have a feel or sense of that character's personality and desires [with] potential to grow into that character."

In particular Cobine wanted to portray Blanche in a way that would show her as "worthy of compassion." Cobine explained that for him Blanche "was the author's character" and as such he wanted to make the audience care about her and her tragic fall.

To accomplish this, Cobine worked extensively with the individual actors to explore the development of their characters. Of the cast, Cobine said that "they were perfectly insightful about the characters they were playing."

Cobine spoke in depth about the collaborative process of bring-

ing a play to life. In "A Streetcar Named Desire," lighting and set design hold a particularly important role, since lighting is used by Tennessee Williams as a way to develop the characters.

Lighting designer Dick Woodruff, and set designer Carvin Rhinehart did a wonderful job creating the mood and inviting the audience into a 1950s household in New Orleans.

The production team also gave close attention to the music played during the set changes. Music Advisor Ron Cobine worked with David Cobine to select a piece of music for each set change that was specific to the mood of the scene.

It was this kind of attention to detail that allowed the audience to be captivated by the performance. "A Streetcar Named Desire" transcends time and generation, and it takes courage and hard work from everyone involved to produce such a celebrated and powerful play. The Richmond Civic Theatre Company deserves heartfelt congratulations.

The next main stage production of The Richmond Civic Theatre is "A Chorus Line" - check it out online at richmondtheatre.org

## Earlham student government weighs in on...

### how they can help you

As your peers, we want to encourage each of you to pursue the things that interest and inspire you to be the active people that you are capable of being. While we may not always realize it, the opportunities we have in college to get engaged with our surroundings, as well as ourselves, are incredibly unique compared to what we may be offered in the future.

We are lucky to be at a place where our passions, regardless of whether they match our

academic directions, are recognized and supported, and we need to take full advantage of this time. Become active, speak your mind, get others involved, make a scene. Affect change.

Earlham Student Government realizes that your passions don't always involve student government, but we encourage you to come to us as a resource.

Whether you're trying to start a movement or have an issue with Earlham itself, we truly can help. We may not

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# OPINION

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 26, 2010

SECTION C

## Race, class matter in today's LGBT politics

By Josh Friedberg

Guest writer

When you think of a gay, lesbian, bisexual or transgender person, what race and class do you associate with that image?

In 2000, World War II historian Allan Bérubé published an essay examining the perception of, in particular, gay men and the consequences of that perception.

Bérubé said that when asked the above question, his students invariably responded that gay men were perceived as "white and well-to-do."

Despite progress in LGBT rights, 10 years after the publication of "How Gay Stays White, and What Kind of White it Stays," some things haven't changed.

Regardless of exceptions, the majority of people, at least in the U.S., still perceive LGBT people as white and wealthy. And this image stays ingrained not only for overt homophobes but within LGBT culture as well.

Bérubé examined how the image of gays as monolithically privileged presented itself in attempts to both assimilate LGBT people into mainstream society and curtail LGBT rights.

He discussed what he called the "selling" of gay whiteness in order to garner favor from corporate and governmental authorities, as well as the use of "race analogies" comparing sexual marginalization to racial marginalization.

What happened was politicians voted against gay rights measures, including in the battle over gays in the military, saying that gays already have privilege, an idea which only makes sense if you conceive of LGBT people as homogeneously white and wealthy.

And today organizations like the Human Rights Campaign (HRC) still sell the image of assimilation to try to prove LGBT people are "just like everybody else." This has included efforts like the HRC Buying for Equality guide, which encourages consumers to support LGBT-friendly corporations.

To be sure, this sounds like a good idea, but the HRC has given awards to companies with documented histories of racist practices, like Abercrombie, separating sexual oppression from racial or class-based oppression.

This example points to a larger problem: such an assimilationist ethic, which has ignored the

overlap between race, class, and sexuality, has resulted in the marginalization of LGBT people of color from a discourse on LGBT rights.

To be fair, unprecedented numbers of LGBT professors of color have gained prominence in the academy over the last two decades, so that is certainly progress.

But before Proposition 8 passed in 2008, banning gay marriage in California, LGBT activists of color noted racial discrimination within anti-Prop. 8 organizations silencing their ideas.

As Kai Wright noted in an article for ColorLines magazine, these activists foresaw the passing of Prop. 8 and tried to institute changes in the assimilationist strategies used to attempt to gain votes, but to no avail.

And yet the selling of gays as white and wealthy continues.

A few years ago Dwight A. McBride, a gay black professor who is currently dean at University of Illinois at Chicago, published an essay on "the gay marketplace of desire," referring to pornography, print media, online dating, and other institutions which largely cater to white male consumers, often

using racist stereotypes about various gay men of color. This is undoubtedly still the case; one look through a mainstream LGBT publication or Web site will confirm that.

And race analogies continue as well: after Prop. 8, one such magazine, The Advocate, published a cover story declaring, "Gay is the New Black." The story's author did not interview or mention a single gay black person and posed LGBT rights and black rights as comparable.

The problem is that only white people can compare any oppression to racial oppression; blacks, for example, can't say their oppression is like racial oppression, because they are already racially oppressed.

In addition, the myth that LGBT people are homogeneously white and wealthy yields a number of other myths. One is that some people of color have called homosexuality "a white thing," dismissing the idea that LGBT people are in their communities.

Another is the myth that LGBT people should be grateful for what they have — which could hold true if you're talking about race and class privilege among white and upper-class LGBT folks.

However, such a myth ignores the rights that LGBT people have long been denied, ones that heterosexuals can take for granted, including the rights to marry, to not face employment discrimination based around sexuality or gender identity, or to know hate crimes against you can be treated as hate crimes.

So what I am asking all of us to do is to challenge the stereotypes that are so prevalent, to acknowledge race and class along with sexuality and gender identity and to help break down how gay stays white.

Bérubé's death in 2007 should not leave this part of his legacy unfulfilled: we must educate ourselves, learning about racism and classism in addition to homophobia, sexism and other types of oppression.

We must learn that ignoring or separating any type of oppression from another is a result of privileged ignorance, and it will remain so as long as gay stays white.

Josh Friedberg is a senior English major and can be reached at [jdfried06@earlham.edu](mailto:jdfried06@earlham.edu)

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The Word reserves the right to cut any opinion piece longer than 700 words.

The articles submitted for publication in the printed version of The Earlham Word are also published online at [ecword.org](http://ecword.org).

## Cheers & Sneers

CHEERS to:

- The EC athletic teams, who have a higher accumulated GPA than the general student population GPA. That includes all EC teams, even football.
- Science, and all the miraculous things that it does.
- The football squad. At least they don't rag on you for how smart and un-athletic you are!
- Bacon breakfast in Saga.
- Clear Creek Co-op for having local meat. Now I can stop being a forced vegetarian!
- Sweden for ripping apart Finland in Olympic hockey.
- Chocolate for keeping me alive.

SNEERS to:

- When people bite string cheese instead of peeling it.
- The EH lobby printing computer always being in sleep mode and unresponsive, causing you to have to run back to your room and print another way.
- Those who steal food from the co-op kitchen.
- Calling out the entire football team in the last edition. We get it. We are not as smart as you. And you also proved that judgmental Earlhamites are the reason that many choose not to speak in class, above and beyond us dumb football players. EC PRIDE!

**Cheer:** noun, a shout of encouragement, approval, or congratulation.

**Sneer:** noun, a contemptuous or scornful remark.

SEND YOUR CHEERS AND SNEERS TO ROOSTROM08.

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### Editor in Chief

Marisa Keller  
[mdkeller06@earlham.edu](mailto:mdkeller06@earlham.edu)

### Managing Editor

Rosa Ostrom  
[roostrom08@earlham.edu](mailto:roostrom08@earlham.edu)

### Section Editors

Anna McCormally  
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William Duffee

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Mariah Kennedy  
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Sarah Brown-Anson  
Emma Grygoris  
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Amanda Woods

### Ad Manager

Gabriel Middaugh  
[gamidd10@earlham.edu](mailto:gamiddd10@earlham.edu)

### Distribution Manager

Dakota McElley  
[djmccell09@earlham.edu](mailto:djmccell09@earlham.edu)

### Advisor

Judi Hetrick  
[hetriju@earlham.edu](mailto:hetriju@earlham.edu)

### Assistant to the Advisor

Sarah Scanlon  
[sescanl06@earlham.edu](mailto:sescanl06@earlham.edu)

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## Snow: the scourge of Indiana

By Jonas Shellhammer

Staff writer

The Monday before early semester break, I encountered what is probably my only culture shock since I came to the United States as an international student in 2006.

Since my father is American, and since I went to an American-International high school before attending Earlham College, I've encountered few facets of living in the USA that have surprised me in any notable way.

All this changed on Monday, although perhaps it isn't so much related to living in America as it is to residing here in Indiana.

I was in a car, going to Ohio — Dayton International Airport, to be specific — with a friend. I had checked the weather reports no less than 10 minutes prior to leaving our recently snowed-upon campus, and all sources suggested that nothing but smooth driving lay ahead. A couple cursory glances outside indicated that the roads were in decent shape, and that the amount of snow falling was manageable by even the most thinly stretched road crews.

Of course, 15 minutes into our little road trip, I was proven wrong. Traffic was, shall we say, slightly on the chaotic side, and radio bulletins frequently announced weather advisories, school closings and the like.

I could not for the life of me understand what was going on — I come from Sweden, where people are used to a lot more snow than what was on the ground that day, and where the local government is at least remotely prepared for bad weather. Apparently this is not the case in Indiana or Ohio.

There was a thin layer of slushy snow on I-70, yet I heard radio announcers decry it as a death trap to be avoided at all costs. One person remarked that road crews were doing everything they could to hamper the devastating effect that this supposedly lethal white substance was wreaking on our Midwestern roads, but that there was just far too much snow falling to be humanly dealt with.

For the record, I saw exactly one snowplow on my way to Dayton and back — in the airport parking lot. The radio chatter kept getting progressively worse, and I suddenly found myself wondering if Orson Welles was somehow pulling a War of the Worlds-esque prank from beyond the grave.

Looking back, I'm still puzzled. Since I came to Earlham College, I've seen snow fall every winter, as it tends to, and yet there appears to be little to no preparation for such an improbable event on behalf of the local authorities. The notion that snow coming out of the sky is a foreshadowing of the apocalypse is, in my humble opinion, part of Norse mythology — not a reasonable reaction from radio presenters and authorities in a geographical region that regularly experiences such an event.

I was also surprised to learn that there appears to be no rule governing winter tires here in Indiana. In Sweden, it's against the law to use year-round or summer tires past a certain date, and no sane person would do it anyway.

If nothing else, I figure that instituting such a law here in Indiana (or Ohio) would save people the hassle of not being able to drive (and of crashing

their cars) every once in a while when the winter months hit. This, of course, assumes that local governments would like to off-load some of the cost of plowing onto the driver, who of course pays for his own tires.

That being said, like I mentioned, I saw one — one — single snowplow during an approximately 83-mile trip on one of the main highways around here, which is beyond me. Not to mention that it only barely qualified as a snowplow; it was more along the lines of a pickup truck with a shovel welded to the grill.

In Sweden, when it snows heavily (which, mind you, is quite different from what I saw last Monday), the government gets its plows out well ahead of time. They're on standby. They get the snow off the main roads, and then engage in some thoroughly complicated preventative measures, such as putting salt and sand on the recently plowed surfaces.

Why this doesn't happen here continues to befuddle me. It's safer for the residents, it makes life easier for them in such a car-dependent area as this one, and it stops parents from having to keep their kids home when schools close.

All in all, my trip to Dayton was an interesting and frustrating experience — although it did end up providing me with some decent fodder for an opinion piece, so I suppose not all was lost in the end.

Jonas Shellhammer is a senior business and non-profit management major and can be reached at [jshell06@earlham.edu](mailto:jshell06@earlham.edu).



# SPORTS

SECTION D

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 26, 2010



From left to right:  
Sophomore guard Nikki Darrett scores a basket.  
Sophomore guard Ryan Calder lines up a shot.  
Sophomore guard Nikki Darrett attempts a 3-point shot.  
Freshman guard Matt Marsh looks for an open teammate. Both teams lost to the College of Wooster on Saturday.

Photos by Alex Softness

## Basketball seasons end with Senior Day

By Aleta Cox

Staff reporter

The women's basketball team's suffered a disappointment for their final game on Feb. 20 as they lost a close 69-72 game against Wooster College. The women ended their season at 3-22 overall and 2-14 in the NCAC.

The day also marked the Quakers' Senior Day, organized by coaches, teammates and fans to honor senior members Katy Buda and Jayana Sims.

"We did a lot of really great things this year and although our record might not reflect it, I feel we have really grown as a team," Sophomore guard Nikki Darrett said. "There are a lot of girls who will be returning that were big contributors this year, so I know next year will only be better."

Freshman guard Michelle Miranda led the Quakers with 12 points, while sophomore guard Nikki Darrett added 11 points. Freshman center/forward Whitney Sparkman tossed in 10 points and sophomore guard Princess Darnell finished with nine points in the fight against the Scots.

The Quakers will be returning 12 of their 14 players in the 2011-2012 season. The returning players include high scorers Darrett, Miranda, Sparkman, and Jessica Wooden.

The team had three players in double digits when they beat Denison University on Feb. 10. Miranda led her team with a career high of 19 points and nine rebounds, while Darrett and Wooden each finished with their own 10 points.

By halftime, the Quakers were up 40-24 against the Big Red. Denison would battle back, and with only 1:51 remaining in the game, the score was tied at 66.

After a Denison turnover and a pair of free throws from Miranda, the Quakers led 70-68 with 19 seconds left on the clock. An-

other free throw from Sims gave the Quakers their final score and when Denison failed to produce anything on their final possession, the Quakers won the game 71-68.

"I was feeling really good going into the game and just tried to focus on doing the best that I could do personally," Sims said. "We have had some trouble playing a full game in the past, and so I thought that if I could play a full game individually, maybe that would help my team out. It ended up working really well, not just for me, but most importantly for my team and getting the win."

Despite their win over the Big Red, the Quakers went on to lose their remaining three games. On Feb. 13, the Quakers faced Kenyon College and were never able to play on the same level as the Kenyon Ladies.

Kenyon led nearly the entire game, and was up 34-24 at halftime. Coming back from intermission, the Quakers were only able to get within 10 points of Kenyon and would eventually lose the game 41-60. Darrett led the Quakers with 13 points and nine rebounds, while Wooden added nine points. Freshman Charvonne Long finished with eight points and Sparkman pulled down seven rebounds.

The Quakers also fell to the number one ranked team in the NCAC conference, Wittenberg University, on Feb. 17. The Quakers were trailing 34-22 by halftime, and as seen in many other games this season, were never able to recover from that deficit.

The Quakers lost 57-71 to the Wittenberg Tigers. Darrett led with 14 points and six rebounds. Sophomore guard Amelia Frazier added nine points while Miranda contributed eight points. Darnell also made a career-high contribution of eight assists to go with her six points and three rebounds.

### Basketball Season Summary

#### Women

**Overall Record:**  
3 Wins (2 Conference)  
Over Manchester, Allegheny, and Denison  
22 Loses (14 conference)

**Conference Standings:**  
9th in conference  
3rd in 3-point field goals made

**Team points leader - Nikki Darrett (295)**

#### Men

**Overall Record:**  
3 Wins (1 Conference)  
Over Franklin, Rhodes, and Oberlin  
22 Losses (15 Conference)

**Conference Standings:**  
10th in conference  
2nd in free throw percentages  
3rd in 3-point field goals made  
4th in 3-point field goal percentages

**Team points leader - A.J. Sutherlin (419)**

**Awards:**  
NCAC Player of the week  
- A.J. Sutherlin

The Quaker men's team finished their season 3-22 overall and 1-15 in the conference. Fortunately for the men's team, they will be returning 10 of their players, including the top scorers, sophomore A.J. Sutherlin and freshman Marty Broderick.

In their final game of the season, the Quakers battled against Wooster College on Feb. 20, during the early semester break.

The day also corresponded with the team's Senior Day, honoring senior T.J. Ferrick.

Despite four players scoring in the double digits, the Quakers fell to Wooster 72-90. Freshman Matt Marsh led the Quakers with 15 points and four assists, while freshman Dustin Rusk tossed in 11 points. Sutherlin and sophomore Kyle Calder finished with 10 points each.

The Scots are 20-5 in overall play this year and are also the number one team in the NCAC conference, boasting a record of 15-1.

The Earlham College men's basketball team had two of its players in double digits in the 52-90 point battle against Wittenberg University earlier on Feb. 10. Unfortunately for the Quakers, they were never quite able to battle back against the Tigers, as they entered halftime already down 40-26.

Freshman Marty Broderick led the Quakers with 12 points, while Rusk tossed in ten of his own. Both players grabbed four rebounds each. Also contributing to the score was sophomore Ryan Taylor who contributed nine points while Marsh added eight points and five rebounds.

The men's team then battled at home on Feb. 13 with Ohio Wesleyan University and fell 71-81. The Quakers showed promise with three of their players recording double digits in the game.

Taylor led the Quakers with 15 points in the contest. Although

the Quakers maintained a close score the majority of the game, there were at least two occasions when the Bishops went on 13-0 and 9-0 runs to rack up their score.

Calder reflected on the Quakers' loss to OWU.

"We really let this game slip away with the two big runs that they had on us, but other than those two spurts of the game I thought we played hard and competed well," he said. "I feel like we gained a lot of experience this year and played against some tough competition and that next year is going to be a great year for capitalizing on that."

The Quakers also faced Kenyon College on Feb. 17. Sutherlin led the Quakers with 13 points and seven rebounds while Broderick tossed in 11 points and Marsh added eight points. Calder and sophomore Joe Brown finished with six points each.

The Quakers were able to capitalize on Kenyon's poor shooting percentage of seven out of 24, and led for most of the first half. The score remained tied at 23 as both teams entered the locker rooms for halftime.

Unfortunately for the Quakers, Kenyon's luck turned around and they came out in the second half shooting nearly 60 percent, sinking 18 of 30 shots. The Lords held the Quaker's score down and would eventually win 66-51.

Looking forward to next year's play, the majority of Earlham's athletic teams, including men and women's basketball, will be switching into the Heartland Conference.

Calder said of the switch, "I think it is going to be a good change for us. Obviously the most important factor being that it will be great to play against schools in closer proximity to Earlham, but I also think our style of play is going to fit really well into the Heartland Conference."

## Young team ready to open season in Kentucky

By Bryant Foreman

Staff reporter

Despite the snow still left on the ground in most of the Midwestern states, college baseball teams are still gearing up for the 2010 season. The Earlham College Quakers have been doing just that.

The Quakers look for their first victory tomorrow in Danville, Ky. as they face the Centre College Colonels, who finished 12-24 last season. The 2009 game resulted in a 19-11 victory in favor of the Quakers, who hope to do the same to start off their 2010 season.

Last year the Quakers finished with an overall record of 14-22, while finishing 3-13 in the North Coast Athletic Conference. That record corresponded to a ninth-place finish alongside the Hiram Terriers.

This year, the Quakers have approached the season with an aggressive recruiting strategy by adding eight new faces to the roster:

Freshmen Shawn Kinnett (P), Chris Tillery (OF/P), Ross Yoho (SS/P), Nate Reynolds (OF), Gilbert Ambler (OF), Chris Baumann (2B/P), Justin Broach (P/UTL) and Nate Chandler (C/UTL) take up a large spot on Earlham's 15-player roster.

"We are not looking at these young players as freshmen," said Associate Head Coach Steve Sakosits. "Since we have had nearly a year to train and prepare, we have gotten them very acclimated to our system, and they just have to go out and play like they know how to play now."

Junior Conner Gable, a first

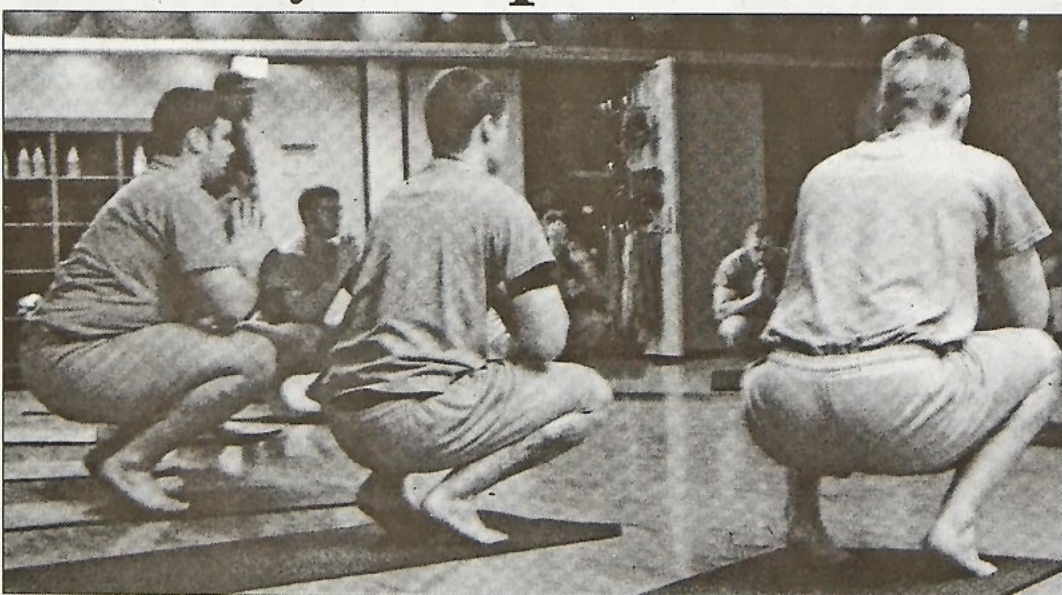


Photo by Leah Pope

From left to right: Junior Conner Gable, freshman Nathan Chandler, and freshman Ross Yoho participate with fellow baseball players in a sports yoga class on Feb. 4, led by instructor Stephen Johnson. Associate Head Coach Steve Sakosits has seen the success of sports yoga firsthand and now is sharing it with the team. Many players say they can see improvements all across the spectrum both physically and mentally.

baseman from Connorsville, Ind., and sophomore transfer Colton Bragg, a pitcher from Hanover College, are both new faces to look for on the Quaker roster this season.

### Yoga, weight-training, experienced players crucial

The baseball staff has established a rigorous off-season workout schedule to prepare the team for the upcoming season.

For the past several months on Tuesdays and Thursdays, the team has gotten up at seven in the morning to participate in a weight-training program. In

these early morning workouts, the team focuses on strength training in the weight room and actively participates in a yoga program to help with stretching, coordination, balance and focus.

These strategies are not the only factors boosting the Quakers in a positive direction during the 2010 season. The return of key players and upperclassmen will also play a pivotal role throughout the season.

Senior catcher/infielder Jake Carr leads the Quakers as the only senior on the roster. Last year, Carr led the team with a batting average of .417 while

adding 55 hits and 17 doubles to his statistics. Junior Adam Painter, a pitcher who also plays first base and outfielder, led the Quakers to several victories last year as he was 4-3 at the mound with an ERA of 4.55.

Other returning players are juniors Andrew Morrical and Corey Murray. Morrical, a third baseman and outfielder was second in hitting in 2009 with a .369 average that included 48 hits. Murray, a pitcher and first baseman, also helped the team with his .333 average as well as capping two wins for the Quakers last season.

Sophomore Tyler Schroeder, had a .245 average last year and returns to provide solid defensive play in the outfield for the Quakers.

### Two veteran players participate in off-season league

This summer Carr and Painter also participated in Richmond's prospect league team, the "RiverRats," in which they played with, and competed against, some of the best college players in the nation.

Carr said, "Playing with the 'Rats' was awesome and it gave me an idea of what it would be like to be a professional player. It also taught me a lot about the game from playing and being around other really good players."

This experience did not only reflect a "fun summer" for the Quakers duo, but also prepared them for this season.

Painter added, "Just the experience of playing against such good talent all summer helped out a lot. I think I really learned how to pitch at a consistent basis every appearance and I developed my pitches further, which will help me this spring."

After receiving league recognition for the past two years, Carr, the lone senior on the roster, has moved into a position as co-captain.

"I'm excited to lead this group of young guys. It should be great because they are a great group of guys that work hard," Carr said. "At the end of the day I consider myself just another member of the team and I can't wait to play my role and be successful as a team."