

Briefly

Friday

Culture Bandit

At 7:30 p.m. in Wilkinson Theater, Vanessa Hidary, an urban poet from New York City, will perform and spread the word about diversity and its importance.

This event is jointly sponsored by the Jewish Student Union, Student Activities Office, Multicultural Affairs, Lilly Project on Faith and Vocation, Plowshares and the Student Activities Board.

Saturday

Sunsplash

Come outside and enjoy the sun between 1-5pm in the Runyan / Wellness Field. There will be jello wrestling, bands and tons of fun. Sponsored by SAB.

Saturday

Workshop: Women and Men as Allies: Stopping Sexual Aggression

What would it look like if we changed our expectations of students? If we treated them differently? If we created opportunities for peer-developed prevention efforts? This interactive workshop combines lecture, experimental exercises and interactive discussions. This opportunity is co-sponsored by the Office of Multicultural Affairs and Action Against Rape (AAR).

Sunday

All Student Meeting

At 8 p.m. come to Comstock for important information regarding Earlham and life in general.

This is an open forum for students to have dialogue and find a better understanding of events in their lives.

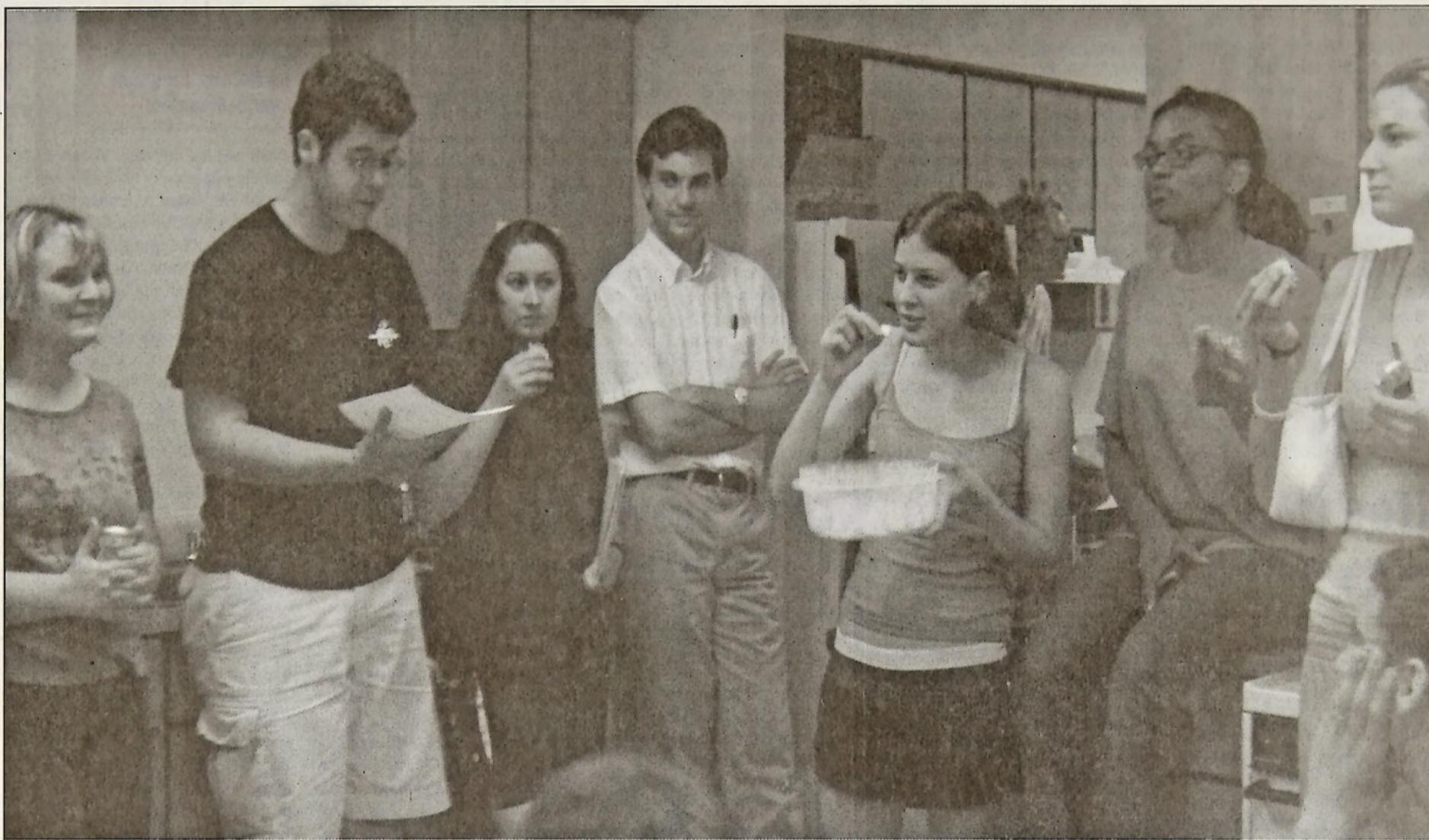
Wednesday

Convocation

On Sept. 15, Nicholas Johnson will be discussing "Media as Politics: What's a Voter to Do?"

Nicholas Johnson is a former Federal Communications Commission (FCC) member and current University of Iowa law professor.

Come to Carpenter Hall's Goddard Auditorium at 1 p.m.



Resident Assistants gathered together to discuss the new rules they must follow under Dana North's direction. From left to right: Sarah Brumagin, Eli Levine, Juliet Tyson, Tom Schutt, Juliette Bender-heine, and Eprise Armstrong.

New residence director arrives at Earlham

Dana North, new residence director, brings changes to resident assistant's obligations

By Sam Katz
Staff Writer

Most incoming freshman won't notice the difference, but with the arrival of new residence director Dana North, residence assistants have a new "informational" obligation to report any grievances or "incidents" involving residents to the administration. This is part of a recent effort to identify and deal with problems by bringing more personnel into the resolution process.

Formerly, RAs used their discretion when contacting administration officials. Incident reports did not exist at the Hall level, instead the Area Director for each building filed incident reports if necessary, and the chain of communication

went from A.D. to Administration, as it still does for building concerns such as dorm room construction, modification, as well as problems in common spaces.

Now they exist at the Hall level, and both Deb McNish, last year's overseer of the Residence Life policy, and North stressed that the Administration asks their residence-level employees to file them to let Student Development know what's going on. North stressed that if they feel it's been taken care of that they should say so in the report.

Dana North used the example of a noise violation, although after a moment she acknowledged, violation isn't really the right word.

Noise violations, like many incidents are specific to each residence hall.

Dana North acknowledges that

they do not have an official uniform policy outlining the expectations for RAs, for which they employ them.

"As far as confidentiality," North said, "if they're writing it down, we ask them not to...tell anyone else...[except] the student involved."

"We always ask them to tell the student when they file a report."

RAs undergo training in conflict resolution, consensus, first aid and CPR, in addition to receiving an explanation of RA incident reporting. Students who have concerns may report their "concerns" to the R.A., the first step in the grievance procedure.

As was also stated at the "Principles and Practices Squared" meetings, in which Deb McNish and other administration faculties explained the procedure, and the college's judicial system, you may also meet with any faculty member about a college-wide concern. The student handbook emphasizes that they will probably ask, "Have you talked to your R.A.?" if you bring a

concern about a roommate, and by extension, a hall mate in ignorance or apathy about the grievance process.

In a follow-up e-mail after the initial telephone interview, Dana North also emphasized another change.

"RAs last year were asked to record/log incidents in a journal-format but it was done with some irregularity and not all RAs found this to be a good medium to work in and so gradually it faded out as an RA expectation. This year we have again asked RAs to document situations or issues they may encounter. This is to assist Residence Life in addressing situations with students. If the RA encounters a situation, loud music for example, and a student/room turns down their music, then the situation is dealt with and finished. If the same room has several RAs approaching it and speaking to them about loud music, at that point it may be affecting the community and the AD may need to speak with the students in the room. Our goal [at the Office of

Residential Life] is to deal with the situation at the lowest level possible, and to be sure that the community is not being affected negatively."

She did not address whether this "journal-format" had less of a reporting mandate than the new incident reporting system.

Official Security detail is more didactic and does not reflect the same quaker attitudes towards peaceful and just resolution Earlham attempts to instill in their RAs, but rather to react when reaction is required. Security deals with emergencies, such as drunkenness, but also illegal activities. Security reports any incident to the administration, and the administration takes issues with security more seriously than if one reported them to their R.A., as can be judged by the hand-out given to the incoming class at "Principles and Practices Squared."

Wendy Seligman, Associate Dean of Student Development, wants to encourage students to watch North as she does wonderful things with the [R.A.] program.

**"Our goal is to ...
to be sure the
community is not
being negatively
affected."**

-Dana North

Men's Soccer team defeats Franklin



Earlham player Tim Smith skillfully keeps the ball away from his opponent. Earlham defeated Franklin 2-0 in the game Saturday afternoon, marking the team's 400th win.

Earlham faculty discusses Master Plan for college upgrade

By Susan Scantland
Contributing Editor

Faculty members discussed at faculty meeting Wednesday the future of Tyler Hall and upgrades to the athletic facilities as part of the Master Plan.

Tyler Hall could be demolished or it could be brought up to code with an addition built on.

The consultants hired by the college to create the Master Plan recommended saving the building, one Master Planning Committee member said.

The committee is considering whether it would better benefit the college to keep it or to do away with it. Demolishing the building would allow for a new science center to replace Stanley Hall.

But Tyler Hall is a Carnegie Library and is one of the oldest buildings on campus, two faculty members pointed out, and serious thought should be put into whether it really benefits the college to eliminate such a building.

Another goal of the Master Plan

is to create new bleachers and a press box for the football field.

Print information provided by the committee said the rest of the athletic facilities are acceptable and do not need improvement, but as one committee member said, the press box is bordering on unsafe for use.

Several faculty members expressed concern that other athletic fields need attention as well.

Currently, one said, the field hockey and soccer teams are unable to host conference championships because their facilities don't meet NCAA standards.

Another faculty member said changes mapped out for the Master Plan affect the cross country course, and if they are implemented, the team would need a new course or it would no longer be able to host meets.

The committee said it would take the faculty members' comments into account as it makes decisions regarding what changes will be implemented from the Master Plan.

Earlham Student Government spreads the word

By Anne Duvall
Guest Writer

My name is Anne and I'm one of your student government co-presidents for the fall semester.

I'm happy to be working with the students and many student representatives to try to make this campus what the student body wants for it to be. According to what our fellow students have mentioned to us since arriving on campus, we have come up with a proposed agenda for the semester, which I am going to share with you.

First of all, many students, especially upperclassmen, have been upset with Residence Life over the last two years due to huge housing crunches caused by a very large incoming class last year. Student government is planning to work as

closely as possible with Residence Life as they evaluate and re-structure the lottery process.

Secondly, student government has observed that communication between students, student representatives, and the administration is lacking. We feel that it is a serious problem when the administration makes large changes in budgeting and campus planning without consulting students, or at least informing them as to the decisions that are being made.

This is not completely the administration's fault; often it is hard to find a medium through which to communicate. Not all students read the Word, and few who do read it read the entire paper, so it becomes easy to overlook attempts to communicate.

In order to resolve this gap in communication, the co-presidents

of student government will hopefully be able to send out campus-wide e-mails this semester when we feel that an issue needs immediate attention. Also, the governance structure on campus can be a bit complicated and the student government is going to do its best to improve transparency within the system so students can understand more easily how decisions are being made and how they can be involved in the process.

Another issue that students appear to be interested in is where exactly student tuition is going after we've all given huge sums of money to the college. ESG is in the process of analyzing the school's budget to get an idea of how the tuition money is being spent.

Also, it has become obvious that there are students and faculty who would benefit from extended

Health Services hours. The fact that Health Services is only open Monday through Friday has been of concern to many people, as has the issue of general disability awareness on campus.

While this is by no means a complete list of the goals of student government for the semester, we look forward to speaking with students about all of these issues at our first All-Student Meeting on Sunday, Sept. 12. The meeting will be in Comstock at 9 p.m. Snacks and drinks will be provided beyond your wildest dreams. Please come with thoughts on these issues and as always we would love to hear any other ideas that you have regarding campus life. We look forward to seeing you.

Anne Duvall is co-president of Earlham Student Government.

FROM THE

President's Desk

Views from the summit

By Nelson Bingham
Interim President

On one of my trips to Japan, I had the opportunity to climb to the top of Mt. Iwate, a mountain that resembles Mt. Fuji but is about half the height (2000 meters). Since it is the highest mountain in that region, the view from the summit was spectacular. You could see, far below, the interplay of natural and human-made features in panoramic perspective. That experience is a metaphor for the role of acting president that I am playing while Doug Bennett is on sabbatical. From the president's office, you can (and, indeed, have the responsibility to) see every facet of this complex system we call "Earlham." And, even after 30 years on the faculty, I have found it almost breathtaking to take in this view. I am not just looking at things through rose-colored glasses; no one knows the frailties and shortcomings of an institution better than the president. But, as I experience Earlham in its fullness, I find the ideals that have kept me (and many others) so attached to this place are present at every level. Earlham is awesome.

I must hasten to clarify here that the mountain metaphor does not mean that the person at the peak is superior to those at other levels. It is purely a matter of perspective, having the vantage point for that panoramic vision. I do think, however, that knowledge, inherently, imposes responsibility. And part of that responsibility is communication. With the privilege of standing on that summit comes the duty to use the medium of language to share the fruits of that vision with others. To that end, I have asked

Adam Putnam for the opportunity to write a column like this for The Word (if not weekly, at least as often as I can).

The first issue on which I want to comment grows out of the situation of crowding that has faced many students this Fall. On behalf of Earlham College, I want to both apologize for the inconvenience this has caused and thank those who have managed that discomfort with such good spirits. While we certainly intended to move Earlham's enrollment toward our goal of 1200 (as a means of stabilizing the budget and maintaining the quality of our curriculum and our co-curricular environment), we did not intend to create a housing crunch and we have worked as swiftly as we can to alleviate that problem. Moreover, we expect to avoid such difficulties in the future through a combination of improved planning, new facilities, and revisions in the housing process. On the other hand, the willingness to cooperate to resolve a problem is at the very heart of what it means to be a community and I have to say that I have been proud of the ways in which students have responded to the challenge of overcrowding in housing.

I will have more to say on various issues we will address in the coming weeks. For now, I just want to respond to the idea that "the year is looking pretty crummy." I beg to disagree. I am excited at the prospects of Earlham finding ways to more fully live out its high ideals this year and I am grateful that I have the chance to see that happening from my new perspective. And if we fall short (as we will), I want to challenge each of you to help us do better.

Earlham to produce 'Visibility' video

By Adam Putnam
Contributing Editor

Earlham's Office for Institutional Advancement is producing a 30 minute video to be used as part of the college's National Visibility Campaign and Capital Campaign.

The video will be shot in October and will receive air time on the Discovery, History and E channels, interim President Nelson Bingham said.

Earlham retains the rights to use the video as they see fit. The focus of the video was not for attracting students.

The production company making the video originally quoted prices as high as \$89,000. When Earlham declined, they came back with an offer of \$23,000, on the condition that it be filmed in October. Part of

the \$23,000 goes towards the cost of running the video on national television.

The decision had to be made fairly quickly, and because the film wasn't originally in the budget, it had to go through the budget committee to receive funds. If the budget committee does not allocate money, then the Institutional Advancement office will find the funds.

The National Visibility Campaign has a focus of extending knowledge of Earlham to more people around the nation. Earlham was mentioned in an article in the October Atlantic monthly.

Planning for the capital campaign has started this year.

The Capital Campaign occurs around every 10 years and is basically a fundraising drive for the college.

Alternative world news

Compiled by Graham Pitts
Staff Writer

Two-fold increase of migrant deaths along U.S.-Mexican border

From October 2003--the beginning of the fiscal year--to August 25th 275 illegal immigrants have died along the 2,000 kilometer border that Mexico and the United States share, according to the Border Patrol.

The report indicated that the least number of deaths occurred in the area between Ciudad Juarez, Chihuahua, and El Paso Texas, where 15 migrants have perished, all Mexican nationals.

The Border Patrol stated that through the current fiscal year, which comes to a close on the last day of September, has arrested more than 94,000 people attempting to enter the United States without documents.

The press release recognized that the rate of death for migrants has increased 50 percent from the corresponding period the previous fiscal year.

Mexican Cardinal Speaks Out On Immigration

Celebrating the Day of the Migrant in Mexico, in the presence of [President] Vicente Fox and his wife, Marta Sahagun, [Cardinal] Rivera Carrera argued that authen-

tic peace and justice could never exist without respect for human rights.

There exists a deep bond between justice and peace and the creation of effective conditions of peace for migrants; this means that more than anything the right to not immigrate must be defended, or the right to live with peace and dignity in one's own country, he continued.

[The Cardinal] expressed his preoccupation surrounding the "difficult moment" for relations between the United States and Mexico as a product of this year's electoral process.

He noted how the presidential election hinders progress towards an agreement of immigration. "We hope that the next President of the United States will be more gentle and will help create opportunities so that our countrymen receive better treatment," he said in a brief interview.

He affirmed that the [United States'] use of rubber bullets and "other weapons" would not be enough to stop the flow of immigration; only a dignified treaty and the creation of more opportunities in Mexico can achieve this. "Our countrymen that go to look for work are not delinquents and the don't deserve this sort of treatment."

Translated and compiled by Graham Pitts from "La Jornada," Mexico City, 9/5-6/2004

World news in brief

Compiled by Graham Pitts
and Alden Reed
Staff Writers

Middle East:

—Iran reneged on its pledge to stop its Uranium enrichment program this week according to the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA). U.N. Security Council members, including the United States, Great Britain and France have threatened possible economic sanctions if the program is not immediately suspended again.

—Following the deaths of U.S. service members in attacks against U.S. forces on Monday and Tuesday, more than 1,000 U.S. soldiers have now been killed in Iraq. All but 140 of these deaths have occurred after President Bush declared an official ending of hostilities on May 1, 2003. Critical of the President's current policy in Iraq, Democratic Presidential nominee John Kerry called the event a "tragic milestone."

Africa:

—The United States outlined a proposal for the U.N. calling for a coalition of African nations to field a peacekeeping force to the Darfur region of Sudan and for an international human rights panel to be established to examine the Sudanese government's role in supplying local militias in their efforts. The U.N. estimates that more than 50,000 people have already died in the fighting.

Asia:

—South Korea recently admitted that it has had its own Uranium enrichment program, prompting North Korea to accuse the U.S. of applying double standards in its criticism of their own enrichment

program. Talks to try and mediate the two-year old nuclear standoff on the Korean peninsula are scheduled to resume later this month.

North America:

—Polls by Time and Newsweek taken over the labor day weekend showing George Bush with an 11 point lead have been challenged by a Zogby poll that came out on Wednesday showing John Kerry still slightly ahead. The Zogby poll suggested that while Bush still maintains a lead in the Ohio polls, Kerry maintains a lead in other swing states such as Pennsylvania.

—Members of the Democratic Party harshly criticized Senator Zell Miller (D-Georgia) for his attack on Democratic Presidential candidate John Kerry at the Republican convention. Former President and fellow Georgian Jimmy Carter accused Miller of "turning his back on the Democratic Party."

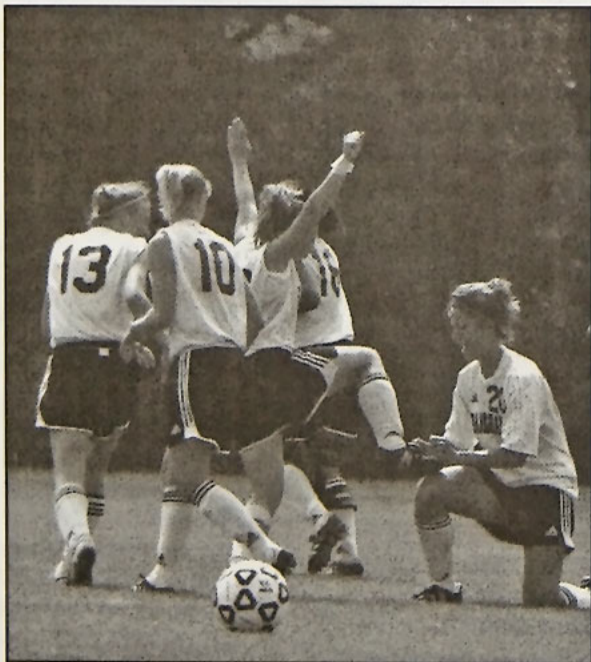
—Former President Bill Clinton underwent quadruple bypass heart surgery this week after checking himself into a hospital complaining of severe chest pains. After successful surgery Clinton is expected to make a recovery over the next few months.

Europe:

—The bloody climax of the siege of a school in Beslan, Russia resulted in the deaths of 326 people, leaving an additional 700 wounded. Subsequently Russian officials have offered ten million dollars for any information that leads to the capture of Chechen rebel leaders Shamil Basayev and Aslan Maskhadov.

News briefs compiled by Alden Reed and Graham Pitts from CommonDreams.org

Alternative News is a news column attempting to provide the Earlham community with non-mainstream news. Please send feedback to Alden Reed at reedal@earlham.edu.



Be part of a team.
Write for the Sports
Section.

Email Adam at putnaad or
Susan at scantsu if interested.

ON A SIDE NOTE:

In the October issue of the Atlantic Monthly, Earlham is given some attention. "In the 1990s little Earlham, with just 1,200 students, produced a higher percentage of graduates who have since received doctorates than did Brown, Dartmouth, Duke, Northwest, Penn, or Vassar.

CRIME BEAT WILL RETURN NEXT WEEK.

Arabic language now taught at Earlham

Earlham hires a new Arabic teacher to fill growing desire for Arabic studies

By Dan Barach
Staff Writer

"Good morning!" A chorus of voices in Arabic heralded the beginning of the latest session of Earlham's newest language course. Taught by Khulood Kittaneh, a woman from Jordan, the course is an introduction to Arabic. The course has been created due to the large demand for such a course and after an extensive search for a qualified teacher. Approximately 15 to 20 dedicated students attend this class from 9:00 to 9:50 in the morning every day of the week.

"I came from Jordan... to teach Arabic because I feel that there is a big need for knowing more about Arabic culture," Kittaneh said. "It's a great chance to be a messenger from my place to the U.S. that will cover my need and motivation to express myself as an Arab though the language and through the culture." Kittaneh is motivated by the need to get her students engaged and asking questions about Arabic and Islam.

The class session was indicative of the professor's success. The students are very engaged. Their fascination with the topic was evident. People are there for the love of learning, not because they have to be there.

Senior Amelia Newcomer-Leas, one of the students in the class, described her reasons for picking up Arabic as a new language: "I love studying other languages, and I wanted to study a non-romance language. Particularly, I wanted to study a language that relatively few Americans know, but that is in an area of the world that we are very involved in." Arabic appears to have been received well among students at Earlham.

Kittaneh accepted this position as a temporary one, and will eventually be returning to Amman, Jordan to teach Arabic to students studying abroad.

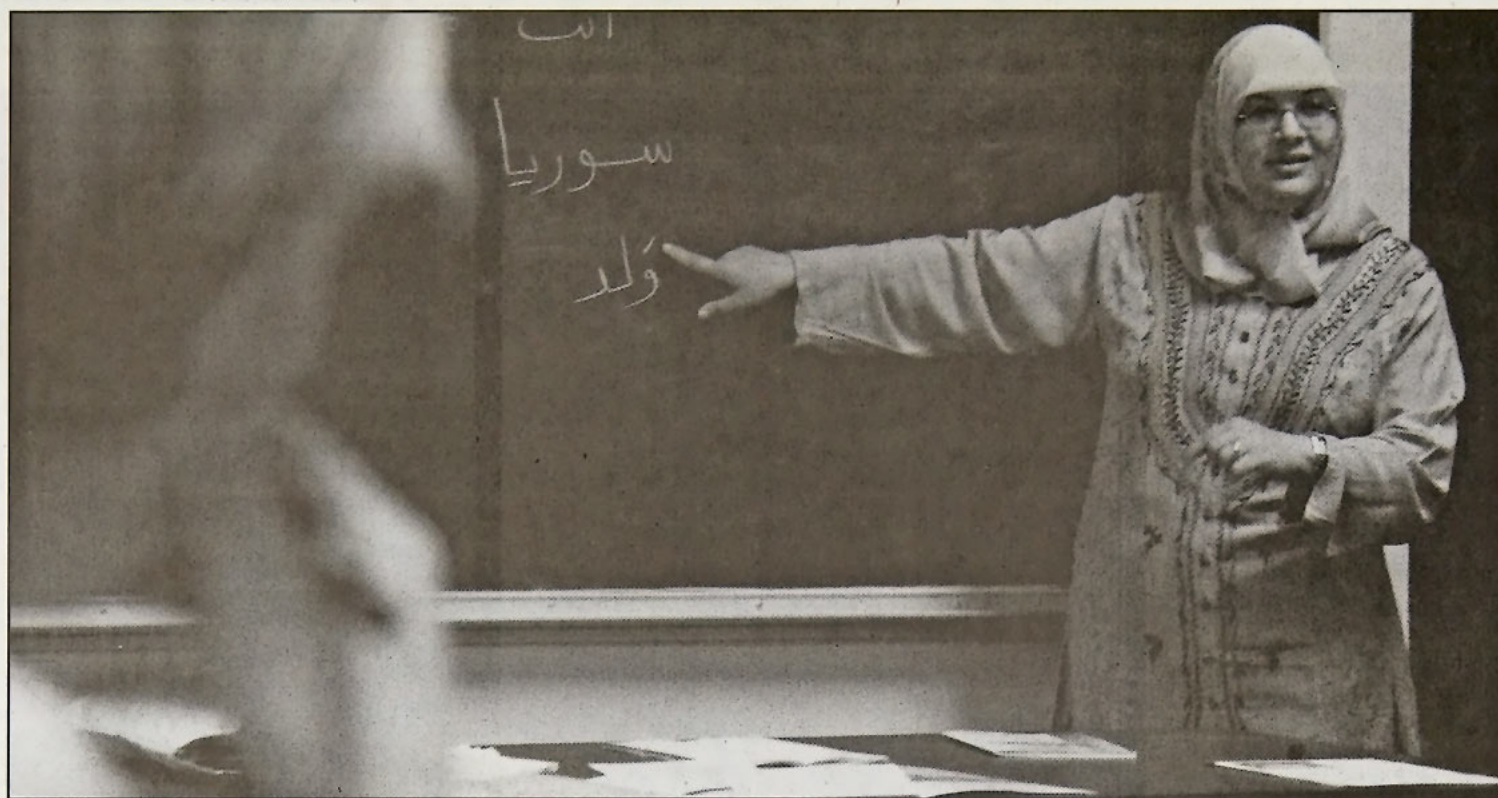


PHOTO COLIN COPELAND

Left and Above: Khulood Kittaneh instructs her class in Arabic. This is the first time in recent years that Arabic has been offered.

Arabic teacher Khulood Kittaneh joins Earlham's teaching faculty, bringing Arabic to the classroom

By Anna Lisa Gross
Staff Writer

How did you find out about Earlham?

Two years ago I was working in Jordan, teaching Arabic, for 9 years with SIT [the School for International Training], the British Council, AMIDEAST [America-Mideast Educational and Training Services], and other programs. Kelly [Lawson-Khalidi, Associate Director and International Student Advisor] came and met me there and we talked about establishing a program to have Earlham students come to Jordan, but that has not worked out.

But last year she sent me an email saying Earlham could hire me as a visiting professor for one year.

Where are you from?

Amman, Jordan, but I am Palestinian. My mother is from Nablus and Jerusalem. My father is from Tolkarm. I have been to Palestine to visit my grandparents and it is sad to me that I cannot have dual citizenship. All of my life has been in Jordan, but my heart is

in Palestine.

What is your family like?

In Jordan I live with my mother and two brothers. My third brother lives in Saudi Arabia with his wife and child, working as an accountant. My father died suddenly two years ago from a heart attack. My mother studied philosophy, and has worked all of her life as a volunteer, helping women do work to support their families. She works with NGOs that have chosen her to represent Jordan at conferences.

How do you like living in the OA AD apartment?

I don't have a car, so it is very convenient for me. And I'm only here for ten months, so why buy things to fill a house? I'm the kind of person who loves having people around, so I can't imagine being alone in an apartment in Richmond. The most interesting thing is the informal sittings we do in the lobby, with people from Mexico, Japan, America, and everyone talks about their family and culture. It's such an opportunity. Last week we had tea, [and] I made Arabic tea with sage.

How is your teaching going?

There was such an demand to be in the class, but not everyone could be, so next Wednesday at 6:30pm we are starting an Arabic club. We will talk about the language and the culture—food, music, Islam and many other things. It will probably be in the Bolling Center, but we are not sure, so look for fliers. I finished high school when I

was 16, and got a diploma for teaching at 18, and then taught English to schoolchildren. This taught me how to be patient and understanding. That has helped me to teach adults. There is a child in every person, and if you find it you can teach better.

What classes are you taking here?

Intercultural Communication and Theory and Practice of Education.

What did you study in Jordan?

I have a two-year diploma in teaching and BA in English literature. And I have done training for teaching Arabic.

What is your favorite English novel?

D.H. Lawrence's *Sons and Lovers*. I also like an African novel called *Things Fall Apart*, by Chinua Achebe.

How is your faith important in your life?

My religion is Islam and it is interesting that though I inherited it from my parents, they gave me the choice to study any religion. I even studied in a Catholic school... So I believe in Islam very much because I have chosen it. It is a belief and a type of life—the two are not separate. The faith that you hold in your heart, whatever faith it is, you must spread it and show it. You can practice your faith every minute of the day, the prayers, and the five pillars. You practice the rituals and you go out and practice the morals. If you are doing something

wrong and you go home and want to hide from your parents because you don't want to lie about it, but you do not want them to know. The five daily prayers are like having to face God five times a day, and you want to face God with good things, but not be ashamed of bad things. Between each prayer there is a promise to do good things; that is why we pray five times a day.

The word Islam comes from the Arabic word for peace, salaam. I believe that all religions came from the same God, the same root. In Islam, we believe that Judaism is the first religion, and then came Christianity, and now Islam. We believe in all the faiths and the books, but that Islam is the religion that came for all people of the world. We have a manual for being a human being, what is good and bad, the Koran.

We say 'working is worshipping' in Islam. That while I am here with you, or eating, or doing my job, all of these things are the same as worshipping God. We believe that on judgment day, God counts the good things and the bad things that you have done, and if the good outweigh the bad, you go to heaven. So I live my life in a way to do good things. Whatever you do in your life, you are worshipping Allah.

What is it like to be Muslim in the U.S. now?

Before coming here, I had friends telling me that it would be very dangerous to be in the U.S., especially as a woman being cov-

ered. In our religion we say that if you are in real, real danger, you can take off your covering. Some people advised me to when I came here, but I will not do it. I am proud of what I believe, and I am free to do what I want. If people walk around in a bikini, no one bothers them, so no one should bother me.

Because people know I am Muslim from my scarf, people come to me and ask me about Islam. I am like a moving mosque. Some people may not be comfortable talking to me because they think I am strict or not open. But I am, and I do not want people to be afraid to talk to me.

I also do not like all the checking in the airport. The people who checked me were sorry, but had to do it. I was on the subway in Chicago, and met many people, and most of them are very nice. I feel comfortable here.

After September 11 [2001] in California, people were praying in a mosque, and around the mosque people were standing in a circle holding hands to protect the people in the mosque to finish their prayers. There are some people who are crazy, but many more people who are good and rational.

Last weekend I was at a conference in Chicago with half a million Muslims. They were together to give the message that we have a religion of peace, and people who kill innocents are hijacking our religion.



The GOP Invades

The Grand Old Party kicked it in style last Friday night at Foster House. Students dressed as their favorite Republicans and took on high falutin' names like Rep. Wendell Avery Harrison. Occasionally the house would erupt into shouts of "Four more Years!" followed by cheers. It was truly a conservative night.



PHOTOS BY GAELYN GEORGIA AND SETH BARCH

Top Left: Conservatives show their wild side.

Above: Lucas Kliejunas and Jake Adler pose for a publicity shot for their constituency.

Left: Annika Taylor and Gaelyn Georgia pose for a picture between discussions of the evils of liberalism and the French terrorists.

Want to know the news before it happens?

Sign up to be a staff writer for the Word.

Contact Adam at putnaad or Susan at scantsu

JOIN THE PEACE CORPS.

come to an info meeting:

THURS., SEPT. 16, 4-6 PM
LANDRUM BOLLING BLDG.
ROOM 211 A & B



Miller Farm hosts farm day

By Summer Leeper
Staff Writer

A short 10-minute walk from Earlham's campus is Miller Farm. It's a place of relaxation, beauty and hard work that has a strong sense of service and community.

Every Saturday is Farm Day at Miller Farm. A shuttle takes interested students to the farm at 9:45 am. Farm day consists of hard manual labor that is rewarded with a delicious home made meal.

Miller Farm doesn't only exist on Saturdays. Currently, there are 9 students that live and work together on the farm. Sophomore Sam Robinson said he believes, "[The farm] is a good relief from campus."

Each week during Farm Day, the residents that live on the farm take turns doing different chores. One is the hostess, who is in charge of organizing the day. One is the cook, who is in charge of feeding the hungry workers. The others take groups to weed the garden, work in the orchard, or pick apples.

After circling up, having a moment of silence and giving introductions, everyone broke up into different groups and set out to get dirty while working hard. Sophomore Hannah Holby, who plans to live at the farm next semester, took her group to the orchard where they weeded around the young trees that were planted last year. In addition to weeding, volunteers also cut off dead branches and cleared away paths to the trees.

The work didn't stop at the orchard. Behind the house was an overgrown garden where a large group of people were on their hands and knees weeding the rows. The



GAELEEN GEORGIA

Above: While some students work outside, Alex Winnett helps prepare food for lunch at the end of Farm Day. Anyone who participated in Farm Day is welcome to food.

Right: Students work in the field of Miller Farm, doing various chores such as weeding around young trees and clearing off dead branches from paths around the farm.



goal was to eventually get the tiller through and turn up the garden. A few small tomatoes were found while weeding and taken inside to be prepared for lunch.

The group in charge of picking apples ventured to the apple trees by Brick City and Comstock Field, returning with buckets full of sweet delicious apples. Participants washed the apples and put them in a big bin for workers to eat.

In the kitchen, Sam Robinson, who cooked along with volunteers,

was preparing the midday meal. They cut fresh picked tomatoes, sautéing peppers, and made a pesto sauce for the spaghetti. They also prepared fixings to make sandwiches. Robinson explained, "Everyone should know how delicious and organic the food is [at Miller Farm]."

Early in the afternoon, the work started to slow down and people collapsed exhausted, yet content, from their laborious morning.

All activities and chores at Miller Farm are a group effort. Everyone

works for the community while benefiting themselves as well. Senior Eva Leventer explains, "It's a sense of community because we are all working together, eating together, and working for the community as well as the world."

Holby explains her reasons for wanting to move to the farm: "In a lot of classes and clubs here, everything is so theoretical and abstract. At the farm there is something real where we make our ideas happen. The more creative we get, the more it grows. I find it really satisfying."

At Farm day there were many returning students along with newcomers like freshman Lizzie Burnham. She describes her experience of picking apples as, "really rewarding." Another first-timer, Senior Rebecca Luxenberg, explained, "It's my first time but I plan to come a lot this year."

Senior Devin Elgert lived at Miller Farm over the summer. When asked about his time spent at the farm he explained, "I have just become really attached to it." This answer seems to be a very common

amongst returning farmers.

If you are looking for something to do on Saturday morning, or feel a desire to get off campus and see the surrounding area, Farm Day is the perfect way to do so. It's a time to work side by side with your fellow classmates while helping your community. It's also an excellent way to meet new people and feel productive on a Saturday afternoon. And then there is always the good food, which tastes even better after hard work.

EPU plans for progress

By Elizabeth Schwartz
Staff Writer

On Thursday, Sept. 2, Earlham's Progressive Union (EPU) had their first meeting of the year. Created decades ago as the Earlham Socialist Alliance, EPU has had many incarnations from year to year, but has always been involved in socio-political activism.

The leaders of this meeting were the current convener, sophomore Jason Shenk and senior Sadie Forsythe who was the convener two years ago. Forsythe explained that she was at the current meeting in order to help explain what EPU has done in the past. She was also enthusiastic about Shenk's leadership style. Shenk explained that he hoped EPU will help distribute and focus work so that each issue can receive energy.

At the meeting, Shenk gave students a form to fill out indicating their level of interest in various issues on a scale of 1 to 5. Using an idea he saw in action at the Goshen College PAGES club, Shenk explained to the group that those marking 5 would be contacted as leaders on those issues and given the names of those who marked 4 or 3. These interest groups will work

together outside of actual EPU meetings to talk about their issues and organize related actions. Shenk is hopeful that the process will help avoid burnout in the group and help students work together on shared interests.

Last year during meetings, students split up into smaller groups according to what issue interested them, held discussions, and then met as a larger group to discuss issues. Shenk explained that he hopes meetings would be less businesslike and set up more like information sessions that address issues and strategies more formally.

At the meeting, about 30 students gathered around tables arranged in a rectangle and listened to various announcements about ideas that were in the works for activism throughout the semester.

Second year Dee Williams talked about the Earlham Busing Initiative, a program designed by students for students that provides transportation to the swing-state of Ohio to help with voter registration.

The School of the Americas protest was described as a deep and powerful protest that has been an important event to EPU students for many years. The protest, which runs from Nov. 19-21, is especially

convenient for Earlham students this year because it occurs during the beginning of the Thanksgiving break at Earlham. Based on the energy level of freshman, a high turnout is expected this year. Organizers are also hoping to coordinate with partner peace colleges Manchester and Goshen for this event.

Forsythe also informed students of the peace vigil which has been held by Richmond Peaceful Response Wednesdays at noon outside the town hall in response to the war in Iraq. Forsythe believes that it would be great to have Earlham students represented at this weekly event.

Shenk also talked about the teleconferencing slumber party held last semester with the other Plowshares schools provided by the Plowshares grant. He announced that a similar partner school slumber party is in the works. This year it is to occur at the Indianapolis Peace House in conjunction with the building's first open house.

Other issues presented at the meeting included helping students figure out how to get absentee ballots, getting trained by the public mediation center in Richmond and working with Habitat for Humanity.

Anna-Lisa Gross, editor of an alternative campus news publication, *The Earlham Active*, made a request for writers and help with distributing issues. Miller Farm is hoping to connect with others doing community service. Rides were offered to Farm Day on Earlham's student-run Miller Farm each Saturday. Residents affiliated with the farm promised fun, free lunch, chickens to play with, an outdoor shower, and a two story tree-house as incentives to attend the weekly event.

"Activism sounds like fun," sophomore Carlos Navarrete said. "I'm a member of move-on.org, and I just signed a petition to re-ban military assault weapons." Future meetings of the EPU are anticipated to be Thursdays, weekly or bi-weekly at 9 pm in the airport lounge between Saga and Earlham Hall.

monologues poetry and hip-hop

Culture Bandit

Vanessa Hidary



Conceived,
Scrawled & Spoken
By Vanessa Hidary
Directed by
Mariana Hellmund
Sounds by Max
DeArmon

Follow the Hebrew Mamita, a native New Yorker, and her unique, hilarious and sometimes explosive relationships with the diverse cultures that make up New York City. Through monologues, poetry and hip-hop, Culture Bandit takes you back to the days of shelltop Adidas, creating a raw, touching portrait of race relations that has the ability to awaken as well as entertain.

TONIGHT!

FRIDAY SEPTEMBER 10th Wilkinson
7:30pm (Runyan Center)

Sponsored by
SAB, JSU, Multicultural Affairs, Plowshares, Lilly Project on Faith & Vocation

Earlham College Convocations



*"Media as politics:
What's a voter to do?"*

Nicholas Johnson

Former FCC Commissioner, congressional candidate, TV host and columnist, and visiting professor, University of Iowa College of Law

Wednesday, September 15, 2004, 1:00 p.m.
Goddard Auditorium, Carpenter Hall

Free Admission. For more information, call 765/983-1373.

EARLHAM
Public Events

801 National Road West
Richmond, Indiana 47374-4095

College Meeting for Worship

**"In God We Find
True Satisfaction"**
Peter Wafula, ESR student and
Campus Ministries Associate
Sunday, September 12, 2004

11:00 AM in Stout Meetinghouse
Continental Breakfast at 10:30





Photo by Jake Adler
The Dekel Bor Trio played jazz with an Israeli influence.

Dekel Bor and his magnificent trio

Reviewed by Andrew Phend
Staff Writer

Last Friday night, the Dekel Bor Trio came to visit Earlham. The show itself required coffee for the non-avid jazz fan, with constant melodic sound experiments droning into a seemingly endless vortex.

At their best moments the trio was unenlightened. Although front man Dekel Bor seemed in a state of euphoria for most of the performance, there seemed to be a consistent drone, and the music lost itself within its own wide parameters. For most of the viewers, Bor's orgasm was not contagious.

Nevertheless, the band does deserve kudos for their incredible musical talent.

The drum solos provided a grand rock-out for those feeling drowsy, and the savage talent of the slamming bass was a show of pure technical mastery. And this is the



Photo by Jake Adler
Comstock was set up like a jazz club for the trio's performance.

dilemma with many jazz acts, and causes difficulty when writing about them: how can a reviewer differentiate from such a large community of groups playing in a rather rigid format?

It seems that writing a jazz song would be like writing a sonnet. Just as Dekel Bor must have an infinite knowledge of all the jazz-men before his time and of the parameters they created and broke, it is easy to imagine the frustration of a young Shakespeare attempting to write poetry in such a strict format.

There are also examples of jazz music that stands out for its extreme experimentation, such as that of Miles Davis' "Big Fun," or Les

McCann's "Openness". These artists

"For most of the viewers, Bor's orgasm was not contagious"

Blue Note Records would drop them for their experimental compositions.

And this, of course, is the choice of Mr. Dekel Bor as an artist and recipient of many monetary grants within his field and as a performer who has played with some big

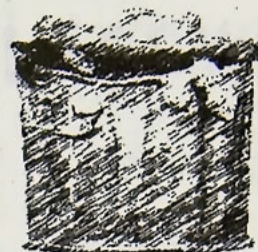
names in America and Israel.

It seems that jazz has a unique difficulty and payoff. For our local jazz expert William "Dave" Lewis, who attended the concert, there were doubtlessly moments of pure appreciation in his eyes, while others may have heard something completely different and not enjoyed it with such a knowledgeable passion.

The Dekel Bor Trio is without question a powerful group of musicians who understand each other's technique. They appear to harbor a true love for their genre and their home nation, judging by the many Hebrew samples they utilized in their performance.

However, their delivery is nothing new. Although there are obvious influences of Israeli folk and religion in their sound, the large ground with which they have to work is not as confining as a fourteen-line poem, so what are they to do?

They truly have many options. With jazz purists their incorporation of Israeli music will provide them with an edge. But with the mass audience (which I truly doubt they care about), they would have to start playing campground hippie shows in the middle of Ohio. All they would have to do would be play jazz, for that is the only commercially viable pop music scene that appreciates the intricacies of jazz music.



Trash

By Gabe Kalmuss-Katz
Staff Writer

Just like the little cousin who makes one funny joke and then spends the rest of his visit following you around thinking you are cool, Mark McGrath simply refuses to fade away. Earlier this week it was reported McGrath, of the band Sugar Ray (Remember them? They had that hit...back in 1997) will be the co-host of television entertainment news program Extra which airs nightly on NBC. No word yet on whether they're actually paying McGrath, or whether he's doing it in a last ditch attempt to get recognized walking down the street.

Speaking of little brothers, the Venice film festival opened this week with a decidedly political tone. This was due in no small part to a film version of Tim Robbins' Bush-bashing play "Embedded." The movie, entitled "Embedded: Live," is a recording of a live performance that took place in LA earlier this year. From somebody who happened to see the play and went in hoping for astute social commentary, I can say I hope to never hear this many masturbation jokes in a political satire again. Take it or leave it.

The Pixies have started the main section of their reunion tour, with the closest date to Earlham being an October 14 stint in Columbus, OH.

NBC decided to start its fall TV season early, with the logic that the faster people stop caring about this crap, the faster they can cancel it.

Of all the Midwest cities, why chose to play in one celebrating a man who very well might have brought smallpox and scurvy to our country (if you consider the East Indies our country). Indianapolis is a much more neutral place, guys. C'mon.

NBC decided to start its fall TV season early, with the logic that the faster people stop caring about this crap, the faster they can cancel it. The first show to drop is a show about talking lions... named neither Simba nor Jaffar. Instead, they're the inexplicably verbose pet lions owned by Sigfried and Roy. The show is called "Father of the Pride," and the jokes do not get any better than the title's pun.

Barbara Walters is leaving 20/20. You know 20/20, its like 60 minutes, but worse. She will finish out the month of September, and then go from something pseudo-reputable, such as the news section of this paper, to something with no value at all, such as this column: The View. Soccer moms across America can breathe a sigh of relief.

Dubbed the worst film to ever appear at Cannes, Vincent Gallo's "The Brown Bunny" opened in limited release this week. This is one instance in which I'm actually kind of glad Richmond doesn't have an art-house cinema. Although, there is something disturbingly intriguing about watching car crashes...

The Libertines ex-singer and songwriter Pete Doherty was sentenced to 4 months in jail for carrying an illegal weapon, although the sentence is not to take effect for 12 months. Clearly I'm not the only one hoping for a pre-incarceration reunion from the band. Buy their new album if you fancy yourself a fan of the Clash, as Mick Jones produced it; and it really does bear an uncanny resemblance without sounding wholly derivative. Or a fan of cocaine, the drug that unquestionably fueled most of the lyrics Doherty wailed over the course of the album.

Garden state misses mark, hits mediocrity

By Dan Drake
Guest Writer

Perhaps you have seen the NBC sitcom Scrubs starring Zach Braff as a put-upon doctor-in-training at a wacky hospital. Each week he wisecracks his way through a personal or professional crisis that neatly parallels the subplots of other characters around him, and is eventually resolved with a life-defining epiphany.

It is notable mostly for its tone, which comprises a mix of biting sarcasm and sincere emotion, as each character can be alternately funny and deadly serious; much like the first and second halves of each episode. Why am I talking about Scrubs? Well, it shares these

characteristics of pretty good comedy and jaw-droppingly obvious sentiment with Braff's other recent project, Garden State.

Braff plays a twenty-something struggling actor in California who is unable to experience emotion. He lives in a haze that is mirrored by his bedroom which contains only a telephone, his bed and a bathroom full of medication.

When he is called back to his home state of New Jersey after his mother dies suddenly, her death barely even registers on his face. But all of his feelingless existence is slowly melted away when he meets an attractive woman (Natalie Portman) at a doc-

tor's office.

What ensues is a meandering few days back at home in which he must reconnect with his father, learn to

...an amusing exploration of adult angst quickly devolves into pretension.

gles in vain to keep the movie together during the second half. What was for forty-five minutes an amusing exploration of adult angst quickly devolves into pretension.

Each character is given a

moment-defining monologue and each moment is infused with undue importance, as in a scene in which Braff, Portman and Peter Sarsgaard (playing a childhood friend) arrive at an enormous chasm and scream into it, crying out against the emptiness in the world. It is this frequent avoidance of reality for the sake of the film's themes that costs so much of the audience's patience and the film's seriousness.

Of course, there are redeeming moments. Most of the jokes hit their mark, and the acting is universally acceptable, especially on the part of Natalie Portman, who has for so long been playing roles far beneath her. But these bright spots are eclipsed by the preciousness with which Braff infuses the pro-

ceedings. He directs his heart out, but the formalism of the camera work is suffocating, and the music choices feel like they were picked by a survey of Spin Magazine subscribers. If you like good acting, and some pretty good comedy, go see Scrubs. It'll cost you about eight dollars less.



AP Photo

Midwest jamboree in New Paris, Ohio a great show

Reviewed by Andrew Phend
Staff Writer

Although the following review may seem demanding (and you are free to take it that way), it is in no way an attempt to judge any Earlham group in a contemptuous manner regarding their choice of activity on or off of our fine campus. However, if you don't even consider going to the Midwest Jamboree in New Paris, OH, you are a fool and denying yourself of a great pleasure.

The common excuse for not wanting to go to such a gathering is rather obvious. It is widely known that many people find country music atrocious and want nothing to do with it. We have all accepted this notion although it seems a bit rash, and no matter how hardcore of a country fan you are you will find opposition equally passionate.

However, it is important sometimes to partake in the culture of something you dislike, if only for the sake of understanding why you don't like it.

So now that the preachy chatter is out of the system, let us move on to brass tacks.

The Midwest Jamboree is the brain-child of Clay Huddleson, a man of whom you may or may not know. Clay is the creator and primary host of Clay's Country Classics, a WECL radio show that runs from midnight to five AM everyday. It is a blend of all different varieties of country music, from the modern folks such as Townes Van Zandt

and John Prine to the old classics such as Hanks Williams and the early career of the recently canonized Johnny Cash.

"It is widely known that many people find country music atrocious and want nothing to do with it."

Huddleson, an avid fan and participant in country music culture for many decades has an old church in New Paris, OH, just one and a half miles after the state line on National Road. All you have to do is turn and drive about three minutes into New Paris until you see a sign in red, white, and blue letters reading "Midwest Jamboree". It is right next to the local post office.

Once inside, you shell out three dollars (unless Clay likes you and

you get in for nothing), and sit on a church pew, padded with all sorts of Styrofoam sheets and old High School sporting event seat cushions. On the stage sits the Ramblin' Rose Band; an eight member back-up band. Although the individuals will take on the song-singing responsibilities occasionally, they usually play along with local talent who come to perform their own compositions or old favorites.

The crowd last Saturday night was sparse, and if you ever attend you may find yourself sticking out. Why, you might ask? Was it our clothes? Our lack of even one ten-gallon hat? Did we smell funny?

Oh no.

We were all under the age of forty.

The actual average age of the crowd must have been a steady 55, yet the room was a-shakin' with hoots, hollers, and the occasional "Whoowee!" Of course, these outburst can't even rival the hijinks occurring onstage.

In between songs, Clay Huddleson himself comes out to serve as MC/singer/come-dian, and his energy keeps the entire crowd perfectly entertained with his unique brand of dry humor

and that undeniable voice.

The band is able to keep time with every artist willing to put themselves out in front of a crowd, and the crowd is one of the most supportive groups one could encounter.

The Midwest Jamboree is a perfect experience for any Earlham student to take in. If you are from a culture separated from rural life, you will benefit from seeing the show for yourself (it runs from seven to eleven as well, and you can walk in and walk out as you please). Oh, and another thing, they will all love to have you. They are the nicest bunch of people you could imagine.

So, when you feel like complaining about nothing to do, remember this: it is not that you have nothing to do. You just don't do anything new. So come to the Jamboree. You won't be disappointed.



By Zak Neiman
Staff Writer

someone reading this can figure it out.

Television Without Pity
www.televisionwithout-pity.com

This is a website for people who love or hate TV. The writers for this site watch TV shows and write detailed recaps, explaining what happened during any given episode. Then they make fun of it because sometimes the show they're recapping is just begging to be satirized. This site's writers have had to sit through shows like My Big Fat Obnoxious Fiancé and The Simple Life. Even if the writer likes the show, the recaps are often hilarious and definitely worth a look.

Fark
www.fark.com

This is a news and entertainment site with strange stories from around the globe. Their stories are listed under categories like 'unlikely,' 'amusing' and 'spiffy.' It's the only place where you can get news like "Catholic college complains about the wrappers of fruit candies which depict fruit in various sexual encounters with one another" and "In today's edition of 'DUH,' study finds exercise might actually help reduce obesity." The site also hosts Photoshop contests, where people make amusing pictures built around a theme with Adobe Photoshop.

The Most Complete & Most Useless Collection of Pick-Up Lines
www.linesthataregood.com

Maybe one of these will help you meet the girl or guy of your dreams. It would be surprising, but stranger things have happened. There are more than a thousand amusing pick-up lines on this site, helpfully divided into nine categories. Let me know if any of these work.

Let's be honest: most sitcoms these days aren't very funny. When was the last time you laughed at According to Jim or 8 Simple Rules for Dating My Teenage Daughter. When was the last time you said, "Oh, not tonight. I've got to get home in time for the King of Queens!" When was the last time you set your VCR or TiVo to record Yes, Dear? Less Than Perfect? Yeah, it's much less than perfect. Everybody Loves Raymond? Well, everybody except me!

I could go on like that but I'll spare you. Most television sitcoms only exist to give stand-up comics a job. George Lopez and The Bernie Mac Show come to mind. Those guys aren't necessarily that bad, but ever wonder why Tracy Morgan, Whoopi Goldberg and Breckin Meyer got their own shows? With today's lackluster TV lineup, sometimes you have to go to the Internet in order to get a laugh. Hopefully, these sites can give you a chuckle.

This Land Is Your Land
www.jibjab.com

This is ad homage to (not a parody of) Arlo Guthrie's classic song of the same name. Sung by George W. Bush and John Kerry impersonators and well animated by two brothers who apparently had nothing better to do. This website lampoons both candidates, alienating nobody. It can amuse both liberal wieners and right-wing nut jobs.

All Your Base Are Belong To Us
www.planettribes.com/allyourbase/video.shtml

Apparently, there is a global conspiracy to write this phrase in as many forms of media as possible. Check this website, and you'll find billboards, buildings, and baseball stadiums with this cryptic phrase written on them. What does it mean? Who knows? Hopefully

WECL DJ exposes Richmond to electronica

By Mason Mitchell
Staff Writer

One of WECL's latest additions is second year philosophy major Nick Hallstron.

The new DJ's nocturnal slot of 10-12 allows listeners to sample electronica, dance, and hip-hop beats. Emerging from the big city scene of Boston, MA, Hallstron brings first hand exposure to these genres to Earlham's campus and the ears of Wayne County citizens alike.

Hallstron cites that his show is 'indubitably' worth listening to. Hallstron guarantees listeners the chance to consistently tune into his show and find, for the most part, the same genre/style, citing that a lot of times people are unsure as to what they're going to hear when they tune into shows.

"Some slots are filled with a wide range of genres and sounds, so it's hard to get into the mood for a certain type of music. There isn't [always] solid consistency, but my slot is pretty much devoted to dance and house music," remarked Hallstron.

Prior to coming to Earlham, Nick had the opportunity to be a protégé of sorts to a lot of house DJs in his hometown. DJ Fran, co-manager of Boston based Ritual Recordings, exposed Hallstron to a wide selection of house and dance music. "DJ Fran really took me under his wing and showed me the ropes of the house music scene. Fran and other DJs I grew to know would take me to parties where they would spin, which taught me a lot and introduced me to the artists I listen to today such as Blaze and Kraftwerk," he commented.

This rookie DJ intended to have a share of airtime last year, but the plans never materialized. However, this year Hallstron trained with Anna Kates and after his two required sit in radio sessions he was a bona fide DJ.

As far as the future is concerned, Hallstron plans to contin-



Photo by Nick Sturtzel
Nick Hallstron prepares to go on the air.

ue with his radio show for the station for the remaining years of his tenure at Earlham. "I really like working for an independent radio station, it allows for the DJ to keep his integrity whereas you see so many corporate DJs that have no true identity. Radio used to be such an experimental venue, now it's basically a business aimed at pleasing a certain crowd. What's great is that I can expose people to music that they normally wouldn't find on their own. Also there's a lot of freedom as far as the material you play, I like it. I really think WECL is upping its ante as a viable radio station with these late night slots."

However, past college Hallstron has no plans of pursuing any sort of communications career. "I really only prefer working in the independent radio business, the corporate company just isn't my scene, I treasure my freedom as a DJ too much."

When asked if he had any closing comments, Hallstron just asked the Word staff to recognize a few of his radio comrades'



Photo by Nick Sturtzel
Hallstron adjusts the levels on the mixing board during his show.

shows. He reminds everyone to "tune into Ben and Ed's Tuesday night hip-hop/electronica slot and Pete and Sam's Wednesday night hip hop show", in addition to his slot.

"There really are some shows

on WECL that are definitely worth listening to, they're great venues for new, good music which isn't always so easy to come by in the corporate jungle," added Hallstron.

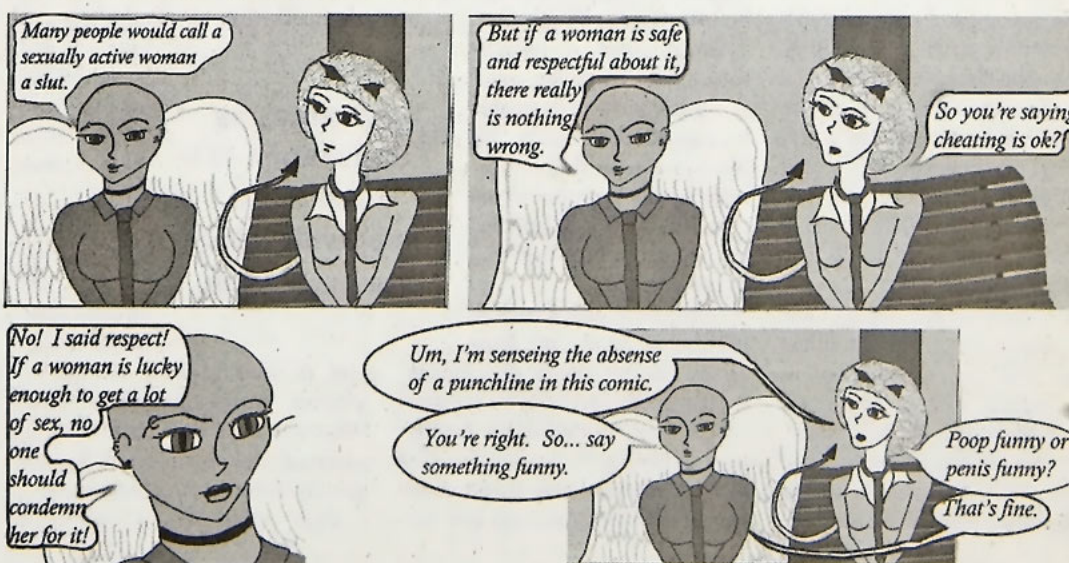


Photo of the week

By Seth Barch

Jake Adler and Pearl O'Brien take a moment to pose at the recent Republican Party hosted by Foster House in honor of the Republican National Convention.

Ethical Advocates by Elizabeth Schwartz



The Earlham Word

Since 1986

Editors-in-Chief

Susan Scantland
Adam Putnam

Opinion Editor

Conor Madigan

News Editor

Alden Reed

Community Editor

Alexa Lempert

Sports Editor

Jihan Abdalla

Amp&rsand Editor

Shawn Smith

Layout Editors

Abe Davis-News

Nathan Eckstrand-Community

Anna Benfield-Sports

Benjamin Fribley-Opinion

Justin Brown-A&E

Head Photo Editor

Emmy Lang-Kennedy

Photo Editors

Cole Pomeroy-News
Seth Barch-Sports

Photographers

Colin Copland
John Click
NickSturtzel
Jake Adler

Copy Editors

Anna Kates
GB Green-Barnes

Web Manager

Abe Davis

Ad Manager

Jean-Pierre Gary

Advisor

William Schulte

Swiftboat Veterans for Truth manipulate for political agenda

By Nathan Eckstrand
Contributing Editor

Politics have always been full of dirty tricks. Republicans are believed to have persuaded the South Vietnamese to pull out of a peace conference organized by President Johnson in 1968, damaging Hubert Humphrey's chances for the presidency. My personal favorite is when, according to a BBC report in the early 1800s, Andrew Jackson called John Quincy Adams a "pimp" based on a rumor about Adams and a young Russian woman. Adams responded by claiming that Jackson was the child of a British prostitute and mulatto woman. More recently, there was the 2000 election, when hundreds of African-Americans were illegally barred from voting.

Thus it should not be surprising to find similar tricks occurring in this bitterly contested election. I refer specifically to the ironically named Swift Boat Veterans for Truth. They claim that Kerry does not deserve his first and third purple hearts as they were for minor wounds that required no more than a small bandage. His bronze star was also question because Kerry was not under fire when he pulled one of his crewmates out of the water.

The great thing about this technique is that the events occurred so long ago that no one can say for sure what happened. By questioning SBVT's version of events there is a burden on the Kerry campaign to prove what he did, which is next to impossible. It's similar to me questioning the day you learned how to ride a bike. Sure, you remember it happening- and so does everyone else who was there- but could you really come up with documentation to show that it happened?

The most insidious part of this campaign, though, is not the technique they are using but that they are controlled by the Bush administration.

Just look at the web of connections:

- Kenneth Cordier, who is featured prominently in the swift boat ads, was also a member of the Bush/ Cheney Veterans steering committee. In that role, he and the other committee members served as "messengers for the president's re-

election campaign." After the Kerry campaign exposed this, Cordier was fired from the committee.

- The primary financial backer of the SBVT is Bob Perry, the top Republican donor in Texas and longtime supporter of Bush. Perry is also a close friend of Karl Rove, Bush's top political advisor.

- Marrie Spaeth, the Public Relations person for the SBVT, last appeared during the 2000 election, when she participated in the group "Republicans for Clean Air," which was one of the groups trying to smear John McCain.

- Benjamin Ginsberg, a top lawyer in the Bush/ Cheney reelection campaign, has admitted that he gave advice to and working with the SBVT. Ginsberg has had ties to the Bush camp since 2000, when he represented them during the recount in Florida.

- Recently the Bush/ Cheney campaign office handed out fliers created by the SBVT during an anti-Kerry rally in Gainesville, Florida.

In every election Karl Rove has been a part of in the last 2 decades there has been a smear campaign against his opponents. Combine all this and you have one more example of the immoral and unethical lengths these people will go to in order to maintain power. Disgusting.

To top off this whole scheme, during the Republican National Convention a man named Morton Blackwell, Karl Rove's mentor who has been involved in every Republican administration since 1964, was caught handing out purple bandages which read "It was just a self-inflicted scratch, but you see I got a purple heart for it."

Never mind that all army records contradict Blackwell's side of the story and that Kerry still has a scar from where shrapnel entered his body.

It seems that, according to these people, unless you spill a pint of blood for our country you are not eligible for a purple heart.

This whole sham is sickening. Kerry deserves better than this. The country deserves better than this.

Unfortunately, as long as this administration is in power, I don't see it getting anything but worse.

Nathan Eckstrand is a senior philosophy major.

EC drug policy reflects values of the college

By Elizabeth Schwartz
Staff Writer

In response to Shannon Axtell's Open Window article, "Earlham's drug policy is too lax" [Friday, Sept. 3] I would like to voice my objections.

Stricter enforcement of alcohol and drug laws/rules leads to dangerous situations where people continue their habits, but are less inclined to be open and honest with their RAs and with Security. This makes their job of keeping us safe much more difficult.

Also, I don't think spreading injustice is the proper response to already unsound consequences of drug law violations, such as mandatory minimum sentencing. State law should be similar to the justice we experience on campus, not the other way around. Taking away our privilege isn't the solution. The solution is to change the law so that there is less injustice.

The laws would be likely to change much faster if there were fewer degrees of separation between those in power and those serving time. Perhaps there should be a movement to fill the jails with students turning themselves in. That would be a much more positive strategy than forcing Earlham

security to start slapping cuffs (as they have the right to do at least in the case of the alcohol policy, violations of which "may result in judicial action by the College and/or criminal prosecution" according to the online Policies and Guidelines). The most important thing is

"Stricter enforcement of alcohol and drug laws/rules leads to dangerous situations..."

keeping the community safe. The "bad health" resulting from drugs comes not from "getting baked" once in a while, as Axtell suggests, especially compared to the harm of tobacco. Negative consequences are also reduced if one uses a water-bong.

Will real problems on this campus like addiction and misuse be best addressed by making the rules harsher? Wouldn't treatment and education be more prudent?

Most American colleges have to deal with drug and alcohol problems and at Earlham we choose to have a dry campus policy (which is up for review in spring 2005). This has resulted in students either drinking in secret or fleeing campus to get drunk and then coming back.

I do not use drugs, at least I haven't in the last few years. I also only drink on rare occasions.

However, that is my choice, and I do hope to try mushrooms or even acid one day. I hope that by the time I get around to it they are legal so that I can know for sure they aren't laced with anything else.

My point is that it is in the name of justice and for the sake of community values that I hold these opinions, and not because I want to smoke weed on the Heart.

I am glad that the students on this campus are not given the disrespect received by those who are thrown in jail without just cause. Respect is the key Quaker value that makes this community as good as it is now and as great as it can be in the future.

Elizabeth Schwartz is a junior politics major.

Community losing many vital sexual health resources

Conor Madigan
Contributing Editor

If the nominal service of the Wayne County AIDS Taskforce were to up and quit would you worry? Well, as of now the Taskforce is kaput. This not to say that testing is out of reach. A very nice woman will take your blood and test it on Tuesdays. She works at the Wayne County Courthouse Building where you can be tested for almost anything. And anything and everything should be tested for. With Hepatitis B and C yearly taking more lives than the war, one should carefully consider the risks involved with any human contact (CDC, NYT).

Yes, I am paranoid. I am especially paranoid of people who say things like, "Well, I know it's safe because he's been tested." First of

all testing only gives a limited glimpse into the human body. If you contract any Sexually Transmitted Infection (formerly Sexually Transmitted Disease) the incubation period can last from 1-3 weeks to 1-3 months, and with AIDS it may be a year, or even ten, before symptoms appear or traces of HIV show up in tests. So really when someone is 'tested' they can only be certain if they have contracted an STI in a specific window of time from when they were last exposed.

Condoms protect from some STIs. When you use a condom you are avoiding pregnancy (which some parents consider a disease), gonorrhea, non-specific urethritis, trichomonas and monilial vaginitis, AIDS, and maybe syphilis if you are lucky.

But, Herpes II, venereal warts, pediculosis pubis (commonly know

as crabs), scabies, and even non-viral sicknesses escape the condom. Still, condoms are the second best method of protection (the first being abstinence, which is tough when you are human).

So, with AIDS Taskforce down and condoms dwindling, how can you protect yourself? First, get your condoms from Health Services while there are still supplies left. They are very nice people, but condoms are a high-demand-commodity. The RAs on campus will soon be getting a load for each hall, and hopefully the supply won't dwindle.

The service and assurance provided by the Taskforce was an important aspect of an Earlham student's well being. We are hoping for another strong replacement.

Conor Madigan is a senior English major.

Both sides of abortion debate have merit

By Zak Neiman
Staff Writer

I come from South Bend, a very Catholic town in northern Indiana. My best friend was the son of the city head of Right to Life and a couple of my other friends would routinely pray in front of the local Planned Parenthood building. People in South Bend were very concerned about abortion, and I started to understand their point of view.

Killing people is bad. If a fetus qualifies as a person, killing him or her would be bad. Of course, the question being asked in the abortion debate is, "Does a fetus qualify as a human life?" I figure that it at least qualifies as a potential human life, but is that enough? There are no easy answers to any of the questions here.

The reason I haven't chosen a side in the abortion battle is that both sides can be annoying. On one hand, you've got pro-life advocates so committed to their belief that they are willing to kill for it. There haven't been any murders on the pro-choice side yet, but that doesn't make it much better. Pro-life people believe that pro-choice people are committing murder. Both sides are so committed to their point of view that they're not willing to listen to one another.

A month ago, I heard that Planned Parenthood was planning on selling shirts proudly saying, "I had an abortion." I think this might be the stupidest plan that I have ever heard. The way I understand it, the choice to abort is not an easy one.

Women who have abortions often do so because they can't afford to raise a child, and they often feel guilty or depressed afterwards. This type of shirt seems too aggressive and likely to offend people. The shirt is saying, "I had an abortion and what are you going to do about it?"

I don't believe that abortion is a women's rights issue. Being pro-life does not necessarily mean being anti-woman. Yes, there is a right to privacy, but in a pro-lifer's mind the right to life is more important, and a fetus qualifies as "life." They aren't pro-life because they hate women, although I have heard that argument before.

However, being pro-life does not justify harassing abortion clinic workers or women seeking abortions. Operation Rescue workers often go to their target's neighborhood and show huge signs with graphic pictures of aborted fetuses. They put up "Wanted for Murder" signs at schools that the children of abortion doctors attend and "Doctor's name here's Choice" posters with pictures of gory dismembered fetuses.

They are allowed to do these things under the First Amendment, but does that make it right?

Both sides are trying to convert people, but not through reasonable conversation. Instead they use fear, intimidation or aggression. Because of these extreme elements, I cannot in good conscience take either side. I can't make a judgment as to whether an unborn fetus qualifies as a person or not. I hope I can find an answer soon.

Zak Neiman is a first year student



What Do You Think?

The Word wants your opinion. Let us know what you think about politics, Earlham policies and life.

E-MAIL: madigco@earlham.edu

Send us your opinion by Sunday night.

OPINION POLICY
The Earlham Word provides an open forum and welcomes opinion pieces in the form of "Open Windows" and "Letters to the Editor." Submissions to The Earlham Word should be clear, concise and respectful. Please limit the article length to 800 words. Opinion pieces are due Sunday night to madigco@earlham.edu.

Earlham College volleyball team looks on the bright side

By Jihan Abdalla
Contributing Editor

Despite a sixth place finish at the Coca-Cola Quaker Classic Tournament, Coach Natalie Alred said that the team is working toward being able to compete in the championships. The ladies played a total of four games, two on Friday, Sept. 3 and two on Saturday, Sept. 4.

The Quakers lost the first game 3-0 against Wilmington.

"We're a very young team," Alred said. "We still have a long way to go." Six freshmen players have joined the team this year. Alred added, "But we have a lot of talent."

Eight returning students make up the rest of the team, Mae Shadinger and Julie Widholm being the only seniors. On Friday night, a dynamic EC crowd witnessed the Quakers as they won their second game versus Alverno 3-0. Sophomore Lisa Vanderkolk demonstrated her steadiness in kills and assists. Freshman Jessica Whitaker confirmed her talents and abilities as she went for several blocks and spikes.

"Jessica did a great job of playing on her first week of college volleyball," Alred said. "I am very pleased."

On Saturday morning, the team lost again, 1-3 against Taylor-Fort Wayne.

"Our two setters are both freshmen" Junior Ajia Coleman said.

"So it's a bit hard. Usually, upperclassmen are the ones who know how everything works. But this year, since we have so many new players and a new coach, things are sometimes difficult."

But Alred expressed confidence in Coleman stating, "She is becoming more consistent in her playing."



PHOTO BY JOHN CLUCK

The women's volleyball team huddles after scoring a point against Alverno during the Coca-Cola Quaker Classic Tournament Friday. Earlham defeated Alverno but placed sixth in the tournament.

Coleman led the team last year in kills and blocks. "She will do even better this year," the coach said confidently.

The fourth game against Heidelberg ended 1-3, marking the Quaker's third loss.

"It's a good start," Alred said. "The ladies put a lot of effort

throughout every practice and during the games they displayed a great deal of character and discipline."

The Coca-Cola Quaker Classic Tournament ended with the EC volleyball team ranking sixth.

"We had very limited time to practice, prepare, and get acquainted with one another. But it's very

remarkable how much learning the ladies have done in the past week," Alred noted.

"The biggest problem, I think," Coleman said, "is that the level of intensity we display is based upon our opponents and not upon our own abilities."

While the volleyball team clearly has a long way to go, we congratulate

late sophomore Lisa Vanderkolk, jersey number 10, for being named to the All-Tournament Team.

"I have confidence in every player on the team," the coach summed. "I admire their abilities and determination. And this season, we're going to put up a good fight."

Football endures ordeal

By Meagan Allen
Staff Writer

Saturday afternoon the EC football team took to the road to play the Rose-Hulman Engineers for the first game of the season. The team led 12-0 during the first quarter. During the second quarter, however, the humidity began to take its toll and things started to fall apart. Going into halftime, the Quaker lead had been reduced to 12-10. The team continued to stay strong, but during the fourth quarter the Engineers scored once again to end the game, resulting in a 12-16 Quaker defeat. Senior and four-year member of the team, Ishan Dillon, felt that the team played a strong game. "It was a very hard loss. I felt that our team fought harder than I've seen in past years," Dillon said. He also feels that EC football is headed in the right direction.

The team loaded the two charter buses (one for defensive players, and one for offense) at around 11 p.m. that night, ready to head back to campus. About forty-five minutes into the trip, the defense's bus pulled to the side of the road. No one was quite sure what was going on, and many of the players thought there was a flat tire. The bus was on the shoulder of Interstate seventy only two minutes before moving again. According to sophomores Brandon Mock and Logan Giles, the bus moved thirty feet before pulling over again. This time the driver shut the bus off. Because there were many people and the weather was humid, the bus got stuffy very quickly. Giles and Mock overheard Coach Nick Johnson ask the bus driver if he could turn the bus on. The driver tried, and it worked. They moved fifty feet and pulled over for a third time. Things looked hopeful, though, and soon enough the bus was moving again. They drove a mere forty-five feet in front of the offense bus before pulling over for a final time. They sat on the bus for twenty minutes before they were ordered onto the offense bus.

That is how forty-five football players, two drivers, seven cheerleaders and two trainers were cramped into one bus for the hour and a half drive back to Earlham. The bus returned to campus at 2:00 am Sunday morning.

Senior Kevin Carr remembers the bus breaking down a few times before. "It really is just a hassle and after a while you just laugh like, 'How can this happen again?'"

As for upcoming games, Dillon seems very hopeful. "I think that this team has all the talent we need to be successful," he said, "but we just need to learn to fight together to win the games we need to win."

Field hockey team loses to Ohio Wesleyan

By Susan Scantland
Contributing Editor

In a rainy game, the field hockey team lost 0-1 to Ohio Wesleyan Wednesday.

Sophomore Susannah Curry said the team played well even though the game resulted in a loss.

"It was raining really hard," Curry said, "but our energy was really high."

Despite the loss, she said she was proud of the team. "We had a really intense finish. We dominated the game," Curry said.

The team plays at Wooster Sept. 18 and plays at home against Wittenberg Sept. 22 on Comstock Field.

Soccer wins home openers



PHOTO BY EMMY LANG-KENNEDY



PHOTO BY EMMY LANG-KENNEDY



PHOTO BY JP GARY

Earlham Men's and Women's soccer teams triumphed at their home openers over Franklin college Saturday.

The women won 4-0, and the men 2-0.

The women scored all of their goals during the second half. Rachel Applefield scored the first goal, followed by Olympia Diamond, Hailee Carter and Rita Lawson.

"We played real well at our new positions," Diamond, a junio, said. "We switched to a new formation, 4 back, 3 mid and 3 forward, so we're still learning. It's a lot of fun to play."

Diamond's shot ricocheted off the cross bar, then bounced off the back of the Franklin goalies head

into the net. "It was awesome, it still counted as a goal," Diamond said.

The men's win was the 400th win for Earlham's Varsity soccer team since it achieved varsity status in 1949.

Troy Burks opened the scoring in the first half, and Liam Roche scored in the second.

The men seemed to have the upper hand throughout the entire game.

Both games were well attended by Earlhamites. The crowd lined the chain link fence and cheered in their usual heckling fashion.

"It's so much fun; the fans really get you pumped for the game when you play at home," Diamond said.

Scores

Football
Rose Hulman 16
Earlham 12

Men's Soccer
Earlham 2
Franklin 0

Women's Soccer
Earlham 4
Franklin 0

Volleyball
Record for the
Week 1-3

Field Hockey
Ohio Wesleyan 1
Earlham 0

Men and Women's
Cross Country
Coming up-Great
Lakes Colleges
Championships at
Oberlin, 10 a.m.