

Briefly

Friday

Dekel Bor Trio

Stop by Comstock tonight at 7:30 p.m. for a hip night of jazz and jive. The Dekel Bor Trio, sponsored by SAB, are young, chill and ready to jazz up the night with music too cool to miss.

Thursday

Open Discussion

Todd Denny will be presenting an open discussion concerning dating, relationships, communication, and sexual assault at 7:00 p.m. in the Loose Lecture Hall in Bolling Center, Room 105. Mixed with music, storytelling, and theatre, this event will cover homophobia, alcohol and drug use, sexual harrasment, rape, and high-risk situations for men and women.

Admission is free, brought to you by Multicultural Affairs and Action Against Rape (AAR). For information, please call (765) 983-1747.

Now through Oct. 1

Photography Exhibit
New photography professor Walt Bistline's photos are on exhibit in Leeds Gallery.



The Silent League:
A&E



EC Football: Page 7



The Mentalist: Page 3

Earlham housing crunch nears end

Students still left in temporary housing, awaiting decision on future permanent residence

By Sam Katz
Staff Writer

The last three students in temporary housing are to be placed into permanent housing by early next week. Residential Life is soliciting feedback on how to make use of the new "East" Residential Hall, which may avoid this crisis in the future.

Students were housed wherever there was space—in the lounges, (OA's and Bundy's), among other locations.

The so-called "housing crunch" is a simple miscalculation on the part of admissions, explains Eli Levine, an RA in Bundy Hall. "Once we accept you, we have to take you," he says. "More people accepted than we expected."

Jackie Wilson, the Assistant Director for the Office of Residential Life, contacted by e-mail, also seems to view it as an issue of time and keeping promises. "Students are approached with...permanent housing options in lottery number order with priority for whole doubles going to roommate pairs who are both eligible to enroll." She says she has both what is "best for the community" and the student's need for the "best permanent placement" available.

After sophomore year she says, all students are able to choose their roommate and try their luck—through the lottery—at better placement.

She says that in the search for "forgotten space" that can be used for placements, she looks for both the "prize" rooms for upper-classmen and the underclassmen "double/triple/quad."

"The students have been very cooperative," she wrote.

In a Bundy Hall meeting, the temporary placements in the basement were primary concerns. The biggest concerns had to do with the vending machines and the television sets currently stored in

Bundy's basement, which was converted into a "temporary dorm", according to Kari, another RA in Bundy's wellness hall. Hall members complained that they were inaccessible.

The housing crunch was a prominent feature in the satirical "PC skits" with one person being told that they had a bed sheet "for privacy."

The housing policy draft document (written before the housing crunch) states that Norwich Lodge was part of this year's lottery and was to be given away as either a theme or a friendship house.

Residential Life did not clarify before press time. The small, apartment-like lodge is distinguished by its complete prohibition of smoking or incense burning in the building. Last year, Norwich Hall was used to satisfy housing needs of the incoming class. Its former designation was as a retreat and conference center.

This year, Wilson pointed out via e-mail "all beds" were used "to capacity again this year." Norwich was a major part of the relocation and solution of last year's housing crunch.

Although 50 exemptions were granted, more exemptions were granted over the summer as the housing crunch became apparent. Bedrooms in Edwards House and Reece House had to be converted from double singles to doubles, leaving some who had been promised a single in the lottery with roommates instead.

Wilson said she acknowledged that there were "casualties" in this year's lottery, but that the "community as a whole" benefited.

She encourages students interested in revising the lottery process to contact her at jackiew@earlham.edu.



PHOTO BY COLIN COPELAND

Earlham student Doug Winschief studies in his makeshift room while waiting for word from Residence Life about news regarding permanent residence. Three students still remain unhoused.

EC students get involved in fall election process

By Alden Reed
Contributing Editor

Whether they are just going to a weekend protest, spending a few weekends doing voter registration, or living in a swing state for several months, Earlham students and graduates are getting involved in this year's election process.

Most recently several Earlham students attended the protests of the Republican National Convention in New York.

Over a dozen students gave up their first weekend back at school to get involved in several days of protests.

The protests were mostly non-violent and very well organized, according to sophomore Sam Robinson and freshman Dan Coppock, both of whom attended.

"It's important to add another voice," Robinson commented, "the marches themselves weren't particularly introspective, but the important part of these protests was just the sheer numbers."

Though numbers on the main protest on Sunday, Aug. 29 vary according to different sources, Robinson and Coppock estimated them at half a million.

Earlham students were among a wide variety of people who attended the protests, for many different causes, according to Robinson. "It was powerful seeing so many eclectic groups coming together...really any type of people or cause you can imagine," Robinson said.

"The amount of people who showed up shows that people do oppose Bush's policies," Robinson noted, "and that activism is still alive in the U.S."

"When you have half a million willing to come out and support this cause it's going to start turning some wheels," Coppock added.

Though both Robinson and Coppock were happy to see other Earlham students in New York, they commented that it is important for as many students to get involved as possible. "It was great to see Earlham students come out, everything we can do is important," Robinson concluded, "but it is important to get as many people involved as possible."

Some Earlham students and Earlham grads are taking the semester off and spending the next 12 weeks participating in the Swing Semester program.

Swing Semester is a non-partisan group that recruits college students and college grads to participate in voter education and registration this fall.

Back on Earlham's campus, other students are organizing efforts for voter registration on campus, in the Richmond community, and over the weekends in Ohio.

Sophomores Dee Williams, Gina Bartellett and Katie Carter are organizing the Earlham Bussing Initiative (EBI), which will be recruiting Earlham students to spend some of their weekends participating in voter registration

drives in Dayton, Ohio.

According to Williams, students can choose to spend any number of Saturdays this fall, from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. participating in a variety of political activities, including phone banking, canvassing, and other forms of voter registration.

EBI is also working in conjunction with America Coming Together (ACT), which will be offering 30-minute training sessions on voter registration each Saturday.

"People need to get involved," Williams said, "there is a lot of talking about needing change, people need to actually do something about it."

Williams feels that it is especially important for Earlham students to get involved. "A lot of times Earlham students are really idealistic and want to change the world, and this is a way that they can get involved and do that," Williams observed.

EBI will be registering people to vote up until October 4th, the deadline for being able to register to vote in Ohio and Indiana and still participate in the November elections, Williams said.

After that time EBI will still be going to Ohio to encourage people who are registered to vote, especially on election day when they will be offering to drive voters to the polls.

"We can never have enough volunteers," Williams pointed out, "this is the easiest way to get

See STORY page 2

Nelson Bingham begins role as acting President

By Adam Putnam
Contributing Editor

Nelson Bingham has worn several different hats in his thirty some years at Earlham College.

Since he was hired in 1974 he has taught psychology courses, HDSR courses, Japanese courses, announced at home football games, been the advisor to the Equestrian team.

He has also been an Associate Dean of Student Development, convener of the Psychology and HDSR programs, director of Institutional Research, Assistant to the president for Enrollment Management, a grandfather, and currently, acting President of Earlham.

Bingham is sitting in while President Doug Bennett is on sabbatical.

"I get a big office. Its bigger than I could ever need. It's about a third the size of the one in LBC," Bingham said.

Joseph Moore's desk is still in the office (Joseph Moore was the first President of Earlham). "I just like to admire the woodwork," Bingham said. "Doug left all his books here."

The duties as Acting President are somewhat different than teaching faculty, Bingham explained.

"The biggest challenge is staying in contact with everyone,"

Bingham said. "There are challenges in helping people feel a sense of trust with administration."

Bingham deals with a range of issues ranging from the global scale to class room detail. By him taking on these responsibilities he frees the teaching faculty to do their job.

With the Quaker tradition of consensus there is always a drive to have the community involved with decision-making. Unfortunately in a lot of ways it can be more burden than joy Bingham said. "Its hard to balance."

During his time in office Bingham has some agenda items. "We need new facilities and staff for the Arts." Bingham is also creating a panel to determine what exactly the needs are.

Finishing the master planning goes hand in hand with thinking about expansion of the arts.

There is such a push for figuring out how Earlham wants to grow, because there are plans for a Capital Campaign to raise money for the school.

In his spare time, Bingham enjoys horse back riding with his wife, Gail, and playing with his grandchildren. He continues to announce for home football games.

"I miss Human Development. Vince (Punzo) and I are going to alternate teaching it," Bingham said. "Grandkids keep you honest in terms of theory."

Convocation panel deals with cultural identity

By Ashleigh Rodriguez
Staff Writer

The Opening Convocation entitled "The Blood Runs Like a River Through My Dreams" was about a memoir written by Native American author Nasdijj. The convocation was a panel discussion. The panel consisted of Acting President Nelson Bingham, Michelle Patterson from the History Department, Deborah Jackson of Anthropology, and Carlos Bustamante, a junior student.

The book is about a man of two cultures, White and Native American, and his search for meaning and identity. The book also

includes such topics as Fetal Alcohol Syndrome, the difference in culture of Whites and Native Americans, and coming to terms with the past.

"You are your history," Patterson quoted. This quote is found repeatedly throughout the text. She spoke about how the author's past made an impact on his life. She talked about how he sought to reconcile and come to terms with his past, not only for himself, but for others as well.

Patterson also talked about how history repeats itself, especially in America, because we don't always acknowledge the atrocities and errors we make.

Jackson spoke on why the author struggles with his identity. The

author's father was White and his mother Navajo. He appears White and is often mistaken for only a White person. He struggles with this and refers to himself as a "mongrel."

She also talked about how his gift of speaking the Navajo language also shaped who he was.

Bustamante focused on how the author is constantly running away throughout the book. He said it is a form of resistance and also a way to help the author identify with his Navajo identity.

The Information the panelists spoke on brought up many thought provoking comments and questions from the audience.

What is White culture? Why did Nasdijj claim to be Native

American and not White? What does America as a "melting pot" have to do with the book? These were just a few among many things members of the audience spoke about.

"I hope that this convocation is just the beginning of a dialogue for all Earlham students. This is a good starting point and I hope that it will serve as a catalyst for discussion throughout the campus," Jackson said.

Bustamante ended Convocation by summarizing the context of "The Blood Runs Like a River Through My Dreams."

"This is an American book," he said. "It's not Ernest Hemingway. It's not William Faulkner. It's not a Navajo Book."



Earlham Student Government more than just pretty faces

By Katrina McQuail
Guest Writer

What is Earlham Student Government (ESG)? Why should you care about it? What does it do for you? Well, first off... ESG consists of students elected by students. The purpose of ESG is to facilitate communication and dialogue between students and the administration. When ESG acts, it is in the name of all Earlham students. Therefore you should let your ESG representatives know your opinions on issues.

The Co-Presidents (Prez-masters if you like) are Anne Duvall and myself. The Vice President of Communications is Jacqueline Ero and the Vice President of Nominations is Jesse Krulwich. There are three delegates to the Committee on Campus Life (CCL): Tessa Simonds, Jamey McPherson and Fatima Carson. Destiny and Kary Zuniga are the Co-Convenors of SOC, while Cherish Gibson is the Treasurer, aka, the Secretary of "Fi-nance." Derek Ruez is our recording clerk and Kelly Severtson is our Co-Convenor of SAB.

The cabinet meets every Tuesday from 7-9pm. We welcome silent observers and if you have an issue you think ESG should know about, contact esg@earlham.edu and we will have you come present.

This semester ESG hopes to work on helping Residence Life re-think and re-structure the housing lottery process. Due to Earlham increasing its admissions goal to 1200 total students and building and refurbishing the older dorms the old lottery process is out of date. And we will need the student body to give input. This year we are concerned with making ourselves

as Student Government as transparent as possible. This should make it easier for students to understand the decision making process and become more involved. While working on ESG's transparency, we will also be working with the respective offices and administrators on campus to help them be as transparent as possible.

ESG hosts a variety of events, Homecoming among them. To get involved or ask questions, just let us know: esg@earlham.edu.

Katrina McQuail is co-President of ESG.

The week in world news

Hundreds of thousands of protesters descended on New York to protest the Republican National Convention, including 12 students from Earlham. The protests have been mostly non-violent and culminated in an anti-war march on Sunday, Aug. 29 of more than a quarter-million people. However, hundreds of protesters were arrested during the rallies.

Nine people were killed and 51 wounded in a suicide bombing in Moscow. The bomb was detonated in a train station, and it is the second terrorist attack in the past week. Russian officials believe Chechen female suicide bombers, known as "black widows," are responsible for the attacks, though Chechen rebel groups deny responsibility.

Terrorists have taken control of a Russian school in Beslan and are holding more than a hundred hostages. They have demanded the release of Chechen rebels in exchange for the schoolchildren taken hostage. Russian troops surrounded the school and are engaged in a standoff with the rebels.

The Sudanese government failed to live up to its guarantee to rein in the Janjaweed militia who continue their mass killings in the Darfur region of western Sudan. The U.N.

had previously threatened an arms embargo and economic sanctions on the Sudanese government.

Iraqi insurgents executed 12 Nepalese hostages, the largest mass killing of hostages since the old Iraqi regime was toppled. This brings the number of known hostages executed by insurgents to 23.

Two suicide bombings in Beersheba killed 16 people in the first major attacks on Israeli soil since March. In response, Israeli helicopters destroyed the homes of the two alleged suicide bombers in the Gaza Strip.

The 22-day long stand off in the southern Iraqi city of Najaf ended last week when Grand Ayatollah Ali Hussein al-Sistani returned from London where he was undergoing heart surgery. He led a massive march of Shi'ite faithful to negotiate the withdrawal of U.S. forces from the city. Local Insurgent leader Muqtada al-Sadr fulfilled his promise to exit the Imam Ali Shrine upon the arrival of more senior Shi'ite clerics.

Briefs compiled by Alden Reed and Graham Pitts from CommonDreams.org.

Continued from page 1

involved, you just have to show up, get out there and that's it...it couldn't be any simpler."

In addition to her efforts in Ohio, Williams is also trying to organize efforts for voter registration here in Richmond, while EBI organizer and convener of the College Democrats Katie Carter will be organizing voter registration here on campus.

If you are interested in getting involved with EBI please contact

Dee Williams by e-mail at willi-da@earlham.edu and by phone at x2913, Gina Barteletti by e-mail at bartegi@earlham.edu and by phone at x2912, or Katie Carter by e-mail at carteka@earlham.edu and by phone at x2818. Katie Carter is also the convener for the College Democrats.

Alden Reed is a Senior Politics major.

Presidential Election 2004

According to the most recent USA Today/CNN/Gallup poll, President George W. Bush leads Democrat John Kerry 48 to 46 among likely voters.

Among all registered voters, the two candidates are tied 46 to 46 (Poll: Aug. 23-26).

Don't forget to register and request an absentee ballot for your home state. Go to www.declareyourself.com for information.

The deadline for voter registration in Indiana is Oct. 4.



The Earlham Word is currently looking for a new Business Manager. If you feel like you could be qualified or are interested, please email Adam Putnam at putnaad@earlham.edu.

Honestly, there is absolutely, positively no Crime Beat this week.

CRIME BEAT

Earlham hypnotized by Mentalist's act

Students are amazed and entertained by mentalist Chris Carter, who hypnotizes twenty Earlhamites

Reviewed
By Gus Loeffelholz

Humankind has always been fascinated by behaviors which seem to contradict their own reason and intellect.

At Earlham, where the sharpness and dexterity of one's mind is of the highest priority most of the time, these contradictions rarely surface. And yet, on Tuesday, Aug. 21 many of us witnessed mesmerizing and incredible feats by classmates under the influence of a trained mentalist. He used a mix of subtle trickery, psychological principles, and the power of his mind to both shock and exhilarate a mix of freshmen and returning upperclassmen.

Carter admitted to having helped train professional poker players to read body language, and hide their own.

Jesse Snyder, a freshman, commented on the event. "I personally can't be hypnotized, but when I went to the show I sort of felt like I was going under. It was kind of scary, and I really wouldn't recommend it to people who aren't used to being free of their own emotions."

Those who dared to participate began the hypnosis portion of the event by closing their eyes and trying to relax so they could be turned into putty-like individuals, easily kneaded by the smooth-talking hypnotist.

For some, dreams of on-stage stardom vanished as eager students quickly filled the empty chairs on stage. An amazing spectacle then ensued, as the bodies of the stu-



PHOTO BY JP GARY

dents appeared to be under the complete control of Carter. The twenty hypnotized people on stage began by imagining an airplane passage, grasping for overhead compartments and swaying with the plane on their fictitious trip to Hawaii.

He also had them believe they were five years old and riding tricy-

cles that could go 150 mph. They got pulled over later and had to come up with excuses that they might have made when they were five.

Later in the show Carter communicated to the hypnotized individuals that the audience members were now animals in a petting zoo. At this point, I clutched my seat tight-

ly, realizing my seating adjacent to the aisle was marked for selection by a pet-loving participant. My fears were soon realized when a student asked me if I would come with her on stage.

Reluctantly, I stumbled on stage, not ready to face the spotlight which was to greet me there. As I sat on stage, another pet-lover

introduced me to his talking goat—a creature which seemed more like a frightened first year gripping his chair. Others found the night to be slightly surreal. Freshman Eric Winter said, "There was this kid who was up there [on stage] and he was like stealing everybody's shoes."

This shoe thief proved one of the



PHOTO BY ADAM PUTNAM

Above: Two of the participants reenact the story of William Tell.

Left: Mentalist Chris Carter hypnotizes several Earlhamites. Earlier, he did several tricks including psychokinetic touches, where he touches a spectator on stage with his mind.

more comical parts of the night, pouncing on other volunteer's shoes as the crowd cheered him on.

I realized at some point after the show that this mentalist, this giver of fear and exhilaration, had actually filled me with a sense of joy. These few chaotic moments had in fact given me the first tangible memory of my Earlham career.

Freshmen learn about responsible sex behavior

By Alexa Lempert
Contributing Editor

Professional actors presented the freshman class with "Sex Signals," a program meant to encourage them to think about responsible sex, rape avoidance and communication with one's partner.

The program, a part of New Student Orientation, was presented on Aug. 22. Although the presentation was serious in subject matter, the two actors made students laugh through humorous sexual innuendos that opened up dialogue with the audience. After each vignette, students volunteered their ideas for how the situation could have been made better or what went wrong. Between each skit, the actors clarified what appropriate behavior would be in the situation.

Some students voiced frustration with the content presented in "Sex Signals." Molly Baskin, a freshman, was among them.

"I found the program frustrating because it was heterosexist," Baskin said. "The actors were talented, and they made valid points, but some students at Earlham can't relate. For a school sponsored event it could have been more socially aware of all types of relationships."

One important point in the program was made through giving the audience small signs that read "stop." Members of the audience were instructed to hold up the signs when they saw an action that wasn't appropriate or made them feel uncomfortable. Shortly afterwards, in one of the skits, the audience saw the male character make unwanted sexual advances towards his female counterpart. A majority of the audience held up their signs but the situation continued to worsen. Some of the members of the audience yelled for the character to stop while others gave up trying to get the characters' attention. The actors later clarified that in a sense the audience had been raped: often rapists will ignore the victim's pleas. The actors emphasized that being clear with a partner is always important.

The actors also reinforced the meaning of rape as sex without consent. Consequently, partners must be clear with one another about what their intentions are in the rela-

tionship. To illustrate this more clearly, one of the sketches was an interview with an accused rapist. While many members of the audience had some sympathy for this character who was accused of rape by a girl he really liked, the bottom line was that the girl never explicitly told him that she wanted to have sex.

"I felt bad for the rapist in a way," freshman Jerilyn Marsh said. "The girl he was with sent him mixed messages. But then again, she never told him yes." The actors prompted students

to think about whether or not the situation qualified as rape because the victim didn't say no. It also made clear the message that failure to say "no" doesn't mean consent either.

Although Sex Signals was based on heterosexual relationships, many students said they found it informative and amusing, and that it helped them to understand the responsibilities of engaging in sexual activity as they enter a college community.

"The girl he was with sent him mixed messages."

-Jerilyn Marsh

A day at the ballpark



COLE POMEROY

Earlham students gather at the Richmond Rooster's stadium on Sunday to watch a double header

Students hold anti-Bush rally

By Alexa Lempert
Contributing Editor

As the 2004 presidential election draws nearer, students have been rallying together in protest against Bush. Freshman Sehvilla Young, along with several other students organized a small anti-Bush rally on Saturday, Aug. 28.

"We thought it would be really great if we could organize a protest in solidarity with the students going to New York City to protest during the Republican National Convention," Young said. She and fellow protestors met with the college, made signs and prepared several short speeches for the event.

Originally, the group planned to hold a march to the courthouse in Richmond and deliver their speeches. About 10 other students attended the rally.

"Unfortunately, we didn't get our fliers up until Friday afternoon," Young said. "Expecting people to show up on Saturday at 2 p.m. just didn't give very much time for the word to spread."

Some protestors believed that it wasn't worthwhile to hold a protest with such a small group of people and as a result, the march was cancelled.

However, wanting to be heard, Young, along with several students went to National Road and held up

their signs for passing motorists to see for about a half an hour. This style of protest occurs monthly in her hometown of Champaign-Urbana, Ill. Young said she was quite happy with the results of their small protest.

"We were surprised by what we considered a large and generally quite positive response," she said. "Only a couple [of honks and waves] were definitely negative."

Probably not the last of the protests throughout the campaign, Young explained that she's not at all discouraged by the turnout of the event. "What's important to me is that we managed to find a way to express our beliefs somehow."

ION

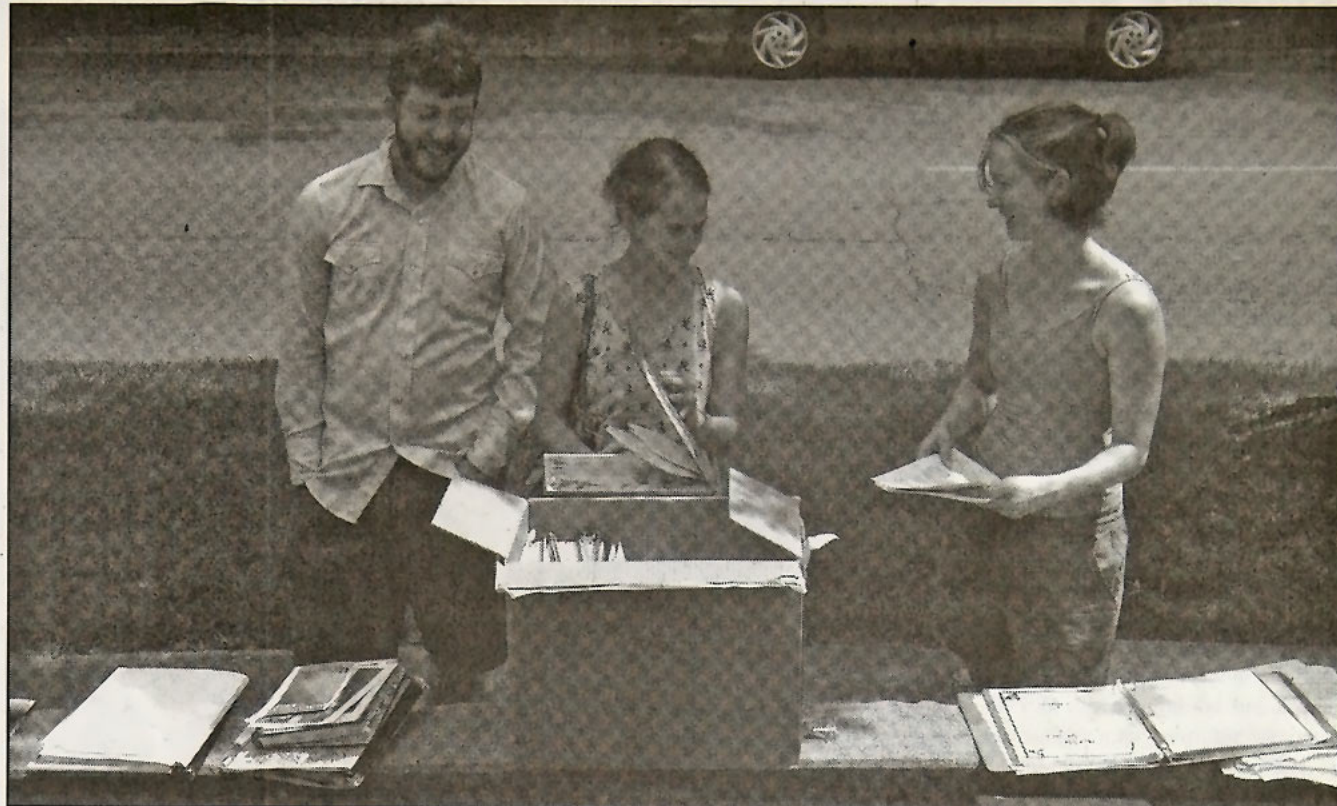
THE PEACE CORPS.

come to an info meeting:

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

Put your writing skills to use. Sign up as a staff writer for the Earlham Word. Contact Adam or Susan at putnaad or scantsu.

Movin' In



With the college season begun anew, beginning and returning students packed up their stuff for the return to Earlham for another year of academic pursuits.

Left: Lizzie Wade and her father move her bed into her house. Like many upperclassmen, Wade lives in a house on College Ave. **Above:** Greg Woods, Julie Bringman, and Beth Wood organize their books.

Right: Amanda Staight uses a somewhat alternative method of moving in...



photos by JP Gary and Emmy Lang-Kennedy



The Ultimate Student Discount: FREE ACTIVATION!

Act now, and beat the back-to-school rush.
Offer good for college students with a valid student ID for a limited time.
In-store purchase and activation of a new line of service required.



Get a feature rich
Sprint PCS VisionSM
Picture Phone
just **\$49.99**
After Instant Savings

• Built in Digital Camera
• Built in Speaker Phone
• Sprint PCS Ready LinkSM Capable
After \$150 instant savings with in-store purchase and activation of a new line of service on a Sprint PCS Service Plan with Vision.

A \$150 Instant Savings

**UNLIMITED
LOCAL ANYTIME
MINUTE CALLING
FOREVER**
JUST \$50 PER MONTH

Add Nationwide Long Distance for just \$5 more per month.
Other monthly charges apply. See below.**

Offers require a two-year Sprint PCSSM Advantage Agreement.
Hurry, Offer ends soon.

Sprint PCS. Now, that's better.

Come to your Sprint Store and experience the difference for yourself.



SPOKANE
Northtown Mall
4750 N. Division St.
(509) 484-6702
M-Sat: 10-9
Sun: 11-6

NORTH SPOKANE
7115 N. Division
(509) 468-9899
M-F: 10-6 Sat: 10-6

SPOKANE
Sullivan Center
566 N. Sullivan Rd.
(509) 882-3000
M-F: 9-7 Sat: 9-6
Sun: 11-6

LEWISTON
Intersection of 14th and 21st
1225 21st Street
(208) 743-8200
M-Sat: 9-6

COEUR D'ALENE
Ironwood Square
Shopping Center
228 Ironwood Drive
(208) 867-4600
M-Sat: 10-6
Sun: Closed

SOUTH HILL
3007 E. 57th Street
(509) 448-5787
M-Sat: 9-8
Sun: 10-5

DOWNTOWN
170 S. Division
(509) 456-3753
M-Sat: 9-8
Sun: 10-5

Also available at:

COUGAR COMMUNICATIONS
409 NE Stadium Way
(509) 338-0559

COUGAR COMMUNICATIONS
317 W. 6th St.
(208) 310-9133

PULLMAN RADIOSHACK
508 SE Bishop Blvd.
(509) 332-8870

**Taxes, surcharges (including a USF charge which may change monthly and cost recovery fees of \$.80) or other fees, which vary by market, not included. Surcharges are not taxes or government-required charges.

Nationwide network reaches over 240 million people. Coverage may not be available everywhere. Subject to credit. Terms and conditions apply. See store for details. Offers end 9/30/04. Must be 18 years old or older. **Sprint PCS Fair & Flexible Plan:** Includes a minimum of 300 monthly Anytime Minutes adjustable in 25 or 50 minutes increments for \$2.50 with \$0.07 per minute usage above 1250 minutes. A non-refundable \$36 phone activation fee and \$150 early termination fee apply. A deposit may be required. Night and weekend minutes are Mon-Thurs 9pm-7am and Fri 9pm-Mon 7 am. Domestic roaming calls are charged \$0.50 per minute and if applicable, an additional \$0.25 per minute for long distance. Calls are rounded up to the next minute. **Waived Activation Fee:** Requires in-store purchase and activation of a Sprint PCS wireless phone and service. Valid student ID required. **Savings:** Instant savings only available at participating Sprint Stores. **Sanyo 8200 Phone Offer:** Requires in-store purchase of the Sanyo 8200 Vision Picture Phone. \$150 discount, only available to new customers activating a new line of service, existing customers adding a line of service and customers porting their number to Sprint. Required activation on either the Fair and Flexible plan at \$35 or PCS Free and Clear Plans starting at \$45 plus vision attachment no later than 9/30/04. Preferred credit customers only. **Better Wireless Guarantee:** Return policy includes phone refund within 14 days usage charges still apply. Phone upgrade available after 18 months continuous service on plans \$34.99 per month or higher while in good standing. Requires one or two year agreement upgrade. Copyright ©2004 Sprint. All rights reserved. Sprint and the diamond logo are trademarks of Sprint Communications Company L.P.

Sinex addresses new students

By Summer Leeper
Staff Writer

New faces at Earlham made their way into the Goddard Auditorium on Friday, Aug. 20 to hear the Welcoming Address delivered by Nancy Sinex. Laughter and awe filled the auditorium as she talked about some of the unique things that Earlham's incoming class of 2008 had to offer to the college community.

First, Sinex informed the group that at 398 it is one of the largest populations of an entering class in Earlham's history. What's even more remarkable, she said, is that these students represent 40 states as well as 29

foreign countries. Additionally, they have traveled, studied and or lived in 92 different countries, and represent 285 different high schools.

Combined, she continued, this bright group of students received 368,310 points on the SAT, and filled out 1,534 college applications. Some examples of issues they wrote about in their essays were teen violence, family traditions, protecting the environment and a mother's battle with breast cancer.

If you forget a fellow classmate's name, guess Sarah or Jessica. Seven incoming students of each have this name on their birth certificate.

Be it working with the elderly,

helping with child day care, raising money for a foundation or building homes, almost every one of the new students has put in significant time as a volunteer.

Need a burger or fries? Sinex believes that every fast food chain she has heard of has employed one of these students. Other jobs that they have held include jobs as a surf camp instructor, Santa's helper, street juggler, barn painter, child care provider and lawn sprinkler installer.

Sinex's welcoming address allowed new students at Earlham to get a glimpse of the wide variety of backgrounds and cultures that are represented in the 398 new students.

College Meeting for Worship

"Changing the Subject"

Caroline Higgins, Professor of
Peace & Global Studies and History
Sunday, September 5, 2004

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



PHONATHON CALLERS NEEDED

Join a team of student fundraisers! Get PAID for
networking with EC alums while building your
resume. Bonuses every night!



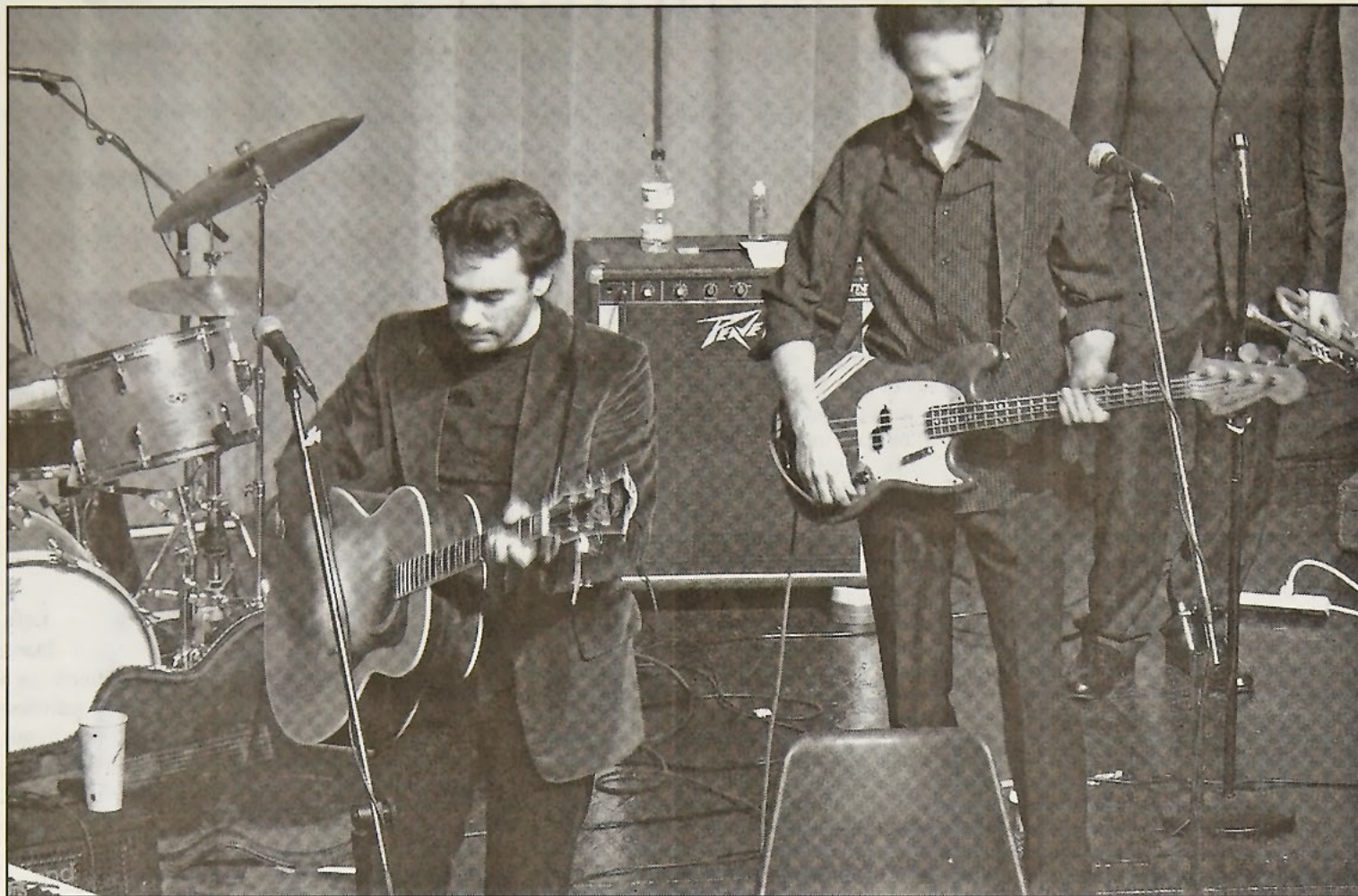
When: Applications due by Sept. 10.

Where: Applications available at Runyan Desk and Carpenter 100. Contact: ext. 1421, ashwoi.

Do you like
handling
money? Are
you interested
in the business
aspect of
journalism?

Apply to
become the
Word's
Business
Manager.

Contact putnaad or
scantsu



Above and Right: The Silent League performing one of the eleven songs of Saturday night.

Below: The Silent League relax in Runyan Center's Japanese Rock Garden after a long drive to Earlham.

All Photos by Jake Adler



Band takes stage

By Andrew Phend
Staff Writer

Have you ever felt that your collection of classical sonatas and canons keeps you from competing with those greasy-haired hipster punks? Are The Flaming Lips just too small for your big appetite? Look no further than The Silent League, who graced the stage of Wilkinson Theater in Runyan center last Saturday night.

Formed in Brooklyn, New York in the late 1990s, these compositionally-driven demons are a brand of musicians atypical to pop music circles. Unlike most rock/pop groups around these days this black-suited band of eight breaks the traditional trio or quintet format, packing in old favorites such as bass, guitar and drums while spicing things up with baritone sax, a trumpet, and an occasional glockenspiel riff. The band consists of Shannon Fields, Justin Russo, Phil Williams, James Duncan, Ryan Smith, Rich Meyer, Jon Natz and Gene Park (not in attendance).

Although their line-up may present them as nebulous space rock from beyond Athens, Ga, this herd keeps their pop sensibility in tune. The smooth harmonies (derivative of Simon and Garfunkel) and meticulously orchestrated arrangements are in perfect alliance with what a run-of-the-mill pop band would do in the studio. The difference is that these guys do it on stage and in person.

A relaxed atmosphere pervaded the half-filled room prior to the show for those in the room. As I watched from the upper balcony of Wilkinson I readied myself for a blast of loud sounds cradling introspective lyrics, with a possible dash

of witty hipster banter. I was not disappointed.

The band filed onto the stage and sure enough made their first offering of dry humor: "Your college is expensive," began songwriter Justin Russo. Yes, that it is.

Later on, the humor continued, with keyboard player Ryan Smith commenting to a seemingly drunken and very vocal audience member, "Yeah, I remember my first beer, too." This is what I love about the independent music scene: it always brings the wittiest musicians onto a stage to make comments that have depth.

Their performance reminded me of the feeling of a soothing underwater calm broken suddenly by the presence of an angler appearing out of nowhere, searching for its prey.

The monotony of the League's sound is counteracted by the complexity of their sound and the quality of their harmonies. Songs like the melancholy "Time" and the low-key "New Obsession" were a treat to watch and listen to.

Two complaints overheard after the show were that the music did not align with a specific taste and that it was monotonous. The latter may be the truer statement.

The drone of the League's sound is difficult to stay locked onto for long periods of time. It is possible that the band will continue to record and play together, and their sound will become honed and match the experimental likes of Radiohead.

Bands that have underground beginnings and end in stadiums typically can not transfer from the club to the stage. The Silent League, however, may be the exception--the band that makes the transition with little to no effort.

The Silent League

sits down for

an
Exclusive Interview



By Andrew Phend
Staff Writer

I got a chance to sit down with The Silent League last Saturday before their show in Wilkinson. The band members are: Shannon Fields (Lead Guitar), Justin Russo (Singer/Songwriter/Guitar/Piano/Lead Vocals), Phil Williams (Drums/Vocals), James Duncan (Trumpet), Ryan Smith (Keyboards/Vocals), Rich Meyer (Bass/Vocals), and Jon Natz (Baritone Sax/Flute/Glockenspiel). Not present for the Earlham show was Gene Park (Viola) and the dialogue proceeded as follows:

AP: Where did you guys find inspiration for The Silent League and, later, "The Orchestra, Sadly, Has Refused"?

JR: We've always been interested in movie music. In fact, Ryan (Smith) was working on a film for a guy in New York that we wanted to get in on. And he was our in. We were also watching a lot of Discovery Channel nature shows.

PW: And the BBC. There were these specials they aired called "Blue Planet" about different aspects of the ocean and ocean life.

AP: (after not hearing correctly) What was it called?

PW: Blue Ocean.

AP: Blue Ocean? Really? My friend had that show and we would watch it all the time. I love the segment about "The Deep."

JR: Actually, that is the segment we truly wanted to capture with the record. We wanted to capture the feel of "The Deep."

SF: Like an angler just appearing out of the darkness.

RM: I remember we would sit and watch it and say, "We want to sound like that!!"

(if anyone feels lost, "The Deep" is the segment of Blue Ocean that goes down to the deep abyssal planes of the ocean, and an angler is a scary looking deep sea fish).

AP: What was it like to record the James Joyce poem "Chamber Music?"

SF: The poem itself was written to be accompanied by music, and Fire Records asked if we were interested in recording 36 verses of the poem to our own music. It was a good experience. Of course the James Joyce Foundation has got involved, so we are not sure if and when it will be released.

AP: Where will you be going with your next album?

SF: We want to have a bit more of a hard sound, maybe more similar to the sounds of the city or the sounds of the road, with the tour bus. We want a harder sound than before Kind of like a carburetor.

AP: Have you been listening to a lot of Motorhead?

JN: Lots of AC/DC.

AP: Sweet.

JR: We just really want to go to a different place, and that means getting the city, and the road, which has been part of our recent experience.

AP: So you're kind of going from the bottom to the top? From the ocean to the city?

JR: Exactly.



The Silent League's new album, "The Orchestra, Sadly, Has Refused" is out now on File 13 Records. The 7" vinyl single, The Catbird Seat, is available on Desolation Records.

EFS and Womyn's Center present "Frida" this weekend

By Doug Winschief
Staff Writer

If any one word could summarize the feel of "Frida" (2002), it would be 'colorful.' Although the film presents the life of famous painter Frida Kahlo (Selma Hayek), it is hardly a typical bio-pic.

Director Julie Taymor ("Titus") basks in the entertaining idea that to view the life of Frida Kahlo is to

see her canvases in motion. At times the movie stylistically presents her life as a living painting.

The movie opens as the bedridden Kahlo is trucked in to her first and only solo exhibition. Doctor's orders to stay in bed won't stop her from attending even if it means being carried into the gallery.

From the back of the truck, Kahlo recalls her fantastic life. We see everything: her debilitating trolley

accident at age 18, her evolution as an artist, her troubled relationship with muralist Diego Rivera (Alfred Molina), her short stint in France, her affair with Leon Trotsky (Geoffrey Rush) and more.

It sounds like a lot to fit in one movie and it is. Kahlo's life was incredibly eventful, despite its relatively short span. The four credited writers struggle to keep the film cohesive rather than episodic. It is a

losing battle. As a result, it becomes difficult to appreciate the flashy collage of events.

Fortunately the movie has enough strengths to outweigh this flaw. Actor/producer Salma Hayek lets her appreciation of Kahlo shine through in a passionate performance. Alfred Molina (Spider-Man 2) is even more impressive as the unfaithful and at times disloyal Rivera.

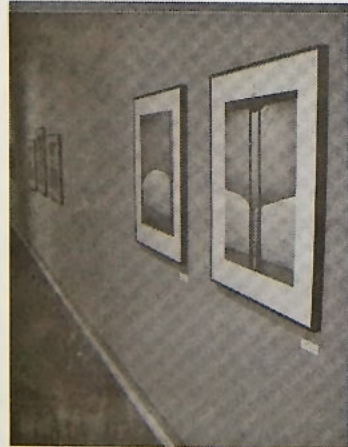
Additionally, an Oscar winning score by Elliot Goldenthal complements the film.

Within the plot, infidelities occur on both sides of the marriage. The bisexual Kahlo has a few affairs and the less-selective Rivera claims, "I'm physiologically incapable of fidelity." For the most part, Kahlo shows incredible patience.

In the end the movie is Kahlo's, as her bright personality encounters

the tragedies underlying the story. She proves resilient; both to Rivera's countless infidelities and to the lifelong physical suffering caused by her trolley injuries.

The episodic nature of the film makes it hard to form an emotional attachment to the characters, but strong performances and directorial style make "Frida" worthwhile.



ART BRIEFS

"South Padre Island" exhibit running August 17 through October 1.

September 3 - SAB presents Dekel Bor Trio. This up and coming New York City jazz trio will be performing in Comstock at 7:30 p.m.

September 3-5 - Earlham Film Series Presents "Frida". Earlham Film Series' first film of the year highlights the life of the famous Hispanic artist, Frida Kahlo. Check posted listings for exact times.

September 10 - SAB presents Culture Bandit, featuring the poet Vanessa Hidayi as she talks about what diversity really comes down to. She'll be performing in Wilkenson Theater at 7:30 p.m.

ART BRIEFS

Director recounts PC Skits highlights

By Caitlin Rogers
Guest Writer

In an annual migration pattern last Saturday Earlham students flocked, or stumbled, to Goddard Auditorium for PC Skits, the sketch comedy show about Earlham culture. The show featured familiar sketches such as "That One About How Being a First Year is Awkward" and "That One About Soccer Cheering" as well as including some new comedic gems, like a satirical jab at Residence Life's response to the "housing crunch". Another new sketch featured actual comment cards collected by the office staff in Saga Dining Hall.

These cards, read by Julie Bringman, were mixed in with fictitious comment cards as well. Almost all of the sketches were updated to reflect recent events, such as last year's Lilly Library prank, the removal of the fish bowl in the coffee shop, and first year Ean High's father: who remarked that "'R.A.' sounds kind of sexual" to High's R.A. during New Student Orientation.

The cast started preparing PC Skits less than a week before the performance. Rehearsals ran all week for roughly two to three hours



Photo by Jake Adler

Upperclassmen perform skits for the freshmen and the upperclass fans.

each night. A small group of "PC Writers" met outside rehearsal time to revise and create new skits. No one seemed to mind the long hours: "[It was] a good break from reality, and the mundane feeling of new student week and the first week of classes" sophomore Gina Barteletti said.

The group was open to all returning students with no auditions. "A very rewarding aspect is that a lot of people who normally do not participate in theater-related or improv-related activities participate," junior Mary Rice said. Most parts were distributed freely, but

when the catfights broke out, 'Rock, Paper, Scissors' was utilized.

If you attended this year's show, it was probably hard to miss the surprise cameo of three naked pizza deliverymen. Unless you were in the first row, it was probably difficult to hear the line "Who ordered the sausage?" over the audience's roaring.

Unfortunately, due to their clever disguises the identity of this group is still in question. Many freshmen including Laura Wanner were shocked: "That's more naked men than I've ever seen in my life."

Wanner said.

"I think if people want to go to Earlham, they really need to get used to naked people," sophomore Sam McCormally said.

The question remains: Why do it?

Like most cast members, sophomore Dee Williams stated that last year's show heavily influenced her desire to join: "I did PC skits because I remember what a riot they were last year, and I wanted to be partly responsible for the madness." Some cast members claim that PC Skits is important to the community. "In its own way I think PC Skits plays a role in combating the overwhelming PC-ness (Political Correctness, that is) that manifests itself here," sophomore Chris Jessen said.

The show, which annually draws a large audience, has been source of conflict on campus in recent years. Due to its offensive content, PC Skits was officially booted from New Student Orientation two years ago.

Ironically, this seems to have opened doors for even more potentially offensive material. Most students interviewed said that they were not offended by the show's content.

"It seems silly to me to actually get offended, because [PC Skits] is making fun of everyone else too, including [themselves]," sophomore Joanna Watson said. "It's important for us to remember every once in a while not to take ourselves so seriously."

"I think if people want to go to Earlham, they really need to get used to naked people"

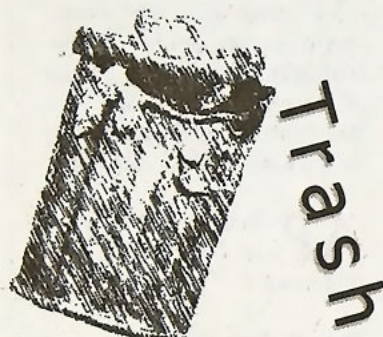
Sophomore
Sam McCormally

Now the only question is, will PC Skit scripts be accepted into Earlham's historical archives anytime soon?

Caitlin Rogers was the director of PC Skits.



Left:
Jason
Shenk, as a
pantless
Academic
Provost Len
Clark.



By Gabe Kalmuss-Katz
Staff Writer

More trash to distract you from the real issues of the world:

Two masked men got away with stealing Edward Munch's classic Scream painting (which most children of the late '80s will easily recognize as "that crazy guy who killed those kids in that movie") as well as a rendition of the Madonna. The thieves later commented, "Man, Britney Spears wouldn't look nearly as hot kissing this."

From the "there are no funny Michael Jackson jokes left in the universe" department, a judge in the child molestation case ruled that police officers used no excess force when arresting the singer, who claimed in an interview on 60 Minutes that he was beaten and locked in a bathroom. Honestly though, for releasing Invincible, (not to mention HIStory), could you really blame them if they did?

Hey, the VMA's happened too! Rumor has it that somebody went off the script at one point, but that's just a rumor.

Perhaps the best thing to ever come out of Dayton, Ohio—the rock band Guided By Voices—are breaking up at year's end. One can only imagine the rationale they're throwing around for not playing a hometown gig before they split.

You want to know what IS coming to Dayton, as well as nearby Cincinnati? The Vote for Change Tour, a loose grouping of eclectic and excellent musicians banding together against our current president by hitting up swing states. On Saturday, Oct. 2 Pearl Jam and Death Cab for Cutie will rock Toledo, Ohio, while the Dave Matthews Band, Ben Harper, Jurassic 5, and My Morning Jacket will be in Dayton, Ohio. For those of us who love adult contemporary singer songwriters (with no sarcasm at all there), Jackson Browne, Bonnie Raitt, and Keb' Mo' will be in Cincinnati on Oct. 2 as well.

Even if there is some possible (if not entirely sick and twisted) rationale for stalking teen pop sensations, what about their parents? A Canadian man, James Speedy, is accused of stalking Avril Lavigne's parents. That's right, her PARENTS. He is accused of sending them letters, CDs, bottles of wine, and photos.

And that's what stirring in the entertainment world this week; you may now resume intelligent thought.

Websites bubbling with CD info

By Gabe Kalmuss-Katz
Staff Writer

Back in northern New Jersey, you can't shake a stick anywhere without hitting a musical elitist wanna-be critic. Out here in Richmond and especially on the Earlham campus the music snobs among us are slim pickings.

So, where could one go if, perchance, he or she was standing in Side 1 records, wondering if the new Clinic album is worth 10-15 of his or her hard-earned bucks? Thanks to the fantabulous new technology of the internet, it is now possible for anyone with a large amount of free time and an even larger record collection to post their opinions on the internet.

They can post on either their own personal sites or on internet magazines, also known as webzines. There are just as many webzines on the internet as there are local town punkzines, either of which could be started up by the faux-hawked kids who hang outside of hot topic when they have a free afternoon.

The following are the cream-of-the-crop sites that offer real opinions that are often hilarious, insightful and passionate. Use this guide so you don't end up finding what Brett from Wisconsin thinks about the new Nickleback single.

Pitchfork Media at

www.pitchforkmedia.com

One of the most popular webzines on the internet, and possibly also the most snobby. Their reviews often tend to be overly harsh for the simple purpose of working in jokes at the band's expense, but at the same time end up being hilarious. Pitchfork also has a great daily news segment, as well as daily review of new singles by groups. Probably not the best place to find out about new music, but a very funny, very sarcastic, and a very well written site, when they find something they like.

Popmatters at

www.popmatters.com

Another of the largest webzines out there, this site has a much bigger scope than nearly any other webzines available. This is perhaps the definitive currently active webzine. Think of it as indie-entertainment weekly, due to the in depth movie, graphic novel, book, TV, and concert reviews or an indie-economist because of their great political columns, in addition to standard music reviews. The reviews themselves can sometimes be a little dry, and can occasionally

be too intellectual for their own good, such as when a review of a tribute album to The Jam, spent 3/4s of its length musing on how little coverage the Jam had gotten in mainstream media. However, they can also be incredibly personal and moving, especially "My Favorite Thing," a column (stolen from Nude as the News, to be described later) where writer's describe their all-time favorite albums.

Sound The Sirens at

www.soundthesirens.com

To be entirely honest, I used to write for these guys for a brief time in the late '90s, so I might be a bit biased in this, but with one of the best designed sites out there and a solidly good submitting staff, this is one that could very quickly rise up the ranks. Also, due to their being based out of Indonesia, they often focus on world music (or just international music of all genres) with a genuine desire to spread different cultures around the world.

Splendid Ezine at

www.splendidezine.com

In contrast to Popmatters, Splendid's scope is cozily small. They like music, and rarely stray

away from the standard content of reviews, lists, interviews and shorter essays on forgotten albums. However, what they do, they do well. Proof that longer doesn't necessarily mean better, Splendid's reviews are to the point, yet often give a perfect description of even the most obscure albums. Their policy is one of reviewing everything that gets sent to them, including self-released/recorded CDs. Splendid updates with between nine and 11 reviews every day, 365 days a year. For music fans, it's like getting a birthday present whenever you read.

Nude As The News at

www.nudeasthenews.com

In another stark contrast to a previously described webzine, Nude as the News is updated casually, meaning rarely, if you're lucky. But thanks to it's well known staff including Jonathan Cohen, curator of Billboard's website, it's in-depth and intimate interviews, as well as it's Obsessions feature in which people go on for pages and pages about why bands matter Nude as the News manages to keep a very high level of respectability in the field, despite only updating sporadically.

Aversion Media

at www.aversion.com

Aversion Media is in essence the work of one man, Matt Schild, and while the site then tends to drift towards music of his personal interest, it also has well written reviews and a solid news section, along with a pretty massive archive dating back five or so years. His interviews are shaky, sometimes acting as nothing more than hero worship, but sometimes being very insightful conversations with bands, especially those who are experiencing a sudden rise in popularity or success.

Punknews at

www.punknews.org

Despite the rather genre-specific name, this site, run almost entirely based on user submitted news stories and reviews has become almost the CNN of the indie music scene, being one of the first sites to report Joe Strummer's death and also the reunion of the Pixies. Their reviews vary from actually well thought out pieces to profanity filled ravings on anything coming out on a major label...much like the punk community.

Animal Collective album: an aquired taste

By Mason Mitchel
Staff Writer

The first CD up for review this year is Animal Collective's *Sung Tongs*. Animal Collective consists of two artists who have creatively dubbed themselves as Panda Bear and Avey Tare. The Brooklyn based duo's first release on Fat Cat records is a hybrid sound of folk, trippy jam band, and rock laced with dissonant vocals and melodies.

While some have described Animal Collective as "sun scorched acid eaters," and too avant-garde in their endeavors to

MUSIC REVIEW

push psychedelic indie rock to the limit, the band's recent release is actually quite aesthetically pleasing.

This CD is ideal for background ambient music; perfect for allowing your thoughts to travel freely, all while having your subconscious subdued by the light acoustics, and a blather of indiscernible background noises and often chantlike vocals. The minimal involvement of actual instruments allows for the

listener to focus on the myriad of tantalizing background noises, and occasionally, if attention is paid one will be able to pick out random snippets of comprehensible lyrics, such as, "you don't have to go to college."

The only real drawback that some listeners might complain about is the bands infrequent use of intelligible lyrics, but the listener might be able to compromise when coming to the realization that the lyricists sound like Willie Nelson trying to recite his ABCs at the peak of an acid trip. This is definitely a band and an album for the imaginative-minded.

Sung Tongs is not an easily digestible CD, not necessarily recommended for strictly recreational purposes. If unconventional, experimental indie rock is your cup of tea, then Animal Collective would be a perfect fit. However, if you prefer more harmonious sounds, you should look elsewhere.

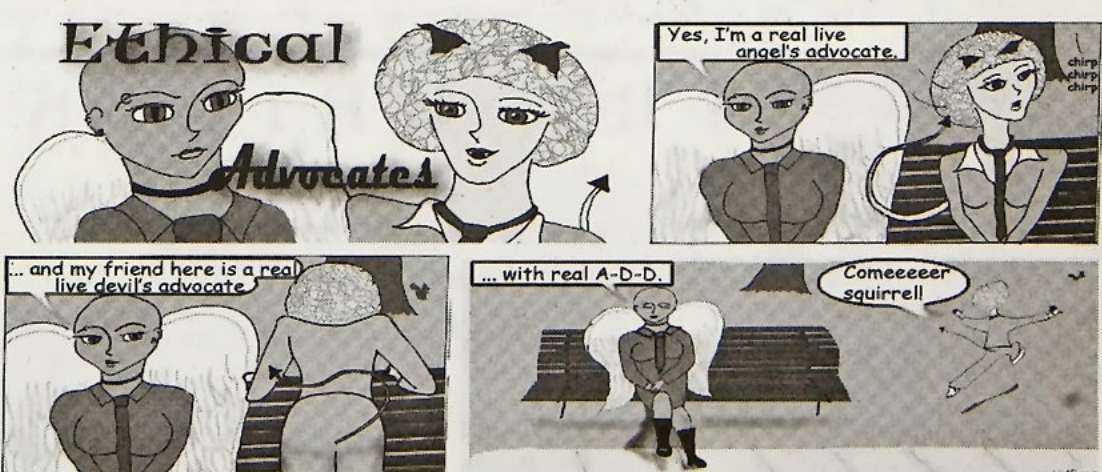
In conclusion, *Sung Tongs* is, without a doubt, a worthwhile listening endeavor. One might have to force themselves to listen to the album beginning to finish a few times, but eventually an appreciation will manifest itself for the newfangled sounds on Animal Collective.

If interested in pursuing more Animal Collective releases, one might consider their 2003 releases *Spirit They're Gone*, *Spirit They've Vanished*, *Here Comes The Indian*, and *Campfire Songs*.

This CD is ideal for background, ambient music, allowing your thoughts to travel freely

photo of the week
By Jake Adler

Third-year Penn House resident William Rockwell Ryerson of Microwave Background tunes his guitar before the rock show in his house's basement Friday night.



Comic By: Elizabeth Schwartz

The Earlham Word

Editors-in-Chief Susan Scantland Adam Putnam	Head Photo Editor Emmy Lang-Kennedy
Opinion Editor Conor Madigan	Photo Editors Cole Pomeroy-News Seth Barch-Sports
News Editor Alden Reed	Photographers Colin Copland John Click Jake Adler
Community Editor Alexa Lempert	Copy Editors A. Kates GB Green-Barnes
Sports Editor Jihan Abdalla	Web Manager Abe Davis
Amp&rsand Editor Shawn Smith	Ad Manager Jean-Pierre Gary
Layout Editors Abe Davis-News Nathan Eckstrand-Community Anna Benfield-Sports Benjamin Fribley-Opinion	Advisor William Schulte
Head Graphic Designer Nathan Eckstrand	

Editorial

SAGA dining problems need to be addressed

With the annual influx of new students, Earlham is always plagued with overcrowding. But as the new class brings the college up to its new capacity of 1200 students, the crowding is worse than usual. Student Development has been working hard to fix the housing crunch, deciding once again to use Norwich Lodge and offering Brick City as a housing alternative. But as the housing problem is nearly solved, another problem arises. The dining hall is so overcrowded, it's not uncommon to wait in a line that runs from the door all the way to the benches outside Runyan. Saga is open 90 minutes for lunch. In theory, even if 30 minutes are spent waiting in lines, 60 would remain to eat. However since most people come in after class, they do not arrive at Saga until noon. Between eating and talking, most people spend more than half an hour at lunch, creating the potential to be late to afternoon classes.

So what's to be done? Many colleges have more than one dining hall, and ideally Earlham would follow suit. But dining halls cost money, and this is probably not at the top of the college's list of priorities. All of the potential solutions cost something, but perhaps a relatively cheap alternative could be found. If Saga were open for an extra 30 minutes at lunchtime, much of the problem could be alleviated. Many students who don't have classes at 1 p.m. could wait a while before coming to Saga, leaving fewer people lined up at noon. If the coffee shop allowed meal exchange at lunch, many students would eat there, and much of the rush would cease.

The college should be commended for all the work being done to fix the overcrowding problems. But after housing, perhaps the most pressing of the issues, has been dealt with Earlham should put some thought into fixing the dining hall rush.

Frustrated?
Worried? Angry?

Let it out in an opinion article.

Contact Conor Madigan at madigco@earlham.edu 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's drug policy is too lax

By Shannon Axtell
Open Window

Have you ever read the Earlham College Illegal Drug Policy? It contains one sentence: "The possession, sale, use or consumption of illegal drugs and/or drug paraphernalia on campus is forbidden of all students and employees of the College" (<http://www.earlham.edu/policies/drug.html>). This policy presents the rule for illegal drug use, but lacks some important details. For instance, if a person is caught doing drugs, what are the consequences? Besides increasingly bad health, what repercussions would one receive for partaking in some late night reefer toking? The actual policies for drug use can be found under "Judicial Policies," on page 170 in your student handbook.

Almost every week in The Word the student body reads "Crime Beat" and learns of the small number of students who were caught for smoking weed in their dorm room. Those students' names are then taken down and filed away. Being

caught for the first time for doing drugs results in probation, a second offense is treated with counseling and a third strike is met with suspension from Earlham for one year. Compared to the real world, Earlham's punishments seem weak.

Smoking marijuana off-campus is another story. Two blocks away from our friendly community looms the real world called "off-campus." Try doing drugs in this world and see what happens. Busted by the cops for "having a good time," a person will most likely be arrested, slapped with a fine, sent to court, put on probation, given some jail time and, as an added bonus, potentially have to spend the next six months peeing in a cup for random drug tests.

Let's compare Earlham's intervention to the off-campus maze of

legal problems. Which consequences seem harsher? It's almost as if Earlham were making it safer for students to do drugs on campus by not bringing in the Richmond police.

I know that everyone who partakes in drugs just wants me to shut up, but the truth is I don't really care about drug use. If you want to get baked that's your decision. The school says it's wrong and you should follow their rules, but what you decide to do is up to you.

What really bothers me about these guidelines is the idea that Earlham, whose policies are based upon a moral code and expectations of equality, seems to stand above the law. A student caught doing drugs at Earlham might be kicked

out of college after several offenses while a member of the Richmond community who gets caught will definitely be paying fines and visiting our local jail. Is it fair for us to stand, like elitists, above the rest of society? Is it fair that just because we attend Earlham we should be allowed to have several chances while the public only gets one?

It's the Quaker way to forgive those that have committed a crime, which is probably the reason for the second and even third chances that the school allows its students. I like the idea of second chances, but when the same students are caught again and again, the words "second chance" become ridiculous. Meanwhile, I'm sure the Richmond cops would love for someone to ask for a second chance--they might laugh in their face while tightly slapping on the handcuffs.

Shannon Axtell is a sophomore.

Kerry must continue to follow a more progressive agenda

By Nathan Eckstrand
Open Window

"Those stupid liberals. They've gone and done it despite all the warnings by us centrists. Oh well, it's their loss. After all, who is going to vote for the most liberal Senator in Congress? Kerry might get that loony left-wing vote, but certainly not the pragmatic centrist vote of the majority of Americans, including me. Looks like another four years of Junior, Cheney, and that fun crowd. If only the Democrats would learn their lesson...."

I find the statement above extremely humorous, and not just because it includes so many sentence fragments. It's because the people who are being quoted don't seem to be paying attention to events. It is either that, or they have some ulterior motive. What? Republicans aren't entirely honest? My God, what is the nation coming to?

Kerry certainly doesn't seem to represent liberalism to me. After all, he voted for the Patriot Act and US involvement in a war with Iraq, two of the most reprehensible things the US has done in the last four years. However, it is true that since the coming and going of Howard Dean, Kerry has taken a more progressive stance on a number of issues. That's why when Republicans are asked what kind of shoes Kerry would be, they say

'flip-flops'. Conversely, if I had to come up with a shoe which represents Bush I would go with galoshes, or even gum shoes. In fact, conservative commentators now tout the fact that Kerry is the most liberal person in the Senate. He's not, though. Commentators who use that statistic are going by the 2003 National Journal ranking, when Kerry was absent for at least a third of the votes because he was campaigning. Kerry has an overall lifetime rating of being the 10th most liberal Senator. For more, see <http://nationaljournal.com/members/news/2004/02/0227nj1.htm>. Kerry's opposition has a vested interest in pushing him towards the center by attacking his liberalism. Let's look at the board, shall we:

- First, we have Al Gore who ran a very centrist campaign in 2000. If you recall, the 2000 presidential race was famous for its lack of good, charismatic candidates who could energize the people. In fact, Gore was often painted as a boring, stuffy, know-it-all.

- Second, we have the Kerry campaign which, up until Howard Dean came into the picture, ran on a very centrist platform. While Kerry was always a front runner, he really didn't stand out from the competition at first, and certainly didn't electrify voters.

- Third, we have the Kerry campaign after Howard Dean. Kerry began to speak out against the Iraq War, the Patriot Act, and has restructured the entire way his cam-

paign functions so that he can tap into the whole grassroots progressive movement that Dean and MoveOn are so famous for.

Since then, Kerry has routinely beat Bush in raising money each month and is showing a slight lead in the polls. This is huge, as the Bush campaign's fundraising machine was thought by many to be unstoppable earlier in the campaign.

Now to be fair, the success Kerry has had in fundraising and in polls can't be due completely to his more progressive, liberal stances on issues. But I am willing to bet that given how dramatic the turnaround has been since Kerry shifted his views towards the left that it is a significant factor. After all, why would someone who is simply a lighter, more compassionate version of Bush make people excited and interested? Only when an opponent does the crowd become invested.

Kerry's opponents, the ones expressing the views that Kerry is going to lose because of his principled, progressive stances, know that taking a centrist route is the way to lose. This is the reason they are moaning about it on national TV and radio; it would benefit them if he did. Kerry, who has seen the results that his progressive movement have afforded, will not be swayed by their argument.

Nathan Eckstrand is a senior philosophy major.

Freshman class's beauty heralds problems

By Conor Madigan
Staff Writer

Despite the beauty of this campus with its great woods and green lawns, good food, great workers and professors who care, there have appeared an unattractive number of new students.

These freshman and sophomore students are a good-looking bunch, loved by their professors and administrators. But they are a plentiful crowd, and have caused nightmares for housing and upperclassmen. So the unattractive aspect is simply their sheer numbers.

In the face of a housing crunch, Residence Life has devised very creative ways to house the masses. Seniors and Juniors who had great lottery numbers now sit in dorm rooms with underclassmen, and wonder why they live with a kid who can't wake up for classes, much less eat regularly.

The upperclassmen complained with gusto to Jackie Wilson in Student Development for new housing and on the whole they got it. Even underclassmen got their needs met in singles. And that has never happened before, except when medical needs were cited.

Maybe there is something to be said for the glory of the sheer number of new students. Perhaps they add that needed tuition to support a growing campus. If they stick around for more than a year we may have more small department majors. And if even more stick around we may have a new arts building constructed, or at least postulated. Don't even walk up to me and tell me it is in the works. But is this all incentive for the nearly 400 freshmen on campus?

This is the first year the college has met its projected 1200 student capacity. Since 1994, there has been a push for this number. Years of waxing and waning student populations have finally turned into a fat over-fed monster of a housing crunch with bookstore and Saga lines longer than toilet-paper ration queues in the former Soviet Union. It's wonderful.

According to Wilson, this will be the last bad year of housing. This place is supposed to be paradise once EH, Barret and OA receive "facelifts" and the new dorm completes a triad called "Warren-Wilson-East."

Wilson also states that with the

growing population there are inevitably growing problems. Health Services is swamped and can barely sort out the new student charts. Along with that problem, health care claims are projected to be high this year. The dorms are filled to capacity. The houses are filled to the brim. The only places left are Brick City and Norwich Lodge, and they're filling up.

Brick City, once only reserved for returning war vets, professors and seniors, now houses some upperclassmen. Wilson and others in Residence Life saved Norwich from destruction because of the future needs of the student body. Norwich stands only to house the unfortunates of the housing crunch, and the income from those students housing costs keep Norwich afloat.

With the endowment low and a \$900,000 deficit, the college is struggling with more than just student bodies. In all, the year is looking pretty crummy. But that won't stop us from getting excited about great classes and an interim president.

Conor Madigan is a senior English major.

Inside Earlham

Tips for EC success

By Jake Adler and Seth Barch
Open Window

As upperclassmen, we feel it is important to assist the incoming Earlhamites in finding their place here, and helping them avoid potentially embarrassing situations. So here are a few friendly tips.

1. Speak simply. There's really no need to be verbose. Don't be that guy.

2. Be politically observant, but don't try to stand out by being an ignorant, reactionary, jingoistic fool. It is important to express your opinion. It is not important to inflict your opinion on those around you.

3. Earlham parties will frequently fail to meet your expectations of what a college party "should" be like. Keep in mind: a. you've been at college for a week. b. the upperclassman you're badmouthing the party to is probably friends with the hosts.

4. OK, Earlham parties do kind of suck. Make the best of them.

5. SAGA may be better than most college food, but it's still college food. If you can't cook, make friends with someone who can, ASAP. There are plenty of opportunities on campus for free food. Seek them out.

6. Our squirrels are fat and excessively bold. Fear them.

7. There are less than 1,000 people on campus at any given time. This makes dating on campus an especially incestuous matter. By your senior year, chances are good you will be less than three degrees of hookup separation away from everyone on campus.

8. If you are capable of growing a beard, you will during your first year. Be warned, it is an awesome power, and must be treated responsibly.

Keep this advice in mind and you just may survive your first year.

Jake Adler is a junior. Seth Barch is a senior art major.

Football off to a leisurely start

By Jihad Abdalla
Staff Writer

"Don't be satisfied with being mediocre," Coach Johnson said one afternoon at practice. "Seek perfection." The football team may or may not be heading towards flawlessness, but approximately fifty players reported early this summer on campus for long hours of practices, drills, and meetings. Although the team lost eleven players from last year's team, they are welcoming thirty-four returning lettermen and seventeen first year players. Coach Gerry Keesling seems to have good reason to be enthusiastic about this upcoming season. But on Saturday morning, August 28, a short scrimmage versus Mount St. Joe demonstrated that players and coaches have work ahead of them. The team has until their first official game on Saturday, September fourth to get it together in time for a victorious season.



Freshman Manny Myers carries the ball during a home scrimmage last Saturday.

EMMY LANG-KENNEDY

Americans bring home the gold

By Annemarie Iddins
Staff Writer

With the closing ceremony last Sunday, Athens bade farewell to the Olympic Games of 2004. This two week international celebration of athletic excellence returned to its nation of origin this year, despite construction woes and a price of approximately 4.4 billion Euros. Greece is the smallest country to ever host the Games, and a record 1.2 billion Euros was spent on security. Just in case people were too busy moving to campus and starting classes to keep up with the daily onslaught of tragedy, controversy and triumph, here's a brief synopsis:

In the medals count, the USA cleaned up with thirty-five gold, thirty-nine silver, and twenty-nine bronze. China had thirty-two gold, seventeen silver, and fourteen bronzes, and Russia followed with twenty-seven gold, twenty-seven silver and thirty-eight bronzes.

Considered by many to be the premier event of the 2004 Olympic Games, the historically significant 26.2 mile marathon race lived up to its hype, with the top three in both races separated by less than 3 seconds. With times slowed notably by heat and a hilly course, Italy's Stefano Baldini won the men's race in 2:12:55 and Japan's Mizuki Noguchi won the women's gold in 2:26:20. Americans Meb Keflezighi and Deena Kastor finished second and third, respectively.

Tying the record for most medals won at a single Olympic meet, Michael Phelps proved himself in dramatic fashion in Athens, winning six gold medals and two bronzes. The now nineteen-year-old prodigy was the youngest and has been compared with olympian Mark Spitz, who holds the record for most gold medals won in a single Olympics.

Although they fell short in team competition, Americans Paul Hamm and Carly Patterson both added a gold to their previous silver in the all-around gymnastics competition. After falling during his vault landing, Hamm came from behind during a climactic high bar routine for which he was awarded a 9.867. The American women continued to dominate the soccer field and the softball diamond, beating rivals Brazil and Australia, respectively, in gold medal competition.

Controversy surrounds Olympic events

Marathon and gymnastics gold medals contested after security breach and scoring error

By Meagan Allen
Staff Writer

Early Sunday evening a spectator physically assaulted 35-year-old Brazilian track star Vanderlei de Lima. De Lima was leading and had less than 15 minutes left in the Men's Marathon when former Irish priest Cornelius Honan pushed through the crowd toward him. Wearing a green beret, red kilt, and green knee-high socks, he wrapped his arms around the runner, refusing to let go. A piece of paper attached to his back read "The Grand Prix

Priest Israel Fulfillment of Prophecy Says the Bible." Honan told reporters that he wanted to prepare de Lima for Christ's second coming.

After a few moments of shock de Lima began running again, finishing third with a bronze medal. The Brazilian Olympic Committee protested, asking Olympic officials to duplicate a gold medal for de Lima, but they refused. Brazil plans to appeal to officials, sighting inadequate road race security.

This was not the first time Honan had created disruption. During the 1972

Munich Olympics, Honan snuck into the stadium during a track and field event and ran nearly a full lap before being caught by security guards. In July of 2003 Honan ran onto the racetrack during a British Formula One Race, stepping in front of cars traveling more than 200 miles per hour. He carried a sign saying, "Read the Bible - The Bible is Always Right." British officials also confirmed that Honan ran onto Wimbledon's Center Court during a rain break, trying to disrupt cricket and rugby matches.

U.S. gymnast Paul Hamm

is also at the center of controversy. Hamm received the gold medal for Men's All Around Gymnastics, the result of a scoring error by the judges. Hamm completed his vault routine by falling down and rolling into the judges' table. He then completed two nearly perfect routines on the parallel bars and the high bar. When Hamm was announced the gold medallist, viewers began to suspect that something had gone wrong. After the medal ceremony, it was proven that the gold should have gone to South Korean gymnast Yang Tae-young,

receiver of the bronze medal. World gymnastics officials asked Hamm to give his medal to Tae-young, a request that outraged the United States Olympic Committee. They feel that the world gymnastics officials should take responsibility for their own mistake and not put Hamm in that kind of position.

The Olympics ended Monday, with both issues unresolved. According to the Olympic committee, the decisions are final and no medals will be retracted or given.

Women's Field Hockey



Freshman Liz Buehler puts the ball in play on Saturday August 28 in a scrimmage against Notre Dame.

EMMY LANG-KENNEDY

Cross Country opens strong

By Adam Putnam
Contributing Editor

Cross Country opened up the season with the Anderson Scrimmage on Saturday. The meet has been a regular season invitational in the past but because the race fell before September first, it had to be a scrimmage this year.

If scored, both the men and the women would have placed second, behind Anderson University and ahead of Goshen College.

Both the men and the women ran a 6k race (approximately 3.75 miles). During regular season meets the men run an eight kilometer (or 5 mile) and the women a 5k (3.1k).

"Overall it's a good first meet. We had a chance to get

our feet wet and give the first years a chance to get over any anxiety. We ran well but I think we can run better," coach Pat Thomas said.

Junior Adair Lindsay was the top finisher for the women, placing seventh overall. She was followed by freshman Kristina Trcka and sophomore Brittnay Tourville, who placed eighth and tenth respectively.

"It was a scrimmage, so I wasn't too nervous going in. That freed me up to run a really good race. I was really tired but I guess I'll get used to that," Trcka said.

The men were led by senior

JP Gary and sophomore Walker Yane, who came in eleventh and twelfth for Earlham. Freshman Mark Boylan came in third for Earlham, and nineteenth overall.

Both teams are looking to improve their standing in the NCAC conference this year. "I think Earlham is awesome. I'm really encouraged that Pat thinks the teams can move up in the standings," Trcka said.

The first official meet of the year is the Great Lakes College Association championship meet at Oberlin on Sept 11.

"We ran well but I think we can run better."

-Pat Thomas

Scores

Football
upcoming: at
Rose-Hulman 7 p.m.
on Saturday Sept. 4

Men's Soccer
Goshen 4
Earlham 2

upcoming: vs.
Franklin 2 p.m.
on Saturday Sept. 4

Women's Soccer
Anderson 3
Earlham 2

upcoming: vs.
Franklin noon on
Saturday Sept. 4

Volleyball
Upcoming: vs.
Wilmington, 4 p.m.
and Alverno, 8 p.m.
on Friday Sept. 3

Field Hockey
DePauw 1
Earlham 0

upcoming: vs.
Billarmino at Centre,
1 p.m. on Sept. 4

Men and Women's Cross Country
Men and women
both finished 2nd
at the Anderson
Invitational
Scrimmage.