

Hunger Banquet
leads to discussion

Wellness program
welcomes director

THE EARLHAM Word

Volume XIII, Issue 22, April 2, 1999

Brian Davis
bares all

Hunter Tyson opens
the ninth secret

Militarization of border presents human rights challenge

Liv Leader
Staff Writer

Tim Dunn's lecture on the militarization of the U.S./Mexican border brought a large crowd to the meeting house Tuesday evening.

Dunn is the Field Study Coordinator for Earlham's border program, as well as the author of "The Militarization of the Border."

In his lecture, Dunn spoke on the manner with which the U.S. deals with the issue of drug trafficking and illegal immigration. Dunn focused his lecture on the border

area around El Paso, Texas. In this area most the border crossing is back and forth from local communities. Most long distance crossing happens on the east and west ends of the border.

Dunn described how the military has been allowed to play a large role in the border patrol because of drug trafficking. This is an unusual situation because the military isn't traditionally allowed to participate in domestic affairs, but now work with the Immigration and Naturalization Services (INS). "The immigration issue is often portrayed as a nation-

al security one," said Dunn.

Dunn believes that the United States purposely portrays people of Mexican descent in a negative light in order to obtain support for stemming the flow of illegal immigrants. "If you look, Hispanic[s] are in a poor neighborhood, [and they must] be prepared to justify [their] existence to the authorities," said Dunn. He contrasted this idea with the fact that the three largest undocumented immigrant groups in New York City are immigrants from Italy, Poland, and Ecuador.

Dunn believes there is a historical

connection between military and human rights abuses. He sees a potential for serious human rights violations due to the ever-growing presence of the military on the border. He gave the audience an example of these type violations with the well-known 1997 case of an American teenage boy killed by U.S. marines. This young man was shot to death while herding his sheep near Big Bend, Texas. The young man was supposedly shooting at practice targets, but marines thought he was shooting in their direction and returned fire.

This incident was returned with a public outcry. "[This led to a] revelation on a broader scale of just how much of this [violence] had gone on," said Dunn.

Dunn said that many of these border patrols work in very remote areas looking for illegal immigrants and drug trade, while 85 percent of drugs come into this country through legitimate entries like bridges.

Towards the end of the lecture Dunn took questions from the audience. One man seemed baffled by Dunn's one-sided attack of the INS

and U.S. Military, and asked for some light on the other issues in the situation. Dunn continued by talking about the demand for drugs in this country. "If we didn't have the demand for it, it wouldn't be coming," said Dunn.

Dunn finished up with comments on the economic depression of the area and the money many poor young men can make in the drug trade. Dunn felt that the U.S. and Mexican governments should be working to provide legitimate jobs that would support the people in these classes.

Earlham seniors awarded fellowships

Kent Mitchell
Contributing Editor

Last week Earlham seniors Sky Rogers and David Seymour were each awarded a Thomas J. Watson Fellowship.

Through the fellowship, both will be given \$22,000 over the course of the next year to study their proposed topic.

Rogers will begin her fellowship by going to Chile, Canada, Switzerland, and New Zealand to study snowboarding. Yes, snowboarding.

"I've always been interested in how alternative culture becomes mainstream and what effect that has on the alternative nature of the culture," Rogers said. "Snowboarding in particular is an example of a culture that has mainstreamed very rapidly and resulted in major changes in the sport."

Rogers, whose project is titled "The Evolution of Snowboarding from Cult to Mainstream," said that the bulk of her research will be done through interviewing snowboarders and by observing how ski resorts and the winter sports industry in general has accommodated the sport of snow boarding.

"I plan to volunteer to work at ski resorts," Rogers said. "I'll also look at gear stores and how they try to market snow boarding."

Fellowship winner Seymour is going to travel to Argentina, Brazil and Puerto Rico to study on his topic titled, "Marginal Rhythms in Latin Dance."

Seymour is a Spanish and Latin American Dance double major and has always been interested in his topic.

"I've always been interested in dance and gender issues," Seymour said. "My junior year I studied dance in Colombia and I teach dance here at Earlham."

The Thomas J. Watson Fellowship is given out every year to a small number of students from 49 colleges and universities.

The Watson Foundation, based in Rhode Island, accepts up to four applications from each university.

This year the foundation received 185 applications, of which 60 were awarded Watson Fellowships.

The application process is done in two steps.

First, working with an advisory committee based out of Career Services here at Earlham called the Graduate Fellowship Committee, interested students write a draft of their proposal and work on it with a committee member. The proposal is then submitted to the Watson Committee here at Earlham.

Members of the Watson Committee evaluate the applications and then pick four which they send to the Watson Foundation.

"We look at the project but also at the personal passion of the individual and the unique approach they take to the subject matter," Graduate Fellowship Committee member and Director of Career Services Wendy Seligman said. "It feels like this scholarship was made for Earlham because it fits so well with our students, who are innovative and creative."

AFTA art show jazzes up the weekend



photo by Joel Wilson

The AFTA Jazz quartet, Duff Davis, Matt Schreiber, Josh Fuson, and Mike Phillips, play at the art show on Saturday. See story page 6.

Wilson lecturer focuses on new approach to Bible

Kent Mitchell
Contributing editor

Wilson guest lecturer Daniel Smith-Christopher prefers to view himself in what he terms a "wrestling match with God."

"When studying the Bible I always feel as though I am engaged in a battle," Smith-Christopher said.

Cultural exegesis of the Bible was the focus of the first in a three-part Wilson lecture series given last Monday in the Meetinghouse by Smith-Christopher.

He began by focusing on current trends in biblical study and the prevailing climate in the academic world concerning biblical study.

"There is a lot of confusion currently and this confusion opens doors," Smith-Christopher said. "It [confusion] aids in the study of this text that we still struggle with."

In order to focus his study of biblical texts, Smith-Christopher has followed the path of cultural exegesis. In simple terms, he examines what difference culture makes when studying the Bible and uses these perspectives to better interpret the Bible.

"I am concerned with cultural diversity, inclusiveness, and widening the scope of knowledge," Smith-Christopher said. "Perspectives of minority cultures have been silenced in the past and

as a Quaker I am morally opposed to the denial of any culture's viewpoint."

Smith-Christopher emphasized that his desire to take into account other cultures' perspectives is not a "new-age" notion or an attempt to be politically correct, but that he truly values the insight his study brings.

"It is not merely proper to listen to people of different groups, but it is an issue of knowledge," Smith-Christopher said.

He emphasized that in biblical study, certain assumptions have been made for years that may be wrong.

"Some assumptions were questionable and even self-serving,"

Smith-Christopher said.

He stated that he has worked hard to train his assumptions by reading other texts and trying to make parallels with the stories in the Bible.

For example, to study the dynamics of exile, he has read current articles about cultures in exile today.

"It [anthropological and ethnographic study] prepares me as a reader to ask questions based on a wide range of knowledge," Smith-Christopher said. "One of the main benefits of studying other societies is that one becomes familiar with a wide spectrum of responses."

He stated that cultural exegesis

of the Bible has helped him immensely and that the practice is now becoming more widely used. He said that it often goes under the names cultural interpretation and intercultural hermeneutics.

The Wilson Lectures are sponsored by Earlham School of Religion, who aim to bring a wide range of leading scholars every year to campus through the Wilson Lecture series.

Smith-Christopher is a member of the Department of Theological Studies at Loyola Marymount University. His work has appeared in a variety of forums, including a mini-series on the Arts and Entertainment television channel.

All-student meeting promotes community discussion

Liv Leader
Staff Writer

Wednesday's student meeting was well attended with a crowd of about 80 people. Tamer Mahmoud, the Vice President of communications of SOC, and Elisabeth Stark, of the Student Nominating Committee, opened up the meeting with some brief comments about student government. "The reason for this meeting is to get your input on a lot of stuff," said Mahmoud.

The meeting lasted for an hour and a quarter and covered three

topics - an amendment to the Student Government constitution regarding the election of Committee on Campus Life (CCL) members, the recent raise in tuition, and the smoking policy.

Members of CCL and the larger student government proposed an amendment to their constitution that would change the election time of CCL members. Currently, student government and CCL members are elected at the end of the fall term. This new amendment would change the CCL elections to the spring.

Members of student govern-

ment felt this change would help prevent some of the confusion that occurs when so many new people are elected to office.

Students at the meeting voiced their approval and concerns with the change. One female student felt this move was not very democratic because first-year students would not be able to serve on CCL.

A vote was cast and 75 people voted in favor of the change as opposed to 5 against. Student government will now look for faculty approval of the change. If faculty approves, 200 students

will have to support the amendment before it is implemented.

The second item on the agenda was the new raise in tuition. The Board of Trustees recently decided to raise tuition about \$900. Steve Plake, a member of the budget committee, spoke to the students at the meeting, explaining the college's debt and future budget plans. He mentioned some issues that have led to this raise: the colleges current debt, Earlham's large amount of financial aid to students, and the administration's attempt to pay to faculty more.

The last topic of discussion was Earlham's smoking policy. Many students felt that they were sick of having people disrespect the smoking policy, which states that people may not smoke in areas facing the Heart or non-smoking dorms. Other smoking and non-smoking students argued that smokers have no place outside where they can conveniently smoke. Some people suggested that the policy be changed so that people could smoke in the open

**MEETING CONTINUED
ON Pg. 3**

Java Jazz goes smoke free

Eric Kapenga
Contributing Editor

Following a recommendation by the Committee on Campus Life, Java Jazz has been declared a no-smoking area. Student reaction to the changes has been mixed.

"I think that the decision was not made to bring money in, but to get rid of [Richmond high school students]," said second-year Stephen Domanik.

Other students welcomed the changes.

Smoking is now prohibited inside the coffeehouse and on the ramp leading into the building but the brick patio outside remains a smoking area.

The recommendations, submitted to college president Doug Bennet, also called for the establishment to be run on "at least" a break-even financial basis. The college, however, has decided to run Java Jazz on a "decreasing subsidy" basis.

Student Government vice-president Dory Weiss explained that the wording of the coffeehouse's budget had to be changed because the place currently cannot be run on a break-even basis. Instead, the college plans to decrease its financial subsidy over time.

"If they expect Java Jazz to turn a profit, a year from now they would have to shut it down," Weiss said.

The prediction by Vice President of Finance Dick Smith is that Java Jazz will lose \$50,000 this year.

Other recommendations from CCL concern the type and volume level of music and suggestions that Java Jazz increase clientele by extending its hours past 11 p.m.

"Employees are not supposed to play their music unless it is jazz or classical," said counter-worker Kathryn Broy. "No one has talked about extending hours," she said.

Students respond to events in Kosovo



photo by Ariel Hearne

Former Earlham College president Landrum Bolling (left) was among the attendees of a vigil on the Heart to recognize the people who are suffering from the recent bombing in Kosovo.

"In general, I think that the U.S. is taking an overly-aggressive role around the world and taking a police mentality. You can bomb away, but that is not going to take away the reason for bombing in the first place."

Chris Blinn (junior, PAGES)

"I don't support Milosovic in any way, but I don't think that bombing will solve the problem. It's affecting the whole area ... if the Serbs

are forced to give independence to Kosovo, it could lead nationalist Albanians to ask for separation in Macedonia."

Dusko Koncaliev (senior, Computer Science from Macedonia)

"I don't accept the 'moral imperative' argument. There are other humanitarian disasters occurring presently. If the U.S. is going to get involved, it needs to be all or nothing."

Esly Caldwell III (junior, African American Studies)

"I think that it is interesting that the reason given for stepping-up the bombing was that they were not achieving their objective. I wonder how far through they have thought out their objective and whether this is the best way to achieve it."

Sara Bradbury (junior, PAGES-Politics)

"It's a bad, bad, situation."

Daniel Hunter (sophomore, Computer Science)

"Diplomatic efforts were tried and they didn't work. I think that the bombing is pretty late - they should have bombed earlier."

Levent Besik (first-year, Computer Science from Turkey)

Earlham team receives math award

Eric Kapenga
Contributing Editor

Judges from the Consortium for Mathematics and its Applications have awarded a paper written by Earlham students Savannah Crites, a first-year, and James Garlick, a senior, the status of "Outstanding."

The paper, concerning groundwater pollution, was submitted in early February by the Garlick-Crites team as part of the international Mathematical Contest in Modeling.

"The contest was a good experience, but this was totally out of the blue," said Crites. The highest award received by Earlham teams in the past has been "Honorable Mention."

Approximately two percent of papers submitted were judged to be outstanding and will be published in the Journal of Undergraduate Mathematics and its Applications.

"For their problem, only one other team, from mainland China, got an 'Outstanding' award," said professor and team advisor Mic Jackson.

Nearly 500 teams representing 246 institutions and eight countries participated in the contest, according to the contest's supervisor, professor Tekla Lewin.

Garlick and Crites' response to the problem has also been selected for recognition by the Society for Industrial and Applied Mathematics (SIAM) and by the Mathematical Association of America (MAA). Both organizations have invited Crites and Garlick to present their paper at conferences later this summer in Rhode Island and Georgia.

The team was asked in the problem to determine if a chemical spill had occurred by analyzing the area's ground water, represented in the form of 80,000 pieces of data.

"It had real environmental applications," said Crites. "The problem might help industry find better techniques for locating spills and cleaning them up."

"This attention will be good for Earlham; we'll be receiving a lot of attention in the international math community," said Crites.

THE EARLHAM Word

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The Word provides an open forum and welcomes opinion pieces in the form of letters to the editor and open windows. All opinions should be brought to the attention of the opinion editor and turned in by the 6 p.m. meeting on Tuesdays.

The Earlham Word does not discriminate on the basis of age, sex, race, religion, sexual orientation, creed, marital status, ethnic origin, nationality, or physical disabilities.

FIND US

The Earlham Word office is located in the basement of Runyan Center in the Student Publications Office at Earlham College in Richmond, Indiana. Our staff meetings are held in our office at 6 p.m. every Tuesday; everyone is welcome to attend. If you have a story idea or would like to place an ad, please call our office at (765) 983-1569 or e-mail word@earlham.edu. Some issues of The Word are archived at our website at <http://word.cs.earlham.edu>.

Schedule of Events Earlham College's 1999 PRIDE WEEK

"Our true colors. . ."
sponsored by Earlham's Rainbow Tribe

Sunday, April 4
Alternative Study Break: Diversity Games for GLBT Folx and Allies. Meetinghouse Library 7 p.m.

Kisha Sanders and Genie Preisch will lead a series of fun interactive games designed to explore issues of diversity and oppression in groups.

Monday, April 5
Dedication: Flag Raising/Words - The Heart - 12 noon. Film: Out of the Past (Discussion will follow)* - Barret-Hoskins Room Lilly Library - 8 p.m.

Out of the Past makes the connection between past and present, following a young woman's struggle to start a gay-straight alliance in her public high school in Salt Lake City, Utah. When Kelly Peterson formed the club in 1996, she had no idea she would become the focus of a statewide battle and national attention. Kelli's story frames five portraits of lesbians and gay men from crucial periods in American history. Winner at the 1998 Sundance Film Festival.

Tuesday, April 6
Workshop with Barb Caruso: Why I'm Not Queer: Misogyny, Heterosexism and Feminism - Womyn's Center - 4 p.m.

Barb will connect issues of woman-hating, heterosexism, and feminism through the forum of a semi-interactive workshop.

Workshop: Wet and Wild: Les/Bi Women's Health - Womyn's Center - 9 p.m.

Workshop: Wet and Wild: Gay/Bi Men's Health - Meetinghouse Library - 9 p.m.

Wednesday, April 7
Panel: We've Been Together How Long??? Building and Maintaining Committed Relationships in the GLBT Community - Meetinghouse Library - 5:15 p.m.

An interactive panel composed of Earlham students, faculty, and Richmond community members will

discuss the difficulties, rewards, and stigmas attached to gay and lesbian committed couples.

Speaker: Indiana's GLBT Legislation - Goddard Auditorium - 7 p.m.

Dan McNeely, from Justice Inc, Indiana's GLBT legislative lobbying group, will speak about current initiatives and legislation pertaining to GLBT populations.

Thursday, April 8
NATIONAL DAY OF SILENCE
Workshop: National Day of Silence Processing - Meetinghouse Library - 5:30 p.m.

NDOS is a day to show the world how silent our world would really be without the input of GLBT people and their allies, not only in aspects of sexuality, but in our daily lives. On the National Day of Silence, participants are silent from 8 a.m. - 5 p.m. to protest the silence that is forced upon lesbians, gays, bisexuals, and transgendered people daily. The processing workshop offered at the closing of the day provides a forum for people to express emotions provoked by the silence and also to connect the silencing of GLBT people to other silenced populations.

Saturday, April 10
Drag Show: True Colors - Goddard Auditorium - 7:30 - 9 p.m.
\$1 suggested donation

Hosted by Aryn Mirage Payge and featuring Louisville's own Ivanka. Virginia Slims, and some of your Earlham favorite boys-in-dresses and girls-in-suits, True Colors will whip you off your feet and leave you begging for more.

Friday, April 16
Dance: "Out and About" - Runyan Coffee Shop - 10 p.m. - 1 a.m.
\$1 suggested donation

DJed by two of Indianapolis' finest DJs, this dance celebrates our GLBT community and its true colors. We invite everyone to come and be fabulous.

Questions/Comment/Concerns? - Cera x2977 or Kisha x2861

SAB presents

Merl Saunders

&

the Rainforest Band

Saturday, April 17

10 p.m. in the

Coffee Shop

Students make steps toward welfare education

Sarah A. Warfield
Contributing Editor

Hunger and Homelessness Week this year has the same energy and thought behind it as in past years, but, unfortunately for us, this is not reflected in the events planned for this week.

Yesterday's Hunger Banquet, on Thursday, was one of only two events that will educate the Earlham community this week about poverty and welfare issues

in the United States.

The dinner was focused on the current welfare system in the States, a system that is especially reflective of the changes that have been made in the past three years when our welfare system went through a series of controversial overhauls.

"We are having a Hunger Banquet so that Earlham students can go a little outside of their comfort zone and realize what other families are experiencing all

over the U.S.," sophomore Brie Radis said. "Especially [in] Indiana, because we're one of the poorest states - if you go just outside of Earlham's walls, a lot of people are suffering."

Radis is joined by four other students in a campus organization called Students Toward Ending Poverty, STEP.

Their goal as a campus organization has been to raise awareness about the poverty and welfare issues that people in the States

live with everyday.

Radis admits that what STEP is trying to accomplish is difficult because many times events like the Hunger Banquet simply make people not want to think about the discomfort of many people's lives.

When students entered the Hunger Banquet last night, they were given a slip of paper that placed them in a certain demographic - upper middle class, welfare with food stamps, and welfare

without food stamps. This label determined of how much food each person had for dinner.

The Hunger Banquet created as realistic a situation as could be created at Earlham College. The organizers hope to educate Earlhamites about the fact that they are privileged in the meals they get every day.

The members of STEP are interested in the sustainability of an anti-poverty group on campus and are mediating a discussion to

this extent on Tuesday at 8 p.m., location to be announced.

The group is at a point where they are undergoing changes, dependent upon where the energy that they have for poverty and welfare reform is needed.

The entire community is invited to come and talk out the issue of how we, as Earlham students and as human beings, are going to address welfare and poverty in our country.

Community Ties

Cuba Brigade bridges gap between perception and reality

Sarah A. Warfield
Contributing Editor

Because of the United States' current position in relation to the government of Cuba, the planners of Earlham's Cuba Brigade feel that traveling to the archipelago of 10 million people is a unique opportunity. Ten students and Earlham graduate John Strickland are traveling south in May to find out what the real political climate is like in Cuba.

The Brigadiers are traveling to Cuba to learn about the country and to educate themselves about a place that the United States government has deemed undesirable. They will be learning about the culture and doing a small amount of volunteer work with organizations.

Currently the need in Cuba is for solidarity.

"I think, for me, I'd like to find my way through the bureaucratic red tape and see it can be done," brigade organizer junior China Osborne said.

The Cuba Brigade itself is in a period of transition. Osborne and Strickland are leading the trip, making up manuals and handbooks as they go. They are starting from scratch.

The Cuba Brigade is totally student-run and not at all sponsored by Earlham College. The Brigade receives no money from the



photo by Heather Craige

Eleven Earlhamites will be visiting Cuba this May to study the culture and political climate of the archipelago.

Student Allocations Committee, no funds from departments, and no money from discretionary funds. They are a complete financial and physical entity separate from the school.

According to Strickland, who knows that getting credit for the Brigade from the school has been a struggle in the past, he is leading

the Brigade this year in part because he does not want to see it end.

"We make it whatever we want to make it," Strickland said. "The people who lead [the Cuba Brigade] gain an individual experience you wouldn't gain going on another Earlham program."

Students teach the seminar, make

travel arrangements, and lead the program through every step of the way. The Cuba Brigade is unique in this aspect, because the students all accept responsibility for themselves and their actions.

For the first time, the Brigade is going to attempt to start their journey not in Canada, but to fly directly from the States.

Group started to discuss student life issues

Amanda Bonfitto
Contributing Editor

Since Patrick Chimenti joined the Earlham community as a counselor, he has been planning to organize a discussion group for students. The group is meant to allow students to share with and meet other students who have similar concerns or issues.

"For some time, I have wanted to bring together students who have shared similar experiences and concerns. This notion has been supported by many [students] who have expressed an interest in meeting with others to discuss these

issues in a group format," Chimenti said.

On Wednesday, March 24, the first of such groups met in the Health Services lounge after hours. The group was coined a "Student Life discussion group" for the purposes of describing it to interested students and illustrating the broad possibility of discussion topics. The actual topics discussed are determined by the group itself.

At the first meeting, the small group explored different ideas for directions for the group to head off in, but precise topics were not nailed down. The group wants to meet again, hopefully with a larger

number of people to help focus the scope of the group. Possible discussion topics could be healthy lifestyles, personal and family relationships, stress and time management, addiction and eating disorders, grief and loss, and sexuality and gender issues.

"The purpose of this group is to provide mutual support to those with shared interests, to educate and inform, and to hopefully develop a network of support which will extend beyond the group to the Earlham community. This group is not intended to be a therapy group per se, but more of a forum for discussion about a range of topics,"

Chimenti explained.

Without a concrete weekly plan, the group really becomes what the participants form it into each time. Chimenti wants students to use this group to explore their own needs and develop ways of dealing with those needs that best suit the individual person.

Meetings will probably vary in format however the group decides. Possibly one week there will be discussion led by students, another week may bring in a guest speaker to share ideas with the group, and sometimes there may be videos to watch and discuss.

This group is open to anyone in

the Earlham community who chooses to participate. Patrick stresses, "As with all groups, confidentiality will be a priority, so no personal information will be discussed outside the meetings unless an individual chooses to share her or his own views or experiences about a particular subject or event."

A date has not been set for the group's next meeting. If you are interested, read Dateline and watch for signs around campus, or get in touch with Patrick. His office is located next to Health Services in Earlham Hall, and his extension is 1432, and e-mail is chimepa@earlham.edu.

CONGRATS to the four winners of the NCAA tournament pool:

1. John Kenny
2. Mike Brown-Hayes
3. Dean Croshaw
4. Mary Schwendener-Holt

We will contact you to distribute prizes.

MEETING continued from Pg. 1

areas of the Heart, but not the doorways leading into buildings.

Other students were asked questions about where the smoking policy came from and how it could be revised. The meeting drew to a close around 2:15 in the midst of a lively discussion about smoking and non-smoking dorms.

Student government encourages students to continue these discussions on the message board, and are welcome to come to meetings. CCL meets at 4 p.m. on Mondays in the Mills Conference Room in the basement of Runyan. The Budget Committee meets at 4 p.m. on Thursdays in the president's conference room on the first floor of Carpenter.

LAX sticks it out



photo by Dan Nakamura

Drew DeVogd (22) follows through after a shot on which he scored for EC during the men's lacrosse game Sunday on Comstock Field.

Women's lacrosse team suffers loss to Allegheny

Sports Information

SPRINGFIELD, Ohio — The Earlham College women's lacrosse team was defeated by Allegheny College 14-4 at Edwards-Maurer Field. The game will not count in the North Coast Athletic Conference standings.

First-year attacker Amy Lupton (Kettering, OH/Fairmont) tallied three goals for the Quakers, while senior co-captain Heather Craigie (Readfield, ME/Maranacook) also scored. Junior goalkeeper Jenny Chin (Orland Park, IL/Carl Sandburg) made 19 saves as the Gators outshot Earlham, 33-13.

The Quakers, now 0-2 overall, returned to the same artificial-turf field for an NCAC contest against host Wittenberg University this past Wednesday at 7 p.m., but scores were unavailable at press time.

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- Preregistration: Mark, x1403

EARLHAM PERMANENT ART COLLECTION

Clutch hitting gives Quakers the sweep over Purdue North Central

Jeremy Siegle
Staff Writer

A rash of two-out hits lifted the Quakers past Purdue North Central in the second game to complete the sweep of the two game series at McBride Stadium on Sunday. The two wins raised their record to 6-8.

Overcoming early spring troubles of having new players in new positions, the Quakers are looking to rebound from a four-game losing streak after returning from Florida. "We have a lot of young players in positions they are not accustomed to, and that is where some of our

defensive troubles have come from," said coach Tom Parkevich.

Despite suffering from a young defensive unit, the pitching staff has repeatedly turned in solid performances. With the addition of first-year right-hander Randy Spicer (1-1), the staff includes sophomore Scott Stanski and upperclassmen Will Kadel, Chuck DePew, and Matt Liamero.

"Randy is pitching as well as I had hoped for early in the season. He is making some mistakes, but he is doing a lot of things right and he will only get better with every outing," added Parkevich.

Spicer will be forced to throw more innings as the Conference schedule picks up due to an injury to DePew. Parkevich commented on the injury, saying "Chuck was a major part of our pitching staff and we hope he can recover and help us later in the season."

After up and down hitting at the beginning of the season, the Quaker bats have come alive. Mainstays atop the batting averages are senior Sadler Kramer (.421), juniors Bob Hertsensberg (.304) and Mike Rothrock (.320), and first-year Mike Faile (.297).

In the first game, the visiting Centaurs (2-9) opened the scoring with two runs in the top of second inning. However, the Quakers came back with three unearned runs in their half of the inning and senior right fielder Zach Dunham doubled home two more runners in the third.

Senior shortstop Kramer and Dunham both were 2-for-3 at the plate as Earlham was out-hit by a slim 7-6 margin. Spicer finished the game on the mound and collected his first win.

Earlham displayed some clutch hitting in the second game with two-RBI, two-out hits from four different batters. A double by left fielder Faile tied the nightcap at 3-3



photo by Dan Nakamura

Jason Stringfield eyes the pitch while Curt Courtad pulls back in his attempt to steal second base during the team's game against Purdue North Central.

in the second inning. A triple by third baseman Jason Byers and a single by Kramer sparked a five-run third inning as the Quakers grabbed the lead for good, 8-6. Second baseman Curt Courtad sent home the final two runs with a sixth-inning single.

The Quakers held a 13-10 edge in the hit column with senior catcher J.B. Craft garnering three singles in as many at-bats.

Sophomore Scott Stanski came to the mound in the first inning and limited the Centaurs to one earned run on five hits in 6 2/3 innings of

relief. The right-hander walked three and fanned four to even his season mark at 1-1.

The Quakers will resume action this Saturday when they take the field against the Allegheny Gators at McBride in a 5 p.m. start.



photo by Dan Nakamura

Curt Courtad slides safely into second base.

New wellness director announced

Sarah A. Warfield
Contributing Editor

Earlham College's new director of wellness programs is Cynthia Rena, a woman who is more than qualified - through past experience, dedication, and pursuit of excellence - for the job that requires aptitude coupled with an understanding of the community's ideas concerning wellness of person.

Rena is Earlham's first ever wellness director, a job that was created to improve the college's ability to meet the community's wellness needs, according to a March 30 press release from the sports office.

"Cynthia will be responsible for broadening our Wellness Program," Earlham College president Doug Bennett said in the press release.

Rena is focusing on raising awareness about wellness, both in the Earlham community and in the Richmond community.

"I think education is going to be huge," she said. "[Along with] getting students to understand that wellness is not just fitness."

More importantly, Rena is climbing on board just as the new \$13 million Athletics and Wellness Center is in its final stages of construction.

Rena has been on campus for over a month, spearheading the planning of activities and helping to add final touches to the interior of the building.

"The people here [at Earlham] have been so nice and so great," Rena said. "The transition here has been so smooth. I'm so grateful to everyone here."

Rena's two main goals are education and making the facility as welcoming and user-friendly as possible.

With the addition of the new center, wellness programs will be more centralized on campus, more acces-



Cynthia Rena

sible to students, and while many programs will be offered for college credit, many will be offered on a drop-in basis.

The new wellness director believes that our bodies are our livelihood.

Rena got her inspiration for her current calling in life while she was a theater major in Virginia. After seriously studying drama for eight years, the thespian slowly realized that she was in a situation where people were not treating themselves very well physically or mentally. She did not feel as if she was making a difference.

It was then that she decided to take her interest from working in the student recreational center farther and went on to graduate magna cum laude with a Bachelor of Science degree from Virginia Commonwealth University in 1996 and earn her Master of Science degree in exercise and wellness in December 1998.

During her time at Virginia Commonwealth, Rena was always more interested in health education and sports than physical education. She also was starting to lean towards certain aspects of holistic

healing.

Rena is a very amiable woman, who is expecting her new office in the Wellness and Athletics Center to be a place where students can come with questions or come to just talk.

Rena has been very busy on campus since she arrived, not just picking out different weights and spinning bikes, but also making a commitment to talk to every campus group in the community.

She is especially targeting those that are typically under-represented. In doing this form of networking, Rena is assuring that the new center will be open to all the community and that the entire community will feel welcome when they come in the door.

"I've been extremely fortunate to be on campuses where they've worked very closely together with different units on campus," Rena said. "Another goal of mine is to work together with other units on

campus and to make wellness seem more intact on campus."

One impression that Rena will leave on the Athletic and Wellness Center that will reflect the personality she emits are two banners she has planned to hang in the main room of the building.

One will have human integrity statements, stating that Earlham is not a campus to tolerate prejudice or discrimination in any of its public or private spaces. The other will say "welcome," in different languages and symbols.

The addition of Rena to the Earlham community is bound to be beneficial for the growing wellness program and beneficial for the community as a whole.

She encourages students with questions or concerns about the new wellness program to talk with her. Rena can be reached at extension 1296, or by her e-mail address: RenaCy@earlham.edu.

Runners honored as Athletes of the Week

Shannan Rieder

This week's female Student Athlete of the Week is Shannan Rieder, a sophomore possible HDSR major from Cincinnati, Ohio.

Shannan ran two excellent races at the NCAC Indoor Track Championships. She became a Conference Champion by placing first in the 5000 meter race with a time of 18:52. She followed this performance up with a sixth place finish in the 3000 meter run with a time of 10:57.

Head track coach Pat Thomas said, "Shannan keeps running better every race," and he is impressed with her "diligence and discipline." With only one outdoor track meet under her belt,

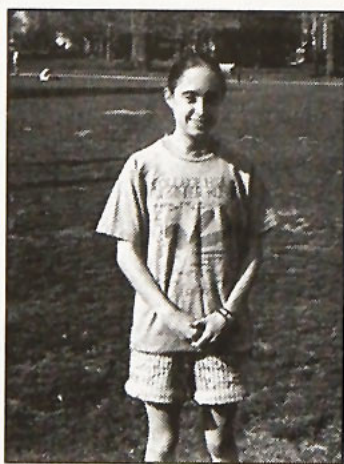


photo by Kristian Damholt

Shannan has already set the pace to beat. Even though other conference teams have had more competitions, Shannan has the fastest time of the

season of 18:47 in the 5000 meters.

Her goals for this outdoor season include getting to know her teammates better, running up to her ability, winning as much as she can, and doing well at the conference meet again.

She enjoys track because of the competition, the team camaraderie, and the coach, despite his use of puns.

Besides running, Shannan is very active in Earlham's Discovery Science and Students for Animal Liberation, Aid, and Defense (SALAD).

Chris Wilson

This week's male Student

Athlete of the Week is Chris Wilson, a sophomore history major from Underhill, Vermont.

Chris' performances at the NCAC Indoor Track Championships have reinforced what many of us have noticed during his soccer matches — Chris is really fast. His 400 meter sprint in 49.87 seconds set the indoor track conference record and the Earlham College school record. This record has also surpassed the NCAA Division III provisional qualifying mark of :50.64, making Chris the 18th fastest runner in Div. III and an alternate to the national meet.



photo by Kristian Damholt

In Chris' second performance of the day, he and his 4x200 meter teammates, Steve Henderson, Damon Buster, and

Andrew Williams, produced another school record with a time of 1:35.10. Chris also contributed to the sixth place finish of the 4x400 relay team.

Head track coach Pat Thomas said, "Chris is beginning to come into his own as a quarter miler, and we are anxious to see how much better he gets."

When Chris is not on the track or scoring goals on the Charlie Matlack Field, you might try to look for him out relaxing on the golf course. His future plans for paying his green fees are to become a golf course designer.

Tennis teams exceeding expectations

Rob Crockett
Contributing Editor

Early in the 1999 tennis season, head coach Jeremy Freeman has two teams who are each playing better than this point last year, while counting on youth to lead the way. The men opened the season this past Wednesday while the women have had a few more matches.

"The women had a really good opening match beating Miami-Middletown" said Freeman. The match ended with an impressive Earlham victory, by the final score of 8-1. Considering the women return only two players from last year's squad, the team has a lot to look forward to.

"Our two returners from last year [co-captains Katie Brill and

Stephanie Crites] have been our leaders so far, but the sophomores and first-years have really contributed also," added Freeman. "We have already seen strides from last year in our ability and also our competitiveness."

Leading the way at #1 singles is Celia Shannon, a transfer from Knox College. Following her, the singles slots are up for grabs and depends on practice, but they have been held down by Jenny Maure and Amanda Shaffer, respectively. Crites has been followed by first-year player Tracy Jordan, who has won 2 out of her first 3 matches, including a 6-1, 6-2 victory against Ohio Wesleyan in the #5 singles.

"Our emphasis is still on developing skill and creating a more competitive team," said Freeman. "We have played some really good

tennis early on this season against Ohio Wesleyan and Wooster, taking several matches to three sets."

The men opened season play this past Wednesday, hosting Hanover in an afternoon match. The Quakers feature three first-years in the starting lineup, as well as three returning upperclassmen.

Freeman is equally excited about the men's season. "This year's team far exceeds last year's, but we have had difficulties in preparing for the season due to the lack of facilities. We should come on late in the year, though, once we get going."

The returning letter winners include co-captains Cameron Spalding and Sanjay Maraboyina, as well as junior Ryan McCorkle. The three will be joined by Justin Carrier, Casey Crohl, and Matt Haynes in the starting lineup.

Five athletes win at Wooster track invitational

Sports Information

WOOSTER, Ohio — First-place performances by five individuals highlighted the efforts of the Earlham College men's and women's track teams at the College of Wooster Invitational.

All of the blue-ribbon showings in the Quakers' first outdoor track meet of the spring were earned by sophomores. Winning performances were turned in by Tara Nahrup (Loveland, OH/ Mount Notre Dame) in the women's javelin at 84' 3", Shannan Rieder (Cincinnati, OH/Mount Notre Dame) in the women's 5000-meter run at 18:47.3, Damon Buster (Yellow Springs, OH/Yellow Springs) in the men's triple jump at 41' 4", Luke Stifler (Cadillac, MI/ Cadillac) in the men's 5,000-meter run at 15:56.8, and Chris Wilson (Cambridge, VT/Mt. Mansfield

Union) in the men's 400-meter dash at :49.9.

Nahrup also broke her own school record in the women's pole vault by six inches as she cleared 8' 0" for third place. In the javelin, she edged out junior Crystal Clark (Versailles, IN/South Dearborn), who placed second at 84' 2".

Chuck Tabeling (Richmond, IN/Richmond) placed among the leaders in two men's throwing events. The sophomore was second in the shot put at 46' 2 3/4" and third in the discus at 131' 10".

Sophomore Steve Henderson (Gary, IN/Horace Mann) was second in the 400-meter hurdles at :58.8. He joined forces with sophomore Andrew Williams (Fort Wayne, IN/South Side), Buster, and Wilson to place second in the 4 x 100-meter relay at 43.7.

Third-place finishes were earned by senior Mark Mellang (Aurora,

IN/Rising Sun) in the men's high jump at 6' 0" and first-year student Ben Scherzer (Berea, OH/Berea) in the men's 3,000-meter steeplechase at 11:50.9.

In the final standings of the seven-team meet, Earlham was fourth among the men with 83 points. The Quaker women were seventh with 62 points. Case Western Reserve University captured the men's title with 185 points, while Denison University won the women's competition with 161 points.

Earlham returned to action yesterday at the Anderson University Invitational. The meet began at 4 p.m. in Anderson, Ind., but results were unavailable at press time.

Next up for the Quakers is the Indiana Little State meet, being held at Anderson University as part of the Anderson Invitational.

Calendar
of Events

Friday, April 2 -

- Last day to cancel enrollment from a spring semester course
- Brown Bag Concert - Andrew Milar, pianist, & Arie Schachter, violist - 12 noon - Leeds Gallery
- The Way of the Cross - 12 noon - MH
- Good Friday
- Hunger and Homelessness week ends
- Baseball vs. Allegheny - 1 p.m. - McBride Stadium
- EFS Film "Cool Hand Luke" - 7 p.m. & 10 p.m. - Dennis 110
- SABU Show - 23rd Chapter & Scurvey - 8 p.m. - Coffee Shop
- BLAC Talent Show - 9 p.m. - Goddard

Saturday, April 3 -

- Women's lacrosse vs. Ohio Wesleyan - 12 noon
- EFS Film - "Cool Hand Luke" - 7 p.m. & 10 p.m. - Dennis 110
- SAB - Lynne Jordan & Shrivvers Concert - 9:30 p.m. - Coffee Shop

Sunday, April 4 -

- Daylight savings time begins
- Scholar's Forum
- Pride Week (April 4-10)
- Easter
- Holy Week Ends
- Sunrise service - 5:30 a.m. - MH
- College meeting for worship - Patrick Nugent - 11 a.m. - MH
- Pride Week alternative study break - 7 p.m. - MH Library

Monday, April 5 -

- Scholar's Forum
- Pride Week - Dedication/Kick-off - 12 noon - The Heart
- Pride Week - Movie - "Out of the Past" - 8 p.m. - Barrett-Hoskins Room, Lilly Library

Tuesday, April 6 -

- Scholar's Forum
- Social reliance speaker - Dan LaBotz - 4 p.m. - MH
- Student Forum - 12 noon - Dennis 110
- Pride Week workshop - "Why I'm Not Queer: Misogyny, Heterosexism, & Feminism" with Barb Caruso - 4 p.m. - Womyn's Center
- Pride Week workshop - "Wet & Wild: Lesbian & Bisexual Women's Health" - 9 p.m. - Womyn's Center
- Pride Week workshop - "Wet & Wild: Gay & Bisexual Men's Health" - 9 p.m. - MH Library

Wednesday, April 7 -

- Women's lacrosse vs. Denison - 12 noon
- Faculty Buffet - 12 noon - Orchard Room
- Convocation - Fedwa Maltidouglas - 1 p.m. - Goddard
- Erik Olin Wright, Sociology Professor - 4 p.m. - Tyler 100
- Men's tennis vs. Thomas More - 4 p.m.
- Pride Week - Panel Discussion: "We've Been Together How Long? Building & Maintaining Committed Relationships in the Gay & Lesbian Community" - 5:15 p.m. - Meetinghouse Library
- Pride Week Speaker: Indiana's GLBT Legislature - 7 p.m. - Goddard
- Wellness Singles & Wellness Doubles/Singles Lottery - 7:30 p.m./8:30 p.m. - Orchard

Thursday, April 8 -

- Passover Ends
- Quaker Foundation of Leadership Program - Norwich Lodge
- National Day of Silence
- Pride Week Workshop - TBA - 5:30 p.m. - Meetinghouse Library
- Aretha Franklin in Concert - 8 p.m. - Tiernan Center - Richmond High School

‘Cool Hand Luke’ remains worthy of analysis

Sara Jenkins
Contributing Editor

In a recent issue of "The Onion," a famous satirical online newspaper, one of the feature stories was about a student that had made a stunning contribution to the world of literature. In a biting tone, they describe how a freshman student had proved an important insight to "Silas Marner" by correlating the gold of the girl's hair to the gold that Silas was trying to find. They gained fictionalized quotes from various 19th century literature experts about how this three-page paper would provide a whole new area of research for scholars.

"Cool Hand Luke" is not only a great movie, it is also a film that relies heavily on symbolism. Needless to say, this symbolism and this movie have been analyzed into the ground. Everyone and his brother has given it a try, with some excellent results. Thus,

how can I, as a lowly college Arts and Entertainment editor, whose movie reviews are largely despised anyway (yes, your criticism does get back to me), have the vanity to suppose that I can possibly add anything insightful to what's already out there? Simply, I would be worthy of being mocked by "The Onion," something that I would like to avoid.

So, what does that leave? A piece of advice, and a straightforward summary of plot. The advice is to go the internet and search for "Cool Hand Luke." A good site to try is at <http://www.filmsite.org/cool.html>. Here you can find Tom Dirks' very lengthy and thorough analysis of exactly what "Cool Hand Luke" means.

But for those of you who are not terribly inspired to go mining around on the Internet, I will now provide you with a handy-dandy plot summary, so that you can at least know what the movie's

about before you go (it's my job, anyway).

The title's namesake is played by Paul Newman in a skillful, subtly wrought performance. The movie opens with a scene of

trinitated into his new home are telling. First he meets the head of the facility, played by Strother Martin, who he is to address as "Captain." He is also informed that all the other guards are to be called "Boss."

Once in the living compound, the floor walker, Clifton James, informs Luke of all the rules and regulations. There is a very long list, and any infraction results in "a night in the box," the box being a small wooden structure in the middle of the yard.

From the first, the other inmates are suspicious of Luke, partly because he is new, and partly because he is a little odd. This oddness turns out to be the indomitable spirit that Luke retains to the end.

Because of his perseverance and spirit, Luke soon becomes not only accepted, but exalted by the rest of the inmates. He does this by fighting inmate leader Dragline (George Kennedy) to

exhaustion, but still refusing to give up, by bluffing at poker, and by eating 50 eggs within an hour.

Once these actions are completed, Luke has taken his place as prison rebel. Thus, the next logical step is for him to break out. He does this not once, but three times, each time building his independence and resolve to beat the system.

Whether he does in the end beat the system is questionable. In order not to give away the end of the movie, I won't say any more, but it is something that is very interesting to analyze.

"Cool Hand Luke" is a quiet movie that does not rely on special effects or grandiose melodrama. It is instead content to let its parts speak for themselves. And it is a formula that succeeds remarkably well.

So, go see this movie, and analyze it to your heart's content. It will be well worth it.

Movie Times
Dennis 110
Fri. & Sat.
7 & 10 p.m.

Luke removing the heads of parking meters and then getting caught by the police. The result of this action, destroying municipal property while under the influence, is that Luke is sentenced to a chain gang for two years.

The scenes of him being indoc-

Artist of the week

Sara Jenkins
Contributing Editor

Brian Davis reigns as the king of proof that the art of pick-up is not dead. Really, I paid \$110 for a meal just so that he would do an interview. Over \$20 sushi, we discussed what his art meant in his life.

"A lot of times, I like to think of myself as an art collector more than as an artist," said Davis. "I choose to observe the art that exists in members of the opposite sex. When I see something that I like, I, shall we say, 'purchase' it."

Davis' work can be most prominently seen at most parties, particularly after a couple of beers. One of his most impressive showing was a few weeks ago at Muther's bar, where he smooched the female bartender. "Other than that, there have been quite a few incidents, but it would probably be better not to go into them now," said Davis.

"At an early age, I was influenced by Jon Bon Jovi," comments Davis. "I really liked the big-haired girls that he always had in his music videos. After that, I moved on to admiring David Hasselhoff," he adds. "He had a different woman in every episode of 'Knight Rider.' And as if that isn't enough, he lands on 'Baywatch.' Most recently, however, I have come to observe and admire Jesse Davison. He helped mold me into the great pick-up artist that I am today."

His career started in 4th grade, when he and his friends noticed that Veronica

Taylor looked a little different from all the other girls. "You could say that my interest grew from there," Davis comments.

"In high school, if you can believe it, I was a big dork. I joined the chess club just to get away from girls that liked 'that type.' But then I tried the tennis team, since I had noticed that girls are into jocks."

"Here at Earlham, though, it's all different," Davis said. "All you have to do to get lots of girls is pretend to be a vegetarian who could give a rat's ass about political prisoners in Guam. If you do that, and act a hell of a lot poorer than you really are, you can't lose." Sage advice from a man who's been there.

When asked why he pursued his art, Davis responded, "it's probably my biological tendency toward reproduction. I get such a sense of accomplishment from playing good Frisbee." When asked what that had to do with anything, he answered, "It's great when my arms are too tired to throw a Frisbee."

When asked his opinion on Earlham, Davis had this to offer, "As far as the good, the complete lack of art facilities hasn't hindered my art any. And the new-fangled women's movement means that women will hold doors for me now, which I like. As far as the bad goes, the lack of pick-up facilities has hindered my art some. And also, the alcohol policy."

Thank you, Brian Davis. You will never get laid at this school again. That's worth my \$110.

Brian Davis

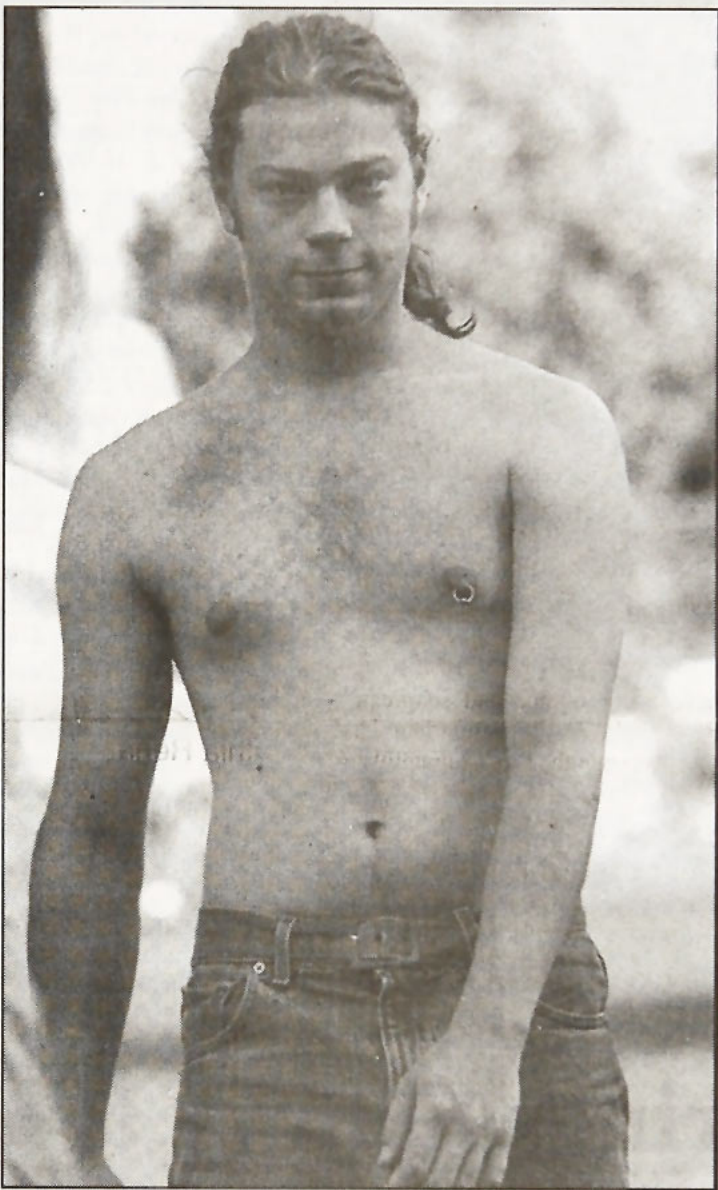


Photo by Jesse Davison

Movie
Clock

Matinees on Saturday and Sunday only and Mondays at Cinema 11, shows starting at or after 9 p.m. on Friday and Saturday only.

Kerasotes Theaters
Cinema 11
962-0000
4701 National Rd

The Matrix: 1:00, 4:00, 7:00, 10:00
10 Things I Hate About You: 2:30, 5:10, 7:40, 10:05
EDtv: 1:40, 4:30, 7:10, 10:15
Mod Squad: 2:20, 5:20, 7:50, 10:10
Doug's First Movie: 1:30, 4:40, 6:40, 8:40
8MM: 2:40, 5:40, 8:10
Life is Beautiful: 2:10, 5:30, 8:00
Forces of Nature: 1:10, 5:00, 7:30, 9:50
Analyze This: 1:50, 4:10, 6:50, 9:20
Out of Towners: 1:20, 4:50, 7:20, 9:40
Baby Geniuses: 2:00, 4:20, 6:30, 9:00

Richmond Dollar Cinema
935-3446
600 Commerce Rd

Prince of Egypt: 1:10, 4:20, 7:10, 9:10
A Bug's Life: 12:50, 3:50, 6:40, 9:00
You've Got Mail: 2:20, 4:50, 7:50, 10:10
October Sky: 2:10, 4:40, 7:30, 9:45
Patch Adams: 1:00, 4:00, 7:00, 9:40
Varsity Blues: 1:30, 4:50, 7:45, 10:05
The Waterboy: 1:40, 4:30, 7:20, 10:00
Stepmom: 1:15, 4:10, 6:50, 9:30
A Civil Action: 1:50, 4:15, 7:40, 10:15
The Thin Red Line: 1:20, 4:45, 8:10

Word to
your
mother!

Buy your family
a
subscription to
The Earlham Word.

UMOJA
tradition
to return

This weekend marks the return of UMOJA to Earlham. It's all going to kick off with the UMOJA talent show this Friday night.

UMOJA is a time-honored tradition, spanning 30 years. The show will be an entertaining display of African and African-American talent. The acts this year will be more contemporary than they have in the past. Everything from poetry to singing to dancing will be represented at this year's presentation.

In addition, crowd favorites Nate and Nick Johnson will be returning to the stage to host this year's talent show.

Traditionally, the talent show has been the finale to UMOJA's activities, but this year the schedule has been changed around. The display will be a fun and entertaining way to prepare people for what will be going on in the next week.

UMOJA will be activities, not only for Africans and African-Americans, but for the entire campus. The goal is to make people aware that African-Americans do influence life not only here at Earlham, but everywhere.

The theme of this year's festivities is "Knowledge is Power," celebrating BLAC's 30th anniversary.

HOROSCOPES

By ShaLow
Staff Astrologer

Post-April Fool's Horoscope

Aries (March 21 - April 19)

Unlike all of the cool people at this school, you seem to be unable to have come up with an April Fool's prank. Enroll for an art class next year to broaden your creative scope.

Taurus (April 20 - May 20)

You won a brand new Taurus! April Fool's! You wouldn't have wanted a Taurus anyway, now would you have? Those cars are for middle-aged yuppies without enough money to buy a BMW.

Gemini (May 21 - June 21)

You are so hard to read. One minute you're engaging in immature April Fool's pranks, and the next minute, you've climbed up on your high horse to mock your friends for their childishness. That's what being a divided twin's all about, but try some consistency next year. With your prankster's talent, it will be a welcome diversion.

Cancer (June 22 - July 22)

You are unarguably the most desirable person on campus. April Fool's! Who would want to get anywhere near you? You smell bad.

Leo (July 23 - August 22)

You thought you were set for super-stardom with that prank you pulled, but when your whole life comes crashing down around you this weekend, you'll regret that fit of foolishness. You should have been more careful. Now you're going to flunk out of school and lose all of your friends. Your family might not disown you.

Virgo (August 23 - September 22)

The euphoric happiness that you've been feeling lately is not in fact real. Your friends have planned it all as an April Fool's joke, and now you look stupid. Oops.

Libra (September 23 - October 23)

Your tendency never to trust anyone has come in handy for once. Congratulations on missing all of the horrible things that could have happened to you yesterday. You have proven once again that you are intellectually and morally superior to the rest of the race.

Scorpio (October 24 - November 21)

The tooth fairy really exists!

April Fool's! Now, if you're going to really be that gullible, we would have to predict that you will die in a freak accident within the next four months.

Sagittarius (November 22 - December 21)

Look behind you! Why? All the losers that you call your friends can't remember dates very well, so they'll all be playing their April Fool's joke today. Find a new set of people to hang out with, if only for your own good.

Capricorn (December 22 - January 19)

Circle, circle, dot, dot, now you've got a cooties shot. Yes cooties are real and do pose a major threat to you. It's kind of like your own private Bubonic Plague. April Fool's!

Aquarius (January 20 - February 18)

Although all of your April's Fools jokes were very clever, they all also involved water. This would be a bad idea, because you are going to die by drowning. Do not go near or drink water for the rest of your life, and you might be saved from this horrible fate.

Pisces (February 19 - March 20)

Don't even try. If confused, consult Aries. The only difference is that there is no redemption for you. Stay as far away from any creative endeavor as possible.

AFTA pulls off a flamboyant evening

Sara Jenkins
Contributing Editor

Last Saturday's AFTA event was a smashing success from beginning to end. The event took over Carpenter Hall and went from 7 p.m. to 1 a.m. It ranged all over the building and involved climbing a lot of stairs.

It all started with a poetry reading on the second floor. Poets Jordan Green, W. Lawrence Smith, and Ron Whitehead presented excerpts of their writing.

Green's work focused on the struggle of the working class, with such titles as "Kentucky Downpour" and "Sojourn." Smith's poetry was more focused on general feelings such as "Speaking Louder," about his relationship with his son and "A Good Man's Fate," speaking to what alcoholism can do to a family.

Whitehead finished up the reading, Hailing from Louisville KY. Whitehead is an activist for world peace. He encouraged poets, and

other people, to come out of their small worlds with lines such as "Poet, get out of the inner sanctum where you have too long been contemplating your over-complicated navel," from "San Francisco, May 1993."

Next on the program of events was Jordan Emmart and Jon Furlong's presentation of their senior project, "The Yellow Wallpaper." Goddard Auditorium was nearly filled to capacity as an excited audience awaited the performance of this controversial story.

As Emmart said in her director's notes, she tried to keep as close to the original short story while writing the script. However, to present a more coherent and timely story, she added the voice of John and also interspersed narration by Charlotte Perkins Gilman, the original author.

In all, the presentation was very strong with Sara Zimmerman, Chris Blinn, and Jesse Lumsden turning in solid performances. It was exciting to see such an impor-

tant story told and to remember that it was done entirely by students.

Following "The Yellow Wallpaper" was the art presentation on the fourth floor. All students were encouraged to submit, and a wide variety of art was shown. It ranged from photos by Andrew Jannsen, Jesse Kreich, Sarah Hansen, Ariel Hearne, Jen Halpern, Rebecca Green, Jesse Davison, and Rachel Wagner to Kozo screens by Marie Lanier to ceramics by Malissa Landrey, Josina Cooper, Carrie Cross, Marcus Davis, Elspeth Gilmore, Carolyn Theresa Haines, Billy Cooper, and Sarah Egolf.

Highlights of the art show included beautiful examples of weaving by Matt Schreiber and an amazing senior project by Katie Yamasaki entitled "part of 100 drawings."

The fourth floor was filled not only with great art, but also with a lot of people. Everyone enjoyed rubbing elbows while enjoying coffee, crackers, cheese, and fruit accompanied by the sounds of a jazz quartet comprised of bassist Matt Schreiber, drummer Josh Fuson, saxophonist Mike Phillips, and guitarist Duff Davis.

Meanwhile, on the third floor, Bob and Anne Bailey were presenting their not inconsiderable talents in swing dance. The crowd that gathered around was wildly enthusiastic as the pair danced energetically to swing favorites.

On the second floor, several student bands were strutting their stuff. First was a Latin band with Kevin Casey on drums, Bert Lyons on bass, Joe Lopez with the cowbell, Gauri Rajbaidya performing vocals, and Shigeki Meneses and Mark Whitaker on guitars.

Following them was Libby Pound, who performed songs written by famous female artists such as Janis Joplin. She was a one-woman show providing both acoustic guitar and vocals.

Next on the program was Jamie Reeder showing off her violin talents. She presented several pieces by Bach, reminding us that she has truly remarkable skills on the violin.

Wrapping up the student bands were members of Dutch Uncle Blues collaborating with Jesse Bay. They covered songs by the Velvet Underground, marking a remark-



Photo by Joel Wilson

Above (l-r): Bert Lyons, Kevin Casey, Joe Lopez and Gauri Rajbaidya play Latin rhythms for people to groove on at Saturday's AFTA art show. Below: First-year Blake Etchison shines in silver body paint.

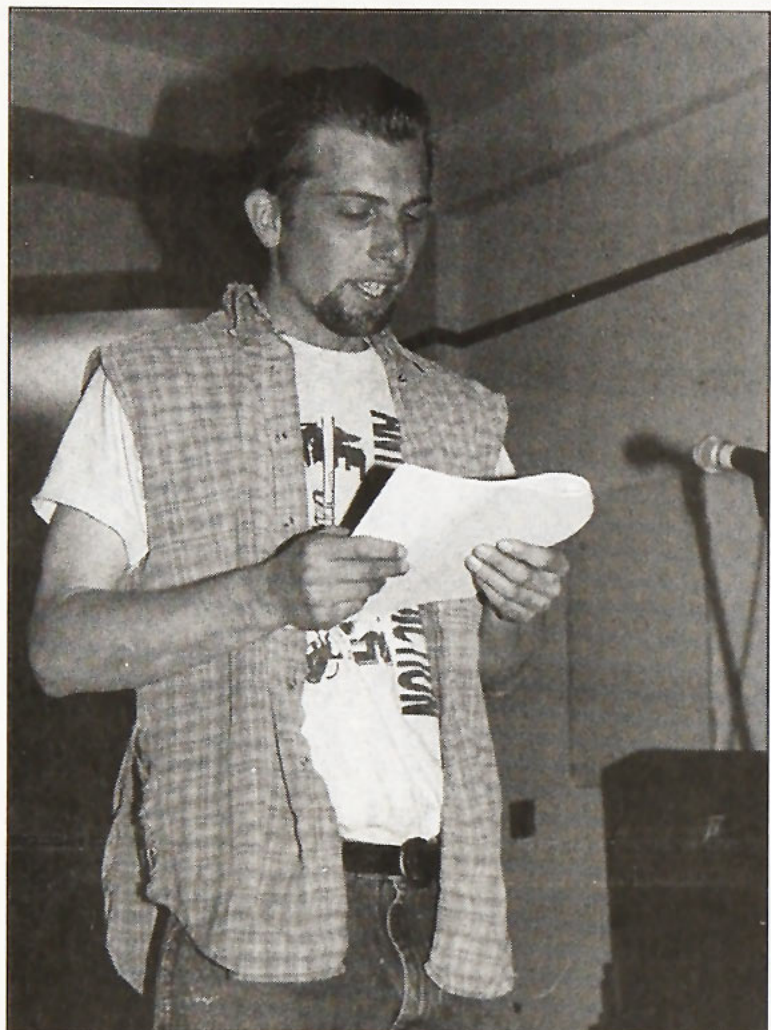


Photo by Joel Wilson

Poet Jordan Green reads his work at the AFTA show Saturday.



Photo by Josh Harris

SABU brings Scurvy to Coffee Shop



Photo by Chris Dilts

Press Release

SABU has had a long and proud tradition of bringing only the highest in quality musical entertainment to Earlham College. It strives for both variety and legitimacy in its musical formats and performers.

Sadly, over the last several years SABU has gained a reputation as primarily a forum for so-called "punk rock" music. This flies in the face of SABU's proud tradition

of folk, country, and rock 'n roll, not to mention puppet shows and poets.

So, since all rumors need a bit of truth in them, SABU has decided to throw its hands up in resignation, bow to the will of the community, and bring, for one night only, the finest in punk rock and metal that this part of the country has to offer.

This Friday night, the whole community can ride the seven seas

with veteran Bloomington, Ind. pirate rockers Scurvy and thrill to the primal terror that is the gut-wrenching, critically acclaimed masters of Ohio metal, 23rd Chapter.

Just beginning a two month U.S. tour, 23rd Chapter is happy to make Earlham its first stop, and Scurvy, always happy to pillage another unsuspecting port town, will venture north to spread the true pirate religion.

After years of taking abuse for just being a "bunch of punks" SABU is proud for once to prove the community right. Raise the flag.

Scurvy will be playing with 23rd Chapter in the Coffee Shop Friday, April 2 at 8:30 p.m. This show, like much quality entertainment at Earlham, is brought to you by SABU, proud buccaneers since 1848.

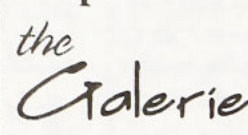
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it's sassy to RECYCLE

A bomb, \$78.32, and a guy good with gums

Several months ago, I asked the question: Who should be our next president? Should we elect yet another member of what future historians, looking back on late-20th-century American political leadership, will refer to as "The Long String of Bozos"? Or should we have the courage and wisdom to boldly change course and place the future of our great nation — and, yes, the world — into the capable, experienced hands of a professional humor columnist?

Imagine how totally shocked and surprised I was when many of you wrote to me, sometimes in crayon, and said: "Our next president should, be YOU, Dave! You have the vision! You have the leadership! You have the large quantity of bumper stickers left over from your historic 1996 campaign (official slogan: 'It's Time We Demanded Less')!"

Many of you even went so far as to send in contributions. Granted, a lot of these were in the form of expired pizza coupons, but some of them were actual U.S. currency, or realistic photocopies thereof. I asked my staff, Judi Smith, for a report on my current campaign treasury, which, in accordance with federal election laws, is kept in a box that originally contained a Nerf Ping-Pong set. I'm proud to report that we currently have either \$78.32 or \$98.32, depending on the legal status of a \$20 bill that, in the words of my staff, "looks real but who knows."

You can call me a modest yet courageous man of the people such as the late Jimmy Stewart in "Mr. Smith Goes To Washington and Makes a Really Sappy Movie" if you want, but when I think of ordinary citizens taking the time to send in their hard-earned money for my campaign, my reaction, in all humility and gratitude, is: "That is nowhere NEAR enough." Because to run the kind of quality campaign that I would want — the kind that features large rental jets — I'm going to need at least \$40 million.

How will I get that kind of money? I'll tell you how I WON'T get it: I won't go to the "fat cat" special-interest lobbyists who give you a donation and then expect you to give them a quid pro quo when you get into the Oval Office. Why do I say this? Because I have no idea what "quid pro quo" means. It sounds like a sex act. And I believe the president of this great nation has NO BUSINESS doing that kind of thing with lobbyists. That's why we have interns!

No, seriously, I believe it's a disgrace for the president to have sex with ANYBODY in the Oval Office. If somebody suggests it, the president should have the integrity to answer: "Not here! This is a sacred shrine of the republic! Let's go out on the lawn!"

But getting back to my point: You may rest assured that I am NOT going to raise money by selling my soul to the special interests. Instead, I'm going to raise money by selling nuclear secrets to China. Apparently the Chinese pay top dollar for nuclear information, and I happen to have come into possession — please do not ask how — of a high-tech computer item called the "Microsoft Bookshelf 95 CD-ROM" containing billions of tiny things of information, including many explicit facts about nuclear energy. Here's a sample: "Nuclear fission was discovered in 1938 by Otto Hahn and Fritz Strassman, and was explained in 1939 by Lise Meitner and Otto Frisch." So apparently, one of the keys to nuclear energy is that at least one person involved has to be named "Otto." This may explain why the Chinese are having so much trouble with it. I have a LOT more nuclear information where that came from, and if you high-level Chinese leaders out there are interested in obtaining it, please have your agents get in touch with me and identify themselves via the following code phrase: "Dave, here's a suitcase full of money."

Let me stress that I have not yet decided whether I'm willing to be president. But I have, in the tradition of American politics, appointed an Exploratory Committee to explore this question. The committee consists of these distinguished Americans: Heloise, who writes "Hints from Heloise" and with whom I have exchanged several nice letters; Robert Goulet, who for some reason, probably mistaken identity, sends me a Christmas card every year; the Delaware Destroyers, who also send me a Christmas card and are the backup band for George Thorogood, who sings "Bad to the Bone"; Adam Duritz, who is the lead singer for Counting Crows and with whom I have no connection except that my staff, a total slut, is hoping she gets to talk to him; and Stanley Krugman, who is my dentist and has for many years advised me on issues relating to my gums.

I have sent these people a letter asking for their honest opinions as to whether I should seek the presidency. When I get their responses, I will carefully weigh each response individually, except the Delaware Destroyers, whom I will weigh as a group. Then, after throwing away the responses I disagree with, I will announce my decision to you, the American people. Let us all hope that I do the right thing. But let us not hold our breath.

Wanted

Editor-in-Chief
for 1999-2000 school year
It is a work study/non-work study position.

Please inquire at the Earlham Word office
in Runyan Basement or call x1569.



Dave Barry

CONSENSUS.

ALRIGHT, TINA... AS YOU KNOW, MUM'S SCARED THAT YOU'RE LIVING SOME SORT OF DANGEROUS LIFESTYLE, AND SHE'S ASKED ME TO TALK TO YOU. SO TO MAKE IT EASY ON THE BOTH OF US, I'VE DEVISED THIS SHORT TEST.

LOVELY.

DO YOU SMOKE? YES.

DRINK? NOT TO EXCESS.

DO DRUGS? NOTHING ADDICTIVE.

HAVE FRIENDS WHO DO ADDICTIVE DRUGS? TWO.

AVERAGE CURFEW? ONE.

SNEAK OUT? NOT LATELY.

ARE YOU HAVING SEX? NOT YET.

WHEN YOU DO...? IT'LL BE PROTECTED.

YOUR FRIENDS HAVING SEX? SURE. THEY'RE ALL YOUR FRIENDS.

WATCH IT... SHOPLIFTING? NOTHING WORTH OVER A POUND.

VERY GOOD. YOU SCORED AN 85. AS LONG AS YOUR MARKS DON'T SLIP, I'LL KEEP MUM OFF YOUR BACK.

NICE DOING BUSINESS WITH YOU.

©1999 DANIEL MCCOY

CASH OF DEATH ~ Jim Strayer

I'm goin' out. I saw some guy today that looked like he wanted to die.

HA! Where's the Art?! Where's the creativity?! Any Neanderthal can stick a knife in someone!

HAVE YOU SEEN THE NEWS?

YOU ARE LATE!

HA! Where's the Art?! Where's the creativity?! Any Neanderthal can stick a knife in someone!

Pee & Lee

by P. rauEN

I've been thinking... as characters, we're rather under-developed.

oh, I'm not so sure. I think we're pretty dynamic... we meditate, talk about mulletts, and kick it with Luke B.

... and if I flip myself over, I kinda look like Hello Kitty's head!

Would you roll over, for the love of God! You're embarrassing me... am I the only one taking my job seriously around this place?!

HAHAHA!! HELLO KITTY!!

CHERNOBYL THE COW AND THE NUCLEAR HOEDOWN

by Matt Dilworth, 1999

SNIFF! I AM NOT A WHUSS!

SORRY, IT JUST SEEMS LIKE I'M ALWAYS GETTING YOU OUT OF TROUBLE.

WELL, ANYWAY, I'M OFF TO SEE ABIGAIL.

WHO? OH YEAH, THE PIG WITH THE OUT-OF-WHACK PITUITARY GLAND.

I WISH THAT YOU WOULDN'T JUST SAY WHATEVER COMES TO YOUR MIND.

HEY, THIS IS THE WAY I AM! TAKE IT OR LEAVE IT!

CHERNOBYL?

Informing Earlham

Support interdisciplinary studies

Japan Studies, African and African American Studies, Peace and Global Studies (PAGS), Management Program, Human Development and Social Relations (HDSR), American Studies, Latin American Studies, Women's Studies, Environmental Sciences, Classical Studies, Humanities Program, International Studies, Jewish Studies, Legal Studies, Museum Studies, Quaker Studies - what do these departments have in common besides long names and acronyms? They are all interdisciplinary departments.

Many students choose to major in an interdisciplinary department because of the advantages of broader-based knowledge and cross-disciplinary understand-

ing which are the bases for interdisciplinary study. However, students also notice the lack of support for interdisciplinary departments on many levels at Earlham.

Student concerns center around finances as well as the broader priorities of the college which are implied by its financial allocations.

Twenty-five students representing PAGS, HDSR, Latin American Studies, as well as self-designed interdepartmental majors gathered on Monday, March 29 to begin a discussion of their concerns and ideas about interdisciplinary programs. Among the goals of the Monday meeting was the drafting of an agenda for a meeting with Doug Bennett on Thursday, April 1.

The agenda set by the students focused on the lack of funding for inter-

disciplinary majors. Lack of paid positions such as department coordinators or convenors contributes to disorganization within departments.

Since interdisciplinary programs rely largely or entirely on support from "regular" department faculty to teach courses, the fewer staff all around, the more the interdisciplinary majors feel the squeeze. That a department is interdisciplinary should not imply that it be patched or thrown together. With proper support, Earlham's interdisciplinary programs can continue to be one of the strongest assets of Earlham.

The criticism offered by students is not an attempt to place blame. Rather, it is an attempt to improve Earlham as an academic institution through dialogue around its weaknesses and possible improvements. Self-evaluation is an

integral part of a community's life.

Students do recognize Earlham's recent financial difficulties. We hope, however, that through dialogue Earlham can re-evaluate its priorities to make sure that it continues to live up to our expectations of it as a quality educational institution. In recent years, the focus on interdisciplinary education around the world and at Earlham has increased. We hope the community can foresee the long-term benefits of investment (through creative and diverse institutional support) in interdisciplinary education at Earlham.

Look for an article on the April 1 meeting with Doug Bennett in next week's issue of the Word.

—Abby Hickcox is a junior Peace and Global Studies major.

Abby Hickcox



The 9th Secret

Envisioning The 9th Secret

Last semester a group of approximately 40 students went to the School of Americas to protest its training of military dictatorships in Latin America. After an act of civil disobedience, 2,000 people were rounded up and put into buses by the school. In a bus of 43 people, Daniel began talking to his fellow comrades. “Where are you from?” a man asked. “Earlham College,” he answered. Response after response returned, “I was a student there” or “My son went there” or “I taught there.” Virtually every person he talked to had some direct Earlham connection; other students shared similar stories.

Daniel Hunter & Sarah Tyson

Earlham does something special. Earlham is something special. We are not just talking about creating political activists. David Gerth recently told us stories of several Earlham alumni/ae, one of whom has become an MD and, because of his concern for individuals, does not rush through patient after patient. Instead he goes beyond the norm of care established in the medical community - focusing on each person without concern for the money he makes.

Another alumni became a computer programmer. Rather than going after the big bucks, he makes enough to scrape by. He spends time working with organizations he genuinely supports. He is able to pay attention to the details and offer vol-

unteer time to other smaller groups. These stories are not unique. They represent just a small slice of the effects that Earlham has on students. Indeed, they direct us to the awareness that the Earlham community must be a treasured space.

Earlham has an underlying vision that students sense, faculty teach to, and the administration tries to articulate. We believe there is cohesion and consistency to the Earlham experience, albeit submerged. Earlham's deliberate attempt to integrate its founding Quaker roots into every aspect of the institution creates an atmosphere in which personal beliefs help guide academic and corporate decisions. By emphasizing respect for persons, Earlham encourages students to develop a compassionate understanding which permeates their choices, even after they leave.

So why are we saying all this? First, we say it because it is true. We wear hats as members of the faculty, Earlhamite siblings, and Earlham students. As such, we can see from several perspectives the wonderful ways in which the Earlham community can teach and lead students to effect positive change in the world (by the Earlham community, we want to include the college, ESR and welcome in Bethany. We want to deliberately include all the professors, students, alumni/ae, staff and administrators in this encompassing statement). We are not naive about this; Earlham has its own “issues,” but Earlham is an important place.

Secondly, it does not get said often enough. We are as guilty as any of condemning specific actions

which Earlham undertakes. Yet we need to take a step back and see the mission which Earlham offers. One of our greatest fears is that Earlham will miss its mission while it tries to balance the budget. Our security - our Faith - ought to lay not in our endowment but our community.

On this point, we cannot be more insistent that we must never lose sight of our Vision. We are well aware of the importance of staying financially afloat. Nevertheless, tight-fistedness can lead to its own demise. Our lessons of encouraging students to do actions for their entire implications as opposed to simply their economic value, must permeate our culture and our structure. While we may seem a bit unconvinced, we think it has. We certainly see people, throughout the entire structures of Earlham, struggling to achieve this high goal.

So let us bring our Vision to the surface and into the light. We are two voices in this community sharing our thoughts and we encourage others to share their understanding. The 9th Secret will be a piece in the Opinion section of *The Word* every week in which different members of the Earlham community share their positive stories of Earlham. We believe that simply acknowledging a fear, for example, can be the most potent step towards overcoming it. Similarly, acknowledging a vision may be the most powerful step to achieving it and keeping it real.

—Sarah Tyson is a first-year student with an undeclared major and Daniel Hunter is a sophomore Computer Science major.

Ask Doug

Sinex responds to question

Shortly before spring break, Amanda Bonfitto asked us all a question in a column in *The Word*. Commenting on some recent behavior in a few dorms she asked, “Why do we tolerate blatant disrespect for this intentional community that we have established? Why do we let people throw beds off the balcony and tear down the bathroom stall doors?”

Recognizing that the Community Code voices our expectations as an intentional community and looking for a way to approach this problem constructively, Amanda asked a further question, one that she heard Chris Hardie raise last year in *The Word*. “If Earlham is an intentional community and we choose to live under the Community Code, why do incoming students not get a copy of the Community Code until after they have made the commitment to attend Earlham?”

Nancy Sinex, an Earlham alumna and Director of Admissions, posted a response to Amanda's questions on *The Word's* online discussion forum. I thought it was such a good answer I asked her if I could run it here in the column. All that follows, except for the last paragraph, is Nancy's response:

“For the past two years, and now again this one,” we (the Admissions office) have included a copy of the Community Code in the acceptance letter of all of our admitted students. Thus, students receive the Code before they make their college decision. Here's what we say in the admission letter:

Doug Bennett

“We believe it is important for you, as a prospective Earlham student, to become familiar with Earlham's Community Code for Student Life. We have enclosed a copy of the Code with this letter and hope that by reading it you will discern the uniqueness of the living and learning environment at the college and your responsibilities as both an individual Earlham student and as a member of the college community. We welcome any questions you may have.”

“Perhaps even more troubling to me, however, is Amanda's statement about not speaking with prospective students about the Community Code for fear they'll be turned off or discontinue their interest in Earlham as a college option. In actuality, we (the Admissions Office) are very intentional about speaking with prospects about the Community Code, since we see it as a ‘plus’ in our efforts to encourage students to seriously consider Earlham. We also recognize the importance of educating prospects about the kind of community which exists here so they can make an informed enrollment decision.

“Having been at Earlham for some time (as an administrator and as a graduate), I can tell you that ‘articulating’ the Earlham Community Code to prospective students isn't always easy (easier with some audiences than with others). However, many times, speaking about personal responsibility in community is what ‘turns on’ students to considering Earlham among their college options. It can also dissuade the ‘wrong’ students from choosing to come. The Community Code was one of the important rea-

sons I, as a non-Quaker high school student, chose to come to Earlham and why I've continued to stay here.

“Earlham chooses not to require students to ‘sign on’ to the Community Code before they enroll, just as it chooses not to have current students sign their blue book exams indicating that they did not receive any outside help on their tests. We expect members of the community, students, staff and faculty, to use the Code as a guideline for how we live in community at the college. We sometimes fall short of that expectation, and blatant disregard for the Code is disturbing to many, including this alumna.

“I would hope that when current students or alumni meet a prospective student visiting Earlham or interested in Earlham that the topic of the importance of the Code as part of the way of life at Earlham is shared with them. I also hope that you will continue to express your opinion to those of us already here, those of us who, by virtue of our student, staff, or faculty status, have joined this intentional community and may need a reminder from time to time of the importance of what brought us here and what makes this place distinctive.”

I'd like to thank Amanda for raising the question, and Nancy for responding. I'd like to close by reframing Amanda's original question: how do we use the Community Code to make this the kind of community we intend?

—Doug Bennett is the president of Earlham College. Nancy Sinex is director of Admissions for Earlham College and is an Earlham alumna.

Open Window

Don't feel guilty for whining

In last week's *Word*, Amanda Bonfitto urged readers to get involved in issues facing the college and supported her argument with personal experience. She stressed the value of becoming educated about one's complaint over actually acting to correct it.

I disagree. While joining a committee at Earlham may be a good way to kill extra time, I don't believe it will necessarily have any benefit, either for the individual or the college, and I don't believe it is any sort of obligation.

My first and most important point involves the question of whether or not to transfer to a different school. This is a question facing first-years and sophomores every year.

I didn't pay attention to warning signs telling me I should transfer during my first year: that I was clearly out of my league in my major, that I wasn't happy here, and so on. By the end of my sophomore year, having completed many of the senior level courses, and having formed strong bonds with my professors, transferring was no longer a sensible or appealing option.

If you are not happy at Earlham, reflect on your experiences and use them to help you make a decision of whether to transfer, and what new situation might be better for you. You can use the spring and summer to try to make personal contact with people in potentially better situations. Explaining to them the reasons for your decision might help you to convince them you are serious about their programs.

Although you might not know what is best for you, it is likely that your instinct, informed by your time here, is better than that of anyone else.

Curtis Walton

This is the transition to my main point; that any given student's opinions about Earlham are probably valid, even if it is difficult to see this from some other perspective. These opinions are informed by a person's own experiences at Earlham; it is a contradiction to say they are ignorant opinions.

One consequence of holding this position is that I believe a person's opinion is valid whether or not they invest time in politicking through the system. In fact, making special connections with other people in any political system can foster cronyism, which, to my mind, makes a person's opinion become a confused reflection on political incentives, bargains, and threats, rather than a direct expression of their reflections on their immediate experiences.

The shortest path between two points is a straight line, and the best way to express an opinion is to do just that. Doing this in an open manner makes education about relevant issues more efficient: if your audience knows something you don't, you're likely to benefit from it immediately.

If an opinion formed by a political system of over 100 people is less intelligent than one formed by an individual, that is not because those 100 people lacked intelligence. It is because they lacked political will. My involvement in an issue will not change political will, and when wills conflict, this calls for counter-strategy, not cooperation.

The claim that if a person were really seriously upset about a fine, getting credits or general education requirements transferred, getting screwed into staying here a fifth year, etc., then that person would get involved in the political system is a load of bull. It implies that deep down, the student doesn't value

their own time or money.

What an absurd notion! The truth is that the student has a realistic idea of their political impotence, and so follows the path of least resistance in order to lose even less time and money, the college having demonstrated the will and means to take both.

Which brings us to the bottom line. It takes a student up to two years to build up an understanding of what being in college means to them, whether to transfer, and what they are looking for. That leaves two years once a person has a clear understanding of what they want and how this conflicts with what the political system wants.

It's not worth it! It is not worth the effort to try to change things when everyone you talk with knows you'll be gone in two years.

But whining does make a difference, simply because it is more time efficient. I had informally complained about Earlham's academics, and my unhappiness here, to some friends during winter break of my sophomore year. I was surprised, this year, when they asked me how things were going at Earlham, since they knew I had been considering transferring. It had mattered that I had shared my experiences.

Now I'm in a position to give advice to others about college. Of course, when I was a prospective student, I was advised not to come here, but I didn't listen, so advice only does so much for people.

I think Earlham students should not feel obligated to get involved in a political system that doesn't have the will to seriously address their legitimate concerns in the first place.

—Curtis Walton is a senior Mathematics major.

Open Window

Silence speaks louder...

On Thursday, April 8, you may notice that Earlham's campus is a little quieter than usual. This day will mark Earlham's annual participation in the National Day of Silence, a day of support for the rights of gay, lesbian, bisexual, and transgendered people. On this day, students across the nation will take a nine-hour vow of silence (8 a.m. to 5 p.m.) to draw attention to issues centering around GLBT rights.

Participants in the National Day of Silence bear a mute witness to the historical silencing of queer voices, and to the invisibility forced upon queer people by the assumptions of heterosexual society. It is a time to call attention to the continuous acts of silencing - the textbooks that somehow “fail to mention” the sexual orientation of a particular historical figure - the queer teens who wound themselves physically and psychologically by trying to conform to a world that will not let them be who they are - the various acts of both inadvertent and intentional violence that try to deny, on a daily basis, queer people's right to exist.

This particular form of silent protest has special resonance at Earlham, a historically Quaker institution. Friends have traditionally sought truth through silencing their own voices to hear the voice

Eleanor Hennessy

of a deeper clarity within. The National Day of Silence can also be seen as an individual reflective search for truth. The organizers of the event ask participants to reflect on the ways that queer voices have been silenced. “It allows us to reflect upon how powerful silencing can be and focus on how we can make our own voices stronger, and begin to stop silencing ourselves and start speaking for GLBT rights on a daily basis” (The National Day of Silence Web-page).

Participants in the National Day of Silence refrain from speaking for the nine-hour period, and instead hand out small cards that explain the significance of their silence. These cards read: “Please understand my reasons for not speaking today. I support lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender rights. People who are silent today believe that laws and attitudes should be inclusive of people of all sexual orientations. The Day of Silence is to draw attention to those who have been silenced by hatred, oppression, and prejudice. Think about the voices you are not hearing. What can you do to end the silence?”

At the end of the day, participants will have the opportunity to come together and talk about their thoughts and experiences during the day - what kind of reactions they got when they handed out their cards, whether they felt supported, how participating in the event affected their understanding of or

thoughts about GLBT issues. This discussion/procession workshop will take place at 5:30 p.m. in the Meetinghouse Library.

The history of the National Day of Silence is an excellent example of the power of grass-roots activism. The idea for the day began as an outgrowth of a paper on non-violent protest written by then 18-year-old University of Virginia student Maria Pulzetti. It has grown over the past three years, with a small budget and diligent work of volunteers and participants, into an event with over two-hundred participating high schools, colleges, and universities, in both the United States and Canada. Earlhamites who choose to participate will be acting in solidarity with thousands of other students across the nation to bring to light the importance of queer issues. The recent and dramatic murder of Mathew Shepard is ample proof that homophobia is still a force in the United States, that queer folks are still living in fear - whether it's of being harassed, losing their job, being unable to adopt a child, or even being deemed unfit to raise their own child. The aim of the National Day of Silence is to make these issues unavoidably visible to the broader society, to create a silence so loud it can no longer be ignored.

—Eleanor Hennessy is a sophomore interdepartmental Peace and Global Studies/English major.

Concerned about racism?

Come to an open meeting to discuss how *The Earlham Word* and other student organizations can bring out into the open the discussion of race issues and how those issues can be addressed.

4 p.m. Monday, April 5
Coffee Shop South Conference Room (upstairs)