New childcare center nurtures young Eagles

Tracy Stephens
Easterner reporter

After years of struggling to bring it into existence, the EWU community finally has a new childcare facility. The daycare center, formerly located at the Ren Pearson Building, has moved to a newly remodeled building at the corner of Washington Avenue and 7th street.

Previous attempts to supply Eastern's campus community with affordable, high quality childcare have failed due to financial requirements, said Childcare Director Nelda Bankhead. After closing the old childcare center, EWU decided to put out a survey asking the community how much demand existed for an on-campus childcare facility.

"What they found was that the need was great, which is why they decided to once again attempt making the center a success," said Bankhead.

The childcare center is now funded jointly by the YMCA and Eastern. The center is licensed to care for 97 kids ranging in age from 6 weeks to 10 years old.

Some of the children currently enrolled are only there on a part-time basis, while others attend daily. The center is focused on giving the children productive activities to keep them entertained while maintaining a learning environment, said Bankhead.

"What we really try to do is provide educational experiences for all the children that attend the center," Athough Eastern's childcare center is open to all children in the community, the dependents of EWU students, faculty, and staff have first priority. Apparently, demand is high, as there is currently a waiting list for those who wish to attend the center.

The YMCA has a contract with Eastern to run the program and hire the management. The requirements that must be met by each worker include CPR certification, knowledge of early childhood development, a food handler's permit, and a tuberculosis test.

The responsibility of funding the center is split between the YMCA and the university. Salaries are paid through the YMCA, while EWU contributes to the program's budget and supplies janitorial assistance. The childcare center relies heavily on volunteer work, which is sometimes used to fulfill practice requirements for students. Volunteers are in charge of many activities ranging from reading books to the children to assisting with snack time. Despite the fact that the center currently has an abundance of volunteers from the campus as well as the community of Cheney, Bankhead says there is always room for more.

"We are always accepting volunteers because there is a great deal we can learn from them, as well as them learning from us."

Going to college can be very expensive, especially for parents who are paying large amounts of money for childcare, said Bankhead. This is why Eastern has designed an on-campus childcare facility to meet the needs of students and the entire campus community. Financial aid and scholarships are available on an income need basis to assist with the expenses of childcare.

According to Eastern's Childcare Center Web page, in order to improve access to higher education and higher paying jobs, access to affordable and quality childcare on campus is essential. EWU is making an effort to assist university parents in enhancing their education and ultimately having a more successful future by opening this new childcare facility.

"There is a great need on campus for good quality childcare that is academically sound, and that is what we are trying to provide," said Bankhead.

3.6 percent tuition hike proposed for 2000-2001

Allen Moody
Editor

EWU students are facing a 3.6 percent tuition increase next year if a proposal heard by the board of trustees last Friday is approved by the board at their Feb. 25 meeting.

The proposal, made by Vice President for Business & Finance Mary Voves will increase tuition for in-state students by the maximum amount allowed by the state legislature.

"The increase is needed to balance our budget," said Voves. "We were shooting for a three percent increase, but the increase in enrollment is generating new demands on our campus."

Normally, tuition fees are set by the legislature, but last year the legislature allowed the state's universities to determine the tuition fees themselves, allowing a maximum tuition increase of 4 percent for the 1999-2000 school year and 3.6 percent for the 2000-2001 school year.

EWU and WSU were the only two universities that did not raise tuition for this school year by the maximum 4 percent, with Eastern raising tuition three percent, and WSU instituting a four percent hike.

Melissa Dybbro, student member on the board of trustees, believes the tuition increase is needed.

"Students are never happy when you increase fees," said Dybbro. "This isn't something we're looking at just to spite students; we need more faculty. Even with the increase we'd still be the most affordable university in the state."

Dybbro said tuition for out of state students will not be increased because they're already paying $3,198 per quarter, and any additional increase would hurt enrollment. Currently, about 10 percent of Eastern's students are from out of state.

We need to do everything we can to keep Eastern attractive to out of state students," Dybbro said. "Having a more diverse population is something that certainly benefits the university in the long run."

Campaign sign sparks criticism

Steven J. Barry
Student Life Editor

A campaign advertisement for ASEOU university advancement campaign has become the cause of some controversy on campus because of its potential racial implications. The ad, which says, "Once you vote Black, you won't go back," has raised protest from members of EWU's African American Education Program.

"I find it very offensive," said Nancy Nelson, director of the African American Education Program. "It's inappropriate to use a culture for an advertisement."

Program members also voiced concern about the sexual implications of the ad.

"What it really says is "Once you sleep Black you never go back," said Nelson. "It's stereotypical and uses sexual conversation to instigate a certain perspective on a race," said EWU student Donna Russell.

Black said the ad is not meant to pique the interest of students on this campus, but he also understands that people aren't offended by it. People have come up to me and asked for a copy of the ad to put on their door, because they think it's cool."

He also said the ad has helped spread his name around campus.

"You only have so many chances to get your name out there," said Black. "There's always racial issues on a college campus."

"I thought everyone would assume it was a play on words," said Black. "I can see how people could see it as racist, and how it would open their eyes to their own prejudices."

Black said he is not racist, and he is willing to tackle any racist issues that come up.

"There's always racial issues on a college campus," said Black. "I understand some people are offended by [the ad], but I also understand many people aren't offended by it. They have come up to me and asked for a copy of the ad to put on their door, because they think it's cool."

Robert Lloyd, EWU professor and publisher of "The African American Voice," said the ad is offensive, but should not be given too much attention.

"I think it's juvenile, but I wouldn't waste a whole lot of time on it," said Lloyd. "If anybody's got a right to do it, he does."

Nelson said an even more pressing issue is the fact that Black has not taken the ads down even though he knows they are offending students.

"He has no regard for the sensitivity of the African-American students," said Nelson. "Once you find out it's offensive, you make a correction. He's just basking in the publicity."

See Black, Pg 2

Pushing the limits of college journalism

The

Eastern Washington University

Vol. 51, Issue 15

February 3, 2000

Don't miss the new 'College Night' talk show on Eastern's TV station.

Find out more on pg.
Caldwell hasn’t broken any,” said Black. “So far, he hasn’t broken any.”

It’s not our place to say whether the ad will go up or take it down is up to the council as a whole,” said ASEWU President Danny Black said he has no intention of taking the signs down. “I don’t think he has any right to do that,” Caldwell said. “He’s using his power in a way that I don’t agree with.”

ASEWU Finance Vice President Rosi Arnold said the board of trustees Student Affairs Committee is investigating alternative methods for removing students social security numbers from their Eagle Cards. Among the alternatives proposed was a plan which would hide the social security number, while another would use an entirely new system.

In an unrelated note, Kroum said that the Winter Warmfest Dance held last weekend raised $636 and two very large boxes of canned foods. Proceeds from the dance will go to Habitat for Humanity. In this year’s MTV tour would bring us back to the original agenda of VIA [Visibility, Interaction, Accessibility],” Black said. “It gives us an opportunity to interact with the other educational environments of Spokane.” VIA is a philosophy the council as a whole adopted at the beginning of the school year as one of the goals they would like to promote.

In an update from last week’s council meeting, the Student Union board of control has decided not to renew its contract for ATM services with Bank of America for the PUB and has instead chosen Washington Mutual Bank to provide those services. It was also noted that Washington Mutual Bank would not be imposing ATM surcharges to students of Eastern who chose to utilize the ATM but did not bank with Washington Mutual.

There will be a forum called “Rock the Vote ‘N Roll with the Candidates” on Feb. 8 in the lower level of the PUB from 10:30 a.m. until 1:30 p.m. and from 4:30 p.m. until 6:30 p.m. This will be an opportunity for everyone to meet and greet the candidates for the upcoming ASEWU elections taking place on Feb. 10 and 17, said Director of Elections Matt Goodwin. The band “10 Minutes Down” will perform during the first session, and may perform for the evening session as well, said Goodwin.

ASEWU student services council member Ryan Kroum announced that the board of trustees Student Affairs Committee is investigating alternative methods for removing students social security numbers from their Eagle Cards. Among the alternatives proposed was a plan which would hide the social security number, while another would use an entirely new system.

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Finally, the ASEWU council is encouraging everyone to attend Friday’s sports night event at Reese Court against Weber State. The game will also be telecast on Fox Sports Northwest beginning at 7:30 p.m.

Black: Campus group protests sign

From front page

Nelson also said Black should have asked someone if the ad was going to be insulting before publishing.

ASEWU President Danny Caldwell said the choice to leave the ad up or take it down is up to Black.

“It’s not our place to say whether or not it’s appropriate. It is our place to say whether or not he has broken any rules by putting it up. So far, he hasn’t broken any,” said Caldwell.

Caldwell said that because it is Black’s last name being used in the ad, he has the right to leave the ad up. Caldwell also said that anything other than informing Black of the potential effects of the ad would be an infringement on his right to free speech.

Black said he has no intention of taking the signs down. “I don’t think anyone should be allowed to put up signs on our campus,” said Black.

The debate on whether MTV’s Campus Invasion Tour should come to Eastern took center stage at the ASEWU council meeting on Tuesday. By a 7-1 vote it was decided that the council was in “support” of bringing the “Campus Invasion Tour” to EWU. This vote does not signify that anything is finalized, just that the council is in favor of having the tour here if all the details can be worked out.

ASEWU council member Kyle Hash cast the lone dissenting vote. Although he supports having concerts here at Eastern, Hash said, "I don’t believe in excessive expenditures.” Hash said his main concern was that the money for this proposed event would come out of the reserve fund, which he felt was not the purpose of the fund.

ASEWU Finance Vice President Rosi Arnold spoke out in support of the concert when she said, “We can do it. I think the reserves can handle it, and the students are in support of it.”

ASEWU academic affairs council member Deb Jones added, “The MTV tour would bring us back to the original agenda of VIA [Visibility, Interaction, Accessibility],” and it gives us an opportunity to interact with the other educational environments of Spokane.” VIA is a philosophy the council as a whole adopted at the beginning of the school year as one of the goals they would like to promote.

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February 3, 2000

New BOT positions Locked in place

Eastern Washington University President Stephen M. Jordan announced last Friday that Gov. Gary Locke has appointed two new members to the EWU board of trustees. Both come from the west side of the state.

The new members are: Cynthia A. Shiota, director of the Seattle Aquarium, and Neil L. McReynolds, vice president of external affairs for Kaiser/Group Health, Seattle.

Dr. Jordan made the announcement at the monthly meeting of the board of trustees today, stating he was pleased at the caliber of individuals selected by the governor for these positions. "We look forward to working with them soon," Jordan said.

Cynthia Shiota's appointment begins Feb. 1 and runs through September 2005.


Shiota has been director of the Seattle Aquarium since 1988, where she increased earned revenues and fund raising by more than 215 percent, reducing reliance on public funds from 35 percent of annual operating costs to less than 2 percent.

She received the 1991 Department of Parks and Recreation Diversity Award, was the 1991 Asian Woman's Caucus Honoree and has received numerous other awards and honors. She is a magna cum laude graduate of the University of California-Santa Barbara (1975) in sociology with an emphasis in law and political economy.

McReynolds has served in his Kaiser/Group Health position since 1997. In his capacity with McReynolds & Associates in 1995-97, he consulted with CEOs and senior management officials across the state. He was senior vice president of Puget Sound Power & Light, 1987-1995.

He serves as a member of the board and executive committee of the Fred Hutchinson Cancer Research Center and is a board member of Seattle's Community Development Roundtable, Seattle Repertory Theatre and Seattle's Museum of History & Industry.

Winter Quarter 2000 ASEWU elections

Candidate List

Executive

President
Bree Holing
Melan Noel

Executive Vice President
Kyle E. Hush
Perry A. Perley

Finance Vice President
Tony Curtis
Terry E. Parker

Council

Academic Affairs
Isaac O'Barran
Christian Shook

Athletic Affairs
Daniel Clark
Dennis C. Hoover

Legislative Affairs
Shane Hart
Danielle Keys

Public Relations
Ken Anderson
Rachel Drouhard
Kelly Murray

Student Activities
Jeffrey M. Bookelman
Alison Simmons
Chuck Green

Student Health Services
Heather Harris
Kimberly Wolflle
Grant A. Drees

Student Services
Albert L. Tripp, Jr.
Kimberly A. Wise
Jon Panamaroff

Transportation and Safety
Bradley Pugh
Jayson Huntley

University Advancement
Curtis Black
Brandon Schinzel
Renae Losse

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- Complete Family Dental Care
- We Love Children
- Senior Discounts
- Drill-less Dentistry
"Family Dental Fitness"

Kenneth J. Collins, D.D.S
Kenneth M. Collins, D.D.S
Mamie L. Collins, D.D.S

HOURS:
Monday & Tuesday 7:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m
Wednesday 7:00 a.m. - 7:00 p.m.
Thursday 7:00 a.m. - 7:00 p.m.
Friday 7:00 a.m. - 3:00
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30 years experience
EWU cultural program renamed

Author Lan Samantha Chang reads at EWU

Author Lan Samantha Chang will read from her work at 7:30 p.m. Friday, Feb. 11, on the second floor of the Eastern Washington University Spokane Center, First and Wall in downtown Spokane.

The reading is free and open to the public.

Lan Samantha Chang is the author of Hunger: A Novella and Stories. A graduate of Yale University and the University of Iowa, she received a National Endowment for the Arts grant and Wallace Stegner and Truman Capote Fellowships from Stanford University.

She won the Bay Area Book Award and a California Book Award. Her book was nominated for the Los Angeles Times Art Seidenbaum Award and the PEN/Hemingway Literature Prize.

Chang divides her time between Northern California and Princeton, New Jersey. Her novel “Yellow Herb” is scheduled to be published this fall by W.W. Norton & Company, New York.

Please call 362-4221 for more information.

Prize-winning conductor performs at Eastern

The public is invited to attend a special open rehearsal of the Eastern Washington University Baroque Orchestra and Chorus, with special guest conductor Gunther Schuller.

The rehearsal will be held 2-4 p.m. next Tuesday, in Showalter Auditorium on Eastern’s campus in Cheney. Admission is free.

The orchestra and chorus will rehearse excerpts from J.S. Bach’s B Minor Mass, conducted by Schuller, the Pulitzer Prize-winning conductor, author and composer.

Please call the EWU music department at 359-2241 for more information.
Don't you forget about me

Dear Editor,

It was great to see an article in The Easterner about diversity, but there was a glaring omission when the list of culture-related educational opportunities was given. The African-American, Native-American and Women's Studies programs were mentioned; and that was wonderful. What I am wondering is why wasn't the Chicano Studies program identified? I'm sure the omission was an error, and I'd appreciate seeing this letter printed tomorrow. I've interested in the Chicano culture that there is an information source on campus. Thank you.

Dodi Rode

Letters to the Editor

Parking garage plan should be stalled

Dear Editor,

I'd like to thank Mr. Holmes for his article in last week's Easterner criticizing Police Chief McGill's proposed housing, parking, and surveillance high-rise. Mr. Holmes pointed out the major flaws in McGill's plan including its absurdity.

Do we really need to turn our campus into a police state at the expense of a quality education? How long can Eastern survive with a shadow of high-rise dorms, million dollar landscape jobs and professional football teams while the many great academic programs that really define Eastern face cutbacks, instructor shortages and other problems associated with the lack of funding?

I stand behind Mr. Holmes for pointing out the ridiculous logic behind McGill's plan. Maybe we should all take a closer look, as Mr. Holmes has done, at the happy neoliberalism that many of our public servants use to convince us what is good for us now days. In the new millenium, let's try a different approach to progress at EWU and buck the American trend towards superficial images over reality.

How about rebuilding Eastern from the bottom up? No, not from a new police station and parking garage up but from the students, teachers and academic programs up. After all, what are we here for?

Derrick Knowles

What movie did you see?

Dear Editor,

I was intrigued by your article "I was watching "Girl Interrupted," when it is obvious on the basis of Brian English's review of the REAL "Girl Interrupted" that I was viewing another film. In Bryant's film, Susanna commits a "half-hearted" suicide, and whose basis for mental illness is a lack of motivation. In the movie I saw, Susanna down's a bottle of aspirin with a bottle of vodka (a full-hearted attempt to me), has hallucinations not caused by drug use, written work, and even has delusions that she has no bones in her hand. Along with this, the character herself believes she is crazy enough to sign her own commitment and even return voluntarily to the hospital after escaping.

Again, in Bryan's movie there's a cast of "colorful crazies" who only serve as a "surrogate family" to the main character. I witnessed a movie where one patient deals with her self-disfigurement, another commits a graphic suicide after a long a depression caused by incest, with others being barely able to acknowledge life, much less deal with it. More dreary than colorful really.

I was intrigued by Brian's movie. I only wish he would've watched the film before giving it a negative review.

Gregory Delez

Opinion

Califord not worth quoting

Dear Editor,

I am writing with concerns regarding an article published in your last issue entitled, "Can Eastern Afford its MTV?" This article states the controversy surrounding the proposal to make Eastern a part of MTV's "Campus Invasion Tour." I am very disappointed that your newspaper continually prints the incredibly speculative opinions of ASEWU President Danny Caldwell. The article states, "Caldwell believes there may be better motives for the timing of the proposal," referring to the upcoming election involving the leading force behind this proposal, presidential candidate Bernie Holving.

In her defense, Holving sincerely and consistently strives to improve the attitude and image of the students toward their school. The proposal reflects the desires of many, so as Holving holds the position of Student Activist, she is effectively doing her job.

Your newspaper staff has the responsibility of objectively presenting facts included in news articles. On several occasions, the staff has written articles featuring the unformed opinions of President Caldwell, obscuring the facts your staff should not want.

In your September 30th piece, Caldwell was quoted as saying, "I see us as almost being a racist campus," because a select number were tearing down posters promoting a campus club. In another issue, you printed Caldwell's statement that the motive behind the theft of Cherry's Christmas tree "had to be acknowledged," even though there was absolutely no evidence to support this claim.

Encourage your staff to consider the validity of quotes included in news articles, regardless of a source's prestige. Caldwell's statements have harmed the reputations of others, and inaccurately skewed the perceptions of your readers.

Jose Tracy

Rebuttal rebutted

Dear Editor,

I would like to rebut Eric Skouson's soporific piece on my contribution to the editorials. I never alluded to an opinion that Humphreys had no right to voice his opinion. I strongly defend peoples' right of expression. I was practicing my right to criticize a newspaper and member for an article that, to me, really isn't worthwhile. I'm respectful of any lifestyle - I just don't appreciate a full feature-sized article.

As an afterthought, mandatory attendance is a ludicrous idea. Students have the free will to succeed and fail at their attendance since it is not a requirement. Your job is only for the K-12 kids.

Greg Simonetti

The Easterner

Letters' policy

Please type or print your letter, restricting it to 350 words. Include your full name, signature and telephone number for verification. We reserve the right not to publish letters, and all printed material is subject to editing by the Easterner. Letters must be received by Tuesday to be published in the following Thursday issue.

Send letters to:

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Cheney, WA 99004
E-mail: easterneremail@yahoo.com

The Easterner provides our forum for our readers to express their opinions and concerns. Letters do not necessarily reflect the opinions of The Easterner staff or EWU.

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The First Amendment

Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof; or abridging the freedom of speech, or of the press; or the right of the people peaceably to assemble, and to petition the Government for a redress of grievances.

"Free speech is meaningless unless it tolerates the speech that we hate."

John Corgers (D-MICH.), 1999

Humphreys wants his MTV

Dave Humphreys
Copy Editor

Last week, I reported an unusual development regarding the effort of Eagle Entertainment to get EWU 's "Campus Invasion Tour" featuring the bands Bush and Mobity to come to Eastern this spring. There was some disagreement among people I talked to regarding the means which would be used to get the tour to our campus, and believe it or not, for once, I was asked my opinion. Would it be a good idea to bring MTV to Eastern? As a reporter, I have to try to maintain a neutral perspective and concentrate on just reporting the facts and opinions of all involved, but now that more information has been brought to light, I have an opinion which will probably surprise you.

Do it.

Bring MTBV here. I really could care less about the bands, I've honestly never listened to Bush and I sure as heck don't know a Moby outside of the one I heard Melissa talk about, but the attention and publicity which Eastern would receive would be well worth the financial investment. It would definitely help in the cause against student apathy. It would possibly put some energy into this campus and last but not least, it would (let's face it) give students something to do.

The wizziewigns and dances are nice, but I doubt they would amount to anything like a visit from the cable station which brought us such "classics" as "Beavis and Butthead," "Dr. Drew," and my MTV vice, "Celebrity Deathmatch."

Though this whole idea does actually reach me as being very shallow, I think that pragmatically, it would be a good move on the part of Eagle Entertainment, the AS council and the board of trustees, who would have to approve the funding.

Ladies and gentlemen, I implore you, bringing the tour here would add prestige and increase name recognition, thereby continuing our growth. It would just make sense.

In the past, I have been let say, overly critical of where the student activity fees go. I hope the Supreme Court rules in favor of students and modifies the system so students can decide for themselves where their money goes.

Whether it's for free prophyplastics or a student newspaper, I would personally support a presentation in the matter other than what I write in the paper (an option I would encourage the rest of our readers to take advantage of). I might as well write off the $500 S/A fees I will pay as a necessary evil in order for me to graduate. We might as well get some publicity from it.

Whether this was a matter of political timing or not, who cares? A good idea is a good idea whether it is during election time or not. No matter what I write in the paper (an option I would encourage the rest of our readers to take advantage of), I might as well write off the $500 S/A fees I will pay as a necessary evil in order for me to graduate. We might as well get some publicity from it.

* * *
CONCORD, N.H. — Concord, New Hampshire is a funky place, existing simultaneously as a small, rural town—like the ones shown in picture books of New England—and as an ever-changing, newly affulent pop culture city of the future. All along Concord’s Main Street, elements of both worlds—weathered, marble buildings with 200-year-old cornerstones; blindingly white, fresh-painted walls in coffee bars—co-mingle in a kind of retro-chic heterogeneity. It is a kind of crossroads where the old meets the new, the conservative faces the outlandish (George W. Bush’s headquarters is next to a lingerie store), the standard meets the unstable, the tried meets the trying.

Similarly, the New Hampshire primary itself is a kind of cross-cultural blending, an event which mixes old school stump-speaking with new age media hype; local electeering with national spin-doctoring.

For weeks now, the candidates—George W. Bush and John McCain on the Republican side and Bill Bradley and Al Gore on the Democratic—have been trucking back and forth across the state speaking to groups of all sizes, from large rallies in civic centers to small speeches held in churches and high school gymnasiums. The number of events was staggering—both Bradley and McCain have held more than 100 town meetings apiece—and the focus has been intensely, exclusively local. With only a little over one million citizens—most of whom aren’t the middle-class voters from rural areas the campaign in New Hampshire feels more like a mayoral race than a nationally focused campaign for president. And as New Hampshire residents remarked, “I’ve shaken hands with all the candidates, and I haven’t had to drive more than 20 miles from home to do so.”

On both sides of the partisan divide, candidates have focused on issues popular with middle-class constituents—education, gun control, campaign finance reform, health care. They have shied away from other issues like abortion rights, foreign policy and social security and welfare reforms, for fear of alienating or losing the hearts and minds of New Hampshire voters.

So far, the candidates have stayed so close to the center of the political spectrum that the race has been less about the candidates’ individual positions and more about their personalities and professional histories. “I voted for John McCain solely because he was a commander in Vietnam,” one man remarked as he left the polls.

The candidates, particularly outsiders McCain and Bradley, have given extensive lip service to “restoring trust in democracy” (Bradley) and “people taking the government back” (McCain), themes which resonate well with independently-minded voters disillusioned with Washington’s polices as usual. And thus the candidates may speak well to the people of New Hampshire, they do not necessarily share the attitudes and opinions of the country as a whole. Therein lies the danger of this primary serving the dual role of state selection and national showcase. The winners in New Hampshire are guaranteed greater press coverage and media hype going into the upcoming Delaware and South Carolina primaries, which undoubtedly will translate into more votes.

In other words, the candidate found most appealing by voters in a state that is more or less demographically homogeneous will automatically get a bump up in other states that are not. Issues of interest to New York urbanites, for example, may not be the same as those that interest most New Hampshire voters. Yet issues New Hampshire voters have a large impact on the race plays out in New York. This primary also could spell certain doom for candidates who reflect the interests of the nation as a whole, though not necessarily the interests of New Hampshire.

While the returns in New Hampshire are important in and of themselves, they do not necessarily determine the overall nominating vote, and do not serve as a determinant or an index of the way citizens will vote in other states.

For a candidate to win the nomination and ultimately the presidency, he will have to attract supporters from many demographic sectors, and will have to articulate a vision that appeals to the greatest number among the American electorate. The results from one state shouldn’t predict which candidate is best equipped to do that.

Like it or not, it’s election time

Allen Moody
Editor

Anyone taking a casual stroll around campus will no doubt be overwhelmed by an assortment of campaign posters, flyers and banners, meaning one thing. Yes, it’s time for the annual ASEWU elections.

Based on previous election turnouts roughly 90 percent of you could care less, and it’s safe to say that I fall squarely into that group. While at one time a good idea, student government elections across the state have been turned into nothing more than popularity contests, where the most qualified people seldom, if ever, are elected, mainly because they have no interest in partaking of something that resembles a race.

The concept of a group of students representing all students on a campus is ridiculous at best. Exactly. Who do student governments represent the students to? Do they represent the students to other students? Hardly. An ASEWU member might comment about should treatment from the administration.

One could argue that student governments represent students to the legislature and they would have to be essentially correct. But do they provide the type of representation students want?

As student representative Aaron Readon (D-Olympia) observed about the president of the University of Washington’s student government leader last year, “It sounds to me like your ASEWU president couldn’t find his ass with both hands.” Is that how you want to be represented? If so, you should be completely happy with the current form of student government.

Well, I may be in a minority, but I certainly don’t like to hear elected officials, such as Readon, saying that an AS president is “incompetent.” It would be nice to think that students have some perception of credibility to the outside world.

While my preferred choice of a total dissolution of student governments may be a little extreme for some who will argue that “students need some sort of representation,” a much more practical solution would be to let the board of trustees appoint the most qualified students to positions, ensuring the most qualified students are chosen.

It’s not a secret that the majority of board members aren’t always aware of what goes on in student government. Much of what appears in the Easterner, but I have developed a certain amount of respect for our board of trustees, mainly because they have some interest in the interests of the university in mind. That is certainly more than can be said of our elected student government representatives.

A particular sore point for anybody associated with any student organization in Easterner occurred in 1998, when the newspaper staff had the audacity, to now get this, tell the truth about a particular ASEWU member’s legal problems. In a juvenile act of retaliation, the ASEWU newspaper, the Easterner, decided to let the board of trustees appoint the student government leaders. This school year we asked for, and received additional funding to hire a full-time ad manager. As you can tell from the number of ads we’ve had the past few issues, she’s doing an outstanding job, especially considering she was thrown into the mess just a few short weeks ago.

If the Easterner asks for the same amount next year, I fully expect to be turned down, one reason being the AS doesn’t really care for my editorial policies. Personally, I could care less. There are very few people whose opinions I care about, none of whom happen to be involved with student government as a student. I would be concerned that, once again, the AS will try to “get back” at the school newspaper by playing with its finances. I fail to see how this would be in the best interest of students, the university or the newspaper.

Since we’re stuck with the current system of elected student government positions, at least for the time being, all that can be asked of you is if you’re one of the few that votes, vote smart. Don’t automatically vote for somebody because they’re the most popular, best-looking or a friend of a friend. Vote for the person you honestly believe will do the best job and who has the best interests of the university in mind, not their own. Like it or not, there are some who still believe student government members represent the students.
'Nots' landing at Showalter Auditorium

Emily Henderson
Eastern Reporter

Don’t know what to do tonight? Then consider checking out EWU’s Film, Art, and Theatre Orchestra with special guests the Celtic Nots for “A Celtic Celebration” at 7:30 p.m. in Showalter Auditorium. The night will feature highlights from the soundtrack of “The Man from Snowy River” and a special arrangement of “Three Days at Sea” by Shaun Kelly, an Eastern graduate. The Celtic Nots, consisting of James Hunter, Carlos Aldan, and Nigel Elliott, will be performing an orchestrated version of “Three Days at Sea.”

Playing traditional Celtic music in a non-traditional way, the Celtic Nots enjoy incorporating rock, jazz, Middle Eastern and African music, while sometimes adding a pinch of humor to their handwork. One way they do this is by using different instruments. Drums like the djembe, “the healing drum” of the Mandingo people of West Africa, and the dumbk, a Middle Eastern and North African drum most commonly found in Morocco and Egypt are used to give their sound a different twist. They also use the Australian didgeridoo of the Aborigines, the shakuhachi from Japan, pan pipes, played by the god Pan in Greek mythology, and the uilleann (pronounced ill-en) pipes. Many other strange, exotic, and not so exotic instruments, such as the electric guitar, are also used to create the unique sound for which the Celtic Nots are known.

One thing that Aldan would like to emphasize is that, “Celtic music is not just Irish music.” Celtic culture is over 2,000 years old and originally existed all over Europe, eventually settling in what is now Germany, Italy, France and Galatia, which is in Turkey. Being a war-like people, the Celts were always conquering new countries and people. But because of run-ins with Greece and Rome, and an uprising by the Germanic tribes under their control, the Celtic empire began to crumble until they were eventually pushed to Scotland and Ireland. Amazingly enough, Celtic culture maintained its purity and any non-Celtic influences adopted into the culture were changed significantly enough to be uniquely Celtic.

The merging of rock, jazz, Middle Eastern, African and Celtic styles is an attribute unique to the Celtic Nots. Their mixing of genres provides more variety and appeals to a broader audience. Fun, wholesome, family entertainment—there’s something for everyone.

The group will be holding a collaborative concert with Eastern’s orchestra today. The event is free to EWU students, but donations are always welcome. For more information, call orchestra director Marty Zyskowsky at 359-6129, or access their Website at www.celticnots.com.
Non-traditional students head for HOME

Students can count on math problems

There have always been subjects that are more difficult for students to learn. As everyone has learned, at one time or another, mathematics is one of these dreadful classes. Whether it is algebra or geometry, statistics or calculus, everyone has experienced some sort of difficulty in math.

Is this the reason the majority of the students who take mathematics classes fail to pass the first time, or is it due to some fault of their own, or even faulty teaching?

If asked why they failed, students will certainly give an excuse, such as the professor didn’t teach in a manner they could learn from, or possibly that the teacher just didn’t like me as much as she liked some of the other students.

On the other hand, to ask a teacher why a student does badly in math, you might get an answer like: The student just didn’t apply themselves, the student didn’t keep up with the homework or that they underestimated the difficulty of the class.

Though these answers are a little more objective, the most objective answer came from Professor Nancy Birch, who teaches statistics in decision science 245 & 246. Birch claims that students do not get enough preparation for college courses in high school. She also says that she can tell if it has been a few years since a student has used basic math skills. Math is like any other skill, she says. People must use it or they lose it.

There may be a scientific reason behind this. Some psychologists believe that whether a person is mathematically inclined has to do with whether or not they are right- or left-brained. Right and left-brained describes which hemisphere of the brain a person utilizes most often to deal with everyday tasks. A person that does well in mathematics is most often found to be left-brained. But just because a person is left-brained does not mean they are in the clear when mathematics is involved. A person that uses the left hemisphere of the brain may be better at math, but when it comes to visual or theoretical mathematics, such as geometry, that person will have problems grasping these concepts. The right brain is responsible for visual abilities, and these people have an easier time grasping drawings or visual mathematics.

Everyone will have problems with mathematics at some time in their learning careers. If we understand which mathematics will be harder for us, and apply ourselves more in those areas, it should be easier to pass those classes. Experts advise students to keep basic skills fresh. Mathematics is a building block, they say, and one must learn the basics to move on.

Spending your summer working on Orcas Island!

YMCA Camp Orkila is hiring camp counselors, lifeguards, kayak instructors, adventure leaders, and more!

Check in at the Career Center for an application and sign up for an on-campus interview February 7, 2000
Eagles talk on ‘College Night’

Student-run show to air tonight on channel 10

Allen Moody
Editor

“College Night” is no longer just a weekly event at Showies. Students in EWU’s Electronic Media and Film program will be debuting their new show, “College Night” on local television this evening.

The show, which will be broadcast live on channel 10 in Cheney and channel 16 in Spokane Tuesdays and Thursdays at 8:00 p.m., was entirely the students’ idea, said instructor Denise Bennett.

“They wanted to do a talk show format, but they also had the desire to make it more interesting to college students,” Bennett said. “It will be more visually entertaining than what you would normally see in a late night show.”

Bennett said the show will contain plenty of “college humor,” and that she and the crew hope students will watch and give feedback.

“Viewers need to realize that they’re students and this is a learning experience,” said Bennett. “Considering that we’ll be broadcasting live there will be some mistakes made, but that’s the best way to learn.”

Guests for tonight’s episode are magician Ben Johnson and a medieval sword fighter who goes by the name of “Frog.”

Future guests include the band Civilized Animal on Feb. 24.

Booking guests will be one of the most difficult aspects of producing the show and the crew could use some help. Anybody knowing somebody they think would make an interesting guest should contact Pam in the EMAF office, 359-6390.

“College Night’ Crew

Co-host: Nate Lewis, Wenatchee, Wash. He’s hoping to graduate this spring and move to California to pursue his career goals.

Co-host: Sharon Sveoehl, Shelton, Wash. After graduation this spring will be joining the Air National Guard and hopes to work for KREM in Spokane.

Co-director: Angela Ryberg, Coupe d’Alene, Idaho. Currently works for KBOI but plans to become rich and famous working in Seattle or Los Angeles after graduation.

Co-director: Angel Schwendiman, Ranchcucamonga, Calif. After graduation she’ll be having a baby.

—“College Night” Cameraman Ramon Canty and Co-director Angela Ryberg

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Free Admission

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Promo with special needs may make arrangements for accommodations by calling the Department of Student Activities at (509) 359-6871 two days before day of event.
Eagles return home still in first place

Ian Klee
Eastrern Reporter

The Eastern men's basketball team ended their grueling four game road trip this past weekend as they picked up and headed to Montana where they faced Montana State and the University of Montana in two tough conference games. The road trip proved successful, however, as the Eagles were able to split the trip with a win Thursday night against MSU and a tough loss Saturday night against UM.

"In our league," said head coach Steve Aggers, "you are in good shape if you can go on the road and get a split."

"That's precisely what Eastern has done, earning a 2-2 overall record for this four game road trip, again giving them the undisputed first place in the Big Sky Conference."

The weekend tipped off Thursday night in Bozeman, Mont. where Eastern earned a victory over Montana State 78-75. Coming into the game, Montana State was ranked third in the nation in 3-point shooting. Aggers felt that the key to their victory was "our defense on their perimeter guys. We did a great job taking away their 3-point shot."

Montana State averaged over eight 3-pointers a game and Eastern held them to only three. The overall defensive effort throughout the entire game was praised by Aggers.

"It was an outstanding defensive effort by our team that night," he said.

The Eagles got down 12-4 early in the game, but then were able to turn it up a notch and play mentally tough to turn the game around, despite the fouls of the inside players. Will Levy got into foul trouble early in the game and spent a good deal of time on the bench. He did, however, have two big offensive put-backs late in the game that helped seal victory for EWU.

Saturday night took the Eagles to Missoula to play the University of Montana in a very hostile environment, with a home crowd upwards of 6,000. They did exactly that early in the game, taking a six point lead on good outside shooting against their zone. However, right before halftime Montana went on a 15-3 run against the Eagles that brought the crowd in and gave the Grizzlies some momentum, putting them up by six going into the second half. Eastern started the second half by pumping up their defense and successfully keeping Montana's key players from scoring, but the key to the Montana victory was the play of their role players coming off of the bench.

"That's the best they played all year," said Aggers, speaking of the bench players, who combined to score 27 points and grab 11 rebounds. "We did a good job on the starters and their best two offensive players, but their subs really hurt us in that game." The final score was 88-82.

Despite the loss, Eastern had four players in double figures in scoring. Deon Williams had a big game point wise, scoring 22 points on 8 for 13 shooting, Ryan Hansen scored 16, Jamal Jones chipped in 11, and Aaron Olson added 10. Will Levy had a big game on the boards grabbing 11 rebounds, seven of them defensive.

This weekend proves to be very important for the Eagles as two wins would put some space between them and the rest of the league, but two losses could take them out of their top spot. Aggers asked all students and faculty to pack Reese Court this weekend, especially Friday night as the game will be regionally televised.

"We're hoping that we get a ton of fans up here and we fill up this arena," said Aggers. "Everybody wear some red and get crazy, cheer for the Eagles. It's probably one of the biggest games around here in a long, long time. We need a good home crowd."

The Eastern Eagles will face pre-season favorites Weber State, Friday, 7:30 p.m. at Reese Court. The game will be televised live by Fox Sports Northwest.

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The Easterner February 3, 2000
The longest home stand of the season for the Eastern Washington University women’s basketball team proved to be a rewarding one as the team cracked out of the Big Sky Conference cellar and into contention for post-season play.

Eastern’s last four games were very successful as they finished with three wins and one loss. Head coach Kevin Pfeifer agreed that the team had a good run. “It was a good homestand for us, winning three out of four. We beat the people I thought we were supposed to beat,” Pfeifer said. “We didn’t play well against Montana. We played okay in the first half but we just didn’t play like we usually do in the second half. Overall we took care of business at home, which is what we needed to do.”

Last Thursday Eastern defeated the Bobcats of Montana State University 69-57 for their third Big Sky victory of the season. The win was a confidence builder since Eastern had not defeated the Lady Cats in four years.

The victory over Montana State propelled the Eagles into a tie for sixth place and into contention for post-season play. The team moved to the three-straight win column as the Eagles had at home in their last four games. Before those games they were 0-4 and in last place in the conference. The top six teams in the conference at the end of the season will square off in the Big Sky tournament March 9-11.

The Eagles’ lone loss of the four games came last Saturday night at Reese Court where the University of Montana Grizzlies defeated the Eagles 63-42.

With the victory, the first-place Grizzlies snapped the Eagles three-game win streak. Montana’s Linda Kaylor took advantage of the single-team coverage of the Eagles’ defense, scoring a game-high 25 points, making five of six three-point shots.

Eastern’s Julie Moore and Tracy Ford-Phelps led the scoring for the Eagles, as both seniors scored in double figures. Moore with 12 and Ford-Phelps with 11, but it was not enough to edge the powerful Grizzlies.

Eastern squandered some scoring opportunities in the second half against the Grizzlies that ultimately hurt the team.

The Eagles took the lead 35-33 early in the second half after being down by one 27-26 at halftime, but scored only two more points in the next 11 minutes of play.

After Montana took the lead, Eastern’s troubles continued when they failed to convert a basket and the Lady Griz put the game away with a 13-0 run. The lack of scoring dropped the Eagles to 7-11 overall and 3-5 in conference play.

Eastern will now go on the road where they have had trouble winning thus far this season (11-22).

Well aware of the tough road schedule ahead, Pfeifer said, “We have our last six out of eight games on the road and that is going to be tough. Portland State is playing pretty well. They have been pretty tough at home so it will be a good test for us. We just have to stick together and play hard as a team.”

There are seven games left in the season and Eastern is 2-5 this year against the remaining opponents.

The Eagles next game will be at Portland State on Saturday. In their previous meeting, Jan. 8, the Vikings defeated the Eagles 69-51.

Julie Moore has been the Eagles’ high scorer in their past two games.

Weber State rolls past Eagles

The Weber State Wildcats defeated the Eagles 79-64 last Saturday at Ogden, Utah in front of 693 fans at Dee Events Center. The Wildcats held a 16-point lead at halftime, but put the game out of reach by hitting an impressive 17-27 (63%) of their field goal attempts in the second half. Moore led the Eagles with 19 points, while Tracy Ford-Phelps pulled down a team-high eight rebounds. The loss drops the Eagles to 5-6 in conference play.

Registration Info:

Earn the right to represent EWU in the efollett.com Super Hoops Northwest Regional Championships on March 4th! The EWU campus tournament will be held on February 9th with the top men’s and women’s teams moving on to the Regional Championship.

EWU Campus Tournament Date: Wednesday, Feb. 9th 6:00pm

Who’s Eligible? EWU students, faculty and staff. Former intercollegiate players are not eligible for this event.

Cost: Free

Tournament Format: Round Robin qualifying followed by a single elimination tournament to decide the champions.

Sign-up information: All teams must sign up in the Intramural Sports Office, PEA 120, at least 15 minutes prior to the event. Round robin brackets will be drawn up at 6:30 and late teams will not be accepted.

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