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## **Easterner, Volume 53, No. 10 November 30, 2000**

Eastern Washington University. Associated Students

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# THE EASTERNER

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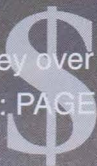
# Infest!

Student housing runabout by BED BUGS?

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Make money over the Holiday  
break SEE: PAGE **8**



Staff writers square off about the  
Presidential election debacle

SEE: PAGE **6**

**VOTE**



# Infestation sparks conflict

## Alleged neglect of situation leads to tort claim



Steven J. Barry/Easterner

▲ Justin Pettis with some of the loaner furniture the university needs back for use "right away."

Steven J. Barry  
News Editor

Complaints about the university's management of the family townhouses located behind the Red Barn have sparked a heated controversy, and the filing of a tort claim by one family.

So far, six different families have said that they have experienced problems with an infestation of bed bugs, an insect in the lice and tick family. When the bugs bite, they leave a painful welt that can result in serious swelling if the victim is allergic to the bite.

Justin Pettis, a former Eastern student, has filed a tort claim request for \$25,000 to compensate for property losses and pain and suffering caused by the university's handling of the situation.

"This is hurt in every sense of the word," said Pettis. "This has caused anxiety, stress and all-around pain."

Pettis, his wife and his four children first moved in to apartment 1-F of the townhouses on August 3, 2000. As soon as five days later, he said he began to notice red

insect bites on himself and family members, namely his three-year-old son Augustine. Pettis said he initially mistook the bites on Augustine's body for chicken pox, and began treating him with Benadryl—in keeping with advice received from a children's hospital consultant—but the problem only worsened.

"We thought he was having nightmares. We would hear him crying 'Bugs are biting me! Bugs!'" said Pettis. "One night I pulled his covers back, and there were bugs everywhere."

In that one instance, Pettis said he saw over 100 bugs in baby Augustine's crib.

"He had bites everywhere—I mean everywhere.

They were all over his body," said Pettis.

Pettis eventually captured one bug and took it to Sprague Pest Solutions, the university's contracted pest control agency, to be identified. They told Pettis he had a bed bug problem. He then went to the apartment manager for help.

"At first they [university officials] were very cooperative, and it seemed like they wanted to get this thing taken care of," said Pettis.

Pettis' family was put up in the Super 8 Motel in Medical Lake until further housing could be arranged. Pettis said that when he came back to move out of unit 1-F and in to unit 5-C, he was appalled at the results of the extermination.

"They ransacked my house," said Pettis. "They hosed down everything we had with pesticides."

Pettis said he was not warned about the pesticides that were going to be used, and that he was concerned about potential side effects of any pesticide.

"The FDA is constantly putting out new information about old pesticides," he said. "I've got four small children; I'm not willing

to subject them to that stuff."

The university then provided him with temporary furniture to use until he could afford to buy more, but Pettis said he was still dissatisfied with the university's assistance. He said they provided little to no help in moving units, and, aside from the infestation problem, the new unit was in no better condition than the old one.

"It's kind of like switching seats on the Titanic," he said.

Pettis faced another problem which only complicated the situation he was in: he had spent so much time dealing with the infestation, his son's allergic reactions to the bites, and moving, that he was forced to either drop one of his classes or fail it. He chose to drop it, lowering his credit load from 12 to seven. At this point, he said that Laurie Connelly, the University Risk Assessment Manager, told him that on-campus housing was only for students taking at least ten credits. Pettis said he took this as a strong hint to leave the unit, so he and his family moved once again, this time to Spokane. Pettis also decided to completely withdraw from the university.

It was at that point that Pettis decided to seek legal assistance. His wife, on full scholarship to Gonzaga Law School, was able to get help from the university legal assistance program.

Pettis said that Connelly is now asking for the loaner furniture—the only furniture he has—back. He also said he finds it very hard to believe that the university could possibly need the furniture back immediately, given it's obvious poor condition.

"I don't know if they expect us to spend Christmas on the floor, or what," he said. "This is the only furniture we have left, and we need it for the time being."

Pettis also said Connelly has been extremely hostile and difficult to deal with throughout the entire ordeal. He said each and every time he has spoken with her about anything he feels somewhat threatened.

Pettis was billed for unit 5-C through the end of No-

vember, and said he therefore assumed he would have until the end of November to move out. His family moved in early November, but has yet to completely move out of the unit. Despite this, he discovered on Tuesday that the locks to the unit had been changed, restricting his access to his belongings in the unit.

Housing officials say that they feel completely justified in changing the locks because of the fact that Pettis is no longer a student of the university, and he left without notifying anyone.

Pettis said he finds it interesting that every time he has made any effort to speed up the process, the university has retaliated in one form or another.

"Every time I've made a step forward, the university has responded that day with something threatening. They know exactly what they're doing; it's almost like a huge conspiracy," he said.

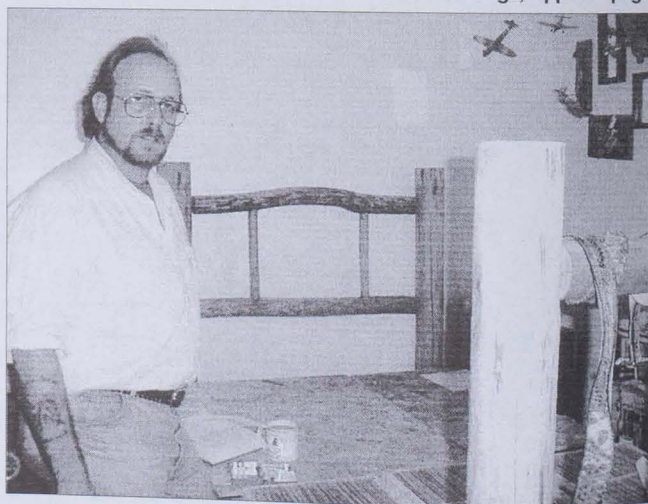
Pettis suffered an estimated total of \$3,317 in property losses and \$1,400 in miscellaneous losses due to the infestation, an amount he says he cannot afford.

Toni Taylor, a university housing representative, said they [the housing office] have been more than willing to work with Pettis, and that the problems are being caused by a lack of communication.

"They have always been welcome to live there," said Taylor. "Nothing has happened related to this tort claim that has effected his living there. It was his choice to leave [the townhouses.]"

Heidi Alhabri, who lived in unit 1-F from September of 1997 to June of this year, said she made several complaints about the bugs,

See "Bed Bugs," opposite page



Steven J. Barry/Easterner

▲ Randy Carlton next to the bed he was forced to discard after owning it for over ten years.

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**Bed Bugs: biting into some families' lives**

From page 2

only to be told it was her problem.

"The frustration was incredible," Alhabri said. "I was devastated when they said they didn't have to do anything."

Alhabri, a mother of four boys, said she notified the unit manager at that time, Randy Carlton, that her sons were being bitten, especially her youngest son, a seven-year-old. She said Carlton went to Taylor in the housing office, and was told that there was nothing the university could do, and Alhabri must have brought the bugs in with her.

"I lived in an apartment for seven years prior to moving to the townhouses, and I never once had a problem with bed bugs," said Alhabri.

Alhabri said she used commercial-grade pesticides to take care of the problem as best she could with her financial resources, but was still forced to get rid of most of her furniture, which she estimated cost her between \$700 and \$800.

"Now we don't have a couch," she said. "I've got a tiny love seat that we're using right now, but other than that we're couchless."

Taylor insisted that she did not know about a bed bug problem prior to the Pettis family moving in to the unit, and that she did not blame Alhabri or anyone else for the infestation. She did maintain that since the bugs are not native to the area, they must have been imported somehow, but that she

and she made sure we had free child care during the whole thing. She was very helpful," said Pettis.

Carlton, who lost his job as manager in June, said this was not the only problem that he brought to the housing office that was ignored. He also said it was his insistence on dealing with the problems that led to his firing.

"I brought up problems with door seals, the storm drains and power surges, and each time I was either ignored or dealt with rudely," said Carlton.

He also said that maintenance normally performed between tenants was called in on families still living in the townhouses.

"These people would be sitting there in their living room, and these maintenance people would key in the door and just walk in," Carlton said.

Ironically enough, Carlton's wife Tammy was bitten over 20 times by the bugs in question on Monday, and was forced to go to the local clinic for treatment. She said her eyes were swollen almost completely shut. The Carltons said they were forced to discard their mattress, bedding, and a wooden bed they've had for over ten years.

Carlton said he believes the bugs are getting in through cracks caused by improper sealing in the doors and windows. He said he had the bugs positively identified as bird bugs, which meant they were migrating inside from bird nests along the eave of the roof. He also said he doesn't want to stay in the townhouses any longer than he absolutely has to.

"Right now we don't have the money to move, otherwise we would," Carlton said.

Tenants have also noticed a problem with hobo spiders. Several sources have said that the daughter of Josh and Stacy Johnson, who currently work as managers at the townhouses, was recently bitten so severely by hobo spiders that she had to be placed on antibiotics.

The hobo spider [also known as the Aggressive House Spider] is a recluse spider, a cousin of the brown recluse, that delivers a painful bite. About half of hobo spider bites result in venom being injected in to the victim, which eventually causes an open, oozing ulceration on the victim's skin.

The Johnsons, however, declined to comment on the situation.



Steven J. Barry/Easterner

▲ Some of the items Pettis and Carlton were forced to discard because of the infestations.

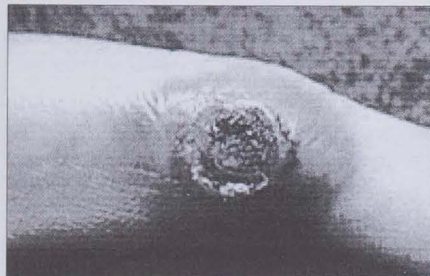
Housing officials say they have always been very aware of the hobo spider problem, and that it's something that will never go away completely because the units are located at the edge of a wheat field. They also said they make spider traps available to all residents.

Pettis and other families said that the university has had a very hostile, defensive atti-

tude about the whole situation, and that at times the situation even comes across as threatening.

Amy Ring, a third-year law student at Gonzaga Law School representing Pettis, said the situation has the potential to turn in to a class action law suit.

"The university is definitely playing hardball with us," she said.



▲ A hobo spider bite.

never specified one resident that was responsible.

Pettis said that Taylor was the only individual who was willing to work with him, and that she did everything in her span of control to help.

"To her credit, Toni helped us out in any way she could. She got us the loaner furniture, she made sure we could stay in the hotel

**DON'T LET THE BED BUGS BITE...**

Hemiptera: Cimicidae

SIZE: 1/4 to 3/8 inch (4-5 mm)

COLOR: Reddish brown or brown

**DESCRIPTION:** Bed bugs are sometimes called "red coats," "chinchies," or "mahogany flats." The adult bed bug is a wingless insect that is flattened from top to bottom.

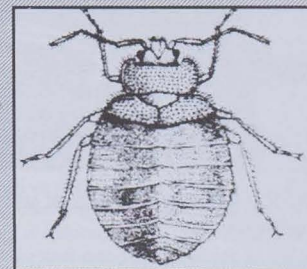
**HABITAT:** At the beginning of an infestation, bed bugs are likely to be found only in the tufts, seams, and folds of mattresses and bed covers. In areas of heavy infestation, bed bugs can be found in crevices in the bedsteads. Because bed bugs can live in bird nests, houses and buildings with several bird nests in the eaves and on the roof often will have bed bugs coming into the living areas.

**LIFE CYCLE:** The life cycle stages of a bed bug are egg, nymph, and adult. The females lay about 200 eggs, usually at the rate of three or four a day, in cracks and crevices in the floor or bed. Newly hatched bugs begin feeding immediately. They shed their skin five times before becoming adults.

**TYPE OF DAMAGE:** They feed principally on human blood by piercing the skin with a long beak and sucking blood into their stomachs. They feed mostly at night, but will feed during the day if hungry and the light is dim.

**CONTROL:** In private homes, find all the areas that bed bugs hide in during the day time. These must be treated with chemicals. In hotels, apartments, and other multiple-type dwelling places, bed bugs may spread from one unit to another. All units should be inspected. Remove bird nests.

**INTERESTING FACTS:** Usually discovered in unsuspected areas such as in floor cracks, under carpets, behind loose wallpaper or wall pictures, and in old, unused stoves.

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# Police update: Traffic, hate material top list of recent problems

Joel Peterson  
Reporter

Three weeks ago, Eastern was witnessing the highest number of drinking violations in the history of the university. The number of alcohol contacts has declined considerably since then, but programs are still in the works and plans of patrolling residence halls and notifying parents will probably still be implemented.

Along with the drops in alcohol contacts, the reports of vandalism and theft have also decreased.

"The percentage of theft and vandalism will usually reflect upon the amount of alcohol use taking place on campus," stated University Police Chief Tom McGill. The drop off in these two areas is good news to the EWU administrators who have spent countless hours developing solutions to alcohol problems on campus this year.

Despite the decrease in many law violations recently, there seems to be an imminent problem with traffic at the university. So far this year, eight DUIs have been issued, along with eight speeding tickets and numerous warnings. Another disconcerting problem is

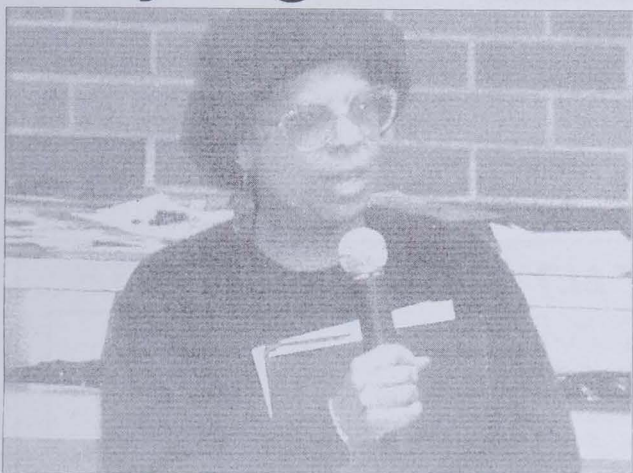
the lack of attention to stop signs on campus.

"Our biggest fear is someone being hit by a car while crossing Elm and Washington streets," said McGill.

So far, six citations have been written for people not obeying stop signs and failing to yield to pedestrians. Because there have been problems so far this year, we can probably expect to see more traffic enforcement. McGill said the speed limit around campus is 25 miles per hour. Anything more than that could result in your wallet being a bit lighter in from now on.

Eastern's administration will be releasing a statement in the near future about recent racial propaganda being circulated. This problem is starting to worry officials on campus, and we will learn more about it next quarter and in the next couple of weeks. The propaganda being circulated is mainly white supremacy related, and is plastered with many slogans and symbols trying to promote their cause. Anyone who finds any of these posters is advised to contact the university police to help further the investigation. More information will be available soon in the on-line edition of The Easterner.

## Students gather to rally against hate



▲ Nancy Nelson speaks at yesterday's anti-hate rally in the PUB.

port that."

"When I think about what the last part of the pledge of allegiance says," said Shook in her conclusion, "it says 'liberty for all and justice for all' to give you the freedom to do what you need to do, the freedom to go to school and get your education, no matter what color you are, no matter what gender

you are, no matter what your preferences are, you have the right to be here."

Continuing the rally with her call for greater awareness of hate crimes for Eastern Students Holsing said, "We have been kept in silence about instances of hate crimes that have been happening to eastern students. We need to tell the university clearly, we are not going to sit in silence."

Turning to the diversity of Eastern's Deans Holsing said, "I don't want to call them out but I need to do this [...] out of [Eastern's] nine deans [...] all of them are white and one is a woman we need to ask the administration whether we're speaking out."

Nick Nash  
Reporter

On November 28, Baldy's was the site of this year's first ASEWU anti-hate rally. The captive lunchtime crowd heard from a number of speakers including Academic affairs representative Christian Shook, ASEWU president Bree Holsing. The head of the of the African-American education program also provided listeners with an acapella rendition of "My Country 'Tis of Thee."

Shook who said that the rally was held because, "We feel that students on this campus need to be informed when issues arise," continued by saying that, "The administration has made their stand on diversity in this community but we as students have not so this rally is to help sup-

## Letter from President Stephen Jordan to the Community

To the University Community:

We regret the circumstance that causes us to send the following message to you.

University Police along with Spokane city and county law enforcement and the Federal Bureau of Investigation, are currently investigating an incident in which racist literature was posted in two residence halls on our campus in Cheney on Thursday, November 16.

The incident is being investigated as possible malicious harassment since it appears that specific individuals or groups may have been targeted.

A number of apparent web site printouts with racist content were posted on bulletin boards in Morrison and Streeter Halls on that day.

We as a university community unequivocally repudiate this action and affirm our commitment to the value of diversity. We find this sort of behavior harmful to the entire community and totally outside the bounds of the civil discourse we promote here at Eastern.

This is not a place where hate will be tolerated.

The material appears to have been drawn

from a variety of web sources containing hate speech and calls for violence. If the investigation reveals that any Eastern students were involved and if criminal laws or the university's student conduct code were violated, the university will pursue all available remedies through the courts and/or through university disciplinary processes.

Eastern Washington University is a diverse community of learners. We value and remain dedicated to free speech and the expression of all views in a civil manner that respects opposing points of view and the dignity of every individual.

In response to this incident, the university is conducting community discussions with students in the residence halls, providing staff training and supporting students through our academic and ethnic studies programs and through our Counseling Services.

Stephen M. Jordan, EWU President  
Peter A. Dual, Provost & Vice President for Academic Affairs

Mary Voves, Vice President for Business & Finance

Brian Levin-Stankevich, Vice President for Student Affairs

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# Boston college loses party scene after death

U-Wire

CAMBRIDGE, Mass. — At 1:45 a.m. on a Sunday morning at Boston College (BC), the brightest lights in sight come from the headlights of a police car.

Sgt. Timothy M. Kervin of the Boston Police Department and William R. Mills, Jr., Associate Director for Community Affairs at BC, sound wistful in the driver's and passenger's seats as they circle around the same group of dark dormitories.

"These four buildings, a couple years ago, there were parties every floor," recalls Mills.

On the fourth circuit around these dorms, there is a glimmer of excitement.

"This one with the lights on," Kervin says in a quiet monotone, and pulls his cruiser closer, hoping to find a wild party in hiding. Moving in, they discover that the room is silent.

"We've put ourselves out of business," Kervin quips.

Mills was remembering the neighborhood before MIT first-year and fraternity pledge Scott Krueger died of alcohol poisoning in the fall of 1997.

One week after the tragedy, the Boston Globe described these streets as a scene of bacchanalia. "In this teeming college town, at any given moment on any given weekend, there is a party to be had ... There's an empty cup to fiddle with until you reach the flowing keg at the start of the line, and when the keg runs dry, there's a bouncer who will hold what he knows is a fake ID up to the light, and let you in anyway."

But in the fallout of Krueger's death, something changed.

College administrators, local cops and alcohol providers are

working together to ensure that another local college student does not die of alcohol. But what are the consequences for the thirsty masses under 21? For many, the struggle to get a drink in Beantown has become a little bit harder — and the consequences are hardly a slap on the wrist.

## A DEATH REMEMBERED

Kervin and Mills are just a small part of what may be the nation's largest crackdown on drinking in recent memory.

After the Krueger incident, the city of Boston started enforcing its drinking age so tightly that many Boston area colleges, especially those in the Allston-Brighton area — BC and Boston University — are losing the classic college Animal House atmosphere.

According to Boston Police Department Lieutenant John E. Kervin, who serves in Allston-Brighton and is Timothy Kervin's brother, approximately 250 students have been arrested for alcohol offenses during this academic year in Allston and Brighton alone, about three times the total in past years. The department has also confiscated around five times as many fake IDs from students who have been arrested.

In the years before the Krueger tragedy, the drinking scene at Boston-area colleges differed little from that of colleges anywhere else.

"It was a lot bigger back then," says James Kenji Alt, a junior at MIT. "We used to bring kegs into the middle of Killian Court on Friday nights."

But the death of Krueger, whose blood alcohol was more than five times the legal limit, "sent shock waves out to a lot of schools," says Captain William B. Evans, commander of the Allston-Brighton police district.

"Because it occurred in a so-called elite school," says Henry Wechsler, director of the College Alcohol Study at the Harvard School of Public Health, "people thought, 'If it can happen there, it can happen anywhere.' The fact that it was at MIT gave it extra salience."

Now that MIT has come out of the lawsuit filed by Krueger's family \$6 million poorer (the school settled with the family this September), the pressure is on both colleges and the city to puritanize student nightlife.

"It was a wake-up call for a lot of people, not only students and residents but public officials," Lehman says. "The Mayor [Thomas M. Menino] looked at it as a way of doing something proactive so this won't happen again ... We had to start ensuring that the enforcement end was still in place. It wasn't lacking, but Scott Krueger's death breathed a bit more urgency into it."

No college wants a trag-

edy to occur. But these days, it seems, the threat of monetary retribution has incited university administrators to a new caution. The sense of vulnerability that has captured them after the incident is tangible.

"We still could have a Scott Krueger," said Herb A. Ross, Associate Vice President for Student Affairs at Boston University. "We know we're not immune."

Nowhere is this trend more apparent than at MIT. In addition to the settlement, the school took back the bachelor's degree of the graduate who provided Krueger with the alcohol. Now, students say, the row of MIT-affiliated fraternities lining the Charles River resembles a police state.

"Now, it's a lot more underground," said Alt. "Most small parties, you won't get bothered, but if it's noisy at all, it'll probably get broken up."

MIT first-year Bob Yin went further, describing the drinking situation at his school as "nonexistent ... MIT was known for more drinking, and it got a lot of notoriety with the Scott Krueger incident," he adds. "But they were sued for millions, and that made them crack down. Now at every party, campus police stand at the door."

## CITY ON PATROL

And when the campus police are not enough, the city police are eager to contribute in Allston and Brighton, home of BC and part of BU. On Friday and Saturday nights, the district has four extra "party cars" on duty, two of which are paid for by BC.

BC administrators like Mills ride alongside the cops, ready to impose school sanctions on top of the court date. The arrests are frequent and the penalties can be severe, say Mills and John Kervin.

One of the primary aspects of the crackdown has been a greater emphasis on holding underage purchasers legally accountable for attempting to buy alcohol, instead of focusing exclusively on sellers.

"The city has changed its policy," said Martin J. Connealy, manager of the Harvard Provision Co. liquor store. "Up until now, it was always our responsibility. Now, they're putting more emphasis on making minors suffer."

"There's been a shift, and it's made people a little more responsible," echoes Patrick M. Lee, owner of the Grafton Street restaurant/bar.

"When the education part does not work," — he gives informational talks on drinking laws at about a dozen universities — "the big thing is enforcement," Evans says. "Kids are handcuffed, taken to the station and treated like they just robbed a bank. They're fingerprinted and put in a cell. If it's a Friday, [they] could conceivably sit there until Monday morning."

The new policy does away with the old value of lenience for college kids out of concern for hurting their futures, Evans says.

"It's always on your record if you're 17 or above," he says. "You'll always be in our system. Your fingerprints and photograph are still on file. You're always going to have to explain that blemish — it is always on record. And if the FBI has to decide between two candidates, they might take the one that doesn't have that."

The actual legal consequences for a first offense are, in most cases, slim. According to Charles E. Ouellette, assistant clerk magistrate for Brighton County, the average case is dismissed after six months if there are no further arrests.

However, a conviction for underage drinking or attempting to purchase with a fake ID is often accompanied by suspension of a driver's license.

"If that's their primary means of transportation," Lehman says, "that has a bigger effect."

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# Sore Loserman 2000 *VS* Bush - n - Dick

John Lichorobiec  
Online Editor

Enough is enough already.

If you're like me, you're both fascinated and sickened by the events going on in this year's Presidential election. It is like a gruesome car accident on the freeway. It makes you sick to look at it, yet you're compelled to turn your head and watch as you drive by the carnage.

That is how many people that I've talked to view this election.

Take your pick on who the Demoncrats [sic] put in front of your television screen on a nightly basis, spewing their mantra, because we've seen all their heavy hitters.

Yes, I say "Demoncrats" and do so for good reason. Isn't it ironic that David Boies, one of the lead attorneys for team Gore, is also the same David Boies that defended Phillip-Morris a few years back with all the lawsuits against the tobacco industry that Clinton-Gore have railed against in the past. It sure sounds like someone is "dancing with the devil in the pale moonlight," if you ask me.

We've already seen Al Gore plead his case twice to a national audience within a 24-hour period. His sidekick Joe Lieberman is chirping in daily with his claims of an "inaccurate" and "incomplete" vote total. Give it a rest already, Joe.

Sure the Demoncrats will tell you the Republicans are trying to stall the process, and this would have been resolved a long time ago had there been a fair and accurate count from the beginning.

This is something the courts will have to decide, but you have to give it to Gore, it takes guts to sue the very same people who have supported him because the outcome didn't go his way. And the Demoncrats are saying the Republicans are disenfranchising voters. Way to go Al!

Maybe if he repeats his version of what's going on long enough, people will actually start to believe him. Not that polls mean much in this day and age, but the trends are definitely leaning towards ending this fiasco already.

Don't even get me started on the whole hypocrisy issue the Demoncrats are spouting about the vote in Miami-Dade county not being recounted because of the "orchestrated attempts to overthrow the election process." I have two words for you: "Jesse Jackson." Enough said.

It's not like the Republicans haven't fought an uphill battle as it is, dealing left and right with Democratic judges (yeah I know on the Florida Supreme Court, only six of the seven were Democratic, and the other an Independent), Democratic canvassing boards and the like. In spite of that, the Republicans have still been able to outmaneuver the Demoncrats and whatever legal wrangling they've tried.

In the end, the losing side in this historic struggle will say that the other side "stole" the election from them. Maybe that's the case, and if George W. Bush is the one to get Inaugurated come January 20, just know that Bush beat Gore at his own game, and there's nothing left but the crying.

Zan Lanouette  
Editorial Assistant

Enough is enough. At least that's what America is feeling as Cheney wheezes through his heart condition in his hospital bed and Bush huffs and puffs over the injustices in his election.

Our 2000 election obviously did not go as smoothly as planned, and Gore has reason to demand a recount. It's not his fault that the entire state of Florida struggles with the ballots. Gore is merely trying to overcome the inadequate and incompetent "voters" of the Sunshine state. Lieberman at least fulfills his V.P. job expectations by standing next to Gore with the statistics of inaccuracy. It seems that little George stands alone, unless he plans on doing interviews and press conferences from Dick's private, posh room.

We can see why Bush became a twisted lone star governor as opposed to Judge George as the flawed election complaints hit the courts.

"The right to vote is the right to participate; it is also the right to speak, but more importantly the right to be heard," said the Florida Supreme Court during its explanation of its decisions.

Bush rallied against the Florida court's verdict, displaying his Bush Sr. and Republican molded brilliance, with "The court had cloaked its ruling in legalistic language. But make no mistake, the court rewrote the law. It changed the rules, and it did so after the election was over." I can see where the poor Texan got confused.

After all, "Participate" is a four syllable word. Repetition is definitely more apparent in Bush

than Gore these last weeks. Anyone who has managed to sit through Bush's whiny speeches will have noticed his redundant and obnoxious use of colloquial statements again and again. Perhaps Bush's writers [because goodness knows he struggles writing his own name let alone a coherent speech to address our nation] need to sharpen their skills. Or perhaps Bush Sr. was kind enough to drag Dan Quayle out from his hiding place in order to have a little reunion and to write George's material.

"Will the highways on the Internet become more few?" Seems too Quayle to be Bush, but low and behold, this literate query came straight from the ass's... I mean horse's mouth. It seems that if a person struggles this much with standard English, he certainly would not want to leave the president's seat open to whoever could score higher on a literacy test. Amazingly enough, George is trying to evade a full recount in Palm Beach by resorting to the good old segregationist way of literacy testing. I wonder if Cheney's EKG machine will allow him to test as well?

The Republicans can only harm and so they chose a real winner when it came to representation of their sickening party. The son of a Bush, if actually elected, will add a whole new element to the White House. Judging from his drug-ridden past and tendency to celebrate early, we better hope that the Bush's are pruned and weeded out.

I can just about picture his jubilation the night of the 7<sup>th</sup> when he was prematurely announced President of the United States of America for those few minutes. He was probably twirling his poor, sickly V.P. around by his decrepit arm, screaming:

"Almost nobody voted for me.... but I still won!"

## Sex & Violence



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# Braving the Cheney Streets:

## Today is a good day to die!

Seth Swift  
Reporter

The other day, as I mused upon the streets of Cheney, I came to a few conclusions. The first is, Cheney streets suck. The second? The streets in Cheney suck. The third I came up with is, while there are streets in my native Seattle that are bad in spots, Cheney streets suck everywhere. I even went so far as to decide that all of the worst kept streets in America should be named Cheney Street.

Take, for example, what happened to me on my way to school one morning last week. On that day, there occurred a mishap that many readers may have heard of or seen while they drove to school. As I myself drove blearily along a Cheney side street, picking sleep greens out of my eyes and attempting to make the radio in my piece of shit car work [which really is in worse condition than Adam Sandler's car], I hit a large pothole. My car violently jolted me about, stalled, and in the process I spilled a thermos of scalding apple cider in my crotch.

Of course, I screamed and thrashed about the front seat a bit, lamenting out loud the sure loss of all the 42 children I planned to have in the future to help overpopulate the world. When the agonizing pain finally dulled to just an agonized pain and the winged wit-gathering fairies collected some of my wits about me, I exited my vehicle to survey the damage.

Still quite disoriented from the shock of losing a couple of layers of skin from my sack, I was thrown even farther into the depths of confusion when I ascertained my surroundings. All around me, left to right and front to back, was a thin layer of unkempt blacktop road at about the level of my chest that rested upon packed dirt reeking of raw sewage.

I then realized what had happened to me. I was ensconced in one of the many black holes of the Cheney potholes. However,

I'm sure the reader may be happy to hear that my piece of crap car was not pushed much further into crapdom by the near six-foot fall into the pothole. It had only received two more major bone crushing dents to the front end and lost the muffler, all of which I could deal with. In addition, it even improved my car a bit. The enormous jar to the engine caused it to stop making that funny clicking noise that had always annoyed me.

After the ambulance came to attend to and tightly bandage my more sensitive regions, and the tow-truck had extricated the car from the abyss of Cheney's seventh largest pothole, I gingerly got back in my car and drove the rest of the way to school. I had already missed my first class, but, being the outstanding scholar that I am, I went and ate a dish of overpriced gruel at Baldy's until my second and final class was

*Second Street could be called Suicide Street because of the dangers inherent through the business district.*

over. I carefully wound my way back home through the dangerous crumbling streets.

About one block from my home I came

upon the uncontrolled intersection [you know, the kind without any traffic signs] that had always made me nervous. I slowed the pace of my car. To my right another car was slowing, and eventually we both came to a complete stop waiting for the other car to go. The other car waved for me to proceed as I did the same. We both began to move forward as one, and then stopped. We both smiled and chuckled slightly, waving the other on as before. We began moving in unison and stopped again. It was less funny this time, but we remained good natured and smiling. After repeat-

ing the same routine a number of times traffic began to build up behind us.

I finally, getting tired of the stop and go game, decided to just

*First Street could be renamed Mauled Pedestrian Lane because nobody ever stops for pedestrians on that road...*

fly through the intersection, just as the driver of the other car did, and we met in the middle. All I obtained was another humongous dent, which actually kind of improved my car, and restarted

it. Since the car I was driving was stolen, therefore not my possession, I restarted it and drove off, leaving the man in the cherry '96 Mustang to shake his fist and shout expletives at me in my rear-view mirror.

Later that same day I went to Washington Mutual to withdraw enough money to drink as much coffee as it took to make me vomit and stay up all night. On the way there I took notice of the inadequately named streets, and came up with a few names of my own I could call them. For example, there's

*"I piss on the streets of Cheney, the worst streets in America, and their mothers."*

the four way stop with one free lane of traffic uphill from the Taj. Due to the numerous wrecks I've been involved in there, I felt it

should be renamed Wreck Road. 1<sup>st</sup> street could be renamed Mauled Pedestrian Lane because nobody ever stops for pedestrians on that road, even when they're in the crosswalk. 2<sup>nd</sup> street could be called Suicide Street because of the dangers inherent through the business district.

Since it was almost six o'clock, when the bank locks its door to business, I had to hurry. Briefly, a notion flashed across my mind to take a shortcut, but all the voices conversing in my head laughed that idea into oblivion. There is no such thing as a shortcut in Cheney. Some people may take the

long way home so that they can finish their cigarette, like I used to do in Seattle before my parents knew I smoked, but in Cheney every way is the long way.

So, instead of a shortcut, I took the shortest longcut to Wa Mu, which is Suicide Street in my mind. I haphazardly streaked past the police station, past a couple of semi trucks parked in the middle of the street, nearly running down a couple of pedestrians, until I was held up by an elderly gentleman who refused to go over 12 miles per hour, despite my honking horn and flashing lights.

Needless to say, I didn't make it to Wa Mu in time. I sat in the parking lot dejected and tired from my lack of life sustaining coffee. Pulling out of Wa Mu my car, or rather, my stolen car, was wrecked beyond operability for the final time. A passing semi that I couldn't see, resulting from the fact that because of parallel parked cars, it is impossible to see traffic from any parking lot on Mauled Pedestrian Lane [1<sup>st</sup> Street], plowed into me, jarring my poor scalded genitals.

I meekly walked, trying to run, home, leaving the car at the scene of the accident.

The next morning, still rather incensed at the state the streets of Cheney are in and all the trouble that befell me as a result

of them in one day, I tried to call the mayor's office to berate someone, anyone, for the loss of my, albeit stolen, car. However, though I tried a number of times to reach the mayor, she wasn't available for comment. [That is mostly because a majority of the pages in my phonebook have been torn out to be used for toilet paper and I couldn't remember the number for 411].

And since I have no one else to vent my anger to, reader, I vent to you, and tell you, "I piss on the streets of Cheney, the worst streets in America, and their mothers."

## The Easterner

### Letters to the Editor

Please type your letter, restricting it to 250 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. Letters must be received by Tuesday at 3 p.m. to be published in the following Thursday issue.

### Send letters to:

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● The Easterner provides a forum for our readers to express their opinions and concerns. Letters-to-the-editor as well as advertisements do not necessarily reflect the opinions of The Easterner staff or EWU.

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# Making dough for your 'Ho Ho Ho'

A serious guide for serious students to make some serious money for the holidays

Paul Moberly  
Reporter

Ah, the holidays—a time for good food, good company, and bad credit. If you are like most starving students, you can barely afford to put a roof over your head, a book in your hand, and a new Pioneer stereo system in your car. Affording to buy presents for all your greedy siblings—not to mention your parents, who are finally catching on to your re-gifting of Aunt Martha's annual birthday sweater vest with matching kitchen towels—is nearly impossible. I feel your pain when you realize your car insurance costs more than a run for president and your budget is tighter than a recount in Florida. How are you going to buy that Ally McBeal Barbie for your sister and still have enough for your PalmPilot from Santa? There is an answer my fellow shoppers, but it is not pretty: work during winter break.

I know, by the time finals are over your brain has turned to the same mush as the bowl of half eaten frosted flakes since mid-terms. Are a nice warm fire, three free meals a day, and a place to wax your snowboard too much to ask? Unfortunately, if you want to get, you have to give. I have wrapped in this cheap newspaper my Christmas gift to all of you, ideas for making money over winter break. Out of the generosity of my heart, and in the spirit of Christmas giving, plus 10 percent of all your earnings, I give my ideas to you with hopes of your financial success this season.

Work for UPS: By now you should have seen one of the signs posted around campus, and I know those brown uniforms with matching mail truck aren't exactly *en vogue*, but for \$8.50 an hour, how can you pass up passing out presents and packages? [say that ten times fast] Sign up in the Student Employment Office [Showalter 114], but hurry, and maybe they'll let you keep the brown shorts.

Shovel Roofs and Driveways: You could go to a temp agency, but it wouldn't be half as fun. I made \$100 on a roof one year; that isn't bad for an afternoon's work. True, he was a rich lawyer, but robbing from the rich and giving to me makes for more presents under the tree. Seriously, go to your neighbors, give your credentials—young, poor, fearless of death—and say you will shovel their roofs and driveways for \$80 or so. If they decline, mention something about snowmen in their living room. Yeah, it's about as dignified as mowing lawns or riding the

bus, but just think of all the back wrenching character you'll build. One personal safety note: be careful on the roof. You don't want a story like I have: a roof, a shovel, a rubber ducky and a six-inch scar...not a pretty tale.

Put up Christmas Lights: Along the same lines as shoveling, play the vanity card with your more affluent neighbors. Make a crack about so and so's beautiful holiday display and maybe you can get 20

bucks or so.

Some professional companies charge upward of \$100 for the whole show, but your no professional—and really, who would want to be? The same cautions can be said of stringing lights: Be careful up there.

Cleaning Chimneys: This is another low dignity, high return job. Most nice homes have a fireplace. Most nice homeowners have money, and most nice homes are bumed down by nice homeowners with money who forget to clean their chimneys. Rent cleaning supplies or borrow your mom's mop and toilet brush. This might take some simple training, but as with most demoralizing jobs, is about as easy as saying, "Do you want fries with that?" Practice on your parents' fireplace, [they'll love that—merry Christmas Moms and Dads everywhere], then go out and ask for a bit under what the local sweeps charge. We wouldn't want a Yule log catching the new Yule carpet and Yule wallpaper on fire, would we? Just remember: Be clean, be careful, and wear a mask and goggles.

Clerking at Retailers: The holiday season can be a nightmare for large generic merchandise chains, selling their diverse stock of the highest quality product at only half the price of major brain surgery. Many of the larger chains such as Wal-Mart, ShopKo, and Kmart will hire on part-time clerks to fill the Christmas rush. Job security is a great bonus at these fine establishments. They need someone to deal with the 99 percent of all customers who will return their purchases, and who else but the temp for that privilege? Remember: Just smile and nod.

Wrapping Gifts: It may seem sad that people cannot slap shiny colored paper on their own little boxes, but if you can prey on rich lazy people, bring on the tape and scissors. A good place to go for such a job is the local mall. One great plus are those leftover paper tubes. Take one home as a present for your little brother. No holiday image is more enduring, or more touching, than

to see a young lad frolic about the house beating everyone and everything with a cardboard tube.

I had some other ideas, such as: Write a best-selling guide to safe handling and disposal of the holiday fruitcake, cutting a platinum Christmas album using only a kazoo and armpit noises, marrying an old dying millionaire [they can get lonely around this time of year] and the best of all, reselling your gifts, but my editors wouldn't let me discuss these options, citing something about "ethics in journalism".

If you belong to the fortunate class of people who don't have to wrap their own gifts, clean

their own chimneys, shovel their own roofs, pay for their own tuition, or are more holiday spirited, consider yourself in a unique opportunity. There are several volunteer opportunities awaiting an expenditure of your valuable time. Local soup kitchens, food banks, or such programs as Toys for Tots, Meals on Wheels, and Koats for Kids can use dedicated and caring volunteers this Christmas season. Aside from the privilege of service to your fellow man and unlimited unwrapable warm-fuzzies, it looks good on a résumé.

Stay safe, stay stingy, and stay sober [heh]. For those who this information will help, I expect a check in the mail, or one of those cardboard tubes. Good luck and happy holidays.

## Sarah Olsen's wish list

Dear Santa,

The years have gone by and Christmas has come and gone many times since you first came to visit me. I remember the G. I. Joes and the My Little Ponies pocking out of my stocking. This year, I am asking you for something different.

I have spent this school year trying my best, waking up to stand in line for a shower in the dorm bathrooms, trudging all the way to class, and attempting every night to do my homework. It is not my fault if things happen to arise that prevents completion of the assignment. I never go to parties alone and always remember never to be rude, accepting whatever the host offers. I am friendly to all I meet on campus. I try to be a good student.

That is why I believe you should show me some extra special holiday cheer. For my dorm,

I could use a 19" TV with a Sony Play Station 2 to help keep me informed with the news and politics. A microwave would be nice, to relieve the everyday monotony of the food services. If you happen to leave a few Cliff's Notes in my stocking, that will be just fine also. Speaking of studying, if you could leave a few late night study items such as coffee, ice cream, chips, pizza, and pop, they will all help me on my way to that A+. Of course, you could always offer to buy my books for the new quarter.

I also wish for a little holiday cheer that would brighten my day all year. I would be very grateful if you filled my stocking with holiday rum or left a dazzling new shirt to go clubbing under the tree.

As you pass on Christmas night, please remember I am only a poor college student who is asking for a Merry Christmas.

Sincerely, Sarah Olsen

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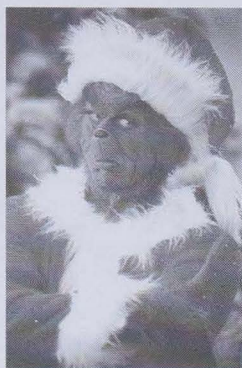


# Howard's "Grinch" clinches Christmas cinema

Paul Moberly  
Reporter

All those who read this should know the tale of *The Grinch*, but if you don't, I'll tell in a cinch. It is the story- no better- a small Suess's tale of a hermit who is grumpy and stingy and stale. He lived high on a mountain, away from the Whos, a people with small noses, weird hair, and large shoes. Way up on that mountain he liked to stay hid, though once he stole Christmas, stole Christmas he did. He took all their stockings and stole all their stuff; he took all their eatin's, but that wasn't enough. He stole their great tree, and once Grinchy was done, he had stolen their presents, stolen every one.

But the story doesn't end with sadness, I say. For after the Grinch took their presents away, the Whos hung together and sung Christmas



songs, of friends and of family—together their throng sang so loud it reached to the top of the Grinch's tall mountain but there didn't stop. It rang through the walls of the green Grinch's halls, and enlarged his heart, which was ever so small. Then down off the mountain, the Grinch with the gifts, repairing their Christmas as they his heart's rift.

The new incarnation, directed by Ron Howard, depicts essentially the same story with a few additions, bringing more life to the children's tale including the Grinch's sad past and more into the life of the Whos. Dr. Suess would be proud to see Howard's recreation of Whoville, incredibly intricate and elaborately displayed. The brilliant sets, effects, and costumes make this film a must see for purely cinematic reasons. However, more than the flashy visuals, Jim Carrey is on display.

Carrey brings a new realis-

tic spin of the original cartoon's glum evil. Perhaps even more animated than the cartoon, Carrey brings his full bag of comic abilities to bear and creates monstrous humor with his selfish, insane, and comically demonic creation. Compared to the sharp and hardened cartoon, Carrey's Grinch is more complete and even lovable. His rendition of "You're a Mean One, Mr. Grinch" however, leaves much to be desired from the memorable original sung by Thurl Ravenscroft [Tony the Tiger].

Taylor Momsen plays the new main character of the story, Cindy Lou-Who, with more concentrated pudgy-cheeked adorability than Jonathan Lipnicki [Jerry Maguire] and the Welch's Grape Juice girl. Momsen brings a cutesy innocence and hopeful naivety [along with the only normal nose], further humanizing the tale.

The Grinch is constant grins, shortly dis-



placed during the middle of the film where abstract moral messages of tolerance and the environment were speckled in, muddling the original simple spirit of Dr. Suess. What is lost in meaning, however, is made up for by the film's other attributes.

Although not along the Christmas caliber of *It's A Wonderful Life*, with incredible eye candy, Carrey's center stage antics, and a tale as old as our childhood, *The Grinch* is a must see holiday film.

# Spokane resident moves to Israel

## Former SFCC student Jeffrey Kilpatrick on life in the ever-burning 'cradle of civilization'

Rachel Roman  
Reporter

There have been numerous reports on the conflict in the Middle East. The Palestinian and Israeli feuds have been endless, but the recent outbreak in Israel is putting the peace process on hold. A Spokane resident and former student from Spokane Falls Community College, Jeffrey Kilpatrick wishes to inform other Spokane students what it is like living in Israel today.

Kilpatrick and his wife, Avital, both converted to Judaism in May of 2000. They have a deep love for the religion and fascination for the culture. On August 5, 2000, they left the United States to venture to Israel.

Kilpatrick was at the Western Wall, the Jews' holiest site, immediately after the original

incident when the Arabs threw cinder blocks over the wall, injuring over one hundred praying Jews. Avital had been praying for three hours at the Western Wall. An object was thrown over the men's side of the wall, so the military evacuated the citizens. That same day, the Kilpatrick's witnessed approximately two hundred soldiers, in full riot gear, rush into the Temple mount. The Western Wall was closed down for a quarter of Rosh Hashanah, Israel's New Year. Whenever it was open, Kilpatrick was there, praying.

For Rosh Hashanah, the Kilpatrick's had lunch at the home of an Orthodox Jew. When they attempted to leave through the Damascus gate, which is in the Arab quarter, they were redirected at three different entrances. On their fourth attempt, a military commander told them if they wanted to live, they would go through the Jaffa gate and the Jewish quarter.

There were around 15 soldiers at every entrance to the Arab quarter, Kilpatrick estimates.

The Kilpatricks are currently attending college at Jerusalem's Hebrew University. The school has two campuses in Jerusalem; the Kilpatrick's attend the Tje International section, which is located on Mount Scopus. Arab houses surround the dorms at the college, because the land—including the adjoining neighborhood, The French Hill—used to be owned by Jordan. After the Six-Day war in 1967, Israel liberated Hebrew University and several other areas.

The school has taken many security precautions in order to protect students. They have doubled their security officers and patrols. The school and dormitories are fenced in, with one entrance through guard's houses.

"Every time I go to school, I have my bag looked at and every time I go to the dorms,

I must show student ID before I can get in," Kilpatrick states, "The school itself is probably one of the safest places in Jerusalem."

Kilpatrick claims that every Israeli student is an ex-soldier. All Israeli men are required to serve a mandatory of three years in military duty, and all of the women have done two years of service as well. Every Israeli student is on reserve in the Israel Defense Forces [IDF] and performs

one month of service every year. Kilpatrick says that it is comforting to know that there are trained soldiers around him that know how to act in an emergency. Many non-Israeli students do not feel the same.

Numerous students are leaving, fearing for their lives. "Many people here, including some from Washington, are, or have, considered going home," Kilpatrick remarks.

The California State schools, as well as Emry, have canceled their programs and in-

**Please see Israel, page 10**



▲ Jeffrey and Avital Kilpatrick

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# Marathon Monkey: The best band you never heard

Nick Nash

Reporter

Coming from the low-profile world of the Portland indie music scene, Marathon Monkey and its founding members Rian Beach (guitar, vocals, bass) and John

Crippen (drums) have created a six song, self-titled EP that—though it is far from the heavily produced fair of your average radio station rock band—shows an impressive amount of potential, drawing heavily on emotion and the raw indie sound.

This EP, which was recorded during a

two-month period in the summer of 2000 in Marathon Monkey's attic practice space, was recently released on Fearofphones records. It is the band's first release and contains a collection of songs that roughly outline the band's sound.

Beginning with the upbeat "Interview of a Lifetime," a clean guitar sound soon becomes distorted. This change foreshadows many of the next five tracks. Distortion, which is used through out the album for dramatic effect, goes well with Beach's intensely energetic singing style. However, unlike many other bands with a similar style, the change between the clean and distorted guitar is used sparingly enough to keep from becoming repetitious.

The other upbeat tracks on this album, "Flake" and "My Passion your Vice" show that creativity can still exist within a specific indie sound. Although the individual songs are not incredibly complex, every track is different, and the lack of complexity does not affect the music.

Throughout the album, there is not a reliance on a common chord progression or rhythm, which makes each song sound fresh and new. Marathon Monkey, across all six songs manages to keep within a basic sound, while providing something new for the listener with each song.

When Marathon Monkey slows down in the "Death Without You" and "So alone," Beach's voice and lyrics are allowed to drive the songs. The listener is brought an intensity that is almost never found on the radio. Lyrics that at first glance appear

simple such as, "Why am I so alone tonight? / I've done it again / Times like these are so Routine / I think I'll Find a hole and get right in" [So Alone] when sung by Beach become more than just the words.

Every feeling that caused inspiration comes to the surface. When he sings "Please Don't ever forget my name / you mean so much to me" [So Alone] you not only believe him, you also understand exactly what these words mean to him.

Marathon Monkey is not currently touring, but puts on an amazing live show. All of the emotion and energy that is Beach's voice in the "studio" is magnified and his stage presence removes any need for fancy lights or other eye-catching stage displays. Also, as with most musicians who play music because they love it, Marathon Monkey honestly enjoys every live performance, which shows in their music and the way they interact with the crowd.

Although Marathon Monkey is not available in most stores, a number of tracks are available for download through Garageband.com in the RealAudio format. Be aware, however, that this format is very low quality, which does take away from the music.

If you are interested in hearing the full Marathon Monkey EP, the band will send you the CD for free (no strings attached, they just want their music heard.)

They can be contacted at [marathonmonkey245@yahoo.com](mailto:marathonmonkey245@yahoo.com) or through the [garageband.com](http://garageband.com) website.



## Easterner Music Reviews

### Israel: Kilpatrick lives amidst turmoil and stability in nation of Israel

Continued from page 9

structed the students to leave Israel. Kilpatrick has spoken to another student from Spokane who attending school in Israel. She states that she is considering leaving, as well, from fear of going out and onto public transportation systems. Kilpatrick does not wish to leave. He claims that, although he knows there is danger, his every day routines have been unaffected.

"I move around freely and still enjoy everything that I did before," Kilpatrick says, "there are places where I won't go, such as East Jerusalem, the West Bank, and the Gaza Strip."

Lending to the safety of its citizens, every public place in Israel has at least one police officer and one soldier at every entrance. They search bags and use metal detectors before allowing access. Soldiers are on buses and in the streets at all times. Many soldiers are off-duty but carry their guns and uniforms anyway. They must always be prepared.

Kilpatrick resides in an apartment located in Ramat Eshkol with his wife and their roommate. His roommate has received a call from his commanding officer in the IDF. He is 25 and a senior in college, but he

is on the reserve. His commander informed him that his unit might be called. As they watched the news and made dinner, Kilpatrick's roommate pulled out his uniform and belongings.

Kilpatrick comments, "Watching someone you know and love get ready to go to war is very sobering." Kilpatrick believes that it is his duty as a Jew to do everything he can for the Israelis. "Avital and I are both more than willing to do whatever it takes. I am not really that concerned for myself because I believe in the cause. Belief without action is useless."

When asked of the future, Kilpatrick believes that the situation in Israel is deteriorating. He does not believe that there is a chance of resuming the peace talks anytime in the foreseeable future.

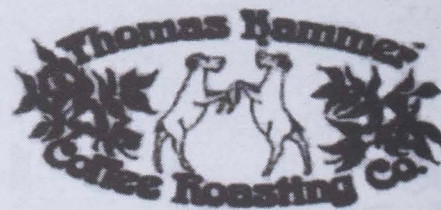
"Even those Israelis that I have talked to that voted for the left are now changing their minds," he claims.

He believes that the media are blowing everything out of proportion. "I watched CNN the other night and would have thought I was in a war zone, if I wasn't sitting there watching baseball and playing games with friends as usual."

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# Local author writes Buddhist book for children

Rachel Roman  
Reporter

Everyone has heard of "The Cat in the Hat" and "Goodnight Moon". Even an arachnophobe can admit to being charmed by the Miss Spider series. The idea behind children's books are to entertain, get your child interested in reading, and to teach life lessons. In mid-December, *Kindness*, a children's book of Buddhist morality tales written by northwestern author Sarah Conover, will be released.

*Kindness* calls itself a "treasury of Buddhist wisdom for children and parents." Aimed at an audience of children, parents, Buddhists, or anyone interested in Buddhist philosophy, it succeeds beautifully. For children and parents, the language is written in simple, straightforward sentences.

The illustrations by Valerie Wahl are intricate and vibrant. In the Jataka tales, which are fables, the Buddha is reborn as various animals; a delight to children who enjoy hearing

what an elephant or quail would have to say.

One of these tales, "The Noble Ibex," is about a king who hunts an ibex and ends up falling into a chasm and injuring himself. The ibex helps the king, who promises to help all animals in return. As a result, the king ends wars and hunting which causes his kingdom to flourish.

The proverbs at the beginning of each chapter introduce the content of the chapter, and also provide their own bits of morality. The stories are full of wis-

dom and meaningful messages that can benefit both children and adults.

The only area of criticism stems from a couple of obscure lessons from the tales.

A child will not understand the significance of a few of the 32 stories because their meanings are hidden within the narrative and not disclosed in a straightforward manner. Parents may have to spend more time explaining the stories. However, this could be beneficial to younger readers, since it

may teach them to expand their thinking skills toward uncovering deeper levels.

Buddhists will find importance in the messages of meditation, peace, and enlightenment. In "The Mustard Seed," a woman's child dies. She is so stricken with sorrow that she visits the Buddha to ask him for a cure. He tells her to bring him a mustard seed from any house whose families have not had any death. As she ventures from door to door, the woman finds that no house has been untouched by death. Every-

one shares grief. This speaks to a universal need to not feel alone in your suffering because everyone feels it. Because of this lesson, the woman becomes stronger.

Sarah Conover, a language arts teacher in Spokane, has been a student of Buddhism for over a decade.

She has produced numerous award-winning documentaries for PBS, the Discovery Channel, and the United Nations. *Kindness* is a publication of the EWU Press.

# Your first time between the sheets

A Christmas gift from The Easterner Staff: The best ways to lose your precious virginity

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Adrian Workman  
Campus Life Editor

In colleges and universities everywhere, an over-representative amount of people will jump the gap from virgin to non-virgin status.

In the spirit of the holidays, the Easterner staff and I decided to put out advice to those who have not yet made that sensuous leap. Not unlike that gift that keeps on giving, consider this our gift to you.

While the list of things to do and not to do on your first time 'in the sack' varied among our editorial staff [all questioned have at least some experience on the matter], there were some common elements.

One thing, many of us would have liked was to have given a rat's ass about our first partner.

Although she was in a relationship with her first partner, Jenn Harrington describes him as "selfish." The only thing that kept her coming back was the hope that it would get better. "Basically, there was no foreplay, no nothing. Wham bam thank you ma'am. He was the one that was supposed to have prior experience too, but he

was way more prudish about it than I was. I was like, 'Buddy, you're lame.'" Her advice to virgins: "Make sure it's with someone that matters."

John Lichorobiec says, "You only lose your virginity once, so make sure it's with someone you give two shits about."

Tom Fox says, "I think it should be with someone you're comfortable with, someone you like. Then it would be better...or just get drunk and find someone horny."

Steve Barry will not talk about his first time, or his second time, or anything. His comment: "All I can do is recommend abstinence. That's all I can do." Barry is our on-staff, consummate ladies' man.

Everybody I work with had a better first time than me. I was so happy and nervous I couldn't achieve an erection. I went to sleep that night scared out of my wits that I had a malfunctioning unit. One that would never work, ever. The next day was different, and my fears were allayed. Three months later, the chick dumped me for a 14-year-old trombone player. I was 17. I would definitely have to encourage people to know what they are getting into.

Most of the people at the Easterner had a relatively pleasant first experience. Zan Lanouette said that "It was nice, it didn't hurt as bad as I thought it would. Not at all." She said that the event

that caused her to consider jumping that virginal fence was spending a whole day alone with her then-boyfriend. "We went down to Seattle for the day...the whole way home, there was romantic, cute talk, and we were discussing [eventually] whether or not we were ready." Lanouette pauses before adding, "and my parents weren't home."

Fox says that his first partner was very *friendly*. "It wasn't a one-sided thing. She wasn't playing goalie." To him, that means blocking all advances, not merely physical. He went to bed that night worried that perhaps he had impregnated someone. "I think I was pretty terrified about getting a girl pregnant, even though I took precautions [a condom]. It was in the back of my mind." He was happy though. "I scored!"

I could not get most of our staff to comment on actual first-time technique, which is a subject I thought virgins would benefit most from. Nick Nash, a writer, and Lanouette did, though.

Lanouette said that one no-no is "Don't overcompensate while on top, because it hurts them." This is to be especially appreciated by males who have experienced what I will loosely entitle "bent phallus." For boys, she advises, "Don't keep asking, 'Are you okay?'"

While were on boys, reporter Nash advises men to "say you're

Please see Sex, page 12

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**Sex: Our Christmas guide to your first time****From previous page**

going to go 'get ready,' then go to the bathroom to jerk off." He adds sarcastically that the effect is that the male virgin will then last six seconds instead of three.

Copy Editor Brian Triplett says that basically, if you pay close attention to the woman's needs, both will be satisfied.

For a young woman's first time, Nash advises "If a guy is in a fraternity, check your drink, and then go out with the quite kid!"

Triplett says that it is more important for a woman to consider the fact that "birth control is more important than the heat of the moment."

Steve Barry commented that it is "definitely" crucial for the female to avoid saying "Do you like it tight like that?"

My opinion is that for girls, the more cheesy, porno stuff you try to say in bed, the worse the experience will be. Steer clear. It works in porn, not in real life. I totally concur with Barry.

For men and women, I would have to recommend picking someone you know will just be a one-or-two-time deal. Learn everything you can on that other person's frame. Then, when you are ready to be sexually active with someone you care about, you know how to please someone else sexually. Make sure your "education partner" knows that they are just an "educational partner."

For men: Don't try so damn hard. Drawing on my own experience, it was probably my own overly

ideal imagination that caused me to limp out on my first time. Don't expect so much. Don't expect her to give you oral sex, especially if it is her first time. She might think stuff like that is 'gross.' Don't expect too little, either. Be sure of yourself. Bring a rubber. Never, ever forget your rubber.

After my 56<sup>th</sup> time having sex [you really do stop counting after about 4], I consider the first time a stepping stone, a learning experience, a complete embarrassment.

One thing I've noticed is that some people expect losing their virginity to be the instant elevator to a new plateau of existence. Some people expect it to be a wonderful, enjoyable experience, complete with grapes and white linens in heaven.

Wake up.  
"Virginity" merely means you haven't done something yet. I hardly feel that I "lost" anything when I first had sex. Many women who do feel that way were taught according to the ancient, Judeo-Christian principles that a woman is not worth much [if anything] if she is not virgin. There are shepherds who sell their sheep on the same value principal.

I think that you are missing out on an important element of marriage if you do not know how your sex life is going to be for the next 80 years. The only other thing that marriage counselors have to hear about on a regular basis is based on money problems.

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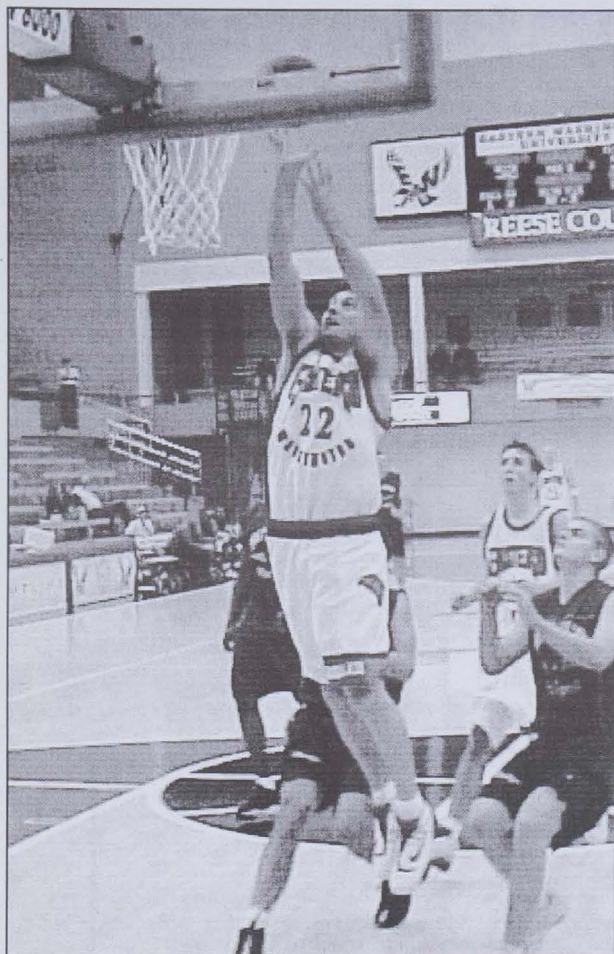
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Brian Smith/Easterner

Senior guard Aaron Olson scores an easy two in the season opening loss to Gonzaga at Reese Court.

## Eagle honors

### Female athlete of the week

**Jennifer Paluck, Eagles forward**

Eastern's senior forward Jennifer Paluck put on quite the show at last weekend's Fresno State Tournament with her 34 points and 13 rebounds in two games.



### Male athlete of the week

**Jamal Jones, Eagles guard**

In last weekend's Spartan Classic in East Lansing, Mich. Jamal Jones was selected to the all-tournament team. The senior put up 25 points, five rebounds, three assists and three steals, while the team split two games.



# Nowhere but up

## Eagles post a 2-2 record, losing to two top teams

Coming up 22 points short in the opportunity of a lifetime in playing the defending NCAA Champions, the Eastern Washington University men's basketball team is coming off a pleasing week-end of action as the Eagles prepare for a pair of home games at Reese Court in Cheney, Wash.

The Eagles are now 2-2 heading into home games Dec. 2 against San Jose State and Dec. 9 versus Cascade College. This Saturday's game against the Spartans begins at approximately 8 p.m. following the Eastern versus Montana Tech women's game that begins at 6:05 p.m. Pacific time. The Cascade College game on Dec. 9 begins at 6:05 p.m., and is followed by EWU's women's game against UNLV. Michigan State, last year's NCAA champion, held off Eastern Washington 83-61 for the championship in the Spartan Coca-Cola Classic Saturday (Nov. 25) at East Lansing, Mich. The 22-point defeat capped a good showing by the Eagles in finishing second at the tournament. Eastern beat Bradley 62-56 Friday (Nov. 24) to advance to Saturday's championship game.

"The beauty of this whole thing is that now we get the opportunity to play the national champions," Eagle head coach Ray Giacoletti said after the Bra-

dley win. "Things like that happen very few times in a lifetime."

Now, the Eagles set their sights on a San Jose State team coached by former University of Idaho assistant coach Steve Barnes. Last year, the Spartans were 15-15 overall and finished 8-8 in the Western Athletic Conference.

Thus far, San Jose State is 3-0 heading into a home game Nov. 29 against Santa Clara. After overtime wins over Cal State Hayward (70-64) and UC-Riverside (58-55), the Spartans beat Saint Mary's 82-68 on Nov. 26. Mike Garrett, a 6-foot guard, led SJSU in the win over the Gaels with 16 points, and 6-5 forwards Billy Landram and Cory Powell each added 15. For the season, Garrett leads the Spartans with a 14.3 average per game, followed by Landram at 11.7. Darnell Williams, a 6-6 forward, adds 9.7 points and a team-leading 9.7 rebounds per game.

Charlie Bell, a starter on last year's national championship Spartan squad, equaled a career high with 31 points. A 6-foot-3 senior guard, Bell made 12-of-13 shots from the field against the Eagles. He was selected MVP of the tournament after scoring 45 points in two games, making 18-of-23 shots for 78 percent.

"They are a very good basketball team," Giacoletti said of the Spartans.

"It's one of those situations where if you give your best effort and gave it all you had, you can walk away with your head held high. I think that's something we did."

The Spartans, ranked third in the ESPN/USA

Today Coaches Poll and fourth in the Associated Press Poll, won their 31st-consecutive game at the Breslin Center in front of 14,759 fans.

Now 3-0, MSU was 32-7 a year ago when Bell averaged 11.5 points per game.

Kareem Hunter led the Eagles with 14 points and three steals, a night after scoring two against Bradley on 0-of-2 shooting from the field and just 2-of-8 from the free throw line. However, he missed an easy layup in the first half that could have cut into a three-point Spartan lead, but instead opened the floodgates. Michigan State went on to take a 45-31 lead at half-



Saturday  
San Jose St.  
vs.  
EWU  
at  
Reese Ct.  
8 p.m.

**See: Contenders, page 15**

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## Last weekend's poor shooting keeps Eagles grounded

The Eagles travel "across town" this Wednesday to face the Gonzaga Bulldogs. Gonzaga has nine active players on their roster due to injuries and are led by junior transfer Jessica Malone. Last year, the Eagles lost both contests to the Bulldogs losing at Gonzaga by only one point on December 17. In that contest, Michelle Demetruk led all EWU scorers with 14 points and nine rebounds. On Saturday, the Eagles open up at home with Montana Tech. Tech, an NAIA school from

Butte, Montana, has a young squad with no seniors and seven returnees and four transfers. They finished seventh in the Frontier Conference last year with a record of 11-17. The game is a double header with the men who host San Jose State following.

EWU traveled to the Fresno State Tournament over the holiday weekend. The Eagles faced Fresno State on Saturday at 3 p.m. Pacific. In a plague of poor shooting, Fresno State held the Eagles to 18 percent shooting in the first half

and 29 percent in the second half. The Bulldogs jumped out to a 15-0 lead at the beginning of the game and the Eagles were able to go on a run and trim the lead to 31-17 at the half. Jamie Granger's jump shot in the second half with 7:45 left got the Eagles to within nine points. The Eagles were defeated 67-45. Jamie Granger led the Eagles with 12 points. Allie Bailey pulled down eight rebounds in the contest. Sunday the Eagles faced SE Missouri State in the consolation game and came out with a 67-64

win. Jennifer Paluck led the Eagles with 21 points, nine rebounds and one blocked shot. Three other Eagles were in double figures: Jamie Granger (11), Allie Bailey (10), and Michelle Demetruk (10). Granger had five assists in the game as well. The Eagles shot an improved .414 and .783 from the free throw line making 18 of 23 free throws. Jennifer Paluck was named to the all-tournament team. The Eagles are now 1-3 overall.

■ See next page for schedule

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**Upcoming games****Saturday, Dec. 2:**

**Lady Eagles** vs. Montana Tech, 6:05 p.m.  
(followed by **EWU men** vs. San Jose State)

**Results Last Week:****Saturday, Nov. 25**

at Fresno State Tournament Fresno, Calif.

**Fresno State 67, EWU 45****Sunday, Nov. 26**

at Fresno State Tournament Fresno, Calif.

**EWU 67, SE Missouri State 64****Contenders: Eagles contend with reigning national champions**

From page 13

time.

"They're just so big, physical and athletic," Giacoletti said. "Our young men stayed focused for the most part. If there are any little breakdowns somewhere along the way, Michigan State makes you pay."

Eastern Washington 62, Bradley 56: For 36 minutes, Ray Giacoletti saw the fruits of his team's labors from more than a month of practices, exhibitions and the first three games of the 2000-2001 season.

"This was one of those nights where a team comes together," Giacoletti said of the Eagle victory. "It was special to see that in young men,

and I couldn't be more proud to be a part of it."

The Eagles (2-1) used an 11-2 run midway through the second half to open a 51-38 bulge with 7:44 to play. Eastern guard Jason Lewis scored five of the points, and guard Marquis Poole added four.

Eastern held the 11-point lead with just under four minutes to play, however, the Eagles had a stretch where they missed seven of eight free throws to allow the Braves (1-2) to get back in the game. Two turnovers in the last 36 seconds complicated matters for the Eagles, but the closest Bradley could come was 59-56 with 28 seconds left. Kareem Hunter atoned for five-straight previous misses by sinking a free throw with 17 seconds to play, and Jamal Jones closed out the

scoring with two free throws with five seconds left.

"It's not always going to be pretty every night," Giacoletti said. "We had a pretty good cushion, and you can't allow teams to come back and put you in that situation. But we haven't been in that situation before tonight. I'll take the blame for that, and we'll do a better job next time in managing the game with the lead."

Jones, Eastern's leading scorer through three games with a 14.7 average per game, led the Eagles with 12 points. But 6-foot-9 center Jason Humbert came off the bench to score 12 on 5-of-7 shooting from the field, and Marquis Poole also came off the bench to provide seven points, five assists and three steals.

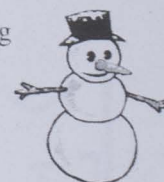
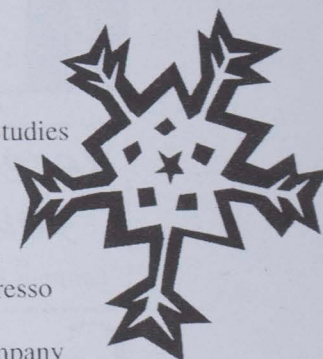
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