

Why do people go here?

Transfer, schman-sfer.

NIU-Kingdom of conservative thought? (No big surprise.)

Also: Letters, Campus SQUALOR, SCARtoons and much, much less!

SCAR

ISSUE 1

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VOL. I, ISSUE 1

PREMIERE ISSUE

So, just what is this thing you're holding in your hand? Is it some forewarning of a government overthrow, or a persuasion for you to stop the flow of sanitary napkins into Luxembourg?

No. This is an unofficial newspaper--an alternative to the other paper on campus. Although we don't come out daily (monthly, usually, but how should we know? This is our first issue!)

Who makes this paper, you inquire? Well, Northern Illinois University does, for without them, we would have no reason to exist.

But if you're asking who puts this paper together, the answer is a little less complex. We're not any radical group bent on seeing the destruction of Northern through forced listening of Michael Bolton tapes; no--that's already happening. We are just a group of students that represent different beliefs and have become disgruntled with NIU and its administration.

We hope that through this newspaper, we can present a REAL place for students to view their opinions, whether it be through letters, articles, or drawings--without fear of censorship.

Well, that's our speech. If you've seen some of these articles before, relax. We want to educate some incoming students.

If you want to send letters or articles, information on where to send them is found in the Letters column.

YUPPIE BROWN-NOSERS INFILTRATE UNIVERSITY

Maximillian Reefeeseed
Reporter, Q.E.D.

WHEN I FIRST CAME TO NIU, I experienced a campus filled with free thought and new and exciting ideas. The Northern Star was actually something to be taken seriously, as it pursued its fundamental rights in journalism; that is, to report the news accurately to the people.

Northern has always been considered a "suitcase" college; this obviously explains the I-88 bypass, but that still never kept great things from going on. A hubbub of activity was always abound, as was the constant challenging of the administration's policies and ethics.

Upon my stay here, however, things have changed



A yuppie brown-noser.

Photo courtesy of National Geographic

drastically. People are quiet, apathetic, and are usually concerned with--that is, they (see YUPPIE, page 2)



DORM LIVING or "How to Live in a Prison Without Ever Actually Visiting One"

Miqhel Eftwing
Liberal-at-large, Dentist nightly

WELCOME, INMATES, TO THE NIU RESIDENCE HALL System. You now have the independence from parents that you've always dreamed of, but please be advised that anything you do constitutes a \$25 fine. Aside from the fact that beer (see LIVING, page 2)

SCAR

Send us your cartoons, drawings, articles, letters or anything! See the Letters column for information. You'll get printed! If you don't, we'll send you a Michael Dukakis T-shirt.



LIVING

(continued from front page)

nuggets can be delivered right to your front doorstep (that is, if you live in the lobby), there are no other advantages to living in the dorms. The following flashback explains:

[Flashback]

"Hello, and welcome to the NIU dorms. We hope your stay will be a pleasant and fulfilling one, but, hey, you have to have some strain of hope, don't you?"

"If you look to your left, you'll see one of our spacious residence hall rooms. Whoops! We went by too fast. In order to accomodate more students, we've turned the janitorial supplies closets into single rooms. If you'll notice, the inside of the rooms are bare, with the exception of a medieval desk and an early 1960s lamp (beige, of course). The rooms have been designed for efficiency, with an eye towards formica.

"As we exit the dormitory floor and enter the lobby area, please be advised that to get

anything at the front desk, you must have the following: three requisition forms, two insurance policies, room key, thumbprints, skin sample from inside of mouth, toenail clippings, recent Breathalyzer test, and, of course, your student ID. Not bringing any one of these items constitutes a \$25 fine.

"Alcoholic beverages may not be brought into the halls by minors. If they are caught, severe penalties include: flogging, giving up the alleged beverage for consumption by the Senior Staff, surrendering rights to read *The Northern Star*, and a \$25 fine.

"Well, that ends our tour. Hope to see you moving in soon. Please be advised that if you don't move in soon, you will receive a \$25 fine."

[Flashback from flashback]

Will somebody hand me the "Apartments" section?

YUPPIE

(continued from front page)

are afraid to be different. The Northern Star has now become a pamphlet of university events, with little emphasis on checking administrative powers.

The once quite free-thinking movement has become diffused to a silent few. The rest have become conservative (a term I prefer to call the "C word") narrow-minded people influenced by fashion and television, hopping on the bandwagon whenever a new trend comes about. Why? They wish to feel needed, wanted--alike.

What has become of this campus? Is not the purpose of a university to stimulate thought and creativity? Does it not also provide the free exchange of diverse ideas and cultures?

There seems to be a real need in all of us to conform, and we all must conform in some way, whether it be to live, eat, and be

healthy, but must we conform to the extent that our minds must be streamlined with all others?

Why does our society continue to tell us that money is the basis on which success is determined? Why do they tell us that love and sex are the same? And if you are not part of a sporting activity, why does that make you less of a person?

But I digress. My purpose is not to provoke anger, but to encourage and stimulate individuality and critical thinking, something this campus desperately needs.

I leave this question to you: Do you value your own mind, ideas, and judgments; or would you prefer to follow blindly with what the media influences you to follow?

Do we become what the corporations, conglomerates and the media design us to become, won't we lose our individuality? Won't we be afraid to take a stand for what is right?

It seems that this is exactly the opposite of what democracy means.

The Northern SCAR

STAFF BOX AND PLACE WHERE WE SAY WHAT WE'RE FOR

The Northern Star is a publication produced by some disgruntled students of different beliefs and backgrounds who have seen the need for a truly free publication, free from censorship. We encourage all to submit material, and we don't discriminate on any basis, because frankly we're sick of discrimination and the people who perpetuate it. As you might guess, we're really not endorsed by any journalism association, and...GOOD RIDDANCE! The only purpose of journalism associations is to give awards to people who write in the USA TODAY style and make graphs of information that no one really cares about, anyway. And, contrary to popular belief, Elvis IS dead.

Editor
Pee Wee "Lefty" Hammer
Managing Editor
Lee Iacocca
Published by

The Illegitimate Puppies of Elvis
Contributing writers/reporters:
Maximillian Reefeerseed, Michel Eftwing, Dan R. Ightwing, Dweezil Reagan, and Long John Turret, and soon (YOUR NAME HERE)

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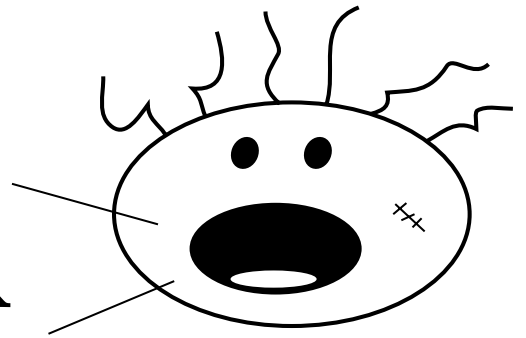


Will you graduate, having learned nothing, therefore failing in the world job market?



When You Say "YES" to NIU, You Say "NO" to so many other things.

Campus SQUALOR



EDGAR HURLS

Isn't it just like a government to cut education, the cornerstone of democracy first? Subtract one million and add a Hoffman Estates campus. Sounds like a recipe for success to me--NOT.

"THE SECOND GOOD WAR" UPDATE

Well, let's see. It's September, and Saddam Hussein is still in power. The oil fields are still burning, and gas is still the same high price it was when this whole damn thing began. The only "naked aggression" I see is Bush's domestic policy.

BILL HULK

Why do people think Elvis is still alive? Better yet, why does Bill Bixby have to host shows like this? I guess you have to sell out to pay the bills.

TSONGAS TMYSTERY

And while we're on the subject of Elvis, why doesn't Bill Bixby host a show called "The Democrat Files". They could have a phone poll, just like the Elvis show. Dial 1-900-DEMOCRAT if you think the Democratic Party is still alive and 1-900-TSONGAS if it truly is dead.

BUSINESS BEAT

Stay away from business. It sucks. If you want to wear a tie and worry about who hasn't paid their coffee dues, backstab people to keep your job only to get laid off a month later,...hey, go for it.

BRASS RING

Okay. Here's the deal. Bush is getting unpopular at home, you know, and he may not run again because of poor health. A very tricky question emerges: Will it be President Quayle, or any Democratic candidate? Or, for that matter, any other BEING.

The Northern

SCAR

LETTERS

Dear Editor,

It has come to my attention that you are starting some sort of 'alternative' paper. Let me remind you that you vermin that question NIU administration and criticize this school will be hunted down and punished severely. It's just like you liberals to start messing things up for our country, which, may I remind you, emerged victorious from the Persian Gulf War--and I've got the bumper stickers, yellow ribbons and lunch boxes to prove it. Thanks to you liberals who perpetuate the moral and sexual lawlessness in our country (I haven't gotten any in years) we have to let everyone into our country clubs! May the

fleas of a thousand camels infest your bowels!

Sincerely,
G. Bush
Awaiting the sequel in '92

Dear Editor,
Would you like fries with that?

With tender love,
E. Presley
At a Hardee's in Kalamazoo, MI

Dear Editor,
Since you have started this new alternative paper which should provide a forum of free thought for all organizations, I was wondering if I could make light to an organization which desperately needs the

help of thousands of Americans yearly. This organization is very well known--so well known it is therefore unmentionable--and needs money! We are not speaking of UNICEF, or CARE, or the Sierra Club, but of an organization of whose needs put these others to shame. Please send your donations--quickly!

With much appreciation,
P. Tsongas
Democratic Party

Dear Editor,
Just how long is this stay at the Hyatt Regency Crimea, anyway?

M. Gorbachev
Tied up at the sauna

First of all, please keep in mind that the above letters may or may not be real. Being the first issue, it's hard to get a reply when no one knows you're here. Anyway, do you have a letter, article, or drawing that you'd like to see in this paper? If you do, send your stuff in an envelope to this address--IMPORTANT: Do not write anything else on the envelope except the following: P.O. Box 224, Dundee, IL 60118. That's all. Don't write: To Happy Harry Hardon or Chuck U. Farley. Just write: P.O. Box 224, Dundee, IL 60118. Okay? That's it. P.O. Box 224, Dundee, IL 60118. Thank you! Hope to hear from you soon.

WHY DO PEOPLE GO HERE?

UNOFFICIAL POLL FINDS SURPRISING RESULTS

Dweezil Reagan

Table lamp, victim of D.D.S.

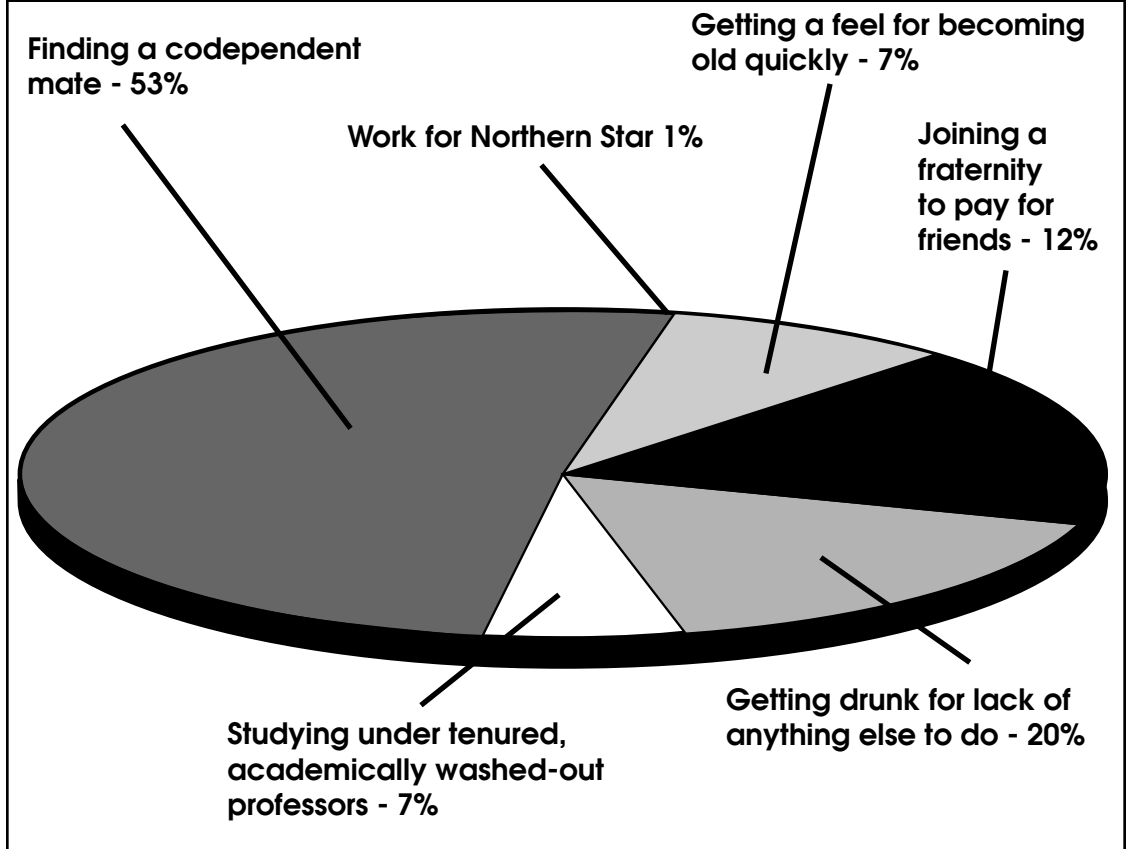
FINDING A CODEPENDENT MATE seems to be the number one priority in an unofficial poll of NIU students asked why they were going here.

Fifty-three percent responded with the codependent response. In each case, one sex blamed the other for being an "emotional basket case."

Surprisingly, following a far second, was the excuse of getting drunk for the lack of anything else to do, with a 20% response. Student polled in this category cited Milwaukee's Beast and Keystone as their favorite path for a quick and cheap hangover. Hard liquor fared poorly as the number of students whose parents were white-collar workers had doubled within the past year.

Third place gave honor to "Joining a fraternity to pay for friends." Greek-wanabes felt that the money spent on dues, beer, initiations and dominating the opposite sex through intoxication was the best way to insure a good job, good connections and an otherwise joyous life with a remote control in one hand and a light beer in the other.

In fourth place were the categories "Getting a feel for becoming old quickly" and



The results of an unofficial poll, taken by "Sumerians for a better Thanksgiving," on why students go to this beige place.

"Studying under tenured, academically washed-out professors," each with a 7% response. Students found that getting a compromised education was their best bet to getting an easy "A", and that finding the most tenured professor was

the best way to get some sleep without missing anything.

A last place finisher was to "Work for the Northern Star." Many people found that the brochure in question had sold out to the administration while engaging in cheap journalism,

imitating the way that large news chains work today.

The poll was taken by the "Sumerians for a better Thanksgiving," run by the parent company of Mediterranean Liberals for Elvis.

Guess the Republican!

THIS MONTH'S REPUBLICAN comes to us from Texas. Big in oil, he rose to become the director of the CIA and now is the CEO of a flailing democratic nation.

He has helped to set back education and civil rights, and is indirectly responsible for the growing number of homeless, numerous banking scandals and an arms-for-hostages trading deal.

Can you guess this Republican? If you guess correctly, that's really cool. If you lose, please go to the nearest "K-Mart" and buy a "We support our troops and our president" sticker.



TRANSFER STUDENTS GET SCREWED BY NORTHERN

Pee Wee "Lefty" Hammer
Editor and Right-hand man

TRANSFER STUDENTS ONLY GIVE money to this college for two years, and that is why transfers are kept here for at least an extra semester. The advisors give a schedule that leads to this, and the various departments have meetings that seem to be schedules to achieve the same end--a prolonged stay at NIU.

When you transfer into this university, your first semester is spent only for achieving a high NIU G.P.A. It's a waste of time and money for all involved. Why can't transfers first semester be judged on

their G.P.A. from their previous college?

Transfers need to be in Junior level classes. Sophomore classes bore them. They know how to take college level courses. What they don't know is how to live away from home. If they were to attend some kind of huge seminar on how to get things done at this university, they would be much better off.

Transfers are not lacking college study skills--they've been through that for two years. What they are lacking in is the knowledge of who to go to, when, where and how.