

Chew on This



"We reported to you that the president had an ingrown pimple. You guys are heating a dead horse here."

—White House spokesman **Mike McClurry**, to reporters who persist in questioning him about the president's health records.

Newsweek September 23, 1996

Quote du jour

“ People who don't think don't have brains; rather, they have grey fluff that's blown into their heads by mistake. ”

—Winnie-the-Pooh

Nebraska trails beckon bike-a-holics

Craig Unterseher
Reporter

Hi. My name is Craig, and I'm a bike-a-holic (You say,

"Hi Craig."). Bicycling, in varying levels of intensity, has been part of my life since I first screamed at my dad to leave me alone because I was going to teach myself to ride. Thirteen years and hundreds of contusions, lacerations, and bruises later, I still bike.

Three questions I'm often asked are where do you ride in Lincoln, what do I need to get into biking, and when are you going to cut your hair (one of these days, mom, promise)? I'll answer the first two.

As I hope you've been off campus enough to notice, we have a definite lack of mountains in eastern Nebraska. Therefore, "mountain-"biking is a little hard to come by, but Wilderness Park does a decent impression. The majority of the trails are double-track or wider and offer a great Sabbath afternoon ride. Find the secret entrance to the single-track or the jumps and you're in for a treat. Be aware, however, that Wilderness really holds moisture after a rain, so be ready for muck and dead leaves so thick your brakes and derailleurs lock up.

See **Bike** on page 6

Demografix Schmemografix

Trista Nelson
Reporter

Where are U at? How about center

stage of the Western Hemisphere. Impressed? We are. If you came looking for a college that has it all going, you've come to a college which values spirituality, whose professors don't mind talking to you after class, where students from different countries and Americans from both coasts come together. Since it seems to be such a happening spot, who's making it all happen? Why, it's U of course.

How many interesting people have you met? I've met several. I can't do personal introductions just yet, but I can tell you a little bit about who's here this year. There are 217 gentlemen enrolled, and all of them will be pleased to note that there are 285 ladies here too. Union is a training ground for the real world.

Much of our student body is made up of people from good ole Nebraska, but take a look around and you'll soon notice that not everyone looks or talks like you. So, where are they from? A brief list includes the Marshall Islands, Korea, Ukraine, Japan, the Philippines, Mexico, and my favorite, the Bahamas.

What are all these people studying here at Union? The most popular major is Nursing at 13.7 percent, but the P.A. program comes in a close second with 9.2 %.

The most popular months for birthdays are September and April and the least popular is January, not that you had anything to do with it. Just thought maybe you'd have a better chance of getting that special someone an E-mail at least in the right month. Most of the student body is 19 years old. So, maybe we just have a bunch of old freshman or perhaps very young seniors. Hmmm.

I interviewed people from several places in the U.S.A. and one from overseas, just to get a taste of who's here this semester. Anthony Stroud, a freshman from Auburn, Washington came to Union to become a physician's assistant. When asked why he chose Union, he said it was because they had the P.A. program. He also mentioned that he has several relatives on the staff. Usually that is why people choose a different college, but not Anthony. I asked him what he thought of the spiritual atmosphere and activities provided for the students and here's what he had to say. "They are fine, but could be more upbeat and up to date." He also mentioned that the churches he is used to attending are much

See **demo** on page 2



Proud to be Unionites in 1912. A few things have changed between then and now. Get the scoop on who we are right now. (Story on pages 1 & 2)

V-ball promises action

Vanessa Bolejack
Reporter

If you've observed some bruised-kneed, sore-armed students

beaming about getting an awesome set-up, your first thought may be to search the pews next Friday night for the new couple. You'll probably have better luck going on down to the Thunderdome to be a part of the most law-abiding way on campus to witness killing, hitting, spiking, digging and, of course, set ups. We're talking volleyball!

That's right, boys and girls...you thought Tara Cross-Battle was exciting, but wait'll you see Union College's very own volleyball team. And we're not the women's volleyball team, we're THE volleyball team.

Led by the coaching staff of Joe (Parmele), Mike, Jim, and Ron, the team is ready to go. Some of our games are away so if you are a Super-Stud volleyball team groupie cheerleader (for club info call 2793) don't hesitate to show up.

check it out!

Union volleyball line-up and schedule on page 9.



Photo: Todd Essex

Never underestimate the power of a woman. Union's volleyball season is in full swing.

3 Stepping toward God

5 save your head

11 gaze the night away

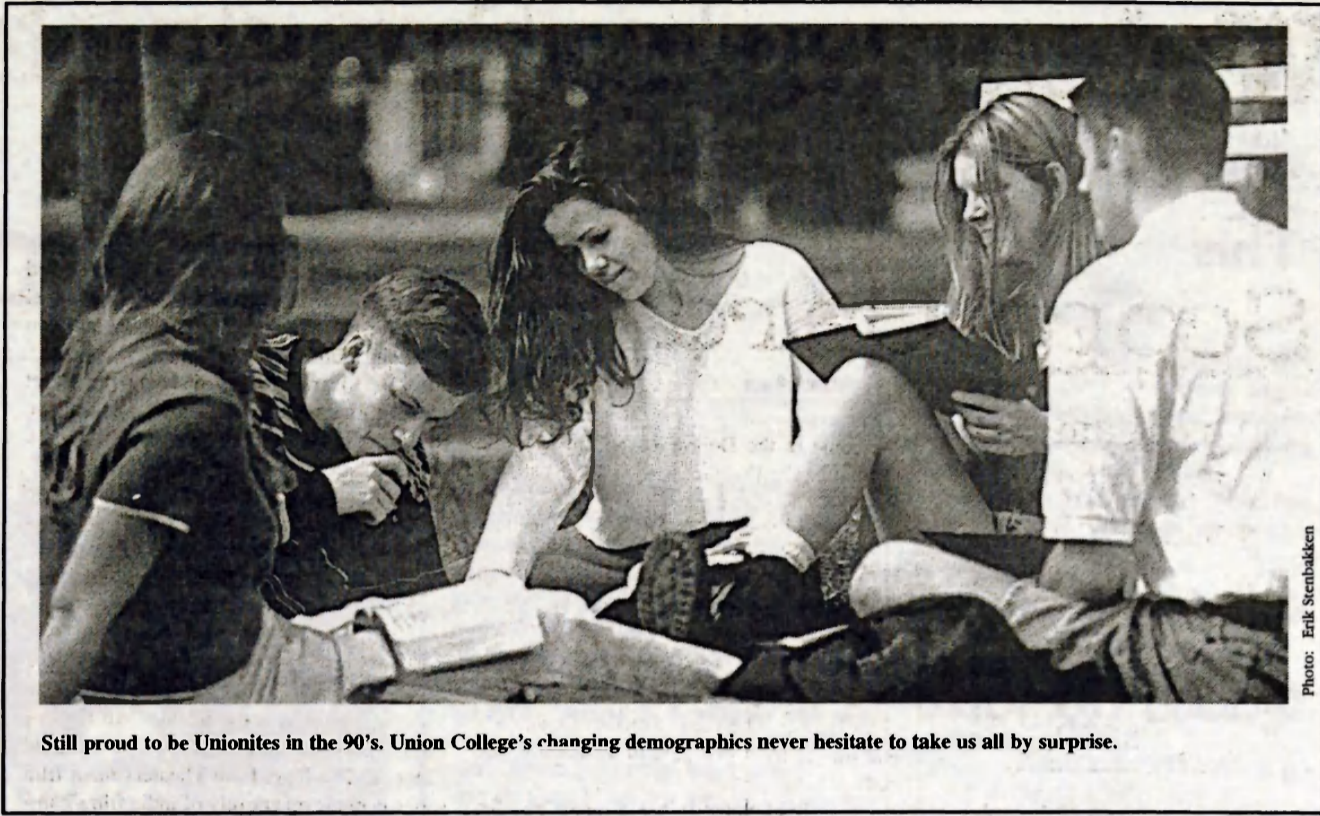
The Union population

Continued from page 1

more liberal and lively. Well, we are in Nebraska. (Personally I think my grandma would pass out if we ever had drums play for the church service, but that's just the way it goes).

Hailing from Marlboro, Massachusetts, is the stunning Marcy DiProfio who is undecided about her line of study, but says, "It's great so far!" She has always been an Adventist and came here because it is an Adventist school and because Union offered her the best financial package.

Everybody knows the next victim of my interviewing, but we'll just reintroduce him to represent the people of Lincoln, Nebraska. I figured that you can't get much more Nebraskan than Nick Bock, so here it is. Nick said, "I came back simply because I can't think of a better situation. I live in the dorm, but home is just five minutes away. The setting is incredible. Union is nice because of its small-college atmosphere so you get to know everyone. Lincoln has the convenience of a city yet maintains a small-



Still proud to be Unionites in the 90's. Union College's changing demographics never hesitate to take us all by surprise.

Photo: Erik Stenbakken

town atmosphere."

On the other side of the globe is a little chain of dots called the Marshall Islands, where Georgina Kaious lived until she came to Union. Her major is International Business, and she is just begin-

ning her junior year. She came to Union because her teachers at home recommended it and she wanted to go to an Adventist school. Here's what she likes about Union. "I'll tell you one thing I really like about it. The students and staff are really friendly.

The staff take their time to get to know the students. We are very fortunate." Union is fortunate to have students like Georgina. All 502 of you.

Seasonal Student Survey

1. What was your very, very first impression of Union College?

- 22% Excellent ("I gotta come here!")
- 68% Good ("Nice place, nice people.")
- 10% Average ("Not bad for an SDA school, but could be better.")
- 0% Not so good ("This is Union College??")
- 0% Terrible (Aaaw, come on Mom! Do I hafta go??)

2. What is your current feeling about UC?

- 34% Excellent (Gung-ho / die hard fan)
- 46% Good (Patriot)
- 14% Average (Citizen)
- 2% Not so good (This is Union College??)
- 2% Terrible (Saboteur- "Mom I'm coming home!")

3. What is your favorite style of music?

- 8% Classical
- 12% Country
- 30% Christian
- 26% Alternative
- 8% Pop Rock
- 4% Metal

4. How many meals a week do you eat at the Chat?

Avg = 4.5

5. How many of the 50 states have you been in?

(Please only American states...excluding insanity, depression, etc...)

Avg = 21

survey conducted by Roland LaFrance

An honors profile

Julie Fisher
Reporter

Among the suggestions last year on UCdream, a survey designed to learn what students want for an ideal Union College, several proposed creating Union as a school of high academics. Now part of that wish is coming true in the form of Union Scholars, a new program emphasizing academics.

On the other hand, do we want a program at Union that draws a line between "gifted" students and those of us that struggle for a C?

To evaluate this, let's explore the goals of this gathering of good students. Who will it include? Who will it exclude? After careful investigating, here is the scoop. In an interview with Academic Vice-President Larry Ray, and the co-chairs of the Honors Program, Assistant Professor of Religion Tony Minear, and Professor of Chemistry David Nowak, I caught the answers to these questions.

"The Honors Program is a program designed to stimulate students, by providing a broader, deeper educational experience," explained Dr. Nowak. Students involved in the program are required to participate in three dimensions: regular classes pertaining to their individual majors, core classes, and community service. "The benefits are extrinsic (outer) and intrinsic (inner)," Professor

Minear went on. The extrinsic benefits to Honors Program students will include specific recognition at graduation and special diplomas and transcripts signifying a Union Scholarship. There will also be job connections and a per-semester \$150 scholarship on books purchased at the campus bookstore. The intrinsic benefits are that, with their gained knowledge, students of the Honors Program will, as Nowak remarked, "become better thinkers with a clearer understanding and a larger viewpoint with which to look at the world surrounding them."

On the other hand, do we want a program at Union that draws a line between "gifted" students and those of us that struggle for a C?

Future benefits may also include special housing with access to facilities that help Honors Program students maintain their academic goals while trying to balance their rigorous schedules of work, study, and play.

To officially enter the Honors Program, all entering students from either high school or transferring from colleges must have a 3.33 GPA to remain a Union Scholar. But participation in the honors program will not be limited to members. "All Union students are invited to attend lectures given by special speakers and are welcome to sit in on classes with permission granted by professors," commented Minear. There is also the possibility that an honors club may form which will be open to all Union students. This would allow students the opportunity to learn leadership skills and give them a chance to

socialize at club events.

"The future looks bright for Union College," says Dr. Ray. Not only will Union scholars benefit, but the campus as a whole and even the Lincoln community will benefit from the Honors Program which Ray states "is not an elite organization but a service organization." Ray also says the Honors Program will serve the campus by drawing in more students with its challenging criteria, which only adds to the quality education already in place in Union. The volunteer service will provide the Lincoln community with a chance to see Christ at work in Union. Finally, students involved in the program will have the opportunity to share with other students on campus the knowledge and ideas they have gained in through their education.

Why can't all students participate in the Honors Program? Nowak answers this by saying students entering the Honors Program are those who have "shown motivation, discipline, and the ability to study in depth" while maintaining busy, even hectic schedules. All students entering and completing the Honors Program all the way to graduation deserve much support, recognition, and admiration for juggling classes, jobs, and volunteer work.

An elite group? A secret organization created to breed intellectuals? A haven for the competitive? Union Scholars does have high ideals—not only for "gifted" students, but also as a motivation for all of Union's students. It's a goal for those of us on the borderline of okay or fantastic grades. This program's desire is for good—for the community and for the college. And as a college, it's high time we had a program like it.

"Education is not preparation for life, education is life itself...." John Dewey

A summer storybook

Brian Ruckle
Reporter

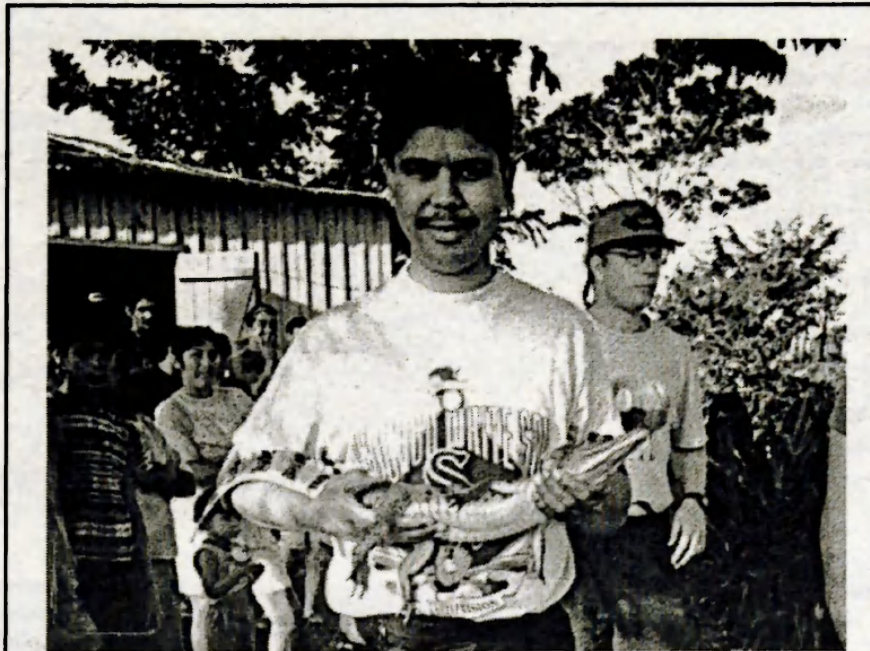
Summer vacation of 1996 is now only a memory in the minds of Union students.

Many of these memories are summed up with single words—“worked,” “studied,” or even worse “nuttin’.”

Brazil

Ten days living on a boat on the Amazon River out of a 14 day trip in Brazil. It was hot. Even worse it was humid. The boat kept breaking down. The mechanic caught malaria. There was a time we ran out of water, even with a dozen five-gallon water bottles. One of the two boats got stuck. We bathed in the Amazon, knowing piranhas lurked in the shallow areas of the river. Thanks to an irresponsible airline, some people didn't even have their luggage and had to wear one pair of clothes for five days.

Then the motor on the boat broke down. To arrive at the next village on time we should have left that evening; instead we stayed the night. The next morning the motor started without a hiccup. Mystified, we made a supply stop at a village we would have passed had the boat started the night before. A group of nurses who had stopped



Luis Colon wrestles with the beasts of Brazil. Okay, slight exaggeration.

to check out the nearby clinic brought back news of a sick baby who would die if it didn't receive an antibiotic the jungle clinic lacked. Luckily for the infant, we had two

medical doctors, a dentist, four nurses, and several medical and nursing students. We also had the antibiotic, and the baby was saved. If our medical mission trip had been

on schedule, we would have been long gone from the village by the time the baby arrived. Coincidence?

Despite the inconveniences, most of us would do it again. The Union College students who went on the trip were Julienne Brauer, Brian Carlson, Luis Colon, Trista Nelson, Jennifer Rogers and Margaret Thompson. Faculty from Union included Rich Carlson, Marilyn McArthur, and Pat Parmele. The cultural encounter with the Amazonian people was out of a documentary. We saved a life, put smiles on people's faces and made the Amazonian people and ourselves feel really good.

Russia

Wow. Flying with Clyde Peters and Ray Johnson in their private planes from Lincoln, through Canada, over the mountains and lakes of Alaska, past the breaking ice of the Bering Strait and landing on another continent in Providenja, Russia. A couple of people in our group became sick the first day. Besides that, the view was awesome.

This was far different from the other Unionaires trips we've been on. This time, the Unionaires included Steve Long, Heidi Hill, Ryan Thomas, Kristine Elliston, Marcy Florian, Wendy Dorn, Seth Ellis, and Alan Recalde. We sang 20 concerts over ten

See *storybook* on page 4

Are there steps to God?

Joa Johnson
Reporter

However secure we feel in our relationships with God and with our friends, isn't there always room for improvement? The 12-Step Spiritual Journey gives any willing participant a chance to truly connect with his or her inner self and with others. Without being a run-of-the-mill self-help program, the Spiritual Journey is designed to do three things:

- 1) Give support and encouragement through daily life
- 2) Provide emotional healing
- 3) Promote spiritual growth.

The people involved in the Spiritual Journey are divided into eight smaller groups. Each group then meets for an hour once a week for 23 weeks, starting in the week of September 9. By using the book, *A Hunger For Healing*, by Keith Miller, Stan and Angie Hardt facilitate the discussions,

with Stan leading the men and Angie the women. During each hour, the members share quality time with each other when they can step back from their regular stressful activities of life and get to know God and themselves a little better. Angie Hardt explained that the groups “give us a safe place to explore who we really are—with our strengths and our weaknesses.”

The 12-Step Spiritual Journey was started at Union College through the support of Dr. Ron Jensen, a Union College alumnus, and his wife, Dr. Alexa Jensen. After going through this program in California, Dr. Ron Jensen benefitted so much from it, he wanted others to have similar experiences. He immediately remembered Union College as a place that would enjoy having the availability and advantages of this program. With that thought in mind, Dr. Jensen chose to fund the

Spiritual Journey at Union for five years.

Having already been successful last year, with 50 people completing the program, Stan and Angie are eager to get underway with it again this year. So far, over 100 students have signed up to partake in this relatively new adventure, and more are welcome in this coming week. After that, it is difficult for new students to join because each group will have established an atmosphere of familiarity and comfort. For now, anyone interested is welcome to sign up in the Campus Ministries office. If, after attending a few sessions, someone decides this program doesn't fit with their schedules, they can simply quit going. It is impossible to structure the meetings perfectly for everybody so a few minds might change after a couple of get-togethers. Yet many people have thoroughly enjoyed and benefitted from being involved in the Spiritual Journey.

For instance, Margaret Thompson

acknowledges how her relationship with God has changed since she went through the program. She would enjoy being close to God for a time and seriously believe she had all she needed with Him. But then life would get too hectic, and she wasn't able to maintain that high feeling of spirituality. After being a member of one of the groups last year, Margaret fully realized that God is constantly with her. He knows and understands what she needs in every detail of her life. Now she believes, “12-Step isn't a miracle cure or a quick fix for your spiritual life, but it gives valuable insight and support for those of you who are searching for something better.”

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world beat

Malachi McNeilus
News commentator

UFOs

For those whose world extends only from sea to shining sea, let me put a few words in your ear about everyone's favorite argument—presidential politics. Contrary to the Clinton/Gore '96 sign in my window I really don't care who wins this election. If I knew what my vote was supporting then I might take some interest in our increasingly fictionalized democracy. Today, sadly, no one except the candidates know what they truly stand for. So whom do we support?

Thankfully, there are some issues which the candidates still feel free to share their real opinions on. One of these is UFOs. I've found no better contrast between Clinton and Dole than in their feelings about the possibility of the existence of alien life.

Clinton's comments regarding alien life came shortly after NASA researchers (in an effort to secure more funding) claimed to have found evidence of life on Mars. Eagerly Mr. Clinton stated his determination that the American space program would put its full intellectual power and technological prowess behind a search for further evidence of life on Mars. The President then said that, if the discovery was confirmed, it would be one of the most stunning insights into our universe that science has ever uncovered. It sounds to me like the President is really big into alien life. You could almost see him welcoming aliens to the White House, or setting up an interplanetary free trade zone (which would exclude Iraq, Iran, and China). The point is Mr. Clinton is optimistic.

He's excited about new ideas and possibilities and this says a lot about his personality and leadership style.

Bob Dole has said less about aliens than Mr. Clinton, but what he has said is enlightening. Having earlier rebuked the Hollywood film industry for producing morally questionable material, Mr. Dole still managed to wander into a showing of Independence Day. After seeing this aliens vs. earthlings flick Mr. Dole had some insightful opinions to share. "I like it," he said. "We won, the end. Leadership. America. Good over evil." Apparently Mr. Dole sees aliens as evil and one can imagine that under a Dole presidency aliens would not be welcomed in America. To me, this not only indicates a reluctance toward new beings from other planets, but a reluctance toward new ideas, perspectives, and opportunities. While the presidential can-

didates' views on UFOs will not inspire me to vote, it is an interesting illumination into their characters.

sources:
—International Herald-Tribune
—Newsweek

IRAQ

The U.S. wasted a lot of money last week when it spent \$50 million dollars to destroy fourteen Iraqi military installations. Immediately the Iraqis began rebuilding them. Not only was this an incredible waste of money, but it was also a useless mission which accomplished nothing. All Iraq did was respond to a request for military aid from one of the several factions of Kurds who have been uselessly fighting amongst themselves for quite a few years now. C.I.A. officers stationed in the area to promote our interests fled when Kurdish and Iraqi troops took the city of Irbil in northern Iraq, effectively destroying all the C.I.A. had worked to accomplish. Perhaps the most ironic thing about all this was that the C.I.A. sided against Iraq in favor of another Kurdish faction normally supported by Iran (some things never change). In the end what did \$50 million get us? Absolutely nothing. Saddam Hussein remains in power. Iraq withdrew its troops but still controls the city, and the world community is becoming increasingly tired of the U.S. brutalizing Iraq for no good reason. We spent money, supported our worst enemies' interests (Iran), and further risked our relationship with many other nations.

—Chicago Tribune
—New York Times



Summer adventure

Continued from page 3

days, and three of those days were in Russia. We stayed with local families who knew little to no English. Because of the scarcity of vegetables, the basic diet in Providenja consists of meat, seafood and bread. The vegetarians in the group weren't vegetarians on this trip.

The people in Russia treated us like royalty. They went beyond their means to feed us, put us in their beds, and faithfully brought us to our destinations on time. Spoiled by American life, we brought food for them that is common to us. Yet it put tears in the eyes of the lady who was our hostess. She said she hadn't eaten a vegetable for years. Then in a marvelous move of generosity, she cooked our gift for us to eat.

Our interpreter was a local, Natasha Monino. Guess what? She is now here studying music and English as a Second Language.

They were gracious hosts, and they looked like they were enjoying our music. "Heavenly," was one description we heard. My favorite part of the trip was our concert at the orphanage for 60 Russian children. After our concert, these once timid children latched on to the singers and wouldn't let go. One tiny girl adopted me and gave me a personal tour of the orphanage. She showed me where she slept and some of her belongings. She also asked me for my autograph. When I told her I had to leave, she reached in her pocket and pulled out some beads on a wire and gave them to me as a gift.

Bermuda

Two and a half weeks in Bermuda? Sure. Your choices are: a) sitting in a stuffy classroom and memorizing periodic tables, or b) taking a plane out to an Atlantic paradise, where you can go skin diving among angelfish and fan coral, take walks into through the woods, and get a little bit of cul-

ture hanging out with the locals. Brad Shauer, Cherie Heinrich, Susie Greer, Brian Ruckle, Mitch Scoggins, Johanna McClay, and Brad Schaffner chose the latter.

We were signed up for three hours of Field Biology science credit in this class, so we did learn something. Most of the learning was hands-on. We learned to identify Spanish Bayonet, Allspice, Darrell's Fleabane, Salt Grass, the Bermuda Ceder, Blue Chromis, Sea Cucumbers, and more. We saw how the introduction of a single plant or animal can change the ecological makeup of the whole island.

True, we didn't have a four-star hotel, but the tents in Ester Zuill's backyard were close. Ester is the sister of Dr. Henry Zuill, a Union College professor, and our tour guide. By eight in the morning, we would have eaten breakfast and be waiting for one of the many pink Bermuda busses to take us to our destination for the day. Most of the morning and early afternoon we spent walking—along the beach, through forests or wetlands, and even some caves. Then we would find a spot to put on our flippers, wetsuits, masks and snorkels and glide out into a world where parrot fish and eagle rays roam. In the evening, our journals would easily fill with the adventures of the day, then we could listen to a lecture or watch a film on ocean and island in Ester Zuill's living room.

Next summer, don't do "nuttin'." Do "sumthin'." Join the Adventist Colleges Abroad language summer program in Spain, Austria, France, Brazil, Greece, Italy, Taiwan, or Singapore. The Field Biology class is offered every other summer, so start thinking about going in the summer of 1998. There are no definite plans for a mission trip in the summer to Brazil or any other destination. Keep your ears and eyes open second semester for possible developments.



Unionaires take Russia by storm. (L-R): Marcy Florian, Ryan Thomas, Wendy Dorn, Alan Recalde, Heidi Hill, Kristine Elliston, Seth Ellis.

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Dear Cognizant Omniscience Boy,



Dear COB,

HELP! Ever since I got to Union I've been gaining so much weight that my clothes don't fit anymore. I don't know what I'm doing wrong and I can't stand the way I look. What should I do?

-Horizontally Challenged

Dear Horizontally Challenged,

Establish the "NO FOOD after 8:00 p.m." rule. Establish the "NO DAIRY QUEEN study breaks" rule. Those cookies in the cafe are yummy, but are they worth lugging around under all those baggy sweatshirts? You may need to confirm this with a science major about this, but you can't burn off those M & M's you've been unconsciously inhaling by sitting in your dorm room until bedtime. If you don't believe the science guys, experiment for yourself. Just get out there and do stuff instead of snarfing Pop Tarts at 11 p.m. And, if you're the one who takes the elevator to the second floor, honey, take the stairs! Just wait and see. I don't lie about this stuff. Good luck.

-COB

PS: send your vexing thoughts to COB on any anonymous piece of paper and drop it in the ASB suggestion box in the chat.

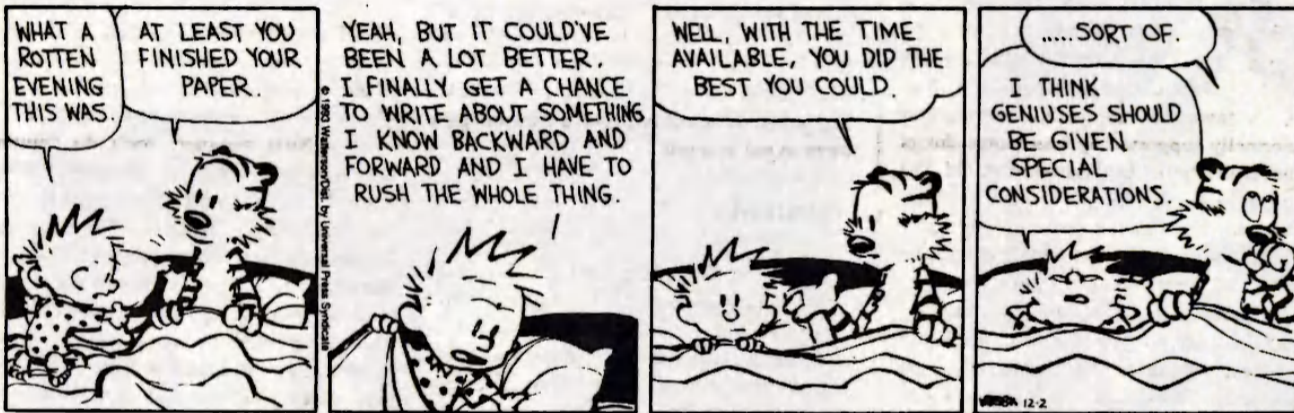
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save your head



Bret Schlisner

Columnist

Hey ya'll. We're finally back at Union again, meeting new experiences and experiencing new meetings.

The first days of school kinda remind me of my first ride on a cyclone roller-coaster when I

was eight, finally ridin' with the big dogs. It was the most liberating experience since my promotion from personal potty to grown-up potty, man. Since that rollercoaster, I have promoted myself to many bigger and better potties. The most significant promotion was from the white-American potty to the international open-minded potty. From that vast vat of discernment I have extracted absolutely everything I know to this very day.

And so it went that a couple Argentine guys asked me to attack Mt. Aconcagua with them. I had listened in 7th grade geography class when Mr. Rosenquist flashed us his

knowledge of the highest mountain outside the Himalayas, at nearly 23,000 feet. So I jumped in the bandwagon truckbed and we took off.

Three months of 10-mile-a-day running and a two-day bus romp dumped us at the border of Chile and Argentina, on December 25, 1995. We were a measly 36 footpath miles from elev. 13,500 ft., basecamp of Cerro Aconcagua. No problem. We had lightened our packs down to a measly 47 pounds each. Our bodies' sinew was rippling. No need to try to trim more weight from our loads. Just give the mules the bulky stuff, we thought...

After the mules scampered away with that bulk, we blasted off hiking. At the first view of Aconcagua, we shed our gear and rejoiced in photographic praise over the fact that we only had 33.3 miles to go.

Six hours into that day I had hummed El Condor Pasa ("Rather be a Hammer than a Nail," Simon/Garfunkel) 47 quintillion times. The flatiron cliffs to my sides bounced slowly by. The sun blazed down, separating the fibers of our clothes and skin. Visions of sugarplums danced in my head. Whoa.

Crossing a glacial stream, my legs buckled and I plopped down in the water. The liquid ice flowed through my sweaty longjohns,

and that was reality, baby. And it told me that something was wrong with this oil painting. This is NOT going how we planned, I thought. Wait, what plan?

I hollered to my homeboy Geeshay, "Yo, does any of us know the first thing about a two-week mountain-climbing trip?"

"No way, man. But we'll learn faster with our lives on the line!"

Second day of hiking upward. Animals and birds had long since disappeared, leaving the loaded paintbrush colors of the boulders and cliffs the only sign of life. My pink shoulder-tissue had smeared into my pack straps, forming a bond stronger than shoe-goo. A daymare about a fencer puncturing my left lung commandeered my oxygen-starved brain. I fought to regain consciousness.

But the sword still gouged me with each trudge.

Our lips cracked into little red canyons. Our blisters popped on our heels, pinky-toes and backs. Someone heading down signaled us, "Basecamp's just ahead over the rise." We approached the rise like a steer approaching Sizzler for a good meal.

Could it be base camp? Over and over, that we chanted. For 90 minutes, Could it be base camp?

Our bodies were bent into question marks

as we finally reached the top of the glacier and pitched our tents over the icy dirt of base camp. We were instant cadavers, brain-dying on our sleeping sacks just as the shadow of the Chilean Andes overtook us.

We couldn't sleep, eat, think, talk, eat crackers, whistle, or go potty. We just lay lifeless.

The other groups sprung into camp singing and grinning with their 7-pound hip-packs and stories of their planned-out 4-day conquest of the basecamp trail. Our foolishness was a deadly two days. With backpack-fulls of anvils. Oops.

But that's O.K., after that day we learned our dumbness and started to plan our next expedition. But we weren't quite through with that mountain until the next issue of the Clocktower came out in the middle of October.

But before I say "To be Continued..." I have a question or three: What mountain do you want to climb? Are you prepared for expedition? and,

How many anvils do you have in your backpack?

Bret Schlisner often dreams of losing his teeth.

Biker gangs at Union

Continued from page 1

While mud caked to your leg hair and bike looks impressive, be ready to call Plant Services for a hammer and chisel if you want to ride your bike again.

The trails by Tierra Briarhurst Park are a minuscule version of Wilderness. The steep, deep, criss-crossing dirt ramps are great if you BMX or are a psycho table-topping mountain-biker with little respect for your body or bike. Tierra is also great if you like to watch people injure themselves and then try the same trick again.

For a description of city bike trails, they are everywhere. The trail that follows Normal Boulevard can get the serious cyclist downtown for a latte in under ten minutes.

Another way to get downtown is the trail starting at 27th and Highway 2, which gets you there through more park and less street. Unfortunately, Prescott Hall is the highest point in Lincoln, so coming back is uphill no matter where you go. A word of advice: wear a helmet. Lincoln drivers aren't always the most observant and drive out of the most curious places (Ryan Royal will back me up). Go down to 84th and Elmwood and you'll hit the Mopac Trail. A very flat, very smooth, 100-foot wide crushed limestone path, the Mopac Trail stretches 25 miles east of Lincoln through an abundance of wildlife, plant life, and bird species. If it sounds like your kind of trail, go for it. The Walton Trail

Company is three miles in if you need a sandwich, drink, or the brakes on your Huffly adjusted. For a free exhaustive map of the trails in Lincoln go to one of the many bike shops or see me.

Now that you know where to go, you need a bike. The question is whether to spend a couple hundred dollars now or save up for a really great bike. I suggest shelling out \$200-\$300 for a low-end *Specialized*, *Mongoose*, *GT*, or something like that. This way, if you end up riding only once a month, you won't be out much and you can still get to work when your car breaks down. On the other hand, if you freak out and ride your bike on every trail on the weekends, between classes, and between the dorm and the Chat you'll have a bike to ride the snot out of while you save up for your dream bike.

Accessorizing? Get a helmet. Wear it. Don't believe me? Ask the dude I saw

with the hamburger-for-a-face last year at Wilderness. Add a pump and a bike bag with a spare tube and you can laugh your way through any coniferous forest. To be legal after dark get a red battery-operated flasher for your back.

Serious biking is a mind set and way of life. It's about devotion to exercise and understanding the mechanics of your bike. And somewhere along the way you learn to pull a phat bunny-hop onto a ten-inch curb at 20 miles an hour. If you have any questions about bikes, parts, what's good/bad, where to go/how to get there, e-mail me. I love to talk bike. I might just tell you how to get to the secret trails at Wilderness.

Want more info? Want to be part of a mountain biking club here at UC? E-mail crunters@ucollege.edu.

A word of advice:

Wear a helmet.

Lincoln drivers aren't

always the most

observant and drive

out of the most

curious places.



Photo: Phil Freund

Tobias Fike performs a death-defying stunt as he journeys down a muddy, wooden stair-case at Indian Caves State Park.



Photo: Toby Fike

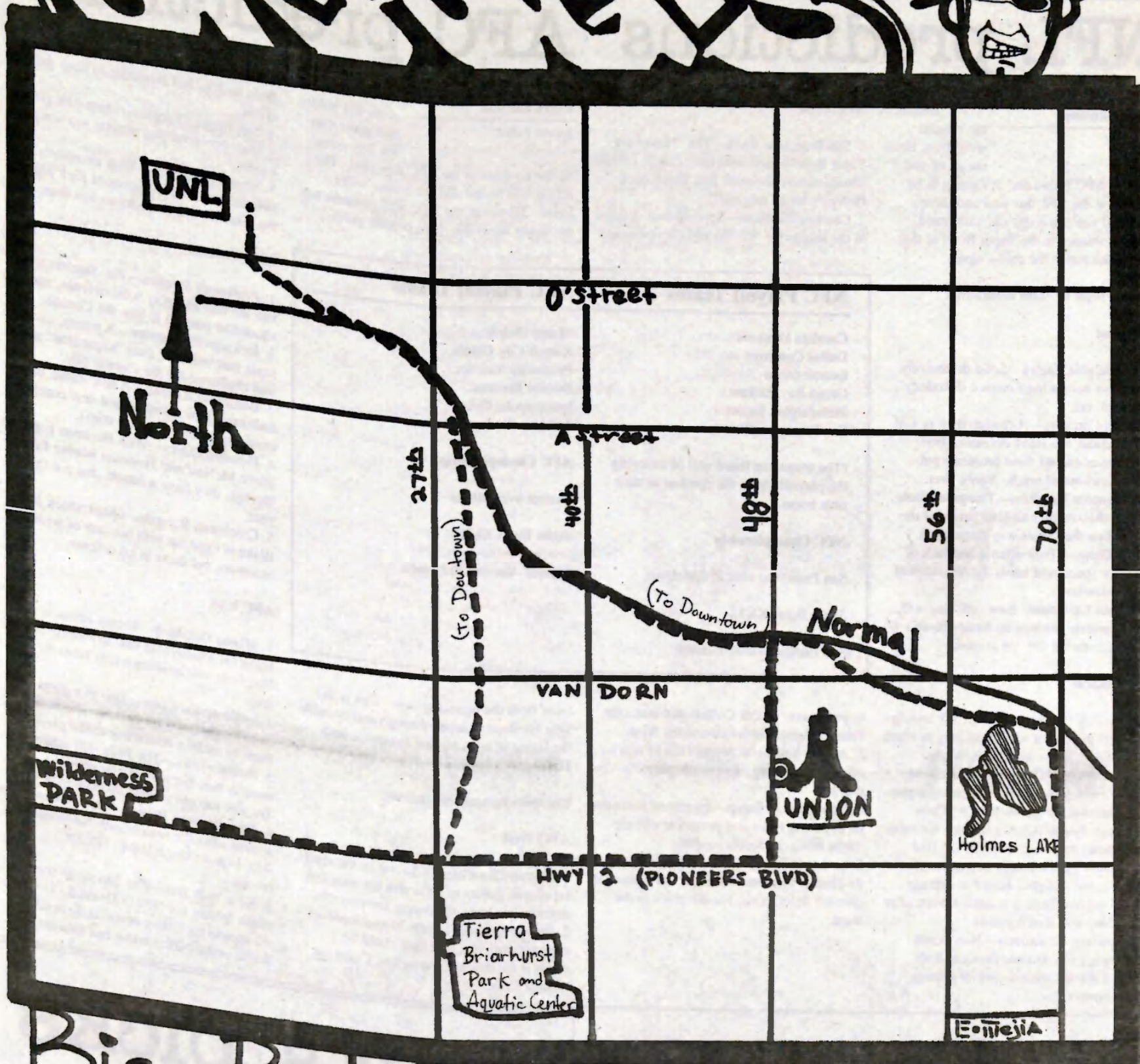
Brendan Pettijohn and Craig Unterseher pose gallantly with their favorite toys.

Glossary

(interpretations of Craig's bike-a-holic jargon)

- clipless pedals**— pedals with a miniature ski-binding that your shoe locks into
- coniferous forest**— bike tire tube + pine needle = flat tire
- derailleur**— gadget that changes your gears
- double-track**— jeep-trail or otherwise wide enough for passing
- hamburger-for-a-face**— wear a helmet
- hardtail**— bike with no rear suspension
- latte**— 2 oz. espresso added to 8 oz. steamed milk with syrup 25¢ extra
- Shimano**— the mother of all bike components
- single-track**— trail wide enough for one bike, no passing
- table-top**— launching off a jump and laying your bike flat in the air
- XTR**— rob a bank and call me

CRASH



Big Bad Biking World



Union student frolicks with pros at Olympics

American, Juliana Furtado, grinds up a hill at the inaugural mountain biking world championship, in Atlanta, 1996. Expected to win, she croaked in the 100 degree heat and finished 10th. Her teammate, Susan DeMattei, a registered nurse, finished with the unexpected bronze. Over 40,000 spectators witnessed the men's and women's races on July 31, including Union College student Bret Schlisner and his family, who are hiding behind the camera in this photo.

NFL predictions AFC predictions

Brad Seltmann
Reporter

Here is the official word from Brad for all of you

die-hard NFC followers. It's going to be exciting in the NFL this year and there's one thing you can count on: continued NFC dominance in the Super Bowl as the AFC is left out in the cold—again.

Here's a team-by-team breakdown:

NFC East

1. Philadelphia Eagles—Solid defensively, these guys have a huge chance if Rodney Peete delivers.
2. Dallas Cowboys—Although they're still a solid squad, too many defensive free-agent losses and off-field problems put Super Bowl out of reach. Sorry, Bret.
3. Washington Redskins—Things are looking up; their many nail-biter losses of the past will go the 'Skins way this season.
4. N.Y. Giants—Poor offense and lack of defensive speed will haunt the Monsters of the Meadowlands.
5. Arizona Cardinals—New coaching will try desperately to clean up Buddy Ryan's 4-12 mess from the '95-'96 season.

NFC Central

1. Green Bay Packers—Offensively unstoppable and in need of solid road play to reach the Big One. Posse up, Cheeseheads!
2. Detroit Lions—Dynamite offense and decent D will prove to be enough for a playoff appearance by the Motor City Crew.
3. Chicago Bears—Only a healthy, dominating Rashaan Salaam can rescue the Bad News Bears from the mire of mediocrity.
4. Minnesota Vikings—Horrible defense will get the Northerners trounced week after week. May win 5 or 6 games.
5. Tampa Bay Buccaneers—New coach Tony Dungy is a defense-first guy with offense a distant second—we're talking miles distant.

NFC West

1. San Francisco 49ers—The 'Niners are Super Bowl-bound with their coach, I mean, administrative assistant Bill Walsh back. George's lovin' this one!!
2. Carolina Panthers—Seventh best defense in the league for '95-'96 and the continued

NFC Playoff Teams

Carolina Panthers
Dallas Cowboys
Detroit Lions
Green Bay Packers
Philadelphia Eagles
San Francisco 49ers

(The teams not listed will be enjoying the playoffs from the comfort of their own home.)

NFC Championship

San Francisco over Philadelphia

Super Bowl XXXI

San Francisco over Denver

improvement of QB Collins will make the Panthers very competitive in the West.

3. Atlanta Falcons—Always fun to watch; offense may carry them to the playoffs—but that's it.
4. New Orleans Saints—Increased defensive on opposing QB's and persistent offense might bring the Saints to .500.
5. St. Louis Rams—With newly acquired ex-Husker Lawrence Phillips, the Rams will give the Saints a run for 4th place in the West.

Brian Carlson
Sports Editor

Brian steps out boldly and gives you the low down

on the rivalries in the AFC this year. The action will be hot and the games will be fierce. However, the AFC will compete for the Super Bowl this year, despite predic-

AFC Playoff Teams

Miami Dolphins
Kansas City Chiefs
Pittsburgh Steelers
Denver Broncos
Indianapolis Colts
Jacksonville Jaguars

AFC Championship

Denver over Miami

Super Bowl XXXI

Denver over San Francisco

tions from the opposing side. This is the year for them to break through and crumble the string of wins by San Francisco and Dallas.

The team-by-team breakdown:

AFC West

1. Kansas City Chiefs—Strong in the regular season thanks to a Derrick Thomas led defense, but may slip during the playoffs.
2. Denver Broncos—John Elway leads an explosive offense, and they could be a threat if the defense shows up. Come on, Orange Crush!

3. Oakland Raiders—The Bad Boys of the West look to Jeff Hostetler to keep them afloat.

4. San Diego Chargers—More new players + more non-returning players = a few more losses.
5. Seattle Seahawks—With absolutely no defense and an inexperienced Rick Mirer, the 'Hawks will be lucky to win four.

AFC Central

1. Pittsburgh Steelers—The Steelers will run the ball and play solid defense, and that should be enough to win the Central.
2. Jacksonville Jaguars—A young, exciting team that will lose their "expansion" status and challenge for the Central title.
3. Baltimore Ravens—A new name, new uniforms, new stadium, and new coach means new results (more wins).
4. Houston Oilers—With Heisman hopeful Steve McNair and Heisman winner Eddie George, they have a future...but not this year.
5. Cincinnati Bengals—Quarterback Jeff Blake is exciting with his core of wide receivers, but there is no defense.

AFC East

1. Miami Dolphins—Jimmy Johnson will bring his immovable hair to Florida and the Dolphins will be immovable from the top spot.
2. Indianapolis Colts—This is a good team—especially on defense. Look for them to make a return trip to the playoffs.
3. Buffalo Bills—The Bills will make another run, but it won't be enough. They're too old to hold up down the stretch.
4. New England Patriots—Parcells won't be around after the season and that makes the Pats without much hope. Try for a 9-7 record.
5. New York Jets—The Jets spent way too much money for Neil O'Donnell. He isn't the quarterback they desperately need. Worst in the NFL for the 2nd straight year.



All of us at one time or another have wanted to be in command. Well, this week Brian and Brad get to imagine that they rule the world of sports. If we were king for a day:

- *There would be at least ten all-sports TV stations
- *There would be no such thing as free

agents

- *Greedy professional players like Shaq would make \$4.25 per hour
- *NBA Commissioner David Stern would be appointed supreme commissioner over every major sport
- *The Bills and the Broncos would learn how to win the Big One
- *Bobby Cox, Warren Moon, a guy named Orenthal, and certain ex-Huskies would learn to speak softly and get rid of the stick
- *Mugsy Bogues would play Manute Bol in Taco Bell's one-on-one tournament
- *Cal Ripken would take a day off
- *The Bowl Coalition would be destroyed in favor of a playoff system
- *Colleges would be able to do in public what has been done under the table for years—pay their athletes
- *Deion Sanders would play pro basketball and finish second in technical fouls behind Sir Charles
- *Mike Tyson would fight someone stronger than the guy who typed this article
- *Reds owner Marge Schott would suck herself into a Pepsi bottle like that kid in the commercial
- *Sports fans would be loyal to teams in their hometown instead of jumping on the bandwagon with teams like the Bulls, Cowboys, 49ers, Yankees and Braves
- *Professional athletes would realize that the game belongs to the fans

(This article was adapted from a written work by Mike Meliti and Adam Rivera of Southern College.)

sports picks

Brian Carlson
Sports Editor

Thumbs-Up to...

Dolly Dinning, for striking out a batter in her slow-pitch softball game.

Thumbs-Down to...

Greg Steiner, for letting Dolly strike him out on three straight "mighty" swings!!

Sportswoman of the Week:

This time we have multiple winners: every lady that is practicing with both the volleyball team and the basketball team. They're putting in lots of work. Way to go!

Sportsman of the Week:

Bret Schlisner. He had four interceptions and scored two touchdowns in a city-league football game. It must have been the socks-over-the-knees look!

Quote of the Week:

"The growing gap between the wealth of pro sports and that of its fans is an embarrassment for our society." *Inside Sports*, September 1996.

Football intramurals going again

Brian Carlson
Sports Editor

Ladies and gentleman...fall is here...that means the pigskin is flying over at 49er Memorial Field. Yes, once again, the fierce rivalries built during football season are being decided by extraordinary athletes sporting cute little red and yellow flags. Bravely they'll challenge each other, hoping to score more touchdowns than the

opponent and eventually win the coveted "Intramural Champs" t-shirt.

This year, due to the tremendous number of pigskin participants, there are three different divisions of football intramurals. One powerful division for the women, and two for the men. This week I am going to concentrate on the "College Division" on the men's side, and the next issue will feature the men's "NFL Division" and the women's teams.

Each team has played either three or four games (depending on the schedule drafted by Ric Spaulding). One thing is certain: defense is desperately important this season with the teams so evenly matched. Offenses have been stifled with no team scoring more than three touchdowns. Most games can be won with only two scores.

The Wolverines, Huskers and Jayhawks are off to fast starts while the Orangemen and Buffaloes are struggling early. One of the first games of the season set a standard for close games. The game was between the Orangemen and the Jayhawks:

In the first quarter, Chris Wise exploded for a 70-yard touchdown giving his team the early lead. The defenses battled furiously the next two quarters, and neither

team was able to push the ball into the end zone. However, as the fourth quarter wound down, Shawn Sorter found John Buxton in the end zone for a score. Bravely, he chose to attempt a 2-point conversion. It was good. The Jayhawks escaped with an 8-7 victory.

Look for highlights from the Women's and "NFL" leagues in the next issue. Also, more scores and summaries from the "College" division.

To all football players, have fun and stay safe!

Here are the lineups for the "College" teams:

Kansas Jayhawks:

- Shawn Sorter—captain
- Bret Schlisner—co-captain
- R. Adams
- J. Buxton
- J. Gibson
- T. Gorton
- S. Henson
- B. Mix
- D. Ritter
- G. Stock

Syracuse Orangemen:

- Chris Wise—captain
- Dave Wade—co-captain
- S. Blood
- L. Bowes
- A. Fritz
- S. Huenergardt
- J. Lund
- K. Rowe
- C. Sargeant
- T. Skinner
- B. Shea

Colorado Buffaloes:

- Brian Carlson—captain
- Brad Seltmann—co-captain
- P. Britain
- C. Brown
- D. Carlson
- E. Hansen
- M. Kendall
- Z. Owen
- R. Spaulding
- M. Teller

Nebraska Huskers:

- Mike Diehl—captain
- Nick Bock—co-captain
- S. Becker
- C. Bohl
- J. Hoewing
- T. Minear
- B. Pardeiro
- L. Wade
- M. Wasemiller
- T. Watson

Michigan Wolverines:

- Todd Essex—captain
- L. Anderson
- R. Chaffee
- B. Gray
- G. Steiner

- Brian Gibson—co-captain
- D. Briggman
- C. Gorton
- J. Krassin
- C. Turner



Brian Carlson tangles into the grasp of Brent Mix's paws

Photo: Paul Britain

V-ball line-up

- Alicia Fogg
- Amber Doolard
- Jana Kaiser
- Jennifer Card
- Jennifer Flanagan
- Jennifer Hall

- Michelle Reid
- Michelle Miller
- Rebecca High
- Rhonda Purkeypile
- Vanessa Bolejack



Bret Schlisner slings his elbow at Mike Kendall's nose after a pass interception.

Photo: Paul Britain



The entire woman-power volleyball team gets psyched to kick some hiney.

Photo: Paul Britain

Volleyball schedule

9/10	Tues. 6p	Nebraska Christian	Away
9/17	Tues. 7p	Faith Bible College	Away
9/19	Thur. 7p	Beatrice JV	HOME
9/24	Tues. 7p	Nebraska Christian	HOME
9/30	Mon. 7:30p	Beatrice JV	Away
10/1	Tues. 7:30p	Grace	HOME
10/8	Tues. 7:30p	Grace	Away
10/10	Thur. 6:15p	Concordia JV	Away
10/14	Mon. 7p	Concordia JV	HOME

Welcome to the dollhouse

Malachi McNeilus

Reporter

Score Card

for *Welcome to the Dollhouse*

realism	A
profanity	C
violence	A
moral value	C
beauty	C
inspiring	C
depth	B+
overall	A-

On August 27, the Mary Riepma Ross Theater opened its 1996 film series with *Welcome to the Dollhouse*, a film by Todd Solondz. The Dollhouse takes a hard look at growing up through the eyes of Dawn Wiener (Heather Matarazzo) who is dealing with her first year in junior high. To her classmates she is known as "wiener dog" and everyday at school is miserable as she struggles to gain acceptance. At home things are no better. As a middle child, she's obscured by her beautiful younger sister and smart older brother. Her life is a series of rejections and moves from one painful situation to the next.

Todd Solondz has a sharp eye for exploiting the ironies and preconceptions of average people which gives the movie some perceptively funny moments. For the most part however, the movie is awkward and

painfully real. The director's skill in orchestrating Dawn's character is remarkable, and this movie works because you don't feel sorry for her. You see her as she is, and you hope she won't sit next to you.

Dawn doesn't discover the secret of beauty or popularity in the course of the movie. What she does find is much more credible—nothing much. Nothing much except the beginnings of self-reliance and an understanding of what might be the really important things in life.

Welcome to the Dollhouse played through September 8, but it is not the last movie to be shown at the Mary Riepma Ross Film Theater. For those of you who are new to Lincoln, the Mary Riepma Ross Film Theater is located in the Sheldon Art Gallery on the UNL campus (right behind the Lied Center). The Ross Film Theaters main film series is made up entirely of indie films carefully selected from the best film festivals around the world including the Sundance Film Festival in Arizona and the Cannes Film Festival in France.

In addition to its regular film series the Ross Theater offers two other film series, The UPC International series and a film studies class series. The UPC film series is a series of the best new films from foreign countries. I've yet to be disappointed by these films since they are usually of excellent quality and quite interesting. Naturally those films that are not in English are sub-titled. The third film series is shown by the films studies class every week on Tuesdays and Wednesdays—generally at 1:00 p.m. and 3:15 p.m. The exciting thing about these movies is that they are free. Film studies movies range from current foreign releases to American classics. For a complete schedule of the film series offered by the Mary Riepma Ross Theater, or if you have any questions, contact Brian Ruckle.

Make an investment this semester and take the time to enjoy some real quality films. You'll never look at movies the same way again!



Brendon Sexton, Jr. and Heather Matarazzo star in *Welcome to the Dollhouse*.

The great outdoors

Brian Ruckle

A&E Editor

Throughout Lincoln, parks and plots of land

exist for people to escape from the noise and forget city life. The Pioneers Park nature center is more than just a park. It has one of the Lincoln's eleven arboretums and is a wildlife sanctuary for buffalo, elk, white-tailed deer and other native Nebraska animals.

The nature center inhabits a corner of the larger Pioneers Park. Approaching the center, you can see the elk and buffalo from the road, but to really appreciate the park you have to get out and walk.

Once out of the car, you leave the asphalt for a blanket of wood chips shredded from last year's Christmas trees. The low hum of the car is replaced by the higher pitched chirping of crickets and buzz of cicadas. Next to the Chet Ager Center lie cultivated herb gardens carefully identified with name plates.

Ready to stretch your legs? Six miles of hiking trails wind through the 192

acres. The nature center gained 52 acres since last June and added the 2 mile Ben Verley Trail.

Not just a pretty place, the purpose of the Chet Ager Center is education and preservation of Nebraska's natural heritage. During the fall, over 100 school kids visit the Center. For the weekend wanderer, every Saturday and Sunday at 2:00 p.m., the nature center offers free guided hikes. The hikes carry a theme decided upon by the group, such as insects, nests, or wildflowers. The Chet Ager Center also sponsors several seasonal events. On Sept. 27, it will hold the Autumnal Equinox Hike. Constellation Walks will be held Sept. 13, Oct. 11, Nov. 8, and Dec. 6. Holiday themes are the Halloween Spooktacular Oct 24-26 and Woodland Holiday Dec. 13-14. These events do require a small fee between \$3-5, and the Center asks for pre-payment. For times, prices and meeting place call 441-7895.

Hours from September till May are Monday through Saturday from 8:30 a.m.-5 p.m. and Sunday noon till 5 p.m.

The notebook as an icon, a receptacle for thoughts and ideas, is a prevalent symbol of learning, conveying the universality of education. This 22 foot high sculpture was created by a husband and wife team, Claes Oldenburg and Coosje van Bruggen who together have collaborated 20 + large-scale sculpture projects around the world. *Torn Notebook* is planted in downtown Lincoln. Check it out. And while you're there, ask about the symbolism built into the pages of *Torn Notebook*. It'll take you by surprise. For info call 472-2461.

Starlight, starbright

Jeremy Cornforth
Reporter

Long ago when I was a Helping Hand in the pseudo-military Pathfinder club, we worked on our astronomy honor.

My entire upper grade classroom would memorize star charts by day, then futilely attempt to find the same stars at night. Once a week we were allowed to stay up late to breathe in the Tennessee air and get cricks in our necks. The only things that I managed to recognize were Orion, the Big Dipper and a passing squadron of Apaches. Knoxville was an interesting place to look at the stars, but I was an abysmal astronomer. Somehow I got my honor, and I'm sure it's sitting in the bottom of one of my mother's dresser drawers right now.

With the encouragement of the Clocktower staff, I was dispatched to look at the stars again, this time at our own Hyde Memorial Observatory at Holmes Park. I bet you didn't even know it was there, did you? My plan was to bike over to Holmes Lake on Saturday night, drink in an hour of stargazing, then scurry

back to tell you all about it. Why a Saturday night? Because the observatory is staffed by local volunteers and thus is open only on Saturday nights. I got a hot date, though, and had to forgo the trip. Just kidding. The sky was cloudy, so looking at things above 2000 feet was out of the question. I never got to look at the stars. Kind of anticlimactic, huh?

Here's the good news, though: you can visit the observatory yourself! The facility is located by Holmes Lake Golf Course, off of 70th Street south of Van Dorn. There are three telescopes, plenty of knowledgeable volunteers, and a special program about astronomy, constellations, or space. You can visit anytime from sundown until 11 p.m. on Saturday nights (7-10 p.m. starting in October), so there's still time to make the late movie at the Starship 9. For those obsessed with cheap dates, there is no admission charge; bringing a powerful calculator to calculate distances is optional. Let me know how it goes for you. I hope you see more than a flock of helicopters.

Colored Threads: Places to go, things to see

Tanya Spilovoy
A&E Editor

Union College is like a quilt made up of hundreds of different colored threads. It is a collage of people from different cultural backgrounds. Each person with his or her unique qualities enriches our community. That is why the goal of Arts and Entertainment this year will be to reflect the exciting personalities, flavor, and cultural diversity of our campus. You will find the latest happenings across a spectrum of interests featured in this year's Arts and Entertainment. If you have something I should know about, have suggestions, or complaints, just e-mail me @ taspilov or call 486-2765.

Free concerts will be given at noon in the Historic Haymarket at 14th Ave. and "N" street. On the 25th, folksinger Paul Newton will entertain. It should prove an inexpensive toe-tapping good time.

Wallace and Gomit: The Best of Aardman Animation is a seventy-seven minute film featuring the claymation work of Aardman British artists. The film should be packed with crazy fun as you watch the clay models in start/stop-motion bend and twist and move in the traditional slap-stick humor of the nineteen-twenties. Anthony Lane of the New Yorker calls it probably the most fun in town. This will also be showing at the Mary Riepma Ross Film Theater. Screenings will be held Thursdays, Saturdays and Sundays from September 26 through October 5. For times call 472-5353.

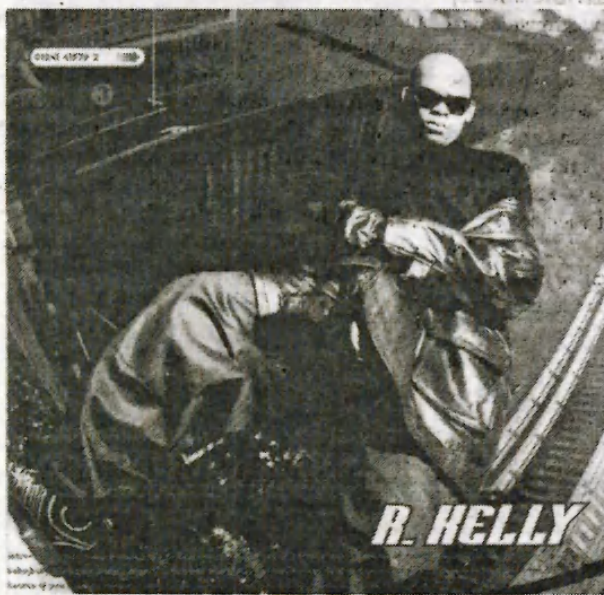
On October 4, the Christian music band Newsboys, with special guest bands Geoff Moore and the Distance and Plankeye, will stop in Lincoln on their "Take Me To Your Leader" world tour. For more information call 449-2800.

Calvin and Hobbes

by Bill Watterson



Lee's Groovy Revoovies



R. Kelly

R. Kelly

becoming his most successful to date:

On this release, R. transformed his lyrical style radically from the "I Don't See Nuthin' Wrong (With a Little Pumpkin Rind)" of his multi-platinum "12 Play" disc. On "R. Kelly," the songs speak against the decaying values of our country, proclaiming our need to love and respect one another.

One thing that has not changed about R. Kelly is his musical style. The disk is peppered with a few dance songs, but his trademark slow grind is in full effect throughout the majority of the disc. If you're looking to get your groove on, this is what you want.

This music could put pep in the step of even the most pious professors on campus. I keep waiting to catch the fourth floor of the Dick building booming with R. Kelly cranked to song "11," but it hasn't happened yet.

Artist: R. Kelly
Album: R. Kelly
Rating: 3 Razor Burns on a Bald Head

"Who is R. Kelly?" If I had a dime for every time...never mind. For those who aren't familiar with R. Kelly and his music, a brief introduction. Please allow me to paint a picture of him. Imagine Willie Otey on a stage, bathed in light, singing at the top of his voice. This is the general appearance of R. Kelly, except A LOT nicer. R. Kelly is right now one of the hottest R&B artists in America. His third major release, the self-titled "R. Kelly" is well on its way to

HOT SPOT: "Down Low"
SO-WHAT CUT: "As I Look Into My Life"



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