

In Focus

### FAITHFULL?

Can religion survive on a college campus?



In The News 5

### KNIGHTRIDERS

The Evanston Police Department will be getting 13 new high-tech cars this spring.

Weather

### R.E.M.

Put on your Harborcoat and stand in line for tickets, 30.  
Tomorrow: Stipe freezes bald head, Mills new front man, 32.

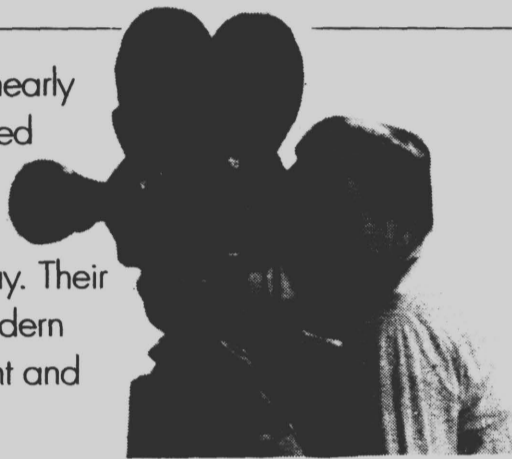
# The Daily Northwestern

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Evanston, Ill.

Twenty-five years ago, nearly 10,000 activists gathered at Northwestern for Project Survival, a predecessor to Earth Day. Their words spawned the modern environmental movement and left the



## WORLD IN OUR HANDS



Activists gather in the Technological Institute Auditorium in 1970.

NU archives

The project returns ■ page 3

## Charge for ethernet to be absorbed by NU

■ ASG action helped keep fee off student phone bills, says University President Henry Bienen.

By Kevin Langbaum  
Daily Staff Writer

The \$3.33 Northwestern Technologies Group ethernet fee will be absorbed permanently into the general university budget and will not appear on students' phone bills as had been announced, University President Henry Bienen said yesterday.

Bienen said the decision was largely due to the efforts of the Associated Student Government, which has been active in the fight to remove the fee from phone bills.

"I was persuaded by the arguments that were made to me by Ms. (Alix) Rosenthal and the others at ASG, as well as talking to my own colleagues here, that there was a better policy than the one we have in place," Bienen said.

ASG passed a resolution Oct. 26 calling for the removal of the fee, which was to begin appearing on phone bills in November. The Weber administration postponed the implementation of the fee until February, to give students adequate notice, but decided to leave the fee on the phone bills.

In his letter announcing the decision, Bienen referred to a letter he received from ASG that presented its argument and influenced his decision.

ASG President Alix Rosenthal said this decision was a major victory for both the students and the administration.

"I think it's great that the administration and ASG were able to work together on this," said Rosenthal, a CAS senior. "I hope this sets a precedent for the administration. I'm glad we could be helpful."

Bienen said he did not want to set the precedent of adding extra fees.

"Northwestern policy has basically been to try to avoid putting on extra fees," he said.

Vice President for Student Affairs Peggy Barr said the fee will be absorbed by the

university, and included in the general budget. The fee will still be paid for in some way by students, but she said she did not know whether the fee would be reflected in the tuition or the room and board contract.

"The decision was thoughtfully arrived at," Barr said. "It seems to be in the best interests of the students and the university."

Since the funding will be absorbed by the university, yesterday's decision will not affect NTG, the group's President Patricia Todus said. But Todus still praised the decision.

"I think the president listened to ASG and to the students in general and made the right decision," Todus said.

ASG Campus Relations Chairman Mike Kagan, who led ASG's effort against the fee, said the decision is a result of students and administration working together.

"When you involve the people affected by the decision in the decision-making, making decisions is a lot easier," said Kagan, a Medill sophomore. "This shows that when students are persistent and when students present a well-thought out argument, we will be taken seriously."

Kagan said he was also happy the decision addressed ASG's major concern of not adding extra fees, instead of just providing sufficient notice of a fee. The decision not only said that the fee would not be imposed this year, but that the university "will absorb the cost of operating the network in subsequent years."

Though Bienen sent a letter to the university community last week assuring students of his commitment to achieving a sense of community, he said this decision was not just a way to prove this commitment.

"It was my call and it just seemed like a better policy," he said. "On this specific occasion I thought the proposals made sense and we changed the policy."

Barr also commended the new president's dedication to students.

"I think he wouldn't be here if he wasn't student oriented," she said. "He's working very hard on a sense of community. I think that demonstrates his willingness to listen and be open."



Bienen:

"It was my call and it just seemed like a better policy."

## Company gives Evanston Hospital healthy prognosis

By Margaret Egbula  
Daily Staff Writer

If every hospital in the United States operated like Evanston Hospital, the country would save approximately \$21.6 billion on health care each year, according to a study released in November.

Mercer Health Care Provider Consulting and HCIA Inc., a Baltimore company specializing in health care information services, named Evanston Hospital among the top 100 hospitals in the nation in an annual review of 4,000 hospitals nationwide.

This year's list, "100 Top Hospitals: Benchmarks for success," is the second that Mercer and HCIA have released in an attempt to recognize successful hospitals and to provide role models for other hospitals.

Suzanne Zeuschner, publications editor for HCIA, said

the list is published so "other hospitals will look at (the top 100) and try to get themselves up to those standards."

The study did not consider mental hospitals, children's hospitals or rehabilitation hospitals, Zeuschner said.

The criteria for selection for the list included eight categories covering both clinical and financial performance, said Tim Dietlin, marketing director for Mercer. The efficiency of procedures, patients' mortality rates and affordability of care were included in the criteria.

Dietlin said if all of the country's hospitals measured up to the standards of the 100 hospitals listed, significant savings would result.

"Both the common person and the nation would save," he said.

Dietlin said in addition to saving money, hospitals that are included on the list save lives.

"We think that these hospitals set up a benchmark for

other hospitals to follow," he said.

If every U.S. hospital measured up to the top 100, patient mortality rates would decrease by 17 percent, according to the study. Complications would drop by 14 percent, and the average patient would have to stay in the hospital one less day.

Evanston Hospital is one of two Illinois hospitals listed in the top 100. The other is Community Hospital of Ottawa in Ottawa, Ill. Evanston was one of 15 hospitals listed under the category of "Major Teaching Hospitals" with 400 or more beds.

Evanston Hospital faculty members are excited about having been recognized, said Jean Bencies, the hospital's assistant vice president for public relations.

"We are thrilled to be chosen as one of the nation's top 100 hospitals," Bencies said. "This award is a testament to the dedication and hard work of our staff."



Thousands gathered at Tech Auditorium for the annual January 1970 teach-out for environmental improvements. (NU Archives photos)

# CHANGE IN THE WEATHER

**25 YEARS LATER: Leaders of Project Survival plan another teach-out in March.**

Stories by Michael J. Szanto  
Daily Staff Writer

**N**orthwestern never resembled Woodstock quite so closely as it did in 1970 when 10,000 students rallied for the improvement of the environment in an atmosphere of peace and love.

This month marks the 25th anniversary of Project Survival, a teach-out held at NU, promoting the discussion of and concern for environmental issues.

"If you thought Woodstock was an experience, this was the same, but on a smaller scale," said Casey Jason, CAS '70, the former president of Northwestern Students for a Better Environment. NSBE, which is now called Students for Ecological and Environmental Development, was responsible for Project Survival in 1970.

NU's Project Survival thrust the environmental movement onto the national scene. The teach-out was one of several environmental events around the country prompting the observance of the first Earth Day in April of that year.

But while environmental issues have become more pressing since 1970, NU never recaptured the fervor of the event. Students today are generally apathetic about the environment, said Melissa Chamberlain, SEED treasurer.

Chamberlain, a McCormick junior, said this apathy has made it more difficult for SEED to educate students about environmental issues. Now, however, organizers are hoping to bring the enthusiasm back to NU with another Project Survival.

SEED and political science Prof. Paul Friesema, who was a young professor at the original event, plan to organize a similar teach-out for March 31.

"We are doing it to commemorate an important event," Friesema said. "It also represents the university's recent commitment to teaching and researching the environmental studies."

The original Project Survival taught participants and NSBE members they could make a difference.

"College-aged people can affect society if we do things responsibly," Jason said. "We aren't just people jumping up and down carrying signs."

Events such as Project Survival targeted a public much more receptive to the problems threatening the global environment, said Luke Hestor, an Environmental Protection Agency spokesman.

"Before 1970 there were comparatively few organizations interested in environmental issues," Hestor said. "You had a limited infantry to combat the problem."

Hestor, who has been with the EPA almost since its inception, said he is proud to be part of the environmental movement.

"I have been a witness to a revolution," Hestor said. "History will write that a revolution occurred around 1970."

Participants in the 1970 event said they have vivid memories of Project Survival.

"It was the kind of electric event that happens only once a generation," said Jim Reisa, a former NU graduate student who was in NSBE.

Reisa said onlookers crowded the aisles of Tech Auditorium and lingered in the halls while others gathered in lecture rooms to watch the speakers over closed-circuit TV.

"The halls were jam-packed with people," Reisa said. "Kids were huddled in sleeping bags."

Reisa said the power needed to operate television cameras, lights and sound systems, exceeded Tech's capabilities, and made it necessary for NSBE to ask NU's administration for extra electricity.

"It was sort of ironic that Tech needed more power, being the temple of technology," Reisa said.

Among the prominent guests were singer Tom Paxton and Stanford University Prof. Paul Ehrlich.

Paxton wrote a song dedicated to Project Survival called "Whose Garden Was This?" He sang it for the first time in the auditorium at midnight, Reisa said. It later became the lead song of one of Paxton's albums.

Politicians such as Illinois Sen. Paul Simon, former Sen. Adlai Stevenson III, and former Attorney General William Scott also made appearances at the event.

"All the undergraduates remember this as much, or more than, anything else in their college experience," said Prof. Larry Gilbert, former chairman of biological sciences. "It was one of the few things from my career that remains vivid in my mind."

Project Survival was featured in Time magazine and broadcast on live television. The project also received attention from the Chicago Democratic party.

Members of NSBE, however, said they

were initially reluctant to get involved in politics.

"We thought Chicago politics was more than we could handle," Jason said. "The late Mayor Richard J. Daley was so impressed by us that he was trying to figure out a way to get us to support his candidates."

Jason said Democratic leaders were persistent in their efforts to enlist NSBE's support for candidates to the Metropolitan Sanitary District of Chicago.

NSBE's political involvement enabled it to promote environmental legislation, Jason said. The outlawing of phosphate detergent is one example of a law passed in Illinois that was endorsed by the student group.

Despite the involvement of other, similar groups, the environment continues to deteriorate, said former civil engineering Prof. Wesley Pipes.

"The basic problem is that the demand on our limited resources has increased due to population growth," Pipes said.

The United States should never forget the lessons of the '70s, Hestor said.

"While too much regulation is bad, history has a habit of repeating itself," Hestor said, "and we have to be careful not to return to where we were before 1970."

University faculty said the original project made it easier not to return.

"We've really come to appreciate the environment as a global problem rather than just a domestic one," Friesema said. "One of the things they hoped to come out of Project Survival was a commitment to the environment, but nothing much came out of it. Now the university has begun to make some really big changes. NU has made a very serious commitment to augment the environmental sciences and policies program."

**Earth first:** John Stegeman, Casey Jason, Jim Reisa and Warren Muir walk the lakefill in 1970.



**Profile: Casey Jason, CAS '70, is still making an environmental difference.**

Like many Northwestern freshmen, Casey Jason entered college with high ideals and lofty goals.

"I came in wanting to change the world," Jason said.

And, in his own way, he did. As a political and environmental activist, Jason, CAS '70, founded Northwestern Students for a Better Environment, Northwestern Students for Improvement of Mental Health Standards and Northwestern Volunteers in Action.

Since graduating, Jason received his medical degree from Duke University in 1974 and served as a medical expert for the Environmental Protection Agency.

He now lives in Washington, D.C., with his wife, Judith Elaine Beach; his 18-year-old son, Casey Jr.; and his 15-year-old daughter, Emily.

Jason's childhood was marked with challenges.

At six, he was diagnosed with diabetes. Nine months later, one of his sisters died. But he said he refused to use these tragedies as excuses for failure.

"Nobody ever knew that I was diabetic," Jason said. "My mother always told me never to use an illness as an excuse for anything."

Despite his eventual success at NU, he said the school did not initially meet his expectations.

"The biggest concerns were whether you were going to pledge and get a date with a beautiful girl," Jason said.

He did pledge Sigma Nu fraternity, but soon left.

"I came across as a disruptive freshman," Jason said. "I lasted only for the pledge period."

He grew increasingly disenchanted with NU and dropped out after his first year to find a job. He worked the night shift as a mail sorter.

"I worked day and night," Jason said. "I just wanted to get out into the real world."

He returned to NU with a renewed enthusiasm and began gaining public recognition for his environmental activism. But he said he was not interested in publicity.

"The environment was a national experience, and people didn't need me to speak about it," Jason said.