Students Speak Out On War

SGA Senator Derrick Charles makes a sign advertising the SGA sponsored phone-in. The phone-in started on Wednesday and will continue through Friday. The phones next available in the Commons are available for free calls to members of Congress regarding voice opposition to war on Iraq.

WV Editor Lands Job in Nepal

By Andrea Kniss Staff writer

Nine years in Nepal just wasn’t enough. Micah Keller was seven years old when he left Harrisonburg in 1985 with his family to work with United Mission in Nepal under the sponsorship of Mennonite Board of Missions. The Kellers returned to the Shenandoah Valley in 1994, but their eldest son didn’t stay long.

After acquiring a BA in journalism from EMU in 2000 and getting married this past April, Micah Keller Shristi returned to Nepal’s capital city, Kathmandu, a month ago for some adventures of his own.

Surrounded by civil war in one of the least developed countries of the world, Shristi now works as a copy editor for Nepal’s foremost daily English-language newspaper, the Kathmandu Post. As a child, Shristi was fascinated with the journalistic adventures of Tintin, a Belgian comic strip reporter/hero. Later in life he declared an English major at EMU “on a whim,” he said. Shristi co-edited The Weather Vane during spring semester of his senior year.

Richard Benner, assistant professor of English and faculty advisor for The Weather Vane, described Shristi as “a very exciting, inspiring student with a restless spirit and a severe case of seniornit. According to Benner, Shristi sometimes wrote with a brash and forthright style. His quest for a mighty story caused offense at times. “I had to kind of tone him down a little bit,” said Benner.

Shristi landed his job at the Kathmandu Post through Ameet Dhakal, a Post staff member currently studying in EMU’s Conflict Transformation Program on a Fulbright Scholarship. Heidi Lantz-Trissel, a classmate of Shristi’s, informed Dhakal of Shristi’s job openings in EMU’s Conflict Transformation Program on a Fulbright Scholarship.

“Reporters and editors are regularly arrested and jailed without trial for publishing controversial stories.” Shristi said. Over 100 journalists are currently in prison under these circumstances.

Shristi is intrigued by the frequency with which reporters subject themselves to pressure from advertisers and publishers. He admires journalists such as Briton Robert Fisk, who “covers the real news” and “isn’t scared to let the world know about the terror to civilian populations that results from U.S. attacks and U.S. funded violence.”

It is Shristi’s aspiration “to be one of those journalists who usually don’t make any money but publish the otherwise suppressed stories of the oppressed and under-

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