College Fair Comes Back
Military’s Presence Inflames Students and Faculty

By Zachary Kurtz
News Editor

Military recruiters for the armed forces and various military academies will be manning stations tonight in the University Commons as part of College Night. College Night is an annual event organized by the Rockingham County School District to educate high school students about their options after high school. The event will be open from 6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. tonight.

In addition to about 75 colleges and universities, the event is to include separate recruiters for the Air Force, Navy, Marine Corps, and the Army, according to a representative at the Navy recruiting station in Harrisonburg.

"My opinion is that the university is clearly compromising [the peace stance]," said social work instructor Jane Wenger Clemens, who stated on Monday that if EMU is not capable of persuading the military recruiters not to come, EMU should refuse to host College Night. Clemens finds it "troubling" that the administration did not bring up the issue before faculty and student concern was raised after College Night last year.

According to President Joseph Lapp and Academic Provost Beryl Brubaker, the executive cabinet made a "consensus" decision last year to invite College Night back to EMU, with full knowledge that the military would be involved. This decision was made by the Student Government Association (SGA) after College Night last year to get a feel for student opinion. According to Marcus Miller, President of the SGA, an "overwhelming vote" was made to indicate that students "will not invite recruiters on campus." However, EMU is an independent institution, and while student voices are heard, the decision ultimately lies with EMU administration.

Getting Physical

By Noelle Selb
Staff Writer

Their signs can be seen throughout campus. It is not an invasion of crap circles, but rather the Physical Plant staff hard at work beautifying the campus for Homecoming.

"I feel like it’s kind of like getting ready for a party. It’s not like ‘oh no! We’ve got to clean up!’ It’s pressure, but I think it’s pressure we’re excited to be a part of," remarked Will Hairston, the supervisor of Grounds.

With Homecoming around the corner, Physical Plant workers are busy finishing up last minute projects. The weekend is not simply thrown together. Hairston said, "Homecoming preparations start in April with the planting of geraniums. They plant these ‘half-hearted’ flowers because they are stronger than Impatients and last through frosts, even if one happens the day before Homecoming.

Bi-annual bed detailing and mulching is one of the main projects the Physical Plant scrambles to finish before the weekend of the eleventh. With the north end of campus already done due to the August order weekend, Hairston said the Physical Plant has, "shifted to the south end on campus. We save the front of the campus to do right before so that it will look nice and be extra fresh."

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