President's Cabinet OKs Weight Room Mural

By Galen Wenger
Staff Writer

The artistic debate in the EMU weight room has been decided, and patrons of the weight room will likely be happy with the outcome.

The President’s Cabinet decided in a recent meeting to allow sophomore Adrienne Patterson to finish her painting of a roaring lion on the weight room wall. However, to make sure the mural cannot be confused with the official EMU mascot, the words “EMU Royals” will be removed from Patterson’s work.

Work on the lion was stopped a few months ago because it had not been officially approved. In a letter to Patterson, Kenneth L. Nafziger, the vice president for Student Life, wrote, “We simply want all projects in the University Commons to go through the proper process for approval.” When the mural was commissioned, the University Commons Council, which decides what goes up in the University Commons, was not meeting.

Patterson’s design was first presented to the University Commons Council, which recommended allowing Patterson to finish. The council’s recommendation was then presented to the President’s Cabinet, which approved finishing the mural with the stipulation to distinguish the mural from the official EMU mascot.

In the same letter to Patterson, Nafziger explained that it is “important to avoid confusing the weight room lion with the EMU Lion mascot symbol.” The current mascot is used only by EMU athletics and Loyal Royals, the EMU athletic boosters.

Nafziger hopes that confusion like that surrounding the weight room mural will be avoided by the new symbol.

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EMU Set To Talk Bioethics

By Maria Hoover
Staff Writer

Preparations are well underway for the Biology department’s planned takeover of campus Thursday evening; the Ethics of Biotechnology conference.

Drawn by an offer of free pizza, student volunteers spent Friday evening stuffing information packets for conference attendees, and professors in every department have assigned their students to write up responses to the scheduled events.

Classes are cancelled Friday so that EMU students may attend the conference, which will feature speakers from a wide assortment of disciplines discussing the morality of emerging biological technologies such as genetic engineering, cloning, and stem cell therapy.

One of the main points of this conference is “to get the campus talking and thinking about their beliefs,” said Barbara Rowan, director of the Lilly Grant Project. Lilly is one of the event’s associate sponsors alongside the Anabaptist Center for Health Care Ethics and Mennonite Central Committee.

“I think we are better off if we stay as well-informed as possible,” Associate Professor of Biology Ken Roth wrote in an explanatory article on the event’s website, www.bioethics.emu.edu. “We are then more likely to make intelligent decisions, whether as voters, consumers, parents, educators or whatever.”

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Students Didn’t Expect a Yes

By Amy Stutzman and Greg Grimm
Contributing Writers

A recent survey found that students at EMU wanted the painting in the weight room to be completed, but did not believe the administration would allow it.

Of 50 students surveyed Nov. 3, 90 percent were aware of the issue, and 80 percent felt that the painting should be completed. In a second survey of 51 students taken the same day, 100 percent thought that the painting should be completed.

Despite this widespread support for the painting, only 38 percent thought the administration would allow it to be finished.

Sophomore Adrienne Patterson has been approved to finish her lion mural on the weight room wall.

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N E W S B R I E F S

A bandfest sponsored by Students in Free Enterprise will be held in Lehman Auditorium on Saturday at 7 p.m. Local bands Katie and Jessica and Oscar’s Mad will perform, and ticket proceeds will benefit a school in Lesotho, South Africa. Tickets are $3.

The Theater department will present three one-act plays with sports themes in the new black-box theater that has been built in the old gymnasium. Performances will be at 7:30 p.m. on Thursday through Saturday, Nov 20 – 22.

Chamber Singers will present a worship program at 7 p.m. this Sunday at Harrisonburg Mennonite Church.

University Chorale will present its holiday concert on Tuesday, Dec. 2, in Martin Chapel at 7:30 p.m.