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Eastern Illinois University

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Thanksgiving ups & downs

Eastern's women's basketball wins one game by 90 points, but loses its other two.

Page 8 SECTION

Praising, criticizing extra test for teachers

♦ *Faculty, students battle with oppinoinis about a new state required test for teachers*

By Dan Renick
STAFF WRITER

Some Eastern faculty members dislike a new requirement for teacher certification, while others agree with the change.

The new requirement is the third test education majors seeking teacher certification will have to take. The first two tests are for basic skills and competency exams, and the third is an assessment test which will cost students \$85. The Council for Academic Affairs rejected the test as a course require-

ment and sent it to the Council on Teacher Education. The Council will decide if the test will be a program requirement or if students will be accountable for the test on their own.

"It's a required state test; there's not a lot we can do," said Education Professor Pat Fewell. "We'll just do our best to prepare students."

Some students aren't as bothered as the faculty about the new requirement.

"If it catches those that aren't qualified

"I don't think we're going to end up having better prepared teachers."

— Dawn Van Gruen, education professor

enough, it's good," one education major said.

A m a n d a Crawford, sophomore education major, said there is already plenty of standardized testing but thinks it will be

inconvenient for students if it isn't a program or course requirement.

If it is up to students, they'll likely take it over the summer and might have to travel to a testing location, Crawford said.

"I'd rather just take it here."

Fewell said students should be responsible

for the test on their own like tests for law or medicine students. It would be unfair to make the assessment test part of the grade, Fewell said.

Education professor Don Smith said the pros of having the test as a program requirement outweigh the cons. As a program requirement, students who fail the test will have time to retake the test and won't be delayed in job hunting, he said.

Education Professor Dawn Van Gruen said she understands both sides of the issue. When students leave, professors want them to be certified but it isn't fair to hold the institution responsible, she said.

"I don't think we're going to end up having better prepared teachers," Van Gruen said.

Eastern students return after Thanksgiving break

Evan Hill
CAMPUS EDITOR

Although most Eastern students were thankful for a week-long Thanksgiving break, many were also thankful to spend time with their friends and family.

In addition to spending time with their family, many students are thankful for extra time to catch up on homework before finals.

"That's always the goal, right?" said Pat Quinn, a graduate student in college student affairs. "I wanted to do homework, but I found myself working on it the last few days of break and I'm still trying to finish."

Christine Westen, a senior accounting major, spent the break in Wisconsin with her uncle and cousins, but she still found time to be productive.

"I wrote most of a ten page paper and worked on other homework," she said.

Many students also found time to work for extra spending money over break.

"I worked at Family Video then went to my grandparents' house and ate a lot," said Luke Drone, a sophomore computer engineering major. "It was delicious."

Melanie Roddick, a freshman political science major stayed at Eastern and worked at Wal-Mart's photo lab, but she still found time to attend four family dinners.

"It was the same stuff at four



DAILY EASTERN NEWS PHOTO BY COLIN MCAULIFFE

Dustin Gerdes, a sophomore psychology and marketing major, unpacks his car Sunday outside of Taylor Hall.

different places," she said. "I was so full I just said, 'roll me out to the car honey.'"

While many students went

home to traditional Thanksgiving dinners of turkey, cranberries and stuffing this year some students had a new experience with

their Thanksgiving this year.

Fabio Cardozo, a sophomore business management major, is a foreign exchange student from

"That's always the goal, right? I wanted to do homework, but I found myself working on it the last few days of break and I'm still trying to finish."

— Pat Quinn,
student affairs graduate student

Brazil. While the United States was the first country to celebrate Thanksgiving, many other countries, including Brazil, have similar holidays.

Cardozo said his usual Thanksgiving is spent with his family together and to thank God. The Brazilian equivalent focuses more on family than the actual holiday, but the dinner is heavily influenced by the American version and has much of the same menu.

"The main difference is in my family we drink a lot of wine and my family is a lot bigger," he said.

Quitting senate members open space for initiates

By Brian O'Malley
STUDENT GOVERNMENT EDITOR

Several Student Senate members resigned from senate this semester because of excess school work and social obligations.

Former Senate member Denver Fox said he is one of three senate members who resigned and said he left senate to focus on his fraternity responsibilities.

"Basically, time was a large factor," Fox said.

Fox was recently elected vice president of the Sigma Nu fraternity and said he wouldn't have enough time to hold both positions.

"I was kind of hurting for time with school work and stuff and when I got elected it took up all of my time," Fox said. "I try not to let my GPA slip below a 3.0."

Members of Sigma Nu plan to become more involved with the senate and possibly will have members run for senate positions, Fox said.

"I think it's a good way to get involved," he

said. "It would help to get your voice in there."

Fox said he enjoyed being on senate and recommends it to all students and wishes he could stay, but he wants to be devoted to his fraternity position.

"I learned a lot of stuff that goes on here," Fox said. "I learned about parliamentary procedure and stuff I never knew about before."

Student Body President Caleb Judy said senate members should quit if they don't feel comfortable with the position.

"Sometimes it's not the right fit for people," Judy said. "I think it opens up room for someone who wants to do it."

Judy said the three senate members who have quit were good at handling their duties.

"When they were there, they worked, but

"Sometimes it's not the right fit for people. I think it opens up room for someone who wants to do it."

— Caleb Judy, student body president

sometimes school-work and stuff catches up with you," Judy said.

"If they can't put the work in, I'd rather them step down than not doing anything."

Student Senate Speaker Mike Walsh said senate members

resign at this time every semester because of finals and excess schoolwork.

"I totally understand if people have to put student government aside if their grades need improvement," Walsh said.

Several senate members left office last year around this time, Walsh said.

"We're all students first; that's what we're here for," Walsh said.

Students are running or rerunning for senate positions, which will be filled this week for next semester, Walsh said.

Who left

♦ **DENVER FOX;** said he wanted to focus on his fraternity responsibilities.

♦ **BRYAN JOHNSON;** his reason for resigning was not known at press time.

♦ **LAURA CASTAGNA;** her reason for resigning was not known at press time.

It’s raining (wo)men

◆ *Recognized student organization, Pride, sponsors drag show for World AIDS Day*

By Adam Testa
STAFF WRITER

Students will be able to witness a form of art not yet experienced at Eastern Monday.

Pride, a recognized student organization, will be sponsoring a drag queen show featuring participants from both Illinois and Indiana.

“Our focus is to bring a form of performance art to Eastern that has never been presented here,” said Bill Kolacek, resident director for housing and dining and coordinator of the event.

A number of participants will perform dance routines and lip synch to popular songs. The participants have all performed on a national level and several of them are previous contest winners, said Kelly Keyes, president of Pride.

The idea for the show arose last year, but the group did not feel that they had enough time to prepare, she said.

“They’ve wanted to bring it to campus for a long time,” Kolacek said.

When the discussion came around again this year, the group decided to pick Monday because it is World AIDS Day, Keyes said.

“We certainly want to remind the campus of the importance of World AIDS Day,” Kolacek said. He said there is a need for more understanding.

A portion of the profits will be

“Our focus is to bring a form of performance art to Eastern that has never been presented here.”

—Bill Kolacek, event coordinator

donated to an AIDS-related charity.

Kolacek said the group has a good energy for wanting to do the events and that “the organization has grown in strength tremendously.”

Shows have been held successfully at other schools Eastern’s size, Keyes said.

Kolacek attended his first show at Indiana State University in 1998 and said there were between 400 and 500 students in attendance in a standing room-only environment.

While Keyes hopes for 300 students to attend, Kolacek said attendance doesn’t make a difference to the group.

“Whether we have 10 people or 500 people show up, we’re excited,” he said.

Keyes wants students to attend the performance and simply have a good time.

“It’s really a fun thing if you come with an open mind,” she said.

The event will be held at 8 p.m. in the Grand Ballroom of the Martin Luther King Jr. University Union at The show is expected to be over by 10 p.m.

Check it out

- ◆ **WHO:** Pride
- ◆ **WHAT:** Drag queen show
- ◆ **WHEN:** 8 p.m. to 10
- ◆ **WHERE:** Grand Ballroom of the Martin Luther King Jr. University Union

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DAILY EASTERN NEWS PHOTO BY COLIN MCAULIFFE

Since moving to Springhaven Campgrounds on Camp Spring Road, the world’s tallest statue of Abraham Lincoln has fallen under disrepair. The statue will be restored at the hands of Charleston’s Graywood Foundation.

Restoring Lincoln’s look

By David Thill
STAFF WRITER

The world’s tallest statue of Abraham Lincoln will soon be restored at the hands of efforts of Charleston’s Graywood Foundation.

Some may say a six-story tall statue of Abraham Lincoln in the middle of the country is odd, but others like Ashmore resident Karola Alford think of it as a defining landmark of the fair community.

“I remember when the statue was moved from its original site,” Alford said. “It was a real attraction, and it is a shame the level of disrepair that has befallen it.”

Because of comments like this, the Graywood Foundation decided to launch an effort to repair the statue that has had a finger broken off, fiberglass dented and paint chipped.

According to the foundation, this is the world’s tallest statue of the nation’s 16th president.

The statue, built in 1968 by the Gordon Display Company, was shipped to Charleston and erected off of East Harrison Avenue just outside the Charleston city limits.

The statue has fallen under disrepair since its move to Springhaven Campgrounds on Camp Spring Road in the late 1970s.

But the repair of the statue is just the beginning of the efforts for the foundation.

The foundation hopes the final product would include the construction of “Abe’s Garden,” a serene attraction that would include reflective pools and local

flora present when Lincoln was alive.

David Kirsch, chief operations manager of the Graywood Foundation, wished restoring the statue would attract visitors with an interest in the history of Lincoln and in the local community.

He said the re-opening of Springhaven Campgrounds is also one of the goals for the group.

In hopes of raising the necessary funds to repair the statue, the Graywood Foundation will be hosting a raffle to begin Dec. 20, and end on May 14, 2004.

The cost of tickets will be \$100. The grand prize will be a 2004 H2 Hummer or \$40,000 cash.

Kirsch also requested the participation of groups on campus interested in purchasing tickets or in aiding the selling of tickets for the raffle.

The Graywood Foundation is currently entertaining bids for repairs.

They are also accepting individual donations or contributions by interested in aiding the effort to repair the statue.

A competition for ticket sales is also being held, Kirsch said.

Prizes for this competition include \$2,000 cash, \$1,000 cash and \$500 cash.

Other prizes of the raffle include \$5,000 cash, \$1,000 cash, \$500 cash or a six-day, seven-night trip to Hawaii with lodging and airfare included.

People interested in purchasing tickets or arranging a visit to the statue can contact the Graywood foundation at 345-3461, or visit their website at www.graywood.com.

WHAT’S HAPPENIN’

Show some holiday cheer

By Brittany Robson
ACTIVITIES EDITOR

Did y’all eat Turkey and watch lots of football, or were you one of those people who got up at 6 a.m. the day after Thanksgiving and shopped until you dropped? Whatever you did, I hope you all had fun, and just remember we only have three weeks until we go home for winter break. Here are a couple of events that might take your mind off that fast approaching finals week:

Editor’s note: Although former Activities editor Dan Valenziano has been banished to The Verge, the spirit of his “What’s happenin’” column, a fine tradition he started a couple of months ago, will be carried on by our new Activities editor, Brittany Robson. All hail Brittany.

Activities for December

Christmas lights at Peterson Park in Mattoon: If you’re too lazy to put up your own illuminations or don’t have a place to hang

them, the park has an annual display 5 to 9 p.m. through Dec. 15 Sunday to Thursday and 5 to 10 p.m. Fridays and Saturdays. If rows of lit candy canes aren’t enough, volunteers stage live nativity scenes Dec. 5, 12 and 19.

Activity for Wednesday

Poetry reading 4:30 pm in the Effingham room: The English department is sponsoring the reading for three teachers whose poetry works have been widely published.

Activities editor Brittany Robson can be reached at barobson@eiu.edu

Shooting defendants face more hearings

◆ *Pair has been charged with felony aggravated discharge of firearm*

By Carly Mullady
ASSOCIATE NEWS EDITOR

The preliminary hearing for co-defendants in the Homecoming weekend off-campus shooting is scheduled for 1 p.m. Monday.

Marc D. Griffin, 21, Chicago, and Crystal P. Lovemore, 19, 1151 Johnson Ave., a sophomore undeclared major, are facing trial for involvement in the Oct. 24 shooting into a residence at 1514 12th Street.

During the initial Nov. 3 appearance, public defender Lonnie Lutz was appointed to defend Lovemore.

Griffin’s affidavit for public defense was denied by Coles County Circuit Judge Theresa Righter after assistant state’s attorney Duane Deters requested denial on the grounds that Griffin was able to post \$3,000 cash bond.

The Dec. 1 hearing date was set for both defendants, and Deters requested Griffin meet prior to that appearance with his attorney, to ensure both co-defendants’ hearings were kept on track.

A second appearance for Griffin was set Nov. 15, when Circuit Court Judge Mitch Shick granted Griffin bond requirement modifications.

Griffin said his employment with Intercom Security of the Chicago area was terminated and he would need to travel to Wisconsin, where he is a member of the military reserves, for income.

That monthly \$300 income would be needed to fund counsel, Griffin said.

His bond requirements stipulated Griffin could not leave the state, but Shick granted the request to travel to Wisconsin for the reserves.

Griffin said he would have an attorney for the preliminary hearing.

He and Lovemore are being charged with the Class One Felony aggravated discharge of a firearm, for “knowingly or intentionally” firing a firearm into the home where Eastern students and alumni were present.

They were arrested near Domino’s Pizza at Seventh Street and Lincoln Avenue after police received reports of shots being fired. Occupants of the home were then taken to the arrest scene where they identified the suspects.

Six people were in the home when shots were fired, including Amral L. Johnson, junior sociology major and Panther football team member, who was involved with Lovemore.

Court docket information showed Johnson told police Lovemore told him two days prior to the shooting, “I can have you killed.”

Occupants of the 12th Street residence told police Griffin tapped on the window before shooting at the residence and said, “Want to gun play?”

Evidence of seven shots fired was found at the residence.

Associate news editor Carly Mullady can be reached at LoisLayne83@aol.com.

the roll the dice



University Board deals diversion

By Megan Jurinek
ACTIVITIES REPORTER

Students are welcome to gamble risk-free Monday night at the Martin Luther King Jr. University Union.

Eastern will be holding another Casino Night Monday from 7 to 10 p.m. in the University Ballroom of the Union. All students are welcome to gamble without having to spend the money.

“When students arrive, they will be given a certain amount of chips to gamble with,” Teresa Outman, special events coordinator said.

This is a popular event that lots of students like to attend, Outman said.

A variety of games will be offered for students to play including Roulette, slot machines, Black Jack,

Poker, Craps and various other card games.

“It’s going to be like Vegas at the Union,” Outman said.

Students can play these games until they run out of chips, decide they want to stop or at 10 p.m. when the games close.

When everyone is done gambling, they turn in their chips for raffle tickets.

Students can then put the raffle tickets into cups that will be placed near prizes they would like to win. If a student’s ticket is drawn at the end of the night then they win that prize.

“Students can win things like a microwave, DVDs, Playstation games and lots of other things,” Outman said.

“So if I wanted to win the microwave, I’d put all my tickets into the cup for the microwave,” Outman said.

It should be a pretty good turn out, she said. “There is expected to be about 100 students there.”

Margie Tucker, a graduate student who works in the Student Life office, helped to coordinate the event and will be attending.

The event is free.

Those in attendance should expect a wide variety of games set up at different stations.

Tucker said the risk-free gambling night can lead to taking home more than attendees left home with.

“Students are eligible to win a stereo, a CD tower, a camera, a drill, a bath set and a Christmas set.”

Pleasant weather may stay

◆ *Wild early winter storm blows past Charleston, Price says mild winter lies ahead*

By Evan Hill
CAMPUS EDITOR

While some people are setting their sights on a white Christmas, others were fighting their way through the rain and snow when traveling during Thanksgiving break.

Although Charleston was mostly spared, reports from the National Weather Service showed a storm system tracked across the Great Lakes and dumped rain and snow across the country over the past 10 days.

A story from the Associated Press said cold air out of Canada brought low temperatures in the Southeastern states. Temperatures well below freezing included a record low of 23 degrees at the Florida Panhandle town of Crestview.

The story also said Western states

and Northeastern states received several inches of snow in some places. However, people remaining in Charleston over the break received only a half-inch of snow, according to the National Weather Service.

“The setup was wrong for what we call an old-fashioned snow,” said Dalias Price, local weather observer and former Eastern professor

Price said Charleston didn’t receive as much precipitation because the winds brought in air from a high pressure system in Canada, which didn’t contain enough moisture to produce much precipitation.

“So we escaped, in a sense, from heavy snow,” he said. “Of course, in years past, we have had only four or five inches of snow in November.”

Price said it is normal to receive five inches in December from two or three storms. However, chances for a white Christmas are slim.

While Eastern has a good chance of receiving snow before the end of

“It looks like it will be mild by comparison to normal early December weather. Temperatures will be above freezing.”

—Dalias Price, local weather observer

the semester, Price said there is a white Christmas only one year in four.

According to reports on www.weather.com, Eastern students can expect a week full of partly cloudy days accompanied by near freezing temperatures.

“It looks as though it will be mild by comparison to normal early December weather,” said Price. “Temperatures will be will above freezing and it might rain a little midweek.”

Campus editor Evan Hill can be reached at eahill@eiu.edu.



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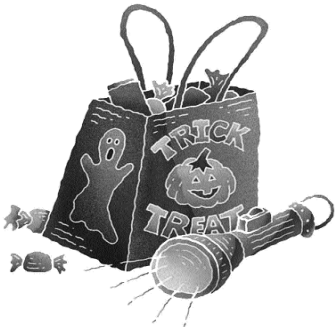
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THE DAILY EASTERN NEWS

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EDITORIAL

Free speech freedoms upheld

Eastern's Judicial Affairs Office made the right call by not expelling a student who allegedly made a racially offensive remark Nov. 4 in Taylor Hall.

Whether the comment was directed at Tiffany Yates, the African American student who brought the matter to Judicial Affairs, or it was quoted from a movie, the student still has his constitutional rights.

How stupid the remark was should not be the issue in this case. The comment was not one bit appropriate, but the student is protected by the U.S. Constitution and has the right to free speech, Director of Judicial Affairs Keith Kohanzo previously said.

Those rights are not taken away by entering the university community, and there is nothing in the student handbook that hands down punishment for racial comments.

The fact the comment cannot be proven to be a threat toward Yates is also a reason the accused student, wishing to be unnamed, should not be expelled. It turned into a he said, she said affair with no real way of knowing which side is true.

The only way expulsion would be justified is if the comment was made as a threat against Yates.

Under the Threats/Disruptive Conduct section in the handbook, a racial threat toward Yates could have been a reason for expulsion.

The handbook states, "threats and disruptive conduct will result in probationary status, along with full restitution for all damages, possible expulsion from the university housing and/or Eastern Illinois University."

If the remark is not labeled as a threat, this rule does not apply. Judicial Affairs didn't punish the student, and Kohanzo would not comment on the issue, only saying the board was "appalled" over the incident.

So the only thing that can be taken from this situation is a learning experience. The student said he would never use those words again even if it was being quoted.

People need to understand in a university setting, and well, any setting at all, they need to watch what they are saying because it may be extremely offensive to other people.

Let's hope the rest of the campus will learn from one student's mistake and hope this will be the first and only time the Judicial Affairs will have to deal with this type of issue.

The editorial is the majority opinion of the Daily Eastern News editorial board.

OPINION

Sometimes silence truly is golden



Ben Erwin

Staff writer and semi-monthly columnist for *The Daily Eastern News*

Erwin also is a senior journalism major

He can be reached at benervin@hotmail.com

If you refuse to properly wrangle your children, I just might do it for you.

Alongside a platoon suckers this past week, I was one of the glassy eyed schmucks totting bags of Christmas gifts and hunting down sales like they were the Holy Grail. In my journey, I realized two things: 1.) I hate to shop and should never do it any time remotely near Thanksgiving weekend and 2.) small children should not be allowed outside of the house.

What I saw in a mere few hours was astounding. Aside from the walking-dead lines of husbands holding purses, I saw 20 acts of whining, nine tantrums and one thing I can only consider a complete mental breakdown of a little boy who was no more than 10 years old. He threw himself into violent convulsions and began speaking in archaic tongues and vile shrieks all because of a book he wanted for Christmas.

What I failed to see, however, was discipline of any kind. Now, I've thrown more than my fair share of tantrums, and some would say this column falls under that heading, but I lived in perennial fear of the repercussions of mercilessly being dragged by the ear through a crowd and berated publicly. Unorthodoxed sure, but it certainly did the trick.

I can't condone physical violence against children in order to improve poor behavior, but I can say I often wonder why it's illegal

"There are laws about leashing a dog, yet children can run free through a department store without repercussion. Forget Fido; leash your child for the good of everyone around you."

to discipline other people's children if the parents refuse to do so. I know it's not my place to tell others how to rear a child, but if it stops the eardrum-piercing shriek of a one of the little monsters trying to get his or her mother's attention, or quell the obnoxious whining of a toddler begging fruitlessly for some trinket, it's entirely worth it.

There are laws about leashing a dog, yet children can run free through a department store without repercussion. Forget Fido, leash your child for the good of everyone around you. And if you are within earshot of rambunctious children with worthless caregivers, suggest the leash solution, or simply carry around handcuffs and latch the little ankle-biter to a radiator until a parent decides to act like one.

Thankfully, the only children I typically see on campus are the

loathsome horde often zipping through Buzzard like a swarm of locusts. To see them is like witnessing organized chaos being led through a hallway with sound effects of squeaks and whines always on the brink of breaking away and bouncing like a Super Ball.

Biblical plagues and bouncing balls aside, the majority of students on campus (thankfully) don't have children, but many of them are considering it. Before the thought goes any further, make yourself a tape of bloodcurdling screeches and incessant crying and listen to it for weeks straight. I imagine this can only resemble the torture of children.

And if that doesn't do the trick, borrow a child for a day and see how it plays out. Chances are good that having the rug-rat for a day or two will be the best contraceptive you'll ever find. And if you plan on teaching the little sprouts, as many Eastern students are, be fully prepared to never want simpering progeny of your own.

It's not that I hate children so much as I hate poorly behaved children with brain-dead parents who have absolutely no concept of publicly appropriate behavior.

If you're out shopping for the plethora of upcoming holidays, notice these children. Maybe, instead of buying your family members some present, give them the gift of silence and make up for years of lost holiday time. The gift may prove truly golden.

Cartoon by Anna Pougas



YOUR TURN: LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Network updates will move gradually

In my opinion, your editorial about technology (11/19/2003) seemed to fixate on your own somewhat misleading headline of an otherwise accurate story (other than the assumption made in the first sentence!) by Marcia Buie(11/14/2003). The report states that "wireless" would eventually "saturate" campus (but would do so over time). That is correct. We intend to do this, if funds are available, but only after the network infrastructure upgrade is complete. The headline, however, didn't have that context in it, and much of your editorial commentary seemed to have fallen prey to it.

Your editorial opines that technology fees would better be spent on fixing the network rather than be spent on wireless. Well, that's exactly what we're doing! I'm not sure why you have assumed that we are using technology fee monies for anything

other than what it was intended. It was earmarked for replacing the infrastructure. Even the *DEN* reported that last semester. And that's what is happening at this very moment—but it will take a year to complete (despite your your pessimism regarding this accelerated timeline.) The present work is going on in tunnels underground throughout campus, and soon after the holidays you will see workers in classrooms and offices.

The wireless access that is gradually becoming available on campus has been funded through cooperative ventures with other departments and NOT from technology fees! I even stated this publicly at the last BOT meeting in answer to a question from the student trustee. The *DEN* was there.

Your editorial may want to disagree with how we define "fixing the network." However, in my opinion, at

this point in the life of this network, "fixing" it can only be done by "replacing" it. That is why we asked for the fee. The old network is unrepairable, as such. Using the technology fee money to buy temporary fixes (the "Band Aids") for something that we are about to replace would be irresponsible and contrary to the intent of the technology fund as presented to and sanctioned by student body representatives and the trustees.

Meanwhile, we are using ITS budgets to keep the old network functional until we are able to switch over to the new one. The old network uses wiring and components which are out of production and not supported by present

manufacturers. This is why it is such a constant struggle to maintain it and keep the bottlenecks cleared. We have plugged the latest "hole," but I can't guarantee there will not be further problems until the infrastructure project is complete. As you know, I inherited this problem, and my staff works incredibly hard, day and night to manage it, spurred on by the fact that we now see light at the end of the tunnel. I do hope you will see it that way also, and pass it on to your readers.

Thanks for allowing me the opportunity to tell the "rest of the story."

Chat Chatterji
AVP-ITS

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR: The Daily Eastern News accepts letters to the editor addressing local, state, national and international issues. They should be less than 250 words and include the authors' name, telephone number and address. Students should indicate their year in school and major. Faculty, administration and staff should indicate their position and department. Letters whose authors cannot be verified will not be printed. Depending on space constraints, we may edit letters, so keep it concise. Letters can be sent to *The Daily Eastern News* at 1811 Buzzard Hall, Charleston IL 61920; faxed to 217-581-2923; or e-mailed to jpchambers@eiu.edu

Illinois falls behind in checking records

◆ *Reports show some Illinois teachers have are criminals in other states*

CHICAGO (AP) – Illinois has a weaker requirement for checking teacher backgrounds than most states, allowing some people convicted of serious crimes elsewhere to get jobs, a newspaper reports.

A typical check in the state looks only for convictions within Illinois, according to the Chicago Tribune's Sunday editions. As a result, a check of a Cook County teacher convicted in a publicized Florida DUI manslaughter case comes up clean, and a Kane County principal hid his record of financial fraud in Wisconsin for two years.

Illinois State Police Col. Kenneth Bouche said too many school districts rely solely on his agency's in-state checks and self-disclosure by candidates who committed crimes in other states.

"It defies, in my mind, all sense of logic to rely on the honesty of a criminal to tell the truth," Bouche said.

A few districts including Chicago Public Schools have begun fingerprinting and conducting national background checks in response to problems. But statewide districts have resisted because of past opposition from unions.

Some states now require fingerprinting of teachers statewide. The latest to add the requirement this year are Texas and Montana.

"Illinois really is in the minority," said Roy Einreinhofer, executive director at the National Association of State Directors of Teacher

Education and Certification. "If you're going to be in a school, you need to be checked."

Illinois Education Association spokesman Charles McBarron said the union supports some changes. Teachers agreed in February that fingerprinting of prospective teachers is acceptable, but it should not be used to check on current teachers as a condition of continued employment.

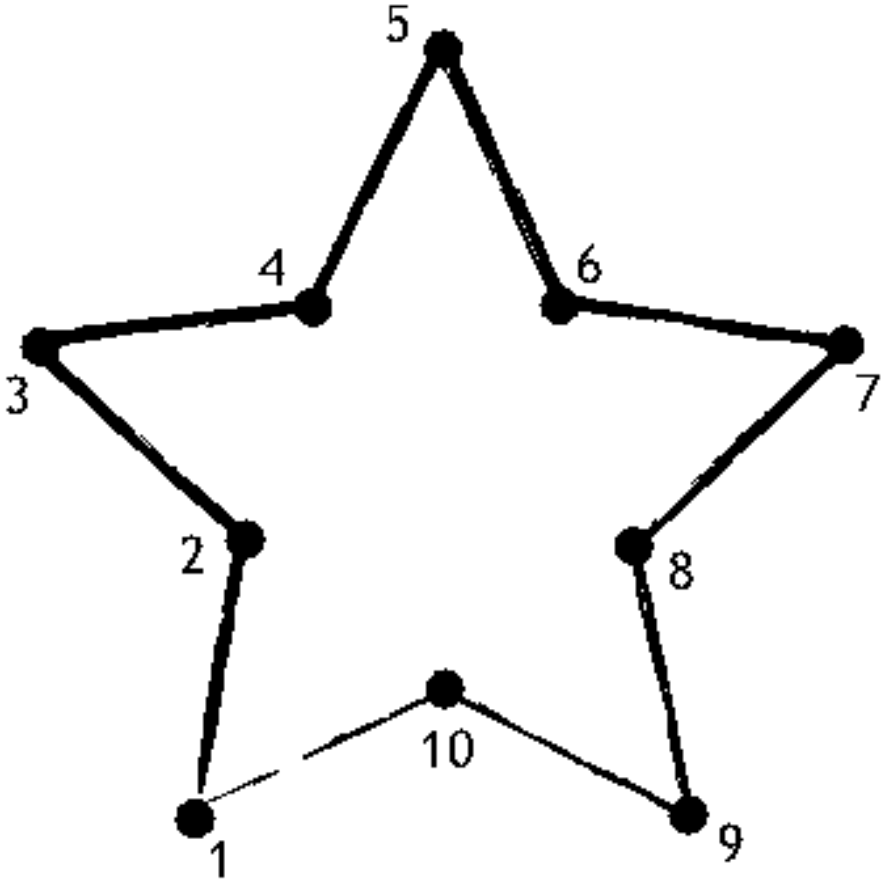
Lincoln Elementary School District 156 in Cook County said the school board voted to start fingerprinting new employees this fall after Superintendent David Grace learned how limited the Illinois State Police check was.

"As I started looking into it and finding out what was really being accomplished, it became more and more apparent that it was too easy for people to slip through the cracks," Grace said.

Bruce Kimball, a former Olympic diver convicted in the Florida DUI accident that killed two people in rural Hillsborough County, started coaching Illinois high school divers at New Trier High School in the mid-1990s. He made no secret of his conviction, saying he wanted to be honest, and he won a legal battle to get Illinois teacher certification.

But when the Tribune requested a state police check on him, it showed no criminal record.

Calvin Gooch was hired by the Kane County district in 2001 without disclosing he had been convicted in a scheme to defraud his former employer, AT&T in Milwaukee, and ordered to pay more than \$370,000 in restitution.



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Edited by Will Shortz

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- ACROSS
- 1Treaties
- 6Mushroomed
- 10Union concerns
- 14Where enfants learn
- 15Govern
- 16Aid and ____
- 17Al Capone's gang, once?
- 19Pepsi-____
- 20Boxer Norton who once defeated Ali
- 21Writer Uris
- 22Probable
- 24Where Anna met the king
- 25Brings in altogether
- 26Shooting star
- 29Take care of
- 30Bee-related
- 31Inhabitant of ancient Palestine
- 35It's usually due on the first of the month
- 36Budged
- 37Prenoon period, in poetry
- 38First person to fly a plane
- 40Having prongs
- 41Less strict
- 42See 3-Down
- 43Realms
- 46Bugler's call
- 47Tooted one's own horn
- 48Watch's sound
- 49Stun
- 52Civil rights figure ____
- 53Service for the Kennedys?
- 56Soldiers and carpenters, e.g.
- 57Asia's ____ Sea
- 58Pig sounds
- 59Netting
- 60"Pretty Woman" star Richard
- 61Lovers' rendezvous

DOWN

- 1Quantity of pickled peppers Peter Piper picked
- 2Flu symptom
- 3With 42-Across, starts of pro football games
- 4Dr. Mom's remedy, for short
- 5Flipped animal of the Pacific
- 6Horse handler
- 7Wreckage
- 8Building wing
- 9Up on literature
- 10Young Eudora Welty?
- 11Clarinet cousins

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SWIMMING

Men’s trio helps Eastern to win at Saint Louis

By Michael Gilbert
SPORTS REPORTER

Just prior to Thanksgiving Break, the Eastern men’s swim team improved its dual meet record to 4-2 with a 129-112 road victory over Saint Louis on Nov. 20.

The Panthers impressive trio of Tom Watson, Bill Senese and Rich Wahlgren all remained hot by winning events against the Billikens.

Wahlgren, a senior from Palos Heights, continued his season-long dominance in the 100-yard and 200-yard freestyle winning both events. His time of 48.84 seconds in the 100-yard freestyle was ahead of teammate Paul Anderson (50.26) to pick up the victory.

In the 200-yard freestyle, Wahlgren just edged out Saint Louis’ John Stoneburner (1:45.47 to 1:45.72) for his second event win of the meet. The Panthers’ captain has now won those same two events during the last four

consecutive meets, and has 12 individual wins on the season.

Freestyler Watson followed Wahlgren’s lead by winning the 500-yard freestyle and finishing in second-place in the 1,000-yard event. With a time of 4:49.59 in the 500-yard free, Watson narrowly defeated Christopher Johansen of Saint Louis to win the event for the seventh straight meet. Johansen returned the favor to Wahlgren in the 1,000-yard freestyle with a four-second victory, but thanks to Wahlgren’s finish the Panthers still walked away with nine of the 19 total points in the event.

Freshman Bill Senese won for the 11th time on the year with a four-tenth of a second victory in the 50-yard freestyle, which was an event the Panthers dominated, taking the top three places and 16 of the 19 points. Senese won the event for the seventh straight meet and while his accomplishments may seem quite impressive, Panthers head coach Ray Padovan said

Senese’s wins are not a surprise to him.

“I thought he’d be successful because he was very good in high school,” Padovan said. “This is what we expected from him.”

The win helped erase bad memories from Eastern’s two losses to Saint Louis last season, but, more importantly, the victory came against a solid team.

“This was a really good match for us,” Padovan said. “Saint Louis is a good team but we just won four or five close events.”

Unfortunately, Eastern’s women did not have the same success against the Billikens in their dual meet, losing 147-93 and saw their record fall to 1-5 in the process.

Despite the loss, Eastern racked up a handful of individual wins. Sophomore Jenny Curry won the 50-yard freestyle for the third straight meet and now has five victories on the season. The freestyler teamed with Jordan Sherbrooke, Allison Put and Megan Frawley to win the 200-yard free relay.

The Panthers also received wins from freshman Erica Stotts in the 100-yard breast-stroke and junior diver Lindsae Baldes in the one-meter event. Both wins were the individuals first of the season.

Ultimately, the wins were not enough as Saint Louis finished with the first three spots in the 100-yard free and the 100-yard fly to secure a big lead and the victory over Eastern.

“Saint Louis was a lot better than us,” Padovan said. “Saint Louis is very good and we’re not quite as strong as last year, but the team is starting to come along.”

After a week off due to the holiday, the Panthers resumed regular practice Sunday and are preparing for their next meet against Butler on Dec. 6 at Lantz Natatorium.

“We don’t keep them here over the break so most of the kids swim with clubs back home,” Padovan said. “On Sunday (Nov. 30) we’ll be back in the pool practicing.”

Huskies Loss: Eastern gets outscored 16-8 over the final three minutes

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 8

In the second half, Northern Illinois pulled to its largest lead of 17 as Eastern came back from the halftime break cold from the field again.

As the game looked to be getting out of hand, Eastern went on a 12-3 run led by junior guard Derik Holyfield who hit a three-pointer and converted a dunk to force an NIU time out.

The momentum swung as the Panthers outscored the Huskies 25-11 over the next few minutes to take its first lead of the contest at 68-67 with 3:06 left in the game.

“To be quite honest, we caught them too early because we just couldn’t maintain that emotion and consistency for another

three minutes,” Samuels said.

The Huskies were led in the post by senior forward Marcus Smallwood, who ended the evening with 17 points, 17 rebounds and led Northern with 6 assists. Samuels was not surprised by the performance of a player who he attempted to recruit.

“I’m dissappointed that he didn’t change his mind four years ago and sign with Eastern Illinois,” Samuels said.

The only thing that kept Eastern in the

game was points off turnovers (28 for the Panthers), second chance points (33), Northern’s poor free throw shooting (59 percent) and the Panthers ability to control the offensive boards.

“I thought Eastern played great because anybody that can get 25 offensive rebounds on us is an unbelievable team,” Northern Illinois head coach Rob Judson said. “Also, 19 turnovers is way too many if we want to be more consistent this season.”

Blowout: CONTINUED FROM PAGE 8

We scrapped and were diving after loose balls, which led to easy baskets. Our team played very unselfish; they made the extra pass to find the open person, that was most important to me.”

Making her first appearance after missing last season with a knee injury, junior center Pam O’Connor looked sharp adding 18 points and going 8-10 from the field. Entering off the bench, senior forward Katie Meyers pulled down a game-and career-high 14 rebounds. The Lyons Township graduate also had seven points and five blocks in 24 minutes of play.

The Panthers couldn’t carry the momentum against Illinois-Chicago on Nov. 24, losing the contest 65-50. The Panthers found themselves down by 14 during the middle of the second half, and a 12-0 run by the Flames that followed did the Panthers in.

After shooting over 60 percent against Indiana Northwest, Eastern converted just 16 of 49 field goals en route to 33 percent

shooting. The Panthers also had trouble from the charity stripe connecting on only five of their 10 attempts in the first half.

Eastern made it 0-2 against instate rivals with a 73-61 loss against Loyola on Nov. 29, at Lantz Arena. The Panthers took a 36-35 lead into halftime, but Loyola was able to capitalize on 25 Eastern turnovers to walk out with the road victory.

Badger Loss: CONTINUED FROM PAGE 8

After giving up 13 turnovers and getting nothing offensively from junior Derik Holyfield and sophomore Josh Gomes, the Panthers found themselves only down by nine going into the locker room.

With 19:37 left in the game, Holyfield picked up his fourth foul and was immediately put on the bench. At that point, the Badgers went on a 13-4 run with Eastern’s leading scorer on the bench.

“When a player like Derik gets quick fouls and is ineffective, that really makes a difference for us cause the rest of our team is young,” Samuels said.

The Badgers put Harris in the post against smaller Eastern guard Emanuel Dildy to get easy baskets.

“That’s Wisconsin’s game to post their guards up in the lane and be physical with them,” Samuels said.

With 11:13 left in the game, Holyfield scored his first point of the game on a free throw but committed his fifth foul 35 feet from the basket on the way back down the court. At this point, the Panthers were down by more than 20.

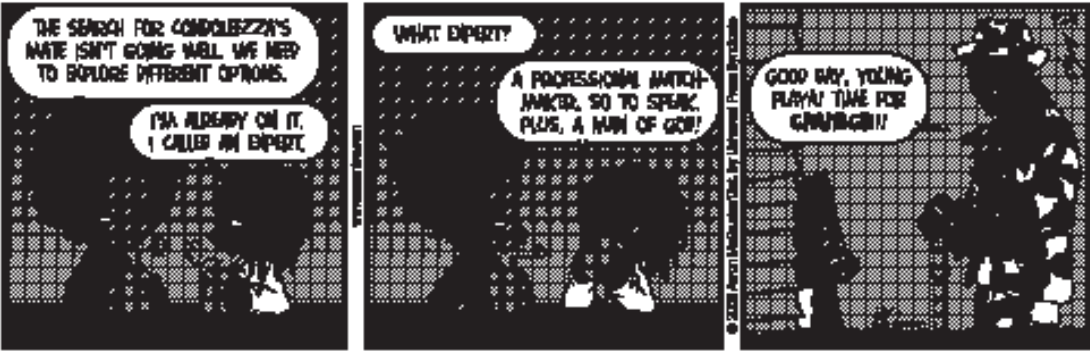
“We simply didn’t set effective screens for our shooters tonight and it got out of control very quickly,” Samuels said.

Wisconsin went on a 32-14 run from the start of the second half which forced both teams to empty their benches. Panther fans got its first look at 6-10 center Kevin Lowe who pulled down three rebounds in ten minutes of action.

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SPORTS

Panther sports calendar

TUESDAY	W B-Ball vs. Robert Morris	5:15 p.m.	Lantz
	M B-Ball vs. Illinois-Chicago	7:35 p.m.	Lantz
SATURDAY	Swimming vs. Butler	1 p.m.	Lantz
	M B-Ball vs. Indiana State	7:05 p.m.	Lantz
	Wrestling at. Northern Iowa Open		
	Track & Field at. Illinois State		



**THROWING
HEAT**
Matthew Stevens
SPORTS EDITOR

The ball isn't bouncing right for EIU

Eastern leading scorer Derik Hollyfield had 27 points in the opener against Northern and followed up his coming out party with a grand total of two points against the Wisconsin Badgers.

My position is clearly not to point out the negative aspect of this junior-college transfer who will probably lead the Panthers in scoring. This just proves exactly how inconsistent the young Panthers team has start out the 2003-2004 season.

How does a team allow one of its star players to be in the zone one night and then three days later have a big doughnut throughout the first 30 minutes of a contest?

This proves Panther fans must be patient with this season's squad but expect more consistent performances out of its star talent.

If someone had told me before the season started that sophomore Josh Gomes would not have one game in double figures and be shooting 33 percent from the field, I would've been worried.

Currently, the Panthers have been dominated down low on the boards by certain forwards like the Huskies Marcus Smallwood and Wisconsin's Mike Wilkinson. The absence of 6-9 290-pound center Aaron Harrison, who is still on crutches, is being felt about as much as the pain in the young man's foot.

However, I only saw this team playing together once during this break and that was when the squad broke down a 17-point lead by Northern to take its first lead of the game. It was during that run that I saw Eastern be aggressive and actually have confidence in all five members on the floor.

I certainly didn't see that against Wisconsin as guard Cortez Forte came off the bench to provide a spark and instead delivered a team-high seven turnovers.

The site of Lantz Arena better bring new hope to this young Panther team as Eastern prepares to take on the Illinois-Chicago Flames led by head coach Jimmy Collins, Indiana State (whom Eastern lost to last year) and St. Francis all in Charleston this week.

With Big Ten conference opponents Iowa (the Hawkeyes beat Louisville in the John Wooden Classic) and Ohio State (who won at least a game in the Maui Invitational), the Panthers will have to tighten up the offense, not look lost in the motion offense and not turn the ball the over constantly.

The problem with Eastern is simply as an observer and as a coach, I along with Samuels probably wanted to figure out who was going to be the leader, scorer, defender and rebounder on this club. However, through two games none of these people questions have been efficiently answered and the clock is ticking.

MEN'S BASKETBALL

A pair of Panther losses

♦ Eastern losses its first two road games of the 2003-2004 season last week due to lack of chemistry



DAILY EASTERN NEWS PHOTO BY STEPHEN HAAS

Seven Eastern players paying attention during practice two weeks ago in preparation for the start of the 2003-2004 season. Eastern currently lost both contests to Northern Illinois and Wisconsin over Thanksgiving break. The Panthers will make its home debut at Lantz Arena Tuesday night versus UIC.

NORTHERN 83, EASTERN 76

By Matthew Stevens
SPORTS EDITOR

A 17-point comeback wasn't enough for Eastern to pull off an opening night upset at Northern Illinois as the Panthers fell 83-76.

The Nov. 22 contest was a less-than-subpar shooting evening for Eastern as the Panthers shot 35 percent from the field and two of 11 from three-point range. Northern went to a 2-3 zone defense to force Eastern to shoot from the outside and the Panthers lackluster shooting kept the Huskies from going back to a man-to-man defense.

"We didn't shoot the basketball as well as we would've liked, but it will get better throughout the year," Eastern

head coach Rick Samuels said.

A back-and-forth game turned ugly for Eastern as the Huskies used a 13-0 run to take a 40-23 lead with four minutes left in the first half. Senior guard P.J. Smith led Northern Illinois with 21 points in the first half on eight of 11 from the field.

"In the first half, all I was thinking was; follow through; and my teammates kept feeding me the ball," Smith said.

Eastern fought back to end the half down by nine points and had the momentum going into the locker room.

"We were excited to get a comeback going but we just simply didn't hit our shots," junior forward Andy Gobcynski said.

SEE HUSKIES LOSS ♦ Page 7

WISCONSIN 81, EASTERN 47

By Matthew Stevens
SPORTS EDITOR

The Panthers left Madison a bit embarrassed as they were blown back to Charleston by the 15th-ranked Wisconsin Badgers in a 81-47 loss at the Kohl Center.

The Panthers hung with the nationally ranked Big Ten Conference foe as Eastern held an 18-17 lead with 7:32 left in the first half. Backup forward Andy Gobcynski led the Panthers going into halftime with eight points.

"Gobcynski gave us a good effort early to keep us in the game, but they just wore us down defensively," Eastern head coach Rick Samuels said.

The Panthers were able to hold Big Ten Conference Preseason Player of the Year Devin Harris

to five points on one of seven shooting from the field. Eastern also forced seven first half turnovers which exceeded the total of the Badger opener against Pennsylvania.

"It was a matter of Eastern being very aggressive and not allowing us to get an easy basket," Wisconsin head coach Bo Ryan said.

Wisconsin guard Freddie Owens lit the Panthers 2-3 zone defense up to the tune of 11 first half points to lead all scorers.

"My teammates were able to find me when I was open and the shots were just failing for me tonight," Owens said. The senior from Milwaukee, Wis. ended the contest with 24 points and four three-point shots.

SEE BADGER LOSS ♦ Page 7

WOMEN'S BASKETBALL

A blowout worth two losses

♦ A record-setting Eastern victory over a NAIA opponent was forgotten quickly after two in-state losses

By Michael Gilbert
ASSOCIATE SPORTS EDITOR

The Eastern women's basketball team opened its regular season with an eye-opening record-setting victory Nov. 21, but has since come back to earth with a losses in consecutive games.

The Panthers set a record for most points, field goals made (54) and assists (42) in the team's 126-36 win over Indiana Northwest at Lantz Arena. Eastern had lost its last six season-opening games, but early on in the contest it was clear the streak would not be extended.

After just seven minutes of play, Eastern opened up a 21-point lead and would bring a 71-14 lead into the half. All 11 Panthers in uniform scored by the end of the first half. Eastern continued the dominance in the second half shooting 62 percent from the field to coast to the easy victory.

Sophomore guard Megan Sparks led five Panthers in double-digit scoring with 21 points.

The Mattoon native hit one of two three point field goal shots she attempted and dished out three assists to go along with her three steals.

Sophomore center Janelle Cazy made the most of her 19 minutes of action by scoring a career-high 20 points on 8-10 shooting. Cazy said playing hard and getting a big win should help Eastern the rest of the year.

"Coach told us to keep up the intensity, to keep going hard," Cazy said. "This will give us more confidence. We know what it takes to be a good ball team."

Eastern's head coach Linda Wunder was impressed with the toughness Indiana Northwest showed in defeat and also the teamwork the Panthers displayed in the opener.

"This team played very, very hard. They cut to the basket hard, played hard and didn't quit. When the score gets like that, it's easy to quit but they kept after it," Wunder said.



DAILY EASTERN NEWS PHOTO BY STEPHEN HAAS

Eastern guard Meghan Casad with the ball against Loyola-Chicago at Lantz Arena.

SEE BLOWOUT ♦ Page 7