#### Eastern Illinois University The Keep

January

2010

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## Daily Eastern News: January 25, 2010

Eastern Illinois University

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"Tell the truth and don't be afraid."

#### Monday

**JANUARY 25, 2010** VOLUME 94 | NO- 84

EASTERN ILLINOIS UNIVERSITY CHARLESTON, ILL.

DENNEWS.COM



Graduate student stresses importance of politics Page 4

EASTERN NEWS



## Women's hoops slam dunk Tennessee Martin

Page 8

## UNIVERSITY 6.25 percent living increase set for fall

#### **Students residing** on campus in fall 2010 affected

**By Sarah Ruholl Administration Editor** 

Eastern students living on campus starting in the fall will pay up to 6.25 percent more for room and board rates.

The Board of Trustees approved increases across the board for oncampus residents.

Students living in residence halls and Greek Court will pay between \$224 and \$253 more a semester, depending on meal plans.

A university press release said the rate increases were a result of major renovation projects, including sprinkler systems and bathroom upgrades.

Rates will range from \$3,808 for the seven plus meal option to \$4,292 for the 15 plus meal option.

"Before proposing any increase, we take a careful look at our needs, including fixed costs such as utilities, as well as employee wages and food costs," Dan Nadler, vice presi-

Comedy show sparks loads of laughter

dent for student affairs, said in the release. "We also consider the best ways with which to maximize our resources."

Residents of University Apartments will pay an additional \$11 and \$13 each month. Rent will range between \$409 and \$460.

A 3 percent increase on University Court apartments will bring rates to between \$2,331 and \$3,116 per semester. Water will also now be included in that cost.

University Court rates were last increased for the 2008-09 school

About 40 percent of Eastern's students live on campus.

> Sarah Ruholl can be reached at 581-7942 or at seruholl@eiu.edu.

## UNIVERSITY Master plan in works as **Eastern plans** for future

First undertaking: space assessment

**By Sarah Ruholl Administration Editor** 

Eastern is looking to the future, at least the future of its buildings.

Work on a new iteration of the campus master plan begins. The plan was last evaluated in 1999.

A campus master plan evaluates the needs and resources of the university and outlines future project plans.

"The real main part of the process is going to be space assessment," said Bill Weber, vice president for business affairs. "A main part of that space assessment is going to be working with focus groups from the various academic departments that are going to be affected to find out what their future plans are and what their space needs are."

The process will begin with site and building assessment. Loebl, Schlossman and Hackl, a Chicago-based architecture, planning and interiors firm, will work with the university on the assessments.

"This is the same group we worked with back



in 1999 on the first iteration of the master plan, Weber said. "They will be collecting information about the various buildings on campus, how much square footage and occupancy and things like that."

The overall process will take several months. Weber hopes to unveil the final revised plan in September.

Eastern's next major capital project, a new science building, will be a key focus.

"A new science building was part of the master plan back in 1999, but that's been 10 years and the needs of the science departments for their programs may have changed," Weber said. "So we definitely want to review those initial plans from '99 and see if they're still relevant and update them as necessary."

An evaluation of Coleman Hall will also be a focus of the revision.

"It's a major classroom building on campus, especially for the humanities and the social sciences, and it was built a long time ago," Weber said. "It's now one of the more aged buildings where we have classrooms. It is time to take a good look at that space and see where we can head with it."

In addition to Coleman Hall, members of MASTER, page 5



#### JORDAN BONER | THE DAILY EASTERN NEWS

Ryan Conner performs his stand-up act in 7th Street Underground of the Martin Luther King Jr. University Union Friday. Along with his standup career, Conner writes for the "Saturday Night Live" Weekend Update skit.

#### STATE OF THE CITY

## Inyart's speech lays out state, local concerns

Addressing city budget concerns, maintenance issues By Kayleigh Zyskowski **City Editor** 

Mayor John Inyart gave the State of the City address to an audience dressed for the Hawaiian

Islands during the Chamber of Commerce "Luau for the Locals" annual dinner and awards banquet Saturday.

In his speech, Inyart summed up the last year from the city's perspec-

Economic development within the city and the state headed the speech.

"Statewide, the picture is not

a pretty one," Inyart said. "There were just over a dozen active industrial site selections last year in the entire state and of those only three are even still in consideration at this time."

Locally, Invart noted that there has not been a more difficult time in recent memory to be in business than it has been in the last two vears.

"We've lost additional jobs this year and we've seen some businesses close their doors," Inyart said.

Hand in hand with the economy is the city's budget, 2009 was a challenging year from a financial standpoint, Inyart said.

"Our budget was tight before and we had to make adjustments along the way," Inyart said. **INYART**, page 5

#### NEATHER TODAT



# 01.25.10 Monday

MONDAY, JANUARY 25, 2010

No. 84, VOLUME 94

#### Cloudy & Chance of Snow

HIGH

After a week of soggy lawns ad above sound temperatures, colder conditions return with a chance of snow today and Thursday. Expect wind gusts new 35 mph taday through tamonow. Caytime highs will decrease toward the weekeed when we expect highs to be in the mid to apper 20s.

#### NEATHER TOMORROW



Mostly Cloudy High: 29 aw: 17-

Turandary



Partily Ci High: 33\*

### **CAMPUS BRIEFS** Last chance to drop classes today

Today is the final day to drop a course with no grade. It is also the deadline to drop hours without charge, request an insurance refund, submit credit/no credit requests, withdraw from the university and reduce course load and receive a full tuition and fees refund.

It is also the first census date. Students wishing to do any of these must contact the Office of the Registrar in Room 1220 of Old Main.

### **Rubber Lovers present** Wheel of Sexual Health

Students can join the Rubber Lovers group, sponsored by the Health Education Resource Center, at 6 p.m. today in the Effingham Room of the Martin Luther King Jr. University Union. The presentation is free to attend.

### **Job Prep Buffet** scheduled for Tuesday

The Job Prep Buffet will be held at 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Tuesday in the Bridge Lounge of the Martin Luther King Jr. University Union. The Job Prep Buffet will present quick-serve solutions to help students obtain a job or internship.

The event is free to attend. Students can contact Diane Smith via e-mail, dksmith2@eiu.edu, or by phone, 581-2412.

-Compiled by Associate News Editor





The Decatur Power Drillers perform during halftime of the men's basketball game Saturday in Lantz Arena.

**DENNEWS.COM** 



## **Exxxclusive Lanes** and Lounge

The University Board sponsored "Exxxclusive Bowling Lanes and Lounge" at the Union Bowling Lanes on Thursday. See what the experience was like in this video at DENnews.com.

## What's for breakfast

Assistant online editor Julia Carlucci talks about why it is important to eat breakfast, some good breakfast options and more in this food blog at DENnews. com.



•Fax resume and compensation request to 217-234-8106

Sarah Jean Bresnahan

#### Eastern News "Tell the truth and don't be afraid

#### Contact

If you have corrections or tips, please call:

### $217 \cdot 581 \cdot 7943$

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Please report any factual error you find by e-mail, phone. campus mail or in person 1811 Buzzard Hall Periodical postage paid a Charleston, IL 61920 ISSN 0894-1599



LOCAL

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THE DAILY EASTERN NEWS DENNEWS.COM MONDAY, JANUARY 25, 2010 Nº. 84, VOLUME 94



## WORLD **Eastern continues donating to Haiti**

Money, gifts raised will contribute to 3 different local Haiti organizations

By Doug T. Graham **Staff Reporter** 

The effort to raise funds for the earthquake relief effort in Haiti has been prominent among the Eastern community.

Roy Lanham, director of the Newman Catholic Center and the Haiti Connection, reported that in the days following the tragedy, members of the Eastern and Charleston community have raised \$60,642.68 as of Thursday.

"The largest gift was a \$3,700 gift, the smallest gift was a handful of pennies," Lanham said. "All of it is adding up together to make a difference."

He said all the money raised will go to one of three local Haiti organizations that the Haiti Connection has supported for years.

Deep Springs International is a group that provides sanitary water for Haitians.

"We have 800 families who have access to clean drinking water thanks to our efforts with DSI," Lanham said.

He said the goal is to get 10,000 water purifying systems on the ground and that as a result of the \$5,000 already sent by the Charleston community, they are a 10th of the way there.

Fonkoze is a Haitian microcredit bank for the poor. Eastern students raised \$60,000 last year to open a branch of the bank with the poor in the mountains where the Haiti Connection works.

"(Fonkoze) works with the little women to get them on a pathway to a better life, a pathway out of poverty," Lanham said.

Matthew 25 is a Haitian relief group that received international attention in the days following the earthquake because it was forced to turn its guest house into a field hospital. Lanham said seeing his friends with Matthew 25 perform surgery on their dining room table was a graphic sight, but it was beautiful because it meant they were safe.

In addition to accepting any and all donations made toward Haiti at its offices across from Andrew Hall, the Haiti Connection is also hosting a medical supplies drive. Bins have been set up across campus in each residence hall, the Martin Luther King Jr. University Union and Greek Court. Donations of aspirin, vitamins, Neosporin, hydrogen peroxide, Tylenol, Tums, band-aids, gloves, AA and AAA batteries and other medical supplies can be donated.

The Haiti Connection will be hosting its annual fundraiser called "Haiti Night at the Jack" on Feb. 16, with proceeds going toward the relief effort. Another large event geared to-

ward raising funds for earthquake relief is "A Day for Haiti," which will be held starting at noon on Jan. 30 in the McAfee Gym.

The event was created in response to the earthquake by Otis Seawood, special events coordinator for the University Board and the Black Student Union, Demarlon Brown, president of the Black Student Union, and Ebony Frazier of the Delta Sigma Theta Sorority.

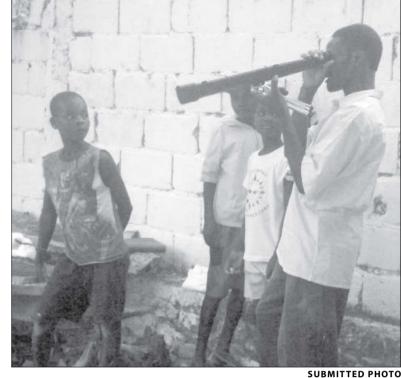
The event is broken up between athletics in the day and music at night. The athletics consist of a threeon-three basketball tournament, a double-dutch jump rope tournament and a dodge ball tournament. At 8 p.m. there will be a concert.

Students can get registration forms to pre-register teams at the Student Activity Center until Thursday. There will also be a late registration in McAfee Gym before activities start. The fee for registration is \$5 and all the money raised will go to Haiti Connection.

Seawood said the choice to donate the money to the Haiti Connection was made to support Eastern's strong community.

"Everyone talks about Red Cross and (large organizations) like them and that's wonderful," Seawood said. "But the staff believes in giving to our community because our community is very dedicated for different causes, and the Haiti Connection has been around for years now and they've been doing great work with sending help to Haiti so we thought it would be ideal to help them do what they do best."

In what director of Student Life Ceci Brinker called a "campuswide



Students of a Haitian school test out telescopes in December. Five Telescopes were given out to local schools in Haiti when Eastern students visited the country in December as part of the Haiti Connection.

relief initiative," several Eastern student organizations are sponsoring "A Day For Haiti" including University Board, the Black Student Union, Delta Sigma Theta, Alpha Phi Alpha and the Office of Community Service.

If students cannot participate in the events to provide relief to Haiti or be a part of Haiti Connection's next mission trip to Haiti on May 10, they are still urged to help in any way.

"There are so many good organizations out there," Lanham said. "I don't care where it goes, so long as it goes to Haiti. If you like the Red Cross, then give to the Red Cross. What's important to me is that if your heart is moved to give, then you give it down there."

Doug T. Graham can be reached at 581-7942 or dtgraham@eiu.edu.



### Student voting low during primary elections

#### By Kayleigh Zyskowski **City Editor**

Early voting for the 2010 primary elections began Saturday in Coles County, and County Clerk Sue Rennels said this is an option for many who plan to vote.

Voting early eliminates the possi-

1.5 oz of

Liquor

in the case of poor weather, Rennels said.

"A couple years ago, many people were not able to come out to vote because the weather was so bad," she said. "I think the only down side to voting early is you cannot change your mind once you have voted."

Yet, no matter the weather, the Eastern student turnout for the primary elections has historically been low

"It is usually very low. We usually have more come to the presidential elections which are always the highest Illinois State Board of **Elections Web site:** http://www.elections. il.gov/Votinginformation/ RegistrationLookup.aspx

If a student is registered, the oncampus polls are located at the Martin Luther King Jr. University Union and at the Newman Center on Roosevelt Avenue.

Feb. 2 election are seven county board members and the Democrat state central committee member.

All other positions will be filled according to party affiliation and voted into position during the Nov. 2 general election.

Each voter will receive a ballot with candidates for his respective political party; the Democrat Party, the Republican Party and the Green Party, along with other issues appropriate to the voter's area.

If a voter has no party affiliation, the proposals will be the only items

A "tax swap" is one of the issues that will be listed on the Coles Countv ballots

A 1 percent increase may be put on the local sales tax to be put solely toward local school facilities, and this would be in exchange for a decrease in property tax.

A voter can see if he is registered by visiting the Illinois State Board of Elections Web site.

> Kayleigh Zyskowski can be reached at 581-7942 or at kzyskowski@eiu.edu.

How much alcohol are you *REALLY* drinking?

Positions that will be filled on the on the ballot.



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## **O**PINIONS

VIEWS



## Keeping up with Capitol Hill

Following a record turnout of youth voters in the 2008 presidential election, political interest among youth has dropped off.

In the midst of a recession, young people spoke out at town meetings, went door to door campaigning for their candidate of choice, watched debates and stayed aware of candidates' positions on issues concerning them.

Not to say students are not keeping up with current events, but there is limited passion for local and state politics.

Illinois Congressional elections will be held in 2010. Do you know where your congressman stands? Who your congressman is? What district you reside in?

In the first Article of the Constitution, the founding fathers framed the notion of small legislative districts so that representatives in the first branch would more likely mirror the community they came from, thus giving everyone a voice.

Does your congressman represent your political views? If not, do something about it. Vote. Write letters. Get involved.

Rather than "Keeping Up with the Kardashians," young people would benefit more from keeping up with Capitol Hill. It may not be as entertaining as watching the *E*! family gang up on Scott, but bills are being brought to the House floor that will impact students.

What do politics have to do with me? You might ask.

Well, graduating seniors will be entering a slim job market. Keeping up to date with politics can help guide students find a field or city with positions. Politics has everything to do with raising the minimum wage.

Graduating seniors will lose their student medical insurance and have no public option to fall on. Graduates might have to decide between a better paying job and one that offers medical benefits.

Illinois owes money to state schools including Eastern. Jobs are affected by cuts. The word "furlough" is already an everyday word at Eastern.

Within the past year alone, Congress has passed bills (besides the health care charade) worthy of young people's attention.

President Obama signed the Credit Card Accountability, Responsibility, and Disclosure (CARD) Act in May, designed to protect consumers from surprise charges that have shown up on credit card invoices further indebting Americans. The expanded hate crimes law was added to a defense authorization bill signed in October, one of the first major federal gay rights legislation. The Ryan White HIV/AIDS Treatment Extension Act of 2009 was also signed in October as the elimination of the HIV entry ban, which, since 1987, prevented HIV-positive tourists and immigrants from entering the U.S. without a special waiver.



THE DAILY EASTERN NEWS DENNEWS.COM MONDAY, JANUARY 25, 2010 NO. 84, VOLUME 94

DAILY EDITORIAL The daily editorial is the majority opinion of the editorial board of The Daily Eastern News

## Information, participation in local elections vital to students

ust in case you did not know, the Illinois primaries are little more than a week away. Feb. 2 will be your opportunity to show that not only do you care about what is going on in the great state of Illinois, but that you are well informed and prepared. That is assuming you are prepared.

**EASTERN NEWS** 

Tell the truth and don't be afraid

The deadline to register to vote is past; voters are not allowed to register within a month of an election. You may still be registered if you have voted in the past, but at this point does it even matter? At what point will people begin to care about the condition of the state and the qualifications, or lack thereof, of the people who want to run it?

A week, a few days, a few hours?

Considering the current state of Illinois, this election may be more important than the former presidential election. The state currently owes Eastern \$39.1 million, and the Monetary Award Program grants, which fund hundreds of our students, are only guaranteed for this semes-

This will be the first governor election since former Gov. Rod Blagojevich was impeached under federal corruption charges.

Finally, this election is a small chance to save face and redeem the state against the dozens of examples of dirty politics.

But some time since the hype and frenzy over the 2008 presidential elections we might have forgotten about the state elections. Since state elections are held every two years, and presidential elections every four, this will be the first election many students will have the chance to vote in since 2008.

Statistically, voter turnout has been decreasing, if you disregard the 2008 presidential elections. But take a moment to consider your position: A college student at a state university.

"Finally, this election is a small chance to save face and redeem the state against the dozens of examples of dirty politics."

Is that not what we are learning to be? The reason we went to school was to better ourselves and by proxy our society.

And in this case the worst sin is a sin of omission. So take the chance, the opportunity right now to find

out a little something before you blindly go to the polls. It does not take much effort to look up a few facts

about a candidate; go to a Web site instead of Facebook-

And then there is the argument against the local elections. In the four years students reside in Charleston, the only argument against them voting in local elections is an argument effectively based in hurting only themselves.

By not voting locally is that not just saying it does not matter that you live here, it does not matter because in another year you will be gone?

The fact is that Charleston is a home to 10,000 permanent residents and nearly 12,000 students. The permanent residents of Charleston are the reason all Eastern students have anything to do whatsoever — the ability to buy groceries, go out to eat, and even indulge in the occasional adult beverage — all of these are possible because of Charleston.

Regardless of one's place in Charleston, we are all residents of Illinois. Our state has been made a laughingstock, a mockery of anything resembling a functioning government.

The only way to rectify this is to become informed and vote.

Our generation has been labeled as apathetic and careless for far too long. The only way to provide a better future in this state for us is to go out and do something.

So, let's all do just a little bit more. Go online, turn on the news, and absorb a little more information.

Then, go vote and make yourself and your voice matter.

#### **FROM THE EASEL**



Issues are on the rise and we need representatives for our generation because times do change and change is imminent. Reality TV can be fun. However, it can take away from your reality.

Flip to the news during the commercials; watch each news station to avoid a pure bias account of a current event, and read newspapers and political blogs.

The more informed you are, the more credible your voice will be in making a change or getting involved in issues that concern you personally.

> Holly Thomas is a political science graduate student and can be reached at 581-7942 or DENopinons@gmail.com.

**ILLUSTRATION BY DAVID THILL | THE DAILY EASTERN NEWS** 

## FROM AROUND THE STATE NBC debacle over; O'Brien says bye

**By** *The Daily Vidette* **Editorial Board Illinois State University** 

NBC announced Thursday that Conan O'Brien is officially leaving "The Tonight Show" after only seven months as host.

NBC confirmed a deal is signed, which is expected to include a \$32 million severance pavment for O'Brien and about \$12 million for his staff.

Unfortunately the deal will strip O'Brien of intellectual property rights to all characters created on the show, so say goodbye to Triumph the Insult Comic Dog and the many others. Why NBC began this whole debacle in the first place is in question.

It is proven that middle class America loves Jay Leno; reason one why NBC would want him back, but viewers in our age group support O'Brien much more.

O'Brien has found humor in the whole thing by making numerous jokes the past week.

He shouldn't be worried about finding a new late-night show; he already has many stations lining up to take him come September.

It is inevitable for our generation to be biased towards O'Brien. We didn't grow up watching Leno like our parents did.

We grew up with O'Brien, Jon Stewart and Stephen Colbert.

The ratings have gone up by 50 percent for The Tonight Show" this week alone.

O'Brien and Andy Richter have pulled all the stops, making the show what O'Brien would have wanted it to be if it weren't for NBC stifling him.

The question still remains, why did NBC do this now?

Why not wait until summer? O'Brien hardly got a chance to begin his reign before NBC decided to bring Leno back.

Has the question even been answered why Leno is being brought back in the first place?

To read more, visit www.DailyVidette.com

## INYART, from page 1

"Overall though, we're on solid financial ground and we are working hard to make sure we are operating on a balanced budget."

On the balanced budget, the city plans to work on a couple public works improvements in the future.

Inyart said the Waste Water Treatment Plant upgrade has begun.

The project costs about \$7 million, which is funded by an Illinois Environmental Protection Agency

loan.

The Illinois EPA loan is accompanied by two bonus components including a 25 percent automatic reduction on the total cost of the loan and no interest rate.

'We'll be paying back only 75 percent of what we borrowed and not paying any interest, saving us almost \$4 million," Inyart said.

About 6,000 feet of an 18-inch water main will be installed; the new main will connect the treatment plant with the pipes that serve the city.

"We estimate that of the two lines which serve this purpose now, one was installed in the late 1800s and one in the early 1900s," Inyart said.

Among other highlights, Inyart also spoke about the Future-Gen plant possibly coming to Coles County

'What a roller coaster ride it's been," Inyart said in reference to the plant. "Reports indicate we should know something (about the possibility of it coming to the area) in the next few weeks.'

Later in the evening, Carol Floyd, the 2009 Chamber of Commerce president, passed her gavel to Dale Wolf, the 2010 Chamber of Commerce president, but not before she summarized her year in charge.

This included the "Buy Local" campaign and converting the mailed newsletter to an electronic system.

5

After Wolf took the podium, he spoke about his goals for next year, including buy local Tuesdays.

We want to buy local all the time, but we will push for this to be done especially on Tuesdays," Wolf said.

> Kayleigh Zyskowski can be reached at 581-7942 or kzyskowski@eiu.edu.

### MASTER, from page 1

the humanities departments will also be looking at the development of a humanities center.

The center is one of several ideas being tossed around about the future use of the old steam plant.

"A possibility that has been suggested is some type of center for the humanities, an interdisciplinary center,"

Weber said. "That building is a historic building so we won't be able to do a lot with the facade, but the inside has a lot of space that could be usable with the proper remodeling. One of the large questions the campus master plan needs to address is what the plans are, and there are several competing ideas."

A centralized building for student services is another of the ideas being discussed

"A one-stop shop, if you will, for advising, registration, records, admissions and financial aid," Weber said. "All of those things that the students need to do to conduct business with the university and get enrolled for

their courses would have one central location."

Focus groups will help outline the needs and plans for the affected departments.

Paul McCann, treasurer and director of business services, said "It isn't that we made decisions on how we are going to progress, that's what this whole process is about, to get ideas from the campus, the faculty, the students and all the powers that be out there.'

> Sarah Ruholl can be reached at 581-7942 or seruholl@eiu.edu.





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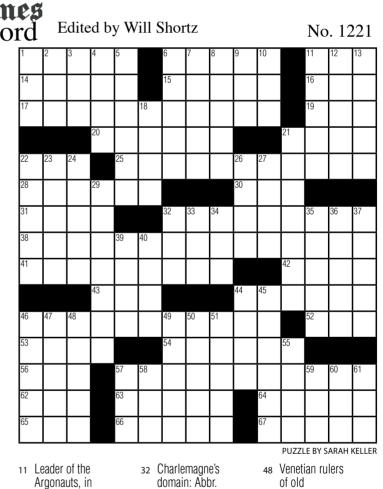
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### OFFENSE, from page 8

#### Miller said.

On a positive note, Eastern's defense has continued playing well by creating turnovers and holding opponents under their season scoring averages. Spencer said the Panthers' full court press early on disrupted his team's offense.

Despite this success, Miller knows his squad has to score more than Saturday's effort, or it will lose more games.

"It looked like we were going to play a little better in a flow, and then it got choppy," he said. "A part of it was going to be mental approach (Saturday) was we needed to win, and we got a little tight at times and tried to be too fine with passes and shots. You can't play like that."

No you cannot, coach. Hopefully, the offense will wake up Thursday.

> Bob Bajek can be reached at 581-7944 or rtbajek@eiu.edu

### VICTORY, from page 8

off the bench and hitting two threes... it's really great," senior guard Dominique Sims said.

Kish entered the game and played 14 minutes, tying her career high in points with six in the game. Also, Kish's 14 minutes were the most she has played all season.

Baker set a season-high mark with eight points in the game, while she added five rebounds.

Eastern had its second least amount of turnovers in the season against UT-Martin, only committing eight.

Sallee said the Skyhawks do not pressure a team to turn the ball over, but said he was happy with that aspect of the game.

"I thought we did a good job in that part of it and we understood that the more we were patient, the better our shots were going to be," Sallee said. "We didn't have to try and force anything, you saw us be patient and play team-ball."

Sims said the team has been working on not turning the ball over, so with only eight in the game she said it was an improvement.

"We knew that we needed to take care of it because in the last few games we had been turning the ball over a lot," Sims said. "We knew how important it was so we took care of it."

Eastern shot 40.9 percent from the field and got to the free throw line 15 times, converting on 11 attempts.

The Panthers outrebounded the Skyhawks 51-31, which Sims said was a big key in an all-around good game.

'We rebounded the ball like we wanted to. We took care of the ball, and we got to the free throw line and we finished plays. Not every shot went in unfortunately, but we had to play through some things too," Sims said.

> Alex McNamee can be reached at 581-7944 or admcnamee@eiu.edu

COMICS PEARLS BEFORE SWINE BY STEPHAN PASTIS



#### GET FUZZY BY DARBY CONLEY





#### AUDREY SAWYER | THE DAILY EASTERN NEWS

Junior guard Tyler Laser prepares to shoot a free throw during the game against UT Martin Saturday in Lantz Arena.

#### WOES, from page 8

on sophomore guard Jeremy Granger's assist with 4:15 left.

Senior center Ousmane Cisse had a putback for a 10-point advantage that iced the game.

Head coach Mike Miller said Tennessee Martin blocked nine shots Saturday, with Spencer having four stops.

"Shots we usually get, but for whatever reason, we aren't finishing strong enough. They blocked shots that we needed to turn into baskets and we didn't."

The post was good first half, but the Skyhawks were collapsing better in the next period. Eastern shot 40 percent from the field to Tennessee Martin's 27 percent.

'We got good penetration and

didn't finish plays," Miller said. "I can count four lay ups in a time where we could've maybe stretched it from 13 or 14 and could've made it 20. We needed to go to 20, and if you don't get there, and you leave it to 10 or 11 with a team that has potential to score well, they are going to catch up.'

Granger and senior guard T.J. Marion finished with 11 and 10 points, respectively. Suljic and Cisse posted 12 and 10 rebounds to help Eastern outrebound the Skyhawks 48-36.

Eastern's next contest will be against Tennessee Tech (10-10, 4-5 OVC) 7:30 p.m. Thursday at Cookville, Tenn.

> Bob Bajek can be reached at 581-7944 or rtbajek@eiu.edu.

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@DEN\_Sports tweet of the day: President Bill Perry receives permission from Board of Trustees to offer Mike Miller a two-year contract

## **S**ports

Sports Editor Bob Bajek 217 • 581 • 7944

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#### On dennews.com/sports today

Swimming: Teams improve at Butler invite



Track: Panthers have strong showing

## Bench plays role in key victory

#### By Alex McNamee Assistant Sports Editor

Eastern ran away with a 74-47 win over Tennessee Martin (4-14, 2-7 Ohio Valley Conference) Saturday in Lantz Arena by 12 different players scoring and tallying 40 bench points to the Skyhawks' two.

Freshman forward Mariah King set career-highs in points (14), rebounds (eight) and field goals made and attempted (6-of-10).

"Coach had told us to play it inside out and so in the beginning we were doing that and we were pounding it inside," King said.

After the Panthers had gotten 10 points from senior forward Maggie Kloak in 15 minutes of play, King said she had to keep the post presence alive once Kloak went to the bench.

"I had to keep up with Maggie Kloak and I just wanted to finish what she had started," King said.

Eastern held a 29-19 lead at halftime, and then came out in the second half and pushed the game's tempo up.

"The second half had a tempo much more to our liking, much faster, and you can see that when its that tempo we are much more comfortable," head coach Brady Sallee said.

The Panthers worked the tempo to their advantage, taking a 27-point lead with 9:30 left in the game.

"In the second half we put a little more pressure on the ball at half court and I thought we did a very good job of keeping it out of the post," Sallee said. "They were really trying to put it in there and we made it tough for them to do that."

After taking the big lead, Sallee went to his bench and got big performances out of senior forward Marie Baker and sophomore guard Madeline Kish.

"Marie came off the bench and had some good boards, Kish coming VICTORY, page 7



AUDREY SAWYER | THE DAILY EASTERN NEWS

Senior guard Ashley Thomas goes up for a shot during the game against UT Martin Saturday in Lantz Arena. Thomas had three points off the bench in the Panthers' 74-47 win.

# VIEWS

**Bob Bajek** 

## Offense snoozing

During Saturday's halftime performance, The Decatur Power Drillers had more thunderous power in their drumming than the Eastern men's basketball team's offense has in its last five games.

Even though Eastern beat Tennessee Martin 60-46 to end a four-game losing streak, its offense has more questions than answers right now.

The Panthers' offense averaged 75.47 points per game in its first five match-ups this season; however, the last five games have been underperformed by the offense averaging 56 ppg.

The win could not hide the problems in putting the ball in the basket.

It seemed junior guard Tyler Laser scored 14 points faster than Usain Bolt blazing through the 100-meter dash.

Then, Tennessee Martin head coach Jason James called for more pressure on Laser.

"He is a good player," James said. "Any clean look he gets, he is going to knock it out. We had to be more physical and active to keep the ball out of his hands."

The Skyhawks were trapping Laser and getting in his face, which limited him to only seven points the rest of the game.

"We closed out their main guy, who was killing us the whole first half shooting threes," Skyhawks' freshman forward Ron Spencer said. "We just definitely had to contain him and play harder defense to get more rebounds and make shots. That's what we did until the end."

After the Skyhawks made the adjustment, Laser did not score for 10 minutes and missed six straight shots. It worked like when Murray State held Laser to five points on Thursday.

Another problem was turnovers.

In the first half, sophomore guard Jeremy Granger tried hitting teammate Edin Suljic for an alley-oop, but it was too high for Suljic to grab it for a jam.

Spencer then drove to the basket on a fast break and Laser fouled him. He hit two free throws to close the deficit to seven.

Eastern had 17 turnovers, and 18 against both Murray State and Morehead State.

The third problem has been the Panthers' shooting. Eastern shot 40 percent on Saturday and are averaging 40.1 percent from the field the last five

## Eastern stops skid despite scoring woes

#### By Bob Bajek Sports Editor

The Panther men's basketball team finally stopped the bleeding, but still struggled offensively in a 60-46 victory over Tennessee Martin Saturday in Lantz Arena.

Eastern (11-9, 5-5 Ohio Valley Conference) ended a four-game losing streak to the Skyhawks (2-16, 0-9 OVC).

However, Eastern failed for the fifth consecutive game to hit its offensive average. The Panthers average 67 points per game, but they com-

piled 56 ppg the last five contests.

Eastern got off and running on the blazing play of junior guard Tyler Laser. Laser exploded with 14 of Eastern's first 18 points on 5-of-7 shooting for a quick 18-6 edge as the Skyhawks were missing their first nine shots. He had 21 points.

"I was getting some open looks and I was knocking them down, kind of getting into a good rhythm," Laser said. "They came out of here trying to face guard me like the last few teams have been doing. Our guys were setting up real good screens. I might have been setting them up better and more patient."

After Laser's play, Tennessee Martin head coach Jason James made some defensive adjustments on Laser.

"We just tried to keep the ball off him," James said. "We wanted (Laser) to catch the ball on the wing or at the top. We wanted to make everything difficult for him."

Trailing 31-19 at halftime, James said he told his team to keep fighting in the second half and to execute more efficiently.

"We kept doing that and got close, but we couldn't finish the job," James said.

The Skyhawks then came out firing, going on a couple 7-0 runs to close the gap to 43-42 with 7:56 left in regulation.

Tennessee Martin freshman forward Ron Spencer had a pair of blocks that led to teammate junior guard Marquis Weddle hitting a trey and junior guard Benzor Simmons scoring a lay up on fast breaks.

Senior forward Edin Suljic hit a key jumper and had a putback on his own miss to open up a 48-42 lead. Laser then drained a jumper WOES, page 7 contests, 4.1 percent below its season mark.

"We've got to hit the open man," junior guard Curry McKinney said. "Sometimes, we are missing the open players. We are walking the ball up sometimes and we are trying to make it more fluent."

The comeback the Škyhawks were staging greatly worried Eastern's head coach Mike Miller, as Tennessee Martin closed the game to 43-42 with 7:56 remaining.

He said junior forward Benzor Simmons had 35 points against Evanseville this year, while teammates Marquis Weddle and Reuben Clayton can break out as well.

"If they were all able to get going, we probably wouldn't have had enough to hold on,"

OFFENSE, page 7

#### EASTERN SPORTS SCHEDULE

Women's basketball Thursday at Tennessee Tech 5:30 p.m – Cookeville, Tenn.	sday at Tennessee Tech Thursday at Tennessee Tech		<b>Men's basketball</b> Saturday at Jacksionville State 4:30 p.m. – Jacksionville, Ala.	<b>Men's tennis</b> Saturday at SIU-Edwardsville 3:30 p.m. – Edwardsville, IL	For more please see eiupanthers. com
NATIONAL SPORTS					
Men's college basketballWomen's college basketballGeorgetown at SyracuseOhio State at Purdue6 p.m. on ESPN6 p.m. on ESPN2		<b>NHL</b> Pittsburgh at New York 6 p.m. on Versus	<b>NBA</b> Chicago at San Antonio 7 p.m. on CSNCH	<b>Men's college basketball</b> Missouri at Kansas 8 p.m. on ESPN	