

3-1-2013

Daily Eastern News: March 01, 2013

Eastern Illinois University

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ARTISTS SHOWCASED

The undergraduate art show opens this weekend to feature the many diverse styles of Eastern students.

Page B1

WOMEN DEFEATED

The women's basketball team was defeated at its away game against the University of Tennessee-Martin Thursday.

Page 8

"TELL THE TRUTH AND DON'T BE AFRAID"

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THE DAILY EASTERN NEWS

Friday, March 1, 2013

VOL. 97 | ISSUE 112

CAMPUS | ENROLLMENT

University reaches desired application mark

Administration sets goals for recruitment

By **Chacour Koop**
Special Projects Reporter

Eastern officials are cautiously optimistic that new student enrollment in Fall 2013 will be higher than Fall 2012, but they say the job is far from finished.

"We're going to have to continue to work," Brenda Major, the director of admissions, said. "We're not at the celebration stage yet, but (we're) working hard to get there."

Enrollment at Eastern has decreased by about 1,600 students over the past five years, and Blair Lord, the provost and vice president for academic affairs, said he is almost certain overall enrollment will again decrease next year.

He said that even if new-student enrollment increases next year, there will be a delayed reaction in overall enrollment because Eastern continues to graduate larger classes.

"Realistically, we need three growing entering classes before the total's going to show," Lord said.

Eastern's office of admissions has implemented a three-year plan with goals each year to increase new students.

The staff of the admissions office wants to bring in about 1,400 freshman students and about 1,180 traditional transfer students next year, with increasing goals the next two years.

The Office of Admissions reached

its target for student applications on Wednesday — the first in a line of benchmarks used to increase Eastern's enrollment.

Next, they will examine freshmen deposits to determine how close Eastern is to reaching overall enrollment targets.

The number for freshmen deposits — students who paid \$150 to reserve a spot at Eastern next year — is 416 compared to 304 last year at this time.

These students have taken the first step in financially committing themselves to Eastern.

"Realistically, we will get a dozen or so that will ask for that deposit back because maybe they've decided to go to another school," Major said.

While freshmen deposits are increasing, the number of transfer admits is down by about 80 compared to last year.

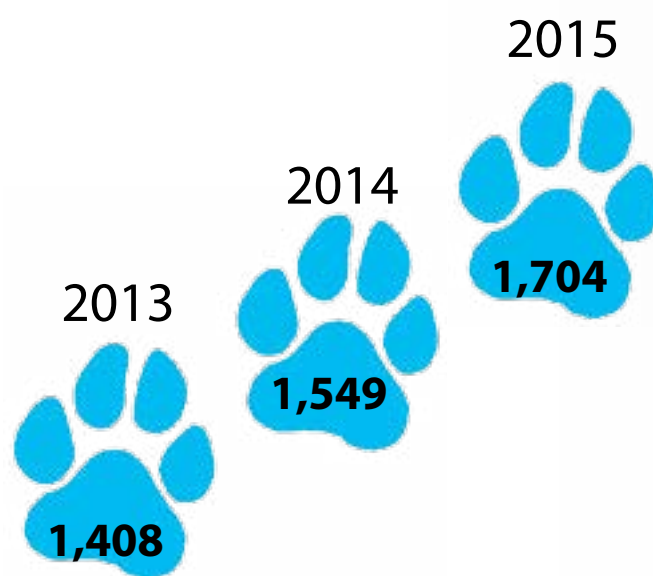
"Transfer is challenging. They're challenging for everybody," Major said. "We're not celebrating our transfer numbers yet."

Tom Glenn, the associate director of admissions, said community college students are oftentimes not as committed to a major because they are wondering where jobs will be. As a result, these students do not move through classes as quickly and enroll at four-year universities, Glenn said.

Mindy Swickrath, the associate director of admissions, said it is important to let transfers know how their credits will transfer and how long it will take to complete their degree. She said the admissions office is increasing visits to community colleges to increase numbers.

The admissions staff is now in the

Recruiting goals for new freshmen



GRAPHIC BY RACHEL RODGERS

yield phase of recruitment — when they attract students through financial aid and building relationships.

Consultants from Noel-Levitz, a higher education consulting firm, advised Eastern to award financial aid to students at the time of admission in the form of "Commitment

to Excellence" scholarships for academically strong high school students.

Until last year, Eastern did not have money for this kind of scholarship, Major said.

Last year, Eastern gave out almost \$500,000 in new scholarships for

freshmen. Overall, Eastern awarded freshmen about \$1.8 million.

"It's a significant investment by Eastern in their students," Glenn said.

Chacour Koop can be reached at 581-2812 or cmkoop@eiu.edu.

STUDENT WORK | REENACTMENT

History program to bring life to memorable past women

By **Bob Galuski**
Entertainment Editor

Women from the past will be walking out of history books and into the hallways of Charleston community elementary schools during March.

Lucille Ball, Molly Brown, Rosie the Riveter and other famous women will be portrayed by Eastern students as part of Women's History and Awareness Month's Living History Program.

Melanie Mills, a communication studies professor, is in charge of the program, which has spanned over two decades.

"When the program first started, there seemed to be a weakness in knowing what our founding moth-

ers did," she said. "People seemed to think that these women didn't do anything important, and the Living History Program helps remedy that."

During the presentations, each actress will dress up as the woman they are playing and then give a 10-minute prepared monologue about their character's life and accomplishments.

Mills also said the schools will be having the students come in for the presentations based on the student's schedules and when the teachers sign them up.

Stephanie Templin, a senior history major, will be playing Molly Brown, best known for her survival of the Titanic.

"She's done a lot of oth-

er things, too," Templin said. "She ran for senate twice." Templin said she wanted to convey to the children she was presenting for that Brown did more than just survive a sinking ship, and that she was an influential figure in history.

Emily McInerney, a sophomore history major, will be portraying Jennie Rodgers, a woman during the Civil War who masqueraded as a man in order to be allowed to serve her country.

McInerney said she wanted to play the role of Rodgers and her alter ego Albert Cashier because of her interests.

"I've always been a tomboy, and I liked the idea of a woman playing the role of a man," she said.

HISTORY, page 5

CAMPUS | GOVERNMENT

AB tables budgets, makes decreases

By **Samantha McDaniel**
Student Governance Editor

The student body president proposed a decrease of more than \$3,000 for student government's budget in Fiscal Year 2014.

The Apportionment Board tabled this proposal along with the Apportionment Board budget at its meeting Thursday.

Student Body President Kaci Abolt, a senior communication studies major, presented a budget that decreased by 9 percent from the budget proposal last year.

Abolt proposed a budget of \$43,735 for FY 14, a \$3,396 decrease from FY 13.

"It allows other organization to fund things that they maybe weren't

about to in the past," Abolt said.

The decreases came from streamlining line items and deleting expenses for positions that no longer exist in the budget, Abolt said.

"This budget is presented in a way that makes more sense," Abolt said.

Jenna Mitchell, the student vice president for student affairs, said she thinks it is a good thing that the boards are presenting budgets that have decreased from last year.

"Considering that we are allowed to allocate the same amount this year as we were last year, the fact that we have a board coming to us with a 9 percent decrease is really responsible," Mitchell said.

BUDGET, page 5

Local weather

TODAY



Possible Flurries
High: 34°
Low: 24°

SATURDAY



Partly Sunny
High: 33°
Low: 19°

For more weather visit castle.eiu.edu/weather.

THE DAILY EASTERN NEWS

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Printed by Eastern Illinois University on soy ink and recycled paper.

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Hitting all the right notes



KEVIN HALL | THE DAILY EASTERN NEWS

Reginald Thedford Jr., a sophomore political science major reenacts history as a famous African-American pianist at final Black History Month event Thursday in the University Ballroom of The Martin Luther King Jr. University Union.

WOMEN'S HISTORY | PERFORMANCES

Musicians to bring compositions to life

By Rachel Biggs
 Staff Reporter

Without the help of sound-enhancing technology, Charleston and Eastern community members will perform a concert in honor of Women's History and Awareness Month.

Professional violinist Elaine Fine and John David Moore, a pianist, will be collaborating for this concert.

Fine, a Charleston resident for 27 years, said she has taken the approach of uncovering hidden compositions from unacknowledged women composers, in a mainly male-dominated culture.

Fine said it is important to present under-appreciated work and accomplishments of women to a generation who does not know they exist.

Moore is her partner during these performances and is also an Eastern English professor.

The musical duo has been performing together for 12 years.

Both Fine and Moore value the hidden work of women composers and desire to bring those pieces to life in honor of the women whose musical literature has fallen through the cracks unheard, Fine said.

"Students can expect an enjoyably rare and possibly once-in-a-lifetime type of music," Fine said.

There will be no amplifiers or sound enhancers during this performance, and the sound will strictly be coming from the instruments themselves.

This honest production of music will surprise students, Fine said.

She also called it a form of "musical art."

Fine also compared these pieces of written compositions to that of actors performing in a play.

"There is nothing extra we add, and nothing we will leave out. We play the material only as the composer intended it," she said.

The style of music of these pieces is classical, yet not from the 18th century, Fine said.

The music will be from artists of the 20th

and 21st century by British, American and French women composers, she said.

Students will not be bored – in fact they may be shocked to realize they enjoy the classical music in this interpretation in a way that they never would have thought, Fine said.

There will be an opportunity for students to speak with Fine and Moore after their performances.

"I welcome any questions or feedback and would love to talk with any students who want to know more," Fine said.

The concert will be at 7:30 pm. Friday at the Tarble Arts Center.

Admission for the concert is free.

Fine also said the concert would be more enjoyable if the students did not have any preconceived notions of what it would be.

"I want students to come with an open mind and know that they will be entertained," Fine said.

Rachel Biggs can be reached at 581-2812 or rkbiggs@eiu.edu.

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Dear Eastern...



DOMINIC BAIMA | THE DAILY EASTERN NEWS

Casandra Kasprovicz, a freshman communication disorders and sciences major, writes a message thanking alumni for their support during the Student Philanthropy Day Thursday in the Bridge Lounge of the Martin Luther King Jr. University Union. Her message read, "Thank you for all your support!! Once a Panther, Always a Panther ~ Casey Kasprovicz"

MUSIC | PERFORMANCE

Bands to rock out at Salisbury Church

By Dominique DeWeese
Staff Reporter

Fortyminusone and State of Isaac plan to rock the house Sunday.

John Olsen, the lead guitarist and songwriter for State of Isaac, has been playing music with his family since a young age.

The Olsen family will perform along with another band, Fortyminusone at the Salisbury Church, 2350 Madison Ave.

Olsen, the lead singer and guitarist for State of Isaac, said they are very much a family band.

His brother, Lance Olsen, plays drums, and his cousin, Eric Olsen, plays bass.

Olsen said the family has been playing together ever since he can remember.

For more than five years, the band has been playing professionally under State of Isaac.

Olsen said he writes lyrics for the

band and described their music as alternative rock, but with a very artsy feel.

"It's not your everyday radio style," he said. "As far as writing goes, music and lyrics are equally important to us. The music compliments the lyrics."

Olsen said he wants people who listen to the music to focus on the sound.

"We use musical repetition often; we want people to close their eyes and feel the music," Olsen said. "We want people to lose themselves."

The band lets music and lyrics equally speak to the audience, Olsen said.

"Music is a language that everyone can equally understand," he said.

Olsen said his motivation for writing is a personal thing that comes from journalism and short story writing.

Olsen said he uses elements from nature and the state of the world, the mind and the soul.

He said those elements are all moralistic.

Olsen said he wants to convey a message of ethics and everyday life and the

emotions he feels go into the lyrics.

One of the bands songs, "The Magicians in the Tree Stump," is about a tree.

Olsen said the tree's experiences could be interpreted as human encounters.

"It is a parable of sorts really, between a tree and a person," he said. "People don't want to hold on to fear and hate."

Olsen said those things could soak up the soul.

Craig Hunt, the guitarist for Fortyminusone, said he is looking forward to playing with State of Isaac, a band they have played with before.

He said Fortyminusone has been around since 1999.

The band formed in Oakland, which is where Hunt has lived all his life, he said.

He said the band has had the same four-person lineup for the last five years.

His wife, Heather Hunt, is the lead singer for the band.

Hunt said Todd Keating, the bass player, teaches chemistry at Charleston

High School.

Their drummer, Aaron York, is an Eastern graduate, he said.

Hunt said the group regionally tours around and performs about 15 to 30 shows a year.

In the past year they have performed mostly in the Chicago, St. Louis and Evansville areas.

Hunt said the band's target audience ranges from ages 50 to 60.

"We are looking for anyone who likes fun, original music," he said.

Both bands, Fortyminusone and State of Isaac, will begin performing the free concert at 6 p.m.

Hunt said the passion to play music comes from interacting with people.

"We love people, and love being around people," he said. "We try to promote a message of hope and love and deliver that to the people we play for."

Dominique DeWeese can be reached at 581-2812 or dedeweese@eiu.edu.

CAMPUS BRIEFS

Money to be raised for hospital foundation

The Sarah Bush Lincoln Health Foundation will host the 29th Annual La Grande Soiree in Effingham to raise money for the Sarah Bush Lincoln Health System Guild Scholarship Saturday. The evening will benefit students across seven counties. See the in-depth version online at dailyeasternnews.com

ONLINE | BLOGS



Check out News Editor Robyn Dexter's newest blog post about her music playlist of the week featuring DotEXE and The White Panda at www.dexters-beatlaboratory.com

Assistant Online Editor Zachary White refocuses on his photography for the month of February at zacharywhitephotography.com.

Ashley Holstrom blogs about her weekend at a conference and being a shy journalist. Read it at crookedprose.wordpress.com.

ON CAMPUS

TODAY

CENCERE Groundbreaking
Time | 11:15 a.m.
Location | Renewable Energy Center
More info | 581-7649

SATURDAY

The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee
Time | 7:30 to 9:30 p.m.
Location | The Theatre of the Doudna Fine Arts Center
Cost | \$5-12
More info | 581-3110

MONDAY

UB Lectures: Katie Wirsing
Time | 8 p.m.
Location | Grand Ballroom of the Martin Luther King Jr. University Union

COMMENTS, CORRECTIONS OR EVENTS

To report any errors, local events or general suggestions for future editions please contact our Editor-in-Chief, **Rachel Rodgers**, via:
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THURSDAY'S QUESTION

What would it take for you to attend more Eastern sporting events?

HERE'S WHAT YOU SAID



Free food.

Deb White



A day off and some gas. More Panther Nation points.

Jimmy Howse

Letters to the editor can be submitted at any time on any topic to the Opinions Editor to be published in *The Daily Eastern News*.

The DEN's policy is to run all letters that are not libelous or potentially harmful. They must be less than 250 words.

Letters to the editor can be brought in with identification to *The DEN* or to the DENopinions@gmail.com.

"LET'S GIVE THEM SOMETHING TO TALK ABOUT"

Would you carry a gun on campus if Illinois allowed concealed carry?

To submit your opinion on today's topic, bring it in with identification to *The DEN* at 1811 Buzzard Hall or submit it electronically from the author's EIU email address to DENopinions@gmail.com by 4 p.m. today or reply to us on social media.

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DRAWN FROM THE EASEL

MARCH 1ST



DR

DOMINIC RENZETTI | THE DAILY EASTERN NEWS

STAFF EDITORIAL

Don't let sexual assault discussion fade away

Sexual assault is something that can be forgotten about because it's something not everyone wants to talk about on a regular basis, but it needs to be discussed.

The Daily Eastern News encourages the Eastern community to continue talking about sexual assault because we, as a university and community, need to talk about it.

Although the university has stepped up to the plate by promising increased communication and involvement in the Sexual Assault Task Force, as well as creating a position in Student Affairs for assisting students who have suffered sexual assault and training university employees on how to report and respond to individuals who have experienced sexual assault, this is not enough. We need to make sure all of the university's plans are followed through.

In an email to all students sent on Tuesday, President Bill Perry said: "Sexual assault is criminal conduct and has no place in our university community. Our policy has been and continues to be that sexual assault will not be tolerated." Later in the email, he stated: "Our students, faculty, and staff deserve an environment free of sexual assault and in which the university will thoughtfully and properly respond to the needs of individuals who have been sexually assaulted. The actions we are taking in the coming weeks and months are intended to have long-term effect and to strongly support such an environment."

Of course, all of this is true, but now's the time to make sure it happens.

OUR POSITION

- **Situation:** Sexual assault is still an issue on Eastern's campus.
- **Stance:** Sexual assault should not be an issue we let disappear from discussion.

You may hear that one in six women and one in 33 men will be sexually assaulted in their lifetimes, but that number sometimes seems to lose meaning unless you are directly affected by it.

In an article in the Wednesday edition of *The News* titled "Silent voices speak up," Jessica Glennon, sophomore communication disorders and sciences major who revealed at the "Night of Expression" that she was sexually assaulted on Eastern's campus, said rape is a subject that people don't like talking about because it makes them uncomfortable.

Don't just view the discussion of sexual assault on this campus as a passing topic or something that will just come and go.

Attend a Women's Empowerment League meeting, or attend any event on campus in which the sexual assault discussion is being continued. Talk to professors in the women's studies department. Ask about volunteer opportunities at SACIS or HOPE. Whatever you do, don't let the conversation fade away.

Sexual assault will never completely end, but it is our responsibility as students and members of the Charleston community to ensure every step is taken to keep it from happening in the future.

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

Astronomy cheated me out of my birthday

Yesterday was my 21st birthday, but the bars wouldn't let me in.

OK fine, it wasn't technically my birthday. I was born on Feb. 29, leap day. That date only graces us with its presence once every four years, (but not this year) because of the specific rotation of the earth around the sun. So instead, I chose to celebrate on the 28th.

I've done this my whole life. The 28th is still in February and it gave my parents a break between birthdays with my sister being born on March 2.

Turning 21 is a special time, a right of passage. Of course it means your first legal access to alcohol, the poison that completely soaks the collegiate experience, but it's also one of the last steps to unbridled adulthood.

I'd like to have enjoyed this milestone on the day that's been my birthday for most of my life. Waiting until midnight of March 1st left me feeling cheated.

Most people get to go absolutely crazy on their 21st. Even if they were already familiar with booze, it's commonplace for people to go



Seth Schroeder

beyond their limits when they finally hit that magic number. No one can legally stop them anymore, and what better way to celebrate that new freedom and responsibility than to completely abuse it?

That was not to be my fate. I wasn't looking to get trashed, but I'm a fan of new experiences. I was looking forward to going someplace I previously could not legally enter and have a memorable birthday night with my friends.

My excitement was chilled; however, when I learned I'd have to wait outside.

I was barred from entry on a technicality, a unique situation no one seemed prepared to handle. I understand allowing me in "early"

could have caused a lot of trouble for any bar. Trouble I didn't want them to have to deal with. But having to wait for the day to end, for the between time of the 28th and the first, time that lasted less than a second, made my birthday feel like nothing at all, which, technically, I suppose it was.

There's no way Julius Caesar could have anticipated this scenario when he and his astronomers decided to add an extra day to February every four years. While the Romans were certainly no strangers to alcohol, I'm fairly certain "coming of age" was a bit of an elastic concept to them.

I'm not holding a grudge though. Old Julius did help give me a birthday relatively four times as special as that of most people, and there are more pros than cons with that.

Now I've got a story about my 21st that's just as special, and the bar scene isn't going anywhere.

Seth Schroeder is a junior journalism major. He can be reached at 581-2812 or denopinions@gmail.com

» **BUDGET**
CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

She said she believes the changes made show that the boards are willing to work with budget decreases.

"I think it is very reasonable, that a lot is streamlined and cuts have been made in the right places," Mitchell said.

Apportionment Board Adviser Ted Hart, the assistant director of the business and scheduling office, presented the Apportionment Board budget proposal.

Hart proposed a \$350 increase for FY 14 totaling \$25,730.

The increase came from a \$100 increase for office supplies and \$250 increase for the University Service Fee.

"The biggest part of the increase is for the University Service Fee — that is an percentage of our income," Hart said.

Laurel Fuqua, the Apportionment Board account technician, said each account is charged this fee.

"It was underestimated last year, so we are bringing it up to what it is anticipated to be this year," Fuqua said. "We are assuming the same number of students are coming in this year."

FY 13 proposal was \$25,380.

The Apportionment Board will be able to allocate \$500,000, the same number as last year, Fuqua said.

"That number is given to us by the vice president of student affairs who determines that number, so we have no say in it," Fuqua said.

Mitchell said the increase for the Apportionment Board was justified because the supply costs have gone up, and there were extra costs that took place during the year.

Fuqua said these are just proposals, and they have not started the approval process yet.

Abolt said she expected to have a decrease, and it is important to have as tight of a budget as possible.

"We are definitely all working with the same amount of money, so it is important that we all support each other in our different areas by finding ways to decrease," Abolt said.

Samantha McDaniel can be reached at 581-2812 or slmcdaniel@eiu.edu.



DOMINIC BAIMA | THE DAILY EASTERN NEWS

Brittany Jones, a senior elementary education major, portrays Maya Angelou for the Living History Program during a dress rehearsal Thursday in Room 1731 of Coleman Hall. Students dress up and act as famous women from history for local grade school classes throughout the month.

» **HISTORY, CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1**

Another aspect McInerney said she liked was the fact that Rodgers was not found out to be a woman until she was well into her 60s.

The program does not restrict the women each of the actresses can portray, and even though some of them gravitated toward powerful, political women, Taylor Yangas wanted to go a different route.

"I chose Lucille Ball because of her ability to break the mold on what a traditional housewife was," said Yangas, a sophomore history major.

While not a political figure, Mills agreed Ball was influential.

"She was able to get away from the whole June Cleaver image, while still

being a housewife and doing all the things housewives do," Mills said.

Real women of history; however, were not the only women the actresses could portray.

Andrea Morgan, a senior history major, is going to be playing the part of Rosie the Riveter — the first time the program has had someone who did not exist as a presenter.

"I am not a real person," she said during a rehearsal. "I am a movement that swept the nation."

Morgan said she was attracted to the idea of portraying a fictional woman of history because of the impact Rosie the Riveter made on women.

"She's such an empowering figure,"

she said.

Along with Rosie the Riveter, some of the actresses have been adding their own spin on some of the characters.

Mildred Pearson, who is also spearheading the program with Mills, said a few of the actresses would have a performance piece outside their scheduled 10-minute monologue.

"We have one woman who is playing someone who was a dancer and a poet, so we'll be merging those talents," Pearson said.

That woman is Brittany Jones, a senior elementary education major.

Jones will be playing Maya Angelou during her presentation.

After her monologue discussing the

accomplishments of Angelo, Jones has prepared a dance piece based around one of Angelou's poems, "Still I Rise."

Angelou, who worked with Martin Luther King Jr. and Malcolm X during the Civil Rights Movement, was also the first female poet to speak at an inauguration, Jones said.

Pearson said the program was a way to hone in on methods of teaching, and a way to model the excellence of women.

"It's about how we can send out a message of self-esteem," Pearson said.

Bob Galuski can be reached at 581-2812 or rggaluski@eiu.edu.

CAMPUS | ACADEMIC AFFAIRS

Council approves new music degree option, courses

By **Darius Lee Francis**
Staff Reporter

The Council of Academic Affairs voted unanimously to approve a new music major during its Thursday meeting.

The new music degree, a Bachelor of Arts in Music, caters to students who

want to study music but are interested in other fields than music education or performance.

Paul Johnston, the chairman of the curriculum committee for the music department, said the actual number of credit hours would be 54 to 59, not 74 to 79 as stated in the original proposal.

He said the new option would allow students to combine majors with other programs such as business or technology, making them more marketable in different career paths.

Jerry Daniels, the chairman of the music department, said the technology part of music is becoming just as signifi-

cant as the music itself.

"Sometimes the technology side is more important than the music side these days," he said.

He said this change also allows possibilities for double majors.

Daniels also said it is important for students to know what possibilities ex-

ist when pairing business, technology or communication with this option.

Darius Lee Francis can be reached at 581-2812 or dfrancis@eiu.edu

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Los Angeles Times Daily Crossword Puzzle

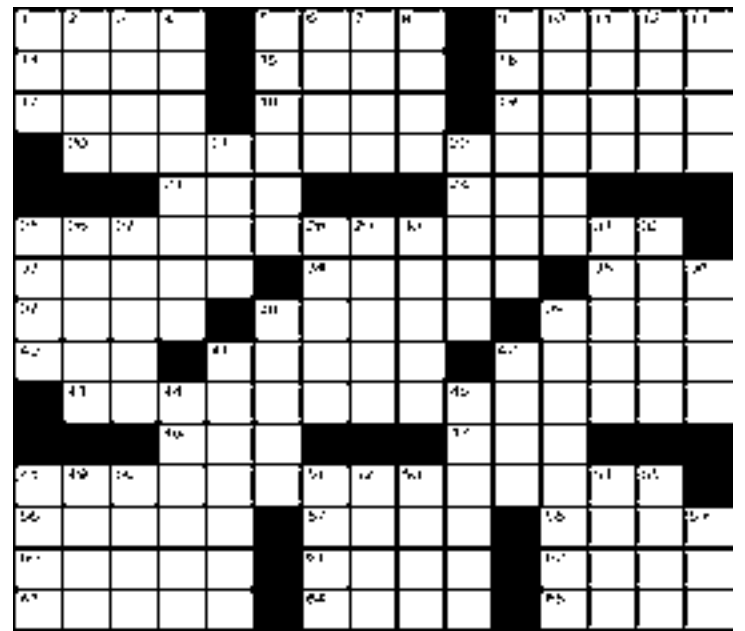
Edited by Rich Norris and Joyce Lewis

ACROSS

- 1 Powerful swimmer
- 5 Pipe part
- 9 Distinguished
- 14 "Not a chance!"
- 15 Trusted underling
- 16 Variety
- 17 Soft mineral
- 18 Dart
- 19 Modify
- 20 Valets who get no tips?
- 23 Alliance led by Nasser: Abbr.
- 24 Overseas assent
- 25 "Block that kick!" and "Dee-fense!"?
- 33 It may be perfect
- 34 Pursue
- 35 MapQuest request: Abbr.
- 37 City near Presque Isle State Park
- 38 Performed a jeté
- 39 Kind of a drag?
- 40 Delt neighbor
- 41 Hershey's competitor
- 42 Creature
- 43 Masked marathon runners?
- 46 Loser to DDE
- 47 Poetic period
- 48 Temporarily contribute helpers?
- 56 Sensory stimuli
- 57 "... a Loaf of Bread ..." poet
- 58 Got a load of
- 60 Principle
- 61 ___ Valley: Reagan Library site
- 62 Fix, in a way
- 63 Head lock
- 64 Wallet fillers
- 65 Like some losers

DOWN

- 1 Welcoming sight?
- 2 "Stat!" cousin
- 3 Bust unit



By Dan Margolis

3/1/13

Thursday's Puzzle Solved



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3/1/13

- 4 "Naturally"
- 5 The Beach Boys' "Surfin' ___"
- 6 Be a little cockeyed, maybe
- 7 Computer menu option
- 8 Dole
- 9 Bit-by-bit
- 10 Tarry
- 11 Knotted up, sportswise
- 12 Em, for one
- 13 Kennedy et al.
- 21 Charge with a time component
- 22 Like seven Ryan games
- 25 Increase, with "up"
- 26 Netanyahu's predecessor
- 27 Cold and ready
- 28 Explosive trial
- 29 Supper preceder
- 30 Chef's fowl
- 31 Commuting option
- 32 Hitch
- 36 Some Caltech grads: Abbr.
- 38 Fertile soil
- 39 Parsimony
- 41 Fowl options
- 42 Spanish tar
- 44 Inner circles
- 45 Game designed by Alexey Pajitnov
- 48 Senate Republican leader before Frist
- 49 River to the Fulda
- 50 Inventory extreme
- 51 "Meh"
- 52 "Let's do it"
- 53 Word heard before and after old
- 54 Proof goof
- 55 Scorch
- 59 Salon job

BREWSTER ROCKIT BY TIM RICKARD



WOMEN'S SOFTBALL | INVITATIONAL

Eastern to fight cold weather at Marshall Invite

By Jack Sheehan
Staff Reporter

The Panthers are eager to continue their stellar play at this weekend's Marshall Invitational in West Virginia, after getting their season back on track going 3-1 at the Louisville Cardinal Classic last weekend.

Although the weekend weather forecast looks bleak with cold temperatures, a high of 36 degrees Fahrenheit for the weekend, and precipitation, the Panthers are ready to beat the weather and any opponents that stand in their way.

The Panthers will play the Buffalo Bulls, who played Eastern tough last weekend at the Cardinal Classic.

Thanks to stout pitching and a late-game rally, the Panthers were able to beat the Bulls, 4-1 and 7-6.

Junior pitcher Hanna Mennenga earned Ohio Valley Conference Pitcher of the Week honors for her performance in last weekend's Cardinal Classic.

She pitched a complete game one hitter of the Bulls, where she tallied up a career-high in strikeouts with 14.

Mennenga looks to carry the momentum into this weekend's games.

"It is an honor to be OVC Pitcher of the Week, and I plan on doing whatever I can to help the team succeed again this weekend," Mennenga said. "This weekend I will come with the same mindset as I did last weekend."

Aside from the Bulls, the Panthers will also play the Robert Morris Co-

lonials once, and the invitational host Marshall Thundering Herd twice.

The Colonials come into the weekend action with a winning record of 4-2 and the Thundering Herd coming in at 6-9 on the season.

"We need to stay up at all times, attack our opponents and score early in the game," Mennenga said.

Scoring early has been the recipe for success so far this season for the Panthers.

When scoring first, Eastern has a 4-0 record, but the Panthers are winless on the year when the opposition scores first.

If this trend continues, attacking early will play a key factor if the Panthers want to leave the invitational continuing their recent winning ways.

Confidence also plays a major role in the Panthers success.

"Our team needs to know that we can beat anyone, and good things will follow with that mindset," Mennenga said.

The pitching duo of Mennenga and junior Stephanie Maday, a member of last year's First Team All-Ohio Valley Conference, lead the Panthers who have an OVC-best 3.12 ERA.

Eastern's top offensive contributors that look to keep the success coming this weekend are sophomore Hannah Cole and senior outfielder Melise Brown.

Brown has reached base safely in every game this season, utilizing her speed when she reaches base with a



DOMINIC BAIMA | THE DAILY EASTERN NEWS

Carly Willert, a junior infielder, fields a ball during the alumni game on Sept. 8 at Williams Field. The Panthers go to West Virginia for the Marshall Invitational.

team-high three stolen bases.

Cole is the Panthers leading RBI producer with five on the year.

Two of them coming against Buffalo last weekend on a double that proved to be the game winner in the

Panthers 7-6 comeback victory.

Eastern will take on Robert Morris and Marshall on Saturday, followed by Buffalo and Marshall once again on Sunday.

"If we play our game we will be

fine and we will win games," Mennenga said.

Jack Sheehan can be reached at 581-2812 or jpsheehan2@eiu.edu.

TENNIS | WINNING STREAK

Freshmen make a presence on men's tennis team

By Al Warpinski
Staff Reporter

The Eastern men's and women's tennis teams head into this weekend with winning streaks on the line. If Eastern wins on Friday against Southern Illinois University at Carbondale, this would be the longest men's winning streak in five years.

Coach John Blackburn said he was not surprised by the early season success because he has a complete lineup.

"One through six, everybody has the potential to contribute it is probably the biggest thing," Blackburn said. "We have also played some pretty solid doubles."

The men's team had a chance to rest up last weekend in preparation against a Southern team that has not been kind to them in past seasons.

Eastern has lost three out of the pre-

vious four matches against Southern in the past five years with its last win against the Salukis coming in the 2007-08 season.

Despite losing to Southern last year 5-2, Blackburn remains confident heading into Friday's match.

"It's a new year, they have a different team," he said. "We have an older team and we have some key freshmen too, so I think it's a different situation."

The freshmen have made their presence known this year.

Ryan Henderson leads the team in single wins and sits at 3-1 on the season. Robert Skolik is 2-2 in singles play this year but has a nice repertoire with junior Kevin Bauman in doubles play.

The duo leads the team in doubles wins with three straight.

The high level of play from the freshmen and the experience from the older players has given the team a boost during bigger points Blackburn said.

"These three matches we've won,

"We have an older team and we have some key freshmen too, so I think it's a different situation."

-John Blackburn, men's tennis coach

we've played a bit better on the big points," he said. "Every match has seven or eight really critical points and we've done a little better of a job these last couple of matches."

The men have had two weeks to prepare for Southern and Blackburn said they are ready.

"(The men practiced) pretty well, we

have been pretty focused and the guys are excited about it because they know (Southern) is a solid team," he said.

The match is set to take place at 3 p.m. in Carbondale.

The Eastern women's team has their own winning streak to maintain and goes up against IUPUI in Indianapolis.

The 4-2 Panthers are riding a two game win-streak on the road and face the Jaguars.

Eastern has dominated the series so far, winning the last meetings between the two teams.

Last season Eastern won against IUPUI in their home opener at Darling Courts 6-1.

Janelle Prisner, Merritt Whitley, Jennifer Kim and Kristen Laird all picked up singles wins.

Blackburn said the women are riding

high after picking consecutive wins on the road.

"It was the first time this year we played back-to-back matches in two days and that's something we have to do a lot in the conference, so it was a good confidence booster," he said.

The women are on game six of their nine game road streak, so playing on the road is nothing new to them Blackburn said.

"It's really a non factor, especially for the older players," he said.

The women's tennis team had a few days off to heal up and get ready to head back Indianapolis.

"We have had a great week (of practice) so far," Blackburn said.

The women's tennis team will have first serve at 6 p.m. Friday.

Al Warpinski can be reached at 581-2812 or apwarpinski@eiu.edu

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WOMEN'S BASKETBALL | AWAY GAME

Panthers' 20-point loss ends win streak

Eastern falters to Tennessee-Martin

By Alex McNamee
Staff Reporter

Against a high-scoring team like Tennessee-Martin, 10 minutes can change a game.

It did in the first half Thursday in the Eastern women's basketball team's 82-62 loss against the Skyhawks.

The Panthers led by nine points, 24-15, with 9:59 left in the first half, but Tennessee-Martin ran off the next 10 points of the game in less than three minutes.

The Skyhawks led by one point with 7:43 left, but Eastern answered with a layup by sophomore forward Sabina Oroszova to regain the lead.

"When (Tennessee-Martin) first went on that run, we were doing OK," Eastern coach Lee Buchanan said.

But the Skyhawks kept coming, extending the lead to nine points with 4:35 to go in the first half.

They had a 16-point lead at halftime.

"As the lead grew, we were pressing a little bit and tried doing some things we aren't capable of doing," Buchanan said.

The Skyhawks scored 34 points in the final 9:59 of the first half, whereas they would only score 15 in the first 10:01.

Meanwhile, the Panthers only made four more shots and one free throw.

At halftime, the Skyhawks were

making 57 percent of their shots.

It was a total flip-flop from how the game had been going, Buchanan said. Early on, Eastern was shooting the ball well and the Skyhawks struggled. In the last 9:59, everything changed.

"They just didn't miss much," Buchanan said. "They didn't even run

were making everything.

Katie Schubert scored nine more points for the Skyhawks, all on 3-pointers.

Meanwhile, Eastern's 3-point shooting threats were not matching point for point.

Senior guard Kelsey Wyss, who recently became the program's all-time leading 3-point shooter, was 0-for-3 from beyond the arc.

Red-shirt sophomore guard Katlyn Payne was 0-for-5 from that range. Senior forward Mariah King was 0-for-4.

"They went on a run and we didn't really have an answer," Buchanan said.

The loss broke up the Panthers' eight-game winning streak and was the biggest deficit in a loss since Dec. 15 against Wisconsin.

Worse, Thursday's loss comes at a bad time in the season — with only one game to play before going to Nashville to play for a championship in the Ohio Valley Conference Tournament.

Now, the Panthers' veteran experience will be tested.

"You've got to forget it," Buchanan said. "You have to have a short memory. Right now, we still have our destiny in our own hands."

The Panthers can win on Saturday and lock up the No. 1 seed in the tournament, benefiting from Eastern Kentucky suffering a 20-point loss of its own Thursday.

However, a Tennessee-Martin rematch looms, as a possibility in the OVC Tournament, meaning the Panthers' may have to see the Skyhawks soon.



TA'KENYA WATCH
Senior guard Ta'Kenya Nixon is 37 points away from breaking Eastern's all-time scoring record.

offense. They just started driving it. They all were knocking 3s down."

It wasn't just the Skyhawks' two star players scoring all the points either. Chelsey Hall and Shelby Crawford each scored in double figures in the game.

On Wednesday, Buchanan said the plan was to make somebody besides Jasmine Newsome and Heather Butler, the two stars, take the shots.

On Thursday night, even when the role players were shooting, they



DOMINIC BAIMA | THE DAILY EASTERN NEWS

Jordyne Crunk, a junior guard, goes for a layup during the game against Belmont on Saturday in Lantz Arena. The Panthers faced University of Tennessee-Martin Thursday, lost 82-62.

"Clearly, we have to have an answer for (Tennessee) Martin if we play them in the tournament," Buchanan said.

First thing's first, though — and that's Southern Illinois-Edwardsville at 6:30 p.m. Saturday in Lantz Arena.

MEN'S BASKETBALL | TOURNAMENT

One game to decide on Eastern's Playoff Seeding

By Anthony Catezone
Sports Editor

One game will decide Eastern's postseason chances.

It is simple; win and the Panthers are in.

Win, and Eastern will be guaranteed a spot in the Ohio Valley Conference Tournament for the first time in two years.

A win would lock up at least a No. 8 seed for Eastern and as high as a No. 6 seed.

If Eastern loses, however, it would need Tennessee Tech to lose both of its two remaining games and Tennessee-Martin to lose one of its two remaining games.

"Gosh, if you get to thinking about seeding and outside stuff, you're cooked," coach Jay Spoonhour said.

Eastern will host Southern Illinois at Edwardsville at 4 p.m. Saturday in Lantz Arena in the final regular-season game of the year.

"We can't worry about other games, and we can't really worry about winning our game," Spoonhour said. "We have to worry more about playing well. If we play well, the win will just happen."

Winning is what the Panthers need to do, and it will not be simple.

The Cougars beat the Panthers 49-45 on Feb. 2 in Edwardsville.

Eastern shot 35.7 percent and 5.9 percent from 3-point range (1-of-17) in the loss.

Only one Panther scored more than six points in junior guard Morris Woods' 16 points.

Spoonhour said the Panthers lost by four points because the Cougars, who shot 36.2 percent for the game, did not take advantage on the offensive end.

"We were fortunate to be in the game," he said. "They missed some shots that they usually make."

Three Cougars still scored in double-figures in points in forward Mark Yelovich (13), guard Kris Davis (11) and forward Jerome Jones (10).

Jones made a 3-pointer with 55 seconds left to give Edwardsville a two-point lead that it would not relinquish.

However, when the Cougars come to Lantz Arena, Jones will not be with them.

The senior was ranked in the top 10 in scoring in the OVC this season with 16.2 points per game; Jones has been kicked off of the team for the remainder of the season, but will remain on scholarship.

Edwardsville coach Lennox Forrester said Jones did not meet his expectations for his players, according to the St. Louis Post-Dispatch.

"(Jones) has not met the expect-

tations and standards I have for my team and that our department has for our student-athletes," Forrester said. "He will not play for the rest of the season."

Despite Jones delivering the dagger to the Panthers in the last meeting, Spoonhour said the Cougars have been playing better without him.

"They shot the ball a lot, now they are running better offense," he said. "Yelovich is getting more touches which is a good thing for them."

Yelovich is averaging 12 points per game in conference play, while also averaging six rebounds against OVC teams — 12th in the conference.

Spoonhour said since Jones has departed, guard Tim Johnson has stepped up in his place.

Johnson has played in all eight games for the Cougars in February — starting five of them.

He is averaging 11 points per game on 51 percent shooting. He is also adding 3.6 rebounds per game and two assists per game.

Tipoff is at 4 p.m. Saturday in Lantz Arena.

For in-depth analysis on each of Eastern's tiebreaker scenarios visit the-dailyeasternnews.com/sports.

Anthony Catezone can be reached at 581-2812 or ajcatezone@eiu.edu.

TRACK | COMPETITION

Panthers vie for last chance at Nationals

By Jaime Lopez
Verge Editor

Eight track and field athletes will head to two different NCAA Last Chance meets Friday and Saturday for one last opportunity to compete at nationals.

The meets will be hosted at the University of Arkansas and Notre Dame.

Four athletes will head to the University of Arkansas on Friday.

Jade Riebold, who recently won the women's pole vault at the Ohio Valley Conference Championships, will be heading to the competition.

This will be her last chance to earn a spot at NCAA Nationals.

Riebold said she plans on jumping at around a height of 14-feet, 6-inches.

The pole vaulter said she is banking on this competition to get her to nationals.

She said she is feeling confident about what she can achieve against her competitors.

"I feel really good about where I am and how I'm performing at this point in the season," Riebold said.

Riebold ranks seventh in the NCAA.

Riebold's best jump this indoor season came during her victory at the

conference championship when she cleared a height of 14 feet.

But Riebold's best jump came last outdoor season when she cleared 14-feet, 1.75-inches.

Riebold said her season has been good, but she said she was expecting to jump higher by now.

"Last outdoor season I was jumping over 14 feet, and this outdoor season I just started jumping over that height," Riebold said when referring to her performance at the OVC Championships this indoor season.

Her teammate, red-shirt junior Mick Viken, will also head to the meet. Viken ranks 19th in the NCAA.

Junior hurdler Jalisa Paramore will also be competing at the University of Arkansas.

At Conference, Paramore ran the 60-meter hurdles event in a time of 8.52.

Her best time in the 60-meter hurdles this season was 8.49 at the EIU Friday Night Special.

Jaime Lopez can be reached at 581-2812 or jlopez2@eiu.edu.



For the in-depth version of this article go to:
dailyeasternnews.com

ON THE VERGE OF THE WEEKEND

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Artists unveil artwork, themselves at art show

By Jaime Lopez
Verge Editor

The undergraduate art show opens today, and after a semester and a half of work, some students will see the fruits of their labor in the Tarble Arts Center.

The three judges are Ellen Price, a printmaker who teaches at Miami University in Ohio; Chris Berti, a 3D studio art professor from Parkland Community College and John Bona-

dies, a graphic designer working in Champaign.

They have already decided which artists featured in the show.

Last year, 122 students entered 406 works. 107 works representing 58 artists made it past the judges into the gallery.

Glenn Hild, art department chair, said usually the artwork accepted into the show remains around that number.

Hild said most of the artists who get their work featured are upperclassmen.

ART SHOW, PAGE 3



How to survive unofficial: tips for drinking safely



1. Eat while you drink. Eating will help slow down the absorption of alcohol.

2. Appoint a designated driver. Have someone who hasn't been drinking drive you and everyone else home.

3. Stay hydrated. Drink plenty of water before you start drinking alcohol. Alcohol causes you to feel thirsty and having water in your system will prevent you from chugging your drink.

4. Don't drink your age. Taking a large amount of shots in a row can lead to alcohol poisoning, which can be fatal.

5. Beware of unfamiliar drinks. Fruit and rum drinks can be deceiving, as you can't always taste the alcohol.

6. Sip your drink. Don't gulp! Pace yourself.

"Low risk" drinking for men is no more than four drinks in one day and no more than 14 drinks per week.

For women, "low risk" drinking is no more than three drinks in one day and or seven drinks per week.

Information from rethinkingdrinking.niaaa.nih.gov.

'21 and Over' revels in vulgarity

I think I've accepted the gruesome reality that films centered around a group of 20-something-year-olds who go out on the town for a night and then end up getting into all sorts of trouble will continue to get fans to the movies long after I'm dead.

They're marketable and, in some instances, really entertaining.

I'll admit it, I love "Clueless" and "Mean Girls" and "She's the Man" — they're brilliant and entertaining at the same time.

But that does not apply to "21 and Over," a film that follows that recycled formula of "The Hangover" in which a group of pals goes out for a night of booze, sex and mishaps.

Actually, the same writers of the famous movie wrote the film.

The movie wastes no time in letting the viewer know that there is a chance of vulgarity.

The movie's protagonists, Miller and Casey, (Miles Teller and Skylar Astin) are seen walking through their college campus wearing nothing but socks to cover up their genitals, all signs pointing that the night before was filled with adventure.

The movie flashes back to their friend Chang's (Justin Chon) 21



Jaime Lopez
Verge Editor



birthday, and they promise him the night of his life.

But the plot thickens because Chang has a major medical exam the next day, and his father is a strict man who will not accept anything less than perfection from him. Teller and Astin's characters set out to find the Chang and get him back to his apartment before the night is over so that he can take his exam.

The only problem with this is that no one bothers to call the police when looking for their friend, but this only adds to the plot.

I found myself laughing at some of the one-liners piped in by the two protagonists, and one scene that treaded on similar territory as the "Hangover" was when Chang ran through a crowd of people in a bikini.

But those antics are still played out, and it shows that maybe the writers of the "Hangover" need to consider new plots for their upcoming films.

Some moments of comfort are found within the two main characters, but Chang is sort of left out of the picture for most of the movie, though he is the reason for their night out on the town.

Maybe the film could have benefited from taking on something different that has to do with being 21 or in college.

Astin, who recently starred in "Pitch Perfect", also fell in to the background in this film, though he was hysterical in the other one and has been known for his comedic skills.

But that did not save him at all. However, Teller managed to save the film and became the Hercules within the plot when he takes it upon himself to lead the quest to get Chang back in bed.

Though it was a film with highs and lows, I recommend watching "21 and Over" so you can decide whether it belongs in the same category as "Clueless".

Jaime Lopez can be reached at 581-2812 or jlopez2@eiu.edu.

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SUBMITTED PHOTO BY ANDREW FEIGL

College band travels from big city to play at tiny venue

By Jaime Lopez
Verge Editor

When four college freshman that had no idea what they wanted to do with their futures they came together at Southern Illinois University in Carbondale, Ill., The band Spread formed.

Dave Petrizzo is the guitar player, and though he had trouble deciding what he wanted to do in college, the one thing he was certain about was being a member of Spread.

During the band's early days, Petrizzo said they were playing at bars and house parties.

They are still playing concerts in bars, as if it were still the early days.

Petrizzo said the band had no idea what their music would sound like, so they improvised in almost every early show.

As strange as it may sound, Petrizzo said those amateur shows filled with improvisation became what separated them from every other group performing in Carbondale.

When they improvised during their shows, Petrizzo said the songs were all instrumental without any kind of lyrics.

They have not had time to lay down a record, though they have preserved their dream of becoming famous musicians while juggling work and responsibilities. They lead double lives in a way, carrying on with their daily activities and then venturing off to play

You can see a lot in one night: jazz, blues and rock. And the blues is unbeatable.

STEVEN COUGHMAN, MEMBER OF SPREAD

at concerts during the night.

Petrizzo graduated from SIU with a degree in sociology but never parlayed the education he received there into a job.

The band members stationed themselves in Chicago, and Petrizzo said the city has offered up a diverse music scene where they have garnered a following among rock, folk and electronic groups.

In Carbondale, they were playing in a microcosm riddled with bluegrass musicians.

He described it as a little section of Chicago that was stripped from the city and placed at the southern tip of Illinois.

Petrizzo said niches of musicians who improvise in most of their music exist; they just lack the following of traditional artists. To Petrizzo's surprise, flocks of fans knowledgeable about their style of music have emerged.

Petrizzo stressed improvisation in music is nothing new; saxophonists have been improvising for years.

Petrizzo said because they enjoy improvising, their music is not consistent and changes with every concert.

Unlike Petrizzo, who grew up in the Chicago area, Steven Coughman stepped into a completely new world when he graduated SIU and moved from Springfield to the city for the band's continuance and to find a job.

The closest he had come to playing in a big city before the move is Carbondale, and he said the change of location was a culture shock.

Coughman said Carbondale is a tranquil city, while Chicago is a fast-paced city where people never stop to take a break. And while the stressful life of the city has worn him out, Coughman said he has listened to an array of musicians during his stay in the city. He said in one night, people visiting the city experience a lot of things in just one day.

"You can see a lot in one night: jazz, blues and rock. And the blues is unbeatable," Coughman said.

Spread will be playing at the Uptowner at 9:30p.m.

Jaime Lopez can be reached at 581-2812 or jlopez2@eiu.edu.

ARTSHOW, from page 1

The woman who loved cats

Marjorie Lair, a sophomore art major, prepared five pieces for this year's show.

Two of them are figure drawings; another is a still life depicting objects on table. The other two works are more of Lair's style, she said.

On one canvas, Lair painted five animal skull roaming through outer space.

The shape of the skulls reminded her of spaceships, and she took the painting a step further by adding a background of stars to further emphasize what she saw in them.

But Lair is most proud of a painting depicting a cat experiencing a hallucination after trying drugs for the first time.

Lair's obsession with cats has inspired most of her work and earned her a reputation among professors and peers.

"I'm kind of just known as the crazy cat lady from Doudna. And they're (her classmates and professors) like, 'Oh, she's doing another cat,'" Lair said.

Cats give viewers a glimpse of what her humor is like, though she explained that she takes art seriously.

And her seriousness for art can be seen through the techniques she uses to create a scene.

"The cats bring out my sense of humor, but I take my work seriously," Lair said.

"That was 50 hours of work, where I did a lot with composition and color and texture."

In one of her earlier paintings, she painted several cats in suits snorting lines of catnip and taking shots of milk for and described it as a cat utopia.

Lair entered two pieces when the art show rolled around that were rejected.

One was a mountable sculpture of a moose head made with bristol board.

What she made for the show was completely different from what judges had in mind, Lair said.

"They were a bit too whimsical for what they were looking for," Lair said.

Lair said that her creativity has learned to stretch itself and allowed her to figure out what kind of subjects her artwork will tackle.

Lair found inspiration in artists like Ivan Albright, a famous painter who was known for making self-portraits in which he distorted his face.

She is currently working a painting modeled after Albright's style that will depict a mangy cat with a maniacal look postured on its face.

Though Lair is on her way to finding a voice, she said making art can be a tedious process where the artist is just as puzzled as viewers about their work.

She said people curious to know about the ideas behind her work never bother her, especially when she feels like she has no explanation for the meaning in her art.

"You should ask artists what their work means to them, because then it makes us think," Lair said. "It makes me realize that everything has a purpose."

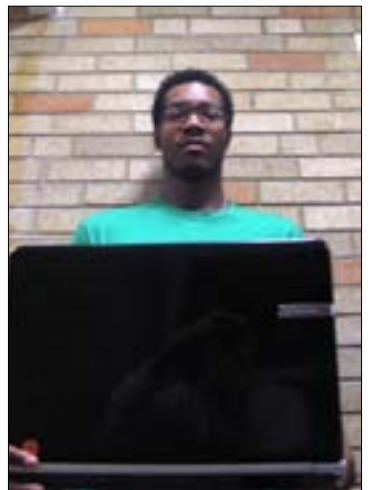
Distorting reality

While Lair's work is done on a



JACOB SALMICH | THE DAILY EASTERN NEWS

Marjorie Lair



JAIIME LOPEZ | THE DAILY EASTERN NEWS

Irving Coleman

canvas, Irving Coleman's artwork begins on a computer monitor.

Coleman, a junior art major, used a process called printmaking to create an image of himself with a monster on his shoulder like a pirate with a parrot.

The monster on his shoulder is himself.

Coleman distorted his own face by thinning out his cheeks and sharpening his teeth to make them look like fangs.

Coleman said he wanted to create a work of art that brought out his dark thoughts about the world around him.

Coleman said his work teeters between reality and surrealism.

He said he uses this abstract form of art to flesh out mixed feelings within people.

Coleman said people are complicated, and his artwork tries to tap into that complexity.

He said that printing making is the best route for the image distortion he is so fond of.

Coleman also said he enjoys model printing, a process that renders sculptures. Though different methods of printmaking exist, Coleman said his favorite part is starting a project off at the computer and watching it become something else. He then works with chemicals to leave an imprint of the original image onto a stone.

This part of printmaking is known as lithography. From there, he makes imprints of the image preserved in the stone.

He said he wanted to get into videogame design but ended falling in love with graphic design.

To complete this, he said he spent 2-3 hours a day for three weeks completing his project.

Jaime Lopez can be reached at 581-2812 or jlopez2@eiu.edu.

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JAIME LOPEZ|THE DAILY EASTERN NEWS

Aaron Kahn has been preparing for the competition since October, and has not had a sip of alcohol since then.

Bodybuilder will gleam on stage of McAfee

By Jaime Lopez
Verge Editor

In a sea of lifters, Aaron Kahn was hoisting weights as part of his weekly routine in preparation for the Mr. EIU fitness competition.

He later stepped in front of a mirror in the rec center to practice his poses with a bunch of strangers around him.

This has been his life for the past four months.

The changes Kahn has made for this competition have altered his body drastically since the start of his training.

Kahn cut carbohydrates from his diet and started to eat more protein — he carries around canned chicken in his backpack when heading to class.

His lifts, sprints, diets and practices his poses in front of the mirror every day, losing 45 pounds in the process.

Kahn said working though these last few weeks have been tough since his body has begun to slow down and must force itself to get through workouts.

Last year was the first time he tried competing for the title in the Mr. EIU fitness competition.

When he tried it last year, Kahn said he was filled with a lot of doubt because bodybuilding was something new, though he was a wrestler in high school and was accustomed to losing weight to gain

entrance into a certain weight class.

“I’m not as stressed about it anymore,” Kahn said. “I have a better understanding of what it takes to be successful in this sport.”

Kahn has brushed up on his knowledge about dieting and exercise and learned more about bodybuilding in a healthy manner.

Plus, Kahn said, it does not hurt to live with a nutritionist and roommates who will compete with him come Saturday.

Despite all of his work, Kahn said dieting causes insecurities within him.

“The diet plays tricks with your head, and you feel unsure about whether you’re at your target weight,” Kahn said.

Sometimes he said his stomach craves food at unusual times.

“Sometimes you just want to eat a loaf of bread at any given moments,” Kahn said.

Alcohol, which contains a lot of empty calories, is something Kahn gave up entirely for the competition.

Going out on the weekend can be detrimental to his training because there is alcohol all around him, or temptation as he referred to it.

“It’s hard to go out and be the only sober person in a room,” Kahn said.

So, he found company among other lifters and his roommates.

“The first thing I’m going to do is go to town on a Chubby’s fireball pizza and some Cadebury cream eggs.”

AARON KAHN, SENIOR ACCOUNTING MAJOR

Kahn, a senior accounting major, currently takes twenty credit hours and is coaching tugs, but has managed to put time aside to prepare for the competition.

His road to success, though, has not been smooth.

Kahn has had three major deaths in his family. His sister, aunt and grandfather passed away this year, and they would have traveled to Charleston to come see him perform, even if he is only on stage for 10 minutes, Kahn said.

But he has not been deterred from competing.

The treatment he has received from people outside of the sport has not affected his motivation.

Kahn said people who have never had any sort of contact with someone who body builds treat him like an odyssey and are often perplexed as to why he would put his body through so much strain.

Others question whether or not he takes steroids, but Kahn said he does not. Plus,

as a requirement of the competition, Kahn and other lifters are randomly tested by officials for

“steroids and other substances.”

Kahn said he really has no particular reason for why he body builds, but he said he enjoys the competitive aspect of it.

“You only have so much of your body to work with, and what you do have will determine whether you have worked as hard as you need to.”

He said the excitement of the crowd and the blinding lights of the stage also play a factor in his love for competitive bodybuilding.

“Your heart just pounds as you face the audience,” Kahn said.

Kahn said winning does not mean as much to him as the amount of support he has received from other students and his family.

And his family, Kahn said, was hesitant about his decision to compete in the Mr. EIU Fitness Competition the first time around.

A Facebook page he created to promote himself has amassed 92 fans going to support him, and the Penalty Box is sponsoring him.

While some may have qualms about bodybuilding’s affects on the human body, Kahn said he has gained a lot out of the sport.

“I’ve learned to enjoy reading. I’m always doing research and reading to better understand dieting, and now I can sit still on my coach and really enjoy reading books that have nothing to do with body building,” Kahn said.

He said he has learned to take on loads of responsibility and complete all of his daily tasks without hesitation.

He has also learned how to cook healthy food.

Kahn has done his homework on dieting to make sure he is doing this the right way. He said bodybuilding can be dangerous if not done carefully, but he argued that drinking alcohol and smoking cigarettes can be just as damaging to person’s health.

While he is enjoying this lifestyle, Kahn said he misses being able to eat without being on a diet. After the show is over, Kahn said he plans on celebrating.

“The first thing I’m going to do is go to town on a Chubby’s fireball pizza and some Cadebury cream eggs,” Kahn said.

The Mr. EIU and Mrs. EIU fitness competition starts Saturday at 7p.m. in the McAfee Gymnasium.

Jaime Lopez can be reached at 581-2812 or jlopez2@eiu.edu.