

1-13-2014

## Daily Eastern News: January 13, 2014

Eastern Illinois University

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### Recommended Citation

Eastern Illinois University, "Daily Eastern News: January 13, 2014" (2014). *January*. 1.  
[http://thekeep.eiu.edu/den\\_2014\\_jan/1](http://thekeep.eiu.edu/den_2014_jan/1)

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## COACHING SEARCH COMPLETE

New head football coach takes over for Dino Babers. Check out the press conference video at [dailyeasternnews.com](http://dailyeasternnews.com).

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## HOT AND READY

Housing and Dining to review Late Night Pizza policies, possibly canceling to-go orders.

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# THE DAILY EASTERN NEWS

Monday, Jan. 13, 2014

"TELL THE TRUTH AND DON'T BE AFRAID"

VOL. 98 | ISSUE 77

## Computer issues force textbook rental backup

### Staff Report

Students are urged to avoid the Louis Grado Building for textbook rental as the staff deals with technical issues with the computer system, which facilitates the checkout process.

Lines backed up to capacity and wait times stretched to several times longer than usual as employees were forced to manually copy down the four-digit serial number on the cover of each student's books.

Susan Allen, an administrative assistant for the rental service said they are unsure what the issue is at the time, but they are working to solve the issue.

"We just can't get anything to work so we are just printing off forms by hand and filling them out by hand," Allen said.

In the meantime, students should wait until notified through the Eastern website when the problem has been resolved.

"(Students) might want to wait," Allen said. "It's pretty bad here."

The building will be open until 8 p.m. today and from 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. for the rest of the week.



KATIE SMITH | THE DAILY EASTERN NEWS

Students wait in line to check out their textbooks for the 2014 spring semester Sunday at Eastern's Textbook Rental. The building will be open for textbook distribution Monday through Friday from 8 a.m. to 8 p.m.

## Eastern prepares for second semester

### Move-in weekend provides relaxed experience for students

By Jarad Jarmon  
Associate News Editor | @JJarmonReporter

Residents, resident assistants, and desk assistants find the moving in for spring semester a less hectic and stressful experience than moving in for the fall semester. Students throughout the residence halls found it to be a much easier experience, and not only because there was less to bring, hopefully.

Nick Belom, a freshman undecided major, said it is relief to finally have his bearings of the campus and not have to really think about it.

"I know more now than I did the first semester," Belom said.

He said because he had the chance to move in earlier, it provided more of a seamless experience.

"I missed the big rush of people," he said.

Having to the ability to choose what time throughout the weekend to move-in provided some stress relief for many including Breana Calhoun, a freshman journalism major.

She said the more freedom allowed her to stay with family for a couple more days.

The weekend also proved to be easier experience for desk assistants in the residence halls.

Dionna Slaughter, a Thomas Hall desk assistant, said there was



KATIE SMITH | THE DAILY EASTERN NEWS

Diane Bridges, a junior clinical laboratory science major, lifts a stuffed suitcase and spare winter coat up the stairs to her dorm room in McKinney Hall Sunday.

"I know more now than I did the first semester."

Nick Belom, a freshman undecided major

a lot less going on for the spring semester. Many of the residents didn't have to get their keys again, unless they lost them and needed a lock-out, minimizing the hassle for those working in the halls.

Slaughter said there were still a lot of people coming up to ask who their RA was and other questions regarding the changes on their floor, but the fact there wasn't a specific move in day made it easier.

There was still movement throughout the halls with transfers coming in and other residents changing floors or halls.

She added moving-in the second time was nicer because she was able to prepare in fall for the spring semester. While residents are supposed to straighten their rooms, she said cleaning her room before leaving made coming back more smooth.

"It may make it harder when they come back," Slaughter said. "One of my coworkers, she came back and the room was not clean when she left and now she is cleaning up. That is just too much."

Slaughter also said moving-in was a lot less hectic because barely

anyone moved in that early.

RA's also had it easier especially because they didn't have to go in early for training because of the severe weather surrounding most of the Midwest.

Katherine Johnson, the Pemberton Hall second floor RA, said other than not having to do training, the lack of people moving in on one specific day has made it easier.

"There is a small percentage that actually moves into the building now, whereas everyone moves in in August so it is an overwhelming amount of people you don't know," Johnson said.

Jarad Jarmon can be reached at 581-2812 or [jsjarmon@eiu.edu](mailto:jsjarmon@eiu.edu).

## Groups file lawsuits on pension bill

By Jack Cruikshank  
Administration Editor | @DEN\_News

In December, Illinois governor Pat Quinn signed a bill changing how pension-holders will receive their promised funds starting June 1.

However, multiple groups, including the Retired State Employees Association and the Illinois State Employees Association, have filed lawsuits claiming the changes are in direct violation of the Illinois Constitution.

As well as those two groups, the Illinois Retired Teachers Association filed a comparable lawsuit against the legislation, claiming, "It violates the Pension Protection Clause of the Illinois Constitution."

The lawsuits aim to prove the pension system changes are unconstitutional based on a line from the Illinois Constitution, which states pensions are "an enforceable contractual relationship, the benefits of which shall not be diminished or impaired."

"The argument is that the Constitution states these benefits are contractual in nature and can't be arbitrarily changed," President Bill Perry said.

Perry said as the changes to the pension system limit the amount of money pension-holders will receive, the changes will be "financially devastating" to the many employees currently taking a pension, as well as for employees retiring in the future.

"The changes have fundamentally affected our employees' belief that the state government can keep contractual obligations," Perry said. "Trust has been broken."

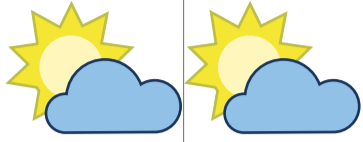
The changes proposed and signed into law by Governor Pat Quinn affect the amount a retiree makes over the course of his or her lifetime.

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# Local weather

TODAY TUESDAY



Partly Cloudy  
High: 43°  
Low: 27°

Partly Cloudy  
High: 39°  
Low: 23°

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# THE DAILY EASTERN NEWS

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

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DOMINIC BAIMA | THE DAILY EASTERN NEWS

Crews use leaf blowers to remove snow from the field lines at O'Brien Field before the start of the third round of the NCAA Division 1 FCS playoffs December 13. The cold weather was consistent, contributing more than 11 inches of snow and winds as high as 45 mph in the first week of January..

## Winter storm blankets city during break

By Michael Spencer  
City Editor | @tmskeeper

Charleston was covered in snow during last week's winter storm, forcing local fire and rescue teams onto the roads to clear snow and assist stranded travelers.

Illinois Governor Pat Quinn issued a state of emergency for parts of central Illinois as nearly a foot of snow fell in areas of the state.

A little over 11 inches of snow fell in Charleston on Jan. 5, but Charleston Fire Department Chief Pat Goodwin said the most challenging element facing his crew was the high wind-speeds that pushed snow across the highway and onto trapped vehicles.

"When there's 30 miles per hour winds of blowing snow it doesn't matter what you have, you can't clear the roads," Goodwin said, adding the wind set the storm a part from others in his mind.

Winds were measured as high as 45 mph with gusts up to 53 mph creating drifts, which closed highways and forced people off the roads and into shelters along the I-57 corridor.

Overnight temperatures plummeted to negative 14 degrees, setting an all-time record for Charleston. Meanwhile, local rescue crews worked to free travelers in 16 separate traffic incidents. Goodwin said in one instance numerous vehicles had to be dispatched to free several people from the snow.

"We had to rescue some people who were stranded out on the highways," Goodwin said. "We had to get a snow plow, an end-loader and a back hoe and two four wheel drive trucks to go get six people."

The response was a success to Goodwin who said that the effort came down to planning and execution.

"We had a plan in place prior to the storm as to how we were going to operate," Goodwin said. Supplies and shelters were prepared ahead of time, making the response to the storm just a matter of execution.

"The city of Charleston was prepared for the storm and when it hit we put our actions in place," Goodwin said.

District schools were shut in

Charleston, delaying the start of the semester until Thursday as wind chills in the negative 20s racked the area.

Despite the severity of this storm, Goodwin assured residents that the fire department still has plenty of resources left for the remainder of the winter season.

"For the fire department we are as prepared as we can be to handle any emergency that comes upon us whether it's another winter storm, another snow storm or another cold front," Goodwin said.

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1802 Buzzard Hall  
Eastern Illinois University  
Charleston, IL 61920

## Honors College adds full-ride scholarship

By Jack Cruikshank  
Administration Editor | @DEN\_News

The Honors College announced it has created a new full-ride scholarship available to incoming freshmen starting Fall 2014 on Jan. 6.

The scholarship has been named, the Pemberton Presidential Scholarship, after Illinois State Senator Stanton Pemberton, who was instrumental in procuring state funding when Eastern was founded.

Richard England, dean of the Honors College, said the name Pemberton was chosen because Pemberton was a "very important man" in school history.

Mary Herrington-Perry, the assistant vice president for Academic Affairs, said the scholarship will annually grant up to five students \$11,000 toward tuition costs, as well as free room and board. Students will be able to have the schol-

arship renewed for up to four years.

In order to qualify for the new scholarship, applicants must have an ACT score of at least 31 and a cumulative high school 3.75 GPA or better.

Herrington-Perry said the need for a scholarship came about after reviewing current on-campus scholarships and founding a need for improvement, specifically where other universities offered a full-ride scholarship.

"As other universities in the region have similar scholarships, we decided to add the Pemberton Presidential Scholarship in order to appeal to a more broad range of students," England said.

However, in order to add the Pemberton Presidential Scholarship, President Bill Perry had to approve the new endeavor.

"We discovered that our scholarships were very competitive, with the exception of full-ride scholarships, which we

did not offer," Herrington-Perry said. "Now, thanks to President Perry's generosity, we will be able to offer up to five exceptional new honors students the Pemberton Presidential Scholarship."

England said this scholarship will be decided in the same way the Presidential Scholars Award is. Judges traditionally select 20-25 individuals in total through reference letters, essays and in-person interviews.

After the selection of the Presidential Scholars, the Honors Council, in cooperation with England, will narrow down those applicants even further to select the Pemberton Presidential Scholars.

Those who are awarded the Presidential Scholars Award, but not one of the five chosen for the Pemberton scholarship, will be still be awarded \$11,000 per year for four years to apply to aca-

demic costs, whether room and board, tuition or a combination of both.

As well as providing funds to help students complete their post-secondary education, all presidential scholarships, whether or not Pemberton specifically, will offer students the ability to partake in a special presidential scholars first-year seminar comparable to EIU 1111, University Foundations.

Those who receive the scholarship will also be receiving a faculty mentor and priority housing in regards to the newly formed honors housing in Thomas Hall starting in the fall.

"Our scholars will be guided through the process of creating a unique honors engagement experience which will help them grow as researchers, scholars and citizens," England said in a press release.

Jack Cruikshank can be reached at 581-2812 or [jdcruikshank@eiu.edu](mailto:jdcruikshank@eiu.edu).

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# To-go policy to be reviewed by RHA

By Michael Spencer  
City Editor | @tmskeeper

A memorandum announcing the Late-Night Pizza service at Thomas Hall would no longer serve carryout orders was prematurely posted to the housing and dining page last week.

While the policy regarding carryout will not undergo any changes at this point, Mark Hudson, director of Housing and Dining Services, said it will be up for review by the Residence Hall Association in the coming weeks.

"It sort of got from a brain storm into an action item and we missed the student input step so we're basically backing up from it now," Hudson said.

Housing and Dining has removed the announcement from the website and any changes to the policy will go into effect next fall at the latest.

"The general practice is that you don't make changes to policy, unless there are extreme circumstances, except at the beginning of a school year because that way you aren't changing gears in mid-stream," Hudson said.

Hudson said the reason to-go orders are allowed during the day is because it helps facilitate students mov-



Thomas Hall offers Late Night Pizza Monday through Thursday and Sunday from 8 p.m. to 1 p.m. The recent suggestion debate to discontinue a carry out

ing between classes. However, Hudson said that there are no such demands during the evening. Thus, the policy is under review.

For Hudson and the rest of the Housing and Dining Services, efficiency is the name of the game meaning maximizing resources financially and cutting down on waste. When students dine-in, reusable plates, utensils and cups can be used. But,

when students are allowed to order carryout they must be served on disposable plates, something Hudson said was a factor in the new proposal.

Hudson denied the policy is meant to respond to students "double-dipping" or dining twice on one meal-swipe, a problem he said has been solved by requiring students to obtain a receipt upon entering the dining halls.

The proposed change came after Eastern announced last semester there would be no increase in room and board rates for the next academic year.

"We're trying to evaluate everything we're doing to make sure it's running as efficiently as possible but always with the caveat that I want to have minimal-to-no impact on student satisfaction," Hudson said. He

added any changes meant to save money for housing and dining are, by extension, saving money for students.

"Saving money for housing and dining is really saving money for the students because that's who really pays the money," he said.

Michael Spencer can be reached at 581-2812 or at tmspencer2@eiu.edu.

# Pipes burst throughout campus housing

## Staff Report

Frigid temperatures averaging negative 20 degrees cause some exposed sprinkler piping to burst flooding sections of university housing on Tuesday.

The Thomas Hall Lobby as well as Thomas and Stevenson Dining flooded, causing minor ceiling tile damage. The Thomas elevator was also shut down because the flooding

messed with the electronics. The elevator was shutdown until it was fixed.

A couple of Greek Houses were also affected by the burst pipes.

The sprinkler system has been shutdown in South Quad housing and Greek Court to drain and allow for repairs to piping.

Mark Hudson, director of Housing and Dining Services, said those working on fixing the broken pipes

are expected to finish Monday. They planned to finish most of the repairs Friday and Saturday.

They hoped to be able to recharge the system this week.

Hudson said while the sprinkler system was temporarily down, the rest of the fire alarm system was still active and working throughout the repairs.

"(The fire alarm system) is independent of the sprinkler system,"

Hudson said.

Luckily, Hudson said the flooding was noticed early in the day ensuring minimal to the building.

To guarantee this will not happen again, those exposed pipes are being covered so the temperature does not cause problems in the future for the piping. Insulation has been placed where the pipes had burst.

A pipe meant to supply cold water domestically also burst because

of the weather, but it was noticed and fixed immediately.

Hudson said despite the emergency situation, construction and remodeling plans are not expected to change.

"Those kind of crisis situations come up some times. I don't think it is going to slow down any of our other projects," Hudson said.

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<p><b>Tuesday, January 14, 2014</b></p>	<p><b>8:00am - 8:00 pm</b></p>
<p><b>Wednesday, January 15, 2014</b></p>	<p><b>8:00am - 8:00 pm</b></p>
<p><b>Thursday, January 16, 2014</b></p>	<p><b>8:00am - 8:00 pm</b></p>
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## Procrastination to blame for college struggles

By **Liz Purcell**  
Opinions Editor



**Liz Purcell**

Last night, just as I was about to buckle down and do the work I had been avoiding all winter break, my plastic bin full of paint bottles fell off my shelf, hit me in the head and gave me arguably the most embarrassing concussion.

Having my friends drive me to Sarah Bush Lincoln was not exactly how I imagined my first Saturday night back in Charleston.

I also did not picture myself being plagued with confusion and headaches on my first day as the new opinions editor for *The Daily Eastern News*.

Luckily, there are a few things I learned from this experience, besides the fact that Sarah Bush is eerily empty at night. My friends had just been watching "American Horror Story," and we con-

tor Who." Your car malfunctioned. Your dog ate your homework. Your art supplies fell on your head. Whatever the circumstance is, "life" is probably not the issue; procrastination is.

Like many college students, I am very guilty of procrastination.

My entire high school career consisted of me scribbling down answers to my homework two minutes before class and somehow getting good grades.

Last semester, I put off interviews and homework and studying until the last second, causing myself a lot of unnecessary stress.

I pulled off a good semester, but I guess it took a good knock in the head to realize that a little preparation goes a long way.

I could not have anticipated a head injury, but my week would be much easier if I had not spent a solid month hibernating and watching "Doc-

tor Who."

We are all guilty of procrastination sometimes, but college is not the time for "just getting by."

We are here to learn how to survive in the real world, and putting off our obligations in favor of Netflix and Marty's is no way to spend our days here.

Everyone needs a break sometimes, but let's show 2014 what we've got.

Work hard, study harder and plan ahead. It seems tedious now, but with limited time at school, it is in your favor to try your hardest.

Maybe it is better to plan for the worst than to hope for the best.

*Liz Purcell is a junior journalism major. She can be reached at 581-2812 or DENopinions@gmail.com.*

### STAFF EDITORIAL

## Don't waste this week by only getting wasted

There's a big misconception that nothing happens during the first week of classes, also known as "syllabus week," but that's simply not true.

You've seen the T-shirts and the status updates all over.

Syllabus week is another excuse to get blacked-out drunk on a weekday before any actual responsibilities, classes and commitments take over.

And to a certain extent, this does have an ounce of truth to it. The first week of classes is pretty laid back.

The first day is mostly just going over what's going to happen in the course and what's expected of you, followed by a slew of awkward classroom introductions.

It's very tempting to just party the whole first week away, but we kind of did just come back from a break.

Productivity can still be achieved, even in syllabus week.

Instead of starting out the semester by already falling behind, you can use this first week to actually get ahead.

First, even though you might not need all of your books on the first day, you shouldn't put off waiting to get your textbooks until the last minute.

Find a friend to coordinate a ride to the textbook rental building with, that way, you

can both go together and neither of you have to brave the icy, probably unsalted sidewalks of the campus.

Second, organize your life now because you won't have time to do it later.

Write out a schedule and set aside time for things like studying and working out.

You're much more likely to do something if you have it written down in a schedule.

Doing this now will save you the hassle of trying to figure it out all at once later.

Third, and it goes along the same lines as writing out your schedule, is to set goals for yourself.

Write them out and hang them up somewhere where you can always see them. Try to think short term and long term.

It could be simple things like not skipping class or deciding to go to the gym every day, or it could involve trying to land a summer internship or even just working on your résumé.

So, yes, it is perfectly OK to go out this week, that doesn't mean that you should let the week go to waste.

There's a lot that you can get accomplished in this week that you'll thank yourself for later if you get it done.

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

### DRAWN FROM THE EASEL



JOSH WILLIAMS | THE DAILY EASTERN NEWS

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•••••

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•••••

For extended letters and forums for all content, visit [dailyeasternnews.com](http://dailyeasternnews.com)

## Brand new year, same old you



**Roberto Hodge**

Hello Eastern students.

It's been awhile, so let's talk about this "new year, new you" trend that happens every time the Earth makes a revolution around the sun.

Just to be clear, you're not any different than the person you were last year.

You will still be the same person you were on December 31 as you are on January 1.

I know, it's disheartening.

Take it in, because the idea of becoming a different person just because the year changes is non-existent.

If you were a compulsive liar in 2013, you will still be that same compulsive liar in 2014 unless you make some major life changes.

Now, hypothetically speaking, say you miraculously changed in that short timespan.

Are you willing to even commit to this sup-

cult to do.

We all know that having loose morals is a way of life, not just a personality trait. Those kinds of changes would take a lot of dedication.

If someone is seriously committed to changing, and I mean, seriously committed, they need to work to change their lifestyle and bad habits gradually, not in one hour or one minute.

Be honest with yourselves.

You don't care about actually changing who you are.

It's the romanticized ideal of being a different person and the New Year hype that gets the blood flowing.

*Roberto Hodge is a senior journalism major. He can be reached at 581-2812 or DENopinions@gmail.com.*

### Editorial Board

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# Opening semester concert sold out

Staff Report

The first concert of the semester for the Doudna Fine Arts Center has been sold out, but a stand-by list is ready for those who still want to attend.

Charlotte Martin, an Eastern alum and Charleston native, is slated to perform at 7:30 p.m. Friday in the Black Box Theatre of the Doudna.

For those who do not have tickets, their names will be placed on a list to be notified when additional tickets become available.

Dan Crews, the patron services manager of the Doudna, said the concert has been sold out since November.

"The box office staff has had a number of people ask if they could be put on a stand-by list when and if there are any cancellations or if additional seats become available," Crews said.

Crews said in a press release the one-night only concert is a celebration of Martin's upcoming CD release and tour.

Crews added the CD's collection of songs differs from Martin's previous release, and she will be performing these songs for the concert.

As for Martin heading back to her roots to help launch her new CD, Crews said this is also an opportunity for community members to welcome back Martin.

"It's sure to be an exciting night when friends, family and fans come together to welcome back the hometown girl who's found success as a singer-songwriter," Crews said.



SUBMITTED PHOTO

Eastern alum Charlotte Martin performs for the first concert of the spring semester at 7:30 p.m. Friday in the Black Box Theatre of the Doudna Fine Arts Center.

## » PENSION CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Before enacting this law, retirees would get a three percent increase to their stipends every year to account for the increase in cost of living. Retirees will receive fewer of those increases June 1.

Perry gave an example of how a state employee making \$100,000 at the end of a twenty-year career will make roughly \$600,000 less over 20 years than he or she would have made under the old policy.

"I think to call this 'reform' is a misnomer," Perry said. "If the legislation would have made regular payments (to the pension fund) all along, the state would be in much better shape right now."

Perry said instead of "reform," he uses the term "changes."

"This is only a change and a change for the worse," Perry said. "Some like to say it is an 'overhaul,' but I think of 'overhaul' as being positive. These changes haven't made it better for the participants involved."

The faculty senate endorsed the "adoption of a progressive state income tax" as a pension resolution to the crisis, along with four other public universities in the state.

Perry said this tax was a viable option; however, trust would have to be renewed in the state government.

"Even if tax revenues increase, one would have to trust the state to use those revenues to support the pension system and not take 'pension holidays' as has happened in the past. In our current situation, the state decided to cut pension benefits, rather than raise additional revenue."

The Eastern chapter of University Professionals of Illinois has been directly involved with the pension changes. In December, the chapter organized a letter-writing campaign

that resulted in around 700 postcards protesting the pension changes.

"UPI has done a great job of bringing all these issues to the appropriate leadership and the (Illinois) General Assembly," Perry said.

As well as being "devastating" to current employees, Perry said the changes could affect the state's ability to recruit new employees.

"We have a chance of losing viable candidates to other states as they see the pension system (in Illinois)," Perry said.

While he said the loss of some competitiveness is a negative, Perry

said it is now the job of the administration to make the situation better through other viable options.

He said an account, such as a 401k or an optional retirement plan where the university would match an employee's deposits, would make sense in this situation.

However, for the immediate future, Perry said everyone must wait and see how the court cases are decided.

*Jack Cruikshank can be reached at 581-2812 or jdcruikshank@eiu.edu.*

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# Panthers starve off Gamecocks' comeback attempt

By Anthony Catezone  
Sports Editor | @AnthonyCatz

The Eastern men's basketball team almost saw a season-worst collapse before ending its three-game losing streak with a 56-48 win at Jacksonville State Saturday.

Eastern had shot 0-of-5 from the field in the final four minutes.

The Panthers saw an 11-point lead dwindle down to just a three points in a four-minute span, as they led the Gamecocks 51-48 with 34 seconds remaining.

"If we would have played the way we did in the comeback we would never have had the problem," Gamecock forward Teraes Clemmons said in a press release.

Clemmons scored all of his team-high 12 points in the second half.

But Eastern responded at the free throw line, making 5-of-6 in the last 34 seconds of regulation, including four by guard Alex Austin.

Meanwhile, Jacksonville State missed three 3-pointers in those 34 seconds.

The Panthers dared the Gamecocks to shoot from 3-point range, so they did.

But, it was not the least bit effective.

The Gamecocks shot 4-of-25 from behind the arc for just 16 percent. Eastern barely looked at the 3-point shot, making one of six attempts, while shooting 56 percent

from the rest of the field.

"When they come on your court and shoot 50 percent and you shoot 33, and they only shoot six 3s and you shoot 25 and they pound you on the backboards — they're tougher than you," Jacksonville State coach James Green said.

The Panthers pounded the backboards with a 35-25 advantage, while also outscoring the Gamecocks 30-18 in points in the paint.

Eastern was led by 6-foot-8, 245-pound forward Chris Olivier, who scored 10 of his game-high 15 points inside the paint, with eight points in the paint coming in the second half.

"This one strictly came down to their toughness versus our toughness and they were a heck of a lot better at it than we were," Green said.

The Gamecocks did manage to cut an 18-point deficit to four points with 7:44 in the second half, using an 18-4 run in nine minutes.

But all that comeback did was prolong the Gamecocks' shortcomings, as both of Jacksonville State's comeback attempts were thwarted and built back into Panther leads by nearly double digits.

Eastern snapped a three-game losing streak of its own, while also snapping Jacksonville State's six-game home win streak and 14-game win streak against west division foes.



PHOTO COURTESY OF TRENT PENNY | THE ANNISTON STAR

Jacksonville State's senior guard Brian Williams, takes a shot over Eastern's junior forward Chris Olivier and junior forward Keenan Anderson at JSU Saturday. Eastern defeated Jacksonville 56-48.

The Panthers improved to 5-11 on the season with a 2-3 mark in the Ohio Valley Conference. The Gamecocks fell to 8-12 overall and

also 2-3 in the OVC.

Eastern returns to action at 7 p.m. Thursday in Lantz Arena to host Murray State.

Anthony Catezone can be reached at 581-2812 or [ajcatezone@eiu.edu](mailto:ajcatezone@eiu.edu).

## Eastern drops to .500 in OVC

By Bob Reynolds  
Staff Reporter | @BobReynoldsDEN

The Eastern women's basketball team scored a season-low in the first half Saturday against Ohio Valley Conference foe Jacksonville State.

The Panthers shot 29 percent from the field (8-of-28) and scored 16 points in the first half en route to a 61-46 loss to the Gamecocks on Saturday, who rank fourth in the OVC in scoring defense, allowing 69.9 points per game.

Eastern guard Katlyn Payne said the Panther low scoring came from the Jacksonville State game plan, which was to not let her touch the ball.

"Jacksonville's game plan was to double Sabi and to not even let me touch the ball and to clog the lane so Jordyne (Crunk) could not drive," she said. "They made it extremely hard to score."

Payne and Crunk were held scoreless in the first half for the first time all season, shooting a combined 0-of-9 and Sabina Oroszova was held to six points on 3-of-7 shooting.

The Gamecocks got out to an early 24-10 lead after a 17-6 run capped off by a 3-point shot made by Candace Morton.

Morton finished the game leading all scorers with 16 points on 5-of-13 shooting, including 2-of-5 from 3-point range.

The Gamecocks finished the first half up 33-16 and Payne said Eastern coach Debbie Black wanted her team to know



PHOTO COURTESY OF TRENT PENNY | THE ANNISTON STAR

Jacksonville State senior guard LeCresha Horton goes to the hoop against Eastern's red-shirt junior guard Katlyn Payne in action at JSU Saturday afternoon.

that it was unacceptable to be down by that much and to go out and win the second half.

The Panthers scored 30 points in the second half on 11-of-28 shooting including 3-of-7 from the 3-point line, but it was not enough to overcome the hefty halftime deficit.

Payne scored seven points on 2-of-11 shooting, including 1-of-6 from three.

The Panthers would cut the Gamecock lead down to eight with three minutes remaining in the second half, but that is as close as they would get.

Jacksonville State would close the

game on a 10-3 run, capped off on a layup by Miranda Cantrell.

Oroszova led the Panthers with 16 points on 7-of-17 shooting and had 13 rebounds. She has scored in double digits in every game this season, but one, where she scored seven against the University of Alabama-Birmingham.

Eastern falls to 7-8 on the season and 2-2 in OVC play and will travel to Tennessee Tech on Monday to take on the Golden Eagles at 7 p.m.

Bob Reynolds can be reached at 581-2812 or [rjreynolds@eiu.edu](mailto:rjreynolds@eiu.edu).

## » DAMERON CONTINUED FROM PAGE 8

Red-shirt junior Jeff LePak was part of Eastern's No. 1 offense in the FCS, as a wide receiver. The transfer from Baylor said Dameron's background being solely on the defensive side of the ball would not slow down the Panthers' offense next year.

"He'll solidify the defense and we'll continue to put up points on offense and we'll be tough to beat," LePak said. "I know he helped Eastern win a conference championship in 2000, and hopefully he'll lead us to a national championship in 2014."

Dameron began his coaching ca-

reer as a graduate assistant at Arkansas in 1983, following his playing days as a Razorback (1979-82).

Since 1983, Dameron has coached at 13 programs as a secondary coach, defensive backs coach or defensive coordinator. He will now be a head coach for the first time — something that Burke said she is not worried about.

"Sitting in the chair might give you a little bit of an advantage, but what I like about some of the individuals that have been coordinators or things like that is their energy level, their drive and they know this is their opportunity," Burke

said. "So, they tend to have a good vision and are so appreciative and thrilled at the opportunity. I like that part of it."

The last time Eastern hired a first-time head football coach was in 2011, Babers, who won two coach of the year awards in the OVC and led the Panthers to a 19-7 record. Burke is hopeful Dameron will bring even more success, ending with a national championship.

Aldo Soto can be reached at 581-2812 or [asoto2@eiu.edu](mailto:asoto2@eiu.edu).

## Panthers to take on Tennessee Tech

Bob Reynolds  
Staff Reporter | @BobReynoldsDEN

The Eastern women's basketball team will take on Tennessee Tech at 7 p.m. Monday in Cookeville, Tenn.

The Panthers are coming off a their second loss in the past six games and the Golden Eagles have lost four of their last six games.

The Golden Eagles are coming off a home win against Southern Illinois University-Edwardsville 72-66, which saw five players score in double digits.

This will be the 38th meeting between the two schools, which saw Eastern defeat the Golden Eagles 89-79 in Charleston, but Golden Eagle guard Diamond Henderson scored 28 points in the loss to the Panthers.

T'Keyah Williams is the next closest player on the team averaging 9.2 points per game.

In three conference games for the Golden Eagles, they are averaging 65.7 points per game and have won two of those games and four of

their five wins have come at home this season.

The Panthers will be looking to avoid their second-straight loss after a sub-par performance on Saturday, which saw them only score 16 points in the first half.

Jacksonville State held the Panthers top three scorers to nine points combined in the first half. Jordyne Crunk and Katlyn Payne were held to zero points and Sabina Oroszova had all nine points.

Oroszova in 32.9 minutes played per game is averaging a team-leading 18.3 points per game. Her minutes were limited earlier in the season because of foul trouble.

The Panthers are currently ranked second in the OVC West at 2-2 behind Tennessee-Martin who is 4-0 in the conference and Tennessee Tech currently ranks third in the OVC East at 2-1.

Bob Reynolds can be reached at 581-2812 or [rjreynolds@eiu.edu](mailto:rjreynolds@eiu.edu).

## » WOMMACK CONTINUED FROM PAGE 8

Dameron hinted at who he would hire Saturday at his introductory press conference in the Ike Kennard Club Room in Lantz Arena.

"He's young. It's going to be his first time to coordinate," Dameron said. "I've only known him since he was born. I know his father. His father's a great coach."

Footballscoop.com reported Wommack would be the Panthers' defensive coordinator.

Wommack was a defensive graduate assistant at Ole Miss for two seasons under his father, Dave, who has been at Ole Miss since 2012 as the defensive coordinator.

Prior to Ole Miss, Wommack worked at Jacksonville State in 2011, assisting with the defensive line. He also worked at Tennessee-Martin as a quarterbacks coach in 2010. Eastern's previous defensive coordinator Kim Mc-

Cloud will follow former Eastern head coach Dino Babers at Bowling Green, where Babers resides as the new head coach.

"I didn't know who the head coach was going to be," McCloud told the *Journal Gazette and Times Courier* on Dec. 21. "I wasn't in the running for the head job. The logical thing for me was to follow Dino to Bowling Green. When the head coach leaves, basically the whole staff is out of a job. There was no guarantee of a job here. It's a blessing to be able to follow Dino."

Eastern finished the 2013 season with the No. 4 total defense in the Ohio Valley Conference under McCloud.

Dominic Renzetti can be reached at 581-2812 or [dcrenzetti@eiu.edu](mailto:dcrenzetti@eiu.edu). Aldo Soto contributed to this article.



# Hot Dameron! | New head football coach hired, already hard at work

By Aldo Soto  
Assistant Sports Editor | @AldoSoto21

Eastern Athletic Director Barbara Burke entered winter break with a problem – Dino Babers, who led the school's football team to its first postseason win in nearly 25 years, departed for the head coaching job at Bowling Green State University.

As names of possible choices to be Eastern's new head coach began to be reported and Jim Davis, the head chair of the search committee, started to interview candidates, Burke saw a familiar name.

In 2011, Burke was faced with a similar task of having to hire a new football coach after Bob Spoo coached his final game for the Panthers.

Babers was ultimately hired, but Eastern's newest coach Kim Dameron, who was introduced Saturday morning in a press conference, was almost hired in 2011.

"He was on the short list last time and he was a name I had been keeping my eye on," Burke said.

Since 2011, Dameron has had the position of defensive coordinator at Cornell (2012) and Louisiana Tech last year. Now, he will be the head coach of a football team for the first time in his career, which began in 1983, when he was a graduate assistant at Arkansas.

Dameron said one of the biggest challenges he will face being a first-time head coach is staying true to him and not try to be like any other coach.

"I have to be myself and not try to be someone else," he said. "Do things the way I believe in doing them because I've been telling myself is you get one shot at this thing and I want to do it right the first time."

Dameron said he does not want all of the attention to be on him, emphasizing that the focus should reside on the players and how the players can get better on the field.

"I always want to keep the focus on what we're doing on our players and making them better students, better players and better people," Dameron said. "If we do that then we'll be successful."

Dameron's first meeting with the players was Sunday night — his first opportunity to begin winning his team over, which he said will take time.

"As far as the building relationships part with the team and all of that it will take time and it's just something you have to invest time



DOMINIC BAIMA | THE DAILY EASTERN NEWS

Kim Dameron, the new Eastern Illinois University head football coach, speaks to members of the audience during a press conference on Saturday.

in and so that's what I plan on doing the next few weeks — getting to know these players," he said.

Dameron discussed recruiting and how his philosophy of building within the state of Illinois is key to the future of the program.

"We want to start in the state of Illinois and locally then expand from there," he said. "I have always been a big believer of you recruit most of your players within about 300 miles of your campus. For the most part, we want to be a Midwest football team."

That does not mean Eastern's football team will resemble a stereotypical three yards and a cloud of dust type of an offense as Dameron said.

The new offensive coordinator would continue to run a high-tempo offense, which will need playmakers at every spot.

The new head coach made it clear that al-

though most of the recruits will come from Illinois, the speed and possible future quarterback for Eastern will come from the South.

"We want the heart of this football team to come from the state of Illinois — we want the arms and legs coming from Florida and Texas," Dameron said.

But as Dameron begins his first days as the head coach at Eastern, his number one priority is making the current players on the roster buy in to him.

"The No. 1 thing I have to do is recruit the players that are on this campus right now," Dameron said.

Although Dameron said his main priority is recruiting the current Panthers he could not help himself as his natural coaching instincts had already kicked in prior to his introductory press conference Saturday morning.

About 30 minutes before the 11 a.m. start

time to his press conference, Dameron was on his phone, but was quickly rushed to pose for photos with his wife, Debbie, daughter, Krystle and his son-in-law Mike.

As he ended his phone call, Dameron informed Burke that he was trying to recruit a track athlete to Eastern, bringing a smile to Burke's face.

Dameron said he knows the importance of recruiting, as he had already looked over film of players who are on Eastern's recruiting list.

"The guy who first hired me, Jesse Branch, when I was at Southwest Missouri and I was 26 years old told me, 'recruiting is like shaving if you don't do it one day they'll notice,'" Dameron said.

Aldo Soto can be reached at 581-2812 or asoto2@eiu.edu.

## Eastern community reacts to new hire

By Aldo Soto  
Assistant Sports Editor | @AldoSoto21

Kim Dameron had several interviews with Eastern officials before being hired as the new head football coach for the Panthers, but it might have only taken two words to solidify his candidacy — national championship.

President Bill Perry was one of a handful of people to interview Dameron, and Perry said he was sold quickly when he heard national championship.

"The first question I always ask is what is the opportunity at EIU and when I was interviewing Kim he said two words — national championship," Perry said.

Eastern Athletic Director Barbara Burke said Dameron stood out to her since the beginning of the coaching search and had kept an eye on his progress after being a candidate for the same job in 2011, after Bob Spoo retired. She said Dameron's outlook at the future of the program made her buy in to him.

"He was the only candidate who said he wanted to win a national championship at EIU and that might have sold me right there," Burke said.

Eastern is coming off a 12-2 season that ended with a quarterfinal loss in the FCS playoffs to Towson. The Panthers won two consecutive Ohio Valley Conference titles under Dino Babers, who coached Eastern to several offensive

records during his two-year stint with the team.

Now, with Dameron at the helm and with more than 20 years of coaching defensive position groups or being a defensive coordinator, current Panther Adam Gristick said he is excited about the hire.

"I think it's a great pick and I love that he's a defensive coach," Gristick said.

Gristick, a red-shirt junior linebacker, finished fourth in tackles for Eastern in 2013. He said he loves that Dameron has a defensive background because they will share the same mentality as a team.

"Defense wins championships and I know coach Dameron is going to have the same mindset," Gristick said.

Dameron has been a defensive coordinator for seven different teams since 1993, including his stay at Eastern in 2000, when he was the defensive coordinator under Bob Spoo.

Spoo was in attendance Saturday morning, when Dameron was introduced as the new head coach.

"I really enjoyed working with him for the short time we were together," Spoo said. "When Kim joined our staff we were not very good on defense at the time. With his addition we became a lot better team on that side of the ball. He brings a lot of knowledge and he will be a great hire for the Eastern Illinois program."

Eastern made it to the FCS playoffs in 2000,

following a four-year absence from the postseason.

Eastern defensive lineman Timotheus Granger said he is excited about the hire because of the history of winning that Dameron brings to Eastern.

"We are ready for another winning season and coach Kim Dameron has been a part of a number of winning programs and he knows how to win," Granger said.

The junior, who was injured during Eastern's season opener in 2013 against San Diego State and missed a month of action, said he is looking forward to working with Dameron in the offseason and the start of the regular season for his senior year.

Last season, Dameron took over as the defensive coordinator at Louisiana Tech University. In 2012, Louisiana Tech finished dead last in the FBS in total defense (120th).

With Dameron overseeing the defense last season, it improved to 69th in total defense, which was the fourth best improvement in the FBS in 2013.

Louisiana Tech head coach Skip Holtz said he is excited that Dameron was given the opportunity to become a head coach.

"We were the fourth most-improved defense in the country this past year and that is credit to what Kim Dameron accomplished at Louisiana Tech," Holtz said.

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## Wommack added to coaching staff

By Dominic Renzetti  
Editor-in-Chief | @domrenzetti



Kane Wommack

Former Ole Miss defensive graduate assistant Kane Wommack confirmed on his Twitter account (@KaneWommack) Saturday that he accepted the defensive coordinator position on newly hired head coach Kim Dameron's staff.

"We (sic) very excited to be new members of the #EIU FAMILY!! We will put an exciting Defense on the field! Can't wait to get started! Recruiting!!" he tweeted.

Wommack thanked followers who congratulated him on the position, including Southern Mississippi Bill McGillis (@SouthernMissAD), who tweeted special congratulations to Wommack and his wife Melissa.

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