

4-1-2016

## Daily Eastern News: April 01, 2016

Eastern Illinois University

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## RACER BATTLE

The Eastern softball team will travel to Murray State this weekend for a doubleheader on Saturday and a match on Sunday  
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## ON THE VERGE

Check out this week's edition of the Verge for information on Greek Week events, April Fools' Day and movie reviews.  
**SECTION B**

# THE DAILY EASTERN NEWS

Friday, April 1, 2016

"TELL THE TRUTH AND DON'T BE AFRAID"

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## Textbook Rental Service down to 2 workers

By Cassie Buchman  
Associate News Editor | @cjbuchman

The Textbook Rental Service is now down to two non-student employees, causing them to take on more work and duties along with their regular ones.

There were originally six, with two retiring in 2012, leaving four people working there until two positions were recently eliminated.

The two employees still working in the Textbook Rental Service are Susan Allen, the administrative assistant, and Christina Coffey, the staff clerk.

"Between the two of us, we're doing six people's jobs," Coffey said. "Including our own."

Coffey said they need to prioritize what needs to be done first, like making sure there are students to help put books up and help students coming in to return their books, and

doing inventory.

"We do one, then we're like check, we're good at this point, we still have stuff we gotta do, but let's work on this," Coffey said.

A lot of these things have to be done around the same time, so to keep from getting overwhelmed, Allen said they need to keep their sense of humor and keep going on.

"I just try not to let it affect (me) too much," Coffey said.

The two are able to support each other by sharing the work and taking turns with duties, and Coffey said they help each other with what needs to be done.

"We have a laugh and then we're good," Allen said.

Most times, they go day by day. Coffey said if there is something that needs to be done one day that does not happen, that is the first thing they do the next morning.

Allen said she was hoping the university

"Whatever we have to do to get it done, we're going to do it."

Susan Allen, Textbook Rental administrative assistant

would get funding and everything would be fine, but things did not turn out that way.

Though a majority of the books come back during finals week and there are less people coming in during the middle of the semester, there is still much to do in house.

"We always have stuff we're doing that no one else knows about," Coffey said.

They had a system going on when they had six people working there, which they changed again when two people retired, then changed again when two positions were eliminated.

As more people start coming in during the last few days of finals week, when a majority of the books will be coming in, they will

be having more students to put books up and do the normal duties a student worker would do.

"Every end of semester we always have a couple groups or organizations that work and help us out and put books up," Coffey said.

Allen assisted the deputy director of the Textbook Rental Service until the director retired, and the position was never refilled.

Allen's boss is now interim associate vice president of student affairs Lynette Drake.

The service has about 14 student workers assisting with putting books up, and they are still doing the same duties they have always done.

**TEXTBOOK**, page 5

## Relay for Life tournament to raise funds

By Abbey Whittington  
Entertainment Editor | @DEN\_News

The EIU Colleges Against Cancer service group will be presenting the 2016 Relay for Life Kickball Tournament in order to fundraise for the American Cancer Society at 6 p.m. Friday in the Student Recreational Center.

The event will be introduced with an opening ceremony featuring an Eastern student who is a cancer survivor.

In addition to the kickball tournament, there will be T-Shirt giveaways, bags, Luminaire decorating, a photo booth and a hair stylist who will be doing haircuts, putting in extensions and cutting hair of those who wish to donate hair to create free wigs for cancer patients by the American Cancer Society.

Bailey Wilson, secretary of Colleges Against Cancer, said this year their service group has switched it up for their Relay for Life event.

"This has been our first event of the semester as it is our main event and fundraiser for each year. Last semester we were involved with the volleyball team and had a coaches versus cancer game where we sold T-Shirts," Wilson said. "In the future we hope to grow and be more successful in more events throughout the year."

Each team competing in the kickball tournament will have 6 to 12 members, and as each team registers online they can set a donation goal for their group.

The service group will be collecting donations for the American Cancer Society through participants' registration fees along with any other donations teams give to the group.

According to the American Cancer Society's website, there are 20 teams and 597 participants who have raised almost \$10,000 in donations.

Their website also states the top participants including Jake Sopko, communication studies major, who donated \$345, Kendall Carstens, pre-nursing major, who donated \$285 and Kellyn Roos, communication disorders and sciences major, who donated \$275.

Greek organizations have also donated money including Alpha Gamma Delta who donated \$2,675, Alpha Phi who donated \$1,045 and Delta Delta Delta who donated \$940.

**RELAY**, page 6

## Fund Our Future



MOLLY DOTSON | THE DAILY EASTERN NEWS

Melanie King, a junior psychology major, poses for a picture Thursday in Coleman Hall to send a message to the state government. King wrote the message herself and posted it on her social media accounts.

## Tugs competition to begin Monday

By Abbey Whittington  
Entertainment Editor | @DEN\_News

Greek Week will be kicking off with their annual Tugs competitions starting at 4 p.m. Monday at the Campus Pond, starting with Little Men's Tugs and Women's Tugs. These tug-of-war competitions between fraternities and sororities will be hosted throughout the week.

The difference between the Little Men's competition and the Big Men's competition is the "little men" are members 175 pounds or less and the "big men" consist of a group that will have a total weight of 1,800 pounds.

As for the Women's Tugs, each team will have

a team of 10 with a total weight of 1,650 pounds.

While each sorority and fraternity will be split up by weight, they will still be in a team within their Greek chapter.

Fraternities competing on Monday for Little Men's Tugs will include Sigma Phi Epsilon versus Pi Kappa Alpha, Sigma Chi versus Sigma Alpha Epsilon and Sigma Nu versus Sigma Pi.

Following the Little Men's Tugs will be the Women's Tug's competitions including sororities Delta Zeta versus Alpha Gamma Delta.

The fraternities competing for Big Men's Tugs will include Sigma Pi versus Phi Kappa Theta, Delta Tau Delta versus Sigma Nu, Sigma Chi versus Sigma Phi Epsilon and Delta Chi versus

Lambda Chi Alpha. The Big Men's competition will be Wednesday, April 4th at 4 p.m. in the same location.

Following Big Men's Tugs, Women's Tugs will compete again with sororities including Sigma Sigma Sigma versus Monday's winning sorority, Sigma Kappa versus Alpha Sigma Tau, Kappa Delta versus Alpha Phi and Delta Delta Delta versus Alpha Sigma Alpha.

Robert Mitchell, Delta Tau Delta member and committee chair for rules and games, said the fraternities and sororities prepare well before the competitions.

**TUGS**, page 5

# Local weather

FRIDAY SATURDAY



Cloudy  
High: 55°  
Low: 33°

Cloudy  
High: 52°  
Low: 29°

For more weather visit [dailyeasternnews.com](http://dailyeasternnews.com)



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# Animal shelter offers volunteer options

By Jack Arkus  
Staff Reporter | @DEN\_News

Students at Eastern have the ability to utilize the select services of the Coles County Animal Shelter.

For instance, students may go to the shelter if they need volunteer hours.

They can earn volunteer hours by playing with the animals and keeping the animals company.

Students may also go to the shelter to adopt a pet.

Another way the shelter offers access to students is for those who just want to get away from their college studies and have a companion to be with for a few hours.

Volunteer hours are Monday to Friday from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Some of the rules include volunteers must be 18 years old or older, must wear closed-toed shoes, and must call ahead of time.

If the volunteer is visiting a dog, they must be outside for 15 minutes before coming to the shelter, so the dog can adjust.

Dogs are not the only animals at the shelter. Dogs are the most common animal adopted while cats are the second most.

The Coles County Animal Shelter has applied health relief to a spectrum of animals including: goats, rabbits, guinea pigs, rats, snakes, salamanders and even an abused pony.

Taylor Badal, a senior elementary education major at Lakeland and animal lover, has visited the Coles County Animal Shelter.

Badal has been to the shelter numerous times to complete her 15-hour class community service hours.

Though the majority of students who volunteer attend Eastern, it is common to see students from Lakeland as well.

"The shelter hours are a little wonky," Badal says. "Calling ahead is always beneficial, too, because they will be able to tell you if there is a need for volunteers at that time or if they already have enough people."

About 50 percent of students who visit the shelter are there for community or class service, according to the Coles County Animal Shelter Manager Julie Deters.

Students who perform community service spend about an average of 10 hours tending to the animals during their handful of trips.

Badal said that she still goes back to the shelter now.



JACK ARKUS | THE DAILY EASTERN NEWS

Coles County Animal Shelter employee Jason Wallace walks a dog on Thursday. The Coles County Animal Shelter offers volunteer and adoption options. Volunteers must be 18 years or older and must wear closed-toed shoes.

Even though Badal's class hours are complete, she likes to visit the shelter to get her fix of playing with the animals.

"I could not think of better way to spend my time," Badal said.

Kyle Arnett, a junior mass communication student, said he finds himself going to the shelter once a month.

Arnett said he does not go visit the cats and dogs because he is required to, but instead he drops in from time to time to get away from the computer aspect of his life.

"Editing on a computer is a big part of my life so I really like to take a break when I can and catch a nice day outside at the shelter for an hour or so," Arnett said. "I think more students should consider using a little free time and checking it out if they have not been there before."

Student adoption is a fairly popular trend for those who visit the animal shelter.

Deters estimates that just over 25 percent of students who come in to the shelter are there to adopt a pet.

The student who plans on adopting a pet must meet certain criteria.

"We look at where the animal will be living after the four years of college if it does stay with a fulltime student," Deters said. "I try to play the devil's advocate. Adopting a pet is more than just a four year commitment. It is for the lifetime of the pet which we hope is a solid 10-12 years."

Adopting a pet is almost like adopting a child.

The maintenance is a little lower along with the overall cost, but if a student is not qualified to treat an animal with the same aspect of a child, they may be denied adoption.

Marissa Muskievicz, a senior communications studies major, said she completed her sorority services back in Fall 2012 by spending some time at the shelter.

Muskievicz' experience was different than other students who have been at the shelter because she left with a new best friend.

Muskievicz adopted a beagle and basset dog mix, Charlie, out of impulse and she could not have been any happier.

"My friend and I were walking through the kennels and every dog was barking and jumping on the

doors to their kennels," Muskievicz said. "Charlie was sitting there so silent, and I was like 'oh my God! I need him.'"

Based on the condition Charlie was in when she picked him up, Muskievicz knew Charlie was abused.

Charlie was unable to walk and seemed terrified to a point where he just sat there scared in silence.

Muskievicz believes that the previous owner abused him; Charlie is still very wary of men today.

Muskievicz said a lot of her friends in her sorority go pretty often but she has not back in over a year.

"Based on their unreasonable hours, I can never find time to go back. Plus, I would be tempted to fall in love with another pet and call it mine, which my parents would not be too fond of," Muskievicz said. "Once I get my own place I will keep Coles County Animal Shelter in mind if I go searching for another pet."

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

## April 1-3, 2016

## What's Happening on Campus?

<p><b>Children's Story Time   Saturday 10:00 AM - 2:00 PM</b> Ballenger's Teacher Center - Booth Library</p>
<p><b>Out, Proud, &amp; Professional Networking Event   Saturday 10:30 AM - 12:30 PM</b> MLK Union. For more information, visit: <a href="http://www.eiu.edu/careers/outproudprofessional.php">http://www.eiu.edu/careers/outproudprofessional.php</a>.</p>
<p><b>Percussion Ensemble   Sunday 4:00 PM</b> Doudna Fine Arts Center. Call 581-3010 for more information.</p>
<p><b>To have your event listed, email Betsy with the details at <a href="mailto:cejewell@eiu.edu">cejewell@eiu.edu</a>.</b></p>

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# Sobriety group to support students

By Molly Dotson  
Assistant Photo Editor | @DEN\_News

A new group at Eastern is attempting to provide an environment for students dealing with substance abuse, disorders and staying sober.

This group, the College Recovery Community, is now in the process of recruiting members.

The organization has grown throughout the nation in the past two years but Eastern is the only campus in Illinois giving the program a shot.

Eastern's chapter of the club is technically in operation, but as of now they do not have any students partaking in the organization.

Eric Davidson, associate director of Health Service, approached Mike Tozer, an alcohol prevention, intervention and recovery specialist to start the club.

He said he wants to begin regular meetings and create a place where students can get support from other students who are also trying to stay clean while they are going to classes and interacting with peers who do drink.

Tozer has been working in the field of substance abuse for the last 25 years.

Tozer himself has been in recovery from drinking and using drugs for 27 years.

"For me, the problem got to be significant," Tozer said. "It became very miserable to live when I was drinking and doing drugs. There was no magical movie moment."

One day, Tozer woke up and realized how unhappy he was from the drinking and the drug use and decided he did not want to live that way anymore.

"I am very familiar with the pressures," Tozer said. "I did a majority of my drug use and drinking throughout my college years, so there's an understanding about what students go through."

Tozer did not try to get sober until about a year after graduation but he said he understands how hard it would be trying to do that in a college environment.

Tozer said if a couple of students were to come to the club, others would too, as students do not like to come forward alone with their abuse problems in many cases.

"(We want to) make the campus aware of recovery, help battle the stigma. Recovery is an OK thing. It's not something you have to be ashamed of," Tozer said.

Tozer said he also wants the orga-

nization to be a place where students who have grown up with family members who have gone through addiction can go for support as well.

"They might not have that problem, but we also know it is hard growing up in that environment," Tozer said. "We're going to have support meetings for them as well."

Tozer said he wants there to be separate meetings, one for those who have substance abuse problems, and one for students who have family members with these problems.

"There are a lot of students who grew up in that family and have to go home during spring break, where they go back into that environment," Tozer said. "We realize that's really difficult, so we want that to be a part of what we do as well."

Tozer said he wants students to take an active role in the program.

"I'm not going to be a big boss by telling them what to do," Tozer said. "I want them to develop this to the way they want it, not based on a bunch of standards or rules that I create because it doesn't work that way. I want them to create it to the way that it will work best for them."

Tozer said they are looking for students to be in the organization who want to be free from addiction from substance use, who have maybe gone through treatment or want to remain abstinent.

"We're providing that place for them to support that way of life," Tozer said. "Students want to drink and stuff, and that's fine, but there is just a certain percentage of college students, about 10-12 percent, in the United States who are dependent on some type of substance."

In the organization, students can be as visible as they want to be.

Tozer said they will do their best to keep students who want to be anonymous, but if the students want to go out and market they can.

"It's up to each student. We just want them to know that they have a place where they can go where they can be with people who are going through the same thing," Tozer said. "It's not something that's going to be announced throughout campus or posted everywhere that this student is coming here."

The organization has a Twitter, Facebook, Instagram and a website on [eiu.edu](http://eiu.edu).

Molly Dotson can be reached at 581-2812 or [madotson@eiu.edu](mailto:madotson@eiu.edu).

# Throwback Thursday



MOLLY DOTSON | THE DAILY EASTERN NEWS

Olen Ames, a seventh grader at St. John's in Mattoon, looks at his grandfather as he holds his first catch of the day Thursday at Lake Charleston. Ames, who was accompanied by his great grandfather, used shrimp as bait and released the catfish back into the water.

# English student to present honor thesis, lecture recital

By Luis Martinez  
News Editor | @DEN\_News

Eastern's Student Research and Creative Discovery Conference is Friday, and while students who are participating are getting ready for their individual presentation, one student prepares to show the end results of her research.

Helen Plevka, a senior English Language Arts major, will be giving a lecture recital titled "Something Magnificent Just Out of Reach" which is scheduled to take place at 6:30 p.m. in the Doudna Fine Arts Center Recital Hall.

The lecture recital will also feature a musical demonstration by Plevka, and she will be joined by Anna Cromwell, an associate violin professor, cellist Kirstin Landowne, and pianist Kevin Lima.

"I am an English major and music minor, and I wanted to bring these two realms of study together through this project," Plevka said. "My work analyzes the role of music in Richard Powers's Orfeo, which is a novel that incorporates several 20th century compositions into the text, including Olivier Messiaen's Quartet for the End of Time."

Plevka will also perform select movements from the piece to demon-

strate the relationship.

Plevka said her purpose is to share her work with the Eastern community, and to inform the audience about the novel and the music composition all while giving a performance as well.

She said she received immense guidance from her clarinet instructor, Maggie Smith, and her departmental honors thesis advisor, Randall Beebe.

The lecture recital performance will consist of two movements of Messiaen's Quartet for the End of Time, the Cristal Liturgy, which is performed by clarinet, violin, cello, and piano, and Plevka will perform a solo clarinet movement called Abyss of the Birds.

"My work considers what music contributes to words, what words contribute to music, and why this relationship matters, and through this analysis, I will speak to the larger purpose of art in our lives," Plevka said.

Beebe said Plevka has been very productive in developing her thesis, and she was able to receive a URS-CA grant, which helps fund the recital portion of Plevka's research.

"Helen has done an amazing job on her honors thesis," Beebe said. "She knew she wanted to study the relationship between music and literature. However, she wasn't sure exactly what that meant or what kind of project she

wanted to pursue."

Beebe said the lecture recital format was Plevka's own idea and while he pointed her in the right direction a few times, she knew what she was doing during the past few months.

"Helen is a focused, disciplined researcher, and so she was able to work through much of the reading and concepts very quickly," Beebe said.

Smith said Plevka told her about the novel she read and asked her about the quarter piece that was featured in the novel.

"I played it several times in graduate school and I told her it was a great work for clarinet and we should look at it," Smith said. "Helen's a great student. I was excited to work with her on this capstone project. I was honored."

Smith describe the movements Plevka would be performing have a very dark theme to it.

"The entire piece was written in a concentration camp during WWII by a prisoner-of-war, and he wrote the music for the instruments that were available," Smith said. "There's a very apocalyptic theme to the entire work. It's very deep and very dark."

Luis Martinez can be reached at 581-2812 or [lpmartinez@eiu.edu](mailto:lpmartinez@eiu.edu).

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Mackenzie Freund

## It's not just a day of fools

It is the first day of April and I could not be any more upset. This day does not make any sense and honest, it can actually be dangerous.

April Fools' Day has forever been a dreaded day ever since I was little when my sister would prank me every year.

Yes, I was the joke subject in my family. From tape in my doorway to a silly string wake up call, and yes, they were all done by my older sister.

All of the jokes are repetitive and do not make any sense whatsoever. They also get dangerous, almost hazing, as our generation has grown to become more and more violent.

Every year I see something on Facebook or Twitter about people getting injured because of a "joke" that is not even funny.

Why is it that people in our generation find blood and injuries comical? It is dangerous since so many people have died before because of an April Fools' joke.

The jokes are totally pointless, like freezing somebody's toothbrush, or they come completely out of left field, like pretending to shoot someone with a paintball gun or it turns out to be a BB gun. Playing pranks on friends and family does not make sense. Why should we risk someone's trust just to get a chuckle from it? Why is it that an entire day is needed to play a bunch of pranks on people? It is not something that seems like it should be a thing.

There are so many other days that could be celebrated more than April Fools', like National Dog Day or National Taco Day. Why is today a day that everybody waits so long for, just to pull a lame prank?

The history of April Fools' is actually unknown. Some parts of the world see it as the first day of spring and feast while celebrating the nice weather. Some calendars have it marked as the first day of the year.

Then you have Americans that use it as an excuse to play useless pranks that sometimes hurt people's feelings.

This entire column is a joke. I actually love this day. But I will say this: Most jokes are OK to pull, but some do cross the line.

Harmless pranks, like putting tape on a doorway for a friend to run into are OK. But posting on Facebook that you are pregnant is not OK because that could actually hurt someone.

In all honesty, I hope you all have a good April Fools' Day, and stay safe while pulling your pranks.

Mackenzie Freund is a junior journalism major. She can be reached at 58-2812 or mgfreund@eiu.edu.

## Submitting Letters

If anyone is interested in submitting a letter to the editor, they can be submitted to denopinions@gmail.com.

Letters should preferably be 200-250 words in length.

Please include a headline as well.

If a student, please include name, major and year in school.

If a resident, please include name and city of residency.

## Sink and Swim



JEHAD ABBED | THE DAILY EASTERN NEWS

## Staff Editorial

# Your hypocrisy is showing, Rauner

Not a day goes by as the effects of the budget stalemate rear its ugly head around Eastern.

Departments have had to adjust to new personnel after saying good-bye to long-time staff members — 261 layoff notices were handed out, as well as 155 people receiving furlough notices.

The community rallied around those affected by planting a flag for each person in front of the steps of the Doudna Fine Arts Center. They then marched to the Coles County Courthouse and planted an equal number of flags on the north side of the Courthouse.

Locally the plight of the university employee is receiving recognition from the community.

That doesn't seem to be translating to support in Springfield.

Gov. Rauner's Twitter account contains messages and images that one might expect from a leader, including updates from Springfield, the Illinois National Guard and

other stately events.

Tweets also include him meeting with high school students from around the state.

The irony of this tweet isn't lost on *The Daily Eastern News*.

"Every student in IL deserves a world class education."

Governor, do you really think high school students are so naive that they don't understand what is happening to education in Illinois?

Do you really think that you have created a climate where education within our borders translates to competitiveness outside our nation?

The state is entering its 10th month without a budget. Higher education has not been funded in almost a year.

How in the world would anyone see "world class education" inside a state where we're known for governors with criminal records and the 10-month fiscal calamity being perpetuated by grown addle-minded children who don't know when to quit? Peo-

ple who can't set aside their ideological differences for the greater good — over 916,000 students attending a public university.

Not to mention the 261 employees who have been laid off at Eastern and the untold number of employees at other state schools.

We feel for you, Chicago State.

We never want to see a school close, but especially under circumstances that could easily be fixed with a simple signature.

Governor Rauner, your hypocrisy is showing.

We're still waiting for anything, literally anything, from Springfield.

Instead of selling high school seniors of your future education utopia, why don't you instead make a real concrete difference in the state's future generation and fund our schools.

We'll be waiting until our last dying breath.

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

# Sean Says: Show respect to other people

So lemme tell you this. Going out at restaurants is awesome, and I do it a lot.

But when you are out at a restaurant, you have to be a perfect person to the waiter or waitress. Why? They have the power to completely ruin your night.

My favorite place to go, and I think almost all of you would agree, is Buffalo Wild Wings, or B-Dubs.

The one problem is that you can really spend a lot of money there just on one trip. They have so much good food on the menu that when you go, you need to get everything your little heart desires.

For me, nine times out of 10, I'll get a small order of medium traditional wings.

Side note: traditional is way better than boneless. Don't argue with me on that please. Don't get me wrong because I will get boneless on wing night, but if I have the choice, traditional is all I get. They are so much better.

Anyways, I go to Buffalo Wild Wings all the time. Not so much in the Mattoon area because I don't have a car to get there, but if anyone wants to drive me, contact me through email.

But when I'm at home I go all the time. I went three times over spring break, and I don't even want to talk about how much I went over winter break. When I go home for breaks, my dad and I always go to Buf-



Sean Hastings

falo Wild Wings before I even get home.

But a few years ago when I was a junior in high school, three of my friends, my brother Ryan and I went to Buffalo Wild Wings together. Our messed up night started with Ryan ordering his drink.

I want to start by saying this, we did nothing wrong. This crazy waitress did it to herself. We just had a reaction that any person would have.

So I order my Mountain Dew, my friends order their waters, and now it's time for Ryan to order and this is when it all turns bad. Ryan said "can I get a lemonade?"

Apparently she did not hear what he said

and responded by saying "root beer?" For some reason we thought that was absolutely hilarious.

In a way, it was because how did she confuse the two drinks? They don't sound the same at all.

So during our big outburst, she jumps in angry as could be. She said something along the lines of, "really guys? Are you kidding me? You should show much more respect to your waitress."

This waitress then, sits around before she puts the order in. It took an hour to get the food on a non-busy night. Part of our order was wrong too. I think it was on purpose too.

She could have gone to her computer and just tweaked the order a bit. I don't know for sure, but the explosive reaction she had on us made it easy to believe.

So my lesson for you is, don't laugh or mess around with your waiter or waitress.

They could be having a stressful night, and your actions could be the tipping point after a stressful week. It could even lead to a wrong order.

So keep your comments to yourself until they walk away, and I hope your weekend is better than mine.

Sean Hastings is a sophomore journalism major. He can be reached at 581-2812 or smhastings@eiu.edu.

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» **TUGS**, CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Mitchell said the Greek Life organizations begin practicing for the Tugs competition on Feb. 1. Before this date, the sororities and fraternities are not allowed to prepare themselves for this competition.

"A lot of teams will pair up with a sorority and they will go out and practice together. Initially it is a lot of weight lifting and conditioning type of stuff," Mitchell said. "Once they go out and practice together on the rope they really just work on their form."

Mitchell said the teams split up when practicing with the rope by splitting up the Big Men team and the Little Men team. For example, six little men might practice against four big men to even out the weight.

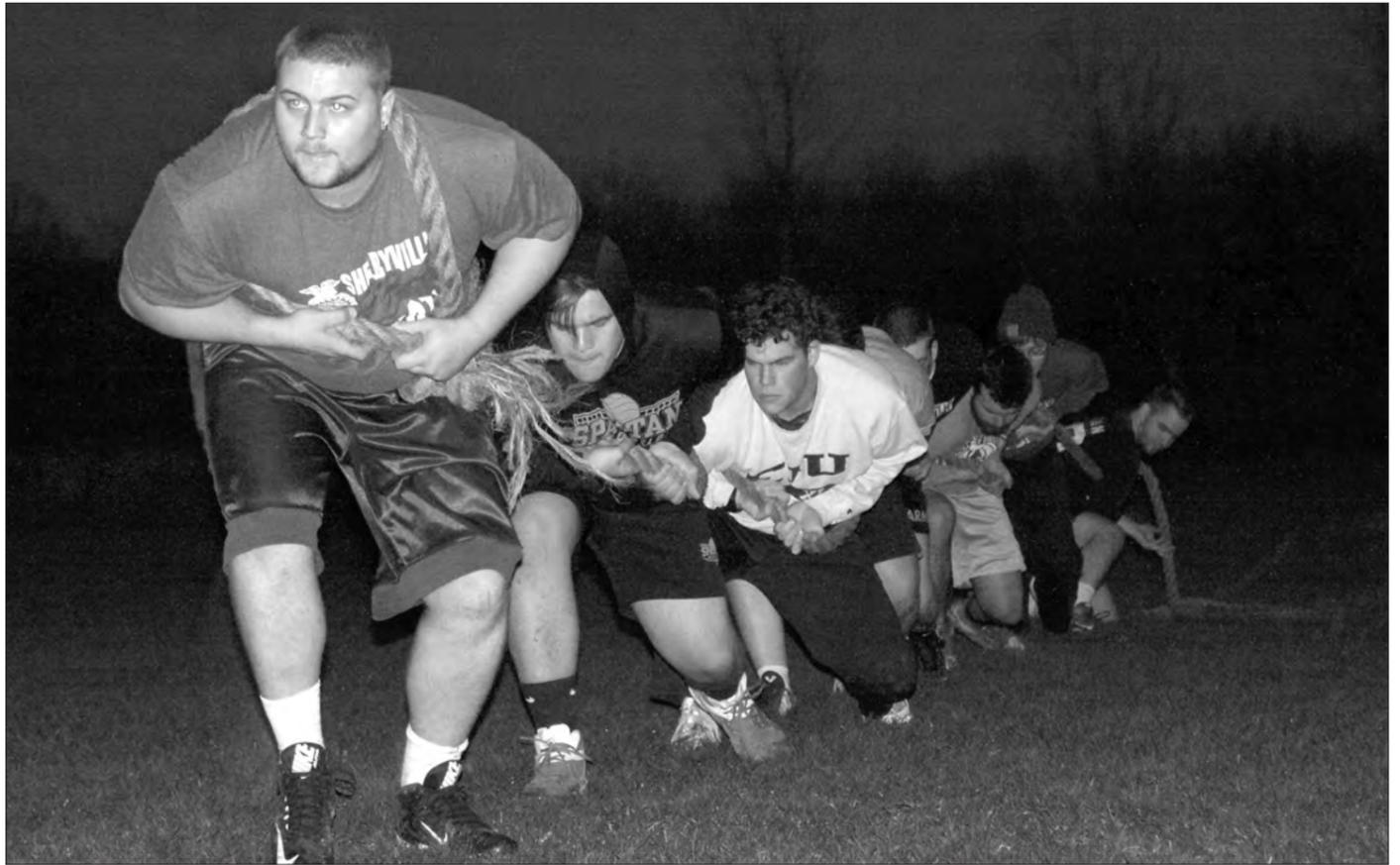
At 4 p.m. on Friday, April 8, there will be semi-finals for each Tugs group to compete in and the winners of each category will march towards Tugs finals.

The rope will be entirely wet before the contest begins and the start and end of a tug will be indicated by a train horn.

Rules for the competition include only turf or plastic shoes and no metal cleats, which will be checked by the judges, there is a designated area for the first tuggers on the rope and substitutions of tuggers can be made before the tug, but must be from the alternate listed on the final roster.

The team that is able to get three men on the opposing team in the water first will be declared the winner. The overall winner of the Tugs competition will receive a trophy.

The overall winners of 2015 Greek Week were Delta Zeta and Lambda Chi Alpha.



MOLLY DOTSON | THE DAILY EASTERN NEWS

Members of Phi Kappa Theta practice for Tugs Thursday in the Sigma Kappa field near Textbook Rental.

Mitchell, a senior finance major, will be experiencing his last Greek Week this year. "Greek Week has also been an event I

have looked forward to and probably one of my favorite things to watch," Mitchell said.

Abbey Whittington can be reached at 581-2812 or [anwhittington@eiu.edu](mailto:anwhittington@eiu.edu).

» **TEXTBOOK**, CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

The Textbook Rental Service is not able to order books for the summer semester without presidential approval.

This includes new books and additional books that need to be ordered if some do not get returned.

Allen said there were some new courses

that needed new books, so she was working on getting that approval.

Though it is a little more work, Allen does not mind.

"I'd rather have permission then do it and (have someone be like) You shouldn't have done that," Allen said. "It's just the

one step, but it's nothing."

Allen said she wishes her former co-workers were still working at the Textbook Rental Services, but she and Coffey said they were there to supply students with their books and that is what they will continue to do.

"We've always done that," Allen said. "Whatever we have to do to get it done, we're going to do it."

Cassie Buchman can be reached at 581-2812 or [cjbuchman@eiu.edu](mailto:cjbuchman@eiu.edu).

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# Soul Experience



MOLLY DOTSON | THE DAILY EASTERN NEWS

Nia Douglas, a sophomore biology major, flips fried chicken Thursday for a GLAM fundraiser in the Cultural Center. These chicken dinners were \$7 and included three pieces of chicken, macaroni and cheese and a drink. Douglas said she and her friends call it the "soul experience."

## » RELAY, CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

"This event is great for the students to come get involved in something so simple and so fun, while also getting the chance to participate in something that is much bigger than them," Wilson said. "Bringing cancer awareness to students is

the main goal of this and having fun while doing it is all the better."

Wilson said the members of Colleges Against Cancer will be wearing red event T-Shirts and will be spreading cancer awareness through their information

booth.

"I started with this group my freshman year, last year, and noticed early that these changes needed to be made judging by years in the past," Wilson said. "I have been involved with Relay for Life since the age of 10

so it was only right that I when I came to college I got involved right away in a different way than I have before."

*Abbey Whittington can be reached at 581-2812 or awhittington@eu.edu.*

## The New York Times Crossword

Edited by Will Shortz No. 0226

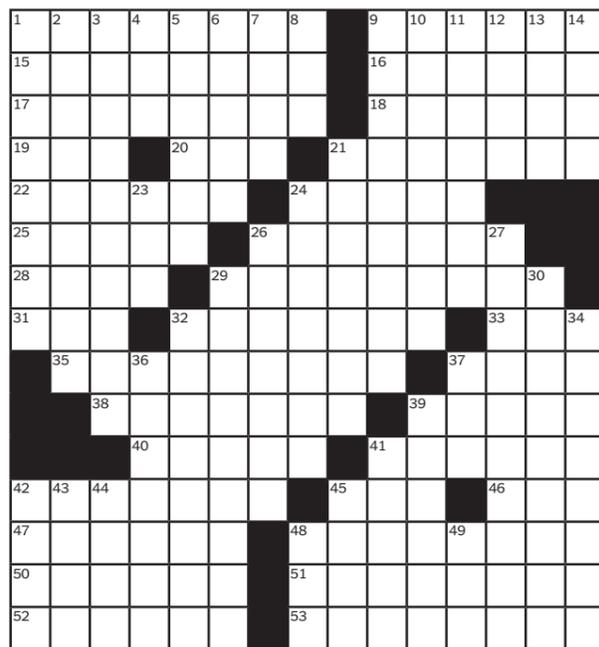
- ACROSS**
- 1 1991 Scorsese/De Niro collaboration
  - 9 Something exciting to play with
  - 15 Fragile fabric made from certain plant fibers
  - 16 Tough leather
  - 17 Amstrayed
  - 18 One getting lots of take-out orders?
  - 19 Edward VII or VIII, in India: Abbr.
  - 20 \_\_\_ nullius (no one's property)
  - 21 Pioneering labor leader Samuel
  - 22 Was suddenly successful
  - 24 Nullius \_\_\_ (of no legal force)
  - 25 Like NSFW links

- 26 Kennedy and Bush 41, but no other U.S. presidents
- 28 Chuck
- 29 "Mum's the word"
- 31 Little, in Lockerbie
- 32 Cross collections, e.g.
- 33 Roughneck's workplace
- 35 It's in the far northwest
- 37 Product of Greek culture?
- 38 Moderately dry
- 39 True
- 40 Splitting words
- 41 "Mr. \_\_\_" (Styx hit)
- 42 Blow hole?
- 45 Winner's prize on "RuPaul's Drag U"

- 46 Gap fillers, of sorts
- 47 "My response was ..." informally
- 48 "Grey's Anatomy" actress with five straight Emmy nominations
- 50 Hands on deck
- 51 Hand wringer's cry
- 52 Flip
- 53 Bridge tolls, e.g.

**DOWN**

- 1 They might spook spelunkers
- 2 Where the San Antonio Spurs used to play
- 3 Blowhard
- 4 Job ad inits.
- 5 Broccoli bit
- 6 Like pain after treatment, often
- 7 Nails
- 8 Stop sign?
- 9 Unwanted attention
- 10 Checks out
- 11 Adds with a whisk
- 12 Makeshift coaster, maybe
- 13 Reason to hold your nose
- 14 Gen \_\_\_ (millennials)
- 21 Yellow-flowered plant producing a sticky resin



PUZZLE BY PAULA GAMACHE

- 23 Chicago Fire's sports org.
- 24 Noisy recreation vehicles
- 26 Blanket
- 27 "Uh-huh, I believe that"
- 29 "Hold your horses"
- 30 Forgo a night out
- 32 His wife and sons were Depression-era criminals
- 34 Couple taken out on a rainy day
- 36 2/2, to Toscanini
- 37 Key-ring ornament
- 39 Demolition cleanup machine
- 41 \_\_\_ Barber, five-time Pro Bowler from the Tampa Bay Buccaneers
- 42 Like some legal decrees
- 43 Owl's hoot, to some
- 44 Pomeranian, e.g.
- 45 Cross words
- 48 Trifle
- 49 Org. in the gulf war's Operation Granby

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# Panthers to face Racers in weekend series

By Sean Hastings  
Sports Editor | @DEN\_Sports

After dropping four-straight Ohio Valley Conference games last weekend making its record 3-4, the Eastern softball team will head to Murray State to take on the Racers.

Eastern lost both games to Jacksonville State, and both games to Tennessee Tech last weekend on its road trip.

The Panthers will stay on the road for three games against Murray State.

Eastern will open up with a doubleheader on Saturday and finish things up Sunday afternoon.

Both teams will go into the series with losing records.

The Racers are currently 2-5 in OVC play.

Mason Robinson is the top pitcher for the Racers with a 2.34 earned run average and has a 9-8 record on the year.

She has thrown 104.2 innings for Murray State.

Sophomore Jessica Wireman is the main pitcher for the Panthers having pitched 114 innings this season.

She has a record of 7-15 on the year with a 4.11 ERA. She also leads the team with 98 strikeouts.

Eastern also will look to sophomore pitcher Michelle Rogers this weekend. Rogers has thrown 73.1 innings this season and currently owns a record of 2-6.

Both Wireman and Rogers have seen stretches of solid pitching but both took losses over the weekend.

Hitting wise for the Racers, they have five hitters with a .300 or better batting average.

Leah Kesel has the highest batting average at .417 in 24 at bats. Jessica Twaddle has a .344 batting average in 90 at bats. She also leads the team with 31 RBIs.

Eastern's leading hitter is senior shortstop Katie Watson with a .291 batting average.

Watson also has 10 RBIs this season. Kylie Bennett currently has the team lead in RBIs with 15.

Overall the Panthers' bats have been pretty quiet in the past few games as they scored just two runs last weekend, including two shutouts.

But dating back to March 19, when the Panthers opened up OVC play against Tennessee-Martin they were able to get the series sweep, scoring 15 runs in the three games and al-



SEAN HASTINGS | THE DAILY EASTERN NEWS  
Senior Kylie Bennett makes contact with the ball against Butler March 22 at Williams Field. Bennett went 1-2 in the game. Bennett currently has the team lead in RBIs with 15.

lowing just six runs.

These three games with the Racers will be the last of the seven-game road trip for the Panthers.

Eastern will return home April 9 to take on Eastern Kentucky in a doubleheader and Morehead State in a doubleheader April 10.

Eastern was able to take two of the three games with Murray State last year. The Panthers hosted the Racers last season.

The three games with the Racers were close. Eastern won the first game of the series 3-1, the second game 7-6 and lost the final game of the series

4-0.

Game one on Saturday will get underway at 1 p.m. with the second game starting at 3 p.m. Sunday's game is scheduled for 1 p.m.

Sean Hastings can be reached at 581-2812 or smhastings@eiu.edu.

# Men's tennis team preparing for 2 matches

By Tyler McCluskey  
Staff Reporter | @DEN\_Sports

The Eastern men's tennis team will have two conference matches this weekend.

The Panthers (3-10) are 1-2 in Ohio Valley Conference and will face Belmont (5-8) on Friday at 2 p.m. on the Darling Courts and then face Tennessee State (7-10) on Saturday at 10 a.m.

The Panthers are coming off a split last weekend, winning against Murray

State, 5-2, and taking a loss to Austin Peay, 4-3.

Senior Robert Skolik won his fourth-consecutive match with the most recent one coming against Austin Peay's Almantas Ozelis 6-4, 7-6 (10-4).

"Rob has done a great job the past couple weeks," coach Sam Kercheval said. "He has been right there with everyone all year and now he has cleared a bit of a hurdle and started getting the wins."

Kercheval said Skolik's forehand

has stood out the last couple of weeks and is his weapon.

He also said that Skolik can improve and can get more comfortable with his game.

Belmont, 1-3 in OVC play, has lost seven of its last eight matches.

The Panthers have only faced the Bruins three times and are winless in those matches.

The Panthers lost last year's match, 6-1, with sophomore Grant Reiman getting the only win over Geoff Tulloch 6-1, 6-4. The Bruins are 1-3 on

the road this season.

Tennessee State is 0-4 in OVC play and 3-5 on the road.

The Panthers have never lost to Tennessee State, having a perfect record of 17-0.

The Panthers won last year 5-1. Senior Rui Silva lost 6-2, 6-1 to Kyle Burton.

The Tigers have had only four match points against the Panthers in those 17 matches.

The Panthers know the history, but the past does not affect the team,

Kercheval said.

"We know the history but our team this year is very different from last year," Kercheval said. "So what has happened in the past has no bearing on this coming weekend."

Kercheval said that the team could only control how they compete and have to play well to have a chance at winning.

Tyler McCluskey can be reached at 581-2812 or at tmmclcluskey@eiu.edu.

# Workload increases for home track, field meet

By Mark Shanahan  
Staff Reporter | @DEN\_Sports

The Eastern director of track and field Tom Akers and his staff put a lot into planning home meets for the Panthers.

Akers talked about the preparation it takes for them to host an outdoor meet.

"For one, trying to take care of our athletes and make sure they're prepared for competition," Akers said. "Then number two, to make sure that we host a meet appropriately so other coaches and

teams come in and things run really smoothly, and hopefully creates opportunities for some great performances."

For home meets, the athletes are usually on their own more than they would be at away meets, because Akers and his coaching staff are busy running the event at the same time.

"On the staff, it's a lot of extra work and on our athletes it just sort of comes on their shoulders," he said. "They have to be a little more independent at home meets than they are at away."

The process of getting teams to

come to the meets at Eastern usually begins in the summer, and teams can be added up until the last minute.

"Usually it's contacting us and we send out mass emails seeing who's interested in the meets mid to late summer or early fall I get a lot of responses," he said. "Then sometimes you get some last minute. People looking for a meet a little bit closer to home or looking for a meet where there is decent weather, decent competition then you pick up some sort of late. A lot of times we don't know how many teams and individuals

coming in until the entry deadline is over."

The Big Blue Classic is done every year and the last couple of years Eastern has done the EIU Twilight in the first weekend in May. Those are the only meets that Eastern will host this year.

The rain cleared up for the Multi's that teams competed in on Thursday morning and they ran quickly enough to give the teams time to practice in preparation for the start of the Big Blue Classic this weekend.

"Luckily, the rain got it out of

its system last night and early this morning and we didn't get rained on," he said. "We were able to get the competition in, one athlete pulled out right at the start from St. Cloud, not really sure why that person pulled out, but other than that it seemed like with some of the nice tail winds that were there that they got some pretty good races in."

The field events will begin at 1 p.m. Friday followed by the running events at 5:30 p.m.

Mark Shanahan can be reached at 581-2812 or mshanahan@eiu.edu.

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## Poulter enjoying strong freshman season

By Cheyenne Fitzgerald  
Staff Reporter | @DEN\_Sports

Mady Poulter will be stepping onto Murray State's field this weekend with her teammates as the Panthers continue OVC play.

Eastern softball's freshman third baseman is from St. Joe Ogden where she received awards such as Rookie of the year, Gold Glove, First Team All-Conference, First Team All-Area, and even First Team All-State.

Coach Angie Nicholson was at her daughter's softball tournament when she happened to see Poulter's game in the same tournament in a different age group.

"She came and watched because one of my teammates is coming next year," Poulter said. "After the game coach Nicholson came and invited me on an official visit," Poulter said.

Poulter accepted the invitation and said during her visit she instantly clicked with the entire team, saying they seemed very much like a family and she enjoyed that aspect.

Poulter's previous teammate Ashley Bartlett will be joining Poulter on the field next year here at Eastern where their assistant coach Stephanie Taylor said she believes they will work well with each other on the field.

"I think what it's going to come down to is they are both gamers and mentally as players," coach Taylor said. "That's where they are going to work well together because they are going to be on the same page from the beginning, hard nose, go at it, true gamers."

Poulter's talent has brought it's way to Eastern's field where she has started every spring 2016 game so far equaling a total of 30 games for the season.

Poulter said she began her softball career at the age of 3 actually playing on her older brother's baseball team.

At the age of 5 she began playing softball for her recreational team in her area and went on to begin her travel softball career at the age of 10, playing for New Lennox Lightning and Illinois Stars travel softball teams.

Taylor and Senior outfielder April Markowski noted Poulter's immediate reaction to step-up though being a freshman on the team.

"She's a great contribution to the team, especially as a freshman," Markowski said. "It's nice to have so many athletic freshmen come in this year."



CHEYENNE FITZGERALD | THE DAILY EASTERN NEWS

Freshman Mady Poulter has been the Eastern softball team's starting third baseman all season.

Taylor added that Poulter came into Eastern confident in her abilities as a third baseman and set the tone for herself coming to Eastern in the fall and is a natural leader.

Poulter said she was only able to play two fall season games before she was taken out of the game for a month due to injury.

Poulter subluxed her patella, meaning the patella slid out of place but was able to slide back in on its own, tearing the fibers of her patella and swelling up.

She was out for around a month she said where it was hard for her to

be told she wasn't allowed to participate in practice or fall season.

"That was the first time I was ever injured," Poulter said. "In high school you don't have an athletic trainer to tell you no you can't do something so you play through the pain but in college you have someone who tells you no so you don't hurt yourself further."

Being a freshman with one semester under her belt, Poulter said she does not have a problem getting to her classes and finishing her homework on time.

Poulter said she does not struggle

with being a student-athlete so far because if she has free time it is spent with her teammates anyways and the long bus rides give her time to do her homework as long as the wi-fi isn't acting up.

"It's eye-opening to see how much time goes into it all, you only have time to go to class, softball, eat, and sleep but I'm completely okay with it because I enjoy it," Poulter said.

Family support is important to Poulter as well, saying her dad has been her biggest influence in her sports career because he always supported her in everything she do and

pushed her to be the best that she could be, Poulter said.

Poulter hopes to come out with a win in this upcoming away game at Murray State and to have some school support at their home game versus Eastern Kentucky the next weekend.

She is hoping to get out of the slump and go into the conference tournament strong with a couple wins to motivate them.

*Cheyenne Fitzgerald can be reached at 581-2812 or cmfitzgerald@eiu.edu.*

## Panthers look for first OVC win this weekend

By Maher Kawash  
Staff Reporter | @DEN\_Sports

The Eastern baseball team is coming off a win but is still winless in Ohio Valley Conference play.

The Panthers have an opportunity to earn their first conference win with a three-game series against Murray State this weekend.

Eastern is 4-20 this season and 0-6 in OVC play, while Murray State is 12-16 and 3-6 in the conference.

The last time the Panthers took the field; they earned a 2-1 victory over Illinois State on the road.

Senior Jake Johansmeier was one of the heroes in that game for Eastern, pitching 7.2 scoreless innings to earn the win.

Johansmeier also moved into sixth all-time in program history with 219 career innings pitched.

With the momentum of the win in their favor, Eastern will send junior Michael McCormick to the mound in game one.

McCormick is 0-3 this season with a 6.23 ERA in seven appearances.

The last time McCormick pitched, he tossed seven innings while allowing five runs on eight hits in a loss to Jacksonville State.

Following McCormick on the mound in game two will be senior Matt Wivinis.

Wivinis has yet to earn a win this season with his 0-5 record, but he has been the victim of a faulty de-

fense.

In his last time out, Wivinis allowed six runs on nine hits in 6.2 innings pitched against Jacksonville State.

But of those six runs allowed by Wivinis, just two were earned.

The Panthers' defense had five errors in that game leading to a 10-3 loss to the Gamecocks.

Eastern coach Jason Anderson has not yet announced who will be the starting pitcher for game three of the series.

Whoever starts game three is sure to be assisted by sophomore Andy Fisher out of the bullpen.

Fisher has been one of the pitchers for Eastern this season, and he has 29 strikeouts in 22 innings pitched.

Fisher's performance has elevated recently as he has allowed just one run in 4.1 innings pitched over the last three games.

While those pitchers attempt to handle the Racers on the mound, Eastern's offense will try to do its part.

The Panthers have had no problem putting runners on base but have struggled bringing them around to score.

Eastern left 26 runners on base in last weekend's series against Jacksonville State, and left nine on against Illinois State.

Senior Mitch Gasbarro continues to be one of those to reach base lately, and provide the runs as well.

Gasbarro was also a hero against

the Redbirds as he drove in Eastern's only two runs of the game on a double to left field.

Gasbarro has provided a spark in the lineup recently by reaching base safely in 10 straight games now.

Sophomore Joseph Duncan has stepped up at the plate against OVC opponents as he is tied for the eighth-best batting average at .400 in conference games.

Following the three-game series, the Panthers will travel to Champaign, Ill., on April 5 to take on Illinois in the first game of a home-and-home series.

*Maher Kawash can be reached at 581-2812 or mwkawash@eiu.edu.*

# W O N T H E VERGE

The Daily Eastern News' weekly arts and entertainment section



KALYN HAYSLETT | THE DAILY EASTERN NEWS

The brothers of Sigma Chi fraternity practice their routine for Saturday's Airband competition in the Lantz Arena Racquetball Court Wednesday.

## Airband, Greek Sing bring unity within members

By Kalyn Hayslett  
Verge Editor | @DEN\_Verge

Months of practicing every day for hours, Greek sorority and fraternity members put their blood, sweat and tears in, in preparation for this weekend's Airband and Greek Sing competitions.

Greek Week has a long lasting history, not only on Eastern's campus, but to each chapter, which is why the sorority and fraternity members take both competitions seriously.

At 7 p.m. on Saturday, Airband performances start, and at 1 p.m. on Sunday, Greek Sing performances start, with both events taking place in Lantz Arena.

Airband is a competition that combines lip syncing, choreography, several costumes and props to popular music.

All of the performances are four minutes long with a mix of several songs and a max of 14 members on stage including coaches.

"It's kind of like cheerleading, dance and show choir all in one."

Taylor Opsahl co-chair of Greek Sing and Airband committee, said.

Each chapter brainstorms the theme and props with the hopes of conveying a message during the performance.

"This year there are a lot of cool themes that are really going to stand out," Opsahl said.

However, the Greek Week Airband committee makes sure each chapter's theme is different from their competitors and is not a repeat from the chapter's previous performances.

Participants have to abide by rules to guarantee that there is a level playing field and that the chapters continue to push their creativity.

Each chapter is presented with a list of songs that were used three years ago during Airband competition and all of those songs are off limits for this year.

Hannah Yarnell, co-chair of Greek Sing and Airband committee, said this helps maintain originality and prevents members from cheating themselves of the experience.

"This is so your freshman year

you did that song and you won so, you can't come back your senior year and do the same theme," Yarnell said. "Just so you won't repeat yourself because it was good."

Managing so many moving parts for the Airband routines requires months of practice. Sorority and fraternity members can official start practicing February 1.

"Props to literally every participant in Airband and Greek Sing because they put so much extra time practicing for their chapters," Opsahl said. "They make it worth it because they do some really cool stuff."

Member of Sigma Chi, Mark Shanahan, a junior corporate communications major, said ever since his freshman year he has participated in Airband because he is able to have fun with his brothers.

"As a freshman they really needed people to do it so I joined," he said. "You bond with your team as you go through it."

Sigma Chi's performance has a total of 3 costume changes with several props to a candy shop theme.

The members have dedicated about two months to perfecting the performance and has two choreographers to help coach them and brainstorm creative moves.

4th-year coach Bridget Delarentis, senior adult and community education major, said she does not mind putting the time in because she knows how rewarding it is during the performance day.

"The challenging part was finding a rehearsal time to meet, but the good part is you gain new friendships," she said. "You are able to meet people on a different level."

Establishing a closer friendship with fellow members outweighs the non-stop practices and the time sacrifices, Opsahl said.

"I do think that is something that keeps you motivated and keeps you focused because it does get stressful with school, work and other extracurricular activities," Opsahl said.

Members participating in Greek Sing dedicate hours practicing, however, the members sing a combination of songs within minimum move-

ment.

The major difference between Airband and Greek Sing is Greek Sing members cannot lift their feet off the ground and all of the sorority and fraternities are required to have 40% of members perform.

Members must master unity within the movements and tight harmonies within the music.

Chapters performances cannot exceed 4 minutes and each chapter can choose a member to play an instrument during the performance.

There will be two sets of judges for each competition that have dance and musical backgrounds.

First, second and third awards will be rewarded as well as extra points that go to the chapter's overall Greek Week total for those that place.

Tickets for both performances can be purchased at the Ticket Office in the Martin Luther King Jr. University Union and the fraternity and sorority website.

Kalyn Hayslett can be reached at 581-2812 or kehayslett@eiu.edu.

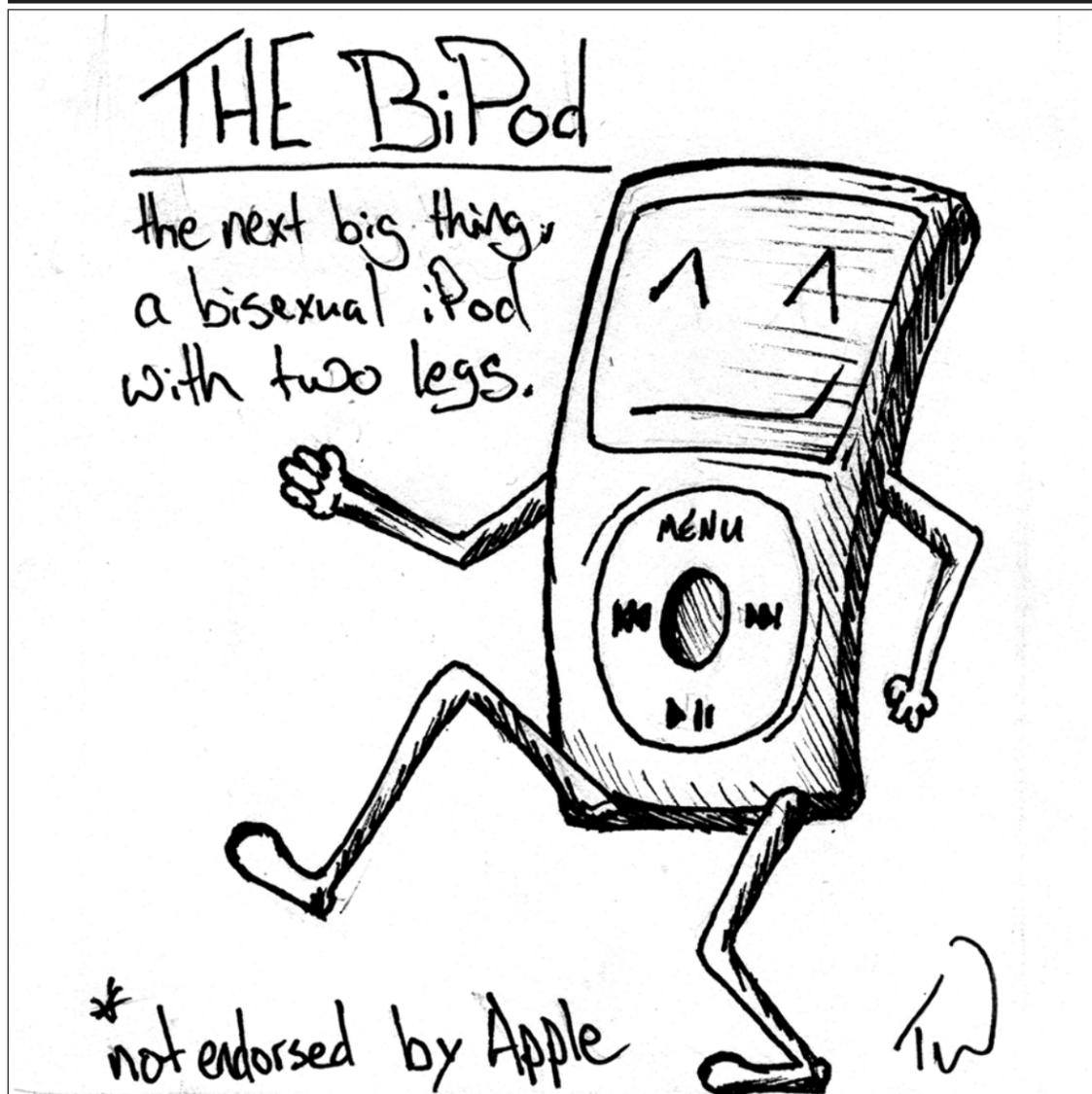


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# April Fools' Day

Column By Josh Korneta  
Verge Reporter | @DEN\_Verge

April, the month where Americans start hating on the IRS...again. April is also known for a few other important reasons, such as rain that takes a month to revive flowers and also April Fools' Day. Or, you know, that day where potentially anyone you see could act like your idiot younger sibling. April Fools' Day, sometimes called All Fools' Day, is celebrated largely in the United States, Canada and several European countries, with differing customs and traditions.

In fact, records show the holiday dating back to the early 18th century, where it was popularized by the British. But what about before? Where did the celebration of pranks originate? Well, like many of the jokes played on the day, the origins of April Fools' are questionable at best. One theory has it originating due to the decree by Pope Gregory XIII, who changed the Catholic calendar from the Roman Julian calendar, which celebrated New Year's on April 1st, to the new Gregorian calendar. Now, due to the slow

pace that information was spread at the time, many had not heard of the change, believing that New Year's was still celebrated in April. It is said that because of the confusion, individuals who knew of the change would play jokes on those who didn't.

Now, this is also considered a hoax, so joke's on you. Another, much more credible theory has the holiday of playing pranks dating back, in a rudimentary form, to Ancient Rome. The Romans called it Hilaria, which was celebrated on March 25, and it was a festival of merriment. In which case, it was more than likely spent in typical Roman party fashion, which we really can't discuss here. Another theory places the origins in Geoffrey Chaucer's "Canterbury Tales," or that book in high school we both know you didn't read, where in the Nun's Priest's Tale, a character is tricked by a fox on the first of April.

There are plenty of other theories, but we only have so much space, so let's move on. You might be wondering, "What sort of significance does this have in society?" Well, if you're like me and your grandma's

birthday falls on this day, then you better hope you remember. You forgot last year, but SHE didn't and she never forgave you. In the U.S., April Fools' holds less significance in cultural practices and customs, and manifests itself more so in the media, with joke websites, radio programs and even Netflix categories. The day has much greater significance abroad. Here's some interesting facts:

English speaking nations practice April Fools' until noon, in which case, any prank played after results in the prankster being the fool.

Historians trace the Hindu festival of Holi as being a precursor to April Fools'.

In France, the tradition is called poisson d'avril, or April Fish, and part of the old custom was attempting to tape a fish on the back of someone without being noticed.

In unrelated news, Apple just announced the new BiPod, an iPod with legs, due for release in 2018. Maybe.

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Opposing Reviews: Two different takes on 'Batman v Superman: Dawn of Justice'

## Actors succeed, storyline fails to meet expectations

By **Luis Martinez**  
News Editor | @DEN\_Verge

"Batman v Superman: Dawn of Justice" is the second film of the DC Extended Universe, similar to Marvel's Cinematic Universe, and is the follow up to 2013's Man of Steel.

The film focuses on two of DC's most popular comic book characters as they meet for the first time in cinematic format.

The film takes its inspiration from two well-known DC storylines, including Frank Miller's 1986 comic miniseries "The Dark Knight Returns."

The film depicts the famed Caped Crusade 20 years after fighting the criminal underworld in Gotham and the famed Man of Steel meeting for the first time.

Their different ideas of what it means to be a hero clash against each other.

The film was meant to serve as a set-up to the anticipated Justice League movie, which is scheduled for release in 2017.

The film also features the first theatrical appearance of Wonder Woman, played by Gal Gadot, and cameos of The Flash, Cyborg, and Aquaman.

Early reviews by critics for the film heavily bashed it. Yet both Ben Affleck's portrayal of Batman and Gadot's performance as Wonder Woman were praised highly, despite there being reservations by fans when the cast of the film was first announced.

However, after seeing the film, I have to say that I thought the film was really well done, but there are a few points in the film that could have been made better.

First off, without giving too many spoilers, the beginning of the film immediately goes into Batman's origin story followed by the events that happened at the end of Man of Steel such as Superman's fight with General Zod, the villain from the previous film.

From this point, it takes a while before things really start to kick off. In the meantime, we saw appearances by Superman, played by Henry Cavill; Lois Lane, played by Amy Adams; and Lex Luthor, played by Jesse Eisenberg.

This is one of the biggest drawbacks in my opinion of the film. Eisenberg's portrayal of Superman's famed arch-villain was not what I was expecting.

Luthor, in this film, seemed to be a bit all over the place, a bit neurotic and impulsive, and not at all what I thought it would be.

One scene in the film featuring both Lex Luthor and Superman not only established Luthor's deep hatred for the Son of Krypton, but it also shows that Eisenberg is capable of playing a genuine Lex Luthor, which is similar to how he was in the comics.

I may be a bit harsh on Luthor's portrayal, but I feel like there is some room for improvement, especially considering how important Luthor's character is within the DC comics.

I mean, in the film, Luthor manages to pit two of the biggest superheroes in what is essentially a death match against one another.



Cavill's second take on the all-powerful Man of Steel was a bit better this time around as Superman is now trying better his role as a superhero in a world that sees him as either a new hope or a new threat.

Unlike Batman, Superman is relatively new to his superhero persona. While he does his best to save people's lives, he is still pretty bad at making sure there's still a city to protect, considering he destroyed part of Metropolis during his fight with Zod.

I've never been a huge fan of Superman to begin with, but I do like Cavill's portrayal of the character, and I am looking forward to how Superman develops his role in DCEU.

I have to agree with the critics about Affleck's and Gadot's performances as Batman and Wonder Woman. I thought they were really good, and at first I was not too sold on this new Batman, but I was pleased to have been proven wrong.

Affleck's performance was spot on as the experienced Dark Knight and there have been various instances throughout the film that show how being Batman took its toll.

Affleck does a great job as the older Bruce Wayne.

Gadot's performance as Wonder Woman was a wonderful surprise. The Israeli actress, known for her roles in the Fast and The Furious series, received many favorable reviews for her performance.

This is ironic in itself since many fans were against Gadot being casted as the famous Amazonian warrior princess. Her role was fairly significant in the film and her role in the big fight scene was simply amazing.

The most important thing about "Batman v Superman: Dawn of Justice" is all of the cameos and easter eggs that set up the future of DCEU.

The Flash, played by Erza Miller, has two cameos, one of which plays a big role in the future of DCEU. Aquaman, played by Jason Momoa, shows just some of his abilities and Cyborg, played by Ray Fisher, gets his role on the silver screen along side his father, Silas Stone.

Most of the big easter eggs throughout the film, including the Mother Box and the giant Omega symbol shown in Batman's nightmare, indicate one thing: Darkseid is coming and Earth is going to need its heroes to protect it.

"Batman v Superman: Dawn of Justice" has its highs and lows.

While critics around the world may have bashed it, many fans did enjoy it and they are the ones who have the real power.

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## Writing, editing, character performance disappoints

By **Mace Mackiewicz**  
Staff Reporter | @DEN\_Verge

Spoiler alert: if you do not want to know details skip to the last paragraphs for rating and reasoning.

I really wasn't looking forward to Batman v Superman. I am not a fan of Zach Snyder's film style and Man of Steel was pretty bad. I personally have never been a huge Superman fan and have always loved Batman.

This movie makes them both look like awful people/heroes.

The movie sets up why Bruce Wayne hates Superman via a flashback with Wayne, however, this is effective in showing why Wayne has a reason to dislike Superman.

How many times do we have to see the Waynes and Uncle Ben get shot in superhero movies?

We can skip the origin stories for characters like these because we've seen them within the last 10-15 years.

Ben Affleck does a great job as Bruce Wayne and Batman.

He is easily the best part of the movie.

However, Zack Snyder clearly doesn't know much about Batman because this Batman uses guns, murders people and brands the ones he doesn't kill.

The movie tells us that those branded basically have a death sentence in prison.

That's right, Batman murders people.

The hero who has no super powers and is best known for his no kill rule has no regard for human life in this film whatsoever.

In one part he incapacitates a car, hooks it up to his bat mobile and swings it into another car, passengers still in both.

And just in case you think that might be a one off thing, he also blows a car up.

Batman also has some weird dream sequences in the film that honestly should have just been cut.

The dreams seem to be prophetic in some way leading up to the Justice League movie, so apparently Batman is psychic too now.

The fight scene the movie is named after is extremely disappointing and short.

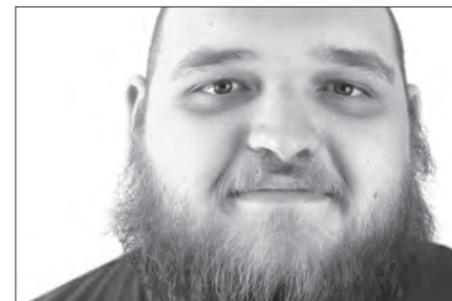
The fight between Batman and Superman lasts a couple of minutes.

It has some brutal moments and some moments that are downright unintentionally hilarious like Batman smacking Superman over the head with a bathroom sink. So what ends this conflict you ask?

Well right before Batman is about to kill Superman he learns their moms have the same name, from then on they're friends. Yup Batman stops trying to kill Superman because of their mothers.

This movie has some of the most baffling edits I have seen in a mainstream film.

The movie doesn't have any focus and just jumps from character to character



and seems to be missing an entire set up scenes for what those characters are doing.

The tone of the movie is boring and grim dark without a hint of humor.

This movie is super boring because it takes a "no fun allowed" stance on these character from comic books.

Superman is also ridiculous in this movie. At the end of Man of Steel he breaks down after being forced to kill Zod.

In this movie Superman doesn't seem to even flinch at the idea of killing people. Whether it's smashing a human through concrete walls or telling people they're only alive through his mercy.

So Lex Luthor is the one who orchestrated the events leading to Batman and Superman fighting.

No one knows why he wants these two to fight because the movie doesn't bother with telling us any of his motivation. He just makes them fight because that's what the plot demands.

Wonder Woman was OK in this film. The earlier scenes of her outwitting Bruce Wayne were fun and her entering the fight at the end of the film was fine.

The sad part is though they could have cut her character out of the film and it would have been the same.

Also all those other superheroes that the film has advertised are just shown through video and have no impact on the plot at all.

It's like a mid-movie commercial for the Justice League.

This whole movie comes off as DC comics rushing to try to catch up with Marvel movies and it suffers greatly for it.

The final fight of the film is another giant waste of time with Doomsday being the villain for the last 20 minutes.

Doomsday didn't need to be in this movie and was pretty much wasted. There's not much positivity I can give this film. There was one cool Batman fight, Wonder Woman was interesting and Ben Affleck was great.

But the writing and editing in this film was pretty horrendous.

I personally would give this film a 3.5 out of 10. It's pretty bad on every level.

If you really want to see it I recommend a matinee showing or just renting it when it comes out on DVD or Blu Ray.

*Mace Mackiewicz can be reached at 581-2812 or [mmackiewicz@eiu.edu](mailto:mmackiewicz@eiu.edu).*

# Students unite for 24-hour prayer vigil

By Mercury Bowen  
Staff Reporter | @DEN\_Verge

Students will come together this weekend for a 24-hour prayer vigil hosted by the Christian Campus House.

The prayer vigil will consist of volunteers having committed to one-hour shifts of continuous prayer.

Six-hour shifts are also available for volunteers to help direct people to the prayer room, make sure the room is ready for the next volunteer, or to pray in case someone fails to fill their time slot.

Lisa Perfors, a volunteer for the Christian Campus House, said the purpose of the prayer vigil is to help people draw closer to God

and to be dedicated in prayer.

“Prayer vigils are a unique experience,” Perfors said. “They get people to engage in prayer in a way that they don’t normally do.”

Prayer Action Group Leader Beth Dunahee said that the vigil is a time that people can use to delve into prayer more and have a more prayerful walk with God in their life.

“It’s a very empowering experience and it’s a really cool thing to see people come in at hours they normally wouldn’t to pray,” Perfors said. “Some people end up realizing how quickly an hour can go when you pray.”

Dunahee said one of the biggest challenges facing the prayer vigil is initially getting the volunteers to

sign up.

“It’s a busy time of year right now,” Dunahee said, “Now that it’s getting closer though, a lot of people are stepping up.”

Perfors said that this is a common issue with the prayer vigil.

“A lot of people don’t like signing up early,” Perfors said. “They’ll wait until the last minute.”

The theme of this year’s prayer vigil is the Lord’s Prayer, though volunteers can pray over any topic of their choosing according to Dunahee.

There are also ideas for prayer topics involved in the decoration of the prayer room Perfors said.

“We always have a map up there,” Perfors said. “People can write a prayer on a notecard and

tack it to a country they’re thinking of.”

Dunahee said that there are several different options for prayer and worship in the room, such as a journal to write prayers in and many different craft supplies to express prayers.

“It’s interesting to see how people will draw their prayers out and write a verse that inspired them to do that,” Perfors said.

Dunahee also gave an example of a station where a volunteer can write their sins on a rock and then wash them away with water.

“You can worship God in many different ways,” Dunahee said. “It’s not just one certain thing you can do.”

Volunteers can take hour shifts

individually or go into the prayer room in groups.

When asked why people volunteer, Dunahee said that volunteers do so to grow closer to God.

“I always had fun when I was doing it,” Dunahee said. “It’s about giving God the glory he deserves.”

The prayer vigil will be held in the Christian Campus House Prayer Room beginning at noon on Sunday and ending at 7 p.m. on Wednesday.

For more information or to sign up for a shift, visit the Christian Campus House at EIU Facebook page.

*Mercury Bowen can be reached at 581-2812 or mjbowen@eiu.edu.*

## Practice Makes Perfect



KALYN HAYSLETT | THE DAILY EASTERN NEWS

“We came up with the candy shop theme because it was broad enough to incorporate different props and all of the songs were available,” said Mark Shanahan, a Sigma Chi member. The fraternity was practicing its Airband routine Wednesday in the racquetball courts in Lantz.



KALYN HAYSLETT | THE DAILY EASTERN NEWS

Members spend hours to synchronize dance moves, practice formations, get comfortable with props and study song lyrics. This is the last week for practice, so members give it their all because the performance is coming up soon.

## Greek Week 'Endless Summer' schedule

**Friday, April 1**

Relay for Life, 6 to 10 p.m.

**Saturday, April 2**

Airband, Lantz Arena at 7 p.m.

**Sunday, April 3**

Greek Sing, Lantz Arena at 1 p.m.

**Monday, April 4**

Tugs, Campus Pond at 4 p.m.

**Tuesday, April 5**

Trivia Night

**Wednesday, April 6**

Tugs, Campus Pond at 4 p.m.

**Thursday, April 7**

Cans for Construction, 1 to 4 p.m.

**Friday, April 8**

Tugs, Campus Pond at 4 p.m.