

Eastern Illinois University

The Keep

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Eastern Illinois University

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

SECTION ♦ University of Florida QB coming to Eastern: page 12

THE DAILY EASTERN NEWS

VOLUME 89, ISSUE 77

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TUESDAY
JANUARY
11
2005

Eastern Illinois University, Charleston

Eastern prepares for reaccreditation

By KYLE MAYHUGH
STAFF WRITER

Eastern is inviting public comment about the university in preparation for a visit from accreditation officials in February.

"What we're looking for is former students, someone who did student teaching (or) anyone who could make comments about the university," said Robert Augustine, chair of Eastern's North Central Association

How did Eastern benefit you?

Comments from the public about Eastern can be sent to Public Comment on Eastern Illinois University, Higher Learning Commission, North Central Association of Colleges and Schools, 30 N. Lasalle St. Suite 2400, Chicago 60602.

steering committee.

Augustine said this process is a requirement for all universities going through reaccreditation.

Site visitors from the NCA will be

visiting Eastern from Feb. 14-16 to make sure Eastern meets accreditation standards. Universities must be reaccredited every 10 years.

Mary Breslan, associate director of

the Higher Learning Commission of the NCA, said the visitors will be checking to make sure Eastern meets the criteria for reaccreditation.

"They'll be moving around the institution talking to students, faculty, staff and administrators," Breslan said.

Arrangements are being made for the site visitors to have work space and opportunities to meet with

SEE REACCREDITATION PAGE 6

Ice rink slides out of plans

By AMY SIMPSON
STUDENT GOVERNMENT EDITOR

Time constraints and scheduling conflicts will prevent Eastern's Student Government from bringing a \$30,900 portable ice skating rink to campus for Winter Wonderland, an event planned for later this month.

Ceci Brinker, director of student life, said much of the reason the event was canceled was "based on the company's decision."

Brinker said the company would not be able to set up the rink in time to be ready on the scheduled dates, Jan. 20 - Jan. 27. She also said the tearing down of the facility would take longer than anticipated.

Ice Rink Events, based in Brenham, Texas, is the company that would have provided the rink.

"We made the contract date very clear, but they didn't get the contract to us in time," Ice Rink Events Owner Mike Clayton said.

Eastern and Ice Rink Events could not find corresponding dates to reschedule the event, Brinker said, but the event will not be dropped completely.

"We're trying to get a jump start (on planning the event) for next fall before Christmas break," Brinker said. "The foundation has been laid; we just need more planning time."

Chris Getty, student body president and Winter Wonderland planner, said he plans to bring Ice Rink Events to campus this summer to look over proposed locations for the ice rink.

Brinker said she intends to allow at least three to four months to set up the event for next fall.

Upon hearing the news of the event's cancellation, student government members who helped plan Winter Wonderland were disappointed.

"I'm just upset that it's not going to happen," said Angela Zartuche, a member of the planning committee. "It's a good opportunity for Eastern to come together; we got our money and were going ahead with it, and I was really excited."

Jill Ruddy, another committee member, was glad the event is being rescheduled.

"I think it's a good thing to happen. At least it will try to bring our campus together," Ruddy said. "At least we'll still get it to happen (next year)."

Student government was granted \$30,900 by the Apportionment Board to fund the event. Since the money had not yet been transferred at the time Winter Wonderland was canceled, Brinker said it will remain in the AB reserve account.

Getty said the event had been researched and planned since the beginning of November.



STEPHEN HAAS/THE DAILY EASTERN NEWS

Charleston Mayor Dan Cougill and university President Lou Hencken ride together during the Homecoming Parade Oct. 16 in the new fire truck the university and city shared the cost of.

A WORKING RELATIONSHIP

Eastern and Charleston team up to buy new fire truck

By CARLY MULLADY
STAFF WRITER

With a little consideration and cooperation, Eastern and its hometown have been able to establish and enact plans beneficial to both.

Mayor Dan Cougill said the city and the university need each other, and by working together, they have been able to meet a lot of those needs.

"Look at the city, and see if we need a big ladder truck," he said. "We wouldn't, except that on Eastern's campus you will see a lot of big buildings and dorms."

These bigger buildings have been a concern for Eastern administrators as well.

"From our perspective (we were looking for) something that would reach the upper floors of our high-rise residence halls," said Jeff Cooley, vice

"Nay-sayers saw with the Blair fire that Charleston's trucks just couldn't hack it."

DAN COUGILL, CHARLESTON MAYOR

president for business affairs. "We've had ongoing discussions with the city for some time about Eastern helping to support a new fire truck."

Cougill said he had been talking with President Lou Hencken and developing plans to attain a fire truck that would be more helpful for the university before last spring.

The Blair Hall fire solidified those plans.

"It certainly made the need for the truck more obvious," Cooley said.

Though he said the original proposal was met

with very little resistance, the fire in Blair Hall turned fire response fears into a reality and had a significant influence getting the new truck as soon as possible, he said.

"Nay-sayers saw with the Blair fire that Charleston's trucks just couldn't hack it," Cougill said.

By then, Hencken and Cougill had considerably narrowed their options for a new truck, and by the city's Fourth of July Parade, they had one, which Cougill, Hencken and their families rode on in Eastern's Homecoming Parade.

The university and the city split the \$790,000 bill equally and split a special loan granted to the city allowing for \$250,000 without interest that will go toward paying for the truck.

SEE RELATIONSHIP PAGE 6

TODAY
52
50
T-showers

WEDNESDAY
58
46
Scattered t-storms

THURSDAY
52
17
Few showers

FRIDAY
21
10
Partly cloudy

SATURDAY
23
13
Snow showers

COLLEGE AND UNIVERSITY NEWS

PENNSYLVANIA STATE UNIVERSITY Lawsuit filed over Moore speech

By ALEX MULLER
DAILY COLLEGIAN

Legal proceedings are under way concerning funding of Michael Moore's pre-election Slacker Uprising Tour by Pennsylvania State University and other institutions that hosted the filmmaker.

David T. Hardy, a former attorney with the U.S. Department of the Interior, filed a complaint with the Federal Election Commission, which said Penn State and 11 other institutions violated the presidential finance rules by paying Moore to speak at University Park.

Ian Stirton, an FEC spokesman, confirmed that Hardy had filed a complaint but could not provide any other information.

"By law I'm not allowed to comment on the complaint until the legal proceedings are over," Stirton said.

The FEC was created in 1975 to enforce the provisions of the Federal Election Campaign Act.

The act oversees the limits and prohibitions on contributions and the public funding of elections.

"We have jurisdiction over campaign law," Stirton said.

"Candidates need to file where they get their funds and how they use their funds with our organization," Stirton added.

NORTHWESTERN UNIVERSITY Michigan law named after slain graduate

Kevin's Law, named after a Northwestern University graduate who was beaten to death in 2000 by a man with untreated schizophrenia, was signed recently into Michigan state law.

The law allows a judge to order outpatient treatment -- an alternative to staying in a psychiatric hospital -- for people with severe untreated mental illnesses and a history of violence, recent hospitalization or incarceration.

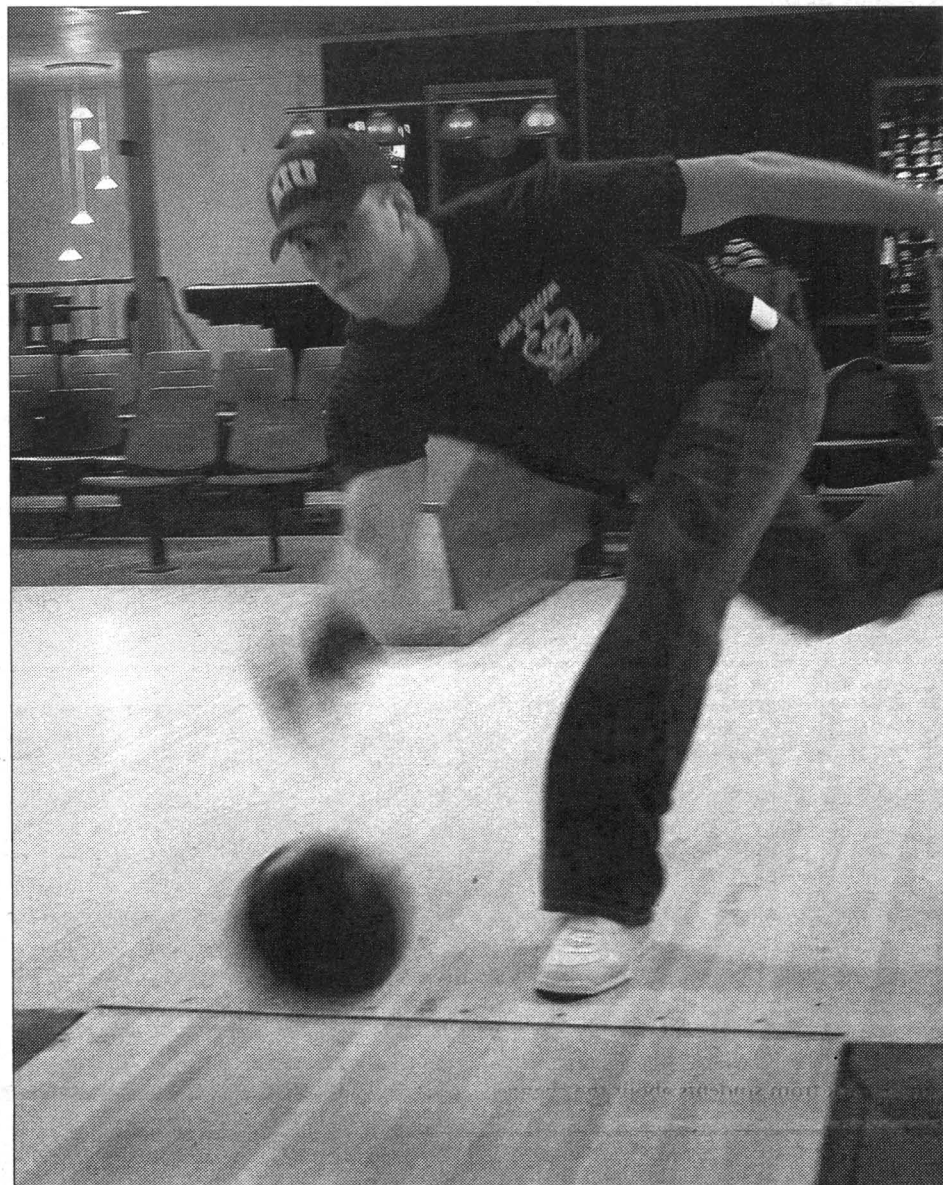
Previously, people whose mental illnesses led them to believe they did not need help could only be committed to a hospital and only after making threats or committing violent acts. The bill was signed by Michigan Governor Jennifer Granholm on Dec 29. as her parents, she said. She will graduate from Northwestern University in the spring and might travel to Israel this summer.

NU alumnus Kevin Heisinger was on his way to orientation at the University of Michigan's Graduate School of Social Work when he was beaten to death in the bathroom of an Amtrak station in Kalamazoo, Mich.

CORRECTIONS

Corrections will appear on Page Two.

STRIKE!



JOSH REELEY/THE DAILY EASTERN NEWS

Ryan DeVries, junior industrial technology major, bowls a 193 Monday night in the Union Bowling Alley in the Martin Luther King, Jr. University Union.

ONLINE POLL

Are you happy to be back at school?

- A) Yes! I could not stand another moment with my parents!
- B) No way. Sleeping in and partying it up with friends back home is the best.
- C) Somewhat. I am tired of working a real job, but also tired of classes.
- D) Not sure. We'll see how well things go at Marty's on Wednesday.

VOTE @ THEDAILYEASTERNNEWS.COM

TODAY'S EVENTS

TEXTBOOK DISTRIBUTION	8:00 A.M.	TEXTBOOK RENTAL SERVICE
Textbook Rental Service will issue textbooks for the spring 2005 semester.		
WEBCT GETTING STARTED	9:00 A.M.	CATS TRAINING LAB, McAfee 1214
Technology events		
SNAGIT	2:00 P.M.	CATS TRAINING LAB, McAfee 1214
Technology events		

WTF?

Have enough animals?

WAYNESBURG, Pa. (AP) -- Police and animal control officials have confiscated dozens of cats and dogs that were living in a small house with three adults.

The animals included 47 dogs, along with cats and guinea pigs. They were confiscated Friday by police and animal control specialists in Greene County.

Borough Manager Jed Howard said the smell from the home was overwhelming.

PEOPLE

Keys to go on "Diary Tour"

NEW YORK (AP) -- Alicia Keys, always an open book, will hit the road in a newly announced "Diary Tour" of 34 U.S. cities. Keys will perform at "intimate venues" to play hits from her Grammy-nominated sophomore album, "The Diary of Alicia Keys."

Keys will kick off her theater tour in Miami on Feb. 25. The tour will end in New Jersey on April 23.

"This tour is going to be completely different - completely classy, edgy and fun," Keys told The Associated Press Monday. "Having a setting of maybe 4,000 makes it so much more special and intimate."

COUNTING DOWN

6

Days until Martin Luther King Jr. Day

WORD DU JOUR

obnubilate:
to cloud over, obscure

THE DAILY EASTERN NEWS

The Daily Eastern News is produced by the students of Eastern Illinois University. It is published daily Monday through Friday, in Charleston, Ill., during fall and spring semesters and twice weekly during the summer term except during school vacations or examinations. Subscription price: \$50 per semester, \$30 for summer, \$95 all year. The Daily Eastern News is a member of The Associated Press, which is entitled to exclusive use of all articles appearing in this paper.



HAVE A SUGGESTION?

If you have any suggestions or ideas for articles you would like to see in The Daily Eastern News, feel free to contact us at 581-2812 or by e-mail mmwilliams1220@aol.com.

FIND A MISTAKE?

Let us know if you find a factual error in The News so we can provide the correct information to other readers. Contact the editor at 581-2812 or mmwilliams1220@aol.com.

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Textbook Rental changes policy

By LAURA GRIFFITH
ASSOCIATE CAMPUS EDITOR

That time of the year when classes begin and students crowd Textbook Rental Services to get books for the new semester has arrived again. This semester, the service has undergone several changes.

Late fines changed from a graduated scale where students paid \$1 per day for each late book to a one-time \$10 fee per book the first day after they are due.

Carol Miller, director of Textbook Rental Services, said for every book that is not turned in on time, Textbook Rental Services must purchase a new one to make sure the school has enough books in supply.

"It costs a lot of money to replace books that do not get returned to us," said Staff Clerk Cheryl West.

The new fee was put in place as an incentive for students to turn in their books by deadline, West said.

"College kids are poor," said Jennifer Auchincloss, a freshman psychology major. "I think a lot of students are going to have a problem with that."

Students like Auchincloss are unhappy with the change, but agree it might encourage students to keep track of their books.

The change will actually save Eastern and its students money, Miller said.

"One dollar does not even pay the employees to write the receipt or for the receipt itself," Miller said. "Students will save money in the long run because we won't be purchasing new books."

Also implemented this semester, students have two days after dropping a class to return their books before they are



JOSH REELEY/THE DAILY EASTERN NEWS

Christy Cobb, a senior management major, hands a sheet explaining the new changes textbook rental is implementing this semester to Lauren Ochs, a junior English major, Friday afternoon while she picks up her books at Textbook Rental.

charged a \$10 late fee per book as well as a nonrefundable \$5 processing fee. The deadline to drop a class and avoid being charged for it is 4 p.m. Jan. 24.

Beginning last semester, students can access a list of textbooks they have checked out through PAWS Online.

Miller said she has heard positive feedback from students about the change.

"I think it's good that they offer (a list) to the students," said Laura Zemaitis, a sophomore family and consumer sciences major. "Some may look at it as a way to keep track of their books."

Students' access to a list of their textbooks is helpful because "you know you have everything correct before you come in," Miller said.

Two Eastern students charged

By HILLARY SETTLE
CITY EDITOR

Felony charges have been filed against two Eastern students involved in an accident that left one Eastern student in the Town Branch Creek.

Kyle Witter, 22, of Darien, was reportedly driving the vehicle that was found in the Town Branch Creek on Dec. 3 and left one passenger, Charice Guman, 22, trapped in the vehicle with her head completely submerged under water, according to David Dunning, the officer who filed the police report.

Guman received a fractured vertebrae during the accident, Dunning said.

Witter is being charged with leaving the scene of a motor accident involving personal injury and driving under the influence.

Passenger, Peter Ward, 22, of Homewood, who was involved in the accident, is being charged with obstruction of justice after repeatedly providing misleading information to police officers about the details of the accident, Dunning said.

Another passenger in the vehicle, David John, 20, also of Darien, is being charged with illegal consumption of alcohol by a minor.

Both Witter and Ward appeared in court on Jan. 5 and Jan. 7, where charges were filed and motions for discovery were made.

Witter's preliminary hearing is set for Feb. 7.

Ward waived his right to a speedy preliminary hearing and his next court date, a status hearing, is set for Jan. 18.

Both men were freed on bond.

Student government implements new Web site

By ASHLEY MORELAND
STAFF WRITER

Additions have been made to the Student Government Web site to make it more accessible to Eastern students.

Andrew Berger, Student Relations chairman, said the site is new this school year. Since he has been a senator, the idea of a Student Government Web site has been talked about, but it was not until he took the initiative this fall that one was created, he said.

"Andy redid the Web site and made it accessible to the students," said

"It's a constant work in progress."

ANDREW BERGER,
STUDENT RELATIONS CHAIRMAN

Senate Speaker Ryan Berger.

"Andy did it all," said Matt Kulp, student vice president for Student Relations. "Without him it wouldn't be as cool."

The site works alongside and includes links to SPIN (Student Panther Information Network), which is an interactive Web site created by Eastern as a way for students to com-

municate with others and know what is going on, Andrew Berger said.

One of the newest links on the Student Government Web site is Voice Your Opinion, where students can fill out grievance forms, which are emailed to the Student Government. Students get responses back, and their issues are forwarded to committees, Kulp said.

Prior to the addition, the Student Government had boxes around campus for students to voice their concerns. However, students did not take advantage of them, Andrew Berger said. He added that since students

have been able to do this online, there have been many responses.

Another new addition to the site is the bar hours survey, which was put together by the external relations committee. Andrew Berger said the survey's purpose is to see if there is an interest in changing bar hours. If so, the committee will take the research to City Council.

Adam Howell, Student Government executive vice president, said another thing the Web site offers is an online petition put together by the Student Action Team.

Students interested in tuition costs

can print the petition and return it to the SAT, who will then take it to the state legislature.

The site also includes academic links to things such as a GPA calculator, scholarship search and PAWS.

Andrew Berger said the Web site is constantly updated and students can visit and see what issues are being discussed and then attend weekly meetings to voice their opinions.

Andrew Berger believes the site is beneficial and is a way to bring news to the students.

"It's a constant work in progress," he said.

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8:00A.M. - 4:30P.M.
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OPINION

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

TUESDAY, JANUARY 11, 2005

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COLUMN

Your future aspirations should start now



MATT WILLIAMS
SENIOR, JOURNALISM MAJOR

Williams is the Editor in Chief for *The Daily Eastern News*.

The clock is now ticking. As May 7 gets closer and closer I will begin to get more and more nervous about taking the next step in my life.

This is not because I'm afraid of tripping while accepting my diploma or whether or not I will qualify for graduation, but how quickly I can find a job after I take that walk.

But as those nerves keep coming, I can continue to tell myself that I am prepared and will be just fine.

Because of frequent updates to my resume and starting job searches early, I will not only have a better chance finding a job, but I may find a job that I really want to take.

When thinking about careers, it is not too early to be prepared. With a new semester and intense competition, seniors should be lining up jobs and underclassmen should be working toward getting a summer internship.

As soon as students choose a major, they should be thinking about what type of career opportunities are out there.

We don't spend four or more years in Charleston just for a good time on weekends and to attend class

every once in a while. We are here to further ourselves in life, and that's how students should see it.

"On average, it is important to get your resumes and cover letters out early," said Linda Moore, director of Career Services. "It does depend a little on the employer and the field ... so the key is deciding, as a candidate, which employers you really want to work for and find out what their hiring practices are."

Showing interest early lets the employer know you are truly serious about what you may be doing for the rest of your life. It shows commitment far beyond a good GPA.

If you lack the knowledge and need a little guidance, go to Career Services, which is located in the Human Services Center.

It can help you with resumes and cover letters, job fairs, interviews and much more. Any year and major can benefit.

"More and more students are getting an early start on this – even during their freshman and sophomore years – which is really smart," Moore said. "About 30 percent of the seniors have already been in our office as a junior or less."

When contacts are made, be sure to stay in contact with these people and companies. I have had two internships and still talk to a few of the people I worked for.

In addition to looking for help at Career Services get involved within your major. Departments offer job fairs and conferences for majors to attend, which can be very helpful in making contacts in your profession.

I was offered an internship after interviewing at a job fair through the Journalism Department last winter as did several other members of the newspaper staff.

While many students are thinking about their new classes and attempting to get out of the funk from a three-week break, they should still try to make steps toward the future.

EDITORIAL CARTOON BY DAN RENICK



EDITORIAL

The legacy of George Ryan

The people of Illinois were given an idea of what lies ahead for former Gov. George Ryan when a judge unsealed a 114-page document last week showing how federal prosecutors plan to portray him.

Wednesday's *Chicago Tribune* said the document "portrays a government for sale, where Ryan's lobbyist friends could demand cash from companies that wanted to do business with the secretary of state's office."

While a statement released by Ryan's lawyers on his behalf "vigourously denies the hearsay allegations and innuendo," the damage has already been done.

Since the surfacing of Ryan's allegations, which stem from actions during his time as Secretary of State from 1991-1999, the Republican Party of Illinois has fallen on some rough times.

This is a state that had such strong Republican representation in the early 90s that the future of the Democrat Party in Illinois looked awfully bleak, much like the Illinois Republican Party today.

In addition to currently holding the governorship, Democrats hold a six-seat edge in the senate and a 15 seat edge in the house. In the nation's capital, Illinois is represented by two Democrats in the senate, one of which, Barack Obama, embarrassed the Republican candidate

At issue

George Ryan's upcoming trial for corruption in his department while he was Secretary of State

Our stance

The allegations against Ryan have had a lasting affect on Illinois politics.

by 37 percentage points in the last election.

State Sen. Dale Righter, (R-Mattoon) agreed saying Ryan's problems have, "without a questioning," been a cause for the the recent "lean" times for Illinois Republicans.

The effects of Ryan's alleged actions doesn't end with just Republicans and Democrats. The governorship of Rod Blagojevich has been marked by a house cleaning, which included the freezing of many state funded projects, including Eastern's much delayed Doudna Fine Arts Center.

In order to expedite the process of cleaning up Illinois' bureaucracy every state employee,

including the student cooks in the dinning centers, were required to take an ethics training quiz this past year. Those who haven't taken the quiz to this point are risking a \$5,000 fine.

The former governor's case hasn't begun yet, and the effects on Illinois politics and the state of Illinois from the allegations alone has been extensive. From here, the state is best to allow justice to take place, learn from the mistakes and move on from what appears to be one of the darker periods in Illinois government.

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

YOUR TURN: LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

HELP FROM ENGLISH CLUB MUCH APPRECIATED

I would like to thank the members of Eastern's English Club for their help last semester with the Gregg Toland Day Festival.

Christopher Kuipers and several of his students spent many hours helping on the Square in Charleston.

The support of the event by these people was gracious and needed. It was a beautiful day, and the students did a beautiful job helping the attendees of the event.

I am, however, very sorry for the delay in expressing my thanks to those who helped.

I became overwhelmed with duties throughout the Fall. I hope that this

late acknowledgment at the beginning of the new semester makes up for it. The members of the Gregg Toland Day Committee are forever indebted to the English Club.

JOY PRATTE
PRESIDENT, COLES COUNTY ARTS COUNCIL

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR: The Daily Eastern News accepts letters to the editor addressing local, state, national and international issues. They should be **less than 250 words** and include the authors' name, telephone number and address. Students should indicate their year in school and major. Faculty, administration and staff should indicate

their position and department. Letters whose authors cannot be verified will not be printed. We reserve the right to edit letters for length. Letters can be sent to *The Daily Eastern News* at **1811 Buzzard Hall**, Charleston IL 61920; faxed to 217-581-2923; or e-mailed to mmwilliams1220@aol.com.

Finding a way to help Eastern's forestry

Eastern sells parts of trees to rejuvenate plant life

By APRIL McLAREN
CAMPUS EDITOR

Wood accumulated throughout the year from dead and hazardous trees on campus is being sold to raise money for new trees.

The process was first started about 20 years ago by Superintendent of Grounds Jon Collins.

"It was a way to dispose of the dead trees that we had to take down on campus," he said. "It also produced a little money to purchase replacement trees."

He said he finds this process successful because it allows wood to be effectively disposed without having to haul it somewhere else.

Collins said the wood is \$35

"We are doing a better job of conserving and protecting both our older trees and our newly planted trees."

BRENT McCULLOUGH, TREE SURGEON

for a level pickup truck load and can be purchased at the physical plant. Last year 46 truck loads were sold.

He said the majority of the money raised is for purchasing new trees from local and regional nurseries in addition to buying supplies for tree maintenance. After the trees are purchased they are usually planted during the spring and fall.

Tree Surgeon Brent McCullough said after the trees are planted a lot of work is involved such as mulching, watering and fertilizing.

"New trees require a great deal of care for the first two or three years," he said.

McCullough said the process of cutting down a tree can be

broken down into six steps. First, the reason for taking the tree down needs to be determined. For example, the tree could be dead, diseased or hazardous, or it might need to be taken down for construction reasons. Next the hazards need to be determined, and then the trees need to be taken down in a logical sequence. The brush is then chipped, which is later used for campus mulch, and then the wood is cut into firewood lengths. Lastly, the stump is ground out.

McCullough also finds this process effective as far as preserving the trees on campus.

"We are doing a better job of conserving and protecting both our older trees and our newly

planted trees," he said.

McCullough said there are approximately 10 to 20 trees cut down every year.

"From time to time we also take down trees that have to be removed because of new construction," he said.

While some trees may be cut down for construction, Collins said some may simply be removed from the site and moved to another site on campus.

He said some of the trees involved with this project can have a life expectancy from 20 to 30 years while others can live for hundreds of years. During that life, other living things, such as squirrels, can make themselves cozy in the branches of these trees, leaving Collins and McCullough to stumble across them.

"We have inadvertently given a number of squirrels some truly hair raising rides," Collins said. "Fortunately without any casualties."

Faculty Senate hopes to enhance Eastern's look

Meeting to include campus improvement, faculty forum

By JENNIFER PERHAM
ADMINISTRATION EDITOR

The Faculty Senate today will discuss ways to make Eastern more attractive and narrow topics for a faculty forum.

In September, President Lou Hencken spoke at a faculty luncheon about how he thought Eastern had a beautiful campus.

"Many people have commented to me about how nice the lawns and flower beds are," Hencken said at the luncheon. "A special personality is added to the campus because of these flowers."

The Faculty Senate is looking into ways to make Eastern's campus more inviting to potential students.

"Several years ago, I came to this campus and it seemed choppy, but now it's becoming one of the most beautiful campuses," said senate member John Pommier.

Pommier mentioned he had taken Eastern students to visit Southern Illinois University-Carbondale.

"We were shocked at all of the garbage that was on the ground, and some of the students decided they were not pleased with the campus," Pommier said.

Pommier had suggested at a previous meeting that the senate look into ways to beautify Eastern's campus. He suggested discussing how designated smoking areas on campus are being used.

"We have designated smoking and trash areas on campus, but cigarettes are still on the ground, and that does not look good to visiting students and parents," Pommier said.

Pommier said the senate needs to look into every element of campus beautification and showcase what the university is doing and what still needs to be done.

The senate will also narrow questions for a faculty forum.

The faculty forum is an annual event that will be held in February open to students and faculty to discuss issues that are important to the campus. The Faculty Senate has titled the forum "Student Engagement Pathways to Success."

"What the senate will be working on is narrowing the questions to be addressed under each subgroup," said member Bud Fischer.

Some of the subgroups deal with the level of academic challenge, student interactions with faculty and enriching the educational experience at Eastern.

The Faculty Senate meets today at 2 p.m. in Booth Library Conference Room 4440.

Scholarship to honor Martin Luther King Jr.

By KYLE MAYHUGH
STAFF WRITER

Students will get a chance to show how their lives honor the ideas of Martin Luther King, Jr. in being nominated for a scholarship in his name.

"The Martin Luther King Scholarship program's history goes back quite a number of years," said Blair Lord, provost and vice president for academic affairs.

The award was established by the Eastern Chapter of the American Association of University Professors following King's death in 1968 to "honor his memory and perpetuate his ideals", according to the award's description.

Jeff Collier, president of the Black Student Union and chairman of the Martin Luther King, Jr. Tribute committee, said he appreciated the existence of the award.

"I think it's a good idea to honor him any way we can," Collier said.

After King's assassination, Eastern's Board of Governors voted to rename the university union to the Martin Luther King, Jr. University Union.

Collier said last year his committee voted to bring a "better tribute" to King in the union.

According to the scholarship criteria, recipients must be an Eastern junior or senior with at least a 2.75 grade point average.

"The recipient must, in thought and deed, be a living example of the ideals and values expressed by Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.," Lord said.

Nominations should include information on how the nominee meets the criteria for the award.

"Documentation should be provided for the recipient as to how his or her life

mirrors the ideals of Dr. King," Lord said.

The scholarship is now awarded by the Eastern Foundation in 1995. The AAUP no longer exists on campus, Eastern faculty are now represented by the University Professionals of Illinois.

Besides Lord, the selection committee includes Allen Lanham, dean of library services and Bob Augustine, dean of the graduate school and research.

Augustine said he tries not to come into the selection process looking for a certain type of student.

"We have a set of criteria, and each semester I try to determine which applicant best fits the criteria," Augustine said.

The deadline for applications is March 7, and nomination forms are available from the Office of the Provost at 1020 Old Main. Lord said the recipient will be announced near the end of the spring semester.



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Senate approves bill barring discrimination against gays

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

SPRINGFIELD – Legislation protecting gays and lesbians from discrimination passed the Illinois Senate on Monday without a vote to spare.

The measure, which passed 30-27, now goes to the Illinois House. The House has backed the idea in past years, and supporters predict the discrimination ban will pass Tuesday.

The proposal would add "sexual orientation" to the state law that bans discrimination in jobs, housing, public accommodations or credit. Current state law protects people from bias on race, religion and similar traits.

Communities across Illinois, from Chicago to Bloomington, already have similar laws. Nearly half the state's population is covered by those local ordinances, said the measure's sponsor, Sen. Carol Ronen, D-Chicago.

But Ronen said gay people all across Illinois deserve to know they won't be treated unfairly when they apply for a job or rent an apartment.

"This bill does not confer special rights. This bill is about protecting people from discrimination," she said.

But opponents said it was far more complex.

"You're voting on a much, much, much bigger agenda than that," said Sen. Peter Roskam, R-Wheaton.

He said the legislation is vague and could apply to people with a wide variety of sexual behaviors. Roskam also predicted it would lead to a push for legalization of same-sex marriage.

Sen. Christopher Lauzen, R-Aurora, said statistics link homosexuality to lower life expectancy. But he limited most of his argument against

STATE BRIEFS



the measure to the possibility that small businesses would be hit with a flood of lawsuits by gay people who have been denied jobs.

GOVERNOR MOVES TO CLOSE ANOTHER LANDFILL

CHICAGO – Gov. Rod Blagojevich on Monday shut down another landfill and promised to be more aggressive to stop illegal dumping, days after he was embroiled in a family feud with his father-in-law, a Chicago alderman, over the closure of a landfill owned by a distant relative.

"Landfill owners should be put on notice. We take very seriously the threat to the environment when they're operating without proper state permits and without proper oversight," Blagojevich spokeswoman Abby Ottenhoff said. "This could be just the beginning."

Meanwhile, a Cook County judge agreed to a deal that would open on Jan. 17 the Joliet landfill owned by Frank Schmidt, a distant cousin to the governor's wife Patti Blagojevich. Schmidt must first provide the state with several items, including a plan that outlines how the landfill will ensure the loads brought in contain only clean debris. He also must remove illegal waste from the site by the end of the month.

On Jan. 6, Blagojevich ordered the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency to shut

down Land Reclamation Services Inc. in Joliet after Schmidt allegedly told customers he could evade permit requirements because of his family ties.

DALEY CAMPAIGN DONOR PLEADS GUILTY IN CONTRACT FRAUD

CHICAGO - A contractor whose family has raised money for Mayor Richard M. Daley's campaigns pleaded guilty Monday to defrauding the city through a series of janitorial contracts worth \$100 million.

"I admit I obtained money from the city through fraudulently obtained contracts," James Duff said in pleading guilty.

But while Duff pleaded to all 33 counts of the indictment against him, he denied many of the specific allegations. Prosecutors claimed he swindled the city out of \$100 million, but Duff contended that the city lost no money because all of the janitorial work promised under the contracts was performed.

The two sides plan to resolve that dispute when Duff is sentenced.

Duff, 46, is part of a family that has been closer to Daley than any other defendants charged in recent corruption cases. The family has raised thousands of dollars for the mayor's campaign fund and socialized with him at Christmas parties and other events.

MINOOKA HIGH SCHOOL TEACHERS GO ON STRIKE

MINOOKA – High school teachers who have been working without a contract for six

months went on strike Monday, causing the cancellation of classes for more than 1,600 students.

About 85 teachers work in Minooka Community High School Dist. 111, located 40 miles southwest of Chicago.

Officials with the Minooka Education Association and the school district met with a federal mediator for four hours Sunday night.

But the negotiations were unsuccessful, and more than 50 teachers bundled in heavy coats, scarfs and mittens began picketing early Monday morning on the sidewalk surrounding the school.

Along with classes, athletic events, practices and other extracurricular activities were also canceled.

TWO DIE AFTER BEING PULLED FROM OVERTURNED CAR

SPRINGFIELD, Ill. - Two people died Monday after they were pulled alive from an overturned car in Lake Springfield, authorities said.

Springfield Police Sgt. Kevin Keen said authorities don't know how the car got in the lake or how long it was in there. The car was within 15 feet of the shoreline, near an old dock.

Marilyn Anderson, 46, of Rochester, and Terrance Walls, 43, of Springfield, died at St. John's Hospital several hours after rescuers freed them from the vehicle, Sangamon County Coroner Susan Boone said.

"At this point, we don't believe there is foul play involved," Boone said.

RELATIONSHIP:

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

"Eastern pays the city for fire protection services," Cooley said. "We will simply be increasing the amount we pay the city by about \$35,000 for the next 15 years to help defray half the cost of the new fire truck."

The fire truck endeavor is not the only way Eastern and its home community collaborate future plans to ensure both parties will benefit from upcoming projects.

When Eastern began its strategic plan, which included plotting out changes for the Doudna Fine Arts Center, the city was planning too.

Charleston involved the community in the city's strategic planning process, which meant university administrators and students became involved as well, Cougill said.

"As part of that, we developed a close relationship that would be obvious to any normal person," he said. "Eastern is a big part of Charleston, and Charleston is a big part of Eastern; we should know what each

other is doing."

When the city began its comprehensive plan, it adopted Eastern's strategic plan.

"A spinoff from that was the fine arts center," Cougill said. "We knew Eastern wanted to build it. The obvious place would be where they wanted to build it."

However, Eastern would need control of Seventh Street but was unable to pay for it.

In exchange, the city traded that section of the street for university credit hours to be administered to select community high school students.

"It was a win, win, win, win, win situation for everybody," Cougill said. "Eastern got Seventh Street and people of the community who may not have gotten to go to college now have the opportunity."

The city will also benefit, he said, by the extra visitors the renovated center will bring to town.

Student convenience and safety became more important to the community as the city became more aware of student issues. The Student Senate approached Eastern with concerns about the traffic on Fourth

Street not slowing for the crosswalk, and as a result, Charleston put up lights at the crosswalk, Cougill said.

Over time, the lights have been increasingly successful at making the street safer for students to cross.

Another project intended to benefit students is the city's plan to extend a sidewalk from Carman Hall to Route 130.

"You'd be surprised how many students walk to Wal-Mart," Cougill said. "There is no sidewalk for them from the Carman Hall area until it begins on 130."

The city intended to have that complete before the beginning of this school year, but the project will use motor fuel tax funds and the city needs to find certified workers to build the sidewalk.

Cougill said the city is working with the state and contractors, hoping to have the sidewalk project in the works as soon as spring weather permits.

Eastern's students and administration and the city have found success in cooperative efforts and will continue working together, Cougill said.

REACCREDITATION:

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

groups on campus, Augustine said.

Eastern completed a self-study report last December that was forwarded to the NCA and will be used by the site visitors as a reference.

"They check the information in the report. That's in essence all they do," Breslan said.

The self-study has given Eastern a chance to see how the university has changed in the last 10 years.

Augustine said the self-study process was beneficial to the university beyond just the accreditation process.

"I think one of the most important results has been seeing the progress on areas of concern since the last self-study," Augustine said.

Improved ability to provide technology support for faculty and improvements to Booth Library were examples of improvements Eastern made because of the last self-study.

"I look forward to see what they (site visitors) think of the self-study, to get some guidance about things we can still improve on," Augustine said.

Martin Luther King, Jr. University Union

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Fox rejects Super Bowl ad with Mickey Rooney's bare rear

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS
LOS ANGELES (AP) - Mickey Rooney's bare end zone won't be part of the Super Bowl advertising blitz, Fox TV said Jan. 7.

The network rejected a cold remedy commercial that includes a brief shot of the 84-year-old actor's behind, said Fox Sports spokesman Lou D'Ermilio.

"Our standards department reviewed the ad, and it was deemed inappropriate for broadcast television," he said.

The commercial for the over-the-counter product Airborne is set in a sauna and depicts Rooney panicking when someone coughs. His towel drops as he rushes out, revealing his rear.

D'Ermilio said Fox's decision wasn't affected by fallout from last year's Super Bowl halftime show on CBS, which included a flash of Janet Jackson's right breast.

"Our standards and practices haven't changed," he said.

The Federal Communications Commission levied a \$550,000 fine against CBS parent company Viacom over the Jackson incident. Viacom is contesting the fine.

Rooney, whose films include the Andy Hardy series and "National Velvet," said he was disappointed by Fox's move and hoped the network would reconsider.

"I would never do anything that's in bad taste. ... I've been a family entertainer all my life," Rooney told The Associated Press. "We're not selling sex, we're selling a health product."

FORMER AOL EXECUTIVES CHARGED WITH FRAUD

ALEXANDRIA, Va. - Two former executives at America Online were among six people charged Monday with stock fraud and other offenses as part of the federal government's ongoing investigation into illegal accounting practices at the Internet company.

The other four individuals charged were executives at a defunct Las Vegas-based software firm called PurchasePro. Prosecutors say the two companies entered into secret deals to

NATIONAL BRIEFS

help PurchasePro inflate its revenues in early 2001.

Monday's indictment brings the number of individuals charged during the government's investigation of Virginia-based AOL and PurchasePro to 12. Six other former PurchasePro executives, including the co-founder, have previously pleaded guilty.

The indictment charges Kent Wakeford, 36, former executive director at AOL's business affairs unit, and John Tuli, 37, a former vice president in AOL's NetBusiness unit, with securities fraud, making false statements to auditors and wire fraud.

TRUMP ANNOUNCES PLANS TO BUILD CONDO

TAMPA, Fla. - Donald Trump announced plans Monday to add his name to the Tampa skyline with a \$220-million high-rise that will be the tallest residential building on Florida's Gulf Coast.

The ritzy 52-story Trump Tower Tampa will be built on a now vacant lot in downtown Tampa. Residences will range from \$700,000 to \$5.5 million, and the building will include restaurants and retail shops.

Construction will begin in April, and the building could be ready for occupancy near the end of 2007.

"Frankly, having the Trump name in Tampa is going to be great," said Trump, whose buildings often feature his name in prominent gold letters.

In a video news release, the real estate mogul said he became interested in Tampa after visiting his friend, Yankees owner and longtime Tampa resident George Steinbrenner.

Trump Tower Tampa will feature 190 dwellings, ranging in size from nearly 2,000 square feet to just over 6,100-square feet. Local leaders and Trump say the property will help efforts to encourage people to live downtown.

"Other people will be going to Tampa because I've gone and led the path," he said. "Supposedly I know what I'm doing."

The project has already been approved by Tampa's city council.

FORMER TRANSLATOR PLEADS GUILTY

BOSTON - A former Arabic translator who took classified documents from the prison camp at Guantanamo Naval Base pleaded guilty to federal charges Monday in a deal that will set him free within two months.

Ahmed Fathy Mehalba, 32, an Egyptian-born U.S. citizen and civilian translator at the base in Cuba, was arrested at Logan International Airport in September 2003 after returning from a trip to Egypt.

Customs agents found 132 compact discs in his luggage, including one that contained hundreds of documents labeled "SECRET" or "SECRET/NOFORN," meaning no foreign government was allowed to look at them.

He pleaded guilty Monday to one count of unauthorized possession of classified materials and two counts of lying to federal investigators.

Under federal sentencing guidelines, Mehalba would have faced between 37 and 46 months in prison. Prosecutors agreed to a lower sentence because Mehalba has no criminal record, accepted responsibility for his actions and had "significantly reduced mental capacity" when he committed the crimes.

Joseph Savage, one of Mehalba's lawyers, has said his client has been treated for bipolar disorder, depression and attention deficit disorder.

He was one of four men swept up in an espionage investigation at the Navy base. Some or all charges were dropped against the other three men, who included a Muslim chaplain, another interpreter and an Army Reserve colonel.

FEDS BLAME HURRICANE OVERPAY ON GLITCH

WEST PALM BEACH, Fla. -

Federal officials said Monday they paid \$12 million too much to about 3,500 people who applied for assistance because of hurricane damage.

The Federal Emergency Management Agency blamed the problem on a computer glitch and said officials were working to recoup the money.

Dan Craig, director of FEMA's recovery division, said the problem occurred throughout the state but he downplayed the error, saying the agency processed 1.2 million applications statewide.

Craig also defended the agency against allegations that FEMA paid millions in fraudulent disaster aid claims in Miami-Dade County, which missed a direct hit by a hurricane by 100 miles. FEMA paid about \$30 million to more than 12,500 residents of the county.

"Any home anywhere can be damaged by a hurricane," Craig said. He pointed out the widespread reach of the season's four hurricanes, which traveled throughout the country as smaller storms after hitting Florida.

Craig said Miami-Dade County received between 4 and 10 inches of rain during the week of Hurricane Frances and experienced winds between 55 and 80 mph from the storm.

The National Weather Service, part of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, reports that wind speed in the area was considerably less, while no official rain gauges in Miami-Dade recorded four inches of rain or more during the hurricane.

U.S. FORCES SAY NO SIGN OF MISSING REPORTER

PARIS (AP) - U.S. forces in Iraq said Jan. 7 they weren't holding a missing French reporter last seen leaving her Baghdad hotel two days earlier, raising concern that she was kidnapped. France's president suggested it was irresponsible to dispatch journalists to Iraq.

President Jacques Chirac said he was worried for veteran reporter Florence Aubenas of the daily Liberation and France is "naturally mobilizing all means to obtain infor-

mation and find her."

Speaking at his annual New Year's reception for media workers and managers, Chirac also issued a stern reminder that French authorities "categorically advise against sending journalists to this country," where their safety "cannot be assured."

"It is a question of responsibility," he said. "If there were fewer journalists there, there would be fewer risks."

Chirac's outburst, a remarkable foray by a politician into the way reporters work, suggested exasperation that France may be facing a second hostage drama just weeks after two other French reporters were freed from four months of captivity in Iraq.

CBS FIRES FOUR STAFFERS AFTER STORY

NEW YORK (AP) - CBS issued a damning independent review Jan. 10 of mistakes related to last fall's "60 Minutes Wednesday" report on President Bush's National Guard service and fired three news executives and a producer for their "myopic zeal" in rushing it on the air.

The review said CBS compounded the damage with a circle-the-wagons mentality once the report came under fire. The independent investigators added, however, that they found no evidence of a political bias against Bush.

CBS News President Andrew Heyward and Dan Rather, who announced in November he was stepping down as the anchor of "CBS Evening News," escaped without any disciplinary action. But Rather, who narrated the Sept. 8 story and subsequent follow-ups, was criticized by CBS chief executive Leslie Moonves for "errors of credulity and over-enthusiasm."

"The system broke down on this one, for sure," said Louis D. Boccardi, retired chief executive officer of The Associated Press, who conducted the investigation along with former Republican Attorney General Dick Thornburgh. They delivered their 224-page report to Moonves last week.

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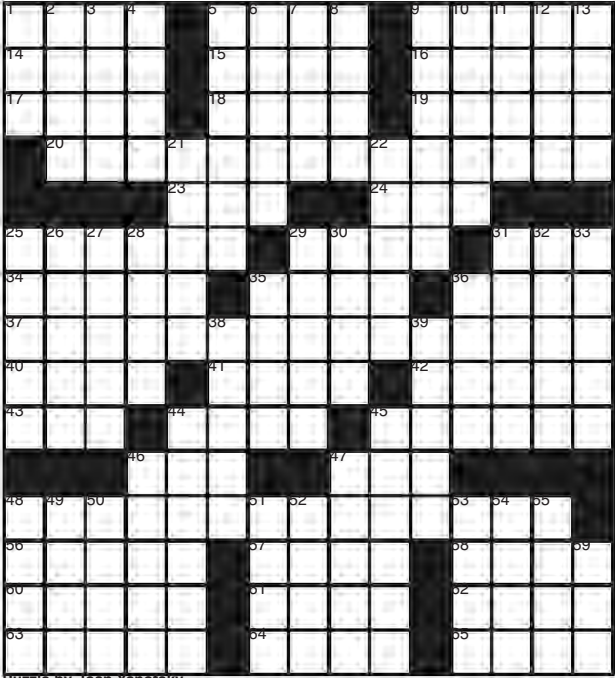
Edited by Will Shortz

No. 1130

- ACROSS**
1 Protrudes
5 Stay to the finish
9 Harness racer
14 Straddling
15 Whale of a movie?
16 Be wild about
17 Hourly pay
18 Try to persuade
19 "The Thinker" sculptor
20 Title of a certain astronomy lecture
23 ____ de France
24 Auction unit
25 Fraternal group
29 Custard dessert
- 31 Part-goat god
34 Funny Sherman
35 Call it a day
36 Fill beyond full
37 With 48-Across, practical advice for attending the lecture
40 Tolkien tree creatures
41 Bagpiper's wear
42 Augusta's home
43 Bandleader Brown
44 Gullible sorts
45 Astaire or Rogers
46 Roadie's load
47 In great shape
48 See 37-Across
- DOWN**
1 Paleontologist's discovery
2 Delta Center N.B.A. team
3 Like some pizza orders
4 Gush forth
5 Townies
6 Lost a lap?
7 "Vamoose!"
8 Hailer's cry
9 Person of the cloth
10 Vote to accept
11 Musical finale
12 ____ the Red
13 Director Clair
- 56 Yule tune
57 Orange component
58 On the road
60 For all to see
61 Leap for Lipinski
62 Veg out
63 Withdraws gradually
64 Apportion, with "out"
65 Had down cold

ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE

T I F F S S T U D B A R A
A D U L T P O S E E T A L
M A R T O E R M A E L H T
G L A C I A L S I A R E
M U S H E R I T T S A N
A T T I T H A I L O A T H
R A S P A T D G M C
C H I L L Y R E C E P T I O N
A U S A P I Y O G A
C O N S S L A M O N L Y
S O N T O P A M U S E S
C O L D S H O U L D E R
O K I E M U S E T A P E D
F I N E A S E A A G I L E
F E E D N E R D L E T T I N



Puzzle by Joan Vanoirsky

- 21 1992 Joe Pesci title role
22 Party offering
25 Silents star Normand
26 Unescorted
27 Vegas coin-ops
28 Producers of 46-Downs
29 Rolls up, as a flag
30 Shopper's aid
31 Lose one's cool
32 Make amends
- 33 Fresher
35 Groucho remark
36 Mikita of hockey
38 Cousin of a giraffe
39 Valuable violin
44 Refines, as ore
45 Endearing facial feature
46 Squirrel's stash
47 Boneless cut
48 Flat-bottomed boat
- 49 Do roadwork
50 Neck of the woods
51 Many cyber-ads
52 Richness
53 Spill the beans
54 Actor McGregor
55 Stun
59 Bow wood



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Manning wins second straight MVP award

INDIANAPOLIS (AP) — Peyton Manning's phenomenal season earned him his second straight Associated Press NFL Most Valuable Player Award. He was nearly a unanimous choice.

The Indianapolis Colts' star quarterback, who surpassed Dan Marino and Steve Young with his passing prowess in 2004, earned all but one of 48 votes from a national panel of sports writers and broadcasters who cover pro football.

Manning tied with Steve McNair for the award last season, but this time only Atlanta quarterback Michael Vick drew a vote.

Manning joined the likes of Joe Montana, John Unitas, Steve Young and Kurt Warner as quarterbacks with two MVP awards. Brett Favre is the only player to win it three times.

"Individually, I accomplished a lot in a short period of time," Manning said. "But no question, we did not win a Super Bowl in the time I've been here as a quarterback."

Ever the team man, and ever championship-oriented, Manning refuses to concentrate on his statistics. He might have thrown for 49 touchdowns, surpassing Dan Marino's 20-year-old NFL record.

And he may have shattered Young's passer rating record with a 121.1 mark. And he might have established other league marks and a bunch more team records.

But to Manning, unless it all culminates in a championship, it's not what he's after.

"Just because you played well in Week 2 or Week 10 doesn't mean anything for the playoffs," Manning said. "Except that you're capable of doing it."

Manning was capable of doing almost anything in leading the Colts to a 12-4 record and the AFC South title.

They routed Denver 49-24 in the first round of the playoffs - the MVP voting was held before the postseason - and play at New England on Sunday.

Weber says decision on Randle's playing status expected soon

CHAMPAIGN (AP) — Illinois coach Bruce Weber said Monday he expects to decide in the next couple weeks whether to return Brian Randle to the active roster or seek a medical redshirt for the guard who injured his hand when he punched a wall.

"I wouldn't totally rule it out," Weber said of the possibility Randle will play again this season. "We've briefly discussed it, but I've just told him I don't want to make a rash decision. We've just got to see what happens."

Randle - a 6-7 sophomore from Peoria - has missed all 16 games after breaking his left hand when he punched a wall during a preseason practice. He returned to full-contact practice last week.

"I hope to come back," Randle said. "That's what I'm shooting for."

If Randle doesn't play again this season, the team can apply for a medical exemption to preserve a season of eligibility because he did not play in any games. But Randle said the top-ranked Illinois play this season makes him want to get back on the court soon.

"I want to do what's good for me, but at the same time we have a great chance to do a lot of big things this season and if I can help in any way on the court I want to do that," he said.

Illinois No. 1 in AP men's basketball poll

ASSOCIATED PRESS

Illinois and Kansas remained 1-2 in the AP college basketball poll for the sixth straight week, while Marquette and Oklahoma cracked the Top 25 for the first time this season Monday.

The Illini (16-0), who beat Ohio State and Purdue this week, received 58 first-place votes and 1,783 points from the national media panel.

Against Purdue, Illinois trailed at halftime for the first time this season, The Jayhawks (11-0), winners over Texas A&M and Kentucky, were No. 1 on 13 ballots and had 1,730 points. The win over Kentucky was Kansas' first on an opponent's court this season.

North Carolina, Wake Forest and Duke held third through fifth with the Tar Heels, who beat Maryland 109-75 on Saturday, getting the only other first-place vote.

Oklahoma State and Syracuse switched places at sixth and seventh as did Georgia Tech and Kentucky at eighth and ninth. Texas advanced five spots to No. 10.

Mississippi State moved from 18th to 11th, and was followed by Connecticut, Boston College, Washington, Michigan State, Gonzaga, Arizona, Cincinnati, Louisville and Pittsburgh.

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Panthers seek first conference win

By ADAM DREMAK
SPORTS REPORTER

With matching records at 7-6 overall, the Eastern women's basketball team will look to win its first conference game on the road Tuesday at Southeast Missouri State.

SEMO is 1-1 in conference and Eastern is 0-2 and 1-6 on the road this season. The game should match up well for both teams and give momentum to the winner early in conference play.

SEMO head coach B.J. Smith is only focused on Eastern right now and enforces a game-by-game attitude with his team, he said.

Smith looks for the Panthers to present bigger problems as a whole team compared to in years past.

"They are a lot better at the guards and more up tempo as a team," Smith said.

"They are big inside and athletic outside. They are a lot more versatile than in the past," he said.

The Panthers know that in order for them to win, especially on the road, they need to play solid defense, head coach Brady Sallee said.

"We have given up a huge chunk of points in the games on the road aside from the Butler game in which we won," Sallee said.

Sallee also said the Panthers need to get the ball inside to win.

"We need to try to turn it into a post game," he said. "We need to exploit (SEMO) inside and get their post players in foul trouble."

One reason the Panthers may want to feed the ball to the post might be the recent success of Janelle Cazy and her career high 35 points against Austin Peay on Saturday.



STEPHEN HAAS/THE DAILY EASTERN NEWS

Senior guard Sarah Riva brings the ball up against University of Illinois Chicago Dec. 2 in Lantz Arena. Riva has started every game this season for the Panthers and is averaging six points, two assists and three rebounds per game.

"She is really a tough guard," Sallee said. "She presents a lot of problems because of her size, and she has gotten a lot tougher."

Playing at home should be a big advantage for the Redhawks. They are 5-1 at home this

season, and Smith said that winning at home anytime during the season is important for his team.

Sallee said Eastern needs to get the taste of winning again since it has been consistent this

season by not getting in any long losing streaks.

The Panthers will play at Cape Girardeau, Mo., at 5 p.m. today, their fifth road game in a row.

MIDGETT:

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 12

seven football, Voss said.

"(Voss and I) had a connection in high school," Midgett said. "I'm sure it will only take a couple throws to get that back."

Another reason Midgett left Florida was to get noticed by NFL scouts.

And Voss told him that he could attract attention anywhere he played, but not if he was backing up Leak.

Midgett's official decision to come to Eastern came shortly after Christmas, and he still hasn't found a place to stay.

"I haven't really had a chance to settle in and see campus," Midgett said. "So far I've been sleeping on Ryan's couch."

And so far, Midgett said he likes what he's seen of campus, but does have one complaint about Charleston.

"It's cold as hell," Midgett said. "When I left Florida it was like 70, and I come here and it's 30."

Justin Midgett, sophomore quarterback

◆ All-State (4a) at Charlotte High School (Punta Gorda, Fla.)

◆ Passed for 2,489 yards and 21 touchdowns his senior year

◆ Rated No. 8 pro style quarterback in the nation by Rivals.com after high school

◆ Played in California-Florida All-Star game in high school

◆ Most Valuable Player of 2002 Gator football camp

◆ Named Top QB at 2001 Miami Nike camp

◆ Set school records for rear passing yards, touchdowns and wins in high school

MINNOY:

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 12

involving Minnoy. I'm sure Minnoy saw the coverage of the NBA incident over and over, and thought that if he were in that situation, he would react the same way by going after the fan.

These young athletes are not only trying to emulate the actions of their heroes on the court, but also what they do off the court. At some point coaches and parents need to sit down with these athletes and tell them right from wrong and how to conduct themselves in a respectful fashion.

ROADTRIP:

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 12

Through 13 games, the Panthers are committing and average of 6.6 turnovers per game more than their opponents.

Catchings, along with freshman center George Tandy, will continue to see their roles expanded, provided they perform, Samuels said.

The four-game road trip to start the OVC season concludes Saturday, when Eastern travels to Tennessee State.

Catchings said it's crucial for his team to begin to gather momentum as the conference season goes on.

These are skills they are not going to learn from their professional heroes, because the fines professional athletes receive for their actions don't even begin to teach them a lesson. These values need to be instilled in them while they are young, so that when they get to the professional level things like this will not be an issue.

I hope that Minnoy has learned from his actions and that other high school athletes have learned from this as well. And, hopefully, professional athletes hear of this incident and learn that they are role models and that their actions affect far more people than they realize.

Marcus Jackson is a senior Communication Studies major. He can be reached at mjay2107@aol.com.

"We haven't won on the road yet, so it's really important we get a win. A win (tonight) and win Saturday - that's how we can kick something off."

BOBBY CATCHINGS, FRESHMAN GUARD

"We haven't won on the road yet, so it's really important we get a win," he said. "A win (tonight) and win Saturday - that's how we can kick something off."

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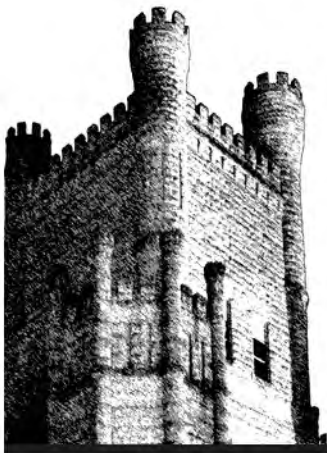
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DIGGING IN
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Pros may be a bad influence

MARCUS JACKSON
STAFF WRITER

I'm sure there are a number of people out there just like myself who are sick and tired of hearing about the brawl between the Indiana Pacers and Detroit Pistons Nov. 19 in Auburn Hills, Mich.

It seemed that for weeks we couldn't turn the TV on without seeing footage of the incident on every news and sports outlet.

It appears as though that coverage affected more than just those in the stadium back in November. The very next day, those actions trickled down to the collegiate level as the Clemson and South Carolina football teams engaged in an ugly brawl during their game, ultimately causing both schools to forfeit their chances to play in a post-season bowl and earn their schools millions of dollars.

Clemson Coach Tommy Bowden even went as far as to blame the media's extensive coverage of the Pacers-Pistons brawl for influencing the players' actions.

Sadly, this behavior has made its way down to the high school level.

During winter break I attended the Big Dipper Holiday Tournament hosted by Rich South High School. Throughout the week I witnessed some of the best high school talent not only in the state of Illinois, but in the nation. The tournament's champion, Thornton, is currently ranked No. 3 by USA Today.

However, that tournament won't be remembered for the great basketball, but for the actions of one player.

Highly praised senior Nate Minnoy of Hales Franciscan, who has signed with Purdue, attempted to enter the bleachers to confront a fan that had been heckling him throughout the game.

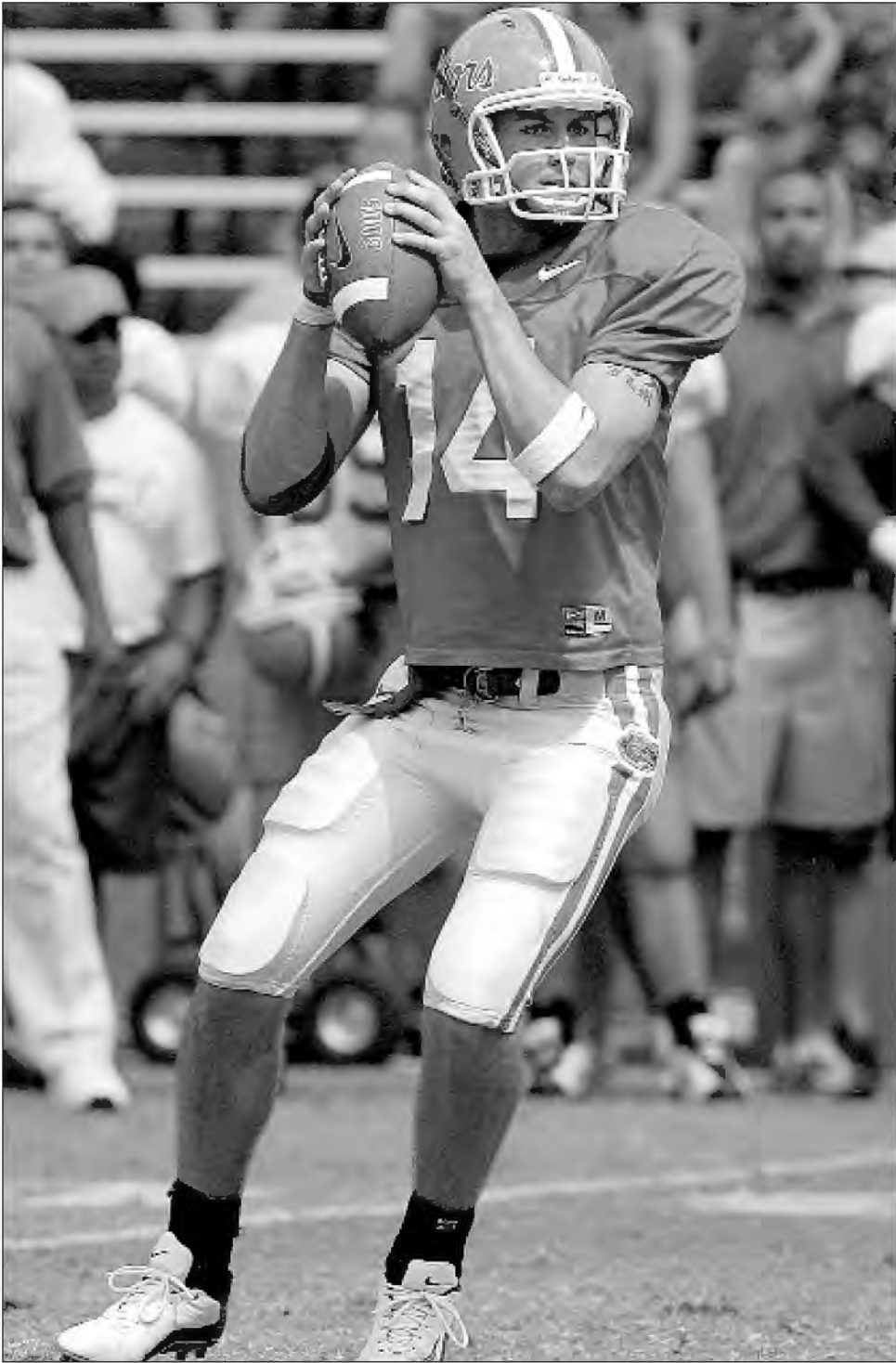
Security quickly intervened, and Minnoy, along with the fan, were taken to the local police station where they were issued citations for disturbing the peace.

Minnoy was also suspended two games by Hales, and the IHSA is conducting a separate investigation.

Young athletes need to be educated on how to handle adverse situations such as the incident

SEE MINNOY PAGE 11

Eastern has Gator bait



JAY METZ/FLORIDA ATHLETIC DEPARTMENT

Florida quarterback Justin Midgett looks to pass during the 2004 Spring Game April 10 at the University of Florida. Midgett transferred to Eastern over winter break and will have sophomore eligibility.

Panthers lure Florida QB to O'Brien Stadium

BY DAN RENICK
ASSOCIATE SPORTS EDITOR

Over winter break, Florida backup quarterback Justin Midgett, a redshirt freshman, transferred to Eastern, rejoining his Charlotte High School (Punta Gorda, Fla.) teammate sophomore wide receiver Ryan Voss.

Midgett spent two years with the Gators, one as a redshirt and one as a backup to the SEC's passing leader, sophomore Chris Leak, but never saw any action.

While Leak appeared to have the starting job for the Gators locked up for the next two years, Midgett decided to transfer.

"I made the decision (to leave Florida) after the Florida State game (on Nov. 20)," Midgett said. "I thought it was time for a change of scenery."

Midgett looked at several Division I and I-AA schools before making his decision to come to Eastern.

During that process, he remembered his high school teammate.

"I promised (Ryan Voss) that if I ever left Florida I would come play here," Midgett said.

Midgett and Voss played baseball and basketball together in high school along with football, and the two have been friends since middle school, Voss said.

"I was kind of in his ear about (coming to Eastern)," Voss said. "I'm excited. I think he'll step right in for Matt (Schabert)."

Schabert was also a Division I transfer, coming to Eastern from Wisconsin, and earned second team All-Ohio Valley Conference honors in his final season of eligibility.

One advantage Midgett will have over Schabert is that he will be able to participate in spring ball, unlike Schabert who was a late transfer.

"He'll be way ahead of Matt Schabert," Eastern Head Coach Bob Spoo said. "(Midgett) was a great acquisition for us, and it's nice when you can get somebody from that caliber of a program."

Midgett is more of a pocket passer than Schabert, Voss said, and will sit back waiting to throw unlike Schabert who liked to scramble as the pocket broke down.

Over winter break, Voss and Midgett got together with some other high school teammates and played seven-on-

SEE MIDGETT PAGE 11

Eastern continues tough roadtrip

BY DAN WOIKE
SPORTS EDITOR

The Panther men's basketball team continues on its four-game road trip tonight at 7:30 when it travels to face the Southeast Missouri Indians in Ohio Valley Conference action.

Eastern Head Coach Rick Samuels said his team needs to begin to position itself early in the OVC season by winning away from Lantz Arena. The Panthers (5-8, 0-2 OVC) haven't escaped with a victory in their seven away chances.

"We need to win road games to be in the hunt," Samuels said. "We need some toughness to step up for us right now."

Standing in the way of the Panthers' first conference win is SEMO's front court, which features two of the top five scorers in the OVC.

The Indians (5-8, 0-2) are led by senior forwards Dainmon Gonner and Reggie Golson.

"Turnovers are a big thing for us right now. I think we're a pretty good team, but we just make some mistakes."

BOBBY CATCHINGS, FRESHMAN GUARD

Gonner's 18.8 scoring average is second best in the OVC, and Golson's 16.1 points per game are fifth.

Golson is also the second-best rebounder in the conference and the OVC's top shot-blocker.

Samuels said both players could cause match-up problems for some teams because they prefer to face the basket, opposed to catching the ball with their backs to the basket in the low-post.

"Their two forwards are their leading scorers, but they're not your typical pound-it-inside, post-you-up kind of forwards," he said. "I think that it might be easier for us to guard than a guy who is 6'9" or 6'10" who wants to bang and beat us up inside."

Making matters more difficult for the Panthers is the return of the OVC's active scoring leader to the SEMO starting lineup. Senior guard Derek Winans received his first start of the season Saturday and scored 12 points in a 63-61 loss at Tennessee Tech.

Freshman guard Bobby Catchings said the Panthers have internal issues to tackle as well.

"Turnovers are a big thing for us right now," he said. "I think we're a pretty good team, but we just make some mistakes."

"It kind of always has a snowball effect."

SEE ROADTRIP PAGE 11