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

SPORTS ♦ Schmitz nails 300th win: page 12

THE DAILY EASTERN NEWS

THURSDAY
MARCH
2
2006

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90th Anniversary

Eastern Illinois University, Charleston



ERIC HILTNER/THE DAILY EASTERN NEWS

A member of the panel discusses this year's Women's History Month's theme, "Women: Builders of Communities and Dreams," in the Lumpkin Hall Auditorium Wednesday evening.

Women's History Month kicks off

Six speakers lead panel discussion on women's issues

BY TERRAH GRAVES
STAFF REPORTER

March 1 marked the beginning of Women's History and Awareness Month on campus and in the country.

Eastern's slogan for this year's Women's History Month is

"Women as Builders of Communities and Dreams."

The events kicked off with a panel of six women who discussed different topics about each of their programs, which aim to promote equality and awareness in the community.

The first panelist was Peggy Brayfield, a retired English professor,

who spoke about the history of the Womens' Studies Program and how it began on campus.

"We were builders and dreamers who were out to make a better society for both men and women," Brayfield said. "We were trying to create a comprehensive view of what it means to be human."

Melissa Bell, president of Eastern's Student Parent Association, addressed the lack of support for non-traditional students on campus,

particularly those with children.

She also expressed concerns about lack of childcare.

Rachel Vaughn, an English professor, spoke about the Bilocal Club.

The club encourages people to spend their money at local businesses rather than large corporations such as Wal-Mart and Starbucks.

SEE PANEL PAGE 7

Writing Center helps students improve skills

BY RYAN SWEENEY
STAFF REPORTER

The writing center has tutors available to help students perfect their writing skills as they face the stresses of midterms.

Shannon Littleton and Lavada Simpson, tutors in the writing center, said they offer help to students who have problems with proper writing. They also try to give as much help as possible to make them more confident in their writing.

Graduate students who have experience in teaching and have completed their course work currently work in the writing center. In order to learn how to instruct students in writing intensive courses and help them perfect their skills, these students work with other teachers as well.

Tutors in the writing center do not proofread and correct the mistakes students make, but they do help the students identify their mistakes so they are able to correct them on their own.

Littleton said the overall goal of the writing center is to help students perfect their grammar skills



ERIC HILTNER/THE DAILY EASTERN NEWS

Shauna Searcy, a composition and rhetoric graduate student, works on a paper in the Writing Center in Coleman Hall Wednesday evening. The Writing Center offers tutors and other resources to help with paper-writing problems.

and also learn to write in a professional manner, along with aiming them in the direction where they can find the information they need to do so.

"I wouldn't consider us proofreaders, but more as coaches who want to get the students to learn how to find and correct their mistakes more on their own," Littleton said.

Some of the busiest times in the

writing center are midterms and finals week.

"There are many repeat students who come in all the time, sometimes more than once a day, to get help with their writing and revising," Simpson said.

Valerie Holmes, a freshman, said she has utilized the tutors in the Writing Center occasionally this year.

"The writing center has helped

me establish a certain format and helped me express certain ideals and details helping to research specific points on what it is I am clearly looking for help in," Holmes said.

A lot of students come in to get help on how to write bibliographies in APA style, which is something most professors require for research papers.

Many professors do not require their students to go to the writing center, Simpson said. But some suggest going just for the help anyway. Students who are involved in the Gateway Program at Eastern are required to go to the Writing Center by their professors.

The writing center has been looking to improve the program by getting more tutors and is hoping to improve their services by making them accessible through the Internet. The demand for tutors now is high, and the Writing Center is looking for help at all times.

The Writing Center is located in Coleman Hall Room 3110, and the hours are 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. and 6-9 p.m. Monday through Thursday, and 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. on Fridays.

STUDENT SENATE

Members don't support sale of loans

BY NORA MABERRY
ONLINE EDITOR

Student Government members unanimously passed a resolution to recommend, via letters, that Gov. Rod Blagojevich's fiscal year 2007 budget proposal to privatize student loans not be pursued.

The resolution was brought before the senate to make the student body aware of the message, said Andrew Berger, student executive vice president.

"This says that the student body does not support the governor's proposal to sell the loan portfolio," Berger said.

"This is going to directly affect all of us," said senate member Jeffery W. Lange.

"It's time to stand up and say no more," said external relations chair Ben Marcy.

The senate passed a resolution to recommend, via letters, that the state support the Higher Education Assistance Act, which will allow students to receive benefits under the Low Cost Borrowers Benefits Program.

"This is to protect students' interests," Berger said.

The Student Government also tabled resolutions dealing with \$3,324.89, which the student government owes from fiscal 2004. In the resolution, the organization is requesting \$2894.39 be allocated from the Apportionment Board Reserve Account to cover the debt the Student Government acquired from fiscal 2004.

Student Body President Ryan Berger said the Student Government went into debt during fiscal 2004 due to poor spending, which involved large phone bills and Panther Service Day spending.

"Basically, we are asking the Apportionment Board to pay Apportionment Board," said Mark Bates, co-chair of the Tuition and Fee Review Committee. "The reason we have to go to the Apportionment Board is because we don't have the money to do it."

"I think we are taking the easy way out," said Tori Frazier, chair of the Diversity Affairs committee. "We need to learn to grow up and be responsible."

Ryan Berger argued that by passing the resolutions, the Student Government was being fiscally responsible.

"The only alternative is we would have to give the budget office \$3,000 right now," Bates said.

SEE SENATE PAGE 7



More inside

♦ On Student Senate's "Red Dot" campaign.

Page 5

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TIM EMMERLING
SENIOR JOURNALISM MAJOR

"I met Dave a few weeks ago at a local pub in Charleston."

Maybe it was the crusty goop colonizing in the corners of his eyes that was making him smell like week-old earwax.



HOLLY HENSCHEN
POLITICAL SCIENCE GRADUATE STUDENT

"I hope Big Brother enjoys hearing about my weekend plans."

One man's patriot is another man's terrorist. So it follows that the U.S. Patriot Act could easily be seen as the U.S. Terror Act. Which is essentially what it has become.

WTF?

Beijing to outlaw spit

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

BEIJING – Beijing is launching a campaign to stamp out widespread public spitting in an effort to clean up its image for the 2008 Olympics.

The government has concluded that spitting is the city's "most serious bad habit," Zhang Huiguang, director of Beijing's Capital Ethics Development Office, said Wednesday.

"This year we will intensify our law enforcement efforts in this field," Zhang said at a news conference. "We will require law enforcement officials to step up the frequency of fines."

The fine for public spitting is 50 yuan (US\$5; euro4).

Tourists visiting Beijing often are startled at how many people spit or blow their noses onto sidewalks.

The crackdown is part of efforts to raise "ethical and cultural" standards in advance of the 2008 Summer Games, a major prestige project for the communist government.

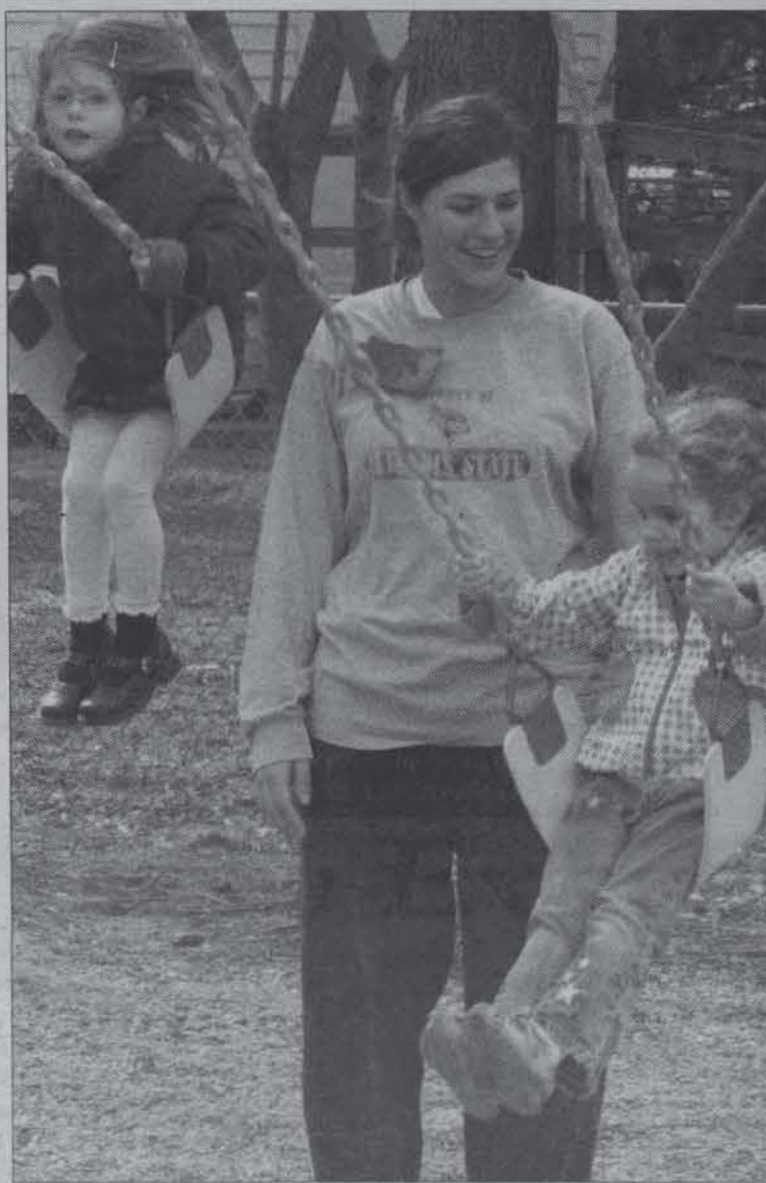
Zhang said officials will launch an advertising campaign on radio, television, the Internet and mobile phones to "teach people the right way to spit."

"For example, you have to spit into a tissue or a bag, then place it in a dustbin to complete the process," she said.

Those without a bag handy need not worry. Zhang said her office has organized a small army of volunteers who are already hitting Beijing's streets, handing out small "spitting bags" and wearing bright orange uniforms with the Chinese character "tan" – "mucus" – printed in yellow on the back.

She said enforcement will also be ramped up against littering – the second-worst habit her office faces – and pets fouling the streets, the No. 3 scourge.

SWING STUDY

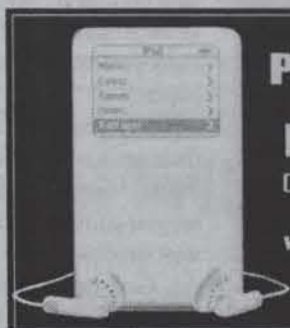


ERIC HILTNER/THE DAILY EASTERN NEWS

While enjoying the beautiful weather Kimmi Drendel, a senior family and consumer sciences education major, pushes Rhemee and Scotland on the swings of the Child Development Lab's playground Wednesday afternoon.

FIVE-DAY WEATHER

TODAY	Friday	Saturday	Sunday	Monday
50	47	45	42	41
28	27	33	29	26
Partly cloudy	Mostly clear	Partly cloudy	Chance rain	Mostly clear



PODCAST of the WEEK

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COLLEGE & UNIVERSITY NEWS

SIUC may get city-wide Wi-Fi

By JACLYN BRENNING
DAILY EGYPTIAN (SOUTHERN ILLINOIS U.)

CARBONDALE – Carbondale could soon cut ties with wired Internet access.

Though nothing is official, city officials are looking at options for the upcoming fiscal year's budget. Officials are researching details such as where wireless could best be used, the company to use, how the operation would be funded and the community's interest.

As cities around the state are going wireless or are checking into the possibility, Carbondale may be feeling the pressure of Internet expectations from residents and students.

"Already the question is: 'Why don't you have (wireless)?" said City Manager Jeff Doherty

There's no reason the city hasn't gone wireless before, he said. The city has been looking into options for wireless Internet hot spots for several years, but the officials vested in the venture have retired or left. It's now up to the current administration, and Doherty said it's hard to keep up with the technology.

"It's a learning curve for most of us," he said.

Scrolling through his Blackberry, Doherty said he's amazed what wireless technology has done for him. What it could do for the Carbondale community could be even more beneficial.

Comic book culture reaching new clientele in the mainstream

By RICHARD PULFER
NORTHERN STAR (NORTHERN ILLINOIS U.)

DEKALB – Mainstream comic book publishers turned a handsome profit from major events like "Infinite Crisis" and "House of M." However, Rick Berg, manager of Graham Cracker Comics, believes the major comic book events in publishers like DC and Marvel make bad business for other publishers.

"Anything with the 'Infinite Crisis' logo is selling five books more than usual," Berg said of DC's much-anticipated crossover. "But anything in the independent section is selling five books less."

Liberal Arts and Sciences adviser Jacques Betts does not mind the growth in mainstream comics, which bring interesting developments to characters Betts has enjoyed since he was a child.

Betts can recall the moment he saw comic books – once regarded as juvenile escapism – become a big-business market.

"I went to the store and there was a lawyer – suit, tie and briefcase," Betts said. "And I had to race him for the last copy of 'Legends of the Dark Knight.'"



EARLY HEADLINES

Listen to "Wake Up Live" with Rob and Jenn Monday through Friday for morning headlines on 88.9 or at weiuhitmix.net

THE DAILY EASTERN NEWS

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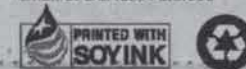
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Campus clock displays incorrect time

Eastern is making efforts to get timepiece back on track

By JESSICA CANTARELLI
CAMPUS EDITOR

Students walking by The Alumni Quad, the area south of Booth Library and north of Lumpkin Hall, may think they are late to class when the clock chimes each hour, but the clock is five minutes fast.

Steve Rich, director of Alumni Relations, said he is not familiar with the fact the clock is displaying the incorrect time.

"We are looking into it," Rich said. "Someone will have to manually re-set the clock."

The clock was donated by the Alumni Association in April of 2005 and is capable of playing 200 different songs. It plays Eastern's Alma Mater on the hour, every hour.

Rich said he does not think the resetting of

the clock to the correct time will cost any money.

Jess Vekemans, a junior family and consumer sciences major, said she has not noticed the clock was five minutes fast.

"I think that it kinda shows that no one pays attention to the clock, since this is first that I've heard that it's been the wrong time," Vekemans said. "But it probably helps most people like me because I usually set my clock ahead a little so I won't be late."

Jamie Baker, a senior communication studies major, said she had a discussion in her class about the incorrect time.

"My teacher's watch, the clock in the classroom and the alumni clock all had different times," Baker said. "I personally always think I'm late for class when the alumni clock chimes."

Another clock on campus without an accurate time reading is the clock on McAfee Gymnasium.

Gary Reed, director of Facilities Planning and Management, said the operating problem has been noted and is being investigated by Facilities Planning and Management, but the problem has not been identified yet.

"We continue to repair the clock as funds permit," Reed said. "The malfunction was corrected last fall, and the clock has since developed another problem."

Reed also said repairs of large clock movements are expensive, and since the clock contains some obsolete parts, it is getting more difficult to fix.

"As soon as the problem is isolated, repair options will be evaluated," he said.



EVAN HILL/PHOTO ILLUSTRATION

Alumni Relations is looking into resetting the clock tower south of Booth Library, a problem some see as a blessing, some as a curse.

Greg Bushue, a sophomore business major, left, and Scott Albertson, a senior political science major, right, prepare for the upcoming Madden 2006 Football Tournament hosted by the University Board today in the Martin Luther King Jr. University Ballroom. Registration for the tournament begins at 6:30 p.m. Games start at 7 p.m.

ERIC HILTNER/PHOTO ILLUSTRATION



Madden tourney ends UB gaming for year

By JIM ALLOCCO
STAFF REPORTER

Madden fans can gather tonight for the University Board's final video game tournament of the year in the Martin Luther King Jr. University Union Ballroom.

"This is the big finale for our video game tournaments this year," said Jon Braden, special events coordinator for the UB.

The Madden '06 tournament, which will be on a Playstation 2 system, will consist of two-person teams and will be

single elimination. Only the first 40 teams will be allowed to register.

"When we did our Halo tournament, we had like 33 teams," Braden said. "I'm expecting about 30 for this, but I'm hoping for 40."

The top three teams will receive prizes valued at a total of \$600. Some prizes will be Wal-Mart gift cards and Chicago Bulls tickets.

The length of the tournament will depend on how many students show up to play.

"If 30 to 40 teams show up, (the tour-

namment) will last approximately three hours, which is about how long our Halo tournament lasted," Braden said.

The tournament is free and open to all Eastern students, but with midterms and spring break, a lot of students are busy.

"I would go, but I have things to study," said Ross Lindberg, a junior science major with a teacher's certificate. "I wouldn't win anyway unless nobody shows up."

Registration begins in the ballroom at 6:30 p.m., and the tournament will begin at 7 p.m.

Zoning could change E Street

By MOLLY CLUTTER
STAFF REPORTER

An ordinance that will amend the zoning of land to be developed on E Street could be discussed by the Charleston City Council as soon as March 7.

The Charleston Board of Zoning Appeals and Planning met on Feb. 13 to discuss the petition from Dan Seabright of Double D Construction and Services about developing residential buildings on the street.

The land on E Street is currently bare land labeled Industrial District, however, the city is looking to change it to R-3, which allows apartments to be built on the land.

In order to get the petition approved by the zoning board, it is required by state law that the developer must submit an application, pay a filing fee and post a legal notice and a sign on the land that states it is subject to zoning changes, said city planner Jeff Finley.

The zoning board goes to a hearing and votes for a recommendation.

The recommendation is then placed in the City Council agenda. To pass, the ordinance will require three of five votes. After the City Council votes and the mayor signs the ordinance, it becomes a law in three to four days.

"The petition was approved (by the zoning board) and will now be put on the City Council agenda, and then we will have to wait for the ordinance," Finley said.

It is a positive addition to the city of Charleston and will be a step up from what the land used to be, a trailer compound, said Mayor John Inyart.

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OPINION

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

THURSDAY, MARCH 2, 2006

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COMMENTARY



DAVID THILL
VERGE EDITOR

THE FREE AND THE USELESS

The best things in life are free. Not always true. I went to lunch the other day with two friends. Afterward I needed to stop in Copy Express so I could pick up the casebook for my Communication Law class.

The girl behind the counter helped me very quickly and politely, and as I strolled down the counter to the register area I noticed pads of paper in varying shapes, colors and sizes. The box of paper was very aptly marked "Free Paper," and I couldn't resist.

Upon finalizing my purchase and walking out with my casebook in one hand and pads of paper in the other I realized I didn't even need the paper. In my backpack at that very moment I had at least four or five different pads of

paper, all with ample writing space.

So what in the world could have made me take the paper when I really had no practical use for it? And it hit me. The word "free."

It is my belief that every person has some strange

"It is my belief that every person has some strange compulsion inside of them to take complete advantage of anything free at all times."

compulsion inside of them to take complete advantage of anything free at all times.

Another example, if you will.

I was attending a journalism conference in Kansas City, Mo. And enjoying myself thoroughly, I might add. On the last day of the conference as I was preparing to leave I noticed there was an arrangement of complementary pens laid out for anyone to take.

I took 13 pens.

What possible reason could I have had for doing this? Kleptomania? No.

Because they were free. I have plenty of pens. I am a journalist. I never go five feet without a pen. So, of course, I am not so hard up that I needed 13 more pens.

People just love free stuff. Even stuff they don't need. Nary a time have I driven by a house as students prepare to leave town for the summer and not seriously considered nabbing the "free" couch on the curb. Forget the level of filth or broken down nature of the couch, I thought about taking it.

Perhaps this is just some trait common in those who grow up in a middle class household.

I, by no means, was ever impoverished growing up, but my parents made sure I understood the value of a dollar. So, whenever I see something designated as free I have to fight the urge to take it.

Fondue forks? Sure, I'll take it. It doesn't matter that I have never fondued in my life.

A used Tomigachi? Hell yes, I want it. It doesn't matter that I haven't had a digital pet since I was 11. If it is free, I am taking it.

Take a look around your home and ask yourself how much stuff have you gotten for free and how much use you put it to?

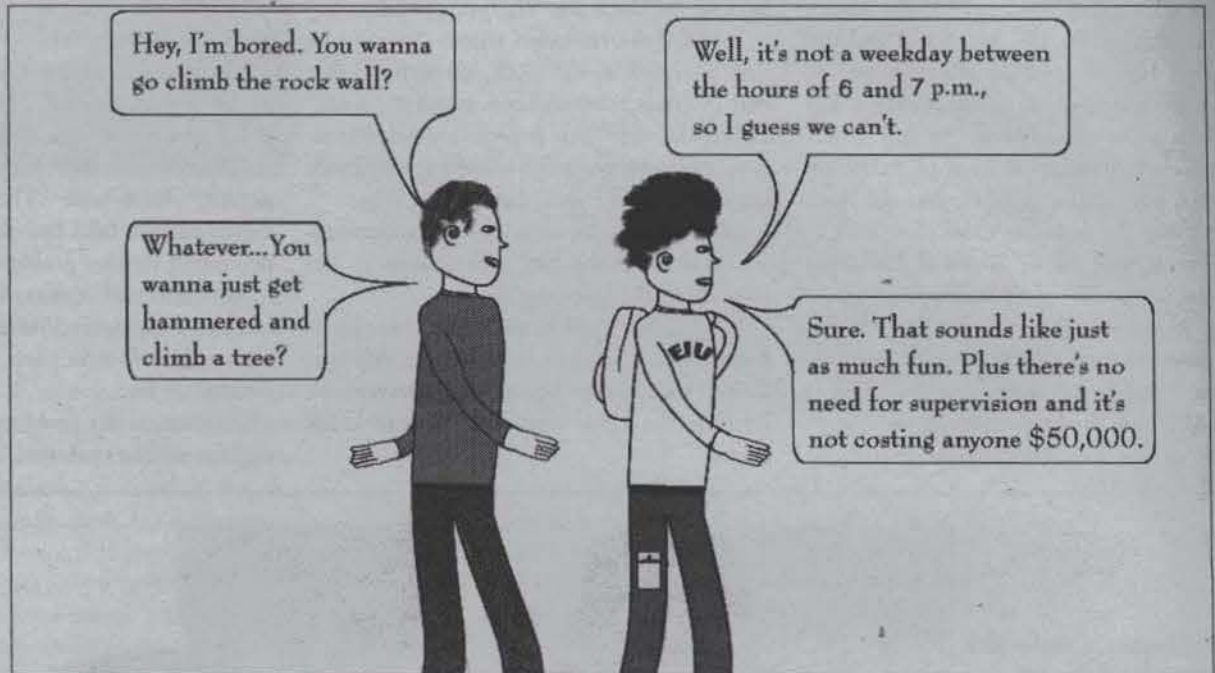
My mother gave my a Swiffer CarpetFlick nearly four months ago, and I just took it out of the box last week.

The best things in life are not always free but everything is made better by the lack of a price. So don't look the gift horse in the mouth.

And if anyone is interested, I have a large assortment of useless crap that you may have for free, if you like.

Thill, a junior journalism major, can be reached at dthill25@eiu.edu.

EDITORIAL CARTOON BY EVAN HILL



EDITORIAL

Ethanol to become Illinois' answer

The concern about limited oil and rising gas prices remains persistent as more and more people rely on gas-driven forms of transportation. Most of the United States' energy use is currently dependent on oil imports from the Middle East and concerns have been voiced that we, as a country, need to become more energy efficient.

Energy Secretary Samuel Bodman has proposed \$160 million in cost-sharing funding to build three biorefineries capable of pushing the United States closer to an energy-independent existence, while cleaning up the environment too.

President Bush's energy initiative is a positive step for his administration. These biorefineries would produce cellulosic ethanol, or "green gold," which is made mostly from agricultural and industrial plant wastes, such as sawdust and cereal straws, and crops grown for energy purposes, such as switchgrass.

Bodman toured the Archer Daniels Midland ethanol plant in Decatur to draw attention to the energy initiative, which aims to replace 75 percent of the U.S.'s Mideast Oil imports with clean energy and make cellulosic ethanol competitive by 2012.

"America produced 3.9 billion gallons of ethanol last year," Bodman said. "By developing the technology for cellulosic ethanol, which can draw on a variety of different plant sources, we can significantly increase this production and decrease our

At issue

The government's plan to build three new biorefineries to focus on building ethanol as a resource.

Our stance

President George W. Bush's energy initiative is the right step for his administration. The biorefineries will help increase the country's energy independence and clean up the environment.

dependence on imported oil."

Citizens of Illinois in particular would be affected by the change because corn production and other agriculture is a big chunk of the state's economy.

The construction of these biorefineries, if approved by Congress would be a smart investment, and a somewhat affordable one as well.

Agriculture Secretary Mike Johanns in Las Vegas said \$176.5 million in loans is guaranteed as well as nearly \$11.4 million in grants to support investments in renewable energy and energy-efficiency improvements, according to an article on www.harvestcleanenergy.org.

Hopes are that building the refineries would spark interest in several companies to follow suit. As more companies begin producing this alternative form of fuel, it will become more widely used and would save the United States money in the long run. Money that would otherwise be spent purchasing a dwindling supply of oil from outside of the country.

The new refineries would create job opportunities for Americans and give farmers a more active role in the United States economy. Also, the cleaner form of ethanol would reduce air pollution.

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

YOUR TURN: LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

PRIVACY SLOWLY BECOMING THING OF THE PAST

Regarding *The Daily Eastern News'* position in favor of surveillance cameras on campus, and in the Student Recreation Center in particular. You shouldn't be so quick to give away our freedom. There's a wholesale assault on privacy going on these days.

The vast majority of your personal conversations, especially via phone or e-mail, are potentially listened to by government computers, thereby changing the nature of every conversation because you don't know which ones are being eavesdropped on. I

suspect that they're *all* being listened to, but the government certainly isn't going to tell us the truth about that. Surveillance cameras are everywhere. I predict that the police will be installing them at street intersections in Charleston within five years.

If people don't have an emotional attachment to privacy, it's pretty hard to explain why they should be concerned with it, but I'll try. I'm sure a sociologist or a psychologist would have a better understanding of this, but surveillance causes people to be more submissive to authority. And it's clear that what the world needs now is more independent thought, not less.

Or, if you prefer a religious explanation, Christianity teaches that God gave people free will, the power to choose good or evil. I prefer a world where people could choose to steal my backpack, but choose not to.

On a more mundane level, how about a simple solution like quarter lockers, you know, the kind where you get the quarter back when you retrieve your belongings? Or just get a locker in the locker room. Or do whatever Eastern has done in the 100 years before surveillance cameras were invented.

DONALD DEAN PAKEY
PHYSICS DEPARTMENT

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 DENEic@gmail.com

STUDENT GOVERNMENT

'Red Dot' kicks off

Senate happy with turnout

By DAN MATT
STAFF REPORTER

The Big Red Dot Campaign kicked off Wednesday morning and was a success in some Student Government members' eyes.

The Big Red Dot can now be found on any type of pamphlet or media dealing with the Student Government.

The campaign started at 9 a.m. Wednesday and continued until 3 p.m. at the headquarters, outside the Martin Luther King Jr. University Union. Music drew people's attention as students walking by were given flyers, which informed them about the Student Government meetings.

Senate members walked with students to their classes and discussed Student Government-related issues that interest them.

The campaign was not all business.

Members passed out flyers, gave students candy and talked with them about campus issues, which senate member Eric Glenn said sparked students' interest.

"We were out there really trying to make the extra effort," Glenn said. "Tons of people showed up."

The campaign, which was Glenn's brainchild, is being used as a way to further the Student Government's marketing.

Glenn said he wanted to come up with something that would really grab people's attention; something people would associate with Student Government.

"The Big Red Dot is something that really stands out," Glenn said. "I really want it to be a big success."

The Student Government meetings are held at 7 p.m. every Wednesday in the Tuscola-Arcola Room of the Martin Luther King Jr. University Union. Until then, information on upcoming Student Government events will be indicated on flyers displaying the Big Red Dot.



CARRIE HOLLIS/THE DAILY EASTERN NEWS

Former Philadelphia Eagles player Ray Sydnor talks about his family encouraging him to read when he was younger at his speech in the Union Ballroom Wednesday evening.

From jail to Jesus

By SARA CUADRADO
STAFF REPORTER

Incorporating prayer into his presentation, former NFL player Ray Sydnor talked about his struggles with drug and alcohol abuse and how it led him to find Jesus.

Sydnor told his story Wednesday night in the Martin Luther King Jr. University Grand Ballroom.

As a child, Sydnor wanted to be a professional athlete. After being told to find another career, he became an All-American in football and basketball and received a scholarship to the University of Wisconsin.

"I really felt like I was the man," Sydnor said. "If I couldn't play sports, then life wasn't worth living."

He was signed to play for the Philadelphia Eagles and headed to the Super Bowl, but his addiction to drugs caught up with him. He was addicted to drugs for 19 years before finally being sent to jail.

Sydnor faced up to 80 years, but only served between 5-10. He found God and was set free, he said. Now, he spends his time traveling and telling people his story.

Pierre Walters, sophomore sociology major, said he was touched by a lot of what Sydnor said, and left the event with a lot on his mind. Twila Corn, 87, Charleston, also said she felt the impact from the speech.

"It was unusual, but excellent," she said.

Corn said Sydnor approached the audience in a different and convincing way. He wanted everyone in the room to learn from his mistakes, and find Jesus as he had.

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5:00 7:50 10:20
EIGHT BELOW (PG) 3:50 6:45 9:30
DATE MOVIE (PG13) 5:15 8:00 10:15
FREEDOMLAND (R) 4:20 7:00 9:45
CURIOUS GEORGE (G) 4:10 6:30 8:45
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Governor didn't know about appointment

Official receives criticism because of her Islamic leader's remarks

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

SPRINGFIELD — As tempers flared at the state Capitol, Gov. Rod Blagojevich said Wednesday that he didn't know he had appointed a Nation of Islam official to serve on a hate crimes commission until learning it from news reports.

Claudette Marie Muhammad was named to the commission last summer, but Blagojevich said he only learned about it in the last week or two after criticism of her appointment was discussed in news stories.

He nodded vigorously when asked if he wished his staff had discussed the appointment with him, but he would say little more.

"I don't know all the ins and outs and all the details of that appointment," he said in an interview with The Associated Press.

Meanwhile, one group of lawmakers demanded Muhammad repudiate racist and anti-Semitic remarks by Nation of Islam leader Louis Farrakhan.

Another member of the Governor's Commission on Discrimination and Hate Crimes, Lonnie Nasatir, said Blagojevich should ask for her resignation.

But black lawmakers said it was unfair to demand Muhammad speak out against her religious leader if other commission members aren't held responsible for the decisions and comments of their

religious leaders. Catholic members, for instance, have not been asked to condemn their church's handling of child abuse cases, they said.

In an indication of the tense atmosphere, neither group of lawmakers would answer questions at their dueling news conferences.

Muhammad, who is the Nation of Islam's director of community outreach and Farrakhan's chief of protocol, issued a statement Wednesday saying she wants to "break down the barriers of hate and discrimination."

"I believe in fairness to all people regardless of race, creed, color, national origin or religious beliefs," she said.

Farrakhan often has attacked whites, Jews and gays over the years. At a speech over the weekend, he accused "Hollywood Jews" of "promoting lesbianism, homosexuality" and other "filth." He also said Zionists and conservatives manipulated President Bush into attacking Iraq.

Blagojevich condemned Farrakhan's comments. "They're wrong and hateful and they're harmful," he said.

But Blagojevich said he doesn't believe in "guilt by association" and wouldn't hold Muhammad responsible for her boss's comments, so long as she opposes discrimination and hate crimes.

Commission member Nasatir, a regional director for the Anti-Defamation League, said Muhammad should be removed because her leader is "promoting hate."

But others said she has served for months without showing any sign of being unfit for the commission.

Event Calendar

MID-TERM

All day

COURSE DROP DEADLINE

All day

SPRING 2006 REGULAR TEXTBOOK

All day

Textbooks that have been issued to students may be purchased Wednesday through March 31 during regular business hours. Textbook rental service

VIDEO CONFERENCING

1 p.m.

This workshop will cover the basics of video conferencing, including some of the standards that have evolved, basic terminology and an overview of how to use Polycom Video Conferencing units. Buzzard Hall Room 2445

Senate tables Unity Week funding

SENATE:

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Jillian Ruddy, student vice president for Business Affairs, said the Student Government has \$6137.64 in their account. Ruddy hopes to implement a system to manage the budget responsibly by next week. All members of the Student Government requesting any funds over \$50 would be required to fill out a form.

"It's a way for us to be fiscally responsible," said student speaker Sean Anderson.

The Student Government also tabled resolutions for Unity Week funding. The Unity Week committee is requesting \$7,395 for a motivational speaker, three comedians and a dance theater to perform. The Student Government also tabled a resolution allotting \$1,205 for prizes and giveaways during the event. The previous year's budget was \$2,600.

Chair of Technology Subcommittee Austen Williams said the money would be used to enhance Unity Week.

The Student Government voted to pass six resolutions and tabled four.

Panel promotes local business

PANEL:

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

"This is a tough issue right now with the new Starbucks that is being built right across the street," Vaughn said.

Doris Nordin, Latino minister for the Newman Catholic Center, spoke about Eastern's program, Amigos and Friends, a group that helps local Latino and Spanish immigrants get everything from healthcare to classes about English as a second language.

Other organizations that deal with women's issues and affect the community that aren't from Eastern were also present.

Pathways to Alternative Education Programs, which works with at-risk youths, was represented by coordinator Althea Pendergast, and Hope of East Central Illinois, which deals with domestic violence, was represented by Housing and Program Director Angie Hunt.

Events will be held all month long dealing with issues from "Sex Slavery" to "Women Under Communism."

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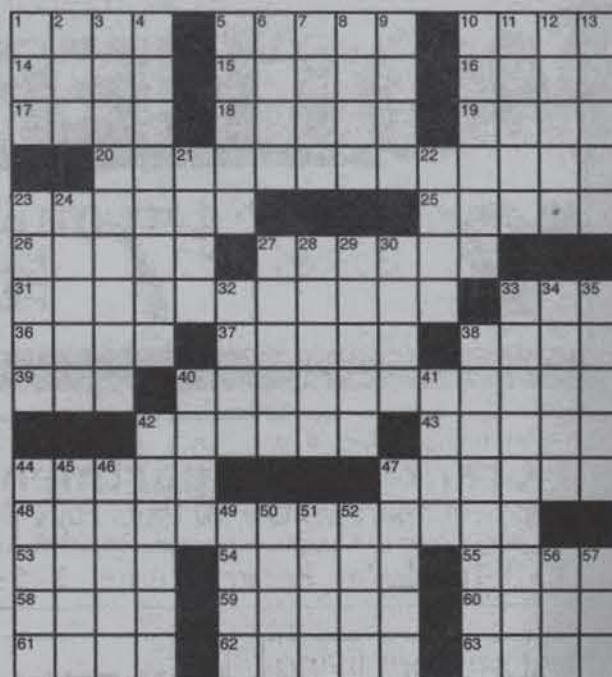
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 - 5 Something picked up in a locker room
 - 10 "Joy of Cooking" author Rombauer
 - 14 Nickelodeon's "the Explorer"
 - 15 Mischievous one
 - 16 Us and them, maybe
 - 17 Weaved
 - 18 Mountain resort
 - 19 "___, old chap"
 - 20 Not jump in too eagerly/Where the best sales promoter shops?
 - 23 Not out
 - 25 You hardly have to study for it
 - 26 Finger wagger's cry
 - 27 Late S.N.L. actor
 - 31 At times/Actress Sykes's halt to putting on weight?
 - 33 Copy
 - 36 Flair
 - 37 You have to study for them
 - 38 Way down
 - 39 Principe's father
 - 40 Increase business/Run into little dog's liquor?
 - 42 Some hockey scenes
 - 43 Olds model
 - 44 "That was devilish of me"
 - 47 Certain discrimination
 - 48 Toasting/Girl with the dried-fruit trick?
 - 53 Instant
 - 54 Go-round
 - 55 Go bad
 - 58 "The Dark at the Top of the Stairs" playwright
 - 59 Strain
 - 60 Ali Baba, for one
 - 61 Penury
 - 62 Script direction
 - 63 TV princess
- DOWN**
- 1 Fingers
 - 2 Lift
 - 3 Flick
 - 4 Zone alternative
 - 5 Like a fifth wheel
 - 6 Add moisture
 - 7 Brief display?
 - 8 Stead
 - 9 It starts on a Wednesday
 - 10 Polite speech introduction
 - 11 Parks and others
 - 12 Farinaceous
 - 13 Sanctuaries
 - 21 "You got that!"
 - 22 Witnessed
 - 23 Ed of "Roots"
 - 24 Oarlock
 - 27 Telecommunicator's request
 - 28 Wide open
 - 29 Renaissance philosopher Petrus ___
 - 30 Beth for Bess, e.g.
 - 32 It might follow a cut
 - 33 Unhurriedly
 - 34 Equals
 - 35 ___ salt
 - 38 Check addition?
 - 40 Quick, in trade names
 - 41 Tale
 - 42 Like Batman and Robin
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 - 45 Poland Spring's home
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 - 56 Tore
 - 57 Org. with a Sixth Man Award

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ARENA EASE DOTE
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Puzzle by Joe DiPietro

DANIELS:

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 12

All eleven teams in tournament will increase interest

The MVC has had the tournament at the same arena (Savvis Center, originally the Kiel Center) since 1995. It hosts all the games for the tournament, providing a stable base for fans and giving the conference an established city to be respected nationwide.

My solution is just to have the OVC tournament run Thursday through Sunday. Nashville seems the most logical host city, as the farthest any team would have to travel is five and a half hours (and that team would be Eastern).

Now people might say that the players would miss three days of classes. But, take for example, what Brady Sallee and the Panthers' women's team would have done if they defeated Tennessee Tech on Tuesday.

The team would have traveled from Cookeville, Tenn., to Nashville after the game, even though the game wouldn't be until Friday.

Now, I'm not faulting Sallee for possibly having his players miss four days of classes.

In fact, those travel plans make more sense than driving the six-and-a-half hours back from Cookeville, have his players be exhausted, attend one day of classes and then hit the road for another long bus ride.

The fault is placed on the OVC. Having a postseason tournament that is not at one sole location makes for messy travel plans for teams.

The format that would allow the OVC to have all 11 teams is already in place—just look at the Big 10.

That conference has 11 teams and all are eligible for the conference tournament.

The first day of the tournament has three games, with No. 8 against No. 9, No. 7 against No. 10 and No. 6 facing off against No. 11.

The winner of the 8/9 game gets the No. 1 seed, the 7/10 winner faces the No. 2 seed and the 6/11 victor squares off with the No. 3 seed. The No. 4 and No. 5 seeds play each other in the only quarterfinal determined before the tournament starts.

There, it's that simple. Now the only question is when the higher-ups at the OVC offices in Nashville will realize that it's simple.

Matt Daniels is a sophomore journalism major. He can be reached at mudaniels@eiu.edu to discuss different formats for a paper, rock, scissors tournament.

PANTHER BASKETBALL BRIEFS

Panthers sweep basketball Freshman of the Year awards

Guard Mike Robinson and center Rachel Galligan were named Ohio Valley Conference Freshman of the Year in men's and women's basketball.

It is the second straight year for an Eastern men's player to capture the award, with sophomore center George Tandy winning the accolade last year.

Robinson was second in the OVC in steals (53) and finished sixth in assists (115).

The Chicago native was second on the team in scoring with 9.6 points.

"I knew it was a possibility but I was also thinking that a couple other guys would get it since their teams were doing well," Robinson said. "I think having two guys who've won it the past two years can have a real impact on getting recruits." Galligan made her presence

known in her first career start against Butler. In the 80-78 loss, Galligan scored 11 points, grabbed 10 rebounds and tied a school record with six blocks.

She finished with 61 blocks on the year, breaking the previous single-season record by 14. She is sixth on the career list for blocked shots.

Galligan is the first Panther to win an individual OVC award since Eastern joined the conference prior to the 1996-97 season.

"I feel really honored," she said. "There were lots of freshmen I think could have won the award."

Sparks second team All-conference

Ohio Valley Conference coaches predicted senior

guard Megan Sparks would make the all-conference second team in October. The senior didn't disappoint.

The guard out of Mattoon was named second team all-OVC on Monday. Sparks led the Panthers in scoring (15.9 points per game) and also ranked second on the team with 41 steals.

Sparks ended her career in tenth place on Eastern's career scoring list with 1,313 points.

Head coach Brady Sallee said he received phone calls from coaches around the OVC telling him how much respect they had for his star guard.

The five players named to the OVC's first team were either forwards or centers.

"Clearly she was the best guard in the league all year," Sallee said.

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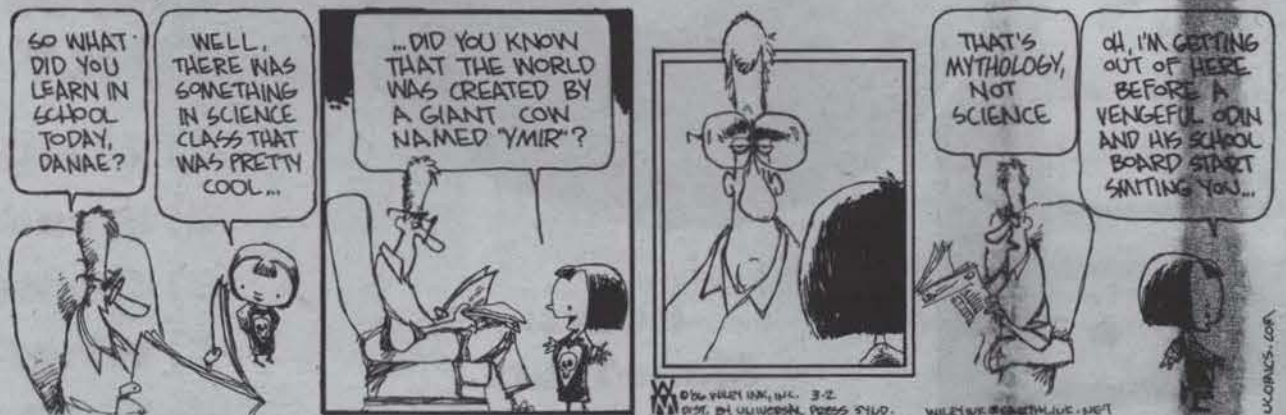
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ERIC HILTNER/THE DAILY EASTERN NEWS

Head coach Mike Miller discusses the game plan during the Feb. 25 game against Samford University.

DUNKS:

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 12

Panthers' year forgettable

Catchings showed he could be explosive, scoring 32 points in the Panthers' 72-67 win at Missouri-Kansas City on Dec. 30. He led the team in scoring six times.

Tandy made his presence felt on the defensive end more than anywhere else, establishing a school record with six blocked shots against Tennessee Tech on Dec. 8. His 1.07 blocks per game were sixth in the OVC and his 7.1 rebounds per game were fourth.

AIRBALL: CATCHINGS AND TANDY — SOMETIMES

While the duo had some memorable moments, they also had their disappointments. Catchings had games where he wasn't a factor

at all. (zero points against Eastern Kentucky, 2 points at Austin Peay and 3 points at Tennessee-Martin).

Tandy's biggest problems had to do with the same hands that swatted away so many shots and grabbed so many rebounds. Too many balls, whether off the glass or off of an entry pass, got dropped. His 54 turnovers were third most on the team and too many for a guy who didn't handle the ball all that much.

SLAM DUNK: SOPHOMORE JAKE BYRNE'S IMPROVEMENT

This one is easy. Byrne was the team's most improved player. He finished the year averaging nearly 7 points and 4 rebounds. Those numbers lie, though. He emerged as a legitimate scoring threat as the season wore on. All of this production came from a guy who had played in just eight games his freshman year.

AIRBALL: THE TEAM'S REGRESSION FROM LAST SEASON

No matter how it's spun, the season was disappointing. Eastern was picked to finish seventh in the preseason poll. Outside of a few marquee wins, the team looked bad more than they looked good — not a good sign for a team that returned seven lettermen and three starters from a tournament team.

Sure, there were other positives (freshman Mike Robinson's potential, only two seniors are graduating and the Panthers get one more year in head coach Mike Miller's system). The team was solid on defense and near the top of the OVC in almost every category that measures team defense. But they were also one of the league's worst offensive clubs.

In the end, the bad outweighed the good, and that, more than any other reason, is why Eastern's season was so forgettable.

SCHMITZ:

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 12

Coach saw results immediately

"We got them out of schools like Sandburg and Thornwood and I knew the area so I kind of had an in with the high school coaches."

When Schmitz first took over, the Eastern baseball program was in a rut.

"It was a program with a tiny little field with wooden bleachers you didn't even want to sit in because you would fall right through," Schmitz recalls. "The mentality was 'they don't support baseball we are not going to care.'"

"They practiced like they had no pride in who they were and whom they played for. I told them if you play well and start winning then the support comes."

The success came immediately as Schmitz turned a team with no returning starting pitchers into the Mid-Continent champions two years in a row.

"The talent was there. We ended up 28-19 and won the Mid-Con," said Schmitz. "The first two years in the Mid-Con we won hands down. It was just about changing the attitude."

In 1997 Eastern's athletic department made the change to the Ohio Valley Conference for almost every sport and now baseball had a better conference with more warm weather, southern schools. Another benefit was a mandatory scholarship rule in place for baseball.

"In the OVC you have to give a minimum of 10 scholarships in baseball so it puts everyone on the same level," Schmitz said.

In 1999 Schmitz and the Panthers captured the OVC Tournament Championship trophy and earned their first ever trip to the NCAA Division I Regionals.

The Panthers placed third in their four-team regional, finishing behind Baylor and Minnesota but knocking No. 21 Arizona out of the tournament. With that success came benefits.

"I remember flying back from Baylor when we went to the regional," Schmitz said. "(Athletic Director) Rich McDuffie showed me the plans for this new stadium and I told the players that this was their stadium, they put some titles on the board, they earned it."

That stadium turned out to be Coaches' Stadium, which opened in 2002.

Last season's media guide said that Schmitz would most likely become the winningest coach in EIU history but Schmitz's worst season as a head coach left him tied with former coach Tom McDevitt at 299 victories. He had to wait one more season to reach the 300-win milestone, but according to junior pitcher Brandon Murphy, it didn't look like it was that big of a deal for Schmitz.

"He was totally normal," Murphy said. "He didn't even act like it was anything special. Everybody knew about it, but he didn't say anything about it. He just said '300 had to come sometime' after the game and that was all."

McDevitt felt the same way about the 300-win milestone.

"Three hundred didn't mean anything to me," McDevitt said. "It was much more satisfying for me to see my players graduate and go on to professional ball, and I am sure it is the same way for Schmitz."

McDevitt still lives in Charleston and keeps up on the team and talks with Schmitz regularly. He sees many more years of success for the Panthers and Schmitz.

"Schmitz is young still," McDevitt said. "He could coach for another 12 years or more. I hope he wins another 300; he is a really great coach, very knowledgeable and encouraging. He is a great coach for Eastern and he should be around for a long time."

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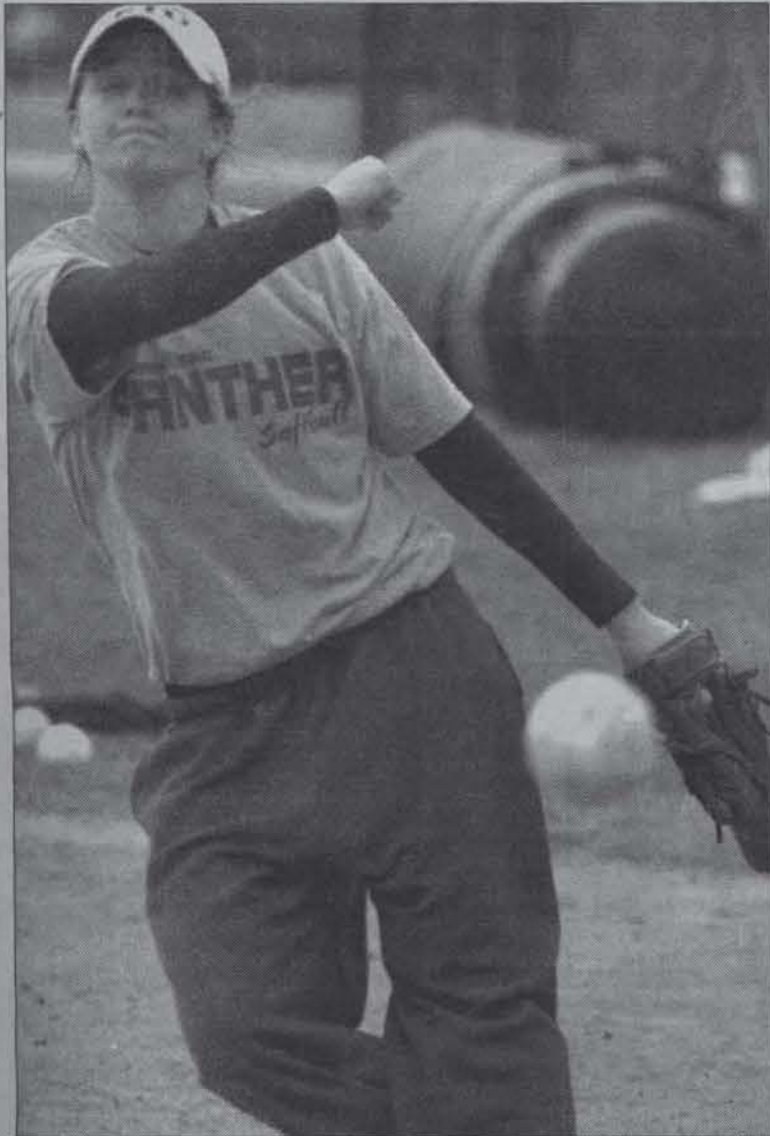
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SOFTBALL



JAY GRABIEC/THE DAILY EASTERN NEWS

Freshman pitcher Kathleen Jacoby warms up during practice Tuesday at Williams Field. Jacoby is Eastern's No. 1 pitcher this season.

STARTING AT THE TOP

Jacoby begins her freshman year as team's No. 1 starter

By HOLLY MOHR
ASSOCIATE VERGE EDITOR

She takes a couple of deep breaths and reminds herself that she's been there before. The pressure is on, but she doesn't let it get to her.

She blocks out the runners on the bases and doesn't think about the number of outs. Her focus is solely on the batter when she winds up and throws the pitch.

"Every pitch and every batter counts," said Kathleen Jacoby.

The freshman has emerged as Eastern's top pitcher in the first two weeks of the season.

"Kathleen makes the ball move," head coach Kim Schuette said. "She has a good spin and can pinpoint the pitch. She's an athlete who works hard and loves competition."

Though the coach calls the pitches on the field, Jacoby's favorite pitch is the screwball.

Junior catcher Sandyn Short said the screwball is Jacoby's most

controllable and fastest pitch.

"It tricks a lot of batters," she said. "It's Jack's most successful pitch."

Jack?

Short said the team gave Kathleen the nickname Jack because it's short for Jacoby.

"Jack likes to make people smile, but at the same time has a tremendous work ethic," she said.

From Beecher, Jacoby worked her way up to starting pitcher for Marian Catholic High School.

"Going into my junior year in high school, I was told I wouldn't be a starter," she said.

Jacoby proved herself and began starting at the end of that year, coming back as a starter her senior year. Both years she pitched her teams into the Super Sectionals; however, her team lost to the same team both times.

Adjusting to college ball hasn't been too difficult for the freshman.

"Coach Schuette had me prepared to pitch at this level," Jacoby said.

She said the big difference between high school and college softball is the fact that "every batter is a good batter."

Jacoby's high school Earned Run Average (ERA) was at 0.63. Her ERA is currently at 2.60 for the Panthers.

Sophomore pitcher Karyn Mackie said Jacoby has adjusted well as a freshman because she came in with a good attitude and worked hard.

"We all have our different strengths and with each strength we help each other out," she said.

Short said Jacoby's accuracy and competitiveness is what has helped the adjustment.

Jacoby said she likes the level of intensity and competition in college.

"I have to put every ounce into every pitch."

While softball is a big part of Jacoby's life, classes take priority.

"My mom and dad are both teachers, so academics come first," the political science major said.

One of Jacoby's goals is to be accepted to law school and become a lawyer. Her future goals also include coaching softball.

"I'd love to teach girls how to pitch," she said.

Coaching isn't a far-fetched goal for her.

Schuette said she thinks Jacoby would make a great coach someday.

"She knows the game and loves to be around the game," she said. "She has a passion to teach it."

She first got interested in softball when her older sister, Elizabeth, began to play.

Jacoby said she watched her sister and realized softball was the sport she wanted to pursue and pitching was the position she wanted to play. Elizabeth, 21, is now a catcher at University of Illinois at Chicago.

"My family is a big sports family," Jacoby said. "We support each other."

The two sisters aren't the only ball players in the family. Jacoby's grandfather played for the White Sox minor league team in Grand Rapids, Mich.

Jacoby started playing softball in sixth grade. She played softball during the summers on a traveling team and last summer played with the Oak Park Windmills.

Jacoby looks to the future with a positive attitude. The team is 6-5 so far this season.

"I think we'll do fine. We're on a roll," she said. "We're more confident and ready to take on anybody."

Panthers sweep Billikens

Eastern (6-5) swept a doubleheader against St. Louis University Wednesday.

In game one, sophomore Karyn Mackie threw her second solid outing in a row, throwing a 3-hit shutout to give Eastern a 1-0 win.

"She just steps back and does as much as she can," said head coach Kim Schuette about Mackie.

Kathleen Jacoby picked up her fourth win of the year, throwing six shutout innings in game two.

Eastern scored two

runs in the first inning, thanks to two St. Louis errors. In both games, the Panthers committed zero errors, while the Billikens made four.

Brief compiled by Matt Daniels, Associate Sports Editor

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SPORTS

THURSDAY, MARCH 2, 2006

PANTHER SPORTS CALENDAR

FRIDAY	BASEBALL AT KANSAS STATE	3 p.m.
	M-TENNIS AT ST. LOUIS	3:30 p.m.
SATURDAY	TRACK AND FIELD AT LAST CHANCE MEETS	All Day
	SOFTBALL AT INDIANA STATE TOURNAMENT	10:30 a.m.
	W-TENNIS AT ST. LOUIS	6:15 p.m.

Eastern Illinois University, Charleston



OUT OF BOUNDS

MATT DANIELS
ASSOCIATE SPORTS EDITOR

Tournament needs some adjustment

You won't see Mike Miller and his squad pull off an upset this postseason. That's because the wonderful Ohio Valley Conference (notice the sarcasm) only lets the top eight of the 11 teams have a shot at advancing to the NCAA Tournament.

And that's the only way a team from the OVC can be announced as one of the 65 teams on Selection Sunday.

Plain and simple, the conference needs a different format for its postseason basketball tournament.

After Tuesday night's opening round games, there were no real surprises or upsets.

All top four teams advanced to the semifinals.

Yes, it makes every game count during the regular season, but not too many people are concerned with an Eastern Illinois-Tennessee Tech game in the middle of December. More people would pay attention to it at the conference tournament.

So here's my solution: make all 11 teams eligible for postseason play.

If the OVC wants to rise from the group of low mid-major conferences and elevate itself to a respectable mid-major status, all teams need to have a fair shot to advance in March.

Take for example, the Missouri Valley Conference. The MVC has been a rising star on the college basketball radar the last five years or so. This year, the Valley is enjoying its best year, with as many as five teams getting consideration for a berth in the NCAA Tournament.

The MVC used to be as stingy as the OVC, only allowing eight of their 10 teams to compete for the conference tournament title. But the conference switched its tournament format in 1997, allowing all 10 teams the chance to play in St. Louis.

Granted, the key to having all 11 teams in the tournament is to have an arena to host all the games and at least four days.

That is limited right now, as the tournament first-round games are played at campus sites on a Tuesday, with only the semifinals and finals being held in one place—the Gaylord Entertainment Center in Nashville, Tenn.—on Friday and Saturday.

SEE DANIELS PAGE 9

BASEBALL



CARRIE HOLLIS/THE DAILY EASTERN NEWS

Head coach Jim Schmitz demonstrates proper hitting technique during Monday's practice at Coaches Stadium. Schmitz became Eastern's winningest baseball coach after Saturday's 3-2 win against University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee. The win was the 300th of Schmitz's career.

MAKING HISTORY

Former Don Kessinger protege reaches milestone for Eastern

BY JOE WALTASTI
STAFF REPORTER

Jim Schmitz came to Eastern in 1995 looking for a head coaching position that would give him the support he wanted but also the chance to settle down with his family.

He had already been the head baseball coach for two under-funded programs and an assistant for a powerhouse team with a coaching legend.

Twelve years and 300 wins later Schmitz is happy that he made the choice he did.

"My wife kept asking me 'why are we going to move to Charleston, Ill.,"

Schmitz said. "My answer was I was finally going to be on the same level as the competition as a head coach. Eastern promised me they were going to join the OVC during my interview, which clinched it for me."

Schmitz began his collegiate coaching career for his alma mater, Wilmington College in Ohio. He led Wilmington to its first ever NAIA district 22 playoff appearance and its first winning season in eight years.

He did all this while also earning his master's degree in Sports Administration at Ohio State University.

After three seasons at Wilmington, he moved on to the University of

Cincinnati and the now-defunct Metro Conference.

While Cincinnati did not fund its team at a high level and the recruiting was mainly limited to the surrounding areas, Schmitz did have his team competing at a high level against top teams like Florida State, South Carolina and Tulane.

He led his 1987 Bearcats team to 31 wins, the second most in school history.

In four seasons at Cincinnati, he led his teams to the first back-to-back winning seasons since the Bearcats joined the Metro.

He also took them to two conference finals.

He then decided to take an assistant

coaching job at the University of Mississippi under former Chicago Cub Don Kessinger.

He became the Ole Miss recruiting coordinator and in 1993 assembled the 17th best recruiting class in the country, according to Collegiate Baseball.

All of this experience prepared him to take over for Dan Callahan as the Panthers head coach in 1995.

"I think I learned to coach in Cincinnati," Schmitz said. "But I learned to recruit at Ole Miss. It was ironic; the last three years I was at Ole Miss we signed some of the better players out of Chicago.

SEE SCHMITZ PAGE 10

MEN'S BASKETBALL SEASON REGAP

Flashes of brilliance, disappointments define season

Miller's first season full of inconsistency

COMMENTARY BY DAN WOIKE
SPORTS REPORTER

During the 2005-06 season, the Eastern men's basketball team suffered its fair share of ups and downs.

This isn't all that remarkable. Over the course of a 27-game season, most teams will suffer from inconsistency.

And for a team with more than three times as many losses as wins, the Panthers (6-21) certainly had plenty of low points. But when people look back on the year, there are positives to remember.

But in order to improve, Eastern needs to examine the low points as well.

SLAM DUNK: JOSH GOMES' CONSISTENCY

Gomes, the Panthers most instrumental senior, led the team with 15.1 points per game. More impressive, though, was his efficient shooting — .448 field goal percentage (10th in the Ohio Valley Conference) and .471 three-point field goal percentage (second in the OVC).

AIRBALL: GOMES' INABILITY TO SCORE MORE

The Panther offense struggled for most of the year, and Gomes' inability to take over a game certainly contributed. This happened for a few different reasons.

The biggest contributor here was how teams defended him. Gomes was always the focal point of

an opponent's defensive gameplan.

However, another factor was Gomes' failure to create a lot of shots for himself. He averaged just 11.8 attempts per game this season. Tennessee-Martin's leading scorer, Jared Newson, attempted 14.3 shots a game. To be fair, Newson is much more athletic and bigger than Gomes.

But, Newson's ability to create and get to the line (Newson shot 182 free throws to Gomes' 70 tries) helped get UTM to the postseason as Eastern stayed home.

SLAM DUNK: SOPHOMORES BOBBY CATCHINGS AND GEORGE TANDY — SOMETIMES

At times during the year, Catchings and Tandy looked like two of the best players on the floor.

SEE DUNKS PAGE 10