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Daily Eastern News: July 09, 2013

Eastern Illinois University

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RW&B DAYS

Community members enjoyed the 4th of July festivities at Morton Park.

Page 5

SOCCER CAMP TAKES CAMPUS

Illinois boys high school soccer players descend on Charleston this week to participate in the Eastern soccer camp.

Page 8



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THE DAILY EASTERN NEWS

Tuesday, July 9, 2013

"TELL THE TRUTH AND DON'T BE AFRAID"

VOL. 97 | ISSUE 164

Old toys bring joy, insight

By Zachary White
@zacharytawhite

Old style toys from the 18th century littered a table at the 5 Mile House during a day of activities Sunday.

Cheryl Hawker, a member of the 5 Mile House Board of Directors and a retired Eastern math professor, said the days goal had been to focus on the kids.

"We wanted today's children to see how different toys were 150 years ago compared to what they play with today," Hawker said.

The chance for children to create their own toys was offered along with showing children the toys that were commonplace in the 18th century.

Whittler Andy Anderson was around to show community members how to build a toy called a Gee-Haw, also known as a whoopee.

The Gee-Haw is a mechanical toy made of two wooden sticks. One of the sticks has a series of notches along one side with a smaller stick attached like a propeller to the larger sticks end.

The user then rubs the other stick quickly back and fourth along the notches, causing the propeller to rotate.

"I tell the kids that the original owner used to plow the fields, and of course he had to use both hands so he had no hands free," Anderson said. "So he would yell 'Gee' to his cattle to go right and 'Haw' to go left."

Anderson said that in some instances the farmer would yell 'whoop-ee' and the draft animals would change direction knowing the noise.

He used the story to help children understand how to hold the instrument when using it.

"Of course saying 'gee-haw' or 'whoop-ee' does nothing, it's just about the way you hold the stick," Anderson said.

By running the secondary stick along the right side grooves of the



ZACHARY WHITE | THE DAILY EASTERN NEWS

Whittler Andy Anderson helps Kaleb King, 9, of Westfield, use a Gee-Haw toy at the 5 Mile House Sunday.

Gee-Haw, the propeller turns right, and by running the stick along the left side, it turns left.

The community members using

the Gee-Haw toy returned smiling faces to Anderson once they figured out how to use the toy.

While Anderson was busy whit-

ting away, children looked on with awe as blacksmith Eric Gray shaped ring stakes at his forge.

TOYS, page 3

CITY

Council approved monitor purchase

By Amanda Wilkinson
@akawilkinson

The Charleston City Council approved the purchase of a cardiac monitor for use in an ambulance July 2.

The about \$25,000 purchase was approved to be made from a single-sourced vendor, Zoll Medical Corporation.

Mayor Larry Rennels said the council waived the bidding process because the cardiac monitor they wanted was only available from that one vendor.

"This is allowing us to buy one exactly like one of the other ones we have so it will be consistent from ambulance to ambulance," he said. "It has some features that some of the competitors don't have that we really need."

The cardiac monitor they are replacing is about 10 years old, he said.

The council also placed an ordinance amendment to change the time in which they meet on file for public inspection for two weeks.

"The last meeting, Council Member Newell brought up the discussion that it would be nice to be meeting a little bit earlier," Rennels said.

The council currently meets at 7:30 p.m. on the first and third Tuesday of each month.

Rennels said amendment would allow council meetings to start at 6:30 p.m.

He said the Mattoon City Council and the Charleston Board of Education also meet at 6:30 p.m.

"I think (Scott Smith, the city manager,) surveyed most of the staff and 6:30 sound pretty good to them," Rennels said.

The amendment was put on file until July 16 meeting and will not go into effect until the August 6 meeting.

The council also approved the prevailing wage rates as mandated by the Prevailing Wage Act.

Every year the Illinois Department of Labor does a survey and puts out a list of prevailing wage rates for each county in the state, Rennels said.

"For public works projects we are required to pay, or rather to see that the contractor pays the prevailing wage rates," he said.

Occupations with union labor rates such as carpenters, boilermakers, cement masons and electricians are included on the prevailing wage rate list.

COUNCIL, page 3

LOCAL

County fair enjoys rich history

By Michael Spencer
@tmskeeper

The Coles County Fair takes place on the periphery for most Eastern students.

It exists as an event advertised on the radio or in the newspaper before students leave for home after the summer term.

But for Coles County natives, it is an elemental part of the community's lifeblood.

For some, it is a part of their way of life.

A group of those individuals work year-round to organize and manage the fair.

They are the Coles County Fair Association and they have been putting on the fair in one form or another for 159 years.

At the end of July, they will make it 160 years.

Each summer, thousands of people from Coles County and beyond, descend on a few acres of land in the county seat.

But the fair has not always stood on such solid ground.

In October of 1855, the fair was hosted in former County Clerk Nathan Ellington's pasture.

Charleston natives now know the pasture as Trojan Hill, where the local high school plays its football games.

When the fair moved to its permanent location, a tornado ripped through the western part of Charleston in 1917, leaving the fair grounds and its modest, but not inconsiderable, structures in shambles.

According to the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, the tornado was rated an F4 on the Fu-

jita scale, which determines tornado strength based on the storms capacity to inflict damage on structures or vegetation.

Roughly 100 people died in the tornado and it resulted in \$55 million dollars of property damage.

The Coles County Fair Association's Vice President Ron Brown said the fair almost ceased to exist in the 1960s.

"The fair was in danger of foreclosure during the early 1960s with a debt of approximately \$50,000," Brown said. "They held what they

FAIR, page 3

Local weather

TODAY WEDNESDAY



Rain showers
High: 70°
Low: 60°



Mostly Cloudy
High: 76°
Low: 59°

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

THE DAILY EASTERN NEWS

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

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ACE!



AMANDA WILKINSON | THE DAILY EASTERN NEWS

Dave Howrey, of Charleston, returns a serve to his neighbor, Brian Cole at the Eastern tennis courts Monday. Howrey said they play about three times a week.

Crew prepares for fireworks

By Amanda Wilkinson
[@akaywilkinson](mailto:akaywilkinson)

For more than 12 hours before the Fourth of July fireworks show, Bob Miles and his pyrotechnic crew are working to set up thousands of explosives to go off in the sky.

"There's enough shells to spread this show over 40 minutes," he said about Thursday's show. "We can't do that. We can only close the airport down for so long. We've got to get out of here."

Even though the show only lasts about 20 minutes, Miles and his crew are at the airport setting up for much longer.

"We get here at eight o'clock in the morning and we're usually out of here by midnight," he said. "It'll take us about an hour and a half to tear everything down and load everything up into the truck and get out of here."

Miles, of Decatur, has been detonating fireworks since he was a small child.

"When I was small, you know, my parents didn't have a lot of money and I'd always get just a few fireworks for the Fourth of July back in the old days. When I got older, I finally realized that cities would pay me thousands of dollars to go buy fireworks and go shoot them," he said about his once-a-year job.

During the rest of the year, Miles is a construction manager at the University of Illinois in Champaign, but detonating fireworks does not take up a lot of time.

He takes about three days off to come down to the Charleston-Mattoon area to do the show.

Miles said his crew consists of 10 members ranging from ages 18 to 70.

"We got a brand new shooter who just turned 18. He's been involved in fireworks since he could walk," he said.

When people start setting off fireworks professionally, they either love it or decide it is too dangerous, Miles said.

"We have people who will shoot fireworks for the rest of their life or they'll never come back again. There's no in between," he said. "They either go 'oh my gosh, that looks way too dangerous. I never want to be around it again,' or you've got the ones that go, 'can we do it again tomorrow night?'"

Miles said they have been detonating fireworks for the Charleston-Mattoon area for about 15 years.

The fireworks show moved from Peterson Park in Mattoon to the airport because structures and the public were too close to the guns. At this time, Mattoon and Charleston combined their fireworks show.

The pyrotechnic crew uses electric igniters so they do not have to fire the explosives by hand.

However, Miles and his crew are still about 60 feet from the guns.

"Everyone else is 600 feet away from the guns," he said. "It's a lot different show out there than it is here. Your neck will be stiff because it's all over your head with a lot of burning paper falling down all the time."

Miles said the noise is booming when he is that close.

Often his crew will wear earmuffs to block some of the noise.

However Miles said he cannot completely close off his hearing because he needs to be able to hear how the shells come out of the guns.

"You really do need to hear the show because you hear every one of those shells. If there's something wrong, you know it immediately because it sounds different," Miles said.

They also have spotters to watch every shell come out of the gun.

"If one goes up and doesn't go off, that's the most dangerous shell in fire-



AMANDA WILKINSON | THE DAILY EASTERN NEWS

Bob Miles and his crew worked for more than 12 hours Thursday setting up the fireworks show at the Coles County Airport. His crew has done the fireworks show for the Charleston-Mattoon area since 1998.

works," Miles said. "You don't want those falling from 500 feet in the sky and hitting you on the head."

If a shell goes up and does not go off, Miles said he hears a loud thump on the ground.

"If that occurs, we have to find that shell and destroy it," he said. "We have to find it before somebody else does."

In the past 15 years they have been shooting fireworks for the area, Miles said shells going up and not off has only occurred twice.

"That's not bad out of the thousands and thousands of shells we've shot," he said.

Another thing that can happen while they are setting off the fireworks is the shell might fall out of the gun.

"That shell's going to detonate no matter where it is whether it's 400 feet in the air or four feet off the ground," Miles said.

When a shell detonates, the stars come out.

"Those stars come out burning over 2,000 degrees," he said. "If you

lay one in the palm of your hand and I would light it, virtually before you could get it out of your hand, it would burn half way or all the way through just like butter."

About five years ago, Miles said they had a red magnesium shell fall out of the gun.

"It kind of looked like the old Star Trek when they kicked into (warp speed) when the stars went shooting by," he said about his crew being 60 feet away from the shell. "Only these, you're going in reverse. All those stars were zipping by."

Miles said his crew tries not to have interesting stories because they usually mean something went wrong.

Despite the possibility of something going wrong, Miles said he and his crew love what they do.

"We work very long hours for a very short period of time but it's worth it," he said.

Amanda Wilkinson can be reached at 581-2812 or akwilkinson@eiu.edu.

Taking a knee



AMANDA WILKINSON | THE DAILY EASTERN NEWS

Members of the Madison Scouts Drum and Bugle Corp kneel during a performance rehearsal Monday on O'Brien Field. Brandon Rhodes, a member, said they are on campus for two days. The Scouts leave Waukee, Iowa on Tuesday.

» COUNCIL CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

The council also awarded the bid of about \$26,000 for crack, routing and joint sealing on Fourth, Sixth and Seventh Streets to Kinney Contractors, Inc. from Raymond, Ill.

The bid from Kinney Contractors, Inc. was the only one the council received.

The council also approved a change to the fire department's code.

The ordinance amendment to change the code was placed on file at the June 18 meeting and Rennels said he did not receive any comments on it.

"Over the years, the organization-

al structure of the fire department has changed and this is basically a catch up to get the ordinance to agree with exactly the way things are now," he said.

Amanda Wilkinson can be reached at 581-2812 or akwilkinson@eiu.edu.

» TOYS CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

"They're used for multiple purposes," Gray said.

Some of the uses Gray talked about included being used for holding fishing poles, rifles and ice trays.

As Gray continued to hammer at his forge, children ran in and out of the house eating lemon balm cookies, which were being made inside. Back at the toy table Cheryl Hawker played a game called Graces with other community members.

"It was a game played by young women to teach them how to be graceful," Hawker said.

In the game two women toss a ring covered in ribbons back and fourth. But the trick is that players have to use two long sticks to throw and catch the ring.

"Boys probably didn't play because of the colorful ribbons," she said.

Along with the toys, the welding, and the cookies there was live music, wool spinning and barrel making.

"We had a bunch of people come out today which is great," Hawker said. "But our main focus was on the kids."

Hawker said the 5 Mile House will be open every other Sunday until Labor Day.



PHOTOS BY ZACHARY WHITE | THE DAILY EASTERN NEWS

Tom Vance, president of 5 mile house foundation board, plays the banjo in the backyard of the 5 Mile House Sunday. Vance acted as the live performance after the Big Blue Mountain music group cancelled their performance.



A checkerboard sits in the backyard of the 5 Mile House.



The spindle of a spinning wheel that sits on the back porch.

Zachary White can be reached at 581-2812 or ztwhite@eiu.edu.

» FAIR CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

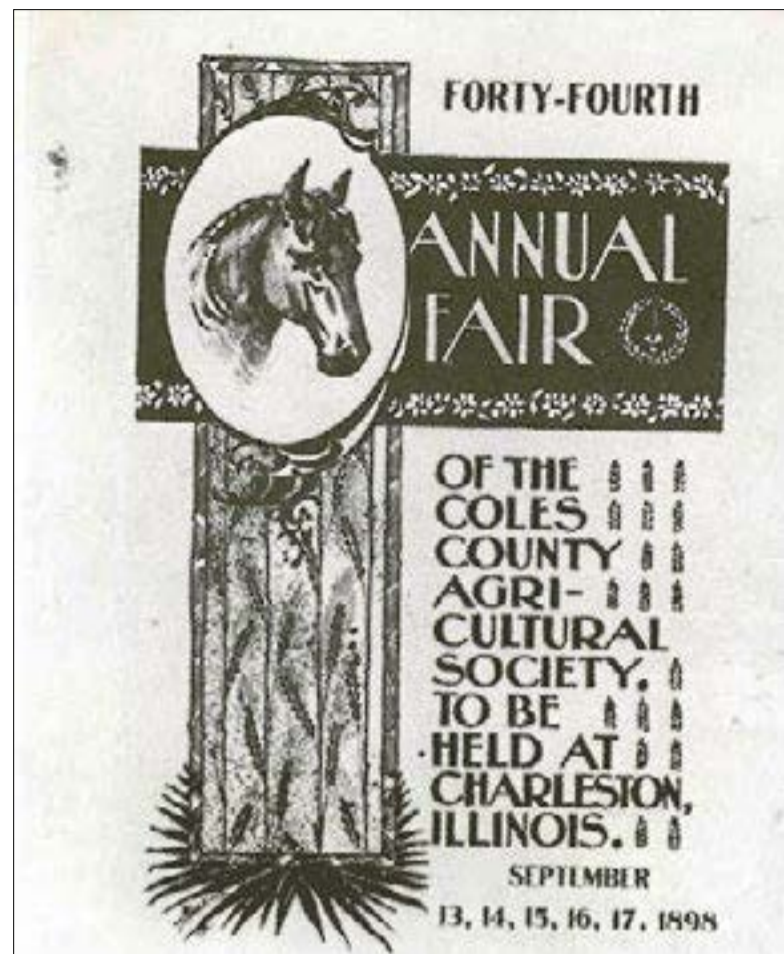


PHOTO COURTESY OF NANCY EASTER SCHICK

A poster from 1848 that advertised the 44th Coles County Fair which was to be held in Sept.

thought was their last fair in 1962. In early 1963, a group of Charleston businessmen organized a fund drive to pay off the debt."

Brown said in two weeks they raised the money by selling \$250 shares. Following its near collapse, the fair was reorganized and has been debt free ever since.

Now, the fair serves as a permanent fixture in the life of the people in east-central Illinois.

It has been that place for Coles County Fair Association President Tom Jones.

The fair has been a part of his life for 64 years.

"Every fair is a different experience," Jones said. "It does not matter where they are, people always seem to come together at fair time."

The fair is such an important part of his life that he, his wife and newborn daughter came straight to the fair from the hospital.

"One of my daughters was born the 30 of July and the first thing we did when we came home from the hospital was go to the Coles County Fair before we ever went home with her," Jones said.

Jones, 67, is a retired truck driver and native of Coles County. He works year-round to pull off the fair each summer.

Brown said despite the work of the association, the project would never be a success with the work of only a small group of people.

"For me it is the people that come back here every year," he said.

In the spirit of such comradery and fellowship, Brown said each year his wife and family come to his house and make 40 gallons of homemade ice cream for fair week. They have carried on the tradition for 32 years.

Brown, Jones and the rest of the board work to put on the fair for a couple of key reasons, one of which is

the economic stimulus it provides.

"They're buying meals and staying in hotels. It is just an influx of people into the community in one week where they patronize the local businesses," Jones said.

He noted that in addition to serving as an economic boost, the fair is also an educational opportunity. Specifically, it is a good way to teach the current generation of children about the role of agriculture in Midwestern society.

"A lot of kids think their milk comes out of a gallon jug," Jones said.

In the weeks leading up to the fair, the board works to maintain the grounds.

"We are working on the grounds which we take great pride in," Jones said. "We think our fair grounds are the nicest in the state of Illinois."

Members of the association rarely get an opportunity to relax once the fair gets underway.

They stay at the association's headquarters and take care of administrative matters as the fair progresses.

As soon as the fair concludes in early August, they immediately turn around and prepare for the next year.

"We get the fair over with on the 4th of August and we're talking about next year on the 5th of August," Jones said.

The entire event is hosted for \$300,000, of which the board keeps none. The Coles County Fair Association is a non-profit.

For the future, Jones said they would love to have more money to spend on performers.

Currently, the budget has \$3,000 to \$5,000 set aside for bringing in acts.

Jones said one of his goals is to bring in a big name to take the event to the next level.

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Paws up, paws down



EI-EI-EIU: Erik Lora and Jimmy Garoppolo are both vying for the 2013 Walter Payton Award. EIU was the only school with two candidates.



SEE YA IN THE FALL: *The Daily Eastern News* last issue of the summer will be Thursday July 11th.



THE GREAT FLOOD: Students will flood Eastern's classrooms in 40 days and 40 nights.



SCULP-TASTIC: The sculptures outside of Doudna are getting a facelift with new colors like red and purple.

"LET'S GIVE THEM SOMETHING TO TALK ABOUT"

What are you looking forward to most this fall? Why?

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

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

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

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Drawn from the Easel



STAFF EDITORIAL

Knowledge is power, no matter how insignificant it may seem

Egypt is in complete chaos right now after protestors and militants have come to blows after Mohamed Morsy was ousted as president.

More than 50 people have died in the clashes, according to *The New York Times*.

The people are fighting to break the oppression while the military is trying to control the chaos.

The people and the military are also disagreeing on who actually started the attacks.

Peaceful protestors are trying to calm the situation as rowdy. The fight is far from over and tensions are running high on both sides.

Back in the spring of 1861, the United States was crumbling the way Egypt is faltering now.

More than 620,000 Americans were killed in the four year war.

Six-hundred, twenty thousand Americans.

If the war in Egypt gets as bad as the American Civil War, many more deaths will take place and many more homes be will broken.

The basis of each conflict is the same: differences of opinion and beliefs.

The reason American's fought and Egyptian's are fighting is because both groups were not informed of each other's beliefs.

OUR POSITION

• **Situation:** Egypt is on the brink of civil war as protestors of the government and militants go head-to-head after former president Mohamed morsy was ousted.

• **Stance:** We should care about what happens to people, not just in America.

The best thing people can do is be aware. Start reading a newspaper. Go to Google and search world events. Search #egypt on Twitter.

Look at photos and read about the history of the country. Check out a book from the library.

Be knowledgeable and informed on what is

happening around you.

Everything matters and affects us as citizens of not just the U.S., but citizens of the world.

By having factual information and a personal opinion about what is happening 6,262 miles away, thoughts will change.

Actions will change.

Life as we know it will change.

Never deem any bit of information as worthless because that small bit might be someone's whole world.

Innocent Egyptian mothers, children, brothers, husbands, cousins, uncles and aunts have been living in violent ladden areas for centuries.

Do not forget to stop and think about fellow citizens. Care.

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

Be human, be cultured, be worldly

Even from 4,078 miles away, the world might look much the same.

That's the distance from Charleston, Illinois to London, England.

University of Westminster's summer study abroad session two is in full swing, with the first day of classes being Monday.

At first, London seems remarkably like New York City: largely diverse and crowded, with a new language spoken on every seat of public transportation.

However, unlike New York City, this city is so much older.

One of the first things that stands out is the lack of a grid system.

In United States cities, we are spoiled by streets that are mainly laid out in straight lines intersecting each other.

We take for granted easy navigation and four-way stops.

Not so true in the United Kingdom.

The underlying factor of this is how unfathomably old London is compared to the United States.

Grid systems weren't even thought of in the founding of London.

London's history goes back more than 2,000 years, whereas ours as a country only goes back



Robyn Dexter

a little more than 200.

That extra zero accounts for so many more years of history – many more struggles, discoveries, architectural works and so much more.

Standing under the dome of St. Paul's Cathedral in the heart of London knowing construction on the structure was started way before the United States is absolutely mind-boggling.

To put it simply, other countries really put ours in perspective.

We have memorials built to honor those who have died in our country's wars, but how many more are to come?

The walls of St. Paul's are covered in plaques dedicated to Britain's deceased dating back to its earliest days.

The variation of dates and time frames are

hard to grasp as an American with a comparatively young nationality.

In the coming weeks of museum trips for class, old pub outings for fun and just general sightseeing in the city, students studying abroad here or in any other city should try to develop a sixth, extra sense – a sense of appreciation and perspective.

Appreciate a culture and environment that is so much older than the country you're from.

Think of the individuals that made it all possible and what life was like so very long ago.

Then think of what mark you'll leave behind when you're gone.

When we think of an old city's historical evidence as a whole, we often think of the art, the buildings, the literature, etc.

What will you leave behind?

As part of this generation?

As part of this culture?

As part of this society?

Only time will tell.

But for now, really take the world into account as a cultured human being, not just as an American.

Robyn Dexter can be reached at 581-2812 or redexter@eiu.edu.

Fourth Fireworks and Festivities



PHOTOS BY AMANDA WILKINSON | THE DAILY EASTERN NEWS

Lainay Brazzell, 4, plays in a foam pit with her sister, Alyssa, 10, in Morton Park during Red, White and Blue Days July 4. The Charleston Fire Department made the bubbles for the event.



The Mattoon Fire Department displays a flag at the Coles County Airport July 4. Residents from Charleston, Mattoon and surrounding areas gathered for the fireworks show.



Jacqui Worden, of Charleston, draws a tree with a Cardinal, Dove and Blue Jay for the Great Chalk In July 4 on Pierce Avenue.



Two people watch the fireworks finale at the Coles County Airport on July 4. More than a thousand people gathered for the fireworks show.

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Cherry is right for the job, make it official

Maybe it's just that I am reading too much into press releases, but one thing I noticed about the June 20 announcement that Summer Perala was stepping down as Eastern's head women's soccer coach was that there was no mention of a national search being conducted for her replacement.

If this means what I think it means, it would mean that assistant coach Jason Cherry will eventually be named head coach, and he should be.

Quite frankly, I don't think there's a better option for Eastern right now.

There have only been a few head

coaches in this team's fairly short history, and Cherry could be (and should be) next on that list.

It's already July. Before we know it, summer will be over, classes will be starting again and the Panthers will begin their 2013 season on August 23 against Oakland at Lakeside Field.

There is not a person out there right now fit to lead this team better than Cherry. Granted, this will only be his second season at Eastern, but that's still more than any other person up for the job right now, unless Tim Nowak is making a return



Dominic Renzetti

to Charleston sometime soon (very unlikely).

Also, looking at the Panthers' schedule, the team plays a number of the same opponents it did last year: Northern Illinois, Northern Iowa, Drake, and not to mention, all of the

Ohio Valley Conference.

Any coach can look at film and scouting reports, but Cherry was on the sidelines for those matches.

I think he will be the next coach, and it's only a matter of time before it's made official.

I mean, his name is already on the Eastern women's soccer Twitter account (@eiuwsoccer), and Twitter is serious business.

I think the program will be in good hands with Cherry.

The players seem to like him, and if he's up to the challenge, he'll be a great fit to lead the team back to the

OVC tournament and hopefully back to the big dance.

The Panthers are facing an uphill battle this season, coming off a disappointing year and losing Kristin Germann, one of the best players to ever suit up for the Panthers, to graduation.

With Cherry (hopefully) at the head next season, it'll be another Eastern sports team ushering in a "new era," as we like to call it around here.

Dominic Renzetti can be reached at 581-2812 or dcrenzetti@eiu.edu.

Foley hire should not be overlooked

Debbie Black made her first addition to the Eastern coaching staff, hiring Kim Foley as the associate head coach of the women's basketball team a week ago.

Not only was it the first move to complete the coaching staff, but it may prove to be one of the most important moves for the Panthers this season.

Black will enter the 2013-14 season sitting in the head coaching chair for the first time in her career and at the helm of a program that saw its first postseason title.

The Panthers have won at least 20 games in five of the last six seasons and in the year they failed to reach the 20-win mark, the team still finished with an 18-13 record in 2010-11.

Black walks into a job where winning has been the expectation, but her first year in charge won't be easy.

Leading scorer last season and the record holder for most career points as a Panther (1,924) Ta'Kenya Nixon along with Mariah King, Sidney Mitchell and Kelsey Wyss are no longer options for Black.

The acquisition of Foley becomes important because of her prior head coaching experience. Foley spent the previous three seasons as an assistant at Lafayette College while also serving as a recruiting coordinator.

The Saint Joseph graduate also had a one-year stint as an assistant coach at Colgate in Hamilton, N.Y. for the 2009-10 season.



Aldo Soto

Black will encounter several situations this season that she did not have to navigate during her time at Ohio State or the one year she spent as a coach at Vanderbilt.

Foley, who was the head coach at Central Connecticut State from 1996-2002, will always be at the side of Black.

Whether it be a decision during the game or an incident off the court, if Black ever needs guidance

Foley will be there to pass her advice that is backed by previous head coaching experience.

A first-time head coach can only know so much either from their playing days and their previous coaching experiences.

Black is fortunate to have had a collegiate and professional career that spanned from 1984-2005, which included a six-year run in the WNBA with the Utah Starzz, Miami Sol and the Connecticut Sun.

Black has nine years under her belt as an assistant coach in college basketball, but head coaching is a different story.

At all levels it is important to have a staff that is experienced. Even in the NBA, teams are careful on who they hire to sit along a first-

time head coach.

Jason Kidd, who played in the NBA from 1994-2013, was named the Brooklyn Nets head coach on June 13 and two weeks later Lawrence Frank was hired as an assistant coach.

Frank and Foley serve the same role as part of the coaching staff. Frank has eight years in head coaching experience compared to Kidd's zero.

As important as the Black hire was to Eastern the addition of Foley can't be overlooked. Foley may not be the head coach, but she will be the coach who can guide Black through her first year as a head coach.

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

» CAMP CONTINUED FROM PAGE 8



A ball on the field before a match.

"I also do a lecture during the afternoon which talks about the recruiting process, soccer in the media and our other topic is going to be a day in the life of a college soccer player," Howarth said.

He also said that Eastern uses the camp as a recruiting opportunity, just like all the other coaches.

"Everytime you have kids on campus, it is a positive thing for your soccer team and for the university itself," Howarth said. "So if you can get players out of this, that would be great."

The camp will run until Thursday afternoon. Teams will compete against each other for a camp championship. The week will culminate in an all-star match that will showcase the camp's top players.



ZACHARY WHITE | THE DAILY EASTERN NEWS

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

Garry Laidlaw, head coach of Central College soccer in Pella, Iowa, instructs his team at halftime of their match Monday. The camp provides an opportunity for high school players to learn from collegiate coaches in order to gain a more advanced perspective on the game.



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PHOTOS BY ZACHARY WHITE | THE DAILY EASTERN NEWS

Vince Lasacco, of Campton United in St. Charles Ill., gives directions to his players on the field. Lasacco is returning to the camp for his sixth year. The camp provides an opportunity to for college coaches scout for young talent.

Soccer camp helps players and coaches

By Michael Spencer
@tmskeeper

Eastern plays host to the boys high school soccer camp this week as coaches from around the region descend on Charleston to scout players and teach the game to the next generation of collegiate athletes.

The camp serves to prepare players for their high school seasons while also providing a stage on which to perform for college coaches.

Twelve college coaches from NAIA, D-III, D-II and D-I programs serve on staff at the camp.

Each coach is assigned to a team. They manage the players on the team through drills and matches throughout the week.

The mutualistic relationship between coaches and players is the highlight of the camp.

Players come to display their skills and coaches come to scout talent for their college teams.

"It is a good recruiting tool for us because as an NCAA college team, there's a lot of talented players here and it gives us a chance to see many players and potentially recruit them," Garry Laidlaw, head coach at Central college in Pella Iowa, said.

Laidlaw is an Eastern alum and former Panther soccer player who said he has been coming to the camp for nearly a decade.

"I like to give back to the school with any service I can," Laidlaw said.

Laidlaw also said the camp offers an excellent experience for players because of the consistency and comradery among the staff.

The camp also draws top club soccer coaches from the area.

Vince Losacco is a coach at Campton United, a team based in St. Charles Ill. He has been returning to the camp for seven years in an attempt to track the develop-



A team comprised of players from Hoopston, Illiopolis and Unity High School (Tolono, Ill.) warm up before a match Monday. Players from across the region participate in the camp.

ment of his own club players while contributing to the development of other Illinois high schoolers.

Additionally, Losacco said the camp gives him a good education in how to prepare his players for the next level.

"Every coach coaches a little differently," Losacco said. "They have a different philosophy and the best thing about a camp like this is you're exposed to all those different philosophies and methods and the way they dictate how they want you to play."

The players seem to agree.

Alexander Mantell, a high school goalkeeper on Losacco's team, said the collegiate knowledge the coaches impart is invaluable to him.

"The college opportunities are really good," Mantell said. "I think that coming to this campus and getting to learn the real college soccer is the real draw of this camp."

Eastern head soccer coach Adam Howarth acts as administrator of the camp. He handles the logistical details of the program. Additionally, he tries to give insight to the players while they are on campus.

CAMP, page 7



Goalkeeper Alexander Mantell moves the ball across the goal box at the request of his coach, Vince Lasacco.