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THE WEEKLY EDITION

THE DAILY EASTERN NEWS

'TELL THE TRUTH AND DON'T BE AFRAID'

ART

A woman with long dark hair, wearing a dark long-sleeved top and leggings, is captured in a dynamic pose. She is holding a large, flowing fabric that is partially white and partially a dark, mottled color. The fabric is draped and billowing, suggesting movement. The background is dark and indistinct, possibly a studio or gallery space. The lighting is dramatic, highlighting the woman's face and the texture of the fabric.

Artists at Eastern share work, inspirations and challenges they face as they gear up for final projects.

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Out of time, money: art students' reality

By **Adriana Hernandez-Santana**
 Features Junior Editor | @DEN_News

Being an arts program student is far from easy. Between having to prepare pieces, practicing, or creating artwork, it can take hours or even days to get something just right.

Here at Eastern, many of the students in an arts program, whether theatre, music or art, will sacrifice time and money to help them get one step closer to their dreams.

As a production stage manager for Eastern, Estela Guzman, a theatre arts major, says that she can easily spend anywhere between three to 15 hours a day working for a show.

"The amount of time for me really depends on my role in a show, or if I chose to be involved," Guzman said. "We have multiple shows a semester, so people are always working on something."

Garrison Reed, a junior year music education major, believes that practice makes perfect. He tries to practice at least one or two hours a day.

In a week, he averages about 10 to 12 hours.

"I also have the weekends open, so we're typically a little more free, when we don't have games and stuff like that," Reed said. "At least with marching band, I get a little more time."

As for finances, it can really be hit or miss as to how much someone spends outside of tuition. For some, it can be nothing. But for the students who are really determined to be the best they can be, the cost can be a bit more.

Guzman said that it really depends on how much you put into it to determine the final cost.

"If you're in a class and you choose to get extra supplies for a project, or like me, I sometimes choose to buy my own tools, so it'll cost more," Guzman



BY ROB LE CATES | THE DAILY EASTERN NEWS

Teachers assistant Samuel Wilson, a graduate student studying art, assists Jennifer Teibowei, a freshman biological sciences major, in learning how to chain stitch during an Introduction to Art class.

said. "Most project supplies are covered in course fees, so classes aren't really financially demanding."

Similarly, Ashley Spencer, a senior studio art major, said she has spent quite a bit of money investing in her art materials. The most expensive thing she's worked on is a painting, which can cost a pretty penny.

"Painting supplies, to gather all of the materials you need for painting, it's \$400, \$500, just for one class," Spencer said.

For her clay-related projects, Spencer notes how one project can really eat into a budget too.

At the beginning of the semester, students are given 100 pounds of clay to work with throughout the year. While that may be enough for some, for ambitious students like Spencer, it's never enough to satisfy the creative mind.

"If I'm going over the 100 [pounds of clay] that I'm given at the beginning of

the semester, which you usually are, you're spending at least \$2-300 on clay," Spencer said. "And if you don't have the materials, you're spending 50 plus dollars on supplies and stuff like that."

Reed has also spent a good sum of money over the years to pay for his musical practices.

"Between the amount of materials that I needed for all of those... It was probably an extra \$2-300 on top of it," Reed said. "And I'm just talking sticks and mallets... And even more on top of that years later."

Regardless of all the time and money going into the arts, many students wouldn't give this up for the world.

"It's worth it," Reed said. "I don't see myself doing anything else."

Adriana Hernandez-Santana can be reached at 581-2812 or at aihernandez@eiu.edu.

FRONT PAGE COVER ART BY LUKE TAYLOR AND ROB LE CATES

WHAT'S HAPPENING NOV 9-16

WEDNESDAY

Fall 2022 Global Culture Night
 7 p.m. - Grand Ballroom, MLK Jr. University Union
 Student Government
 7 p.m. - Arcola/Tuscola Room, MLK Jr. University Union

THURSDAY

Council on Academic Affairs
 2 p.m. - Witters Conference Room, Booth Library
 New Works Festival
 7:30 p.m. - Doudna Fine Arts Center
 Wind Symphony and Concert Band
 7:30 p.m. - Doudna Fine Arts Center

FRIDAY

Veterans' Day
 Veteran's Day Ceremony
 10:30 a.m. - Old Main Cougill Foyer
 Board of Trustees
 1 p.m. - MLK Jr. University Union
 New Works Festival
 7:30 p.m. - Doudna Fine Arts Center

SATURDAY

New Works Festival
 7:30 p.m. - Doudna Fine Arts Center

SUNDAY

New Works Festival
 7:30 p.m. - Doudna Fine Arts Center

MONDAY

TUESDAY

Faculty Senate
 2 p.m. - Witters Conference Room, Booth Library
 2022 Camille Compo Lecture:
 Jeanne Dunning
 5 p.m. - Tarble Arts Center
 Jazz Lab Band
 7:30 p.m. - Doudna Fine Arts Center

WEDNESDAY

Sweet Greeks: Immigration to the Midwest
 1 p.m. - Charleston Public Library
 Student Government
 7 p.m. - Arcola/Tuscola Room, MLK Jr. University Union

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Percussionists dream to teach music to next generation

Kyara Morales-Rodriguez
Campus Reporter | @DEN_News

Percussion instruments come in many different shapes and sizes, creating very different sounds. From the booming sound of a bass drum to the tinkling sound of a triangle, there is a lot of diversity in the sorts of sounds one can hear from the percussion family.

Percussionists in concert bands and orchestras often have to learn to play multiple instruments in one piece of music, keeping the rhythm and supporting a piece with a variety of unique sounds.

These versatile performers can be seen in many of Eastern's own ensembles, including the Panther Marching Band, the EIU Percussion Ensemble and the EIU Jazz Ensemble.

One such student performer is Garrison Reed, a junior music education student. He said that percussion instruments are an important part of bands.

"It's such an important part of bands because of how expressive it can be," Reed said. "It adds extra weight and impacts to important parts and adds extra color to a piece that other instruments necessarily can't do."

Reed said that music has always been a big part of his family, having many family members that played instruments, including both of his parents who were in band in high school.

"I was already really interested in playing an instrument, but in the mind of a sixth grader, drums sounded cool and the idea of playing percussion in general just intrigued me," Reed said. "I'd seen other bands that had come through on tours to the elementary school at the time, and everyone in the back looked like they were having a blast playing in the percussion section. I just kinda knew I belonged there."

Despite finding an early passion for music, Reed said he had no clue he was going to pursue a career in music, but that passion led him to studying music at Eastern.

Alex Drews, a graduate student concentrating in percussion performance, also found an early passion for music.

"My mom always tells me that I started young just banging on pots and pans and stuff in the kitchen when I was a young kid," Drews said.

Drews said he was drawn to playing percussion instruments because of the versatility of instruments, and how they can be used.

"You can be playing very heavy in a rock and roll band or playing a very delicate triangle in an orchestral piece," Drews said. "There's so many ways they can be utilized, and unlike any other instrument, I would say, there are so many different instruments to master. It's kind of like a challenge, like how many can you get."

Drews said that growing up, he got involved in music ensembles, and that allowed him to work with band directors and private music teachers that had a passion for playing instruments.

"People being passionate about an instrument is very infectious, so it also sparked that in me," Drews said. "That's probably why I decided, because of the influence of my teachers and just how fun it is."

Drews said that because his teachers were a huge influence on him, he would like to be a teacher someday and share his passion for music with his students.



BY ROB LE CATES | THE DAILY EASTERN NEWS

From left, David Oliveira Martins, a graduate student studying music, and Garrison Reed, a junior music education major perform as the Panther Marching Band Drum Line during the PMB Concert in the Dvorak Concert Hall Sunday afternoon.

"I want to learn as much of it as possible and then go off and share it with whoever's interested," Drews said.

Reed said he was also inspired by his teachers, specifically his band director and history teacher, to pursue a career in music education.

"Watching what [my history teacher] did and what my band director did for not only me, but all his other students he had, it finally clicked with me that this is what I was meant to do," Reed said. "I wanted to be a teacher and not only teach something that I'm passionate about, but try to break the stigma behind teaching in general."

Reed said that he often heard people say that those who can't do, teach, and he wants to break that stigma.

"We don't do it because we can't do anything else, it's because we want you to be as good as the greats in your field," Reed said.

There are not only misconceptions about music teachers, but also about percussionists in general.

"There's a lot of big misconceptions about the percussion world, especially when it comes to drums or the drum set," Reed said. "The biggest ones being, 'Oh you just hit stuff' or 'Drummers aren't musicians' or even 'Drummers are stupid.'"

Drews said that percussion instruments are ones where "you're doing something very simple looking, but there's so many nuances into what you're actually doing."



BY ROB LE CATES | THE DAILY EASTERN NEWS

The Panther Marching Band Drum Line performs during the PMB Concert in the Dvorak Concert Hall Sunday

"On the outside, it can seem like I'm just hitting these big drums, but I'm actually making highly calculated decisions," Drews said. "What we do can seem simplistic, but it's actually hard to make it sound good rather than just banging on drums."

Reed said that it can be challenging to master techniques needed for every percussion instrument and that the "finest details matter to create the most beautiful sounds you can from that instrument," especially when you have to learn how to play multiple instruments.

He said that his professors and band directors at Eastern have helped him a lot on his journey as a percussionist.

"My professor has done a lot that's helped me as far as becoming a better musician and helping make my weaknesses much stronger on instruments I'm not as strong on and getting even better at the ones I know well," Reed said. "The same could also be said for both of our band directors we have here. They've really pushed me to become a better musician and I couldn't be happier with the work I do here."

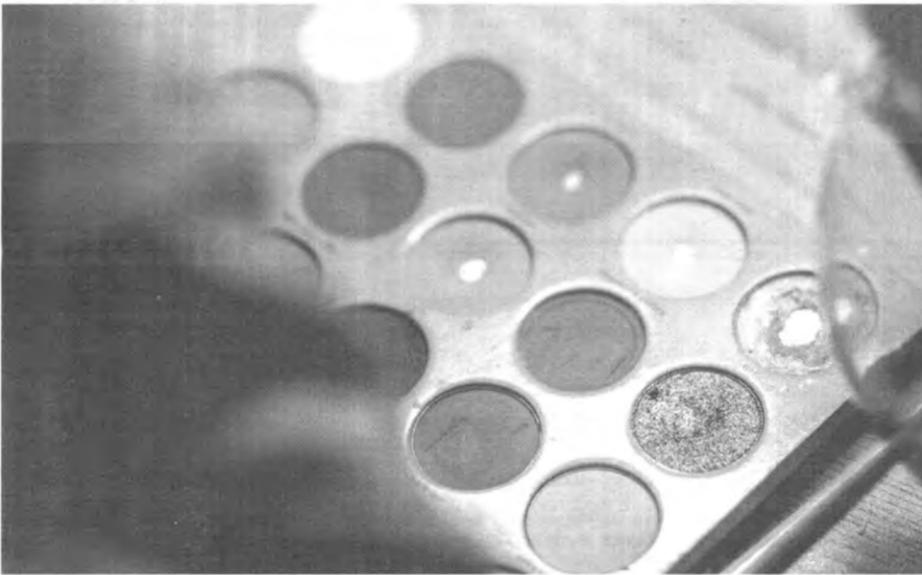
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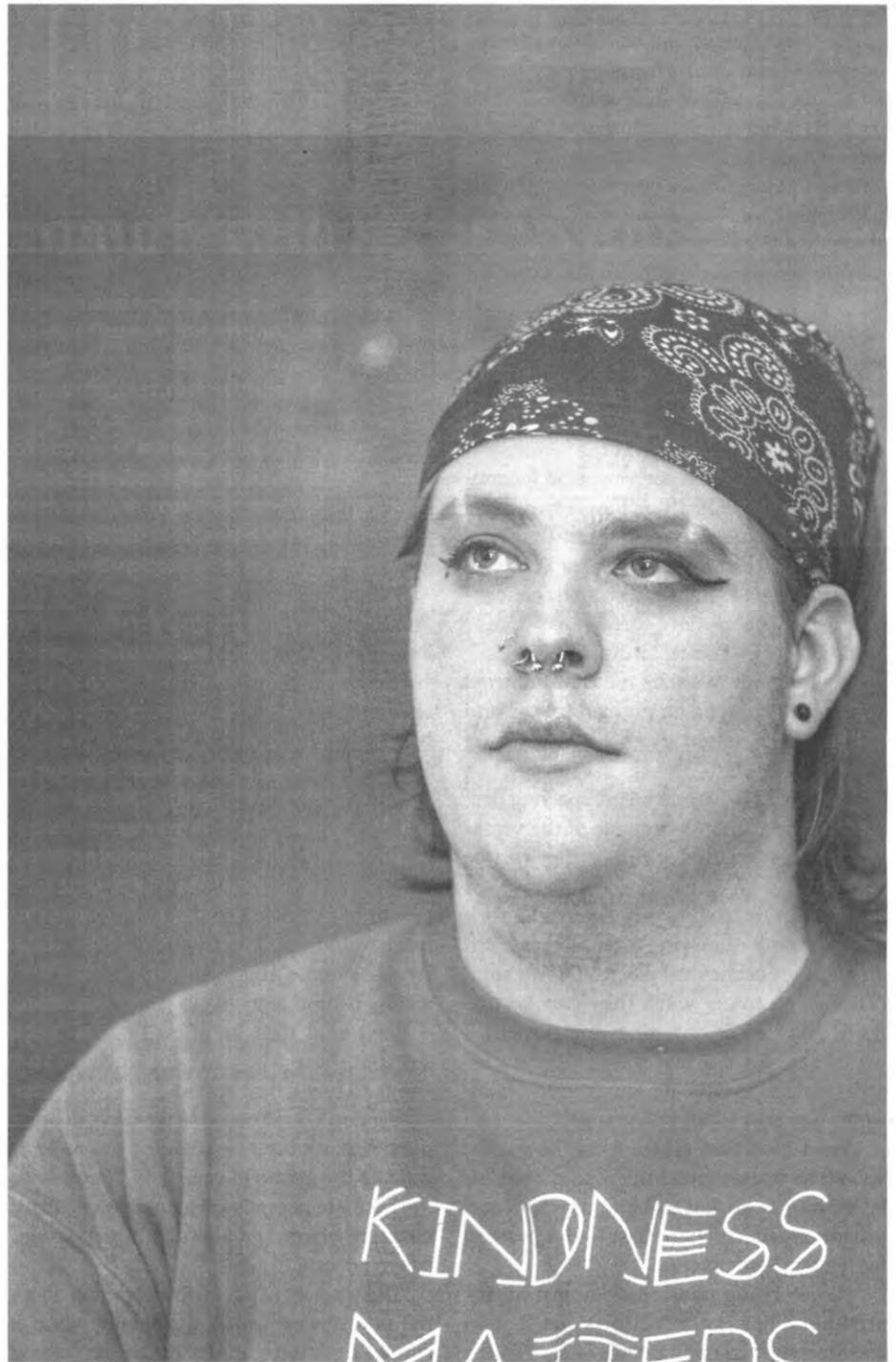
Makeup: Art on a different canvas

Photos by Rob Le Cates
Photo Editor | @robert_lecates

For Jonathan Carley, a sophomore psychology major, applying daily makeup allows them an outlet to release their inner artist. Carley said their look depends on their mindset for the day; some days Carley feels maximalist so they apply more makeup, some days they feel minimalist so they apply less.



Above: Carley has been applying warm tone makeup for the fall season, saying even for the days when they don't want to have an extravagant look, they still apply a small amount of makeup.



Above: With more than 100 pairs of earrings to stylize with their outfits and makeup, Carley said their current favorite pair is storm cloud earrings. Carley said although they don't always wear earrings, they constantly wear tunnels to stretch their ears.

Left: Carley said they typically do some makeup every day varying from simple eyeliner to full dos. Carley said they once did drag for a group of friends. Although they didn't like the experience, they still find enjoyment in doing makeup every day.

Theatre students to perform four original plays

By Cam'ron Hardy

Campus Junior Editor | @DEN_News

The New Works Festival is a four-day-long festival of multiple plays directed by current Eastern students and published by other directors.

Nathaniel Revish, a senior theatre major, is directing two plays titled "On Pointe" and "Cruel Nature." "On Pointe" was written by Alyssa Marino, and "Cruel Nature" was written by Jurnee Evans.

Revish said "On Pointe" is about a young man who takes ballet as a hobby, and his father is not supportive of his decision, while his mother encourages his decision.

The story also takes audience members through his experience and troubles.

Revish said the message behind "On Pointe" is "not letting criticism hold you back."

"[It's also about] not letting negative energy prevent you from being your true self [and not] having a negative outlook on life," Revish said.

"Cruel Nature" is about two young women where one of them is imprisoned and has a curse upon her where she has lost the ability to touch anyone around her, and her partner tries to free her of her curse, and they end up in another realm and try to reunite, Revish said.

"The main message behind this play is to not let any object take over love," Revish said.

Revish hopes the audience takes away the meaning of achieving your goals from the two plays.

"What I hope audience members takes away from both of my plays is not only be open to new experiences and to new opportunities and options, [is the] message for 'On Pointe,' but for 'Cruel Nature' as well," Revish said. "What they can take away from that is to not let anything hold them back to achieve their goal. No matter what sorts of struggles life hits them with, no matter how many punches are hitting them in the face, just to push through and really achieve their goal."

Although he loves both of his plays equally, Revish said that "Cruel Nature" was his favorite play to work on due to the message and what he was allowed to put into the cast and crew of the play.

"I love both my plays equally, don't get it twisted, but "Cruel Nature," I really do love the message more behind it and just the heart and soul that was put into it," Revish said.

Revish is proud of the work the casts have put in for both plays.

"I just want to say how extremely proud of my cast and everything that they've been a part of the last few weeks of just putting everything in," Revish said. "Both my 'On Pointe' cast and my 'Cruel Nature' cast for just helping out, putting in the hours, really diving into these characters and really making this process really easy and really amazing for not only myself, but everyone else, involved."

Tasima Allen, a senior theatre arts major, is directing a play titled "Threesome." The play is about a toxic masculine relationship where one man is in a relationship with two women and one of them does not like it but tolerates it. The playwright was Yussel El Guindi.

Allen wants audience members to not stay in relationships like this.

"If you're in a toxic relationship, don't stay in it," Allen said. "Leave. I feel like this

generation can really relate since a lot of people might be going through this."

Allen said that the actor's choices towards each other, lighting, sound, movements and costumes were some of the directorial choices she made that were different from the original play.

Allen said that they want the actors to have fun and audience members to enjoy the play and learn a lesson from the play, since they might relate to some of the characters

Latrelle Bright is a guest director for plays titled "A Rare Bird" and "Anniversary," which were created by Bella Poynton.

Bright describes both plays as "companion pieces."

"They are both kind of about freedom, but from different perspectives," Bright said. "One kind of moves from the outside-in, and the other moves from the inside-out. They are definitely in the world of magical realism, so some pretty unbelievable things happen."

Bright also said that she sees audience members "being able to identify with at least three of the characters. Maybe seeing themselves in those characters and hopes, dreams, and desires for something different and the courage to take the step and make the change for what you want."

Bright said that what Poynton has written is "rich," in response to what directorial changes she has made.

"I didn't have to add anything," Bright said. "I think there is nuance between both couples [in 'A Rare Bird' and 'Anniversary']. Where I kind of focused was defining those nuances in people in relationships. Two people who don't know each other and end up closer. They seem to be kind of close in the beginning and how that distance just keeps getting bigger and bigger throughout the scene."

Bright also talks about what she wants audience members to know about the play in general.

"The only things I want people to think about and appreciate is about young people making art and thanking them for coming out and supporting New Work," Bright said.

Bright's plays will be performed, but are not part of the student performances.

Raven Moore, a senior theatre arts major, is directing a play called "Vagabond." The play was written by Ethan Homier.

Moore says that she found the play interesting because "It touches base on how life works. It's not always pretty and we have to find a way how to cope with those not-so-pretty moments."

Moore explained the message behind the play.

"The message behind the play that both the writer, and I talked about was no matter how alone you feel, or how messed up things get, do not give up," Moore said. "There are going to be hard periods, but you can't give up on hope. That if you let someone be there for you, they can help you pick up the pieces."

Moore said that the play "has been a very fun process."

"We have been rehearsing for two months, three days a week with two hours of rehearsal for each practice," Moore said.

During the process of bringing the play to life, Moore said when they were casting the characters, they ended up changing the gender of a character.

"This process was a little different to direct than a play I have done before due to us genderbending one of the main roles,"



BY ASHANTI THOMAS | THE DAILY EASTERN NEWS

Emily Thorpe, a junior music performance major, performs as the character Maeryn in "Cruel Nature" during the dress rehearsal for the New Works Festival play Monday night in the Theatre of Doudna Fine Arts Center.



BY ASHANTI THOMAS | THE DAILY EASTERN NEWS

The first play in the New Works Festival called "On Pointe," features a young man who dances in ballet and struggles with having a disapproving father who judges him for being a man in ballet.

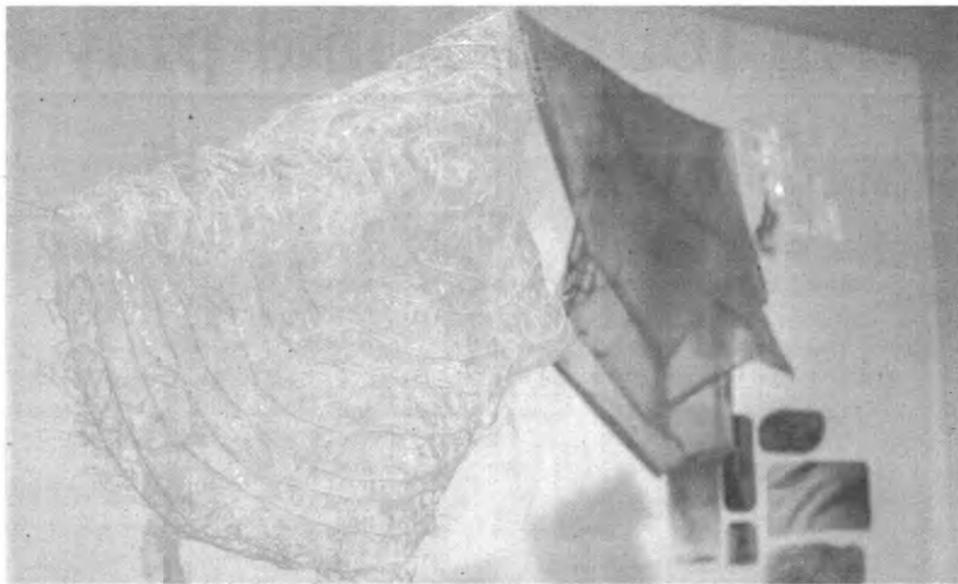
Moore said. "Our character, Jacklyn, was originally Jacob, but after auditions and finding who would fit the role the best, the author and I went back and gender-bent the character. So, a lot of our work during rehearsal went into finding the truth in this character that kept the truth of Jacob but also told the truth of Jacklyn. In every play, we have a costume/scenic crew and with six plays being done we have all worked together to make sure everything gets done for each play so we all have ev-

erything we need."

The performances will be held between Thursday and Sunday. Performances held between Thursday and Saturday will start at 7:30 p.m. and the performance taking place on Sunday will begin at 2:30 p.m.

The event will be held in the Doudna Fine Arts Center in the Theatre.

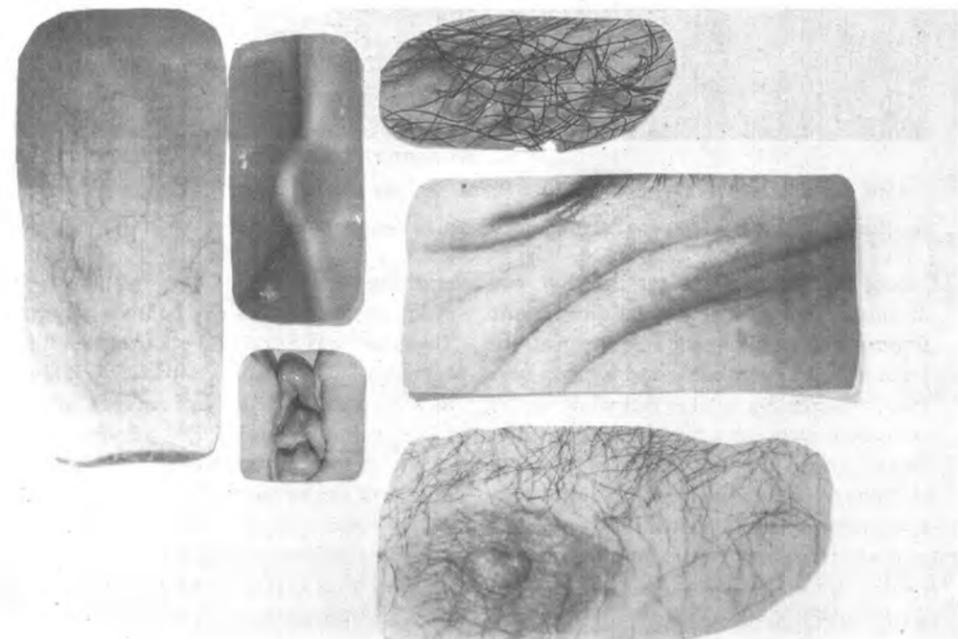
Drew Coffey contributed to this article. Cam'ron Hardy can be reached at 581-2812 or at cahardy@eiu.edu.



Above: Grace West, a graduate student studying art, poses with a cloak of dried Elmers Glue and various shampoos and conditioners wrapped around her at the Burl Ives Studio. She wanted to explore mixed media by using Elmers Glue and different textures to allow viewers to use all five of their senses. West said she wants to be able to do a variety of things with her work ranging from molding it to resemble body parts promoting body positivity to sewing and constructing apparel.

Top: For inspiration, West took picture of her and her partner's bodies to help imagine what shape her work will take.

Bottom: West is combining many different smells, feels and looks into her work. She has already combined a hairlike material, an assortment of colors and different shampoos and conditioners into her current work.



Students tell stories

Story by Adriana Hernandez-Santana
Features Junior Editor | @DEN_News

Photos by
Photo Editor

Art; a word that takes many forms. For some, it can mean music, while for others, it can be theatre. For many of the students here on campus, it can also mean physical artwork.

Art is everywhere, and for three students, it can be created through struggles, beauty and pain.

Grace West, a graduate student studying art, is currently working on a piece that focuses on the body and how it changes over time. The trick? She's using glue as her main material.

"I'm working with glue.. So these kinds of structures are made up like Elmers glue, like a PVA kind of glue," West said. "The ones that are more transparent are like a gel medium."

To help create this piece of art, West said that she has taken pictures of her own body, as well as her partner's body to showcase age and growth.

"With age or as we grow, our bodies change and that usually comes with

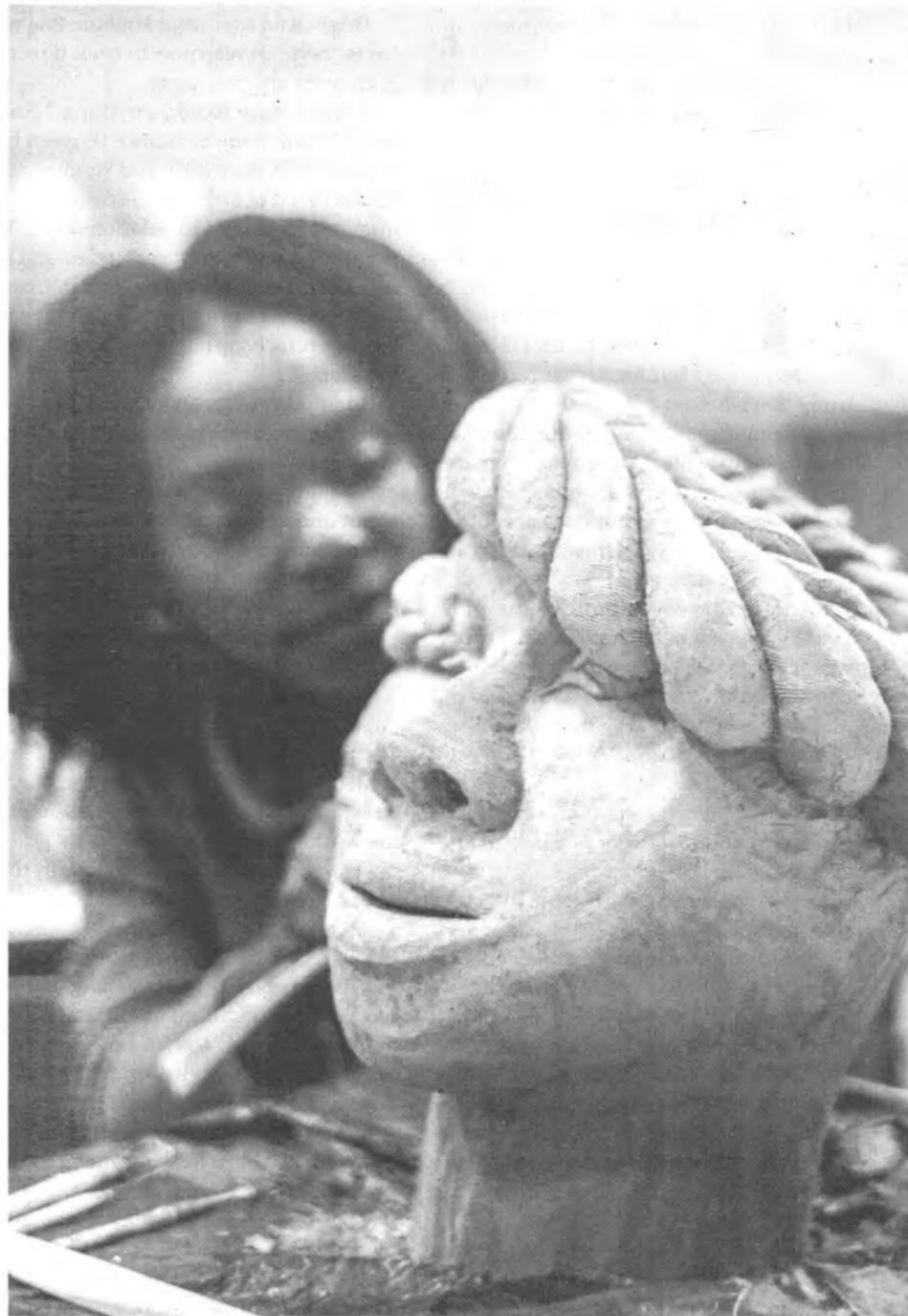
marks, hair, stretch marks, wrinkles, smile lines, so things that we want to like celebrate," West said. "But society tells us that they need to go away like we need a face blurring cream, or something like that."

West admitted to struggling to love herself with all the societal standards of beauty out there.

She hopes that through her piece she can not only love herself more, but actually allow people to love themselves for who they are and accept these imperfections.

"I've had difficulty with this myself and trying not to conform," West said. "So this art is basically about trying to make myself find these things, these parts of me beautiful, and hopefully allowing other people to see them."

Candy Fordjour Frimpong, a graduate student studying art, wants to share her story of being an immigrant in her current art piece.



Above: Candy Fordjour Frimpong, a graduate student studying art, details her ceramics project in the Ceramics Studio. Fordjour Frimpong said coming to the United States from Ghana has been challenging for her, and that she hopes to find herself through her art.

Right: Fordjour Frimpong said her hope is to find herself through her work. Taking her adviser's suggestion, she branched into ceramics and molds.

s through their art

Rob Le Cates
@robert_lecates

Photos by Ashanti Thomas
Assistant Photo Editor | @ashantilaraee

"Being in a new space, I feel like I have to explore myself better to know myself and a way of navigating my way around here," Frimpong said. "That's the main reason why. And through that I have these feelings, thoughts about where I've been, so that is my main focus. And I incorporate this and the feelings and thoughts that I experienced and some of the immigrants are on here, their experience as well. That is what I incorporate in my work."

Upon further inspection of her piece, most audience members will see that the people in the creation do not have eyes. Frimpong said this symbolizes language barriers, and how it can sometimes be difficult to communicate.

"So most of my work, they don't have eyes cause communication is not there, always somewhat limited," Frimpong said.

Ashley Spencer, a senior studio art major, said she is working on some ce-

ramic pieces that symbolizes something beautiful being hurt and abused.

She starts by explaining how her vessel, a vase, is similar to the human body. It has the foot, the belly, the neck and the lip. But then, as the viewer may notice, there are indentations all over the neck, all over the body.

This can leave the viewer to believe that behind a vessel so beautiful, tragedy has struck too.

"I took this idea and applied it to physical abuse," Spencer said. "When you make a precious thing, when you build it from the ground up like a child, why would you ever hit it? Why would you ever destroy it? Why would you ever mark it for life? So that is the commentary here, which is physical abuse."

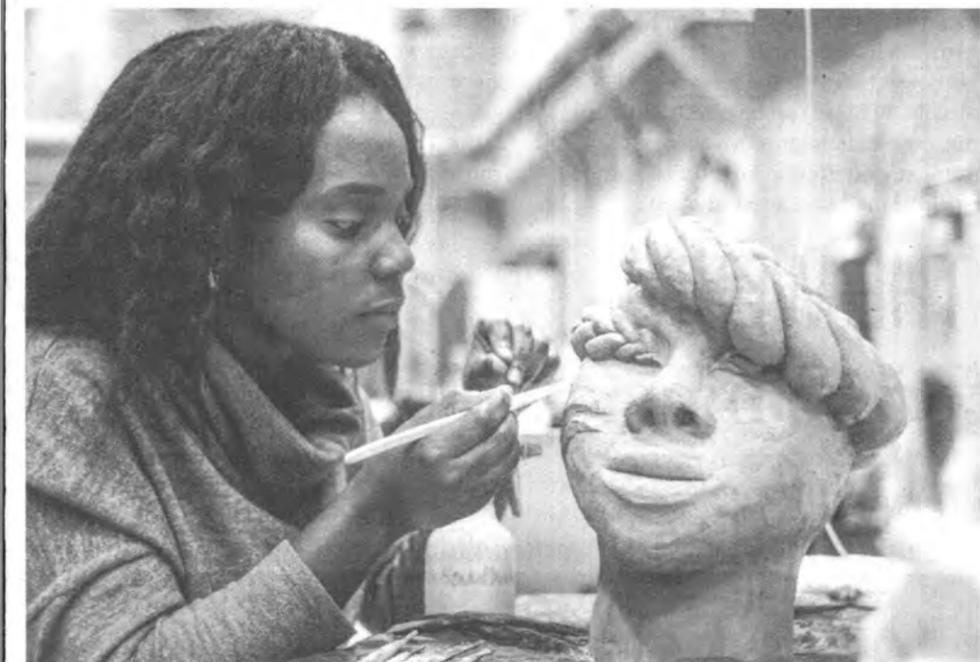
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Above: Ashley Spencer, a senior 3D studio major with a focus in ceramics, shows off her newest art piece that she's been working on which she explains is a commentary on being a mixed race artist.

Top right: Spencer shows off her creations inspired by "Avatar: The Last Airbender" with ceramics that represent fire, air, and water.

Right: Spencer talks about her art and what it means to her. Spencer said she works "really hard to make stuff that is meaningful, stuff that is impactful." Spencer has worked on these pieces over the course of the fall semester in Doudna Fine Arts Center.



Above: Ashley Spencer, a senior 3D studio major with a focus in ceramics, shows her sculpture named Albert and demonstrates how it is a freeform piece due to the square not being physically attached.

EDITORIAL

Recognize the arts around our campus

Believe it or not, there is art all around us. Yes, there are more than corn fields in central Illinois.

Just take our Doudna Fine Arts Center (DFAC) for example. Instead of using Doudna as a short cut to get to class, take moment and appreciate the art there.

On the weekends and sometimes during the week there are many recitals and concerts that take place. Students can also see if there are "student rush tickets."

These tickets are free. There is a limited amount, but you can ask the box office the day of. Remember your panther card!

There is much more to Doudna than concerts. If you walk down the art wing, there are constantly exhibits on display, literally covering the whole wing.

There is also the Tarble Arts Center. While DFAC holds a lot of musical events, Tarble Arts Center has more classical art. They hold certain events that expose students to diverse cultural ideas and art styles from around the world.

While it is important to appreciate these more classical mediums of art, there is so much that art encompasses.

There are programs and groups on campus that focus on different media like video production, fashion, merchandising, graphic design, and film studies.

Multiple different media of art that goes into that single theatre production. Someone designed and made the costumes, scenery, props, and even planned out the actor's make up. Along with the visual effects, someone may have choreographed the dance numbers or even thought about the musicians in the pit providing the music for the production.



Comic by Will Simmons

There are multiple people that come here to share their heritage's art, whether they're from the U.S. or are an international student- like Candy Fordjour Frimpong.

This student is from Ghana and is described as an advocate of art for social change. Her goal for art is to help spread di-

versity and find a direction for her life. Although we see art on the surface, they may have a deep, meaningful depiction underneath.

At *The News*, we appreciate international students for sharing their different perspectives to our small, rural community.

So next time you are walking around

DFAC, Tarble Arts Center, or even seeing art being created around campus, take a moment to stop and appreciate that artist's work and inspiration.

There is a lot to learn from everyone, but especially the art they are capable of creating to show who they are and what they are passionate about.

COLUMN

Artistic inspiration comes from unexpected places

"Art" is one of the broadest categories I can think of. Everything from oil paintings to architecture to design of everyday objects is art- not to mention modern art movements which ask us to push boundaries.

Journalism isn't classified as an art for good reason; journalists rely on audiences being able to expect a certain level of consistency and standards we're held to.

Still, creative writing skills come into play as we try to craft engaging content so people want to read the news we share.

I was never a great storyteller. I've had good ideas, unique fictional concepts... but no idea how to form them into a narrative without getting buried in every other idea.

I get bored after the first page of my great novel.

Just before the pandemic, I picked up a new hobby I truly never expected: I started playing Dungeons & Dragons.



Luke Taylor

Each player operates as a unique character with their own backstory, motivations and talents. One "game master" controls any other characters, as well as the world around them, providing the story beats for all the players to interact with and change

the outcomes of. This is like the lamest, most nerdy thing I do. I sit and play pretend with my best friends once a week.

D&D, as well as other tabletop role-playing games, is a fantastic exercise in fictional storytelling. It has singlehandedly taught me how to craft a satisfying arc. The connection you form with these characters over such a long span of time means you gain an understanding of what they need to reach a resolution.

Not to mention, if you're the GM, there's a lot of pressure to be consistent with characters and information in whatever setting your story is happening in.

This doesn't scratch the surface of all the social skills TTRPGs can help with: problem solving, cooperation, improvisation, etc.

I'm most grateful for how these games have helped me as an artist, though.

I've learned how to accurately describe places and situations my audience has never seen. I've can put myself in different perspectives as much as you can in fiction.

Being involved in this hobby has also enabled me to see the people who are pushing boundaries, bringing new genres to tabletop games; I've seen concepts like Regency-era fiction, post-apocalyptic stories or even "The Great British Baking Show."

Art is in everything we do, even the impermanent tableaux imagined over weekly Zoom calls. Branch out and try a weird, dorky hobby. You might find unexpected inspiration, and you'll definitely be exposed to creatives with entirely different ideas and perspectives than your own.

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QUESTION OF THE WEEK:

Where do you listen to music?



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COLUMN

What we say to and about people matters

Throughout my time in college, I have encountered many different people. Meeting new people and learning about life experiences that are different from mine has been an eye opening experience.

Not everyone grew up or was raised the way that we were. I feel that it's hard for us to realize this because we are accustomed to certain beliefs and experiences that we don't realize that other people may not be used to the way that we operate.

I say all of this to say that we tend to prematurely judge people based on what we believe or were taught. Is it simply part of our nature to judge based on what we are told or what we see? I think it is.

We judge people without even knowing it. We see people walking down the street, we may say things to ourselves about their hair, the clothes they're wearing, the way they walk, etc.

It's not necessarily a bad thing, as long as we aren't actively degrading or putting someone down for these choices. Everyone doesn't do this to be mean, some people are genuinely shocked to know that people op-



Kyla Moton

erate in a way different from them.

The thing about it, though, is that we must come to terms with the fact that not everyone has the same beliefs or moral systems. For example, politics is a great topic to discuss when talking about judgment.

Election season always brings out different beliefs in people, which tends to spark debates across social media and real life conversations. These debates on political issues divide families and friendships, and

some with good reason.

Some of the beliefs that politicians exude are more about civil rights, which have become political issues unfortunately.

The lives of real people are behind the beliefs and laws that politicians put into place.

Think about how it feels to have your rights being placed into a political debate instead of a debate about basic human rights.

We saw it in the push back during the Breonna Taylor case. Republican politicians, such as Ohio senate candidate J.D. Vance, went against the "mainstream" story of Taylor's murder case and said that her death is justified because Taylor's boyfriend was shooting at the police.

But when looking at the circumstances of the situation at hand, Taylor did not deserve to lose her life. The loss of any life is devastating, especially seeing that Breonna Taylor had a multitude of people that loved and admired her.

Social media reinforced this idea that Breonna Taylor's death was justified, and her family and close friends were highly up-

set at the way people were trying to twist the events of the night her murder took place to make it seem like she was in the wrong.

It shouldn't have mattered if drugs were involved, if her boyfriend shot at the police, or if she had previous run-ins with the law, she was not doing anything wrong in the moment and should not have lost her life.

I say all of this to say that we must do better when we speak to people. The impact that our words have is so detrimental to how we make a person feel.

If we are constantly putting people down for who they are or how they choose to express themselves, then people will continue to have a negative perception of us.

If these are not your intentions, then it would be essential to start choosing your words wisely, because you never know what those words could mean to someone.

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Quote of the Week:

" It's hard to see things when you are too close. Take a step back and look. "

- Bob Ross

COLUMN

The Killers' "Mr. Brightside" is the greatest song ever made

I don't care what anyone says, "Mr. Brightside" is the greatest song ever made.

Imagine this- you've been coming out of your cage and you've been doing just fine. However, you've got to be down, because you want it all. It started out with a kiss, but how did it end up like this? It was only a kiss!

If this doesn't sound familiar to you at all, you might as well stop reading this column; it's not for you because you obviously have no taste. Harsh words, but truer have never been written. That's right, friends, "Mr. Brightside" is alive and well.

You might be wondering how a song that came out in 2004 can be called the greatest when music has been around for almost a trillion years. The answer is simple- it's simply that good.

That song was one of the only reasons I could stand to stay inside Stu's for longer than 30 seconds back when I had a social life.

Of course the DJs would always ruin it by playing some crappy EDM remix where you could only tell the difference



Will Padgett

after the beginning section ended (they would do the same thing with "Welcome to The Black Parade").

If you're going to play a banger, play the whole thing, you cowards. Every time I would go into Stu's and they would cut "Mr. Brightside" short to play their dubstep at just the right frequency to make every person in a 100 yard radius spill their drink, I'd be seconds away from fighting (and subsequently losing to) the DJs.

I feel like, if every person were to be

subjected to a mandatory daily listening of "Mr. Brightside", we'd likely see the end of warfare and 1,000 years of peace.

Not only that, but according to a doctor I found sleeping under the local overpass, "Mr. Brightside" can cure any disease. There, I said it, now would you get outta here?!" If that isn't the news of the century, I don't know what is.

I'm going to be honest with you guys: that was actually all I had planned for the column this week. I, uh, don't quite know where to go from here.

How...how's your day going? Mine's going okay, I guess. I made dinner for myself last night and it kind of sucked, honestly.

My mom keeps saying I need to settle down and, like, get hitched but who's got time for that, you know? I'm in the prime of my youth and my back has only barely started to hurt on a regular basis.

This column really went downhill fast, huh? It seemed to have a pretty good start and yet here we are, having an awkward one-on-one conversation.

Oh! None of you tried to solve that

National Treasure-esque puzzle I laid out in one of my earlier columns. What was that about? You guys are just too tired to do some extracurricular thinking?

It's not like you would've solved it anyway; I made it literally impossible. But I bet you didn't even try, did you? You probably saw that it was me writing it and immediately dismissed it as frivolous.

See, that's just like you, I try my hardest to write total crap and you sit there and enjoy it! What's wrong with you? You're acting just like your mother.

Sorry, it's been a tough week; it's hard being a comedic genius and all. Anyway, this column has turned into a total dumpster fire. I can't promise it'll get any better in the weeks to come, but if you're not used to my garbage by now I don't think you'll ever get there. See you next week, gamers!

Will Padgett is a graduate student majoring in being better than you. He can be reached at wpadgett14@gmail.com or 217-581-2812.



LAST WEEK'S RESULTS
100% of respondents say they're registered to vote!



Turnaround for Panthers leads to home opener win

By Kate Stevens

Assistant Sports Editor | @katestevens25

The Eastern women's basketball team struggled in the first half as they trailed University of Missouri Saint Louis going into halftime but came out in the second half a new team as they beat UMSL 65-54 in their season home opener Monday evening.

The Panthers were led by senior guard Lariah Washington who recorded 22 points, six rebounds, three steals, and two assists.

Fifteen of her 22 points came in the second half.

EIU was down by 11 points with about four minutes remaining in the second half. The Panthers were struggling offensively until the turnaround layup by junior guard Jacqueline Maulucci assisted by freshman guard Lyric Johnson lit the crowd up and spoke life into EIU.

That play led to a set of two last minute three-point shots by Washington and sophomore

Miah Monahan to close the gap to an Eastern three-point deficit that brought the score to 28-25 at the half.

Coach Matt Bollant said that they made adjustments at the half to come back out to turn the team's momentum around.

Bollant said he challenged Washington to get some more shots in and for sophomore forward Macy McGlone to get more shots and rebounds in the second half.

He wanted to the team as a whole to go out and get more rebounds.

He also saw the positives going into the half on the defensive end of things and was confident in his team going into the half.

"I felt like we were fine because we



BY MONIQUE PETERSON | THE DAILY EASTERN NEWS

Lyric Johnson (4), a freshman guard brings the ball up the court during the women's basketball exhibition game against the Missouri-St. Louis Tritons at Lantz Arena Monday evening. Johnson had four rebounds, one steal and two assists. The Panthers won 65-54 against the Tritons

were defending even though we didn't play well offensively, we were only down three," Bollant said. "I knew eventually we'd start making the shots."

Monahan said the team had to bring the energy going into the third quarter.

Washington echoed her thoughts and said that as they usually struggle in the third quarter, they had to bring the energy to be their best.

The Panthers turned their game around and dominated in the second half. They scored 40 points compared to their first half 25.

As Bollant and Washington said they usually struggle in the third quarter,

the third quarter was statistically the best for them as they outscored UMSL 21 points to 12.

Washington said it meant a lot that the team could make adjustments and made the third quarter their best one of the game rather than the alternative.

"Just coming out and having that one be our best one just showed a lot," Washington said.

Monahan said that the turnaround showed that the team acts on what they talk about in the locker room at halftime.

"It means a lot, it shows how we care so much," Monahan said. "You can say

so many things and not actually act on it. It's a good feeling that like, people are listening and actually acting on it."

They also had a lead of 14 during the fourth quarter as they started to slow down their play as time dwindled down.

The turnaround in the second half led to the Panthers taking the 65-54 win and getting their first win of the season.

The Panthers will play their first game on the road at Western Illinois on Monday evening.

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COLUMN

Athletes and their sport should be categorized as art

Athletes are artists.

The Merriam Webster definition of art is a "skill acquired by experience, study, or observation."

Anyone who practices a skill over-time and performs, shows, or expresses it is an artist.

Athletes absolutely are artists because of the time and effort they put in to study, observe, and practice it.

It is truly amazing to see athletes perform whether it is with a team or individually.

Athletes are just like artists because they also practice each and every day to create something beautiful for others to enjoy and to be the best that they can possibly be.

As athletes grow and learn in their respective sports, they become masterful in what they are doing.

A small percentage of them go on to do it for a living and have become household names and are simply the best at what they do.

Sports are a form of art that nearly everyone in the world enjoys or at least witnesses at some point in their lives.

Each year events such as the World



Kate Stevens

Series, WBNA and NBA finals, the World Cup, the Super Bowl, the US Open, the Little League World Series, March Madness, and a plethora of other youth, high school, college, and professional athletic events draw an enormous number of fans who witness some of the most beautiful art that these talented athletes have to offer.

People just need to realize that these are people just like us and they provide us with some of the best memories of our lives.

One that specifically sticks out to me was when the Chicago Cubs won the World Series for the first time in 108 years in 2016.

I was only 15 at the time and my brother and I were so excited to see the Cubs in game 7.

I will never forget the last play when Mike Montgomery's pitch was hit and bounced to Kris Bryant who quickly tossed it over to Anthony Rizzo for the final out where the Cubs won 8-7.

Then, all the players and staff stormed the field and celebrated arguably one of the most beautiful moments in sports history.

My brother and I bonded so much in that moment and remember it clearly after six years have already passed.

We were filled with emotion as we watched that singular play unfold. We are filled with emotions as we reminisce. It felt like such a movie. It was perfect.

These moments in sports history are things, just as art, that cannot really be replicated in a way that will make people feel as good as the first time they see it.

We are so lucky that we get to wit-

ness these moments or these pieces of art that athletes and teams provide us.

We get to witness these masterpieces here at EIU as well. These moments leave us anxious and excited.

In my short time here I've seen amazing things come from all of the teams that we have here. If you love the art of sports, please go watch the talent this campus has to offer.

Every single team on this campus has amazing artists and they all work hard to perfect their craft to better themselves and their teams and for the enjoyment of us all.

While we don't exactly see win after win, we see bits of beauty come out of them all.

Even singular plays, as I mentioned earlier, can fill us with so much emotion and we remember these things for the rest of our lives.

Like I said, each team truly has something to offer, and you ought to go fill the stands to see these artists at work.

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Volleyball team at the top of OVC statistics

By Autumn Schulz
Sports Editor | @autschulz

The Eastern volleyball team has three matches left in the regular season before the OVC Tournament on Nov. 17 and many of its players have found themselves at the top of the OVC standings.

The Panthers are currently 14-14 overall. After their two recent losses coming at the hands of Tennessee Tech, the Panthers are 8-7 in the OVC.

The Panthers are second in the OVC as a team in both assists and kills. They have 846 assists for the season, and they average 11.61 per set.

For kills, the Panthers have 907 as a team and average 12.60 per set. They are also second in digs with 1,145 and average 15.90 per set.

Sophomore outside hitter Kaitlyn Flynn has been the spark in the Panthers' offense this season.

Flynn missed the first few weeks of the season due to injury but since then, Flynn has been at the top of the OVC.

Flynn is first in the OVC in kills with 208. She averages 4.24 kills per set.

Her performance this season has put Flynn at No. 20 in the nation.

Flynn saw her double digit kill streak of 15 matches come to an end this past weekend against Tennessee Tech.

Flynn had 16 kills in the first game and six kills in the second game.

Her season high of kills came against Eastern Kentucky with 29 kills.

Her second highest was against OVC newcomer Southern Indiana when she posted 27 at the net.

Flynn has grown as a player



BY HAN BYER | THE DAILY EASTERN NEWS

The Panther volleyball team celebrates scoring a point against the Tennessee Tech Golden Eagles at Lantz Arena. The Panthers lost 3-1.

throughout her last two seasons as a Panther.

Last season, Flynn posted only 42 kills and 20 digs.

This season, Flynn has managed to smack down 331 kills and save dig 172 times.

Right under Flynn in the OVC standings is fellow opposite hitter Giovana Larregui Lopez.

Lopez had 190 kills and averages 3.58 per set.

Against the Golden Eagles, Lopez had a career-high of 26 kills as it marked her fourth 20 kill match this season.

Lopez is also fifth in the OVC in service aces with 21 for the season.

Lopez had a career high in digs against Oakland when she posted 20 digs to go along with her 17 kills.

Defensively, junior libero Christina Martinez Mundo continues to lead the Panthers this season.

The libero is No. 19 in the nation in digs per set as she averages 5.05. Mundo is also No. 12 in the nation in total digs with 535.

In the OVC, Mundo is second in digs with 395. Mundo's season high in digs came against Chicago St. when she had 38.

Against the Golden Eagles, Mundo had 12 digs in the first game and 13 digs in the second.

Freshman setter Catalina Rochaix is currently ninth in the OVC in assists.

Rochaix has 409 assists and averages 5.84 per set.

Against the Golden Eagles, Rochaix had a career high of 44 assists in the

first game.

In the second game, Rochaix had 24 to lead the Panthers.

Her second highest match this season was against UT Martin when she had 43 assists.

Rochaix leads the team in assists with 622.

Rochaix also steps up on the defensive side of the ball as well as she had 185 digs for the season.

Rochaix had 13 digs, a career and season high, in the first match of the season against Butler.

The Panthers will be back in Lantz Arena this Wednesday at 6 p.m. to take on Southern Indiana for their last home game of the season.

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COLUMN

Patrick Mahomes is the best 'artist' in the NFL

Even if you are not a fan of Patrick Mahomes and the Kansas City Chiefs, but you are a fan of the NFL, you have heard of Mahomes Magic.

There is not a true definition of Mahomes Magic, but I think Chiefs fans and those alike can agree that Mahomes can make something out of nothing and that is art.

Mahomes Magic is what you need when your team is down by three points to the Buffalo Bills in the AFC Divisional Game, and you only have 13 seconds left to get into field goal range and tie the game.

Spoiler alert, Mahomes did it, in 13 seconds.

Yes, Buffalo Bills fans, I am still hung up on the 13 seconds.

After the game went into overtime and the Chiefs won, sealing their spot in the AFC Championship, and it would not have been possible without Mahomes and his magical arm.

No one makes crazier throws than Mahomes.

Mahomes' ability to avoid getting tackled in the pocket and make a



Autumn Schulz

wild throw as his opponents are at his feet is stunning.

One of the images that continues to stick out in my mind is the completely sideways throw that Mahomes made in Super Bowl LV against Tom Brady and the Tampa Bay Buccaneers.

Tom Brady is not an artist, so, sit down Tom Brady fans.

Mahomes Magic has created something that Mahomes and the Chiefs

offense is known for in the NFL, and you cannot help but appreciate and admire it.

The phrase "Tyreek is down there somewhere" was made for a reason. Although Hill is not my favorite player or person, it is true that he was often on the receiving end of Mahomes' magical throws.

The Chiefs recently took on the Tennessee Titans in a Sunday night football showdown.

The Chiefs were down with seven minutes left to go in the fourth quarter before Mahomes took off and ran in a touchdown.

At this point, I am trying to figure out if my heart needs restarted.

I am sorry Chiefs fans, but we should get some compensation for our hospital bills if they continue to put us in these stressful situations.

Mahomes, on the next drive, then ran in another touchdown on the two-point conversion, sending the game into overtime.

A 28-yard field goal attempt by Harrison Butker sealed the win for

the Chiefs.

The game against the Titans was not only an example of Mahomes Magic but it proved that Mahomes is also an artist when he runs, not just throws.

After the game was over, my Twitter feed was filled with Chiefs players and even players from completely different professional sports commenting on Mahomes and his offense.

Mahomes Magic is nothing new to the sports world, but we should not take his artistry for granted. It is not often a quarterback can step on the field and completely turn the game around, in 13 seconds, nonetheless.

As an avid Chiefs fan, I am excited to see the best artist in the NFL continue to grow and make even crazier plays.

Also, I am looking forward to getting our revenge on Joe Burrow and the Bengals on Dec. 4. Until then, how bout' those Chiefs!

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Volleyball team battles Golden Eagles in close weekend matches

By Autumn Schulz
Sports Editor | @autschulz

It was two days of close calls in Lantz Arena.

The Eastern volleyball team worked to send its seniors out with wins as it battled Tennessee Tech in a weekend showdown, ultimately falling short on both Friday and Saturday.

Some of the shortcomings came at the hands of challenges.

On Friday evening, the Panthers were battling deep into the fourth set with a 24-23 lead.

The ball had gone back and forth between the Panthers and the Golden Eagles four times as each team kept the game alive through their defense.

Sophomore outside hitter Kaitlyn Flynn spiked the ball down to end the back-and-forth, giving the Panthers the 25-23 win. However, the call was challenged and won by Golden Eagles head coach Jeannette Phillips, tying the match 24-24.

Senior middle blocker Ireland Hieb said that winning and losing challenges affects the momentum of the match.

"It definitely shifts the game, like if you don't get it back, you're winning it," Hieb said. "She really listens to us. If there's a touch on the ball, if there's not a touch, like it's really a two-way street."

After the Golden Eagles won the challenge, a series of attack errors by the Panthers allowed the Golden Eagles to build a 26-25 lead.

The Panthers responded as junior outside hitter Giovana Larregui Lopez tied the match once again with a kill on the left side of the net.

However, the Golden Eagles capitalized on a kill and an attack error by the Panthers, sealing the 28-26 victory, and giving the Golden Eagles the 3-1 advantage.

Hieb said that the match was in the hands of the officials but that the hunger to win was sparked by the energy in Lantz.

"It was just, I felt like the game was more in the refs' hands because they kept challenging and we kept challenging and I was just like, we did really the whole game," Hieb said. "We were fighting, like, everyone, even on the bench. It was so loud, and we wanted to win and we're doing everything we could to win."

Flynn and Lopez led the Panthers offensively with 16 and 17 kills, respectively.

Freshman setter Catalina Rochaix set a new career and season high in assists with 44.

Hieb had eight kills and three blocks while Annika Black also had three blocks. The Panthers' defense made their presence known junior libero Christina Martinez Mundo had 12 digs.

Mundo was all over the court as one of her defensive highlights came in the second set when she dove for the ball, ultimately keeping it alive, as she landed in the bleachers behind the Panthers' bench.

Mundo echoed Hieb by saying that playing down to the last few points is what she looks forward to the most.

"It's actually what athletes live for," Mundo said. "I live for those types of moments. So, it's really enjoyable even though we could have finished earlier. It's all right, things happen, it's very unpredictable. So, just like enjoy, like not get tense, just have fun and try to maximize your teammates."



BY HAN BYER | THE DAILY EASTERN NEWS

Seniors Ireland Heib (left), Summerlynn Smith (middle), and Annika Black (right), run out of the fan tunnel before their match against Tennessee Tech at Lantz Arena. The Panthers lost 3-2.



BY HAN BYER | THE DAILY EASTERN NEWS

Outside hitter Giovana Larregui Lopez spikes the ball against Tennessee Tech during their match at Lantz Arena. The Panthers lost 3-2.

Game Two

Senior Day came to Lantz Arena on Saturday evening as the Panthers honored Ireland Hieb, Summerlynn Smith, and Annika Black in a five-set thriller.

The fifth set is always a race to 15 points, and it showed as the Panthers and the Golden Eagles were neck and neck the entire set.

After the block by freshman middle blocker Kate Dean, the crowd in Lantz Arena exploded in cheers as the Panthers had a 13-10 advantage.

The Golden Eagles answered back with a kill and then Lilli Amettis stepped up on the left side to give the Panthers the 14-11 lead.

Senior middle blocker Ireland Hieb said that all she could think about was one thing: winning.

"I think I was just thinking we're gonna win, we're gonna win, we're gonna win and we got so close, and I think that's the hardest part, that we were so close, and we didn't get it," Hieb. "But it's just going into that mindset of we will win. Like next game, I'm going to say that myself."

A kill and a block by the Golden Eagles

then put them within one point of the Panthers.

Madolyn Isringhausen would step up to the net to tie the set 14-14.

Senior outside hitter Annika Black said that as the set came to a tie, all the Panthers could do was give it their everything.

"I was just like, it's do or die at this point, like there's nothing else to give," Black said. "So, just give it your all."

A service ace by Aleeya Jones would give the Golden Eagles the lead and a kill by Brooke Amann would seal the 3-2 win for the Golden Eagles.

Despite the loss, the Panthers had a lot of players step up to the net when it mattered most. Junior outside hitter Giovana Larregui Lopez had a career-high of 26 kills.

In the fifth set, Lopez had three kills back-to-back on the left side of the net, fueling the momentum for Dean's block in the middle.

Freshman outside hitter Lilli Amettis had 11 kills while Kaitlyn Flynn and Kate Dean added six kills each.

Freshman setter Catalina Rochaix led the way with 24 assists.

Hieb said that she and the other seniors are confident that they are leaving behind a talented group of younger players.

"Yeah, I definitely think so," Hieb said. "Like, we have a really good group of freshmen and sophomores and like, I'm really excited to watch them after I graduate and see what they can do."

Senior setter Summerlynn Smith had 20 assists and seven digs to help the defense led by junior libero Christina Martinez Mundo.

Mundo had 13 digs and ten additional Panthers had at least one dig. Hieb and Black each had two block assists while Ella Collins had two solo blocks.

After the game, the three seniors stood together and reflected on their time together as Panthers.

Hieb, who has been a Panther the longest out of the three seniors, said that they are leaving behind a culture that they can be proud of.

"Like, surreal. Like, it feels like yesterday when I committed, and I've been here the longest with Sara and stuff, even before her, and it's just crazy to see how much we've grown," Hieb said. "We've gotten so much closer, and their culture has grown so much, so, I'm really proud of what we're leaving behind."

Black said that accepting the fact that her time as a Panther is not easy.

"I'm not really ready for it to end," Black said. "But, as it's getting closer, it's just more of like really just wanting to give it my all."

Smith went along with Hieb and said that the growth of the Panther volleyball program has made her appreciative.

"I think it's definitely sad but like, I'm just super proud of like I said, what we're leaving behind and how much Panther volleyball had grown in the past couple of years," Smith said.

The Panthers will be back in Lantz Arena for the final home game of the season on Wednesday at 6 p.m. to take on Southern Indiana.

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