

2-5-2003

Daily Eastern News: February 05, 2003

Eastern Illinois University

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Recommended Citation

Eastern Illinois University, "Daily Eastern News: February 05, 2003" (2003). *February*. 3.
http://thekeep.eiu.edu/den_2003_feb/3

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Panthers bust out brooms

Eastern sweeps SEMO for the first time since inaugural season in OVC.

Page 12 SPORTS

Witness says body was 'on display'

◆ *Testimony of crime investigator provides information on point of entry, evidence*

By Shauna Gustafson
SENIOR WRITER

Testimony continued Tuesday, with a now-deceased Illinois State Police investigator testifying via videotape that the body of Shannon McNamara had been "put out on display."

Richard Caudell, a crime scene investigator, said evidence indicated a struggle began in McNamara's bedroom, extended into the hallway, then into the bathroom, where she likely died. Caudell then said the body was dragged or carried into the living room where it would be viewed immediately upon entrance.

More inside

◆ Shannon McNamara to be honored in prayer service tonight
Page 3

in the murder.

Both defense and prosecution focused on the potential use of a credit card to gain entry into McNamara's apartment and found a definitive answer in the testimony of Caudell, who recently died of cancer. He gave his testimony through a deposition videotaped on April 5 in the Coles County Jail.

Evidence including a credit card with defendant Anthony B. Mertz's name on it, a box cutter, razor blade and a piece of a latex glove were identified by Caudell during the course of his nearly five-hour testimony.

Caudell testified that when he arrived at the scene of the crime on June 12, 2001, he had found a screen that had been cut or torn, and the window opened. He said the window was unlocked and had not been forced open.

Caudell said it was "obvious"

Counseling Center ready to help throughout trial

By Nate Bloomquist
NEWS EDITOR

Director of the counseling center David Onestak didn't plan on putting in any overtime this week, but he's ready just in case.

Onestak and counselor Sandy Cox have attended all of the proceedings of the first days of the jury trial of Anthony B. Mertz.

"It's really hard for students and alumni who have come back to see this to go through," Onestak said. "It has been really tough the past couple of days."

Mertz is on trial for the murder of Eastern student Shannon McNamara.

Onestak said it was important for the counseling center to simply have a presence at the trial.

SEE HELP ♦ Page 7

the window had been the point of entry.

The statement could lead to more questions regarding the prosecution's sense that the credit card was used to gain entry to the apartment.

Mertz is charged with first degree murder, aggravated criminal sexual assault and home invasion. He may face the death penalty if convicted.

Caudell also testified in connection with how the crime scene was handled, the procedure for transporting evidence to the crime lab in Springfield and about the autopsy performed June 13, 2001, at Springfield Memorial Medical Center.

SEE WITNESS ♦ Page 7

Not pumped up



STEPHEN HAAS/ASSOCIATE PHOTO EDITOR

The Student Recreation Center has been crowded by an increase of students in the past few weeks. Between intramural athletes and fitness-minded people, the center was used by more than 2,000 students a day during the month of January.

◆ *Some students discouraged by large numbers in rec at peak hours*

By Evan Hill
STAFF WRITER

The Student Recreation Center is a massive complex of fitness, but at this time of year even 75,000 square feet of athletic courts and fitness equipment may not be enough.

Students at the rec may notice it is more crowded than usual.

Attendance records kept by a computer program called "Rectrac" show that in addition to the recent increase overall numbers are up from last year.

Student recreation center attendance records showed that around 2,400 people visited the rec every day in January. However, the records for the last several years also indicate attendance goes down again after January and February.

Students have differing opinions of how much the overcrowding affects them.

Nathan Bichorn, a senior physical education major and an active badminton player, spends most of his day between the rec and the field-house, also located in the rec center.

"I don't know if I've noticed an

increase, but I am more aware of the overcrowding," he said. "It's hard to get anything done if you come in here in around 6 or 7 p.m."

Lynn Petrouski, a sophomore business major, said she is frustrated by the influx of students after winter break.

"If people are going to come to the rec, they should come all year, not just a couple of weeks or couple months before spring break," she said.

Ken Baker, director of campus recreation, said it seems the two main reasons behind the increased attendance are students working on their New Year's resolutions and students wanting to get in shape for spring break.

Ramiro Avina, a graduate student physical education major, works at the rec as a graduate assistant and believes that intramural sports also raised attendance.

"It has always been crowded downstairs in the weight room and now that we have intramural basketball and indoor soccer," he said. "Between the hours of 4 to 7 p.m. there can be as many as 340 students

"I don't know if I've noticed an increase, but I am more aware of the overcrowding."

—Ken Baker

using the rec at any given time."

The free-weights area — the cardiovascular equipment, treadmills — and elliptical trainers and the aerobics classes are also showing signs of crowding.

"The abs classes are really full — we were just there and it was extremely crowded," said Laura Terpstra, a freshman business management major.

The overpopulation can also be seen on the cardiovascular equipment.

"The machines, like the elliptical machines and the bikes, are what we usually have to wait for," said Misty Hughes, a freshman history major.

SEE STUDENTS ♦ Page 9

Administration, faculty expand on negotiation issues

By John Chambers
ADMINISTRATION EDITOR

Information on administration contract proposals on eight issues was made public Tuesday after being distributed at a University Professionals of Illinois meeting last Wednesday.

The issues, which are listed on a flier given to the union members, include patent income and post-tenure review.

The UPI voted in support of strike authorization vote in the closed union meeting last Wednesday, where members also were informed on the progression of negotiations.

The UPI previously identified

the three issues of faculty and staff compensation, workload and online and distance education as primary issues in negotiations before a faculty contract can be settled.

The administration has offered a zero percent salary increase, in addition to a one-time bonus in June, unless there is a recession over \$500,000. The bonus would be equal to 1 percent of faculty salary, the flier says.

The faculty had asked for a salary increase, said UPI chief negotiator Charles Delman.

"A modest salary increase is absolutely appropriate," he said.

Bob Wayland, director of employee and labor relations, confirmed the administration has not

offered an upfront salary increase this year.

The administration is bargaining for post-tenure review every three years, the flier said.

Tenured faculty members are already asked to submit a review summarizing their work each year, but the administration proposal would be for more of an evaluation, instead of just a review, Delman said.

He said the UPI is against any additional review that could be perceived as a threat, especially since tenures "guarantee faculty members complete freedom in pursuit of ideas," after faculty have demonstrated their competency from time spent working at a

university.

Delman said this freedom is a type of protection and the current annual review is no threat to tenure.

Wayland said the administration's proposal would be more expansive than the annual review, but the process alone would not threaten a tenured faculty status.

"It would probably be a little bit more of an extensive review ... similar to what faculty members go through in their probational years," Wayland said.

The income from patents, discussed on the flier, is now decided as the university and faculty staff member see fit, but the administration are now proposing 90 per-

cent of all income be given to the university in some or most situations, Delman said.

"It basically implies that the (university) would generally own patents," Delman said. "There's absolutely no incentive to give the (faculty/staff member) more than 10 percent unless they feel like it."

The university currently has a right to not share any of the patent ownership, but the administration proposal would allow a guaranteed 10 percent be given to faculty, Wayland said.

"(10 percent) is comparable to other universities," he said. "Because this was an issue they

SEE ISSUES ♦ Page 7

Today
Partly cloudy



28° 21°
HIGH LOW

Thursday
Snow showers



31° 6°
HIGH LOW

Friday
Partly cloudy



27° 11°
HIGH LOW

Saturday
Partly cloudy



36° 19°
HIGH LOW

Sunday
Snow showers



29° 14°
HIGH LOW

Monday
Partly cloudy



37° 16°
HIGH LOW

Tuesday
Snow showers



38° 16°
HIGH LOW

Students to get help with resumes

By Matthew Kent
ACTIVITIES REPORTER

Students looking for summer employment or a possible internship could get the help they need if they bring their resume to Career Services Wednesday.

This opportunity will allow students who are registered with Career Services full access to participate in on-campus interviews with potential employers and make appointments with career advisors.

Students wishing to register with Career Services will pay a one-time fee of \$20. Students will be required to bring their resume on a disk, preferably in Microsoft Word format and free pizza and soda will be offered from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m.

"This is a great opportunity for students because it allows them to meet with career advisors to look over their resume without waiting for an appointment and

to get lunch at the same time," said Bobbi Kingery of Career Services.

Once students are registered with Career Services, they will have full access to vacancies and on-campus interviews, Kingery said.

"On-campus interviews are when organizations come to campus so students don't have to drive far and are continuously added throughout the semester," Kingery said. "It will also allow students to build their credential file."

"This is especially beneficial to education majors since there is an education fair coming up on April 16," Kingery said. "There will be a job fair on Feb. 19, so this is beneficial for all students."

Students can register with Career Services to upload their resume into the database from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. in the Career Services office Room 3040 of the Student Services building.



STEPHEN HAAS/ASSOCIATE PHOTO EDITOR

Susan Barrett, a junior family consumer sciences major; Jami Schweider, a junior family consumer sciences major; and P.J. Bailey, sophomore family consumer sciences major, work on a group project during the "Beating The Winter Blahs" program in the Effingham Room of the Martin Luther King, Jr. University Union on Tuesday night.

Blood and bone marrow drive to be held today

Matthew Kent
ACTIVITIES REPORTER

The Community Blood Services of Illinois will conduct a blood and bone marrow drive today as part of the African American Heritage Celebration.

The event, sponsored by Minority Affairs and the American Marketing Association, is one of four upcoming drives being held this semester.

Although CBSI is not as well known as the Red Cross, it still has had positive turnouts over the years. The organization came to Eastern right after the Sept. 11, 2001 tragedy and had an enormous turnout, said Kathleen Moreno, director of Internal Auditing and co-sponsor of the drive.

The bone marrow portion of the drive is meant to get information from donors and put them into a national database, Moreno said.

"Everyone wants to put their

information into the database because family members may have cancer or another type of disease," Moreno said. "Normally Caucasians are charged \$60 to \$65 to put their information into the database, but CBSI is waiving that fee for all students that come out." She also emphasized the need for minorities to donate bone marrow.

In 2002, approximately 25 people turned out and donated blood. Moreno said she expects about 40 to 50 people this year and hopes there will be more. Students will have the option of choosing to donate either blood, bone marrow or both, Moreno said.

Students will have to fill out some paperwork in order to donate blood or bone marrow and will have to present a picture ID as well.

The blood and bone marrow drive will be from noon to 6 p.m. today in the University Ballroom of the Martin Luther King Jr. University Union.

How to beat the 'winter blahs'

By Kerry-Ann Malcolm
STAFF WRITER

Feeling a little depressed during the winter season is a frequent and a somewhat expected thing, especially for college students.

Bud Edwards of the Counseling Center lectured to a group of about 28 students about the very common "winter blahs" or Seasonal Affective Disorder.

The speaker familiarized himself with the audience of students by encouraging random audience members to share their favorite dessert, which resulted in a series of "uhhms."

Students were broken up into groups of two or three and were allowed to discuss some of the factors that lead to the winter blahs.

The audience listed cold weather,

low sunlight, short days and limited activity as some of the contributing factors for the winter blahs.

Edwards informed the audience of the even greater impact of the problem, loneliness, limited social interaction and most of all, boredom.

"When college students get bored, they drink," Edwards said. "The majority of Americans face some form of depression during their lifetime. Especially further north, where they experience longer winters."

Edwards told students that there are some easy solutions.

"It's good to keep yourself busy," she said.

He listed several other solutions that could help this common mood disorder, including a 30-minute, low-impact aerobic workout done

three to four times weekly.

He said setting aside personal time also is important in conquering the winter blahs.

Edwards shared his story about enjoying a wonderful day of pampering, which he encouraged all students to try when feeling a little depressed.

Edwards said he gets a kick out of doing the workshop, which is a part of the "Life Skills" program, sponsored every semester by the Counseling Center.

"This workshop is an educational program, which serves as a preventative method before the actual problem occurs," Edwards said.

P.J. Bailey, a sophomore family consumer science major who attended the workshop for one of her classes, said she found the workshop informative and educational.

Panel discussion will address raising biracial children

By Jennifer Chiariello
ACTIVITIES EDITOR

The African American Heritage Celebration committee has selected parents and students to have a panel discussion Wednesday on raising biracial children.

"Who am I?" is a big question for anyone, but when you consider race, ethnicity and culture it can get very complicated at times," said Johnetta Jones, director of minority affairs.

The panel will "look at the unique challenges to raise biracial children in today's society as the number (of biracial children) increases. Developmental and social issues need to be addressed by those children and their parents," Bud Edwards of the counseling center said. "My role is to mon-

itor the panel and facilitate discussion."

The panel will consist of four or five participants, Jones said.

"We looked for people who have shared the experience — both parents and children," she said.

Jones said the selected panel members include Alexandra Herald, a senior journalism major, who works for WEIU-TV and Renee Saunches, of Decatur, who has raised two biracial children — a son who is in the minor leagues for the Yankees and a daughter who works in media relations for the Milwaukee Brewers. Saunches is the former principal of Decatur Catholic school and currently teaches fifth grade at a Decatur public school.

Also speaking are Bill Hall, minister of Charleston Community

Church, and Susan Hall, who have five children of their own and four adopted children and Jennifer Osun, a freshmen undeclared major, who has a Nigerian father and a Lithuanian mother, Jones said.

"We are producing more and more biracial children. How do you raise them? There is a need for this sharing of information as more and more biracial children are in our schools," Jones said.

"There are problems and concerns involved with raising any child, especially when you add other factors like identity."

The panel discussion will be at 7 p.m. Wednesday in the Effingham Room of the Martin Luther King Jr. University Union. Admission is free and students are encouraged to attend.

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The Daily Eastern News produced by the students of Eastern Illinois University. It is published daily Monday through Friday, in Charleston, Ill. during fall and spring semesters and twice weekly during the summer term except during school vacations or examinations. Subscription price:

\$38 per semester, \$16 for summer, \$68 all year. The Daily



Eastern News is a member of The Associated Press, which is entitled to exclusive use of all articles appearing in this paper.



PERIODICAL POSTAGE PAID AT:
Charleston, IL 61920
ISSN 0894-1599

PRINTED BY:
Eastern Illinois University
Charleston, IL 61920

ATTENTION POSTMASTER:
Send address changes to
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POLICE BLOTTER

Criminal damage to state supported property

A door glass and window was broken out in the Carman Hall food service on Jan. 25, police reports stated. The incident is under investigation.

A University-owned van was damaged while it was parked on University property near Carman Hall on Jan. 27, police reports stated. The incident is under investigation.

A glass door was broken in Stevenson Hall and Coleman Hall on Feb. 3, police reports stated. The incident is under investigation.

Culture, politics link Africa with Americans

By Rob Ebsen
STAFF WRITER

Cassandra Veney, an associate professor at Illinois State University, lectured Tuesday on the political, economic and cultural linkages with Africa.

The lecture ranged from the United States' foreign policy to the cultural influences African's adopt from African-Americans. Veney also spent a lot of time discussing the role the rap industry plays in Africa.

Veney began the lecture by speaking about the history of political links that have connected African-Americans with the continent of Africa.

Veney said slavery did not automatically sever all ties with Africa, and many African-Americans had strong interests with the continent even before they were in a position that would enable them to do anything about it.

Many African-Americans were involved in fund-raising efforts for a troubled Ethiopia in the 1930s, Veney said.

The story was a unique display of the interests many African-Americans have in keeping ties with Africa, especially since during this time in the United States many African-Americans lacked rights and were hurt economically along with the rest of the country as they struggled through a depression, Veney said.

Just as many Jewish-Americans have a deep interest in Israel — many African-Americans have interest in Africa, and the civil rights movement helped them to elect leaders into positions that would

help keep the U.S. government involved with Africa.

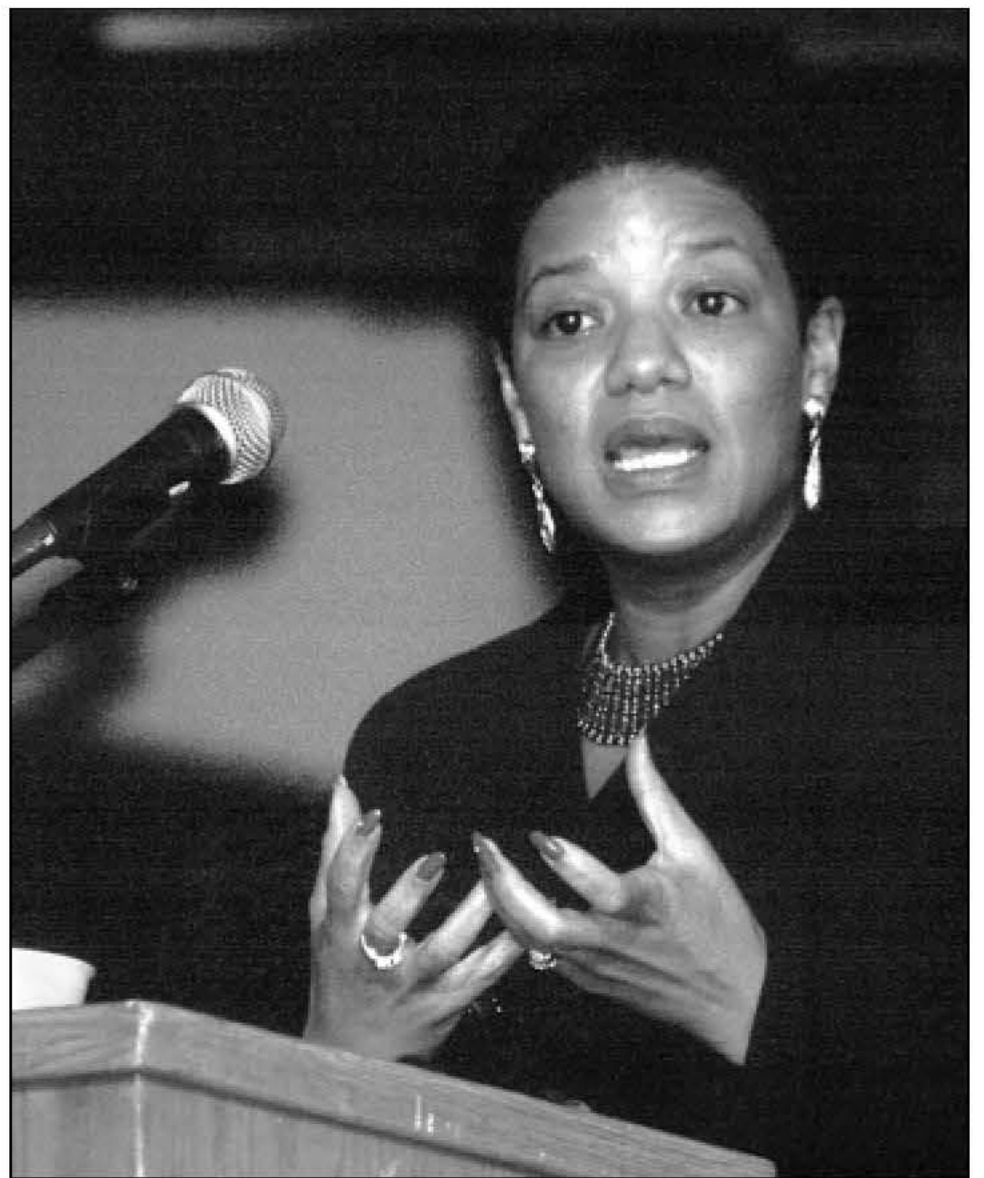
Keeping economic links with Africa has historically been hard for African-Americans. Veney said this made sense considering when the people pushing for economic links did not have a strong economic base to start from.

There is a unique history involved with the cultural ties that African-Americans have with Africa as well, Veney said. She got her point across that the cultural influences have been both positive and negative with the example that many African-Americans have crossed the Atlantic Ocean and settled in various African countries with goals of evangelizing the people of the continent. Many of these settlers had a feeling of superiority based on their economic and religious status that caused the mistreatment of many Africans, Veney said.

Veney said African-American music has always had a tremendous impact on the people of Africa. Gospel music, jazz, blues and soulful singers such as James Brown and Aretha Franklin all enjoyed popularity in Africa. Currently the rap industry has taken on a large role throughout the continent.

Veney said she was amazed that she would travel to isolated and desolate areas of the continent and still see rap's powerful influence. Veney said rap has now become America's No. 1 cultural export. Veney has even been to parts of Africa where gangs have now formed using the east-coast, west-coast theme.

After the presentation Veney accepted questions from an audience of 40 to 50



STEPHEN HAAS/ASSOCIATE PHOTO EDITOR

Cassandra Veney, associate professor at Illinois State University, speaks about African-American issues in history, ethnicity, and race on Tuesday night in the 7th Street Underground during the "Ties That Bind" program.

McNamara focus of prayer service

By Jennifer Chiariello
ACTIVITIES EDITOR

Shannon McNamara's family has asked students, faculty, staff and members of the community to join them Wednesday night in a candlelight prayer service.

The prayer vigil will be held at 7 p.m. at the Newman Catholic Center across from Andrews and Lawson halls.

The service provides a time for family, friends and the whole community to gather in prayer as the capital murder trial of Anthony Mertz proceeds at the Coles County Circuit Court which should last for next two to three weeks, a press release said.

Mertz, a former Eastern student, was arrested and is standing trial for the June 12, 2001, murder of fellow student McNamara.

The service will have readings from scripture and music.

"Bob McNamara wanted to do

something at the Newman Center that members of the community could be invited to," said the Rev. Chris Brey, chaplain at the Newman Catholic Center. "It will be a prayer service that things go well at trial and also a remembrance of Shannon McNamara."

Brey will be the minister for the service.

"Our hearts go out to the family and friends of Shannon as they have to relive the death of their daughter, sister, niece and friend," said Roy Lanham, campus minister at the Newman center in a press release. "This service will hopefully be a time to help everyone to continue to find healing and and to find support in going through such a difficult time."

The service will be a half an hour at most and is open to all members of the community. Brey said it is not just a Catholic service.

Important to smile in budget crunch

◆ Budget director hopeful answered staff questions Tuesday

By Kevin Sampier
ADMINISTRATION REPORTER

Budget director candidate Ron Hatley, said even in hard financial times, it's important to still be able to smile, during his open session meeting Tuesday.

Hatley, the third of four candidates applying for the position of university budget director, answered questions from staff members during the meeting. He also described his management style to the group.

"I like to use humor whenever possible," Hatley said. "If you get into a situation where you can't smile or make light of it, you're in trouble."

Hatley is currently the budget director for Brigar Associates, a consulting group in Greensboro, N.C.

Hatley said he wants to find a position at a university and

leave the world of consulting for several reasons.

"I like the university environment. I'm trying to return to that type of position," he said. "It's not a very good idea to be with a consulting agency because of the economy."

After researching Eastern on the Internet, Hatley said it has a good Web presence and the possibility for more opportunity.

"There might be other opportunities here. It seems like

everybody here is interim, and that scares me," he said.

Hatley said his biggest strength was his experience he would bring to the job and also discussed his weaknesses.

"I haven't always had the best management skills. I have trouble saying no to people." Hatley said, "In some instances in the past, I've held on to some

people too long when I should have let them go."

Vice president for academic affairs, Jeffrey Cooley, said he will choose the new budget director by early March. The choice will be based on personal interviews with the candidates, recommendations from screening committees and from evaluation sheets faculty and staff members fill out during open session meetings.


The evaluation sheets ask faculty members to rate the candidates on their experience, understanding of the position, sensitivity to people and their knowledge of budget modeling, among other things.

Julia Abell, director of planning and institutional studies, said the evaluations will be tabulated and taken into account during the final selection.

The final candidate, Jimmy Shonkwiler, will be on campus for an open session meeting 11 a.m. to noon Thursday in the Effingham Room of the Martin Luther King Jr. University Union.



Ron Hatley



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EDITORIAL

Rolling deadlines smart plan

Applications are at an all-time high for the second year in a row. High school seniors hoping to go to college at Eastern may be disappointed to learn it is already too late to get in, depending on if they were planning on majoring in education.

Students have heard about Eastern, and now they want to come here. As a result, officials decided to institute rolling application deadlines for each college.

Since more than 1,000 more applications have been received compared to this time next year, applications to the College of Education were cut off Monday. Application deadlines for the other colleges will be set as more applications come in.

Cutting off applications could be a big risk since the number of students who will come to Eastern will remain unknown until the summer. But if applications were not cut off, more students than the university wants could possibly attend Eastern next academic year, thus causing problems.

While this may be inconvenient to high school students who waited to apply to Eastern, it is a good problem for Eastern to have.

With more students applying, Eastern can be more selective about who they admit, which means Eastern's academic quality and reputation will go up, maintaining the high ratings it has garnered the past two years.

Enrollment numbers, though projected to shrink, will remain high, which will continue bring in more money for the university. Not only do more students bring in more tuition money, the quality will attract legislators' support and thus more state money.

During the past two years, Interim President Lou Hencken and Jill Nilsen, vice president for external relations, have been marketing Eastern whenever and wherever they could. Those efforts seem to be paying off.

The enrollment no doubt needs to be managed. But while it is good so many more people want to come to Eastern, and many more students may increase the income, the answer is not to pack this campus. Officials know quantity is not the answer, and have worked since the beginning of the year to manage enrollment. As a result, applications are being cut off and only a select number of students will be admitted.

Hopefully, efforts to manage enrollment will pay off and Eastern will continue to be a quality institution with a manageable number of students.

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

At issue
The rolling deadlines the university will implement

Our stance
Having rolling deadlines is a good way for Eastern to make sure it manages its enrollment numbers.

OPINION

Price can't be placed on life



Matt Meinheit

Sports editor and bi-weekly columnist for *The Daily Eastern News*

Meinheit also is a sophomore major.

He can be reached at 581-2812 or mnmeinheit@eiu.edu

No need existed for the loss of life that occurred Saturday, not because of a the failed tile being blamed for the accident, but because the souls aboard Columbia did not need to be in space.

The United States and Israel lost the lives of seven brave men and women when the space ship Columbia disintegrated 39 miles above the earth's surface.

What was the purpose of this mission? The crew was conducting some 80 scientific experiments, some of which only had the purpose of bettering conditions on future space missions.

It was the first purely scientific mission in three years. Every other mission in the previous three years involved bringing construction materials to the international space station.

However, the most important experiment observed the affects of dust storms over the Mediterranean sea and Africa to better understand the effect of dust storms on global warming. All the crew did for this experiment was take pictures from space. Doesn't NASA have satellites capable of doing the same thing?

A cornucopia of good things can be done with the money NASA spends on sending a space shuttle into space. With the nation submerged in debt, the United States doesn't need to be shooting billions (not millions) of dollars into the

"A human life is not worth an experiment or a few photographs of dust clouds."

dark, never ending reaches of outer space.

The money used to send the space shuttle into space could be used for improving schools, social security, healthcare or other social problems the United States faces. Instead, the money is burned up in the few minutes it takes for the space shuttle to break the earth's gravitational force.

But a price can't be placed on human life. A human life is not worth an experiment or a few photographs of dust clouds.

However, the seven members of the Columbia died while living their life long dream. They knew the risks involved with space travel. They knew all the statistics, like the thousands of moving parts on the space shuttle, the hundreds of devices that could fail and the small margin of error on takeoff and re-entry.

Jerry Lingenger, a retired astronaut, said, "What binds you together is the shared danger, the shared risk that you're all taking together."

What happened to Columbia was not a disaster; it was the laws of

probability in action. The crew did not care about the numbers; they wanted to go into space.

What about the risk innocent victims faced? Falling debris didn't kill anyone Saturday, but what if it did?

No one on the ground volunteered to have smoldering space shuttle debris land on their property.

But according to a poll in *USA Today*, 82 percent of people polled said the United States should continue a manned space shuttle program. Of those 82 percent, I wonder how many people knew, or cared, Columbia was in space before the news of its demise was announced early Saturday morning.

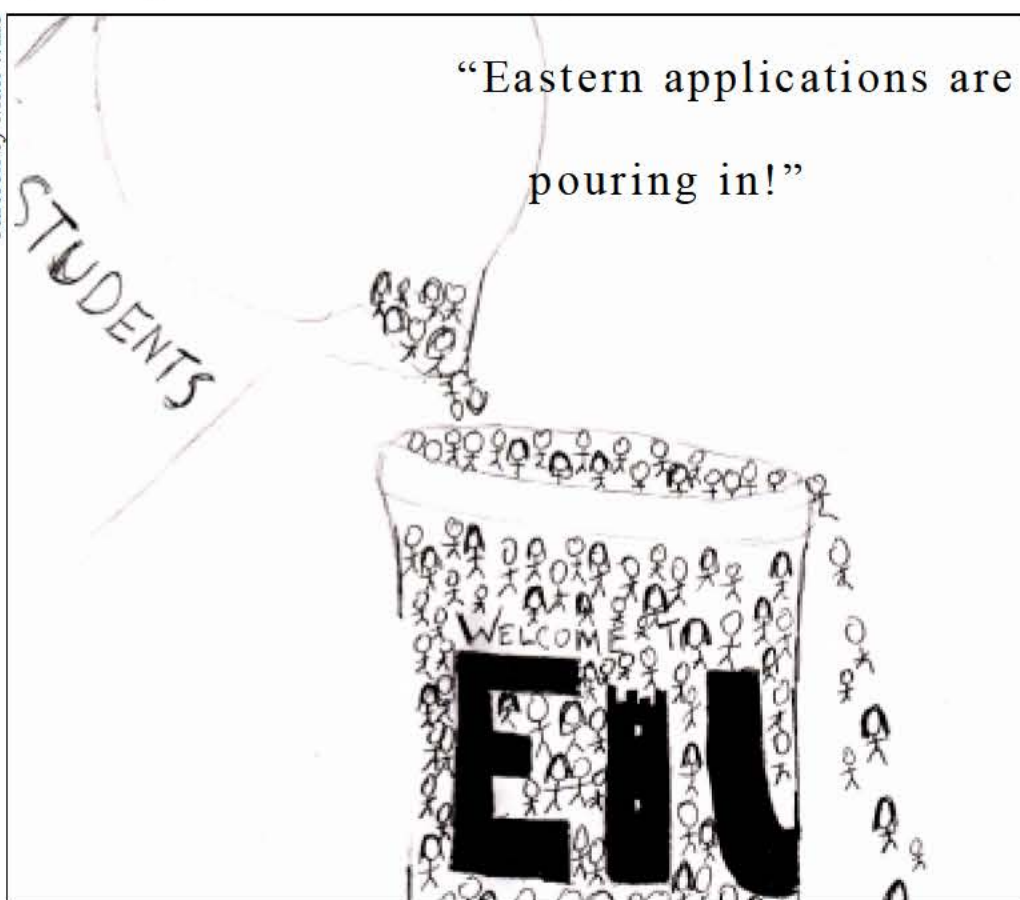
But what is the point to continued space exploration?

NASA is nothing more than a decaying remnant of the Cold War. It was created with the purpose of exploring space and thrived on immense amounts of funding from a government wanting to prove its worth with displays of technological superiority over the Soviet Union.

The feuding and persistent push to beat the Russians created hasty work resulting in tragic mistakes and costly blunders, like the Hubble Telescope, giving the American space program several black eyes.

In the end, the program's biggest contributions to society were products like Tang and velcro.

Cartoon by Matt Willis



YOUR TURN: LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Good reasons behind UPI vote

I could not be more pleased with the University Professionals of Illinois vote in support for an authorization for a strike.

In talking with numerous professors, I have become familiar with the faculty concerns and agree with them totally.

These negotiations are beyond just money; the issues at hand are about priorities. And in this current situation, I am compelled to wonder where the priorities at this university are placed.

One of the reasons I came to Eastern was because of the small class sizes offered to students. Small class size for me meant a better opportunity to interact with professors in a setting conducive to open discussion. Recently, the number of students enrolled at Eastern has increased; however, the

number of faculty has not increased to handle the larger class sizes and greater workload.

This change has been something both faculty and students have had to adjust to.

Keeping that in mind, is a request for reduced class size and workload such an outrageous request? Hardly.

As a matter of fact, I believe reducing class size and professor workload would be a more beneficial investment to both students and faculty than would be replacing the grass in O'Brien Stadium with turf.

Now I understand times are tight, that budgets, both at the state and national level, are not exactly what they have been in previous years.

As negotiations continue, and the possibility of a

strike looms over Eastern, we as students need to understand and support our professors, for these are the people who we interact with everyday. It is the professors here who lead the discussions, who oversee the clubs. They are the ones who offer support and guidance in both work and in life.

They are the ones who are constantly giving us the necessary knowledge to go into the world and be successful in whatever career we choose.

And for this, we owe it to our professors to get out there and make it known that we support them. I urge everyone to

get involved, for even this late in the game, our involvement is crucial. Talk to your professors, to the administrators. Talk to your parents; let them know what is going on.

Write letters, send e-mails, make phone calls. Get out there and march right alongside your psychology professor and your English instructor.

No matter what you do, please do something. This game is too important for us students to sit in the bleachers and watch from the sidelines.

Katie Zawacki
junior elementary education major

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR: The Daily Eastern News accepts letters to the editor addressing local, state, national and international issues. They should be less than 250 words and include the authors' name, telephone number and address. Students should indicate their year in school and major. Faculty, administration and staff should indicate their position and department. Letters whose authors cannot be verified will not be printed. Depending on space constraints, we may edit letters, so keep it concise. Letters can be sent to *The Daily Eastern News* at 1811 Buzzard Hall, Charleston IL 61920; faxed to 217-581-2923; or e-mailed to majones@eiu.edu



CARLY MULLADY/CITY EDITOR

City Attorney Brian Bauer, and City Manager Alan Probst listen as council members John Winnett and Marge Knoop approve a topic on the agenda during Tuesday night's Charleston City Council Meeting held at City Hall.

Council unanimous to settle suits

By Carly Mullady
CITY EDITOR

A unanimous vote favoring a resolution for two city council members' lawsuit settled tensions among the council at Tuesday night's Charleston City Council meeting.

A resolution was passed unanimously by the council, approving a proposal between the city and council members Lorelei Sims and Marge Knoop and resident Susan McMillan.

An overlooked statute in the city manager form of government would have ended Sims and Knoop's terms as council members this year after half of their term. The two were elected in 2001 with the fewest votes, which, under a city manager system, would limit their terms to two years to begin a staggered term cycle.

"We will ask the court to find that constitutionally the rights of voters to vote for four-year terms is greater than statutory language," Coughill said.

The proposal outlined extending Sims and Knoop's terms to the four years they

were voted in for and beginning the staggered terms in 2005 rather than with the 2001 election.

The council consensus authorized entry into joint motions for entry of consent declaratory judgement and consent to declaratory judgement.

"We're hopeful the judge will concur with that agreement," Coughill said.

All council members voted yes, favoring payment to the Chicago Law Firm of Ancel, Glink, Diamond, Bush, DiCianni & Rolek. The firm's bill totalled \$5,600.51 as the sum of a \$180 hourly rate.

"My concern, and I think Marge feels similarly, was about using taxpayers' money for defining this case," Sims said. However, since the need for the firm has passed, all council members agreed to pay this final bill.

The council also unanimously authorized the agreement for legal services for condemnation proceedings.

"We hope in the future we'll get a little smarter on this issue so we can avoid litigation," Coughill said.

The entire council voted in favor of temporary street closure for the 5K

Run-Campaign for Better Health Care. A few Charleston streets will be closed to traffic for the course of the run on April 26.

Another unanimous vote approved paying American Carbon Services of Pennsylvania \$20,998.00 for the replacement of the granular activated carbon in the filters at Charleston's water treatment plant.

A four-to-one vote reluctantly authorized a 12-year cable television agreement with MCC Illinois LLC.

Originally, the council opposed to a 15-year agreement so the cable company submitted a 10-year agreement with a five-year renewal. However, within the terms of the agreement was a clause saying the city had to decide on the renewal three years in advance.

"We couldn't accept their package," Coughill said. The council opposed this 10-year and five-year renewal agreement as well so MCC Illinois LCC revised the agreement to a set 12 years.

Citizens and council members mentioned complaints they have with the service right now.

Bylaw revisions focus for senate

By John Chambers
ADMINISTRATION EDITOR

The Faculty Senate heard discussion Tuesday on proposed revisions of bylaws for the Council on Academic Affairs.

The bylaws were revised in 1997, and chair Nancy Marlow told the senate CAA has been doing research on changing them and will look into gathering more formal membership to the council.

The change would implement an election of two faculty members to the council representing each university college and one at-large member, instead of members all being elected at-large.

However, she said the university currently has representation from all colleges.

Another proposed revision would change the bylaw terms on the president's approval of CAA action.

Course revisions or other action passed in CAA currently become official 10 days after they are passed, no matter if interim president Lou Hencken signs off on what was passed or not.

Provost Blair Lord said the way the bylaw wording is currently, changes can be made in CAA and the president might not even be aware.

"This way, he's got to put an initial on it," Lord said.

The Council of Chairs does not currently distribute minutes to university community, but that will change, chair Keith Andrew said Tuesday.

Andrew told the Faculty Senate, starting from June through the current fiscal year, minutes will be gathered and likely posted online.

The general Council of Chairs only meets twice a month during the semester, and the executive committee only meets once a month, Andrew said.

Faculty committee elections will be held in the spring, and the senate discussed formatting questions for committee candidates.

The senate selects membership for university committees with elected members, such as the Council on University Planning and Budget or the Council on Teacher Education.

The senate added questions for candidates to four committees, such as the CUPB, that have no definite questions already formatted.

The faculty senate bylaws and those of the other committees, except for the CAA, are in conflict on the university areas members can be elected from.

Most committee constitutions say members are not just elected at-large.

"The problem is the Faculty Senate constitution, which empowers those committees, says otherwise," physics professor Doug Brandt said.

He said a bylaw change will be brought to the next senate meeting.

The Faculty Senate meets at 2 p.m. Tuesdays in the Arcola-Tuscola Room of the Martin Luther King Jr. University Union.



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Iraq resolution tops senate agenda

By Avian Carrasquillo
STUDENT GOVERNMENT EDITOR

A resolution opposing a unilateral, preemptive war on Iraq will be presented to the Student Senate Wednesday. That resolution also will encourage the United States to work with and through the United Nations in inspecting Iraq.

Several other pieces of new business are on the senate agenda as well.

A resolution will request service of an on-campus dentist.

The Student Senate will look into a bylaw change regarding executive member compensation.

The current bylaw calls for compensation of \$1,197 for executive officers' accounts to be used for tuition, fees, and other educational expenses. The Student Government adviser can issue the appropriate documents to initiate the waiver.

The change calls for compensation in the amount of 12 credit hours for undergraduates and nine credit hours for graduate students. The Student Government adviser would then issue the appropriate documents to initiate the waiver.

"The rationale behind the bylaw change is that it allows security in case of tuition fluctuation," Senate Speaker Bill Davidson said.

Other senate business is for discussion of budget allocations from the Student Government and the Apportionment Board.

One senate bill will ask for the allocation of \$75 from the Student

Government budget for name tags for new senate members and another will ask for \$2,618 from the Student Government budget for members to attend the Conference on Student Government Associations. Senate members Amanda Sartore, Amy Leonard, Lindsay Baum, and adviser Ceci Brinker will attend the conference, which takes place Feb. 22-25 at Texas A&M University.

The remaining pieces of legislation are for additional allocations approved by the AB last week.

One allocation for \$874 to the Student Government will be used to send Student Body President Alison Mormino and Speaker of the Senate Bill Davidson to the Conference on Student Government Associations.

The AB also will give an allocation of \$28,000 to the University Board to restore lighting in the Grand Ballroom of the Martin Luther King Jr. University Union. The UB will match the \$28,000 the union is providing for the \$56,000 total needed for the new lighting system.

The final AB allocation of \$11,168 will go toward UB special events.

All of the legislation allocating money must be tabled for one week before it can be approved.

The Student Senate also will decide whether to approve the United People's Association as a Recognized Student Organization.

"The organization's purpose is to spread awareness of political issues," Davidson said.

Expression point of effort

◆ Student Senate passed a resolution in hopes to stop threat for free speech

By Joaquin Ochoa
STAFF WRITER

A recent resolution passed by the Student Senate aims to put an end to administrative censorship of the press before it starts here at Eastern.

Marty Ruhaak, Student vice president for public affairs, wrote the resolution in an attempt to guarantee that censorship doesn't occur.

"We just wanted something in writing. We may not have something to worry about now, with Shirley Stewart who is (acting) vice president of student affairs and interim President Lou Hencken in administration," Ruhaak said.

The resolution stems from problems that student staff members of *The Innovator* have had with the administration at Governors State University.

For more than two years now, *The Innovator* has not been published while the case, *Hosty v. Carter*, goes through the legal system. The case was heard in Chicago in December 2002, and a decision by the 7th Circuit Court of Appeals is expected this spring.

Eastern's Student Senate decided it would not wait for the court's decision, and passed a resolution that says, regardless of the court's decision, the spirit of the First Amendment should

continue to be upheld in student publications and throughout the entire campus environment.

"We hope the court of appeals looks at this case more broadly than just one university. Its implications are much broader," Ruhaak said. "This goes much deeper than one university."

Eastern already has bylaws set up by the Student Publications Board to ensure that freedom of expression, in the full spirit of the First Amendment, is followed. The Student Senate, former Eastern President Stan Rives, and the Apportionment Board approved the bylaws in the spring of 1990.

"These would be something to take into the meetings," Ruhaak said. "Internal Policy or Board of Trustees bylaws would take precedence over those of student organizations; however, most times those are followed to a T," Ruhaak said.

The Student Senate is in the planning process to have meetings with the administration to decide where to take the resolution.

Eastern has never had a problem with censorship Ruhaak said.

"I've never heard of anything like at Governors State happen here. The difference here than at Governors State is that the administration and faculty here give sovereignty to those guidelines, they respect them," he said. "While at Governors State the administration decided to step over those bylaws."

"We hope the court of appeals looks at this case more broadly than just one university. Its implications are much broader."

— Marty Ruhaak

When *The Innovator* continually wrote stories critical of the administration at Governors State, administrators ordered the printer not to publish any copies of the newspaper until a top administrator had made prior review and approval.

John David Reed, director of Student Publications has been the editorial adviser or director of Student Publications since 1972.

"Never once has the administration of EIU or any of its subunits attempted to censor *The Daily Eastern News*, *The Warbler*, *Vehicle* or *Minority Today* with the use of force," Reed said.

The Innovator's student staff members claimed they were shut down because the newspaper was critical of the school administration.

"Even when we've run controversial stories, the administration for 31 years has upheld the laws and traditions against the prohibition of free speech," Reed said.

University Board trying to amend bylaw breakdowns

◆ Vote made to suspend bylaws for concert coordinator position

By Nate Bloomquist
NEWS EDITOR

The University Board took steps toward righting a wrong at

its meeting Tuesday night.

The UB suspended a bylaw that states a coordinator must have two semesters remaining before graduation, a bylaw it originally broke with its election of concert coordinator Donna Fernandez last week.

Fernandez graduates in May.

The UB also re-voted Tuesday after it took several votes in executive session during a meeting last week — a direct violation of the Illinois Open Meetings Act.

The UB voted 6-1 to suspend the bylaw, with two on the executive committee abstaining. The

board voted 6-2 with three abstentions to elect Fernandez.

The board unanimously agreed to create a coordinator-elect position and voted unanimously to elect freshman history major David Jones to that position.

"We just wanted to make

everything right," Judy said. "We wanted to put all of this behind us."

The board didn't take any steps to comply with a bylaw that states the board must have all expenses over \$10 approved by the executive committee.

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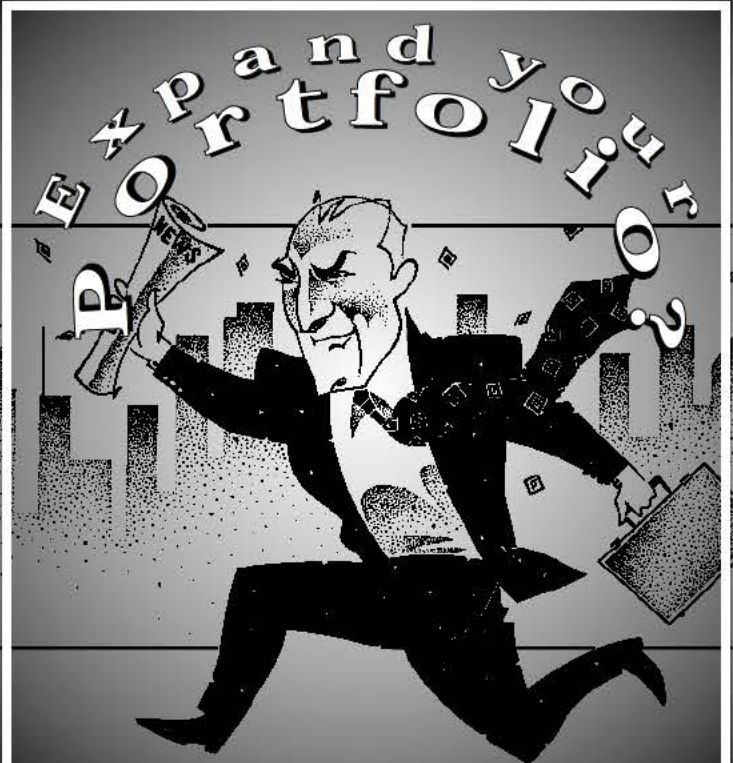
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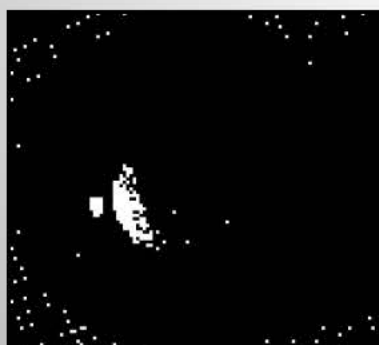
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University Union Ballrooms





COLIN MCAULIFFE/PHOTO EDITOR

Cheer on the team

"Blue Crew" members Phil Bartelt, a junior history major, and Ben Baar, a junior special education major, cheer on Eastern's men's basketball team Tuesday evening in Lantz Arena. The Panthers won the game 85-73.

Issues:

Administration asking for 'total control' of distance education assignments

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

made at the table, we just made that offer."

The administration is asking for "total control" of distance education assignments, the flier said. The faculty feel they should have a choice in which online and distance education courses should be taught, Delman said.

"Web-based courses and distance education have their place," he said. "A professor needs to make the choice of whether a course is appropriate to be offered as a distance education course. We feel faculty need to

have control of academic decisions."

Wayland said training or other ways for faculty to prepare for a distance or online class will be offered, and it is up to the department chair to decide if the faculty member will or will not teach the course.

"The administration has the right to assign courses. That's a management right we have and we don't want to give up that right," Wayland said.

He said although the administration's proposal will not give faculty the final word on whether to teach a class, the wording is the same as a contract agreement at Western Illinois University.

"Administration proposals have consistently enabled the assignment of increased workloads," the UPI flier said.

In the current faculty contract, which was set to end last August, teaching 18 to 24 credit hours is considered a full-time

"The administration has the right to assign courses. That's a management right we have and we don't want to give up that right."

—Bob Wayland

academic year assignment. Wayland said the administration has not directly proposed increasing the credit units.

"Eastern has the lowest faculty-to-student ratio of any state university," Wayland said.

The flier also mentioned the issues of merit pay, continuing education and summer school salaries as issues in negotiations.

Witness:

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

After finishing his investigation at the crime scene, Caudell also searched the apartments of Mertz and Brian Beavers, a neighbor of Mertz, in accordance with search warrants issued that day. Caudell found two items of evidence at Mertz's apartment, including a Crown Royal bag with latex gloves inside, which was inside of a filing cabinet. He found no evidence in Beavers' apartment.

Caudell testified many of the cuts on McNamara's body appeared to have been made post-mortem because of the lack of blood. In testimony Monday, forensic pathologist Dr. Travis Hindman said some of the wounds likely were made post-mortem. However, some injuries, including blunt force trauma, which caused a laceration to McNamara's liver, probably were inflicted before death, he testified. Internal bleeding was enough that it was likely the heart was still beating when the blow occurred.

A knife that was found with McNamara's blood on it in a dumpster near Mertz's apartment was not admitted into evidence Tuesday. Coles County Circuit Judge Dale Cini said the prosecution had not yet laid down enough foundation for the knife to be admitted. Caudell did testify, however, that the knife seemed to match the brand of five others he removed from McNamara's apartment after the murder and could have been part of a set.

Defense attorneys argued against several exhibits being admitted to evidence because of their relevance to the issues that have been raised so far. One such

exhibit included the T-shirt and bra McNamara had been wearing that the defense argued had no relevance as no testing had been done on the clothing.

"It would only serve to inflame the passions of the jury," defense attorney Paula Phillips said.

Another former neighbor of Mertz, Kim Lillie, also testified Tuesday as to her interaction with Mertz the night of the murder.

Outside of the presence of the jury, the defense argued Lillie's testimony that she had seen Mertz open a door with a credit card before should not be heard because the prosecution had not set a groundwork to establish that any attempt to open the door of McNamara's apartment had occurred.

"There is not one iota of evidence (that someone attempted to enter the apartment with a credit card)," Phillips said.

Cini agreed, saying he would revisit the issue if and when the grounds for such testimony were shown.

Lillie did testify in the presence of the jury that she had spoken with Mertz on the night of the murder. She said she had spoken with Mertz and Beavers, and Mertz had offered her a painkiller after she complained about her back hurting.

She accepted the painkiller and went to her own apartment. She said she spoke with him again at about 4:45 a.m. when she asked him to turn down his stereo. She said it sounded as though he was lifting weights at the time. Lillie said she left his apartment, he followed her into the hallway and tried to grab her arm, and she pushed him away, entered her own apartment and locked the door.

Help:

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

"Students just need support and we're here to give it to them," Onestak said. "These are tough times for all of us — it has been tough on me too."

Many students might turn to religion for support during the trial as many did after McNamara's death. The Rev. Chris Brey, chaplain at the Newman Catholic Center, said the doors there will be open just as they were nearly two years ago and ever since the incident.

"The spiritual aspect is critical," Brey said. "It helps and can complete in ways nothing else

can."

Onestak said he didn't know if more students have sought counseling this week because of the trial, but said he expects an increase and may have special activities planned.

The Newman Catholic Center will hold a vigil for McNamara at 7 p.m. Wednesday.

"The main thing for us is to be available," Brey said. "We're always open — we try to be available for everything."

Bob McNamara, Shannon's father, wanted a service for the community and helped plan the event.

"The community depends on each in times like these," Brey said.

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WESLEY FOUNDATION: Powerlight tonight 9:30pm at the Wesley Foundation, across 4th from Lawson. A Contemporary Christian music service with our praise band F.O.A. M. playing each Wednesday night. A time of worship for everyone.

EPSILON SIGMA ALPHA: Business Meeting tonight 5:30 pm in Charleston/Mattoon room. Please remember pin attire.

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The New York Times

Crossword

Edited by Will Shortz

No. 1225

ACROSS

1 Your role in this puzzle [the asterisked clues will help you crack the case]

4 *Suspected means of entry

11 No Miss America

14 Org. in Langley, Va.

15 Finders' fees

16 Chemical suffix

17 Done with a wink

18 Period in human development

19 Regular guy

20 American Beauty growth

22 Not real

24 Storage facilities

25 Big: Abbr.

27 Cause for an aspirin

28 New York cardinal

29 Major oil port

30 "Wild" one

31 Italian town with Giotto frescoes

33 Meat seasoning

35 Namesake makers: Abbr.

36 *When the break-in occurred

39 Copycat

42 This, in España

43 Stop for the night

47 Asian assassin

49 Garden with a snake

51 NASA's Research Center

52 Garr of "Young Frankenstein"

53 Bag thickness

54 Port in western France

55 Nukes

58 Roofers, often

60 Lo-

61 Site of an unwanted duty

63 Three on a clock

65 Suffering

66 Adjusts

67 Elevator

68 Person who does a lot of cleaning: Abbr.

69 *What the intruder accidentally left behind

70 What you may say when you crack the case

6 "If asked, yes"

7 *Eyewitness's description of the intruder

8 1930's program, for short

9 Ragged part

10 Belgian river

11 Takes by force

12 Bar order

13 Old dogs

21 Kind of boom

23 Paulo

24 Marine

26 Little biter

29 What a snob might put on

30 Shepherd who wrote "The Ferrari in the Bedroom"

32 Flushing site

34 Feds

37 Some thing

38 Startle

39 It may settle things

40 Spotted, as a horse

41 Matriculates

44 Its third verse begins "Let music swell the breeze"

45 Handel work

46 L.A. setting

48 "Treasure Island" boy

50 "Seinfeld" pal

54 "God ____"

56 Convention group

57 Indian garb

59 Like some verbs: Abbr.

62 Bolivian export

64 Kind of contribution

ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE

COP	CHIMNEY	HAG
CIA	REWARDS	INE
SLY	IRONAGE	JOE
ROSEBUD	ERSATZ	
SILOS	LRG	ACHE
EGAN	ADEN	JOKER
ASSIST	SAGE	SRS
CHRISTMAS		
APE	ESTE	ENCAMP
NINJA	EDEN	AMES
TERI	MIL	BREST
ABOMBS	NAILERS	
CAL	LATRINE	III
ILL	ORIENTS	CAR
DDS	CINDERS	AHA

Students:

A way to avoid the crowds is to change workout times

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

But Baker put the overcrowding in a positive light.

"Well, I don't think overcrowding is the best word, as much as the place is really being used — that's what it's there for," he said. "We like to think students utilize their facility from 5:30 a.m. up until midnight."

Students wonder what they can do to

counter the overcrowding.

Baker suggests changing workout times, and he said the rec is typically slowest between 9 a.m. to 3 p.m., and its busiest time is from 4 p.m. to 7 p.m.

Attendance at the rec has risen, but it has not yet exceeded its intended capacity.

Even though students may find it difficult to counter the larger crowds, Baker thinks the increased numbers is a good sign, and that he will look for improvements in the future.

"I think the most important thing is to utilize the facility," he said. "I am the steward of the facility for the students. I want to utilize it for the students."

SIU faculty union leaders vote to recommend contract offer

CARBONDALE (AP) — Leaders of Southern Illinois University's faculty union decided Tuesday to recommend union members approve the school's latest contract offer, averting a threatened strike.

Members of the governing body who made the decision

widely expect their 400 union members to pass the proposal when they vote Thursday and Friday, said union president Morteza Daneshdoost.

The union's 45-member governing body voted by a "generous majority" to recommend union members approve the offer,

Daneshdoost said, even though union leaders had expressed serious reservations with the plan.

The four-year proposal includes a 7.5 percent pay raise over the final three years but does not address some of the union's most strident non-economic demands.

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BASEBALL

Standings still wide open past year's halfway mark

◆ *Domercant, Minard leaders for player of the year*

By Matt Williams
ASSOCIATE SPORTS EDITOR

The Ohio Valley Conference basketball season is just over the halfway mark and things are still left wide open in the conference standings.

With one month left before the OVC tournament, almost every team still has a shot at hosting a first round game with only two games separating the teams from the third to seventh spots.

Preseason favorites Murray State and Tennessee Tech sit in a tie for third with 5-3 conference records while Morehead State commands an 8-1 record with their lone loss coming against the No. 2 team Austin Peay.

This marks an important week for teams, with each team getting at least two conference games in the next seven days while Eastern and Southeast Missouri play three games apiece.

"It's a longshot right now," Tech (Murray) head coach Tevester Anderson said. "It depends largely by what happens during the last eight games of the season."

Austin Peay is currently the hottest team in the conference, winning their last five games including a seven-point road victory over Morehead State on Thursday to break the Eagles nine game winning streak. The Governors also have the pleasure of playing five of their last seven games at the Dunn Center.

"We are obviously pleased with the way things are going for us,"

Austin Peay head coach Dave Loos said. "We are still not where we want to be, but we have been cutting down our turnovers over this stretch. I hope that playing at home will work to our advantage, but it doesn't guarantee anything."

Loos gives credit for a lot of the team's success toward its defensive play. In three of their last four games, the Governors have held their opponents under 60 points. They only allowed 59 points to Morehead State, who is averaging the highest point total in the conference with over 80 points per game.

Murray State has the toughest tasks of the week having to travel to play both Tennessee Tech and Austin Peay. The Racers have lost the last two in Cookeville and Austin Peay is currently 8-0 at home this season.

At the midpoint there are also a few players that are battling it out for OVC player of the year honors. Coaches believe there is no clear leader for the award, but there are two front-runners in Eastern's Henry Domercant and Murray State's sophomore Ricky Minard.

"Since I can't vote for my own kid, I would have to choose Ricky



Rick Samuels
"Since I can't vote for my own kid, I would have to choose Ricky Minard."

OVC Men's Basketball Standings		
	OVC	OVERALL
Morehead State	8-1	14-6
Austin Peay	7-2	14-6
Murray State	5-3	12-7
Tennessee Tech	5-3	12-9
Eastern Illinois	4-5	9-12
Southeast Missouri	4-5	9-12
Tennessee-Martin	4-5	11-9
Eastern Kentucky	2-6	8-11
Tennessee State	0-9	2-18

Tuesday's games
Eastern 85, Southeast Missouri 73
Austin Peay 82, Tennessee State 57

Minard," Eastern head coach Rick Samuels said.

Minard is second in the league in scoring and steals with 21.2 points per game and 2.11 steals. He is also averaging over six rebounds and four assists per contest ranking him in the top 10 in both categories.

Samuels also spoke highly of Tennessee Tech's Damien Kinloch and Joey Walker of Tennessee-Martin.

Kinloch averages 15.6 points per game and is third best in rebounding by averaging 8.1. Walker averages 15.2 points per game and brings down 7.3 rebounds.

Eastern Kentucky guard Matt Witt is a clear favorite for the Rookie of the Year as he has won Rookie of the Week honors seven times this season.

Bite:

Eastern exploits mismatches with Indians

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 12

The game opened up for the Panthers after it seemed like the Indians were back in the game. Sophomore guard Derek Winans hit a three-pointer to put the score at 45 apiece, but Domercant rushed right down the court and responded with a three of his own to start a 19-4 Eastern run.

Eastern led by as many as 20 points, but were unable to put SEMO out of the game for good.

"We got a lead and they just got going again," junior center Jesse Mackinson said. "We have to play 40 minutes a night."

Mackinson was the other offensive threat for the Panthers with 15 points on 7-of-13 shooting and five rebounds.

The Panthers were able to shut down Winans for most of

the game, forcing him to a 2-for-10 shooting performance and just six points, but SEMO's was able to find other scoring options in their deep lineup.

Sophomore guard Brett Hale stepped up for 29 points on 11-of-13 shooting from the field while junior forward Brandon Griffin chipped in for 18 points and 13 rebounds.

The Panthers moved into fifth place in the conference with the win and face two more conference foes before the end of the week.

The Panthers think they are where they want to be and could fight for a home playoff game with continued success.

"We only have seven games left so we have to start winning now," Mackinson said. "We have to play with a lot of emotion and a lot of heart every game from hear on out."

Top Cat:

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 12

For the season, Sparks is tied for second in points averaging 10.7 a game and second in rebounds and third in assists with 4.2 and 2.4 respectively per contest.

Sparks and her teammate, Lauren Dailey, have given the Panthers an explosive back court averaging 24 points and nearly six assists per tilt.

Another asset to Sparks' game is her long-range shot. She is the team leader in three-point percentage (.321) and has made at least one three-pointer in nine of the team's last 10 games.

While Sparks may be turning

the heads of opponents and Panther fans, Wunder is not shocked by the play of her fabulous freshman.

"We (the coaching staff) knew she was capable of this when we recruited her, so this is not a total surprise," Wunder said. "It (Spark's recent play) is something we are pleased with."

Sparks attended nearby Mattoon high school and was heavily recruited by Eastern. She appears to be the next big thing and the future of Eastern women's basketball.

"Hopefully she is the future," Wunder said. "We need more players like her to step up."

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NATIONAL SECURITY (PG13)
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OVC VOLLEYBALL

Tennessee Tech hires Division II volleyball coach of the year

By Matt Meinheit
SPORTS EDITOR

Tennessee Tech named 2002 NCAA Division II National Coach of the Year Qi Wang (pronounced Chee Wong), as its new volleyball head coach last Thursday.

Wang replaces Jennie Gilbert as the Golden Eagles' head coach after she resigned in December. Wang inherits a team with an 8-18 overall record and 5-11 Ohio Valley Conference record in 2002. The team finished in seventh place in the OVC and failed to qualify for the conference tournament.

"We are absolutely delighted to select Qi Wang to lead our volleyball program," Tennessee Tech Athletics Director David Larimore said when making the announcement Thursday. "He has a tremendous background both as a player and coach on the collegiate and international levels."

Wang started his playing career in 1974 competing with the elite professional and collegiate teams in China. He continued to play competitively until he was 26 years old.

Wang began his coaching career in 1983 with men's and women's teams in China. From 1983 to 1985, Wang was head coach of the women's volleyball team at Normal University of China. From 1987 to 1994 he coached the Dalian University of Technology of China.

For the past six years, Wang has been coaching at Truman (Mo.) State University. He spent



Qi Wang

"I will miss the opportunity of the fight for a national championship over the next few years. I'm excited about Tennessee Tech because the volleyball program has great potential."

four years as an assistant coach before becoming head coach of the Bulldogs following the 2000 season.

In 2001, Wang led Truman to its best record in team history. The Bulldogs led the NCAA Division II in winning percentage (.949) and won a team-record 37 matches, including 11 wins against

Top 25 teams.

The team won the South Central Regional and advanced to the NCAA Division II Elite Eight for the first time. The team finished the year with a national ranking of No. 3.

Last year, the Bulldogs won their third consecutive Mid-American Intercollegiate Athletics Association title, returned to the Elite Eight and finished as the national runner-up.

"This was an extremely difficult decision for me to make," Wang said. "I will miss the opportunity of the fight for a national championship over the next few years. I'm excited about Tennessee Tech because the volleyball program has great potential."

MEN'S BASKETBALL

Lewis defies speculation

◆ Senior guard returns to starting lineup after severely spraining his ankle Saturday vs. Tennessee State

By Matthew Stevens
SPORTS REPORTER

Senior point guard Craig Lewis went from barely being able to put any pressure on his left ankle Sunday to receiving an x-ray Monday to playing 27 minutes on Tuesday in a 85-73 win over Southeast Missouri.

"I thought he played really well even though it looks like he might have been a half-step slower," junior forward Jesse Mackinson said.

Eastern thought Lewis might have broken a bone when he turned his ankle late in the second half against Tennessee State Saturday, but an x-ray Monday revealed good news.

"He had his foot x-rayed to see if there was a broken bone but thankfully there was not," Panthers' head coach Rick Samuels said.

Lewis' x-ray revealed a badly sprained ankle, but the senior point guard ran the offense effectively in the first half, including 22 points in the paint and only six turnovers.

"It was a solid game for Craig tonight with his foot being very sore," Samuels said.

Samuels feels playing three games this week might be a disadvantage for one of his floor leaders.

"We're thinking it's good that we're playing games, but in Craig's situation it may not be good because it would be nice to give that foot a rest," Samuels



COLIN MCAULIFFE/PHOTO EDITOR

Eastern junior forward David Roos chases after a loose ball Tuesday night in Lantz Arena. He finished the game with 12 points. Roos and the rest of Eastern's bench made a big contribution to in the team's victory against SEMO. Freshmen guards Josh Gomes and Jake Sinclair played 22 combined minutes and committed just one turnover between them.

said.

Lewis was able to tally six points, five rebounds, five assists and helped hold Indians' leading scorer sophomore Derek Winans to only six points.

"It's bruised and sore right now, but it'll get better soon," Mackinson said.

When Lewis was given a breather, the combination of freshmen Josh Gomes, Jake Sinclair and senior Ramon Taylor provided six points, five assists and most importantly, only one turnover.

"We have some other kids who can play with Ramon giving us some solid minutes," Samuels said. "Jake is still limited due to simply not feeling good but we'll weather the storm."

Junior forward David Roos scored all of his 12 points in the second half after not seeing many minutes lately.

"Last three games, I got benched (vs. Aurora) and saw limited minutes in the next two (vs. Tennessee Tech and State)," Roos said. "So I have to start producing more so I will stay on the floor."



Yearbook Pictures

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Panther sports calendar

THURSDAY	M basketball vs. E. Kentucky	7:10 p.m. Lantz Arena
FRIDAY	Wrestling at N. Illinois	7 p.m.
SATURDAY	W basketball vs. Morehead	5:15 p.m. Lantz Arena
SATURDAY	M basketball vs. Morehead	7:10 p.m. Lantz Arena

THROWING HEAT


Matthew Stevens
SPORTS REPORTER

Here's your stupid sign

Players and coaches around the world, I'm sickened by the recent acts of the past weeks and have decided to deliver a message.

Under no circumstances do you push, grab or touch a referee in any way, or you will be forced to wear a sign.

Last week, the Utah Jazz were being manhandled by the Sacramento Kings early in the first half but Utah head coach Jerry Sloan witnessed a no-call when Kings guard Doug Christie clearly stepped out of bounds.

Sloan protested the call and official Courtney Kirkland came over to explain. Heated words were exchanged, Sloan became enraged and shoved Kirkland with two hands. Sloan was ejected immediately and currently serves his automatic seven-game suspension, but that's not enough.

The Jazz came back to win and Sloan is arrogant enough to think his ejection was the difference.

Even though Sloan apologized, he should be forced to wear a sign reading "I am stupid" for the rest of the regular season because if he shoves someone on a street corner it's assault.

Other people who should enter the stupid club are Trailblazer forward Rasheed Wallace. Clearly anger management is not working for the former Tar Heel.

After a game with the Grizzlies, Wallace confronted an official in the parking lot of the Rose Garden and threatened his life. Wallace was fined and also given a seven-game suspension.

Since this is just one of many Wallace suspensions in recent years, his sign should say, "I need help."

Finally, we come to a pair of Pacers — guard Ron Artest and head coach Isiah Thomas. If Thomas is trying to rebuild the era of the Pistons 'Bad Boys' he's accomplishing his goal with flying colors.

In a matter of two minutes, Artest began trash-talking with Miami Heat head coach Pat Riley, made two free throws and flipped off the crowd as he ran back to play defense. Bulls fans will remember when Michael Jordan was thinking of another comeback Artest broke his ribs because Jordan schooled him repeatedly. Artest was suspended for four games without pay for his actions in Miami, but all of his actions are probably well received by Thomas. The Pacers' coach was ejected in Toronto and chances are pretty good he would have assaulted the referee, but Raptors' head coach Lenny Wilkens restrained him.

The sign for Artest is simple: "Please remove my head from my butt."

For Thomas, it's also a no-brainer — "he started it," because in Thomas' career in the NBA everyone is apparently against him and it's never his fault. Amazing, huh?

The obvious reason for the signs is that kids watching NBA games on television will realize immediately acting this way is dirty and technically it's illegal in the real world.

MEN'S BASKETBALL


COLIN MCAULIFFE/PHOTO EDITOR

Senior guard J.R. Reynolds is called for a charge while going for a layup during the second half of Eastern's 85-73 defeat of Southeast Missouri.

TOP CAT

"... she has gotten much better as the season progresses" — head coach Linda Wunder

Eastern's future spark

◆ Freshman Sparks scores career-high 23, averages over 17 points per game in Panthers' last three games

◆ Editor's note: Top Cat is a weekly series taking an in-depth look at Eastern's top athlete from the previous week. Winners are selected just once. Selections are made by The Daily Eastern News sports staff.

By Michael Gilbert
STAFF WRITER

Sparks have been flying at Lantz Arena recently and it has nothing to do with any pre- or post-game pyrotechnics.

Rather those 'sparks' have come from freshman guard Megan Sparks, who has sparked the Lady Panthers to consecutive wins in Ohio Valley Conference games.

For Sparks' effort during the last week she has been named this week's Top Cat.

In the last three games against Southeast Missouri, Tennessee State and Tennessee Tech, Sparks has averaged over 17 points per game while dishing out three assists and pulling down five rebounds per contest.

Sparks has had quite a week. She scored a career-high 23 points and helped the Panthers (5-15, 4-5 OVC) pick up an important OVC win against the Tigers of Tennessee State last Saturday. The 23 points surpassed her previous high of 19 set against Louisville in late December.

"Megan started the season a little slowly, but she has gotten much better as the season progresses," Eastern head coach Linda Wunder said.

Sparks started her collegiate career on the Panthers' bench. Wunder said having Sparks come off the bench was a tough decision but the right one.

"I wasn't sure that she was ready

(in November) to start," Wunder said. "But she just kept getting better."

Wunder believes the recent success of Sparks comes from her ability to understand the college game and the Panthers' system.

"She has gotten more comfortable," Wunder said. "The college game is much different than high school. College is much more competitive than the high school game."

In Monday's win against Tennessee Tech, Sparks potentially had the best all-around game of her young career. She barely missed earning her first double-double when she dropped 18 points and grabbed 9 boards against Tennessee State. The talented freshman also had four assists in 33 minutes of action.

Sparks may not be a player who averages double digits in rebounds every game, but Wunder would not rule out the possibility of a double-double down the road.

"When I looked at the score sheet and saw that she had nine rebounds I was very surprised," Wunder said. "I'm not sure she can get a double-double every night but she has been doing a great job on the boards."

Not only has Sparks been the Lady Panthers' best player of late, but she has become a leader on the floor, which is almost unheard of coming from a freshman.

"She's not the most vocal leader but she has a leader's-like presence to her," Wunder said. "She isn't afraid to take shots."

Sparks' impressive showings of late have moved her up the rankings in each of the three major statistical categories.

"I wasn't sure that she was ready SEE TOP CAT ◆ Page 10

Panthers bite Indians 85-73

◆ First time Eastern defeats SEMO twice in same year since 1996-1997, moves into to tie for fifth place

By Matt Williams
ASSOCIATE SPORTS EDITOR

The Eastern men's basketball team would like to play Southeast Missouri every night if it could. The Panthers (9-12, 4-5) were able to sweep the Indians (9-12, 4-5) with an 85-73 victory Tuesday in Lantz Arena.

"We have several kids that like to play Southeast Missouri," Eastern head coach Rick Samuels said. "Sometimes you just have good matchups."

After exposing a pair of mismatches against the Indians in the first matchup between the two teams, Samuels took advantage of those mismatches Tuesday.

Senior guard Henry Domercant and David Roos sparked the team from behind the arc, shooting a combined 7-10 for the game 47 of the Panthers' points.

"They just don't have a guy who SEE BITE ◆ Page 10

can matchup against Henry," Samuels said.

Domercant was able to fight off any defender that was on him, he was able to hit both his jump shots and drove the lane to get fouled for several free throw opportunities.

Roos equaled his 12 points he had in the first meeting and fit perfectly in the puzzle to add scoring depth for the Panthers.

"He just looks comfortable when we play Southeast Missouri and frankly he is the best fit for us when we play them," Samuels said. "The way they switch on screens gives David a chance to be productive offensively."

The Panthers opened up the game slowly, falling behind 17-9 after the Indians nailed four three pointers in the first five minutes. Eastern slowly clawed back with a 12-2 run to take a 21-19 lead with just over nine minutes remaining in the half.

The teams would go back and forth for the remainder of the half, but Eastern was able to command a 40-34 lead at the end of the first 20 minutes.



COLIN MCAULIFFE/PHOTO EDITOR

Freshman guard Megan Sparks scored over 17 points per game in Eastern's last three games. She also lead the team in three-point shooting percentage, making .321 from three-point territory.