Eastern Illinois University

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Eastern Illinois University

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"Tell the truth and don't be afraid." VOLUME 88, NUMBER 111 THEDAILYEASTERNNEWS.COM EASTERNNEWS

March 3, 2004 ◆ WEDNESDAY

Committee

Eastern kicks off search for new women's basketball coach.

Page 12 SPORTS

CITY COUNCIL

Rate hike OK'd

◆ Water bills will be raised next month for off-campus students after unanimous vote

By Jessica Youngs CITY EDITOR

Water rates will increase next month for off-campus students and Charleston residents after a unanimous vote by Charleston City Council at Tuesday night's meeting.

The council voted 5-0 to pass an ordinance increasing water and sewer rates 3.2 percent, approximately 23 cents per 1,000 gallons, for the average user.

Mayor Dan Cougill said this increase is to keep up with the state based municipal cost index increase of 3.2 percent for the year and avoid a sudden large percentage increase in the future.

In 1999, the council moved to increase the water and sewer rates 20 percent because the city was far behind in opportunity costs, said Cougill, who did not want another large increase to

By the recommendation of Scott Smith, city manager, the council also moved to table a controversial issue over a possible increase in coin-operated devices until a public meeting can be held in April.

Smith previously said he had received many inquires and comments about the possible increase which was also tabled at the Feb. 27 council meeting. He said it would be best to address the issue with the public.

The increase would have caused the license fee for the of amusement operation machines to triple from \$25 to \$75 per machine.

In other business:

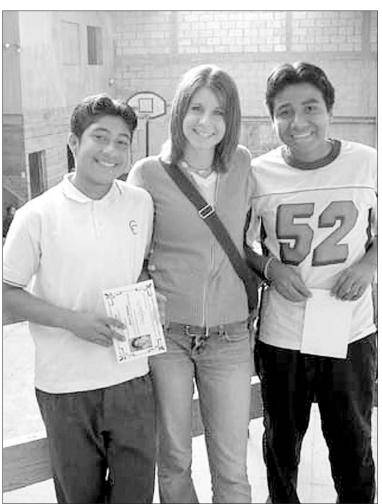
- ◆ Council approved a resolution abating the annual tax to pay principal and interest on general obligation bonds for the water and sewer funds. Cougill said the city will be able to pay for the bonds totaling \$9 million out of revenues.
- ◆ An ordinance raising the license rate for scavengers to \$100 per company license and \$50 per garbage truck was approved.
- ◆ Council approved a resolution authorizing the extension of an agreement with ABM Farms for \$2,068 to farm the land across from the water treatment plant. Cougill said this agreement is lower than previous years because five or six acres of the farmland was used for the new police and fire training facility.
- ♦ A resolution requesting street closure on Sixth Street between Jackson and Monroe avenues and on Monroe Avenue



Down in a hole

Charleston public works and utilities workers repair a two inch water main on Division Street just south of Lincoln Avenue Tuesday afternoon.

Focusing on the less fortunate



SUBMITTED PHOTO

Junior speech communication major and former Pink Panther captain Miranda Woolever is spending this semester serving as a missionary in

◆ Eastern student *spending six months* serving others as missionary in Guatemala

By Julie Bourque CAMPUS REPORTER

Becoming overwhelmed with school work is not uncommon in college. Most students either take a break or work harder to get past

It is safe to say that very few students wouldn't consider completely dropping school and leaving for a semester to serve as a missionary in another country.

But Miranda Woolever, a junior speech communications major and former Pink Panther captain, is one of those rare students who opted to do so, taking some time off

and focusing on helping others. "I was really getting burned out on school and the Lord laid missions on my heart after serving in Mexico for 10 days last summer," Woolever said. "So when I heard that this position was open, I applied. They accepted me, and I committed to coming to [Guatemala] for six months during the semester I took off of school.'

Woolever is a volunteer coordinator for Potter's House, a nonprofit Christian organization that focuses on helping people living in the Guatemala City Dump mentally and physically escape the lifestyle the dump entails.

Woolever said the dump, which is the size of 24 football fields, lies

in the center of Guatemala City where about 10,500 people literally live and work.

"It is a life long cycle for many of these people," she said. "They are born in the dump, grow up in the dump, find a mate in the dump, have children in the dump, die in the dump and then the cycle begins all over again with the children."

Potter's House offers education programs for both adults and children and Woolever works with the children and the scheduling for future Potter's House volunteers.

"I make the arrangements for [the volunteer's] visit, communicate with them through e-mail until they come, oversee and interact with the volunteers during their time at Potter's House, and then I tutor a group of boys in English," she said.

Woolever said her goal when tutoring the group of boys is to advance on what they already know, which is little. Though Woolever does not call herself a teacher, she may be considered one because she is beginning at "square one" with the boys.

Woolever said she knows very little Spanish and the boys know very little English, so they are all learning from each other.

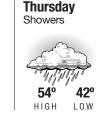
Although the language barrier sometimes poses a problem, Woolever said she is taking everything slowly and using a few books aid her. "At first I was a little worried

SEE MISSIONARY ◆ Page 5

SEE INCREASE ◆ Page 5

PA(;K

Today





HIGH

LOW



HIGH

LOW



HIGH



LOW



LOW

HIGH



28° HIGH

Wednesday, March 3, 2004



DAILY EASTERN NEWS PHOTO BY JOSH REELEY

Mopping up

Workers from the roofer's shop at Eastern were out working on Ford Hall's roof Tuesday afternoon.

Residence halls will face off in collegiate bowl

By Nicole Nicolas

FEATURES REPORTER

Six residence halls will go headto-head in a collegiate bowl sponsored by the Residence Hall Association and University Board at 6 p.m. Wednesday at Andrews Hall.

Thomas, Pemberton. Andrews, McKinney, Ford and Carman halls each have teams consisting of four players from

The teams will be quizzed in categories such as actors and actresses, Disney movies, movie quotes, Eastern facts, Tom Hanks' movies, sports, English, spelling, U.S. government, reality TV, sitcoms, drama television shows and Charleston.

"We wanted to make it so people who normally don't do well in collegiate bowls may do well in this one," said UB special events coordinator Theresa Outman. "(It's) all basically for

The bowl will be a tournament style, similar to "Jeopardy." Each of the rounds will be 15 minutes and have two teams competing to win the round. The team that wins the round will go on to face the next team. This

will go on until there is only one team left standing, Outman said.

The categories consist of four questions worth 10, 20, 30 or 40 points, with the easiest question being worth 10 points and the hardest worth 40 points. At the end of each round there is a final question worth 50 points.

The rules for the bowl are each team gets 10 seconds to answer after the question is asked. After they buzz in, each player is on their own and has 30 seconds to answer the question.

If a player gets the answer wrong, another team is allowed to steal the question. A five-point penalty will be given to each team for answering wrong or giving an answer to one of its teammates. At the end, the teams get 45 seconds to answer the final question.

The winner of the bowl will receive either a trophy or a certificate from the RHA.

"It will be very entertaining, kind of like watching 'Jeopardy,' Outman said. "It would be a good way to get all the residence halls together. It's fun but somewhat educational," said Hillary Hancock freshman undecided major and University Board member.

POLICE BLOTTER

Purchase/acceptance of alcohol by minor

Sarah Christine Tharp, 20, was arrested Sunday on charges of purchase/acceptance of alcohol by a minor, minor frequenting a licensed premise and possession of another's identification.

Public urination

Michael R. Kowalski, 19, Chicago, was arrested Sunday on charges of public urination and purchase/acceptance of alcohol by a minor.

Resisting peace officer

Justin R. Dore. 20. of Ford Hall. was arrested Thursday at McAfee Gymnasium on charges of resisting a peace officer, possession of drug paraphernalia and possession of cannabis.

30 groups express interest in service day

By Brian O'Malley

STUDENT GOVERNMENT EDITOR

An unexpected turnout of approximately 30 students represented groups showing interest in offering their services to the community Tuesday.

Representatives from Recognized Student Organizations attended an informational meeting for "Panther Service Day" to be held April 24.

Student Body President Caleb Judy said he was happy with the attendance and thought it was "a very successful meeting.'

"There's a lot of people here," he said. "It's exciting."

Each student and community member participating in the event will have a choice to paint a house or clean a yard in the Charleston community for the service day.

"It's going to be a good experi-

Editor in chiefJohn Chambers

"It's going to be a good experience. Not only are we getting students involved, but we're also we're reaching out to the community."

---Caleb Judy, student body president

ence," Judy said. "Not only are we getting students involved, but also we're reaching out to the community."

Judy said the three ways to participate in the event are to volunteer, donate or nominate a site to clean up.

The donations will help purchase tools and other items needed to do work.

"You can pick which job you want," he said.

Each participating group can bring as many members as they want, Judy said. Twenty people can sign up on one form and he said multiple forms can be attached for more than 20 volun-

All application forms are due March 30, but the meeting Tuesday was not a requirement to participate in the service day.

"By March 30, we'll know how many donations we have; we'll know how many volunteers we have," Judy said. "We're trying to get the president to do this, he said. "We'll try to get some of the vice presidents, the mayor, anyone we can.'

Beckie Diehl and Adam Howell, Student Senate members and "Panther Service Day" recruiters, said they were happy with the amount of students showing interest in participating.

"I think it had a great turn out," Diehl said. "It was so exciting to see that different organizations are as excited as we are about 'Panther Service Day.'

"I was impressed with the turnout," Howell said. "When I showed up, I was expecting to see three people and a janitor.'

Diehl said the key to the event is the volunteers.

"The more volunteers, the merrier," she said.

Judy said another informational will be held a week before the event to assign participants specific jobs and specific sites.

Packets with information and forms for the event are available in the Student Activities Center in the Martin Luther King Jr. University Union.

THE DAILY **EASTERN NEWS**

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CORRECTIONS

A story in Monday's issue of The Daily Eastern News reported residents in the Atrium were fined for broken glass. They were not charged.

The article also credited information to a random survey. The survey was only administered to two apartment complexes owned by Unique Homes.

The News regrets the errors.

SUGGESTIONS

If you have any suggestions or ideas for articles you would like to see in The News, feel free to contact us at 581-2812 or jpchambers@eiu.edu

FACULTY SENATE

Pondering forum's outcomes to stay on agenda

By Kevin Sampier

ADMINISTRATION EDITOR

The discussion to form a committee that would handle the Faculty Senate's annual Faculty Forum was postponed Tuesday.

Faculty Senate Chair David Carpenter said the discussion will be handled during the senate's next meeting.

If approved, the committee would be in charge of generating topics for the forum instead of all senate members, Carpenter said.

The senate's annual faculty forum, held last week, brings faculty members and senate members together to discuss problems around campus.

Senate members did discuss results from the forum and plan to implement some ideas suggested by Carpenter.

Getting Charleston residents more involved in Eastern events was one area the forum tried to improve.

Carpenter suggested buying advertising in local newspapers to promote events on campus.

"It's those kinds of proposals that I'd like to see the senate generate," Carpenter said.

Senate members also discussed trying to put a faculty member on the Board of Trustees. Several members said the process could take a lot of effort because of the legislative process that would have to take place.

In a previous meeting with BOT Chair Nate Anderson, senate members were told the BOT has no control who gets elected to the board and the decision is up to the governor, Carpenter said.

Faculty Senate recorder John Allison gave senate members an update on the search for a new director of facilities planning and management.

Allison, who was appointed to the search committee earlier this semester, said the original date for bringing candidates for the position will be pushed back until the fall to avoid interrupting finals

"The very earliest we could get people on campus would be pushing into final exams week," he said.

After administrators gave the

search committee permission, Allison said the candidates will arrive in the fall so more people can be involved with the selection process

The senate also discussed its self- study, which defines what the senate has done over the last few years. Once it is approved, the study will be sent to a North Central Accreditation Steering Committee for review, said senate member Reed Benedict.

The Faculty Senate will meet at p.m. Tuesday in the Booth Library Conference Room 4440.

hristian Campus House supplies social alternatives

By April McLaren STAFF WRITER

Thanks to the Christian Campus House, which first started more than 30 years ago, students have the opportunity to avoid the typical college party scene while meeting, socializing and evangelizing with other students who share the same interests.

"We're here to meet the spiritual needs of Eastern students and staff," said Roger Songer, senior campus minister at the Christian Campus House.

He said the Recognized Student Organization wants to be there for Christians and show them how to integrate their faith with their career while teaching others how to make sense of faith.

Songer said he has gotten to know a lot of students with a church background but not a lot of faith. After students become a part of the group, they start to understand their faith and their questions are gradually answered.

"A light goes on," he said. "It's a beautiful thing to watch.'

According to the RSO's official Web site, the group was first started in 1970 by Eastern students who wanted a campus ministry. In 1972, the group had its first Sunday worship service in Booth Library Auditorium, and five years later a fraternity house was purchased and named the Covenant House.

The house originally housed 16 female students, but the organization's numbers continued to grow and plans were well under way to construct a building which would be adequate for the new growth concerns. In 1981, the new build-



SUBMITTED PHOTO

Members of the Christian Campus House.

ing was finished.

Three years later, Songer, the third minister of the house, made his way to Charleston.

After ministering in Oklahoma, Songer said the opportunity to come back to Illinois, his home state, was open. He has been with CCH ever since.

"I like the pace of college life," he said. "College kids are willing to learn at a different rate."

Every Wednesday night, the house has a Bible study open to anyone on campus.

The weekly Bible study is junior social science major Tom Reeb's favorite part of the organ-

"It's a good thing to break up your week, take a step back and reflect on God and give your problems up to God. It's something different," he said.

Reeb has been a part of the house since his first day at

Songer said the RSO has par-

ticipates in service projects such as working with the Crisis Pregnancy Center, ministering in prisons and nursing homes, working for the elderly and gathering food for food pantries.

Songer said they also have small weekly bible studies, a barn dance, a semiformal to give students social activities as an alternative to the bar scenes.

Sophomore English major John Parrott enjoys family groups, which students sign-up for in the beginning of each semester. The family groups are small groups of people who meet periodically for small group Bible studies.

"It's a really great way to get introduced to people," he said.

He explained the groups are rotated every semester, which allows more students to get to know each other.

Christian Campus House worship services are at 10:30 every Sunday morning in Buzzard Auditorium.

Forums to explain mandated electronic voting machines

By David Thill STAFF WRITER

Coles County voters have five more chances over the next two weeks to see how the new optical scanning voting machines work.

Coles County Clerk Betty Coffrin said there has already been a "great

response" from the public to forums beginning last month where the machines were exhibited to the public.

All the machines will be implemented to comply with a federal mandate declaring counties move away from punch cards after conflict over voting results in the last presidential election.

The new forums will be held 5 to 8 p.m. Wednesday at the Humboldt Town Hall; 7:30 to 9 a.m. Friday at Cooks Mill; 9 a.m. to noon Saturday at Oakland City Hall; 1 to 4 p.m. March 12 at Lerna First National Bank and 9 a.m. to noon March 13 at Ashmore Fire Hall.

Coles County has purchased 28

machines forcing the county to reduce the number of polling sites from 45 to 26.

Coles County's total contract with technology manufacturer Diebold is for \$218,000, \$140,000 of which was given to the county by a state grant to provide the voting machines

Other counties around the area that use this system are Douglas, Moultrie, Shelby and Cumberland.

"Douglas County has been using the system for quite some time, Coffrin previously said.

The other three counties will be making the change to the new system soon, she said.





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EDITORIAL

Ethics law will disrupt productivity

A hot topic among faculty earlier this year was the Illinois Board of Higher Education's request for instructors to find ways to increase productivity.

Now, a new ethics law could get in the way of whatever success faculty have had in increasing their productivity.

The ethics law was created to prevent state employees from campaigning while on the clock for the state. It requires all state employees, including faculty, administrators, building service

workers and other campus employees, to fill out a report almost every 15 minutes on what they are doing at work.

The governor's office gave universities until March 1 to create a policy in compliance with the new law. Eastern and other state universities missed this deadline. President Lou Hencken wanted an interpretation

At issue

A new ethics law will require state employees to document their time worked in around 15-minute increments.

Our stance
The new law will clutter productivity with extra paperwork.

of the law from the Attorney General or the ethics commission before he implemented any plans for documenting wanted.

This ethics law has been an unnecessary burden for university to bear. A different part of the ethics law is responsible for the resignation of two members of Eastern's Board of Trustees because the law doesn't allow for registered lobbyist or members of special interest groups to serve on such boards or commissions that affect policy in Illinois.

It is a good thing to have ethical standards, especially when dealing with taxpayer's money, but there are better ways than mandating obligatory paperwork to ensure ethical standards.

The writers of the law had good intentions, but Eastern can't teach its students with good intentions.

Assistant Professor of Political Science Dave Carwell last week said the law is "an administrative and logistical nightmare for the state of Illinois."

Illinois employs the staff of Eastern and other universities to provide a higher level of education to those who attend these institutions. It is quite difficult to do this when members of the staff have to take time out of their already busy day to fill out paperwork that wasn't intended for them.

Everything possible should be done to prevent university employees from having valuable time taken away from the them. If Eastern must comply with this new law, it should make sure it doesn't take time away from main objective of the university: teaching the students.

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

OPINION

Bush still everyone's president



Michael Schroeder
City reporter and guest
columnist
for The Daily
Eastern News

Schroeder also is a junior history education major

He can be reached at cumis@eiu.edu

With America only eight months away from the next presidential election, and the candidates more or less determined, political debate has once again become more impassioned and frequent.

I have, however, been discouraged by one trend: the feeling that George Bush is "not my president." Many students have T-shirts expressing this confusing statement. I caution those students to think about what exactly they are saying. The fact is George W. Bush is the president of all Americans whether you like it or not. That is the American system of government.

To say George Bush is not your president shows either a total lack of respect for or lack of knowledge in America and democracy.

Majority rule and minority rights are part of the pillars of democracy, which is American. America and democracy have become synonymous. For someone to deny the Constitution and say that they all of the sudden have a different president or don't have a president loses any legitimacy that person can have in politics.

I personally could not stand Bill Clinton nor do I like Gov. Blagojevich, however, Clinton was my president and Blagojevich is my governor. I was not old enough to vote in 1996 or 2000, however, in 2002 I did not vote for Blagojevich and don't prefer to have him in office. However, he does lead me and he "No, you don't have to like the president and support everything he says, but you should support America and our structure of government."

is my governor.

Why liberals can't support the Constitution and the beliefs of our founding fathers in the same way is beyond me. And note that when I say liberals, I do not mean the typical Democrat; they are familiar with the Constitution and respect it. I am talking about those who quote "Bowling for Columbine" like scripture.

I understand that some people want Bush out of office. I don't agree with them, but I can see where they are coming from. To deny that he deserves to be in office or that he is even the president for all Americans is insane.

George Bush was rightfully elected president of the United States. The election was close, but even the *New York Times*, a newspaper that sides with Republicans as often as Haley's Comet comes around, has said that Bush fairly won the election.

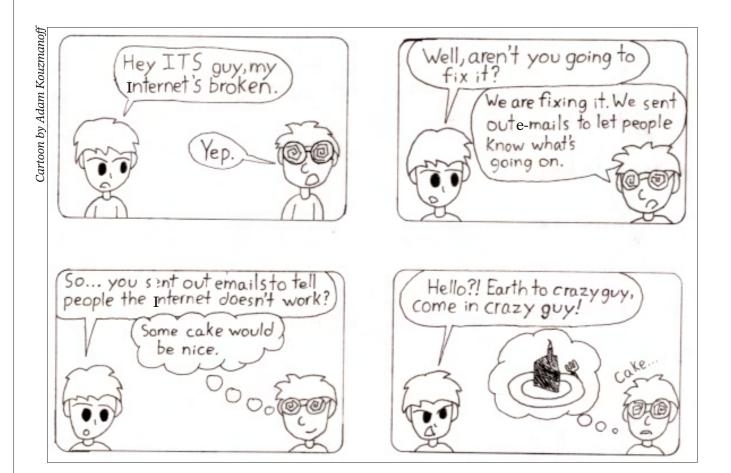
If he isn't your president, who is? Al Gore? Ralph Nader?

Michael Moore? Yourself? No, it's George Bush. Just because an individual's first choice did not win the presidency does not mean he or she lives in a state of anarchy because they didn't get what they wanted. It just means that what he or she wants is not what the majority of America wants. Republican, democrat, liberal, conservative; everyone is of the minority opinion at some point in their life.

But to think that means you are above the constitution and not under the majority elected president is un-American. It is wrong and it does not help the political system of America. It is in fact far more un-American then what many of these same people accuse George Bush of doing.

This refusal to except the political landscape is a major contributor to the present division in America. No, you don't have to like the president and support everything he says, but you should support America and our structure of government. If you don't, fine, say you want a different government. But don't say that George Bush is not your president and he has no right to be president and still site the constitution when complaining about Bush's policies.

Bush does what he feels is in the best interest of the American people. You may not agree with that, but that's fine, debate those issues. Do not just get mad and say he isn't "your president." Believe me, it will make you look a lot smarter.



YOUR TURN: LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

'Passion' reporting inaccurate

I just finished reading Julie Bourque's article about Mel Gibson's film "The Passion of The Christ" and would like to point out several misconceptions the article puts forth.

First, Pope John Paul II has not publicly given the film "high ratings."

According to a Reuters' news release January 20, "Archbishop Stanislaw Dziwisz, the pope's longtime private secretary, told the Catholic News Service Monday 'The Holy Father

told no one of his opinion of this film." In fact, the Vatican has repeatedly denied that the Pope has endorsed this film. It's apparently Mel Gibson's press people who are saying he did. It's ironic, of course, that Gibson is seeking the pope's endorsement since he does not recognize the authority of the pope as the head of the Roman Catholic Church.

According to the Web site Catholic News, Gibson belongs to a cult that "hates

the pope, celebrates mass in Latin, fasts on Fridays and requires women to wear hats in church."

Second, Bourque quotes Roy Lanham of the Newman Catholic Center as implying that the film cannot be antisemitic because Jim Caviezel, the man who plays Jesus, Jewish. Caviezel, however, is not Jewish. In fact, he was brought up, in his words, "a devout Catholic."

John Z. Guzlowski, English professor

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 jpchambers@eiu.edu.

FACULTY SENATE

Senate positions open again as 3-year terms end



DAILY EASTERN NEWS PHOTO BY COLIN MCAULIFFE

Faculty Senate president David Carpenter, discusses a letter math professor Charles Delman wrote Tuesday afternoon in the 4440 Conference Room of Booth Library.

The Faculty Senate will hold elections later this month to determine the future positions of new and old members.

On March 31 and April 1, the senate will hold elections for various positions. Barbara Lawrence, senate vice chair and head of the Senate Elections Committee, said there will be voting booths set up in the Martin Luther King Jr. University Union.

Lawrence said the elections are necessary every three years because the positions in the senate are only set for three years. She said the positions are open because of this rule, not because members want to leave.

"No one really leaves these positions. All the positions in the Faculty Senate are for three years, so there is a natural turnover," Lawrence said.

Any member can keep their position after three years if they reapply and get reelected for that position, Lawrence said

Anyone who wants to run for a position has to obtain signatures from 10 different faculty mem-

"Faculty Senate positions are open to all faculty members," Lawrence said.

The elections are open to any faculty member who wants to vote, but students are not allowed to partake in the voting, she said

Lawrence said she does not do all the work for the elections

"I feel the senate is an important vehicle to get faculty's concerns heard on campus."

-Leo Comerford, senate member

alone. She has other committee members who help her put together the elections and monitor the polls.

Leo Comerford, senate member and Senate Elections Committee member, said he will help Lawrence come election time. Comerford is a firstyear senate member and said he will help monitor polls and do whatever else Lawrence needs him to do in the next couple of weeks.

Comerford said he joined the senate because he thinks it is an important committee on campus.

"I feel the senate is an important vehicle to get faculty's concerns heard on campus," Comerford said.

Lawrence said she and her committee do not know who is leaving the senate and who wants to join. She said it is too early to know what is going to happen because they have not received any of the applications for positions from the faculty yet.

"I do not know the names of any of the faculty members who want to stay or go," Lawrence said. "We will not have any of the applications until March 10."

Increase:

Bid award for mowing contract approved by city council

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

between Sixth and Seventh streets was passed.

The street closure request is for the Gregg Toland Day Festival to be held on the Square on Sept. 25. However, Cougill said closing both of the streets might not be necessary for the festival depending on the number of vendors the festival attracts.

◆ A bid award for a three-year mowing contract with Maddison Landscaping Lawn Services from Mattoon in the amount of \$98,895.69 was approved

◆ The council placed on file an ordinance providing for sensible rehabilitation within the Tax Increment Financing District. The ordinance, which would provide the city with a \$2 million grant, will be used to repair sidewalks around the courthouse

Missionary:

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

about teaching since I am not a certified teacher and really do not have any experience teaching a foreign language,' Woolever said. "But the thing is, as long as I know more than these boys, I will have something to offer them."

In the eyes of her peers, this community service is not unusual for Woolever.

"Miranda is generally a very nice person," said Michelle Huller, co-captain of the Pink Panthers and a teammate of Woolever's for one and a half vears. "She is very, very positive. Going to Guatemala is something I could definitely see her doing.'

Woolever said she expressed the same feelings toward the girls she danced in the Pink Panthers with. Aside from leaving her family, boyfriend and friends, Woolever said

leaving the Pink Panthers was the hardest decision to make.

'Leaving school was not an issue; the building and the education will be there when I get home," Woolever said. "However, having the opportunity to dance with the exact same group of girls in the exact same circumstances will never happen again. I left a great group of girls who I loved dancing with and couldn't have ended with a better sea-

Though Woolever communicates with her family through e-mail on weekdays and a phone call every Friday evening, her family said they miss her presence.

'We were very pleased with her decision, but a little uncomfortable with the distance and time frame," her mother Donna Woolever said. "I handled the short-term mission trips she did in high school well, but this trip is more of a long-term trip and is a littler harder to deal with "

When Miranda Woolever told her fam-

ily she wanted to go to Guatemala, her mother, Donna Woolever, said the unrest in the Central-American countries and the extreme cultural difference made her a little nervous, although she said she was pleased with her decision.

However, knowing Miranda has always had a heart for volunteering and likes to argue, Donna did not want to hold Miranda back from pursuing something she felt was her true calling.

Woolever said she wants to go into education at the collegiate level, but this type of work had definitely crossed her mind. However, she is not in Guatemala for educational or cultural experiences.

"I simply want to show these people there is hope out there, that someone does care and, above all, God loves them," she said. "I am not trying to solve their problems, just trying to let them know that they can be happy in Jesus, someone cares for them and there is reason to continue living.

NOTICE TO OUR LADIES WHO BUY **CONTRACEPTIVES THROUGH EIU PHARMACY**

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345-5722





Senate to vote on renovation funds

ullet Student Activities Office features "big, yellow monster"

By Brian O'Malley

STUDENT GOVERNMENT EDITOR

The Student Senate Wednesday will vote to approve \$44,364.92 to pay for renovations of the Student Activities Center in the Martin Luther King Jr. University Union.

The Apportionment Board approved the amount Thursday.

Student Body President Caleb Judy said the project is needed to add space and give the office a more professional environment.

"Our office looks terrible," Judy said. "We want to create a more inviting environment."

The large partition in the middle of the activities center known as the "big, yellow monster," will be knocked down and replaced with with eight-foot high cubicle-type partitions. Judy said the "big yellow monster" goes from the floor to the ceiling, which is currently against fire code.

"We can't buy (the partition) that tall anymore because it's against the fire code," he said. "It's not safe and we need to get rid of it."

The senate will discuss a motion to establish bylaws for the Student Leadership Council. Senate Speaker Student



DAILY EASTERN NEWS PHOTO BY COLIN MCAULIFFE

Renovations in the Student Life Office will take care of problems like this wall that is not properly alligned with the

George Lesica said a copy of the bylaws has been written and

The bylaws specify the title and the general intentions of the

"The purpose of the Student Leadership Council shall be to

provide resources to student groups as to improve community service, fundraising and educational opportunities Student Recognized Organizations," the bylaw stat-

Lesica said the specific inten-

WILL ROGERS THEATE

MIRACLE (PG) DAILY 7:00

MYSTIC RIVER (R) DAILY 6:45

\$3.00 ALL EVENING SHOWS Only \$2.50 All Shows Before 6 pm

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50 FIRST DATES (PG-13) Daily 4:30, 7:00, 9:45

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EUROTRIP (R) Daily 5:30, 7:45, 10:10 **PASSION OF CHRIST (R)** Daily 3:45, 5:15, 6:45, 8:15, 9:30 TWISTED (R) Daily 5:00, 7:30, 10:00

WELCOME TO MOOSEPORT (PG-13)

DIRTY DANCING: HAVANA NIGHTS (PG-13) Daily 5:45, 8:00, 10:15

tion to fund RSOs is not on the bylaw as of yet.

"RSO funding will be added later," Lesica said.

Under AB's current bylaw, they would not be able to fund RSOs. Student Government's bylaws would also have to be changed to fund RSOs, which is why the process is still ongoing, Lesica said.

"AB can't give RSOs money," he said. "Hopefully we'll be able to fund RSOs by next year."

Lesica said he is happy RSOs will now have a place to go to have questions answered.

"We just want to keep enthusiasm up about this," he said.

The senate will also vote to approve the newly elected University Board chairperson and vice-chairperson for next semester.

UB Chair Jenn Kieffer said Maria Santoyo, a sophomore education major, was elected UB chair and Bill Welter, a junior speech communication major, was elected UB vice-chair.

Kieffer said a two-thirds vote is needed to elect someone, but after three election attempts, none of the three candidates for chair received a two thirds vote.

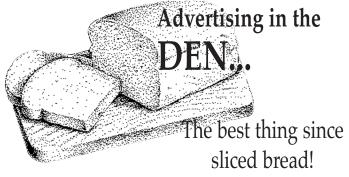
"We had to suspend our bylaws to get a majority vote," she said.

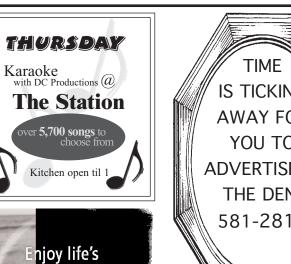
Since Santoyo and Welter were elected, their current positions as chairs for the cultural arts and comedy committees will be left open.

Kieffer said the Public Relations Chair and the concert coordinator elect positions also will be vacant.

The Student Senate will meet at 7 p.m. Wednesday in the Arcola/Tuscola Room of the Martin Luther King University Union.



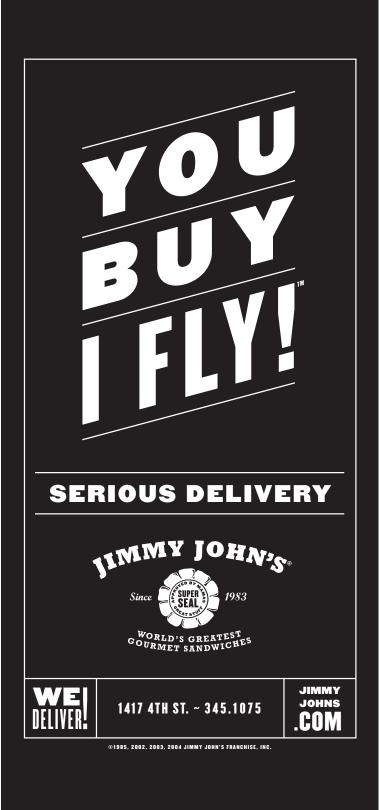


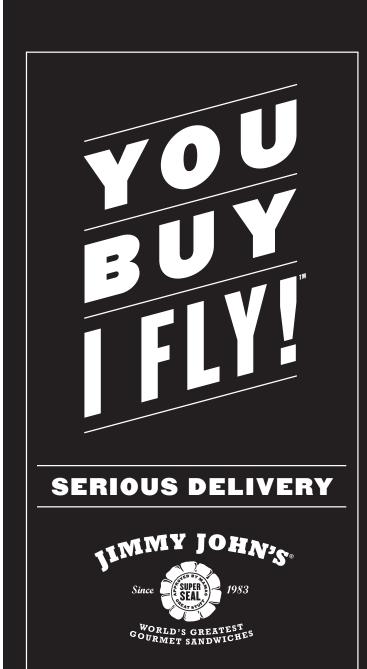












NATIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

Mayor charged for marrying gay couples

NEW PALTZ, N.Y. (AP) — The village's mayor was charged Tuesday with 19 criminal counts for performing weddings for gay couples, an act of defiance that thrust the small community into the national debate over same-sex marriage.

In Oregon, meanwhile, the attorney for Multnomah County, which includes the city of Portland, issued an opinion saying same-sex marriages should be allowed there. The import of the opinion was not immediately clear

New Paltz Mayor Jason West was charged with solemnizing marriages for couples who had no licenses, a misdemeanor under the domestic relations law, according to Ulster County District Attorney Donald Williams.

Although West could face a maximum penalty of a year in jail, the prosecutor said a jail term wasn't being contemplated at this point.

The 26-year-old Green Party mayor said he will plead innocent at his court hearing Wednesday and that he would still go through with his plans to marry as many as two dozen gay couples Saturday.

two dozen gay couples Saturday.
"I'm incredibly disappointed," West said. "Apparently, it's a crime to uphold the constitution of New York state."

West performed wedding ceremonies for 25 gay couples Friday, making him the second mayor in the country to perform same-sex marriages. It also made this small college village 75 miles north of New York City another flash point in the national debate over gay marriage. More than 3,400 couples have been married in San Francisco and West has about 1,000 couples on a waiting list.

Tuesday's legal opinion by the attorney for Multnomah County, considered the most liberal municipality in Oregon, was followed by a statement from the county commissioners.

Kerry captures Super Tuesday MVP

◆ Kerry cements Democratic presidential nomination

By Associated Press

John Kerry cemented the Democratic presidential nomination, driving rival John Edwards from the race with a string of Super Tuesday triumphs that left the Massachusetts senator standing alone against President Bush.

"Change is coming to America," Kerry said, capping a remarkable sixweek run that began with his candidacy on the brink of extinction in Iowa and New Hampshire.

Dominating all comers, Kerry won 25 of 28 elections as each victory fed on the next in a swell of momentum that persuaded Democrats he could beat Bush. From Edwards' Southern strongholds to the jobs-poor Midwest states of Ohio and Michigan to the growing Southwest battleground of Arizona and to his own New England base, Kerry racked up victories in a primary season that amplified Democratic criticism of the Republican incumbent.

In state after state, Democrats said their top priority was a candidate who could defeat a wartime president with a \$100 million-plus campaign treasury. Kerry, a decorated Vietnam veteran, won an overwhelming number of their votes, and now leads a relatively united party against Bush.

"I am a fighter, and for more than 30 years I have been on the battle lines, on

the front lines, for fairness and mainstream American values," Kerry told cheering supporters in Washington, D.C., promising to close tax loopholes, offer new incentives for manufacturers, protect the environment, raise the minimum wage and cut health care costs.

The crowd shouted along with him as Kerry delivered his signature line: "If George Bush wants to make national security the central issue of 2004, I have three words that I know he understands — Bring. It. On."

Strategists in both parties say the general election may be one of the nastiest in memory, with both camps seeking to energize their core supporters. In a polarized nation, there are fewer swing voters to be courted with warm-and-fuzzy politicking, they say.

His poll ratings slipping, Bush begins a multimillion-dollar TV ad blitz Thursday designed to bolster his political fortunes. Kerry is prepared to dip into Democratic Party coffers to pay for his own ads, but Bush has a huge cash advantage.

Briefly setting aside their differences, Kerry took a congratulatory call from Bush.

"You had an important victory tonight," the president told Kerry, adding that he looked forward to a "spirited fight."

Hours earlier, Bush had dispatched Vice President Dick Cheney to TV studios to criticize the presumptive foe.

"He very clearly has over the years adopted a series of positions that indicate a desire to cut the defense budget, cut the intelligence budget, to eliminate many major weapons programs," Cheney said of Kerry, a 19-year Senate veteran.

Kerry called Edwards, whose lone win before Super Tuesday was South Carolina, "A great voice for our party." He commended another fallen rival, Howard Dean, in an effort to unite the party.

Calling Kerry "my friend," Edwards told supporters in Atlanta, "He's been an extraordinary advocate for causes that all of us believe in."

The freshman senator from North Carolina stopped just short of conceding, but two Democratic officials said on condition of anonymity that Edwards would step aside Wednesday in Raleigh,

Kerry rolled up huge Super Tuesday triumphs in New York, Ohio, Maryland, Connecticut, Rhode Island and his home state of Massachusetts, as well as a razon-thin win in Georgia. The fourterm senator also was favored in the late-poll closing states of California and Minnesota. Vermont went to Dean, the state's former governor who dropped out of the race last month.

In all, 10 states with a combined population of 94 million — one-third of the U.S. total — awarded 1,151 delegates, more than half of the 2,162 needed to seize the nomination.

DNA from woman's lock of hair proves kidnapped daughter's identity

PHILADELPHIA (AP) — Luz Cuevas took one look at the dimpled, dark-haired little girl at a birthday party and instantly knew two things: She was watching her own daughter — presumed killed in a 1997 fire — and she needed a way to prove it.

So Cuevas pretended the 6-year-old girl had gum in her hair, removed five strands from the child's head, folded them in a nap-

kin and placed them in a plastic bag.

"Because of TV, I knew they needed hair for the DNA," Cuevas said Tuesday.

The DNA tests confirmed a mother's intuition.

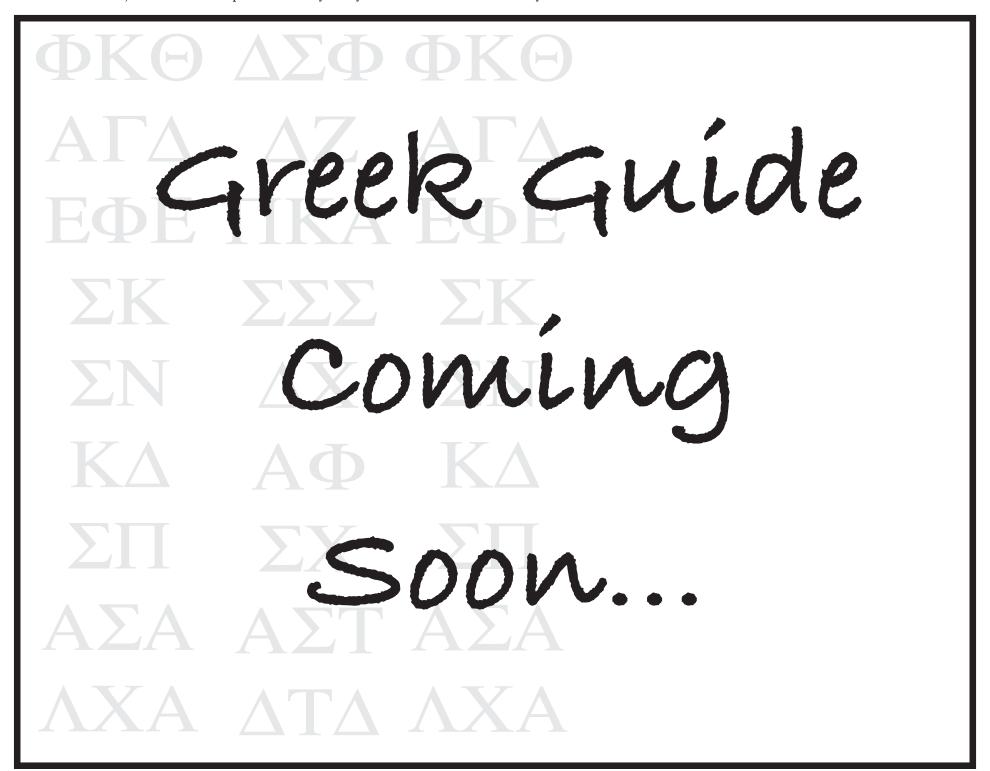
The girl was Cuevas' only daughter, Delimar Vera — the girl everyone else believed had perished in a house fire when she was only 10 days old.

Investigators believe a family acquaintance stole the baby from her crib, set the fire to cover the crime and raised the little girl as her own.

Carolyn Correa, of Willingboro, N.J., who was wanted on charges of arson and kidnapping surrendered to police in Philadelphia Tuesday afternoon, said her attorney, Jeffrey Zucker.

The little girl has been taken into state custody in New Jersey. It was not immediately clear when she would be reunited with her mother.

Fire officials believed the 1997 blaze at Cuevas' Philadelphia home was sparked by a home-rigged extension cord connected to a space heater.



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3/9

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-

HELP WANTED

ERENCE WILL BE GIVEN TO APPLICANTS WHO SUBMIT ALL ITEMS BEFORE APRIL 1.2004 to: Eric S. Davidson, EIU Health Services, 600 Lincoln Avenue, Charleston, IL 61920. However, applications will be accepted until positions are filled. For position description or additional information, contact Eric Davidson by e-mail (csesd@eiu.edu) or by phone (581-3912).

_3/12

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CAMPUS CLIPS

FCS GERONTOLOGY PROGRAM AND ILLINOIS COUNCIL ON FAMILY RELATIONS: Friday, March 12 at 9:30am-3pm (registration 8:30) at MLK, Jr. Union, Contact Information: Dr. Mikki Meadows at 581-6349 or Dr. Jeanne Snyder at 581-7843. Registration fees: Student \$25, non-student \$35, On-stie \$45, FSC students no fee.

AMERICAN MARKETING ASSOCIATION: Speaker Meeting March 3rd at 7pm in Lumpkin Hall room 2030.

The Daily Eastern News

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Name: _ Address: Phone: Student: Yes No Under classification of: ___ Expiration code (office use only): _____

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Person accepting ad: _____ Compositor: ____

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The New Hork Times

ACROSS 1Nerd 6"When it's ___" (old rid-dle answer)

10Corp. money managers

14Midway alternative

15Fix up

16In ecstasy

17See 36-Across 20Modem ter-

mini? 21 Icky stuff 22No-goodnik

25See 36-Across 29Ridge in

Wašhington

23Smoked delicacies 24One of the Gulf States

33Take in 34Helen, to Menelaus 35Ancestry record

36Clue for 17-25-, 43- and 55-Across 38Weight

39Impart 40Shine, in ad-speak

41Jack ____ ("24" agent) 42Relative of -

trix 43See 36-

Across 46Starlet's

dream 47Winner of a posthumous Pulitzer

48Svdnev señorita 51Son of Seth

ANSWER TO TODAY'S PUZZLE

32Feet, of sorts 52Jazz grp.

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Crossword | Edited by Will Shortz

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60Steve of country

music **61**Swiss chard,

e.g. 62Did a sendup

63Golden Hind captain

DOWN

1North Carolina senator

2"Kapow!" 3Canal sites 4Fraction of a

ioule 5"Night Fever" group

6Melodic passage 7Yo-yo

8Put on 9Utility bill sharer 10Debate airer

11 Spore producer 12"That's haven't

heard" 13Sebaceous 31Big-city gland woe

18Flax pod 19Cause of cold sweat for spouting

24Shimmering stone

26Things to hawĸ 27Signs to

25Dame, e.g.

heed "___ the Beat" (1982 28" Go-Go's hit)

29Highway headache 30Have for sale

newspaper department **34**One known 36Many a dicta- 50Abbé de tor's problem 37Balm ingredi-

41Like holy water

43Onetime White House pooch

44Prohibited 45Wide-eyed

46Mark McGwire's position

48Much-used

pencil **49**Engine

attächment

l'___ (pioneer in sign language)

51German arti-

52Writer Ephron

53Like some mail

54To (exactly)

56Keystone

57DeSoto, e.g.

STATE NEWS BRIEFS

Theater censorship still a possiblity

NORMAL, (AP) — The Normal City Council won't censor a local theater group that staged a play featuring a barebacked woman — at least for now.

Councilman Jeff Fritzen, however, said Monday that he'll raise the issue again if Heartland Theatre productions go "beyond tasteful, legitimate theater."

Talk of restrictions surfaced because of a Heartland play called "Stop Kiss" that included a woman who was bare from the waist up with her back to the audience.

City attorneys said the law is murky on censoring legitimate theater but that the council could regulate Heartland by amending a lease for its stage in a city-owned facility.

The council passed on imposing restrictions, saying Heartland has a long history of tasteful plays in Normal.

Judge may end desegregation case

CHICAGO (AP)— A federal judge has agreed to a plan that aims to end the government's 24-year-old desegregation case against the Chicago Public School district within the next two years.

U.S. District Court Judge Charles Kocoras made his announcement Monday, the same day the district released data showing it spends less money on Latino students than on other groups.

Critics pointed to the data as proof that issues of inequality persist in the district. But Kocoras said the legal debate was heading to a conclusion.

"Things cannot go on forever,"

Kocoras said. "It is time for Big Brother to bow out."

Kocoras said he will rule at the close of the 2005-06 school year whether the case should end. Meanwhile, the district has promised to study the issue and to release more information to the public on integration of minorities into the district.

Kocoras has labeled the 1980 decree that asked the city to desegregate its public schools as "outdated." When the original agreement was struck, the district was 19 percent white, but that number has since dwindled to 9.2 percent.

The district has never admitted it segregated its students but agreed to let the U.S. Justice Department monitor its

3/5

schools.

Schools with predominantly Hispanic students spend \$4,957 per student, according to the district's data. That was in contrast to \$5,556 for schools with predominantly black students and \$5,271 for schools with integrated student populations.

Chicago school officials said the differences in spending were largely due to school size, special education populations and whether a school has more experienced teachers.

"This data shows that discrepancies between racial groups are, for the most part, minor," schools chief Arne Duncan said

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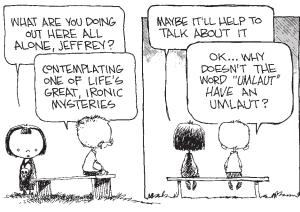
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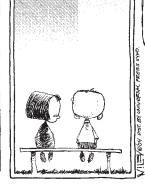
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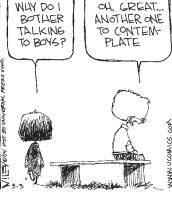
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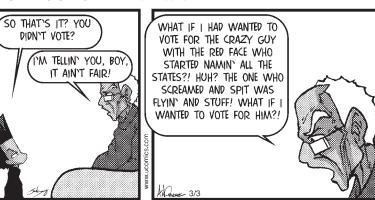
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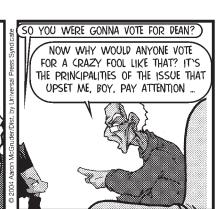






BOONDOCKS BY AARON MCGRUDER





Wednesday, March 3, 2004

◆ Linda Simpson*

Associate professor of family and consumer sciences and member of the university's Intercollegiate Athletic

Search committee members

◆ Deb Polca

Senior associate athletic director and senior woman administrator

♦ Megan Sparks

Sophomore member of the women's basketball team

◆ Paul Wieck

Member of the Panther Club Board of Directors

Pat Osterman

Assistant sports information director

◆ Betty Ralston

Assistant athletic director for compliance

Search:

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 12

"I'm extremely excited about being on the search committee and representing the team," Sparks said. "It's amazing that Eastern has decided to allow the players to have a representative and give them a say in the process."

Sparks, a Mattoon native, was contacted by



"I'm extremely excited about being on the search committee and representing the team. It's amazing that Eastern has decided to allow the players to representative and give them a say in the

Megan Sparks Sophomore, guard

process.

McDuffie today and feels like he is unbiased in who the committee suggests to succeed former head coach Linda Wunder.

"I really feel like he's open to anybody we feel is capable of handling the job," Sparks said. "He has no preconceived candidate in mind and hasn't narrowed the search before we begin."

Sparks intends on contacting teammates soon to get their opinion and suggestions on the qualities they want in a head coach.

"I will talk to the other girls and make sure that this is a group process," Sparks

When other players found out about Sparks selection, they were immediately surprised and excited to be involved.

"I think its cool that they picked Megan for two reasons - one is because we are going to be playing for that person and two is Megan is a

sophomore and will be an upperclassman leader next year," freshman forward Meagan Scaggs said.

Eastern may be one of the first universities to give athletes directly involved with the sport an opportunity to be on a committee to select its new head coach.

"It's a really amazing statement that Eastern has made today in allowing players to have a say and give their opinion," Sparks said.



DAILY EASTERN NEWS PHOTOS BY STEPHEN HAAS

Freshman infielder Adam Varrassi works on his fielding during practice Tuesday afternoon at O'Brien Stadium. Coach Jim Schmitz said he was pleased with how fundamentally sound the Panthers' defense was in their first three games.

Schmitz:

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 12

"Kyle Widegren (Five innings, five hits and two runs against SMS) and Kirk Miller (five innings, two hits and three runs against Kansas State) really pitched very well," Schmitz said. "The way Andy Kuntz pitched against Southwest Missouri, I couldn't have been happier."

Eastern pulled off one of their biggest upsets in recent memory when they knocked off Southwest Missouri, a 2003 College World Series participant, 6-4 in 12 innings. The Panthers had a 4-2 lead in the eighth before Southwest Missouri tied, but Kuntz pitched his way out of two jams in extra frames and Eastern pushed two across in the 12th for the win.

"With such a young team, we will definitely build off this victory during the season," Schmitz said. "Two games later we were playing well again tied with Kansas Sate 3-3 in the fifth inning. Then I went to the younger arms (and the game got away), but those kids will mature for us.'

While it may seem like the Panthers were at a disadvantage by playing their first games of the season against teams who have been in action the previous two weeks, Schmitz said it was not a valid excuse for the Panthers two losses.

"No, I hear that a lot but that wasn't the case," Schmitz said. "We've been out practicing and taking swings. We just happened to get beat."

The Panthers' home opener against Indiana State was postponed with no make up date set. Eastern will next be in action this weekend for a three-game series at Mississippi.

Lows:

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 12

The return of junior center and leading scorer Pam O'Connor (red-shirted last year because of a knee injury) was a welcomed addition to a Panther team that started many young players this season.

Eastern started three incoming freshmen; point guard Megan Casad, guard Melanie Ploger and forward Meagan Scaggs.

Wunder was impressed with the improvement and developing consistency with this season's freshman class but recognized that it was difficult to expect big things from such a young group.

"Our lack of experience hurt us in crucial situations this season but they fought hard all year long and in practice," Wunder said.

The freshmen began to feel the effects from the difference between a college basketball season and a high school's.

"I think that was the hardest part because the season was so much longer and it was tough on our bodies," Scaggs said.

With two games left in the season, the Panthers still controlled their own destiny to punch a ticket into the Ohio Valley Conference Tournament. However, Eastern dropped the final two games on the road by a combined 34 points to end its season.

"It was frustrating to have the goal right in front of us and not reach it," Wunder said. "We had an opportunity but didn't capitalize on it."

Panther fans will say goodbye to three seniors in guard Lauren Dailey, who ended her Eastern career as the all-time leader in three-pointers made and free throw percentage.

Dailey's eligibility has run out along with forwards Katie Myers and Allison Collins. However, the trio was able to go out with a bang as they defeated Eastern Kentucky on Senior Day 66-64.

"It was a wonderful way for those three girls to go out at home," Wunder said. "Each of them deserved to have that kind of a final memory.'

Without a head coach or recruits in the fold to replace the departing seniors, the only thing for sure is that the off season has officially begun for Panther women's basketball.

"We are excited to get out there and start playing again because we want to prove we are a good team." sophomore guard Megan Sparks said.

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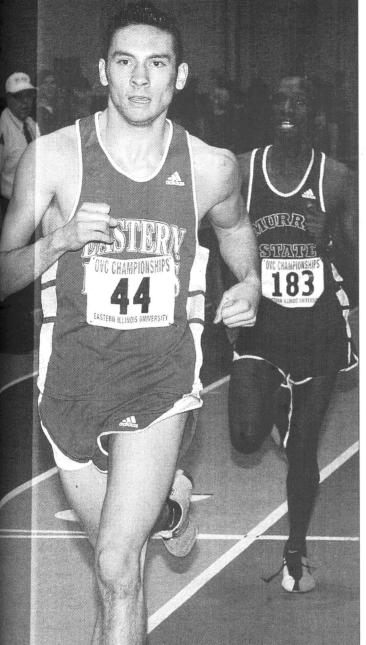






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DAILY EASTERN NEWS PHOTO BY STEPHEN HAAS

phomore distance runner Jake Stout made a jaw-dropping comeback the 3K race Saturday at Lantz Fieldhouse in the Ohio Valley Conference for Track & Field Championship. Stout came from 40 meters behind in last lap to win in a photo finish.

"He was 40 meters down with one lap to go and no one expected it."

- coach John McInerney

BEHIND

By Karen Kirr SENIOR WRITER

Eastern track runner Jake Stout capped off the 3K individual race last Saturday against his Eastern Kentucky University opponent with the kind of jubilant finish you typically only see unfold on the silver screen.

After trailing his competitor up until the last lap of the race, Stout finished the competition in grand fashion by crossing the finish line an eyelash ahead of his opponent, requiring a second glimpse courtesy of Eastern's photo finish cameras. Stout was announced the winner after the video tape showed his foot crossed the line first.

But don't think after his exhilarating victory the sophomore history major's ego ballooned.

"I expected myself to win," the Lockport native and this week's Top Cat said. "During the race, I had some doubts whether I could catch up, but when I put on the final kick I realized it was possible again. I still have really high expectations for myself and lofty goals I'm hoping to get accomplished."

Those of which include breaking the steeple chase track record.

"Ever since last year I have had my eye on it," Stout said.

And although Stout insisted he had high expectations going into the men's track team's grueling weekend of meets, which began Friday with the distance medley relay followed by the mile and 3K races Saturday, he admits the victory easily ranks among the top three memorable moments in his track career.

"I stepped across the track and just collapsed. It was crazy," he said. "It was pretty surreal when they announced (I won). To get him at the line like that was just crazy."

Despite the extra rigorous workouts and the stepped up weight lifting regimen he has subjected himself to this year, Stout still attributes much of his success on the track to his teammates and head coach John McInerney.

◆ Sophomore Jake Stout will not be forgotten after his come from behind at the OVC Championship meet

"The guys on the team have been great influences," he said. "We are a tight group, and I love coach Mac; he is the greatest coach I have ever had," he said. "I would not be as competitive without him. He has helped me out a lot during the last couple of years."

The team's commitment to each other and the extent to which they have meshed also has been key to their successes on the track, Stout said.

Stout also credits his parents, who have been mainstays at each of his indoor meets this season with the exception of just one. They travel to Charleston from their current home in Normal to watch him run.

Throughout the season he said some former Eastern teammates also have served as a major support system.

"Some of them will come by, like Josh Vance. I also talk to Kyle O'Brien through e-mail once in a while," Stout said.

Perhaps the most elated man after Stout's victorious race Saturday was McInerney. He said Stout's jaw-dropping finish was one of the best he has seen in the 25 years he has coached for Eastern.

"It surprised the daylights out of me," he said. ".... Eastern Kentucky thought it was a done deal. He was 40 meters down with one lap to go

and no one expected it. That made it pretty neat. I didn't think he had a shot until there were 50 meters left.

At the end I thought holy cow!"

Even knowing Stout and his work ethic McInerney.

Even knowing Stout and his work ethic, McInerney, who said he would have been pleased even if Stout had earned second place in the 3K race, was more than impressed with the resilience Stout exemplified by coming from behind and defeating his opponent.

"He is a tough, hard-nosed competitor," he said. "The results will take care of itself if you are looking to compete all the time. That type of thinking goes a long way."

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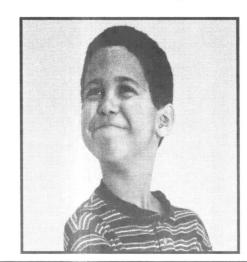
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	Baseball at Mississippi	4 p.m
	Wrestling at NCAA West Regional	All day



Good start sign for hope

Questions may still surround the dismissal of former Eastern women's basketball coach Linda Wunder, but with all the attention being diverted from spring sports to imminent coaching changes, the solid start for the softball team should not go unno-

Last time I checked, last season it wasn't exactly obvious when the softball team was at the plate. They barely were able to push across any sort of offensive pressure, and their bats didn't warm up until much later in the

But this season has been a complete turn around. I know it's only one tournament and five games into the season, but who were those players that Eastern consisted of over the games in Charleston, S.C.?

The offense averaged over five runs a game and in their final three games, which were all victories, the Panthers put up 23

What makes this kind of offensive output so surprising for Eastern is last year, with a few more experienced players on their roster, the Panthers could barely manage two runs a game.

Not only were the Panthers bolstered by the offense for their three wins in the tournament, they were also positively affected by three freshmen pitchers.

Eastern might have missed the experience and durability of Kristen Becker, who was lost to graduation.

When Becker was in top form, she could be expected to go the entire seven innings and keep her team in the game.

This season, it was unsure who could step into that role for the Panthers as they knew only about Ashley Condon, who pitched for Eastern last season as a freshmen.

Eastern rested most of its hopes on the shoulders of three unproven freshmen: Andrea Darnell; Brittany Whelan and Heather Hoeschen.

Instead of suffering through a tough start to the season, Eastern coach Llovdene Searle watched as her trio of freshmen pitchers earned wins in the previously mentioned games.

Perhaps more important than the victories this early in the season is that these three pitchers proved they have, at least, the capability to fill Becker's shoes as far as eating up innings.

All three pitched complete games, and the importance of that was appreciated by their coach. Searle understood that in a tournament where her girls had to play a triple-header because of weather complications, her pitching staff would be worn ragged if the starters didn't eat up innings.

That is exactly what those starting freshmen did. To top it off, they set the pace for each game they started. In their victories for Eastern they only gave up eight runs to the 23 that the Panthers were able to put up on the scoreboard.

So that puts the Panthers on a roll as they enter into the Wolf Sycamore Classic next weekend.

All that means is the Panther pitching staff will have to prove itself from here on out after their successful beginning in South



DAILY EASTERN NEWS PHOTO BY STEPHEN HAAS

Sophomore guard Megan Sparks puts up a shot against Southeast Missouri State Jan. 13 in Lantz Arena. Sparks will represents the players on the women's basketball team on Eastern's search committee for a new head coach after Linda Wunder's contract wasn't renewed.

WOMEN'S BASKETBALL

Let the search begin

Search committee formed to find coach

By Matthew Stevens

SPORTS EDITOR

The Athletic Department may have made a unique decision as the process of finding a new women's basketball head coach begins.

Director of Athletics Rich McDuffie announced Tuesday a six-person search committee has been selected to assist with the hiring of the women's basketball coach at Eastern.

A tentative timetable has also been set by McDuffie for how the process will move along.

"Our goal is to review applications the week of March 22, interview finalists in early April and announce a new coach as soon as possible after that," McDuffie

Linda Simpson, associate professor of family and consumer sciences and a member of the university's Intercollegiate Athletic Board, will chair the committee.

Other search committee members are senior associate athletic director Deb Polca, Panther Club member Paul Wieck, assistant sports information director Pat Osterman, assistant athletic director for compliance Betty Ralston and last, but possibly most unmatched, sophomore guard Megan Sparks.

'These individuals have been affiliated with Eastern for several years, either as an administrator or member of the community or as a player in Megan's case," McDuffie said. "We're confident these individuals have the experience and knowledge of our intercollegiate athletic program to assist identifying that person who can successfully lead our women's program."

As a representative for the players of the women's basketball team, Sparks expressed her joy over her selection.

SEE SEARCH ◆ Page 10

ows outnumber highs in '03-'04 season

By Matthew Stevens

BASEBALL

In a season that began with a 90point win, included an eight-game losing streak and ended with getting rid of its head coach, Eastern experienced a few highs and many lows in its 2003-04 season.

The Panthers finished the season with an 8-19 record and 5-11 in conference. The win total tied for the largest of head coach Linda steals. Wunder's five years at Eastern but wasn't enough to get a contract extension as the Panthers have begun the search for a new leader for the 2004-05 season.

The Panthers started out winning their home and season opener against NAIA opponent Indiana-Northwest 126-36. The first victory of the season broke records for points scored, margin of victory and

of its next 13 games, which was a streak that lasted from late November to early January. After that long streak of disappointment, the Panthers were able to get their only winning streak of the season. Eastern defeated Tennessee State 79-49 at Lantz Arena and proceeded to get arguably their most exciting win of the season one week later.

The Panthers walked into Eastern managed to only win two Clarksville, Tenn. and beat the defending Ohio Valley Conference champion Austin Peay Governors 72-71 ending its 26 game conference winning streak.

> "The win against Austin Peay was the highlight of the season by far," Wunder said. "It was absolutely the best game we played all season."

SEE LOWS ◆ Page 10

Schmitz pleased with 1-2 opening weekend



ASSOCIATE SPORTS EDITOR

The Eastern baseball team started its 2004 season last weekend playing three games at the Holiday Inn Suites/Citgo Classic in Louisiana.

The Panthers finished the tournament with a 1-2 record, defeating Southwest Missouri State in the opener and then dropping the next two ball games to the host Louisiana-Monroe and Kansas

Although Eastern lost the last two games, Panthers head coach Jimmy Schmitz said two positives came from the tournament

"The first thing I noticed over the weekend was how aggressive we were at the plate," Schmitz said. "We swung the bats well and that was our goal going into the tournament.

"I was also very pleased with our defense," Schmitz said. "The team played very fundamentally sound in the field the first three games.'

One question going into the tournament was how the starting pitching would fare with staff ace Jared Marshall recovering from off-season surgery. Schmitz acknowledged his hurlers struggled in game two against Louisiana-Monroe in a 15-4 loss, but was pleased with the performance of his pitchers in a 6-4 victory against SMS and a 12-3 defeat against Kansas State in the finale of the tournament.

SEE SCHMITZ ◆ Page 10