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STARS FOR THE HOLIDAYS

Children from around Charleston wrote their holiday wishes on hand-made stars that now decorate trees inside Old Main. See the children's wishes tonight.

SEE CAMPUS, PAGE 3

"TELL THE TRUTH AND DON'T BE AFRAID"

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the DAILY EASTERN NEWS

EASTERN ILLINOIS UNIVERSITY, CHARLESTON

WEDNESDAY | 12.5.07

VOL. 94 | ISSUE 69

STUDENT SENATE

Election results to be announced

$35,980 in emergency University Board proposals to be voted on; new members to be sworn in

By Chris Walden
Student Government Reporter

The Student Senate has a full plate of business at its final meeting of the semester tonight, and all of it has implications for next semester.

Student Government will announce the results of the elections that were held Monday and Tuesday and will swear in any of the new student senate members elected.

The two parties on campus that ran in the elections are the Student United Party and the United Party for Students.

The senate will also vote on the University Board for its Mainstage and Special Events committees, costing $10,980 and $25,000 respectively.

The bills are being introduced as emergency legislation for some time to give UB a chance to have its events approved before the semester ends.

SEE ELECTION, PAGE 2

MEETING VITALS

On the agenda:

- Newly elected members to be sworn in.
- Two emergency University Board proposals for Mainstage ($10,980) and Special Events committee ($25,000).
- State of the Senate speech by Adam Martinelli.
- Emergency legislation for reimbursement of $103.43 to Student Executive Levi Bulgar.

Come to the meeting: 7p.m., Arcola-Tuscola Room

CITY COUNCIL

Fire dept. to receive new driveway

$119,066 loan approved to buy new ambulance

By Juliette Beaulieu
Managing Editor

The Charleston City Council voted Tuesday to place the tax levy ordinance for the 2008-2009 fiscal year on file for public review until the Dec. 18 meeting.

The ordinance sets out the amount of money the city will need during the year. The county will set the tax rate based on the levy after assessing all properties.

The city is asking for $3,021,210, although Charleston Mayor John Inyart said it will probably receive less than that because of the Property Tax Extension Limitation Law. PTELL limits property tax increases for non-home rule tax districts such as Charleston.

Last year, the city asked for $2,771,650. The increased amount this year is intended to cover new construction, Inyart said.

The council also approved a resolution to borrow $119,066.95 from First Neighbor Bank to purchase a new ambulance for the Charleston Fire Department. The city will put the new ambulance into service immediately, Inyart said.

SEE COUNCIL, PAGE 5

ROBBIE WROBLEWSKI | THE DAILY EASTERN NEWS

Mayor John Inyart speaks to council members at the city council meeting Tuesday evening about what will happen to Charleston's old ambulance after a new ambulance is purchased.

KAROLINA STRACK | THE DAILY EASTERN NEWS

Garrett Schmidt performs a trumpet solo during the EIU Jazz Combos concert on Tuesday Dec. 4, 2007. The concert was broken up into three parts, each of which had instrumental solos.

JAZZED UP

The Eastern Jazz Quintet performed for Eastern Jazz Combos concert

By Ashley Mefford
Activities Reporter

Josh Marcus was influenced by jazz music through both his father and his high school band director.

In middle school, Marcus' dad wanted him to play the saxophone.

"I always had playing jazz in the back of my mind," the senior jazz studies major said.

Marcus played the alto saxophone in the EIU Jazz Quintet during the EIU Jazz Combos concert Tuesday night at McAfee North Auditorium.

This was the group's third formal on-campus performance; however, it has performed numerous off-campus performances, also.

During high school, Marcus had a influential band director.

"He opened my eyes," Marcus said. "I would hear him in his office playing jazz music."

This band director had recordings of jazz music that Marcus said helped develop his taste in music.

The Eastern Jazz Quintet was one of three groups that performed during the concert.

SEE JAZZ, PAGE 2

EIU WEATHER

WEDNESDAY

38°|30°
SNOW
NW 15 mph

THURSDAY
35°|25°

FRIDAY
43°|30°

WEATHER BRIEF

Today there is a chance of snow during the day and flurries tonight with lows around 30 degrees. Thursday, expect partly cloudy skies with northern winds at 15 mph throughout the day. Friday, look for more chances of a wintry mix, with a high around 43. This weekend we will see warmer temperatures with a chance of rain.

For current conditions visit EIU WeatherCenter at *www.eiu.edu/~weather*

Tenor Madness plays jazz combos

JAZZ, FROM PAGE 1

Tenor Madness comprised Mike Block, Kyle Muskopf, Chris Hastings, Rob Wallace and Anthony Graffeo.

Graffeo, sophomore music education major, said that Tenor Madness was named such because of the instruments in it.

"Tenor Madness is called that because we have two tenor sax players," he said.

The jazz sextet included Tony Wong, Scott Clements, Olivier David, Steve Kaiser, Jesse Farrar and Ben Hall.

Being involved with the jazz combos allowed Hall to explore more music.

"We get to expand our knowledge of jazz music with different types of music," he said.

Hall liked the spirited "Question and Answer" piece by Pat Metheny. He described the song as "funky."

The jazz quintet included Josh Marucs, Garrett Schmidt, Joe Burress, Justin DeAngelo and Bryce Peake.

Paul Johnston, director of the jazz combos, said he liked seeing what the hard work turns into.

"I like seeing it take shape, seeing the final product – (the concert)," Johnston said.

Martinelli to give State of the Senate

ELECTIONS, FROM PAGE 1

Leah Pietraszewski, student vice president for business affairs, announced this plan several weeks ahead of time to the senate and allowed UB to present the costs at last week's senate meeting.

Senate Speaker Adam Martinelli will deliver the State of the Senate at the meeting and Student Body President Cole Rogers will follow up the State of the University speech.

Martinelli said the new senate speaker will be voted on after the election results are decided.

Continuing business from last week will include the tabled bylaws for the Suicide Awareness Initiatives Committee. The committee is in the process of becoming an unofficial, part of the Student Senate.

Also coming up for emergency legislation is reimbursement of $103.43 to Student Executive Vice President Levi Bulgar, student executive vice president, who was invited to Springfield last Thursday to be the student representative on Gov. Rod Blagojevich's Campus Safety and Student Mental Health Task Force.

The cost covers travel expenses to Springfield only, and will appear on the agenda at tonight's senate meeting because of how little time the senate has left to vote on proposals.

Martinelli said it would be easier to make the current proposals emergency legislation instead of making them wait until next semester.

The senate meets at 7 p.m. in the Arcola-Tuscola Room of the Martin Luther King Jr. University Union.

MULTIMEDIA

www.dennews.com

GOLF AT CHRISTMAS

The Daily Eastern News blogs on topics ranging from sports to world politics to music and more.
Today's blog: Scott Richey on golf equipment that would make good Christmas gifts.

MAKING A METCAST

Each week, the multimedia content on dennews.com is kept on the site throughout the week it originally runs.
What to look for today: A video on how to make a Metcast.

SGA ELECTIONS

Online reporter Nicole Weskerna went out to the polls Tuesday afternoon to find out more about student government elections. Two parties, SUP and UPS, contested the open seats on the Student Senate.

It's beginning to look a lot like...SNIFFLES!

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Contact any of the above staff members you believe your information is relevant to at their provided e-mail address.
You may also call 581-7942 or visit the student publications newsroom at 1811 Buzzard Hall.

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WISHING UPON CHRISTMAS STARS

Local students deck the trees at Old Main with personal wishes

By Jessica Leggin
Staff Reporter

Marshmallow snowmen stacked on chocolate bars will decorate Christmas trees this holiday season.

"The children always look forward to making decorations every year," said Dorothy Bennett, art teacher at Jefferson Elementary School.

At 5 p.m. today in the Cougill Foyer in Old Main, Christmas trees decorated by Charleston area middle school students will be on display.

There are six trees throughout the foyer, five of which feature more than 100 holiday ornaments made by students.

"This is really nice because it is bridging the gap between the community and Eastern," Bennett said.

The tree-decorating tradition started during the 1994-95 holiday season with former Eastern President David Jorns.

Jill Nilsen, vice president for external relations, said it was an opportunity to bring the community to the university.

What began with one tree has grown into six.

Every year in August, a letter is sent to area grade school art teachers, informing them of the theme and inviting them to participate and create holiday ornaments.

This year's theme is "Wishing on a Star."

"The President's Office comes up with the theme every year," said Colleen Peterlich, Eastern's catering supervisor.

She said a lot of thought is put into the them decision.

"Sometimes we would look through magazines, or if something just strikes us in particular," Peterlich said.

Each grade school is given its own tree for ornaments to be displayed on.

The ornaments are collected from the grade schools and hung on the trees by the Charleston High School students.

Peterlich recruits students from the high school's service learning program.

"It is a nice way for them to gain some service hours," Nilsen said.

Food and drink will be available at the social gathering, and CHS students will also sing Christmas carols.

Grade schools including Jefferson and Carl Sandburg were among schools that provided ornaments.

At Carl Sandburg Elementary, each child in the building receives the opportunity to make an ornament.

"This means a lot to them, and they are always excited about it," said Heather Bryant, art teacher at Carl Sandburg.

This year, Carl Sandburg students turned their holiday wishes into ornaments.

"I wish I was a Ninja" was a holiday wish made by one student.

"These are very precious," Nilsen said.

Other wishes, such as the desire that the world be made of candy and the hope to be strong, decorate the Christmas trees as well.

In the middle of the foyer is a 15-foot alpine spruce decorated with blue and white stars to represent Eastern's school colors.

All the children with ornaments will be in attendance at the holiday gathering tonight.

"It's fun to see them go and look for the ornaments they made and see the work they put into making them," Nilsen said.

Another Christmas tree viewing event will take place at 10 a.m. Thursday.

Faculty and students are welcome to attend.

PHOTOS BY ERIC HILTNER | THE DAILY EASTERN NEWS

CAMPUS BRIEFS

Holiday food in dining centers campuswide

A variety of traditional holiday food will be served today in every dining center. To see a menu, visit www.eiu.edu/~dining/

Making a list, checking it twice, visiting EIU

Santa and Mrs. Claus have left Rudolph and the elves this week to make a special visit to Eastern.

From 5 to 7 p.m. on Thursday in the Bridge Lounge of the Martin Luther King Jr. University Union, the couple will share cookies, hot chocolate and cheer.

Santa told the DEN he brought gift bags for the first 100 boys and girls to stop and say hello.

Eastern's Student Life volunteers will host holiday games and crafts in the University Ballroom.

Activities are free and open to all, but donations of new, unwrapped toys for children aged infant to 12 years old are encouraged. The toys will go to the One Campus, One Community Toy Drive and be given to local homes.

Different spring break options for students

"Eyes Wide Open – A View Outside the Box" is the theme for this year's Annual Alternative Spring Break Program, sponsored by the Student Volunteer Center.

Destinations include 11 sites throughout the U.S. and one in Canada.

Brochures and applications can be picked up in the Union, at the Student Activities Office and at the Newman Catholic Center.

Trips cost $150, which covers transportation, accommodations, most meals and a T-shirt.

For more information, call Sean Barth at 217-348-0188 ext. 13, or visit the Student Volunteer Center in the Newman Center.

– Katie Anderson, Campus Editor

BLOTTER

Timothy Charles Lomax, 21, of Carbondale, was arrested on a driving under the influence charge at 1:57 a.m. Nov. 30 at Ninth Street and Greek Court Road.

A car was egged Dec.1 while parked on Seventh Street in front of the steam plant.

Donald R. Olson, 22, of Charleston, was arrested on a driving under the influence charge at 3:07 a.m. Dec.1 at 10th Street and Garfield Avenue.

A mature tree was reported cut down with an ax Dec. 3 in a grove of trees near O'Brien Stadium.

COMMENTS, CORRECTIONS, OR EVENTS
To report any errors, local events or general suggestions for future editions, please contact our news editor, **Hayley Clark**, via:
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"LET'S GIVE THEM SOMETHING TO TALK ABOUT"

Should the death penalty be reinstated?

To submit your opinion on this week's topic, bring it in with identification to the DEN at 1811 Buzzard Hall or submit it electronically from the author's EIU e-mail address to DENopinions@gmail.com by 4 p.m. today.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Letters to the editor can be submitted at any time on any topic to the Opinions Editor to be published in the Daily Eastern News. The Daily Eastern News' policy is to run all letters that are not libelous or potentially harmful. They must be less than 250 words.

Letters to the editor can be brought in with identification to the DEN at 1811 Buzzard Hall or submitted electronically from the author's EIU e-mail address to DENopinions@gmail.com.

COLUMNISTS NEEDED

The Daily Eastern News has a Tuesday spot open for anyone in the Eastern community to submit a bi-weekly column.

For more information contact **Graham Milldrum,** the Opinions Editor, at **581-7942** or at **DENopinions@gmail.com.**

CONTINUE THE DEBATE ONLINE

- Extended letters
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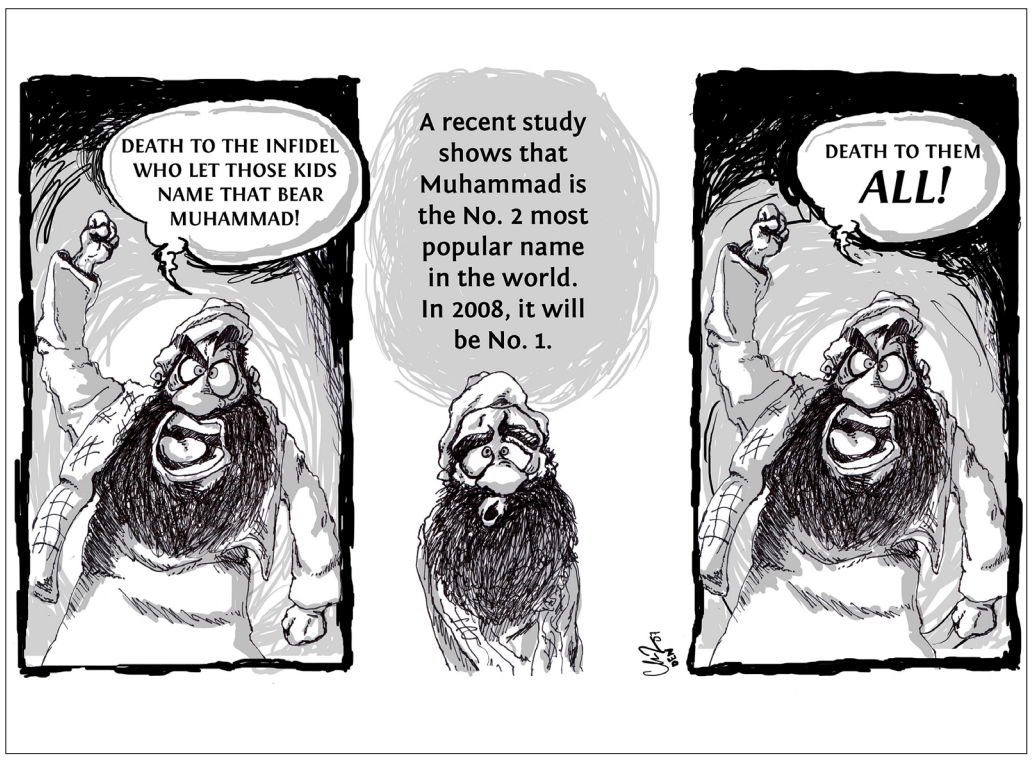
www.dennews.com

DRAWN FROM THE NEWS | CHRIS LEE



STAFF EDITORIAL

A good mission ruined by length and irritants

New students at Eastern are expected to take the AlcoholEdu program, which is designed to teach students about safe drinking.

It starts with the selection of five "guide" characters to give a personal element instead of just a string of questions.

For security, it has a separate password and log-in than the school network, because it is on an independent system.

A minor hiccup, but not a good way to start off an extensive, self-lead educational program.

There is the strong desire to just start the videos running, ignore it and then come back. It can make the questions difficult to answer, but you can't fail out of the program.

It's very blatant, saying "half of students coming into college drank in high school." It's far from an abstinence program. Instead it shows the willingness to admit that students do drink.

Its goal is to help the student make a responsible decision, not convince them never to drink.

To that end, it begins with an extensive questionnaire spread across nine pages. There are only 43 questions, but most have more than one element.

One takes up most of a web page, discussing how you think you react to alcohol, asking about physical aggressiveness, sexuality, mood and more.

It is possible to blow through that element in a few minutes, answering honestly. But its discouraging to see this questioning before the education even begins.

Then you launch into a pre-test. We're not even in the testing yet. Sure, this helps eliminate what you see, but it is very discouraging.

A participant can try to test and opt-out of some parts of the module.

Even a moderate memory of high school health class makes it easy to test out of some lements.

EDITORIAL POLICY
The editorial is the majority opinion of the DEN editorial board. Reach the opinions editor at:
DENopinions@gmail.com

It even includes the option to learn about how alcohol is made and its positive effects.

Presentations are in multi-media formats instead of straight reading. It is a mix of slides with audio, limited acting and interactive elements.

It is significantly more engaging than a long series of statements.

The testing does lead to some interesting responses.

For example, "some non-drinkers, like you, choose to drink non-alcoholic beverages to get the taste and experience of drinking." It then launches into a segue about what a non-alcoholic beverage is and how it does have some alcohol in it.

AlcoholEdu was not created by the university. Instead, it is provided by Outside the Classroom, a Massachusetts-based company. It provides the program to colleges, courts, and high schools.

Taking part of the course, is a long aggravating experience – not the sort of feeling you want with a safety-related educational program.

The fact that it includes a feedback element after every section to improve the very test in progress is a big pain in the neck. It slows the tester down even more

The whole thing takes upwards of three hours to complete and comes in two segments.

The second segment must be completed from 30 to 60 days after the first part.

The school cannot be faulted for attempting to reduce unhealthy drinking.

But such a long program with such irritations is not a good way to do it.

CHRIS WALDEN

Don't forget the students

Something's missing in the last week of publication for the Daily Eastern News.

On Halloween of this year, our Student Senate was treated with an emotional debate concerning the issue of having graduate students teach general-education level biology classes.

Professors and administrators both in favor of and against the graduate student program spoke at the meeting, expressing their views on what they thought about the issue.

The problem is students aren't completely sure how it affects them. And, for the most part, more than a month after, we don't know how it affects us.

The DEN and student government both have been in the process of researching both sides of the issue so the student body at large can be better informed.

However, for whatever reasons, nothing new has been released on this conflict.

The first concern that professors address is the quality of education taught by graduate students. Some professors, like Amanda Poffinbarger, think graduate students aren't qualified to teach students, and gen-ed classes or not, students deserve a quality education from someone with a teaching degree.

Some professors, like Bud Fischer, are more optimistic about graduate students at Eastern. He trusts that the four graduate students the department chooses to teach roughly more than half of the gen-ed biology labs will be qualified for the job.

The program is in its first year of taking effect. What do we care?

Opponents to the program say students in classes taught by graduate students think they are getting a poor education.

The DEN, student government and I would like to hear from these students. We need proof if this is what you think.

We've heard so much about the possibly bad quality of education, or the possibility that teachers can lose their jobs.

Does anyone else realize that graduate students are students, too?

Let's not forget about them, as well.

Graduate students are here to extend their education and get more from Eastern, as well as obtain a master's degree in a field they care very much about.

I would assume biology graduate students care very much about biology. Sure, they don't have teaching experience, but the program does have the potential to give them a shot at it.

Do our biology graduate students care about the whirlwind of debate surrounding them?

What do our graduate students think about students and professors who say the quality of their teaching is poor? How would that make you feel?

I'm not trying to sound cold. I just don't want our professors and administrations to forget that any issue in the university affects students as well.

Chris Walden is a senior journalism major and student government reporter

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City votes to replace old ambulance

COUNCIL, FROM PAGE 1

It also passed a resolution to sell the city's old ambulance, which has been in use since 1999 and has 170,00 miles on it.

"It was in the fleet plan to be replaced," Inyart said.

Charleston has a fleet of four ambulances, which are replaced about every eight years on a staggered schedule. The old ambulance will be sold by sealed bid.

City Manager Scott Smith reported that a construction project to improve access to Lincoln Avenue from the Fire Department building should be finished by Dec. 25.

The Fire Department is located at Lincoln Avenue and Division Street behind McDonalds.

The fire trucks and ambulances currently use A Street to get to Lincoln, but if a lot of traffic is on Lincoln, the truck or ambulance has to wait for traffic to clear to turn.

"It's a bottleneck," Smith said.

The new project adds a driveway from the Fire Department building onto Division.

The intersection of Lincoln and Division will receive a traffic control device to allow the light to be changed from the Fire Department, eliminating the need for trucks to wait.

Lincoln and Division is the only intersection in Charleston with an emergency control device.

"We hope to, over time, roll that out to more locations," Smith said.

The wireless system used for the devices is very expensive, he said.

In other news, the city is looking into the cost of doing a partial census in the spring.

To get the best possible count, the city would do the census when students are in town, Smith said.

Also at the meeting, the subdivision of a lot owned by Wal-Mart was approved.

Murphy Oil is located on the lot at the intersection of Illinois Route 16 and Hawthorne Drive, and the new subdivision divides the lot between the two businesses.

The council also voted to reimburse the Charleston Tourism Advisory Board for $1,500 in expenses from the Christmas in the Heart of Charleston event Dec. 1.

"A nice evening; a little breezy, but nicely done," Inyart said of the festivities.

During the public comment portion of the meeting, Annie Cross, of Charleston, asked that the council allow the public to comment before voting at meetings.

"Public comments taken before (voting) seems to be more in keeping with … our form of government," Cross said.

She also took issue with housing in the "Historic Corridor" of Charleston being converted to student housing, and large apartment complexes being built there.

All items are placed on file for public inspection before the council votes on them, Inyart said after the meeting.

Opinions Editor Graham Milldrum contributed to this report.

Correction: An article on Page 1 of Tuesday's DEN reported that the city's old ambulance had 110,921 miles on it.

That number was from February 2006, and the ambulance has been in used since then.

It has 170,000 miles on it.

Blago told on health care: obey constitution

CHICAGO — Gov. Rod Blagojevich's plan for a multimillion-dollar expansion of a health care program without legislative approval has landed the state in court, with a business group claiming in a lawsuit Tuesday that it would be unconstitutional to spend the money.

"The message ultimately, when it's played out, will be: 'We've got a constitution. Governor, obey the constitution,'" said businessman Ron Gidwitz, chairman of the Illinois Coalition for Jobs, Growth and Prosperity, the group that filed the lawsuit.

Blagojevich has embarked on a piecemeal expansion of government-subsidized health care since lawmakers failed to support his plan to pay the huge cost of ensuring everyone in Illinois has access to affordable insurance.

As part of that, the Blagojevich administration has said it intends to go ahead with plans to add about 147,000 parents and caretakers to the Family Care insurance program, despite the objections of lawmakers.

A bipartisan legislative committee last month rejected the administration's proposal to operate an expanded Family Care program. But Blagojevich contends the Legislature's Joint Committee on Administrative Rules didn't have the constitutional authority to block the rule to expand the program, which has an expected cost of $43 million this year.

Blagojevich is making promises he may not be able to keep, the business coalition contends. People might sign up for health care that is never delivered and hospitals might provide services for which they aren't reimbursed.

They want a judge to stop the state from expanding the program or spending any money on it.

"Every Democratic leader in Illinois should join us in fighting this lawsuit and help protect the hard-working people who rely on us for health coverage so they can keep seeing a doctor," Blagojevich spokeswoman Abby Ottenhoff said in an e-mail.

The business group, whose founding members include the Illinois Chamber of Commerce, said it filed the lawsuit Tuesday in Sangamon County. The lawsuit names Illinois Department of Healthcare and Family Services Director Barry Maram and state Comptroller Daniel Hynes as defendants.

Gidwitz, a former Republican candidate for governor, said Maram and Hynes were named in the lawsuit – and not Blagojevich – because they would carry out the governor's directive to expand the Family Care program.

A Hynes spokeswoman said in an e-mail that they were reviewing the lawsuit and had no further comment.

The Blagojevich administration has argued it has the power to raise eligibility levels for the program. It wants to expand income eligibility to almost $83,000 from $38,000 for a family of four.

STATE BRIEFS

The Associated Press

Woman who tried to save children from fire dies

CHICAGO — A 24-year-old woman who rushed back inside her burning Chicago home to try and save her kids has died. Maria de la Luz Rosales' death comes a day after the blaze killed her sons, 3-year-old Jesse Escareno and 10-month-old Juan Escareno Junior.

Rosales led two daughters to safety before heading back into the home early Monday.

Man being held on bond for creating fake IDs

CHICAGO — A Morton Grove man is being held on $3 million bond after authorities say they found dozens of fake IDs, credit cards and decades-old passports in his suburban Chicago home.

Mohammed Afzal Sodagar is facing charges that include identity theft, possession of phony ID and domestic battery. Prosecutor Sharon Kanter says officials also found 11 Illinois ID cards with Sodagar's photo but different names and dozens of credit cards and Social Security cards.

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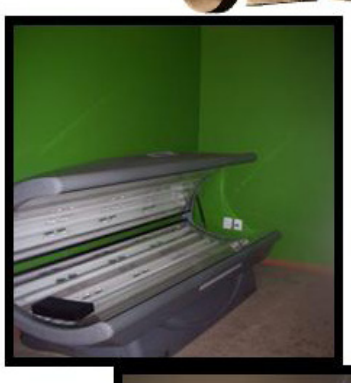

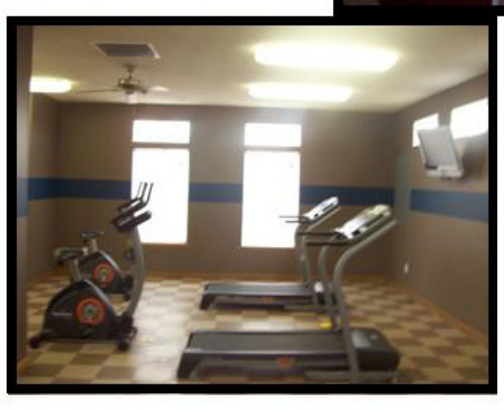
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Courthouse began as log cabin, rebuilt in stone

By Stephanie Wendt
Staff Reporter

From log cabin to stone structure, the Coles County Courthouse has a long history.

In 1832, the courthouse was a log cabin located between Sixth and Seventh streets next to the town branch. In 1835, the log cabin courthouse closed its doors, and a brick building was constructed. This is where President Abraham Lincoln practiced law and developed friendships that helped him through his career in politics.

The courthouse Coles County knows today was designed by architect Cornelius Rapp and built in 1898.

It was placed on the National Register of Historic Places in 1978.

Jean Tipsword, Coles County supervisor of assessments, has worked at the courthouse for 37 years.

"It is all I know," Tipsword said. "The Assessments office is responsible for the beginning basis of the taxation for real estate property."

In accordance with state law, properties will assess at 33 and 1/3 of market value. The office is responsible for 26,000 parcels of real estate.

The office did not come into being until 1957, and back in the '50s, the point of this office was still market value

AMIR PRELLBERG | THE DAILY EASTERN NEWS

People walk through the main corridor of the Charleston County Courthouse Thursday morning. The courthouse offers Charleston a rich history that includes President Abraham Lincoln.

"Taxes will always be collected," Tipsword said. "I think that we are important because if the beginning of the tax process isn't correct than I think your whole system can come off kilter a little bit."

After the properties are assessed, the information is sent to County Clerk Sue Rennels and the tax rate is established.

But the County Clerk's office has many duties besides setting the tax rate.

"We are the record keepers for the county. We record any document that anybody wants to record," Rennels said. "We keep record of all marriage, death, birth certificates and DD214s (military discharge papers)."

After the County Clerk's Office has sent out the taxes, the Treasurer's Office has the responsibility to collect them from the 63 taxing bodies throughout the county.

Deputy Treasurer Carla Faw said the Treasurer's Office also handles payroll, county investing and collection of privilege and inheritance tax. It also keeps all the financial records for the county. And as of October, they handle passports as well.

The second and third floors of the courthouse have up to five courtrooms and six judges between them.

Currently, the office is preparing for Illinois' primary election Feb. 5.

"It's a very long process," Rennels said.

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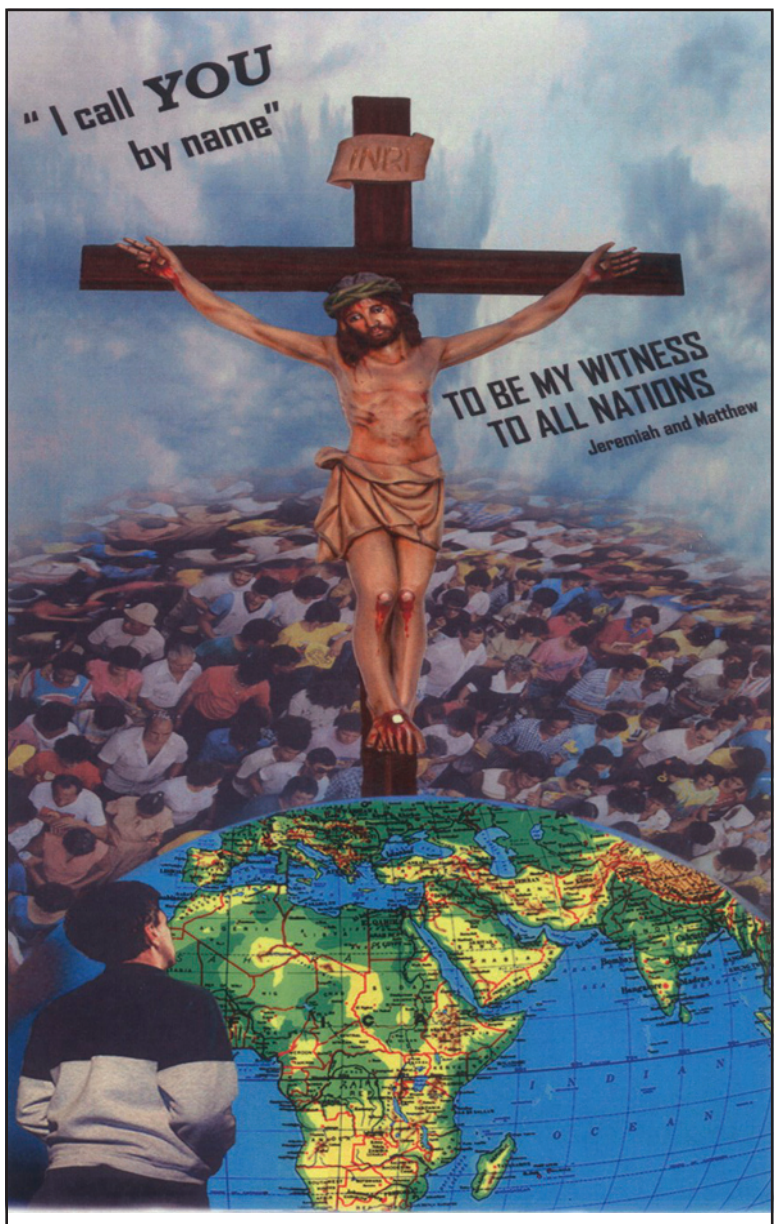

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Tough scheduling makes team better

STEPS , FROM PAGE 12

But Sallee said he is first looking to make it two victories in a row. The next few games will be at home, also, which will also be a factor to consider, he said.

Kluempers said when it came to conference games, she was not going to worry about the records of the teams, but she would worry about who will next show up on the court.

Moore echoed her statement and said no matter the record of the opposing team, Eastern will play its type of basketball.

While the Panthers say they are more concerned with their own play, Sallee said he has been looking at other teams in the OVC.

"It's really hard to judge anything right now," he said. "Records are a bit skewed."

Sallee said the scheduling of the schools non-conference records are all different. He said Eastern purposely chose a tougher, non-conference schedule to best challenge and prepare his team.

Sallee said another team he thinks has done well and has prepared the non-conference in a similar fashion is Austin Peay.

"Austin Peay has played some really good basketball and schools," he said. "They are really challenging themselves."

Kluempers says she thinks the team has benefited from tougher scheduling, despite not having a winning non-conference record.

She also said she has not paid much attention to the other OVC teams' records, and does not think the other players have focused on it either.

"I mean, there may be a few girls that have went online and looked at the other team's records, but we're just focused on practicing every day and our next opponent," Kluempers said.

KLUEMPERS STATS

- 8 games played, started
- 11-24, .458 field goal percentage
- 32 total rebounds

Panthers must hunt or be hunted

CUSACK, FROM PAGE 12

"Over time, they have seen that we are a solid program for both men's and women's teams. But they still don't like seeing us win it," Akers said.

Eastern throwing coach Mary Wallace said plenty of OVC teams would like to see Eastern fall off its perch.

"Most definitely, teams will be coming after us this year in both men's and women's," Wallace said. "The OVC will be out for blood, and there are more than a few times that will want to knock us off our perch."

With success comes hatred and jealousy.

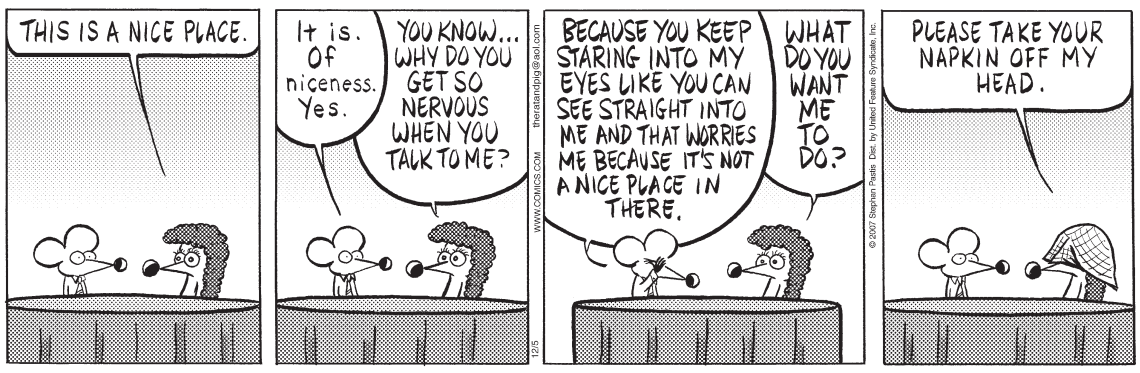
Both teams must be prepared this season to always be on their toes because at each meet, the competition will be gunning extra hard to take them down.

The men have to continue what has made them successful during the seven-year championship run.

And the women have to realize they are where everyone wants to be.

This season, they will be the hunter – and not the hunted.

PEARLS BEFORE SWINE | BY STEPHAN PASTIS



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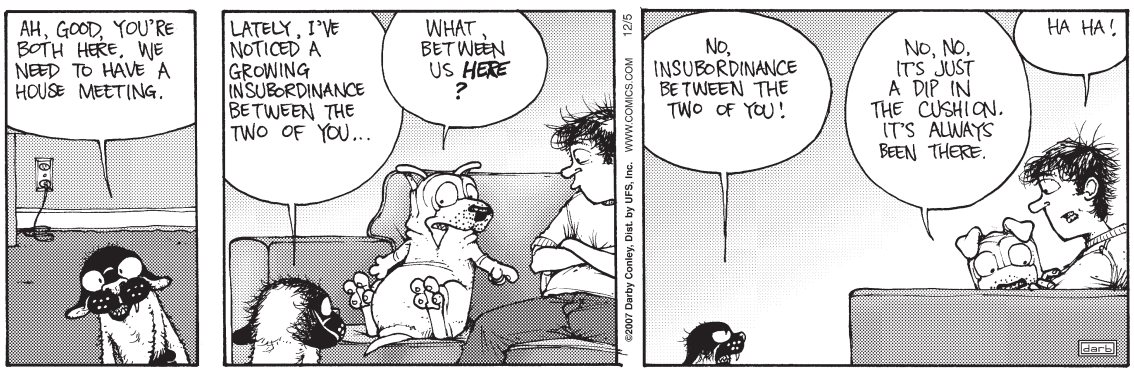

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Edited by Will Shortz

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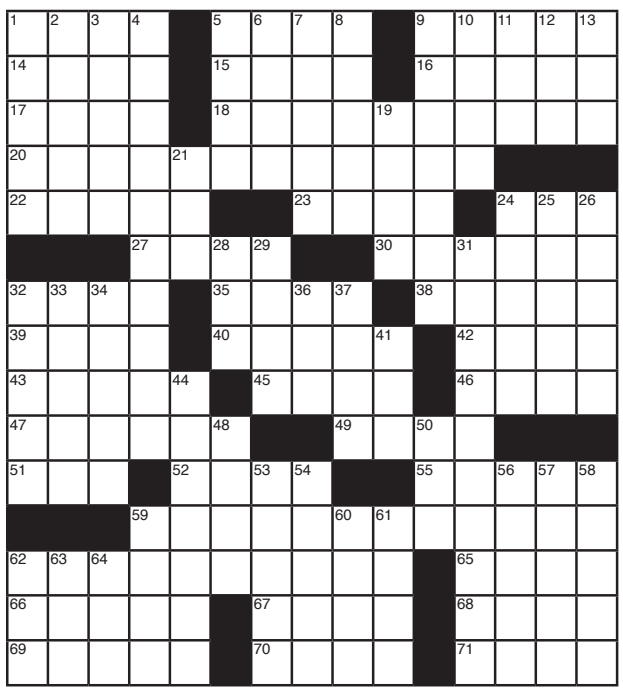

PUZZLE BY PATRICK BLINDAUER

ACROSS

1 7-Up flavor
5 Easter serving
9 Funny ones
14 "Just ___!"
15 Succulent plant
16 Clinker
17 Locker room supply
18 Solid ground
20 You should have the body
22 Online currency
23 Catches in the act
24 Pro at balancing
27 Big pet food brand
30 Pageant wear
32 Erica who wrote "Any Woman's Blues"
35 Bottom of a lily
38 Bank rights
39 Schoenberg's "Moses und ___"
40 From the beginning
42 Gray-brown goose
43 "The Taming of the Shrew" setting
45 Sport whose name means "gentle way"
46 Formerly, once
47 Kind of number
49 7'1" N.B.A. star, informally
51 Pince-___
52 Shout to a team, maybe
55 Fall colors
59 The die is cast
62 Always the same
65 "Warm"
66 They're rather pointless
67 "Camelot" actor Franco
68 Other, in the barrio
69 Charges
70 Innovative 1982 Disney film
71 Like a busybody

DOWN

1 Wood-turning tool
2 Stern that bows
3 Nellie of opera
4 Behold the proof
5 Back muscles, for short
6 "The Black Stallion" boy
7 Idiot
8 He said "Slump? I ain't in no slump. I just ain't hitting"
9 Turndown
10 Van Gogh floral subject
11 Bobby of Boston
12 Male cat
13 Title in S. Amer.
19 Getaway alerts, for short
21 Cry before "It's you!"
24 All alternative
25 ___ Grove, N.J.
26 Money in the bank, e.g.
28 Part of a C.E.O.'s résumé
29 Topic: Abbr.
31 Without which not
32 Black lacquer
33 Filibuster, in a way
34 Alertness aid
36 Bud's comedy sidekick
37 Briefs, briefly
41 "Isn't that beautiful?!"
44 Lacking purpose
48 Round dance official
50 Gallery display
53 Canonized figure
54 One who's not "it"
56 Look after
57 Some Peters
58 Homeless animal
59 Mimicked
60 Pertaining to flying
61 "Follow me!"
62 Leave in stitches?
63 Air quality org.
64 Debussy's "La ___"

ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE

S	T	A	G	E		T	A	N	G	O		H	I	T
A	R	I	E	S		I	C	E	A	X		U	F	O
C	U	R	T	A	I	N	C	A	L	L		M	O	P
			B	U	S	H				I	N	A	R	T
B	A	B	Y		B	A	T	H	S	P	O	N	G	E
U	N	O		A	N	T	E	U	P		D	C	O	N
G	O	B	A	D			A	N	A		S	O	T	S
		B	L	O	O	D	S	T	R	E	A	M		
J	A	Y	E		M	I	I			S	T	E	R	N
I	L	K	A		N	O	N	F	A	T		D	A	B
G	U	N	S	L	I	N	G	E	R		S	Y	N	C
S	M	I	T	E				I	M	A	C			
A	N	G		T	H	I	N	G	S	D	R	A	W	N
W	A	H		B	A	C	O	N		Z	A	I	R	E
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Men's team depleted; women's roster loaded

LEADS, FROM PAGE 12

Men's and women's throwers differ in depth

The men's and women's throwers for the indoor track team could not be more different in depth.

Right now, the men's team is depleted because of the injury to sophomore thrower Tyler Arnholt.

The sophomore will most likely miss the entire indoor season, but should be healthy for the outdoor season.

Freshman thrower Steven Nwokocha will be the loan thrower for the Panthers during the indoor season.

Throwing coach Mary Wallace said Nwokocha has been impressive despite the depleted roster.

"Right now, we are kind of depleted," Wallace said. "Arnholt will be back in fall. Nwokocha has stepped up because we are understaffed. For freshmen, there is a lot of adjustments. We have to break down delivery and build them up. Steve will have some great meets and a couple of rough ones, but he definitely has a lot of potential."

Nwokocha said the transition has been relatively easy.

"So far, it has been pretty good," Nwokocha said. "I thought it would be a lot harder, but it is a lot like high school. The weight training has prepared me a ton."

Nwokocha said that the injury will be a good opportunity to show he can compete.

"Usually, they look at upperclassman first. This opportunity is a chance to show I can compete," he said.

The women's throwers are much deeper, with last season's OVC freshman of the year sophomore Kandace Arnold and junior Nicole Walcott returning.

> **"This opportunity is a chance to show I can compete."**
>
> *Steven Nwokocha, freshman thrower, on filling in for upperclassman*

PANTHER BRIEF

Globetrotters to perform at Eastern

By Mike McGlothlin
Staff Reporter

The Harlem Globetrotters are coming to Eastern.

They will perform at 7 p.m. Jan. 8 in Lantz Arena.

Tickets can be purchased at Room 2024 in the Lantz Ticket Office and online.

Tickets can also be purchased off campus at the Charleston True-Value and the First Mid-Illinois Bank and Trusts in Charleston and Mattoon.

Reserved seating areas in Lantz are the east floor and east balcony chairbacks, as well as the west floor chairbacks.

Reserved seats will cost $24 per person.

The general admission price is $16, and seats will be in the north, south and west balconies.

The Globetrotters have performed at Eastern three previous times, but this will be their first trip here since 2000.

Charleston is just one of the venues the Globetrotters will entertain at in January.

Their performance here is one of 14 Midwest stops on their tour.

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OHIO VALLEY CONFERENCE WOMEN'S BASKETBALL | NOTEBOOK

Eastern Kentucky coach wants later OVC play

By Kevin Murphy
Associate Sports Editor

Ohio Valley Conference women's basketball play begins this week.

Eastern Kentucky women's basketball head coach Larry Joe Inman wants league play to start later.

"I wish we could start conference play in January," Inman said. "I think a team like ours has got a lot of new kids that need a little bit more time to develop."

The first conference game is tonight when Jacksonville plays at Samford. The last conference games are played March 1.

The OVC Tournament will begin March 4 and the semifinals will be March 7.

The teams Eastern Illinois has played this season include Illinois, Illinois State and Missouri.

The Fighting Illini begins Big Ten conference play Dec. 27 against Northwestern.

Illinois State begins Missouri Valley Conference play Jan. 4 at Evansville.

Missouri begins Big 12 play Jan. 9 against Colorado.

The average OVC team plays an average of six non-conference games.

The Panthers (1-7) have played eight non-conference games this season.

KARLA BROWNING | THE DAILY EASTERN NEWS

Junior guard Ellen Canale drives past a fallen Loyola of Chicago defender during Saturday's 70-52 win at Lantz Arena. The women's team is now 1-7 on the season.

The only teams that have winning records in the conference this season are Eastern Kentucky (4-1), Samford (6-2) and Murray State (4-2).

"There's definitely two thoughts of school on scheduling," said Eastern Illinois head women's basketball coach Brady Sallee. "We could have gone out and played Martha Stewart University… and been sitting here with a false record. We're a product of the tough scheduling."

OVC coaches think league is evenly matched

Southeast Missouri was picked to finish fifth in the OVC last season.

This season, the Redhawks are picked to win the league again.

"The conference is going to be very competitive," said Austin Peay head women's basketball coach Carrie Daniels. "It's been very impressive in looking at the conference members and scores. I think the OVC is very upcoming. This year, it's going to be competitive."

The Panthers were picked to finish fourth in the conference this season.

Less than five votes separate them and the sixth place team. The Panthers had 119 points. Tennessee Tech was picked to finish fifth with 118 points, and Tennessee-Martin was picked to finish sixth with 114 points.

"As most coaches will attest to, any team will win on any given night," said Southeast Missouri head women's basketball coach John Ishee. "You base it on returning people. You base it on early season results. I don't think there's anybody in the league that can't compete. You can go right down the line. I think it comes down to who can stay injury free, who can play their best basketball for the next couple of months."

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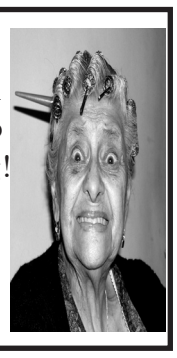

WOMEN'S BASKETBALL NOTEBOOK

Eastern Kentucky head coach Larry Joe Inman discusses why he wishes the Ohio Valley Conference season would start later.

SEE PAGE 11

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WEDNESDAY | 12.5.07

SPORTS EDITOR
Adam Tedder
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SPORTS

TRIPLE THREAT 3

Every year, when the new National Football League season opens, everyone talks about quarterbacks, running backs, defense and what not. The kicking position is always near the bottom in discussion. But come playoff stretch time or at the end of a big game, the kicker can become the biggest hero on the team. Here are three of the top kickers in the NFL and why they are making a difference in the game – and for their team.

1. Rob Bironas – The Tennessee Titans kicker has made 90 percent of his field goals this season, making 26-of-29. Bironas' longest field goal this season was for 56 yards. He has been perfect with extra points this season, making 22-of-22 kicks.

2. Kris Brown – The Houston native's foot kicked the longest field goal made this season, at 57 yards. His percentage has made 89 percent of his kicks, making 24-of-27 field goals. Brown has also been perfect with extra points this season, making 25-of-25.

3. Dave Rayner – The Kansas City, Mo., Chiefs kicker leads the NFL with a 68.3 yards kickoff average. Rayner has kicked off 39 times this season for 2,662 yards and three touchbacks.

– Adam Tedder

DAN CUSACK

Marked men and women

This season, men's and women's indoor track will be a marked team.

Last season, the Panthers swept the Ohio Valley Conference Indoor Championships. The title was first in school history for the women, and the men have won the title for seven consecutive seasons.

While the men are used to being marked men, this will be new territory for the women.

The women must be prepared to get each team's best shot at every single meet.

"You always end up a target when you win," said head indoor track coach Tom Akers. "It is larger when Eastern wins. When we entered the conference and won, people did not like it." "

SEE CUSACK, PAGE 9

WOMEN'S BASKETBALL | OHIO VALLEY CONFERENCE PREVIEW

Little steps for a big jump

Panthers look to build on last victory

By Adam Tedder
Sports Editor

One day at a time. One win at a time.

This is one of the mantras the women's basketball team has this season, and coaches and players alike are on the same page. Though they agree there is room to look at the big picture, head coach Brady Sallee said he knows they cannot afford to get ahead of themselves.

"You can't really explain it," Sallee said. "There's just a feeling that everything is more important."

Assistant coach Jackie Moore elaborated that the Panthers cannot get ahead of themselves.

"We take it one day at a time," she said. "Every day, we work to improve on Eastern Illinois basketball."

The Panthers begin the Ohio Valley Conference schedule at 5 p.m. this Thursday against Tennessee Tech in Lantz Arena. In eight non-conference games this season, the Panthers are 1-7, receiving their first win of the season 70-52 against Loyola of Chicago on Dec. 1.

Junior forward Lindsey Kluempers said she does not think the Panthers will more intensely focusing on their opponents but still recognizes the importance of the start of conference.

"It's just a little bit different," she said. "These are our conference games. These games are going to decide the rest of our season."

Sallee said as conference play nears, the team will change practices. He said practices will be shorter and will focus less on drills.

Moore said she thought conference time was more exciting.

"This is conference time, and this decides if we're going to make it to an NCAA tournament," she said.

She said their main objective in practice was to work on their mistakes.

KARLA BROWNING | THE DAILY EASTERN NEWS

Junior forward Julie Lipperd takes a shot above a defender during Saturday's 70-52 win at Lantz Arena. The win was the first of the season and the Panthers hope to continue momentum into the OVC season.

Sallee said right now, the most important thing is the start a winning streak. But to do so, he said the Panthers will need to take it one game at a time.

"There's two important things we have to do to be successful," he said. "It's always important to start conference play strong, and it's always great to string a few wins together. I mean, getting five to six wins in a row, and that might make the difference in placing in this conference."

SEE STEPS, PAGE 9

MEN'S AND WOMEN'S INDOOR TRACK | NOTEBOOK

Returning hurdlers lead track teams

Men's and women's indoor track programs look to have successful, consistent seasons

By Dan Cusack
Staff Reporter

Men's and women's indoor track teams are coming off successful seasons in which both captured the Ohio Valley Conference indoor track championships.

The hurdlers for both the men's and women's teams look to be strong again this season.

The men return hurdlers senior Mike Embry, sophomore Kris Gehrke and sophomore T.J. Evans, all of whom were qualifiers in the OVC championships last season.

> **"... We have looked good running against each other; we will see what happens when we compete."**
>
> *Tom Akers, men's and women's head indoor track coach on returning starters*

The team also returns senior Matt Fisher, who was a qualifier in the 60-meter indoor last season.

Head indoor track coach Tom Akers said a number of freshman have also been impressive.

"We are returning Embry, Gehrke, Evans, and Fisher," Akers said. "They are a solid four for us. Alex Migit is a freshman who has looked good for us. He was all-state last season in high school. Right now, he is running with our top guys. We have looked good running against each other; we will see what happens when we compete."

The women return two of the top runners in the OVC.

Junior Chandra Golden is coming off an OVC title in the 60 hurdles when the Normal native ran an 8.76 to earn an individual title.

The Panther women also return sophomore Caitlin Finnegan, who was a qualifier in the 60- and 100-meter indoor hurdles and the 100 and 400 hurdles outside.

Akers said he has been impressed by freshman hurdler Charay Savage.

"We have Golden and Finnegan who are our solid two," Akers said. "Freshman Caitlin Savage was fifth in state last year in the 100-meter hurdlers. She has been running well and has been solid."

SEE LEAD, PAGE 9