Eastern Illinois University The Keep

December 2009

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Eastern Illinois University

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Thursday

DECEMBER 3, 2009 **VOLUME 94 | NO. 67**

EASTERN ILLINOIS UNIVERSITY CHARLESTON, ILL.

DENNEWS.COM



Different talent showcased at Open Mic

EASTERN NEWS



Panthers open conference play

Employees concerned about benefits



DANNY DAMIANI | THE DAILY EASTERN NEWS

Vionka Leal, a senior psychology major, puts the finishing touches on a sandwich Wednesday afternoon in Thomas Hall's dining center. Leal worked over the summer in the dining center before moving to Thomas for the school year.

Perry notes furlough policy may be solution

By Erica Whelan **Staff Reporter**

Further discussions regarding the pending construction of Eastern's furlough policy will continue at a Staff Senate meeting at 1 p.m. today in the Schahrer Room of the Martin Luther King Jr. University Union.

This isn't our regular meeting; we have been asked to meet specifically to discuss the furlough policy," said Angie Campbell, chair of the civil service council. "We've been asked to contact the people we represent to solicit comments, questions and concerns and deliver them to the

Campbell said many of the concerns brought to her attention largely pertain to whether employees will retain benefits, as well as how these benefits will be paid for in the future.

Questions concerning the amount of time staff members will have to take off, as well as

how the system will work, are also prevalent. "A lot of these questions we really don't have the answers for," Campbell said.

She encourages those with questions and comments to submit their input to committees so as to prompt discussion. Feedback will also be used to generate a frequently asked questions Web page for comprehensive reference.

"I believe that the university is looking at doing everything possible to prevent furloughs and trying to stretch as much as possible to avoid them, but it's important to have a policy in place in case we have to," Campbell said. "It's a better alternative to layoffs."

As the state has yet to release appropriated funds to the university, President Bill Perry has examined expenditures and noted a furlough policy may be a possible solution to current fiscal constraints.

As a policy mandating instructors to take unpaid time off does not presently exist on campus, dialogue is in effect to compile feedback from the campus community and secure union representation before approval.

Development of a furlough policy is underway, Perry said in a campuswide e-mail sent

The policy will apply to all employees, including the president and vice presidents, and will not be adopted until after Feb. 1, if adopted.

Perry has submitted a draft of the potential policy to the Council on University Planning and Budget and awaits feedback. Until then, negotiations and discussions regarding future rules ensue.

Erica Whelan can be reached at 581-7942 or elwhelan@eiu.edu.

Hudson discusses furloughs affecting student workers

Staff Report

As the possibility of furloughs continues to be discussed, Mark Hudson answers the question as to whether student workers on campus will be affected.

Hudson, director of Housing and Dining, said he believes only full-time staff members are part of the furlough pool.

"I don't think there's necessarily a student component that I'm aware of," Hudson said. "I think it's more to do with those of us who are full-time employees."

Hudson said the possibility of furloughs

could affect Housing and Dining opera-

"The whole furlough topic is one that the whole campus is exploring, so I don't think any of us know yet how it's going to play itself out," he said. "I know the president has met with the CUPB, and they have an open period for comment."

Hudson said he thinks the way in which furloughs will be done will be shaped from meetings and input.

'These are very difficult financial times for the state, and as a state agency, we realize that reality and have to figure out how to best manage it."

STUDENT GOVERNMENT

New Constitution stalled

Student Supreme Court serves injunction after student's complaint

By Emily Steele

Student Government Editor

An injunction served shortly before Wednesday's Student Senate meeting removed the newly revised Student Body Constitution from the ballots for next week's elections, despite months of work, public forums and unanimous approval by the Student Senate.

The meeting started late, after Student Body President Michelle Murphy received a letter from members of the Student Supreme Court preventing the revisions.

The one-sentence letter, which was present-

ed to both Murphy and The Daily Eastern News, stated, "We hereby issue a preliminary injunction to prevent the proposed constitutional revisions from going to ballot on Dec. 7 and 8 pending a hearing on alleged procedural violations in the formation of the Constitutional Review Commission."

Student Senate Speaker Tiffany Turner, along with Murphy, was informed minutes before the meeting about the injunction.

"I'm kind of taken back by the whole situation to be honest with you," Turner said to shocked Student Senate members.

They consider this to be an issue of constitutionality," Turner said.

An appeal was submitted to the Student Supreme Court by history major John Goldsworthy, sometime before the Thanksgiving Break on the grounds that the process for revising the CONSTITUTION, page 5

ACADEMICS

Second dean candidate has faith in liberal arts education

Candidate to visit campus for interview

By Sarah Ruholl

Administration Editor

Eastern's educational reputation made the dean for the College of Arts and Humanities a desirable position to Steven Brown, the second candidate to visit campus to interview for the

"Eastern Illinois has had a strong academic reputation for many years," Brown said. "I'm particularly taken with a number of the academic centers and programs you have there."

An open interview for campus members will be held at 4 p.m. in Room 4440 of Booth Li-

Brown currently serves as the dean of the College of Liberal Arts at Emporia State University in Emporia, Kan. He has spent most of his career as a music professor and later as department chair.

"I would bring a strong level of experience from an academic environment," Brown said.

Moving up the higher education ranks has disadvantages, according to Brown.

'We (administrators) got in education because we love interacting with students," he said. "When you get into being a dean, vice president or president you lose a lot of those opportuni-

CANDIDATE, page 5

WEATHER TODAY



Mostly Cloudy

A few very light flurries are possible late today and tonight. Breezy conditions will continue through Friday. Expect a much more calm but cold weekend ahead in the mid 30's. Wind chill values Friday and Saturday night will be down in the teens. Next chance of precipitation will be another rain/snow mix on Tuesday.

WEATHER TOMORROW



Mostly Cloudy High: 349 Low: 21°



Saturday **Mostly Sunny High:** 36° **Low:** 24°

For more weather information: www.eiu.edu/~weather

CAMPUS Week of recognition for NRHH

Staff Report

This week is the National Residence Hall Honoraries Recognition Week.

"NRHH is an organization with four pillars, one of which being recognition," said Brittany Kraft, president of NRHH. "Thus, the organization has held a recognition week in the spring in the past. However, due to turn over in different positions that we recognize, the executive board brought the idea of having a recognition week in the fall as well to the general assembly.

Staff members were recognized beginning Monday with building service workers and residence hall secretaries. The professional and central housing and dining staff were recognized Tuesday.

Dining hall workers, night assistants and desk assistants were recognized on Wednesday.

Hall council executive board members will be recognized today, and resident assistants and senior staff assistants will be recognized Friday.

"While NRHH is proud to recognize these people, we encourage individual halls and Greek Court to recognize these and others in their own way as well," Kraft said.



Rainy day, walk away

CHELSEA GRADY | THE DAILY EASTERN NEWS

Rainboots and umbrellas fill campus sidewalks as students avoid puddles and move quickly to class to get out of the unfavorable weather.

BLOTTER

Ryan Maniscalco, 22, of Crystal Lake, was charged with failure to appear for a criminal trespass, resisting a police officer and obstructing the peace during an 11:30 a.m. Wednesday arrest at

University Court, according to the University Police Department.

A theft occurred Wednesday at Lawson Hall, police said.

CORRECTION

In Tuesday's edition of The Daily Eastern News, the person who submitted the possible furlough policy was inaccurate. President Bill Perry submitted the policy to the Council on University Planning and Budget.

In the same story, CUPB's meeting Monday was misrepresented. CUPB is having an executive committee meeting Monday. The next open CUPB meeting is Dec. 11.

The DEN regrets the errors.

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EASTERN NEWS

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12.03.09

Council retreat begins

By Stephen Di Benedetto **City Editor**

Mayor John Inyart expects one theme that has been on everyone's mind during the past year-and-a-half to be prevalent during the City Council's annual two-day retreat, which starts today.

That theme is the ongoing effects of the economic recession. The city is currently experiencing a \$300,000 shortfall, which has caused city officials to examine possible spending cuts for this year and next year.

"Everybody is painfully aware we are going to be in another tight financial year," Inyart said.

The 11th annual planning retreat allows council members to meet with different department officials to review prior initiatives and plan for future ones. The retreat lasts from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. today and Friday in the basement of City Hall, 520 Jackson Ave.

Inyart said every city department has a renewed focus on efficiencies along with budget prioritization. He imagines every department will present ways to stretch taxpaying dollars, as the city prepares for the coming fiscal year, which begins in May.

'It's a different sense of urgency this year than it has been in the past years," Invart said.

He said the retreat allows for com-

prehensive planning and allows the council members to give feedback departments about possible initiatives.

Inyart said it is important to have the retreat in December because each department starts formulating budgets in January for the coming fiscal year.

The public is encouraged to attend both days of the retreat. Invart said open planning conversations allow residents to see what direction the Charleston government is taking.

He said the open sessions also allow residents to gain insight on certain ideas, which allows them to shape their opinion on preliminary ideas. Public comment will not be allowed during the retreat, but Inyart said attending the retreat allows residents plenty of time to respond to the government's plans.

Each department head will present their report to the council through PowerPoint presentation and handouts. Open planning sessions will take place toward the end of Friday's session.

Invart said this year's retreat will feature a new format in which council members will be able to converse and question department officials during their respective presentations.

"We are going to have a little more of a roundtable discussion," he said.

> Stephen Di Benedetto can be reached at 581-7942 or sdibenedetto@eiu.edu.





TuesdayStusday! \$4 Cosmos - \$4 Blue Islands \$2 Soco Lime Shots - \$2.50 Imports

Wednesday .. Century Club

\$4 "Butterfinger" Martinis - \$4 Miller Lite Pitchers \$3 Bacardi Mixers ~ \$2 Sweet Tart Shots

Thursday .. Theme Night \$3 Margaritas ~ \$8 Long Island Pitchers \$1.50 Domestic Beer ~ \$2 Carmel Apple Shots

Friday .. College Night

\$3 Rail Drinks ~ \$4 Bush Light Pitchers
\$4 Key West Martinis ~ \$2 Kamikaze Shots

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BLAIR HALL

Workshop to investigate family glass heirlooms

Community
members welcome
to bring items
to be examined

By Kayleigh Zyskowski Activities Editor

Community members will learn about a lesser-known American treasure—patterned glass—at 10:30 a.m. today in Room 2116 of Blair Hall.

The Academy of Lifetime Learning is hosting the workshop for Charleston community members to expand knowledge about American history and to possibly learn more about their family's heirlooms.

Charles Eberly, a faculty member from the department of counseling and student development, will be sharing research he has done about American patterned glass made between the period of 1850-1915, said Janna Overstreet, a faculty member from the Academy of Continuing Education.

"(Eberly) will share his knowledge about patterned glass," Overstreet said. "He will be able to show what is popular and what is more scarce."

Participants are asked to bring in their own pieces, which Eberly will examine

"(Eberly) will be able to tell them

details about their glass pieces from his own knowledge or give them Internet sources to continue their research online," Overstreet said.

The main purpose of the academy is to bring the Charleston community to campus, and this workshop is no different, Overstreet said.

"When people reach the age of 50, most start to inherit items from their families, but they have no idea what they mean," Overstreet said. "This is especially true with glass because there are no labels on most."

Today's workshop will give some the opportunity to put an end to the mystery, Overstreet said.

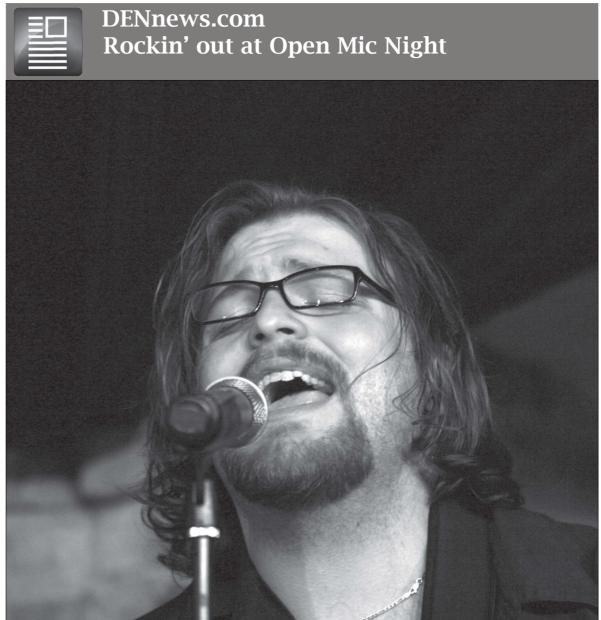
However, this workshop is not for people with heirlooms alone. People who are simply interested in American history might also find this workshop appealing, Overstreet said.

"United States glassmakers were considered to be one of the best in the world," Overstreet said. "(The glassmakers) of the time created and produced over 3,000 patterns within this time span."

Five people are currently signed up for the workshop, but participants will be accepted at the door.

The cost for academy members is \$15, and the cost for non-academy members is \$35.

Kayleigh Zyskowski can be reached at 581-7942 or kzyskowski@eiu.edu.



DANNY DAMIANI | THE DAILY EASTERN NEWS

Brian Thomas, a senior sociology major, plays two original songs at the Open Mic Night Wednesday in 7th Street Underground of the Martin Luther King Jr. University Union.

Shut Your Mouth!

(well, not really)

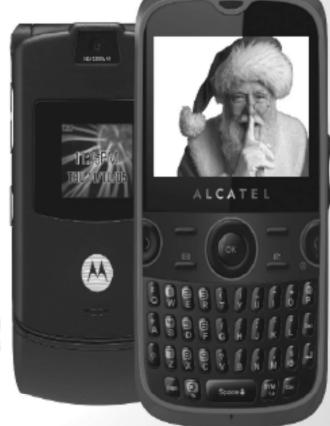
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VIEWS



Julian Russell

Flavored tobacco law failing

With the failure of one law comes the pursuit

Since the Food and Drug Administration has taken over the regulation of tobacco, many new ideas and laws have come into play that leave issues of civil freedoms dangling in the balance. The main one that some states are beginning to notice is the ban on flavored cigarettes and cigars.

Margaret Hamburg, commissioner of the FDA, has been quoted as saying, "Flavored cigarettes are a gateway for many children and young adults to become smokers."

This is the reasoning for the new ban. I disagree; we already have a law in place that bans minors from smoking.

As recently reported in The Daily Eastern *News*, we saw in the news that 11 businesses were busted in Charleston alone for selling cigarettes to minors. I imagine this is also the case in many cities across the country.

So, basically, this law is failing outrageously. With this law failing to get the job done, instead of creating harsher punishments for those who sell to minors, we have decided to put into place a new law that bans flavored tobacco because, somehow, that is the cause for teens smoking.

Bad parenting and a poor work ethic is why kids are smoking!

Why does the FDA think that putting a ban on flavored cigarettes will change anything when businesses are still selling cigarettes to minors, regardless of flavor? To me, that is like saying that since the law against murder isn't working we are going to ban all knives. Nonetheless, the FDA doesn't stop there.

They are also considering not only dedicating 50 percent of a cigarette pack to a health warning but even putting the image of a diseased lung on cigarette packs.

Does that not seem seriously over the top and down the other side of the mountain? What they haven't accounted for is the loss in tax dollars that is set to follow this ban on flavored tobacco. Some states are predicted to lose up to \$140 million in tax money from the banning of flavored cigarettes.

Where do they plan to make up for this lost money? God forbid it be from education funding.

Another thought is that since the FDA takeover, the tobacco center at the FDA has issued numerous fees on tobacco corporations that fund the center's very existence.

According to the Congressional Budget Office, it is predicted that by 2013 these fees will bring in up to \$500 million annually. As usual we can see that somebody sure does stand to profit a lot.

Is it possible the tobacco corporations are being exploited for continuous profits by the U.S. government? Of course.

After all, tobacco companies are stuck with sales taxes much higher than alcohol or any other products on the market. People think this is fair because the rise in health care costs because of tobacco-related illnesses. News flash: Alcohol and fast food also lead to many health problems such as liver disease and heart disease.

They both rack up comparable health care costs. Tobacco doesn't deserve all the blame. In my opinion, the government is taking the easy way out and the profitable way to pointing fingers where fingers aren't meant to be justifiably

> Julian Russell is a junior communication studies major and can be reached at 581-7942 or DENopinions@gmail.com.

EASTERN NEWS

DAILY EDITORIAL

The daily editorial is the majority opinion of the editorial board of The Daily

Visits, interviews are complete; our pick for new vice president

"(Salvo) not

only has the

experience to

successfully

necessary

head the

office for

university

advancement

but also the

commitment

to fully

serve the

university."

The candidates for vice president for university advancement have all visited campus and inter-

We've met them, chatted with them and now it's time for the university to hire one of them.

The Daily Eastern News would like to endorse James Salmo as its choice for the position. All four candidates have their strong points, but Salmo's experience and attitude toward the position made him stand out.

During his visit to Eastern he spoke about his personal goals and what he has done to achieve them throughout his career.

"I've purposely spent 25 years learning the advancement area," Salmo said during an open campus meeting. "It was all part by choice of learning all the different areas in advancement.'

Salmo served as vice president for advancement at St. Louis College of Pharmacy, headed a \$113 million capital campaign at the University of Missouri, Columbia, and spent three years as the director of annual giving at Southeast Missouri State University, Cape Girardeau.

He not only has the necessary experience to successfully head the office for university advancement but also the commitment to fully serve the university.

"It's time to move on to what would be the pinnacle of my career, serving as vice president at an institution like Eastern," Salmo said.

Jill Nilsen, who the new vice president will replace, has served Eastern well with her strong dedication to the position, and we as a university need and deserve another committed vice president to lead us through this period of financial uncertainty. The position is not solely focused on fundraising, and whichever candidate gets the job will need to be able to work in marketing, alumni relations and government relations.

Salmo's previous positions have given him ample expe-

rience in all but government relations. None of the candidates are fully prepared to take on all the position's responsibilities, but with training, Salmo will be ready. Steve Rich, director of alumni services, has visited

Washington D.C. with Nilsen. Paul McCann, treasurer and director of business services, has worked with state legislatures on the Renewable Energy Center project.

Rich and McCann are both able to help Salmo as he learns the red tape ropes of government relations and maintain the university's public face in the legislature in the meantime. Salmo has high expectations for the advancement staff and other members of the community and a strong understanding of what it takes to be successful, both resulting from previous successes.

"I think there's a role for everyone," he said. "You've got to show by doing. The president, deans and vice presidents should work on larger gifts of \$1 million or more."

In past positions he has gotten campus community members from all levels involved in the fundraising process, which is something that would greatly benefit Eastern. Getting departments to work together is something he specifically wants to do to help increase donations.

"There is a way to get the university as a whole to work on developing relations with alumni and friends of the university," Salmo said. "I think it's important that alumni and development staff work together seamlessly."

If Eastern is to thrive financially, it needs a strong, innovative leader. Eastern needs someone who will encourage the university to take a proactive role in its future, and someone who takes that proactive role himself.

Salmo understands the importance of working together, and he would provide Eastern with the knowledge, leadership and dedication it needs.

"It's not 'I can make it happen," he said. "It's going to happen because of the people there."

This is the kind of attitude Eastern needs right now.

FROM THE EASEL



ILLUSTRATION BY DARIUS JUTZI | THE DAILY EASTERN NEWS

BEST COMMENTS FROM THE WEB

Bus accident adds lawsuit to list

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conversation.

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Article posted on 11/20/09

"Absolutely disgusting Mr. McKenna. You are full of crap and only looking for money. The fact that you would stoop so low as to exploit the death of a friend for money is absolutely disgusting!"

Disgusting, 11/30/09

Eastern football assistant coach Jeff Hoover dies in car accident

Article posted on 11/29/09

"Coach Hoover was like a father to all of us. He always expected the best out of us and it was an honor to have played for him. The past two days have been tough on us, but we know coach is watching and would want us to press on. He loved his players, we were his life.

Mike Scheibel, 11/30/09

CANDIDATE, from page 1

While he may not have the same daily interactions with students, Brown's faith in a solid liberal arts education has not shaken.

"We need to emphasize the importance of general education," he said. "A college education is valuable in and of itself. We don't prepare students for specific vocations, so it's a difficult time for arts and humani-

Higher education overall is going through a difficult financial period in general, a fact not lost on Brown.

"These are extraordinarily difficult times in higher education across the country," he said. "We seem to be sending money to the state; it should be the other way around. It is challenging for universities to do more with less.'

One particular way Brown thinks a university can do more with less is through interdisciplinary curriculum.

"We need to look for ways not to constrain ourselves to small little pigeonholes," he said.

Sarah Ruholl can be reached at 581-7942 or seruholl2@eiu.edu.

MOTHERS

CONSTITUTION, from page 1

constitution violated the rulings in the current Student Body Constitution.

According to the Student Body Constitution, any revisions to the constitution may be proposed by either a submission to the Student Senate, a proposal initiative or proposal by the Constitutional Review Commission. The commission must be composed of seven members, including Student Senate members, Student Government executive officers and non-Student Senate members.

"The Constitutional Review Commission that is currently active has 10 members, none of whom are a student who is not a student senator or an executive member of Student Government as required by the constitution," Goldsworthy stated in his appeal.

A Constitutional Review Commission was not used to revise the constitution, instead a committee on constitutional oversight made the revisions over the course of the fall semester.

Mark Olendzki, student vice president for student affairs, said this committee does not violate the constitution and instead is considered a proposal by submission to the Student Senate.

Ken Baker, Student Supreme Court adviser and director of student recreation, was notified of the appeal Nov. 10 by e-mail.

John Hamilton, associate Student Supreme Court justice, said the injunction was neces-

"The student body couldn't vote on some-

thing that might not be a valid ticket item on the ballot," Hamilton said. "Therefore, we had to issue the injunction to keep that from being done. Otherwise, the students would be voting on something that is mute."

The revised constitution was approved by the Student Senate at the last meeting before the break, but needed approval by two-thirds of the student voters during elections, which will be Monday and Tuesday.

Eric Wilber, student executive vice president, and Olendzki plan to appeal the ruling on the grounds that the injunction violated the Illinois Open Meetings Act.

"The legitimacy of the injunction is in doubt," Olendzki said.

The Illinois Open Meetings Act states, "Public notice of any special meeting ... shall be given at least 48 hours before such meeting, which notice shall also include the agenda."

If the revised constitution is not on the ballot for next semester, changes regarding Student Government executives would not go into effect until fall 2011.

The injunction hearing will be held at 6 p.m. Monday at an yet-to-be-determined location.

Associate News Editor Bob Bajek contributed to this report.

Emily Steele can be reached at 581-7942 or easteele2@eiu.edu.



ERIC HILTNER|THE DAILY EASTERN NEWS

Alex Lugo, a senior art education major, works on entry forms for his soft pastel "Self-Portrait" and Prismacolor colored pencil "Guilty Pleasure" for the Illinois Art Education Association fall student art show in Doudna Fine Arts Center Wednesday afternoon.







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5.50 ALL SCATS-ALL TMCS-INCLUDES PUPCO OLD DOGS (PG) 4907 IS PRESAT 9-40 PRESAT SUN 130

NINJA ASSASSIN (R) 440 7.40 PRI SAT ID IS PRI SAT SUN 1:50

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BLIND SIDE (PG 13) <u>GW2 SCRAINS</u> 450 630 740 FRI SAT 950 FRI SAT SUN 12:90 2:00 3:20

PLANET SI (PG) 415 640 FBI SAT'S ID SAT'SUN 1:15

2012 (PG 13) <u>NO PASSES TRROVESE 11/26</u> 3:45 S:00 7:10 FRI S:47 8:45 S:47 SUN 12:15 1:40

A CHRISTMAS CAROL (PG) 1:00 6:15 FBI SAT 9:30 SAT SUN 12:45

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THURSDAY, DECEMBER 3, 2009

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The New Hork Times

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Crossword

45 Mass ender? 46 Gateway Arch

designer

49 Made a switch in a game 52 Carriers of arms

53 Beethoven dedicatee

54 Has been around since, with "to"

60 Went after

61 Tag words

62 "Doctor Who"

57 Bomb perpetuum 59 Funny Wilson

18 Sinclair Lewis novel

20 Setting piece

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22 Exotic fish

23 Venetian feature 24 Rankle

26 Series of sorties

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зо Tricolor pooch 34 Wind element зь Title not

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39 Set on the court 42 Utah ski resort

2 Refinery products

> company employees 4 Like some

traffic

5 Suddenly break, as a twig

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1 Galoots

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U.S. Open champ

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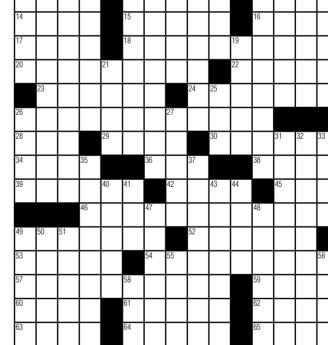
41 III in modern

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47 It doesn't end in 00

48 Natural

49 Quit 50 Unalaska native.

51 It may precede a storm

55 Play start

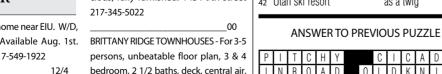
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E R D A K N E W T E S T A M E N L E W D T R E S CAFE N 0 T F 0 R P R 0 F I

OKAFOR, from page 8

"We've got to be able to take care of the ball and rebound the ball. If we do those two things then I think we have a chance."

The Panthers have struggled to take care of the ball so far this season, as they are committing 16 turnovers per game.

"We've got to take care of the ball. We've got to make good passes," Kloak said. "(TSU) is quick, so we have to go hard and make short and quick passes up the floor.

The game will mark the beginning of the Ohio Valley Conference schedule for each team, and Walker said it's going to be important to get off to a good start.

"We have to be more prepared now," Walker said. "We have to go in there more intense, take care of the ball, rebound a lot better and just do what the coaches ask us to."

Sallee said it is important to go on the road and get a victory, especially against the Tigers, who were picked ahead of them in the preseason standings.

"If you're not motivated to play this game, then you need to check your pulse," Sallee said.

This is the first of two games the

OVC predicted standings

- 1. Morehead State (9) 147
- 2. Austin Peay (6) 146
- 3. Tennessee State (4) 134
- 4. Eastern Illinois (1) 111
- 5. Jacksonville State 84
- 6. Murray State 79
- 7. Southeast Missouri 67
- 8. Tennessee Tech 58
- 9. Eastern Kentucky 54
- 10. Tennessee Martin 18

First-place votes in parentheses

Schools were not allowed to rank own team, votes were made by school's coaches and sports information directors

two teams will play against each other this season. Last season, Eastern won all three of its games against the Tigers including in the OVC Tournament.

After Thursday's game, the Panthers stay in Tennessee as they travel to Clarksville to take on Austin Peay at 5:30 p.m. Saturday.

Alex McNamee can be reached at 581-7944 or admcnamee@eiu.edu.

REGROUP, from page 8

9.4 points and seven blocks.

Miller said they are an athletic team that plays well off the dribble.

"They have a lot of energy and they are a little different than the teams we have played so far this season. They should press more than any team we have seen so far."

The Tigers' pressure style has led to an average of 10 steals per game so far this season.

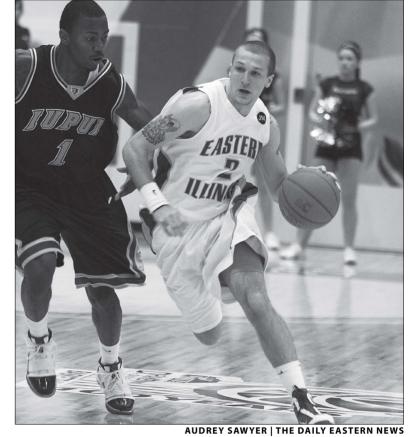
The Panthers split two meetings with the Tigers a year ago, winning the OVC opener played in Lantz Arena and losing to the Tigers in Nashville in the regular season finale.

After Thursday's game the Panthers stay in Tennessee as they will travel to Clarksville to take on Austin Peay at 5:30 p.m. Saturday.

These first two OVC games are the only before the new year.

After the weekend the Panthers return to non-conference play for five more non-conference games.

Dan Cusack can be reached at 581-7944 or dscusack@eiu.edu.



Eastern junior guard Tyler Laser takes the ball up the court during the game against Indiana-Purdue-Indianapolis Nov. 18 in Lantz Arena.

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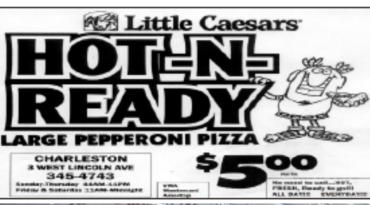
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Top Cat: Granger steps up in Martin's absence



Swimming: Early morning practices of no concern

VIEWS



Kevin Maras

New kids on the blocks

Rarely are freshmen expected to carry the load of a team.

However, for the Eastern men's swim squad, though the freshmen might not be completely carrying the team, they are certainly meeting ex-

The 2009 recruiting class was a good one for the Eastern men's swimming squad, but few could foresee so much success by the young freshman swimmers so early in the season.

With only three meets in the books, many of the freshmen on the team have shown exactly why they were recruited to become Panthers.

In particular, Ken Tiltges, a freestyle and individual medley swimmer out of St. Charles East High School, has already made a large impact on the swimming program.

Tiltges showed right away in the season-opening win over Evansville that he had the ability to become an elite swimmer as he earned the Summit League 'Male Athlete of the Week' honors.

In that meet, Tiltges notched two first-place finishes including wins in the 200 free (1:46.45) and the 100 free (48.27).

Tiltges' success continued in the Panthers' last two meets, scoring great times in a loss to Illinois-Chicago, and in the last meet against Saint Louis he managed to again take first place in the 200 free.

A high school All-American, Tiltges was the captain of his high school team and was an IHSA state finalist during his junior and senior years at St. Charles East.

Without question, Tiltges should be a highcaliber swimmer for head coach Matt Bos for years to come.

Also a member of the 2009 recruiting class, freshman freestyle swimmer John Wilson has also shown a great deal of skill in the pool.

In the season opener Wilson followed Tiltges' wins in the 100 free and 200 free with a nice 21.73 time in the 50 free. In fact, had it not been for Tiltges in the 100 free, Wilson would have claimed that win as well as he came in a close second.

Wilson also took first in the 50 free sprint in the squad's last meet versus SLU.

The young talent does not stop there. Freshman breaststroke swimmer Joe Ciliak showed his worth versus Illinois-Chicago and despite an overall team loss, took first in a close breassttroke race.

With so much success early on in their careers, the 2009 freshman swimmers are building the confidence they will need to continue being successful in the years to come.

Kevin Maras can be reached at 581-7944 or kjmaras@eiu.edu.

WOMEN'S BASKETBALL AT TENNESSEE STATE, 5:30 P.M.

Stopping Okafor big test

Panthers open conference play in Nashville

By Alex McNamee Staff Reporter

Tennessee State red-shirt senior forward Oby Okafor has two double-doubles already this season and is averaging 16.2 points and 6.8 rebounds per game.

Because of this, Eastern women's basketball head coach Brady Sallee knows stopping Okafor will be key to Eastern's success when the two teams meet at 5:30 p.m. today in Nashville, Tenn.

Sallee said keeping her from getting rebounds is going to be a huge task for the Panthers because nobody has done it this season.

"She plays with a high energy level and really brings it," Sallee said. "If we don't meet her intensity level and keep her off of the glass then it's going to be a long night."

Sophomore guard Pilar Walker said the players on defense are going to look to pack themselves into the paint in order to stop Okafor and the Tigers from getting rebounds.

Walker said after former TSU guard Kendra Appling graduated last year, the Panthers haven't noticed another big shooting threat. Senior forward Maggie Kloak said this will allow the team to play good defense.

"We're going to pack it in the



AUDREY SAWYER | THE DAILY EASTERN NEWS

Eastern senior guard Lauren Sturtevant drives the ball toward the basket during the game against Brescia (Ky.) on Sunday in Lantz Arena. The Panthers open Ohio Valley Conference play today at Tennessee State.

post and make them shoot some shots," Kloak said. "If we keep the ball out of the post, then I think we have a good shot."

Eastern (3-3) will look to build off its last two games after performing well defensively.

"Coach has told us to build off of our defense because over the past two games we've been playing really well on defense," Walker said. "Going into this game we are looking to still play off of our defense."

Sallee said Tennessee Tech (2-3)

would pose a big threat to the Panthers' ability to play defense.

"They are athletic and play extremely hard. They can cause you a lot of problems with what they're doing defensively," Sallee said.

OKAFOR, page 7

MEN'S BASKETBALL AT TENNESSEE STATE, 7:30 P.M.

Looking to regroup against Tigers

Winning streak stalled in loss to Belmont

By Dan Cusack

Assistant Sports Editor

The men's basketball team got off to a hot start during Thanksgiving break before things came to a halt Saturday against Bel-

The Panthers posted back-toback blowout wins, a 93-64 win against Eureka Nov. 21, and an 82-68 win against Chicago State Tuesday before getting blown out against Belmont 95-62 Saturday.

"We had such a good start to the break, we were starting strong and playing well," senior forward Edin

Suljic said. "Against Belmont, we came out flat and got our (butt) kicked. I think it was a wakeup call for this team."

The Panthers will try to regroup as they open conference play at 7:30 p.m. today against Tennessee State to open Ohio Valley Confer-

Eastern head coach Mike Miller said breaks are always difficult because students leave campus and the players are away from their families for the holidays.

We spent Thanksgiving with our extended family," Miller said. "I thought we played really well against Chicago State, but I wasn't happy with how we played against Belmont. It is only the beginning of December and our goal is to get better every month."

Suljic said in the Belmont game the Panthers came out flat and

OVC predicted standings

T1. Morehead State (10) - 154

T1. Murray State (10) - 154

3. Austin Peay - 114 4. Eastern Illinois - 105

5. Eastern Kentucky - 93

6. Jacksonville State - 86

7. Tennessee Tech - 76 8. Tennessee Martin - 55

9. Tennessee State - 44

10. Southeast Missouri - 19

First-place votes in parentheses

Schools were not allowed to rank own team, votes were made by school's coaches and sports information directors

made a lot of mistakes.

'We have to learn how to bounce back when things like that happen," Suljic said.

Tennessee State is coming off a six-game road trip, having lost two games in a row. The game was a 69-60 loss to Belmont in Nashville,

The Tigers have lost to two major conference opponents including a 69-62 loss to Northwestern (Big Ten) and an 84-53 loss to Iowa State (Big 12).

"They like to do a lot with pick and rolls so we have to be alert," Suljic said. "We have been preparing a lot for that and we have to be ready to start fast."

Junior forward Josh Savin leads the team with 13.1 points per game, but he is also leading the team in turnovers, averaging more than 3.3 per game.

Freshman forward Robert Covington leads the Tigers down low averaging 4.4 boards per game, REGROUP, page 7

EASTERN SPORTS SCHEDULE

Women's basketball

5:30 p.m. - Nashville, Tenn.

Today at Tennessee State

Men's basketball Today at Tennessee State 7:30 p.m. – Nashville, Tenn. **M&W** swimming Friday at Ball State 5 p.m. - Muncie, Ind.

Women's basketball Saturday at Austin Peay 5:15 p.m. - Clarksville, Tenn.

Men's basketball Saturday at Austin Peay 7:30 p.m. - Clarksville, Tenn.

For more please see eiupanthers. com

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NBA

Boston at San Antonio 7 p.m. on TNT

College football No. 13 Oregon State at No. 7 Oregon 8 p.m. on ESPN

College basketball Southern Cal at No. 2 Texas

8 p.m. on ESPN2

NBA Miami at Denver 9:30 p.m. on TNT