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"Tell the truth and don't be afraid."

SPORTS ♦ Men's, women's basketball changes to balanced schedule: page 12

THE DAILY EASTERN NEWS

TUESDAY
DECEMBER
6
2005

VOLUME 90, ISSUE 70

thedailyeasternnews.com

90th Anniversary

Eastern Illinois University, Charleston

STUDENT GOVERNMENT ELECTIONS



PHOTOGRAPHS BY ERIC HILTNER/THE DAILY EASTERN NEWS

Above: Senior political science major Jeffery Collier watches the ballot box Monday morning in the Martin Luther King Jr. University Union as Andrew Whited, a senior physical education major, drops his completed ballot in for the Student Government elections.

Right: Sean Anderson, a junior political science major, speaks with a potential voter while campaigning for the Student United Party south of the Union Monday morning.



REGIONAL CONFERENCE

Eastern named school of the year

University receives highest honor

BY MAGGIE HAMPER
STAFF REPORTER

The Great Lakes Affiliate of College and University Residence Halls chose Eastern as the school of the year at its annual conference this year.

This is the highest honor a GLAURCH member can receive. The conference took place at the University of Wisconsin La Crosse on Nov. 18. GLAURCH is a regional residence hall organization that encompasses Michigan, Wisconsin, Indiana, Illinois and the Ontario, Canada, region.

This organization seeks to recognize outstanding residence hall organizations as well as to help residence hall organizations get the

SEE HONOR PAGE 7

Awards recognize housing staff

BY JESSICA CANTARELLI
CAMPUS EDITOR

Several members of Eastern's housing staff received prestigious awards at this year's Great Lakes Association of College and University Housing Offices.

Bill Kolacek, complex director of Carman Hall, won the GLASS award, which is the top award at the conference, for his presentation titled "My Super-Sized Life."

The conference, known as GLACUHO, began in the winter of 1973 "to contribute to the improvement of dining services, residential life, residential services and residential facilities provided by housing officers."

GLACUHO is a regional conference involving the states of Ohio, Michigan, Illinois and Indiana.

Kolacek was not the only person from Eastern to win an award.

SEE RECOGNITION PAGE 7

Battle of the Ballots

Votes come in as campaigns continue

BY SUSAN ATWELL
STAFF REPORTER

Polling places, including Carman Hall, Coleman Hall, the Student Recreation Center and the Martin Luther King Jr. University Union, buzzed with students who wanted to vote for their next Student Government officials on Monday.

The election commission, who is approved by the Student Senate and makes sure that all the polling places have ballots, no campaigning within 100 feet of the polls and so on, sat in buildings around campus and waited for students to come charging in to cast their votes.

As candidates stood in the cold, passing out flyers, voters chose sen-

ate members from the United University, the Student United Party or both. Jennifer Roden, a senior chemistry major, voted for people from both parties because she knows people from both sides. She said it was important for people to vote because Student Government makes important decisions.

Most students who voted knew people from the parties they chose. Shannon Steward, a freshman in pre-nursing, voted all United University because her friend was one of the candidates, and she wanted to see her win.

"I used to be in Student Government so I know how important it is to vote," said Rashida

Gordon, a first year MBA student. "These are the people that help shape the future of the campus."

All the candidates she voted for were from the Student United Party because she thought that would be the best choice.

Ryan Berger, a senior political science and pre law major and student body president, said there were approximately 415 voters last fall. His goal for this year is 800, although he is not sure that is going to happen, he said.

"Facebook played a big role in my election, and it is more common for parties to have Web sites now," Berger said.

Voting information

♦ **Who:** Student United Party and United University Party.

♦ **What:** Student Government elections.

♦ **When:** From 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. today. Winners will be announced tonight.

♦ **Where:** Students can vote in Carman Hall, Coleman Hall, the Student Recreation Center and the Martin Luther King Jr. University Union.

♦ **How:** Voting is anonymous and done by using ballots.

SEE BALLOT PAGE 9

TODAY
24
8
Partly cloudy

WEDNESDAY
21
13
Partly cloudy

THURSDAY
26
12
Snow showers

FRIDAY
31
19
Sunny

SATURDAY
37
23
Partly cloudy

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 6, 2005

THE DAILY EASTERN NEWS

The Daily Eastern News is produced by the students of Eastern Illinois University. It is published daily Monday through Friday, in Charleston, Ill., during fall and spring semesters and twice weekly during the summer term except during school vacations or examinations. Subscription price: \$50 per semester, \$30 for summer, \$95 all year. The DEN is a member of The Associated Press, which is entitled to exclusive use of all articles appearing in this paper.

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CAMPUS BRIEFS

There's no place like home

Students who have settled in at school after at least a semester of classes and living away from home might find themselves feeling a bit out of place during break. Trying to get used to life back at home for three weeks can cause students some stress if they've made any lifestyle changes since being on their own. "No Place Like Home For the Holidays" will teach students how to deal with this

stress and enjoy the holidays. The workshop will take place at 7:30 p.m. in the Sullivan Room of the Martin Luther King Jr. University Union.

Textbook return deadlines around approaching

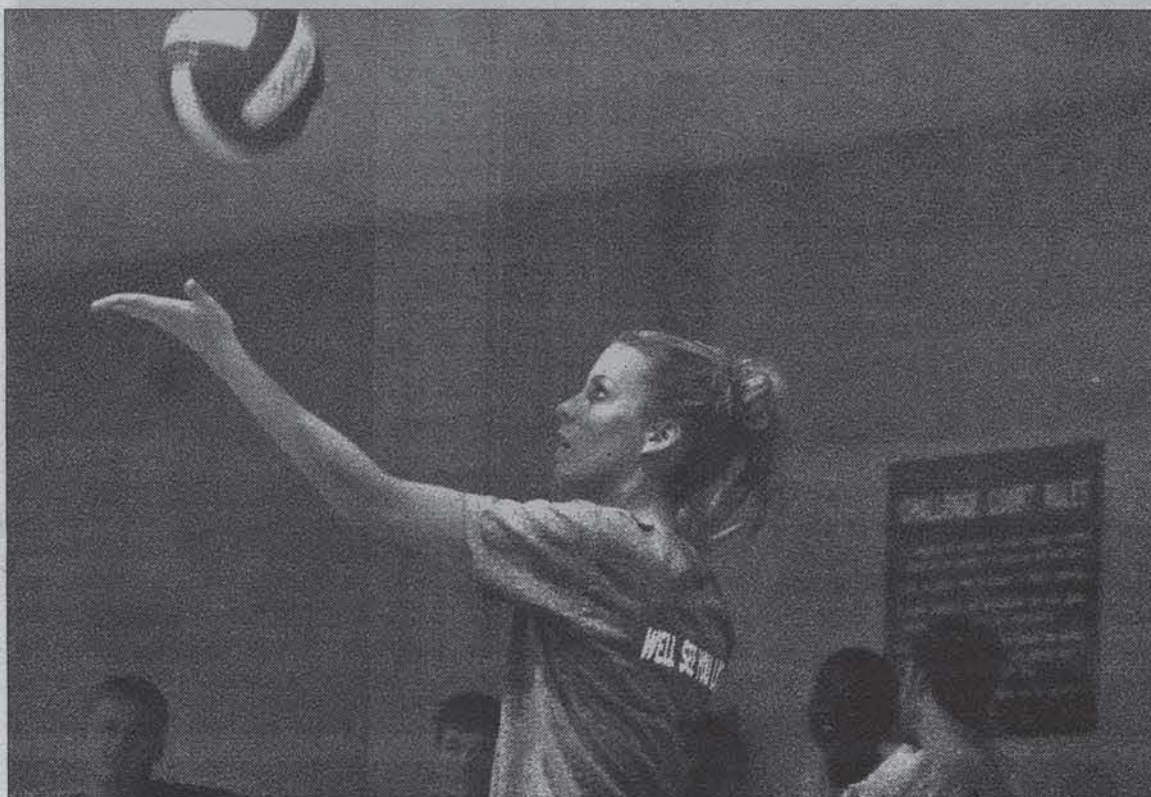
As the fall 2005 semester ends, students will head over to textbook rental to return books before break. Textbook rental will be open Dec.

13-15 from 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. and Dec. 16 from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. The deadline for return is Dec. 16, or students will be charged late fees at \$10 per book.

Viewbook available in Office of Admissions

Copies of this year's EIU Viewbook are currently available in the Office of Admissions located in Old Main.

SERVING IT UP



Chasity Ideus, a senior communications disorders major, serves during the first match of the intramural championship volleyball game in the Student Rec Center Monday evening.

CARRIE HOLLIS/THE DAILY EASTERN NEWS

TODAY'S EVENTS

Early bird housing
All day | Early bird contracting for residence halls and Greek Court. Sign up ends Dec. 16
Housing and Dining Services

Free flu shots

8 a.m. | Shots are now available for all Eastern students. There is a limited supply. Schedule an appointment today by calling 581-2727.
Health Service medical clinic, Human Services Building

Grad studies

2 p.m. | Council on graduate studies meeting
Tuscola Room, Martin Luther King Jr. University Union

ONLINE POLL

This week we ask our readers, "How have your grades been this semester?"

- A) I hope my parents let me stay next semester.
- B) I'm starting to get into my college groove.
- C) This is cake.
- D) I'm ready to graduate.

VOTE @ WWW.THEDAILY EASTERNNEWS.COM



EARLY HEADLINES

Listen to "Wake Up Live" with Rob and Jenn Monday through Friday for morning headlines on 88.9 or at weiuhitmix.net.

CORRECTIONS

Last year's Student Interaction Party was described as "anti-Greek" in Tuesday's edition of *The Daily Eastern News*. The statement was inaccurately worded. The party was simply non-Greek. *The DEN* regrets the error.

COLLEGE & UNIVERSITY NEWS

FDA: Birth control patch has higher risk

BY STEPHANIE TAYLOR
DAILY ILLINI (U. ILLINOIS)

CHAMPAIGN — The Food and Drug Administration approved updated labeling for the Ortho Evra contraceptive patch in November.

Ortho-McNeil Pharmaceutical, Inc., the manufacturers of the contraceptive, now place a warning on the product indicating it contains higher levels of estrogen and progestin hormones than most birth control pills.

Women on Ortho Evra are exposed to 60 percent more estrogen than women taking a 35-microgram birth

control pill, said David Lawrance, medical director at McKinley Health Center. Products with increased estrogen levels heighten the likelihood of blood clots and strokes for some women.

Denise Watkins, a nurse practitioner in the Women's Clinic at McKinley Health Center, said that Ortho Evra was marked originally as a 20-microgram dosage product.

"The labeling is being changed in order to make providers aware that it's not a 20-microgram dose method and to be aware that if you want a lower dosage method that it's not a good option," Watkins said.

Though the estrogen levels of Ortho Evra have proven to be higher, both Planned Parenthood and McKinley Health Center are not concerned about taking anybody off the patch.

"Ortho Evra has just started being studied and checked for problems — as of now, no problems have been recorded in scientific literature," Lawrance said.

Kathie Spegal, director of community affairs at Planned Parenthood in Champaign, said Ortho Evra users' health has been carefully evaluated and the increased estrogen levels shouldn't cause health problems.

WTF?

Ohio man decorates house with synchronized lights

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

MASON, Ohio — Some people at Christmas time are content to deck their homes with evergreen wreaths and holly, and maybe a few strings of lights made to look like glimmering

icicles. Not Carson Williams.

He spends nearly two months hooking up 25,000 lights, then programs them to dance to music.

Hundreds of cars drive by his house north of Cincinnati every night to see the display, which also is

posted on several Internet sites.

"So far, everyone's been really courteous," Williams said on NBC's "Today" show Monday. "I told the neighbors, I told the sheriff, if they get any complaints, I'll shut it down, because the neighbors are more

important to me than the Christmas lights. I do the Christmas lights for myself."

This is the third year Williams has assembled the display, which grows every year. He said he merely built on a suggestion from his wife, Sherry.



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If you have an interest in advertising in *The DEN*, please feel free to contact us at 581-2812 or by e-mail DENads@eiu.com.

FIND A MISTAKE?

Let us know if you find a factual error in *The DEN* so we can provide the correct information to other readers. Contact the editor at 581-2812 or DENeic@gmail.com.

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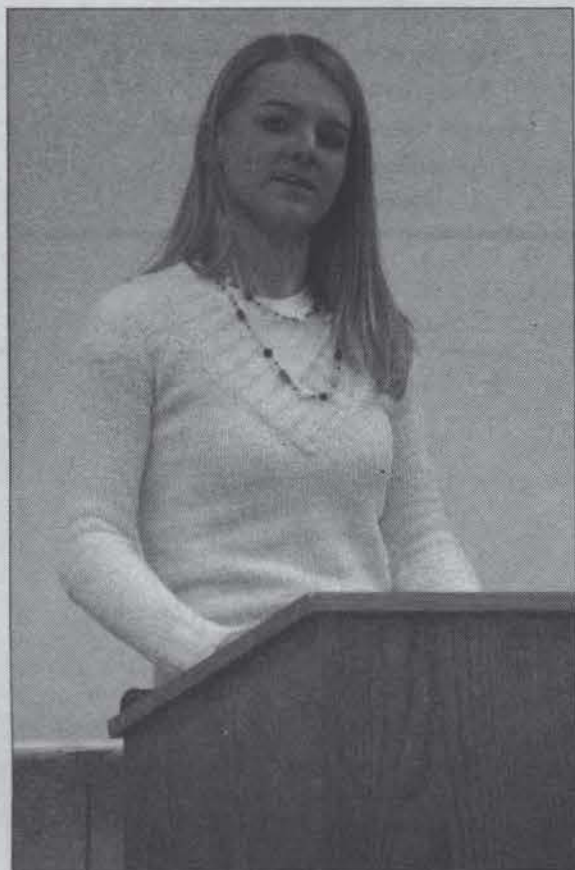
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SWEET REWARDS



ERIC HILTNER/THE DAILY EASTERN NEWS

Freshman mathematics major, Amanda Truttmann delivers her speech about the health benefits of chocolate Monday evening for the Betty Balasi Speaking Competition in Coleman Hall.

'Private Benjamin' challenges several 1970s female stereotypes

Movie focuses on depiction of females as being lazy

By JIM ALLOCCO
STAFF REPORTER

Imagine leaving an upper class Philadelphia lifestyle as a "spoiled Jewish princess" for a life in the U.S. Army.

This is the story that the comedic film "Private Benjamin," starring Goldie Hawn, brought to people in attendance to the last film screening of the semester presented by the Women's Studies Gender, Film and Popcorn Series program Monday night.

This final film shown by the department had the smallest turnout with 10 people, compared with the average of 25 people that showed up to "Thirteen" and "Born Into Brothels" earlier this semester, said Susan Wood, a health and women's studies professor.

The 1980 film focuses on several stereotypes from the late 1970s, the most prevalent being that of females depicted as lazy

and having sheltered lifestyles.

At the time the film was released, it challenged many female stereotypes, Wood said.

It was different for the female main character to not be "saved by a prince on a white horse," she said. "At the time, there were people that thought it was anti-marriage or anti-male."

After the Vietnam War, "Stripes" and "Private Benjamin" paved the way for other military movies such as "Platoon" and "Full Metal Jacket," she said.

Penka Skachkova, director of the Women's Studies and Women's Resource Center, said the film reminded her of when she had to go through mandatory military training in her native country of Bulgaria, a former communist nation.

"I sympathized with everything (Private Benjamin) passed through," she said.

Skachkova added that the film also was one of the first to bring forth the reality of sexual harassment in the military and business industry.

After dealing with sexism and sexual harassment, Benjamin also overcomes an

"I really enjoyed the portrayal of a woman empowering herself ..."

JACKIE STENGELE,
SOPHOMORE HEALTH STUDIES MAJOR

oppressive, cheating fiancé to end the film.

"The ending is kind of ambiguous," said Chris Mitchell, a professor of theatre arts and women studies, comparing it with endings of films today.

The ending doesn't let the audience know exactly which path Benjamin is going to choose in her life, he said.

"I really enjoyed the portrayal of a woman empowering herself and not having to rely on a man to be successful," said Jackie Stengele, a sophomore health studies major. "I liked her maturity from her familiar family and her ability to create her own way of life."

The Women's Studies Department plans on having several films next semester, including a drama, a documentary and a comedy, Wood said.

City council to discuss Web site that displays legal records, vote on two annexations

By KRISTEN LARSEN
CITY EDITOR

Eastern students might have a problem obtaining a job after they graduate because of a Web site containing their legal records.

The Web site, judici.com, allows the public to look up names of people who have a record in Coles County.

Charleston has found that employers are using this Web site to see if graduates from Eastern have obtained a record while at school.

On this site, employers can see if their future employees had disturbed the peace, received drinking tickets or minor infractions over the years.

"By giving ordinance violation, young people are able to have a second chance because it is not a

"Going to college is part of growing up, and part of growing up is making mistakes."

MAYOR JOHN INYART

criminal violation," said City Attorney Brian Bower.

During Tuesday night's meeting, the Charleston City Council will vote on an ordinance that would expunge a student's record.

According to the ordinance, if the court finds that the defendant is not likely to commit further ordinance violations, and removing the record would best serve the defending not to receive a conviction, the court may

enter an Order for Supervision.

"Going to college is part of growing up, and part of growing up is making mistakes," Mayor John Inyart said.

For students to use this ordinance to their advantage they need to file a petition with the courts and if qualifications such as passage of time with no other violations are met, they can be placed on supervision, Bower said.

Along with voting on the ordinance, the council will also vote on two annexations of Greyhawk Subdivision, Phase 2 and Arrowhead Ridge Subdivision Phase 4. This will allow these two subdivisions to be included in the city.

The council will also authorize an Intergovernmental Agreement with the City of Mattoon for the Water System Distribution Interconnection.

City council agenda

- ◆ **Item #1:** Ordinance to expunge student records from judici.com
- ◆ **Item #2:** Annexation of Greyhawk Subdivision Phase 2
- ◆ **Item #3:** Annexation of Arrowhead Ridge Phase 4
- ◆ **Item #4:** Intergovernmental agreement with the City of Mattoon for the Water System Distribution

This will connect the water plants of both Charleston and Mattoon so in case of any emergencies, either city would be able to use the water supply of the other.

A public hearing will be held at 7:15 p.m. about the annexation of Greyhawk Subdivision, Phase 2.

The city council will meet at 7:30 p.m. in the second floor meeting room of the Municipal Building.

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Happy Holidays from EIU Pharmacy!

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EIU Pharmacy will be closed from DECEMBER 17th through JANUARY 2nd.

More Information? Call 581-7779

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"Tell the truth and don't be afraid."
OPINION

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 6, 2005

COMMENTARY



AARON SEIDLITZ
 EDITOR IN CHIEF

**A REALITY ALMOST
 HARD TO BELIEVE**

I don't know what is more surreal: Saddam Hussein yelling at witnesses of the prosecution during his trial or just the fact that I'm watching this man while he is on trial.

The only reasonable reason President George W. Bush and his cabinet ran by The Penguin (i.e. Vice President Cheney) have for invading Iraq and continuing the struggle over there is Hussein.

The weapons of mass destruction charges have practically been thrown out the window, so there goes any worldly threat that Bush can say he saved millions of people from.

"The surreal part is that a man of Hussein's stature is being tried, and we can watch clips of it on television."

But still there are the deplorable actions of Hussein and his brutal government. It would be easy to say that there are no denying the reports of women being raped and men being tortured under

Hussein's rule in Iraq, but the man himself seems to have no problem denying those reports while on trial.

The cover of www.cnn.com today showed a picture of Hussein raising his hand defiantly, with one of his cronies in the background doing the very same thing, while a prosecutor's witness told of some of the horrific things he had seen in person.

Hussein was quoted as saying that the witness's testimony was "laughable." Maybe that is as telling a comment as any, because nowhere in between the words "women and rape" and "men and torture" do I even slightly chuckle.

But that is the kind of man we are watching, as he is being tried for his life's actions as dictator of Iraq.

The surreal part is that a man of Hussein's stature is being tried, and we can watch clips of it on television. I'm more used to the person in the courtroom who is on my television being a celebrity figure from the United States, perhaps O.J. Simpson or Michael Jackson.

But this trial and this man are not something we should be laughing at or even dismissing as something of not great importance.

The previously mentioned trials of O.J. and M.J. were humorous solely for the atmosphere they created. There was a media circus, there were rabid fans of each deploring the justice system and insisting the innocence of each.

But this trial, the one concerning a man who may have murdered thousands and may have created torture chambers to demoralize enemies, is not something to not think twice about.

Take one simple passage from CNN's latest report from the trial; with this instance concerning the testimony of a citizen of the Iraqi city of Dujail named Ahmen Hassan Mohammed. He spoke of some of the ways torture was executed in Iraq under Hussein's reign.

"They broke him. Broke his arm, his leg. This is during torture. They also shot at his foot, all of that during interrogation. He died under torture. They broke all of his body parts."

This is the man Hussein said was lying and who's testimony was "laughable." Think twice about that, please.

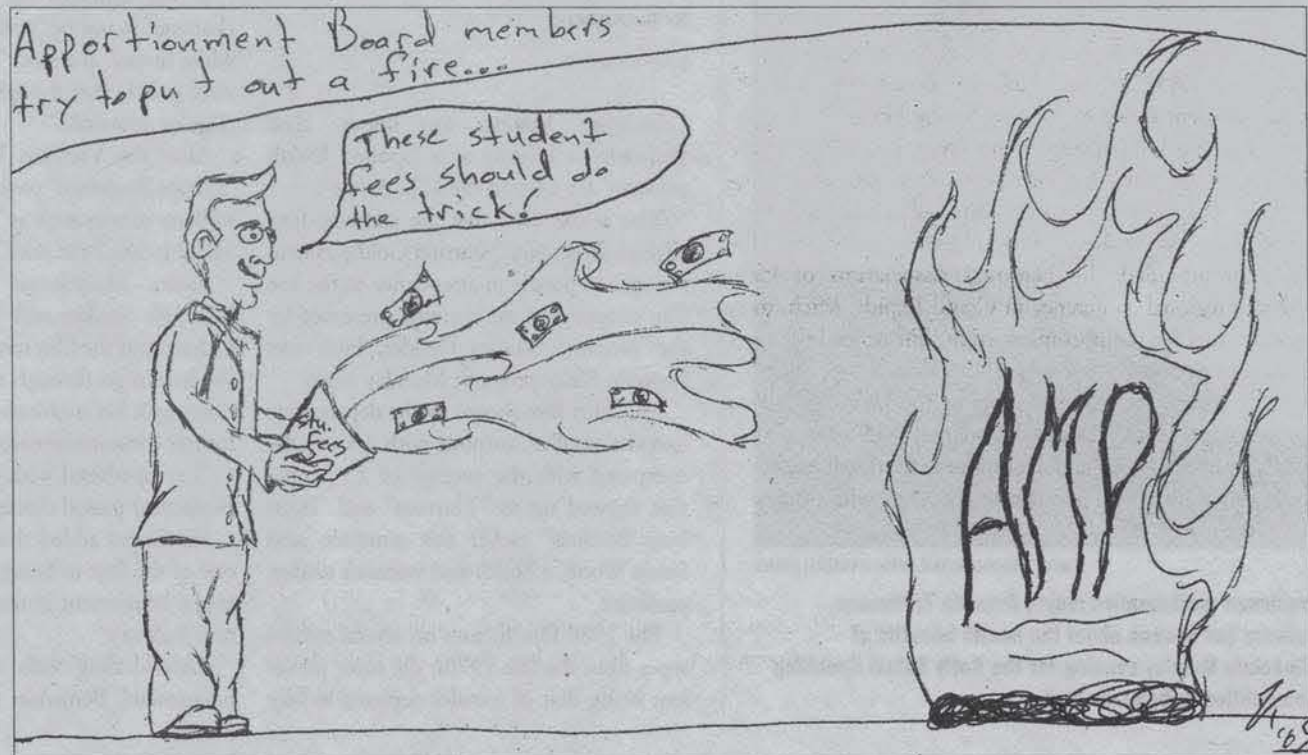
Do not underestimate the significance of these accusations and the actions the accusations surround.

Hussein's actions are deplorable things that many Americans just simply cannot comprehend. And I can't blame you if you don't comprehend these sorts of things, because I know that I can't comprehend them.

They are just that horrible.

Seidlitz, a senior journalism major, can be reached at DENeic@gmail.com.

EDITORIAL CARTOON BY DAVID THILL



EDITORIAL

AB should work on avoiding bias

In last Friday's edition of *The Daily Eastern News*, several members of the Apportionment Board addressed the possibility of bias on the board. However, by saying past involvement on student fee-funded boards helps members better understand the boards, AB and its members have missed the point.

In a *Daily Eastern News* article titled "Apportionment Board responds to appearance of bias" that ran on Friday, Maria Santoyo said her former position as University Board chair "makes you more knowledgeable about what's being presented at the meeting."

But isn't it members' job to be knowledgeable regardless of previous experience on a fee-funded board?

The AB has 15 members, eight voting members, which include three students and two advisers.

The AB works to decide where student fee money should best be spent. This is its sole purpose, and its members have a responsibility to the student body to be completely informed of the issues they address and the processes of the boards with which they work.

Furthermore, members of AB acknowledge a perceived conflict of interest. AB's bylaws state it unacceptable to be a member of AB and a fee-funded board simultaneously, and it

At issue

Members of the Apportionment Board addressed the possibility of bias.

Our stance

All AB members should know as much about each fee-funded board as they can before voting on the amount of fees those groups will receive, regardless of being a former member of that group. If AB members understand that there is a possibility of a member being bias then they should work out a solution. That could help avoid any bias.

is true that this semester's board is not in violation of this. However, several members of this and past boards have worked with and even held influential positions with the University Board, Student Senate, Residence Hall Association and Student Recreation Center.

Several members acknowledged the possibility for bias in interviews for the article.

Mark Bates, chair of the tuition and fee review committee, even admitted that, had two of the members in question not been Santoyo and Alex Robb, who worked closely with UB's promotional publication *The Pulse*, he would be cautious in looking for bias among members with such ties.

This recognition alone should signal to AB members that they should put in the extra effort to become familiar with how fee-funded boards work.

It would be convenient to assume ex-members of UB, RHA or Student Senate would guide AB in the right direction. But as non-voting member Mark Bates said he wouldn't assume bias in AB members, they should not assume the absence of bias either.

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

YOUR TURN: LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

The staff at *The Daily Eastern News* wants to know what students think about current events, campus issues, college living and anything else students would like to address.

Editorial cartoons run everyday, while guest columns run once a week on Wednesday. Anyone is welcome to write a column or draw a cartoon, but it is at the editor's discretion when to run the column or the cartoon.

COLUMNISTS NEEDED

Have an opinion? We want to hear it! *The Daily Eastern News* is looking for students interested in voicing opinions on campus, state, national and international issues through columns. *The DEN* reserves the Wednesday guest column spot for students, faculty and members of the community. Guest columns should be a minimum of 550 words and can go up to 600 words.

CARTOONISTS WANTED

The DEN is interested in recruiting cartoonists that display artistic ability, particularly caricatures and tasteful humor as well as address campus issues. A grasp of the news and current events is necessary for cartoonists to be effective. Columns, cartoons and letters can be submitted at room 1811 of Buzzard Hall.

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. We reserve the right to edit letters for length. 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 DENeic@gmail.com.

Student Senate to decide on distribution of Spring Fling funds

By LAUREN MOORE
STUDENT GOVERNMENT EDITOR

Student Senate will vote Wednesday on the additional allocations of \$11,650 to the University Board approved by the Apportionment Board for hosting Spring Fling.

Jon Braden, UB's special events chair, has been researching novelty acts and companies for two to three months.

"We're looking for the lowest cost for the activities so we can utilize the money we have," Braden said.

Braden attended the National Association of Campus Activities regional conference in Grand Rapids, Mich. to come up with ideas for the upcoming event, but he said the national conference will offer more suggestions for UB.

"In February, we will be going to the national conference where schools from all over the country will attend," Braden said. "It is much bigger and a lot more vendors will be there, and it also allows us to find new acts and arrange with other schools at a lower cost."

Although most of the activities aren't set, Braden said a few activities are already scheduled for the event.

"We for sure are going to have Extreme Air, which is a skydiving simulator, an oxygen parlor, t-shirts, and hamburgers and fries," Braden said.

The theme of "Connecting the Past with the Future" for



CARRIE HOLLIS/THE DAILY EASTERN NEWS

Students gather around the "Grab N Go" this past August during Quakin' in the Quad. Spring Fling is similar to Quakin' and Braden is expecting the same turnout since it will be the last big event of the year.

Spring Fling will be accompanied with a diner theme for the food that is served.

"We plan to have hamburgers and french fries as well as milkshakes, slushies and fountain drinks," Braden said.

Spring Fling is said to be similar to Quakin' in the Quad, which is usually held in the fall, and Braden is expecting the same turnout since it will be the last big event of the year.

"It's the last chance for students to come together and a chance for those who will be graduating to have one last time to hang out," Braden said.

With six new bills brought up at last Wednesday's meeting, Student Senate will have to decide if this event should be given the allocation issued by AB.

"I understand it's a tough job for Student Government, and I feel we're very responsible and do a lot of research and hard work," Braden said. "It's hard to decide where student money goes, but I'm hoping (Student Government) will trust us."

Spring Fling is planned for April 29, 2006, and will be held outside if the weather is appropriate. If not, Braden said McAfee or the Student Recreation Center would be alternatives.

Students express class opinions through teacher evaluations

By KRISTY MELLENDORF
STAFF REPORTER

Students across campus are walking into classrooms to find their professors placing a set of standardized forms and pencils on their desks. But the students aren't taking a test for which they studied diligently.

They are preparing to fill out the Purdue student evaluations, named for the university that created them.

Generally comprised of approximately 15 questions, the evaluations give the students a chance to express

their opinions about the professor and the class.

"The department doesn't allow (the professors) to administer them," said Christine McCormick, a psychology professor. "Last year, I had a graduate student administer them to my classes and then collect them."

Once the students have filled out the evaluations, the professor doesn't immediately see them.

"They initially are sent to the testing center and held there until the following semester," said Gary Foster, chair of the Sociology Department. "At the beginning of

the following semester they return to the department chairs; then the chairs release them to the individual faculty members."

The faculty members receive a scored printout of the multiple-choice questions, as well as copies of all the written comments.

"I generally read all of the written comments that I receive," said Eric Brollinger, a professor in the Biological Sciences Department. "I frequently update my class on the basis of those comments if they have merit. Although I understand why there aren't more (written com-

ments). I would like to see more."

Sometimes the professors administer their own evaluations in addition to the Purdue evaluation.

"I do my own evaluation to get feedback on the class, especially if I change an aspect of it," McCormick said.

The evaluations from Purdue have been at Eastern for nearly 10 years, and have helped to bring about change.

"Additions have been made in respect to the questions that the faculty can select over the years, especially in the way of technology,"

Foster said.

Individual faculty members are not the only ones that use the evaluations; department chairs also use them.

"It is the responsibility of the faculty member to include the summary in their annual portfolio for consideration," Foster said. "They are used annually by the department chairs, the department personnel community and the dean to evaluate the faculty. I would tell students to take them seriously and to respond honestly, because these are anonymous evaluations."

Local undercover police officers give citations to minors during weekend

STAFF REPORT

Last weekend marks the last stress-free weekend in many students' minds before finals week. For many, this means the last time to party and just have a relaxing time.

Hearing that there were parties going on around the area, Charleston Police decided to

send out undercover officers.

"There was no particular reason that we decided to go out this weekend," said Deputy Chief Dave Chambers. "We just had enough information and decided to investigate."

On Friday, officers were sent to 1426 Ninth St. where they conducted an alcohol compliance check.

"We went in to check that the residents were complying with the alcohol laws," said Police Chief Welch.

Residents were cited for gift and sale of alcohol to minors, along with minor possession of alcohol. In addition, they were cited for selling alcohol without a license and possession of a keg without a permit.

Officers were sent out again on Saturday to conduct an alcohol compliance check at 1020 First St. Residents there were also cited for gift and sale of alcohol to minors, along with selling alcohol without a license.

Between the two houses, 40 individuals were cited for purchase and acceptance of alcohol by a minor.



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Finalists present essays for money, \$50 cash prize

BY MATT POLI
ACTIVITIES EDITOR

Five students will present their theater arts research essays Wednesday, but only one will walk away with a \$50 cash prize.

The First Annual Theatre Arts Undergraduate Research Symposium was created in conjunction with the English Department to promote scholarship in theatre arts and criticism, said Christopher Mitchell, assistant theater history and literature professor.

"We want to recognize outstanding students and exercise the academic side of theatre arts," Mitchell said.

Originally, 10 students submitted essays, but Mitchell and Chris Wixson, assistant English professor, chose five to present their writings at the symposium.

"This is a way for undergrads to show off their work and connect different departments," Wixson said.

The finalists selected are Eric Thornton, a senior English major, for his essay on Anton Chekhov's "The Seagull;" Katy Dwiggin, a senior English major, for her essay on William Shakespeare's "Love's Labours Lost;" Kathryn Smith, a senior English major, for her writings on Shakespeare's "A Midsummer Night's Dream;" Scott Podraza, a junior theater arts major, for his work on Henrik Ibsen's "A Doll's House" and Traci Hillstrom, a junior theater arts minor, for her essay on Ibsen's "A Doll House."

A distinguished panel of professors from both departments will listen to the finalists' presentations, then select one of the five essays as the Best Theater Arts Undergraduate Research Paper of 2005-06.

"We pride ourselves on being generalists," Mitchell said. "We're able to do a variety of specialties such as lighting, scenery and writing."

The research symposium will take place at 7 p.m. at the Village Theatre.

Faculty Senate to hear memos from Lord, Hencken, other committee members

STAFF REPORT

Eastern's Faculty Senate will finish up the semester with a meeting today in Booth Library.

The senate will hear different communications including a memorandum from Blair Lord, provost and vice president for academic affairs, about the renaming of the Office of Grants and Research to the Office of Research and Sponsored Programs.

The minutes from the Nov. 10 Intercollegiate Athletic Board will be read and the minutes from the Nov. 15 Faculty Senate meeting will be voted on for approval.

The senate will also hear a memorandum from Eastern President Lou Hencken about the statement of faculty-student

consensual relations. Faculty Senate recently passed the statement that states that these relationships make it difficult for students to learn and can lead to charges of discrimination in grading from other students.

Old business for the senate includes reports from different committees within the senate.

The faculty-staff committee, the student-faculty relations committee and the executive committee will be among the groups giving reports to the senate.

The senate will also hear the provost's report and a report from the faculty forum. Student Senate representative Jill David will also address the senate.

The Faculty Senate will meet at 2 p.m. today in Booth Library Conference Room 4440.

STATE STORY

Blagojevich gives management employees 4 percent raise

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

SPRINGFIELD—More than 8,000 state administrators working for Gov. Rod Blagojevich got a 4 percent raise Monday.

Blagojevich sent a letter to nonunion managers announcing the pay increase, effective last Friday, and thanking the employees in his Cabinet agencies for their sacrifices.

The so-called "merit comp" employ-

ees have gone without salary increases for three years while the state struggled with a budget crisis. They lost more ground in 2003 when they had to start paying half of the 8 percent paid into their pensions each year.

As Blagojevich and state lawmakers wrestled with multibillion-dollar deficits, the managers went without raises even as tens of thousands of union employees got pay boosts. Blagojevich negotiated a new union pact last year

that again increased wages, although at a lower rate.

"We asked for shared sacrifice from interests all across the state," Blagojevich said in the letter. "You went above and beyond the call of duty: You worked harder, you began paying the employee share of the pension contribution, and you went without pay raises for several years."

"The people of Illinois owe you an enormous debt of gratitude."

The increase for 8,000 to 9,000 employees will cost \$14 million through the end of the fiscal year June 30, spokeswoman Abby Ottenhoff said.

"It's due in large part to cuts in spending and consolidations and efficiencies that have saved hundreds of millions of dollars over the last three years," Ottenhoff said. "The estimate on head count reductions alone is \$800 million over the last three years."

The payroll under Blagojevich has dropped by 12,000 workers. But a hassle-free 2007 budget was assured last spring when the governor and lawmakers agreed to skip \$1.2 billion in payments to the state's pension systems over two years.

Blagojevich has claimed that changes to the way pensions are doled out have saved enough money to allow the state to skip the two years of payments.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Justice Village President pleads innocent to fraud charges

CHICAGO—Justice Village President Melvin D. VanAllen Jr. pleaded not guilty Monday to charges of bankruptcy fraud and illegally depositing \$500,000 cash in small amounts into his bank account in an effort to dodge bank reporting requirements.

After VanAllen's arraignment, U.S. District Judge David Coar released him on his own recognizance and scheduled his next court appearance for Feb. 24, according to Randall Samborn, spokesman for the U.S. attorney's office.

The 32-count indictment accuses VanAllen of failing to list assets and income in a personal bankruptcy case filed in January 2004. It also alleges VanAllen illegally structured multiple

STATE BRIEFS

cash deposits to his bank account in amounts less than \$10,000. Federal law requires banks to export deposits of \$10,000 or greater.

Republicans avoid battles with underticket candidates

CHICAGO—Although Republicans are headed for a primary fight next year at the top of the ticket, no intra-party battles loom for lower-level offices.

The Republican State Central Committee stopped short of formally endorsing candidates for the underticket during a meeting Saturday, but members say they support a slate of candidates for those constitutional offices.

That slate is Tazewell County State's Attorney Stewart Umholtz for attorney general; state Sen. Dan Rutherford of Chenoa for secretary of state; state Sen. Christine Radogno of Lemont for treasurer; and state Sen. Carole Pankau of Roselle for comptroller.

Naperville man pleads not guilty in relatives' deaths

CHICAGO—A Naperville man pleaded not guilty Monday to charges that he killed his parents, his sister and her husband after allegedly stealing more than \$80,000 from his family.

Eric C. Hanson, 28, is charged with first-degree murder, aggravated kidnapping, home invasion, theft and mail fraud. He entered his not guilty plea to all the charges in DuPage County Circuit Court in Wheaton after a brief arraignment, his public defender

Elizabeth Reed said. Hanson has denied any involvement in the deaths of his sister, Katherine Hanson-Tsao, 31, and her husband, Jimmy Tsao, 34, of Aurora; and his parents Terrance Hanson, 57, and Mary Lynn Hanson, 55, of Naperville. Their bodies were found in the Tsao's Aurora home on Sept. 29, but authorities said the Hansons were killed in their own nearby home.

Former Aurora gymnastics coach sentenced in abuse case

WHEATON—A former coach at a gymnastics school in Aurora was sentenced Monday to 20 years in prison for molesting several girls during their lessons.

DuPage County prosecutors had sought a 35-year sentence for Michael Cardamone, who was convicted in March of molesting seven gymnasts between 1999 and 2002.

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RECOGNITION:

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Tracy Cunningham, resident director of Taylor, Lawson and Pemberton halls, won a Top 10 Program Award for her presentation "Tunnel of Oppression."

"Basically what we did through committee work for our regional association was put together a two-hour program where we acted out several kinds of mini plays," Cunningham said. "We had one that dealt with homosexuality, with a lot of stuff with the coming out process, a racial skit and a skit on trans-gendered issues."

Cunningham and her committee members from across the state worked for the whole semester developing the presentation via telephone calls and e-mail.

"The 'Tunnel of Oppression' is something a lot of schools do, they do a wheel of oppression," she said. "We incorporated acting into the tunnel. This was a way we took acting the part out and did skits while we discussed the kind of impact of oppression."

This presentation was important to Cunningham because she said it incorporated a lot of issues students are dealing with these days.

"I think it reflects very well (on Eastern) that we won," Cunningham said. "Eastern was very much represented and is now looked at as a premier institution, especially in the student life aspect."



JESSICA CANTARELLI/THE DAILY EASTERN NEWS

Jody Stone, assistant director of housing, holds his outstanding service award that he won at the Great Lakes Association of College and University Housing Officers Conference Nov. 11 in Indianapolis.

"'Tunnel of Oppression' was very powerful and opens your eyes," said Mark Hudson, director of Housing and Dining Services. "It's a very cool presentation and has had a significant impact."

Hudson said he also thinks the recognition Eastern received at the conference will help the

organizations hold themselves to higher standards.

Jody Stone, assistant director of housing, won the Outstanding Service Award, which goes to someone within the GLACUHO area who has provided significant contributions at their institution.

Stone was nominated by

Kolacek in late September and was honored to receive the award.

"I said 'wow' when I heard," Stone said. "There are so many people involved in the organization, and outstanding people involved and just to be nominated for the award, it puts you in a group of people you look up to."

Stone felt "humbled" by having his peers recognize his efforts.

Stone serves as the exhibitor liaison on the board of directors for GLACUHO.

"Other things they look at besides what you've done for GLACUHO and what you've done on your own campus is for promotion of inclusiveness and appreciation of differences," Stone said. "And the housing staff is focused on diversity and it provides leadership in that area."

Stone has worked at Eastern since 1995 and was a student here from 1989-95, earning both his bachelor's and master's degrees.

"I love the challenge of trying to take care of day-to-day challenges and build a resident life program, and we have one of the premier resident life programs in the nation," he said. "If you're going to do something, you have to be the best you can be at it, and I would love for our program, which is a team of a lot of people, to be known as one of the best in the nation."

Amy Price, area director, and Doug Howell, resident director of Thomas Hall, were also elected to the board of directors for GLACUHO.

HONOR:

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

resources they need to become and remain outstanding.

Any school that is both a member of and in good standing with GLAURCH can submit a bid to be considered for the award. Six schools, including Southern Illinois University at Carbondale, placed a bid for the award this year, said Jeff Flaxman, Eastern's RHA national communications coordinator.

Before the conference took place, GLAURCH narrowed the choice down to two schools: Ball State University in Muncie, Ind., and Eastern.

At the conference, the national communications coordinator from each of the 58 schools that attended voted based on a previous question and answer session. Eastern won by more than 50 percent of the votes, Flaxman said.

Eastern has been a member of GLACURH since the conference was founded in 1975, and has attended this conference frequently.

At the conference, delegates chosen from each school exhibit presentations on differing aspects of new approaches to difficulties their residence hall association has faced.

"They put on leadership presentations that these delegates can learn and bring back to their own schools," said Jody Stone, assistant director of housing.

Students leave with the knowledge of neighboring schools and are free to apply these approaches back at their schools.

Out of the 25 delegates who applied, 13 were chosen to represent Eastern at this conference based on their availability and desire to attend.

These delegates included Brittany Niwa, an RHA voter for Carman Hall. She said she thought the most influential part of attending the conference was "going to the programs knowing no one and meeting people and getting input from them."

Karen Miller, who frequently attends RHA meetings, also attended the conference.

"I went because I wanted to improve my leadership skills, meet new people and go to a conference because I was told that they were a lot of fun," Miller said. "I wanted to experience it for myself."

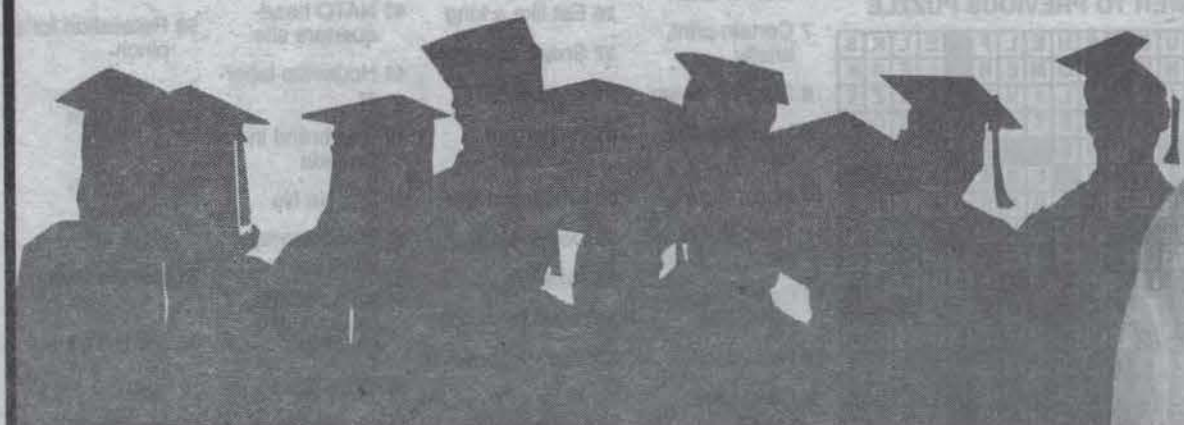
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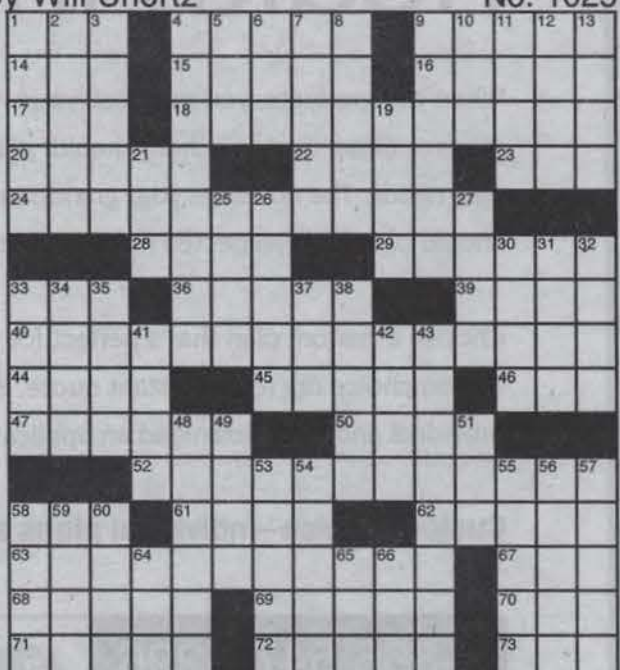
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 - 21 "___ been real!"
 - 25 River of Aragón
 - 26 Eat like a king
 - 27 Snack in a shell
 - 30 Wyle of "ER"
 - 31 Richard of "Chicago"
 - 32 Whirling water
 - 33 Decked out
 - 34 Take on
 - 35 Sales tag words
 - 37 "Am ___ believe ...?"
 - 38 Uncle's wife
 - 41 Follow closely
 - 42 Paddler's target
 - 43 NATO headquarters site
 - 48 Housatonic laborer
 - 49 Gas brand in Canada
 - 51 ___ Na Na
 - 53 Birdie score, often
 - 54 N.F.L. coach called "Papa Bear"
 - 55 Wear down
 - 56 "Snowy" bird
 - 57 Suffers from sunburn
 - 58 Retaliation for a pinch
 - 59 Hefty horn
 - 60 Quickly, in memos
 - 64 China's Lao-___
 - 65 Adherent's suffix
 - 66 Agent's due

ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE

C	L	U	B	S	H	E	L	F	E	L	K	S			
L	I	N	E	H	O	M	E	R	L	E	A	K			
E	L	I	E	A	L	I	V	E	F	A	Z	E			
F	I	T	T	O	B	E	T	I	E	S	O	W			
			R	U	B	S		P	A	T	H	O	S		
C	H	E	E	R	Y		E	R	A	S	E				
H	O	L	D	S		C	R	A	S	H	D	I	E	T	
E	P	A		D	O	W	N	S		H	A	H			
F	I	N	A	L	E	D	I	T		A	B	O	V	E	
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A	A	A		T	U	R	N	T	H	E	T	I	D	E	
G	I	Z	A		R	O	U	T	E		M	A	I	D	
U	K	E	S		R	O	L	D	E	R		A	G	E	
P	U	S	H		S	E	E	R	S		N	O	I	S	Y



Puzzle by Kurt Mengel and Jan-Michele Gianette

Judge upholds some charges against Rep. Delay

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

AUSTIN, Texas - A judge dismissed a conspiracy charge Monday against Rep. Tom DeLay but refused to throw out the far more serious allegations of money-laundering, dashing the congressman's hopes for now of reclaiming his post as House majority leader.

Texas Judge Pat Priest, who is presiding over the case against the Republican, issued the ruling after a hearing late last month in which DeLay's attorney argued that the indictment was fatally flawed.

The ruling means the case will move toward a trial next year.

Scientists ponder new discoveries from Titanic wreck

FALMOUTH, Mass. - The discovery of two large pieces of the Titanic's hull on the ocean floor indicates that the fabled luxury liner sank faster than previously thought, researchers said Monday.

The hull pieces were a crucial part of the ship's structure and make up a bottom section of the vessel that was missing when the wreck was first located in 1985, the researchers said.

NATIONAL BRIEFS



After the bottom section of the hull broke free, the bow and stern split, said Roger Long, a naval architect who analyzed the find. The stern, which was still buoyant and filled with survivors, likely plunged toward the ocean floor about five minutes later.

"It would have been immediately terrifying," he said.

Previous researchers believed the ship broke in just two major pieces, the bow and stern, which was how the sinking was depicted in the 1997 film version of the catastrophe. David Brown, a Titanic historian, estimated before the latest find that the stern took 20 minutes to slide into the water.

Bloomberg spent more than \$77 million on re-election

NEW YORK - Billionaire Mayor Michael Bloomberg spent more than \$77 million to get re-elected, breaking the \$74 million record he set in 2001, according to campaign finance reports released Monday.

The spending amounts to more than \$103 per vote.

Bloomberg was elected in a landslide Nov. 8 over Democrat Fernando Ferrer, who had trouble raising money and spent just over \$9 million during the race.



ERIC HILTNER/THE DAILY EASTERN NEWS

Sherri Smith, a sophomore family and consumer sciences major, hands out fliers while campaigning for the United University Party in the library quad Monday morning. Polls close at 4 p.m. today and election results will be announced tonight.

BALLOT:

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Others have noticed this trend too, such as Bettina Hutchens, a junior psychology major.

"I noticed that there are now places on Facebook and through instant messaging that

help people to decide which party they want to choose from if they are not already familiar with the Student Government," she said.

The polls close at 4 p.m. today and winners will be announced tonight. The decision for the next Student Government candidates will be revealed tonight as elections come to an end.

CLASSIFIEDS

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NON SEQUITUR BY WILEY MILLER



BOONDOCKS BY AARON MCGRUDER



BALANCE:

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

to me to be a surreal sight.

A guard on the opposing team had taken the inbounds pass and chucked a 75-foot shot from the opposite free throw line and banked the shot in. My heart sank like it does every time I realize that I have to eat Ramen noodles again.

Six years later when I was on the high school team, my coach (who was the coach at the time in 1998) described that loss as probably one of the toughest losses of his career. A player on that team who went on to play college basketball at Marquette, talked to our team my senior year and said that he has thought about that loss every day since.

Not every sporting event will come down to a final play, but when they do, they are moments that will be remembered.

Matt Daniels is a sophomore journalism major. If you'd like to give him memory that he would remember forever you can set it up at cumud1@eiu.edu.

DANIELS:

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

new players.

"You're still getting a feel for your team," Cronin said.

A difficulty that OVC teams have had in the past was scheduling home games in their nonconference schedules. The balanced schedule adds two more home games for each team.

Steinbrecher had another reason for going to the balanced schedule.

"The first thing was having our regular season champion have a great deal of integrity," he said. "This does that."

Neubauer is taking a wait-and-see attitude.

"At this point, I want to experience it before I decide how I feel about it," he said.

Something that could be in the OVC's future is adding another team.

Expanding to twelve teams would allow the conference to split into two divisions and play division teams twice and non-division teams once for a 16-game regular season. But Steinbrecher doesn't want to expand for the schedule's sake.

"You don't want to add a member for ease of schedule," he said. "You want to add a team because it fits your conference."

SWIMMING

Senese places in seven Invite events

Teammates run 'out of gas' at IUPUI

By JOE WALSTI
STAFF REPORTER

The Panthers' men's and women's swimming and diving team both finished in the middle of the pack at the House of Champions Invitational at University of Indiana-Purdue at Indianapolis over the weekend.

The men finished in third place out of six teams and the women placed fourth out of seven teams at the annual meet.

The men's team was anchored by

their performance in the freestyle relays.

The Panthers captured the 200, 400 and 800 meter free relays. Bill Senese and Chris Miller each won individual races, with Senese taking the 50 free and 100 back while Miller won the 100 fly.

The best showing by the women's team was third place finishes by Patty Young in the 200 breast and the 200 medley relay.

"We didn't really swim great," said Eastern Head Coach Ray Padovan. "We were just trying to shake-off our Thanksgiving break rest. That affected some people."

At the end of the third shift on Saturday some people were really tired; we were running out of gas."

Senese was a bright spot for the

Panthers at the Invitational. He not only took first in the 50 free and 100 back, but he also was a member of the three freestyle relay teams that finished first.

His 21.16 time in the 50 free was his season-best.

He also placed second in the 200 back and was a member of the second-place 400 medley relay team.

Each swimmer can participate in a max of seven races, three individual and four relays. Senese finished in first or second in all seven races he participated in.

"Bill had a great meet," Padovan said. "It was by far his season's best."

The men's team scored 603 team points to take third, 15 points behind IUPUI, who finished sec-

ond. Ball State won the men's meet with 771 points.

Western Illinois finished in fourth place with 575 points and Valparaiso and Butler rounded out the bottom of the meet with 458 and 181 points, respectively.

Ball State also won the women's meet, scoring 930 team points. Second place was taken by Northern Colorado with 759 and Western Illinois placed third with 539 points. The Panthers finished ahead of IUPUI, Valparaiso and Butler with 421 points.

Eastern now has over a month off with their next scheduled meet to take place Jan. 14 against Millikin in the Lantz Natatorium.

The team will head to Florida to train from Dec. 27 to Jan. 7.

OVC BRIEFS

Panther grabs freshman of the week award

Mike Robinson has been rewarded for his solid play by the Ohio Valley Conference. The freshman guard out of Chicago was tabbed OVC Freshman of the Week on Monday.

After scoring three points in his collegiate debut against Xavier, Robinson has hit double figures in scoring every game since.

He scored 21 against Western Illinois last Tuesday and Saturday had 16 against Indiana State. Both were team-highs for Eastern.

Robinson made nine 3-pointers while also handing out 8 assists last week.

In other OVC news, senior forward Jared Newson of Tennessee-Martin was named Player of the Week and Tennessee Tech junior guard Belton Rivers earned OVC Newcomer of the Week.

Newson averaged 23 points per game and 9 rebounds per game while helping the Skyhawks to a 2-0 record last week.

Rivers, a transfer from East Carolina, averaged 17 ppg while helping push Tech to a 4-1 overall record.

- Compiled by Matt Daniels

NBA

Bulls fall to Mavericks

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

CHICAGO (AP) - Dirk Nowitzki tied his season high with 35 points as the Dallas Mavericks held off the Chicago Bulls 102-94 Monday night.

Nowitzki followed his 30-point game in Saturday's victory over New Orleans by hitting 14 of 28 shots.

Both teams lost starting guards to injuries.

Dallas' Jason Terry sat out the second half with a sore right hamstring, after missing all three of his shots and scoring two points.

The Bulls lost Kirk Hinrich to a concussion about 3 minutes into the game, when he took an elbow to the face from a driving Nowitzki. Hinrich, who had rotated to the block, stayed down for several minutes before being helped to the locker room. He was third on the team with 13.5 points per game and the leader in assists at 7.1 entering Monday's game.

Ben Gordon scored 26 points and Luol Deng had another strong game, scoring 25 on 10-for-15 shooting. He scored 28 in a victory Friday at Boston and 18 in a loss to Detroit the following night.

Center Tyson Chandler, bothered lately by a respiratory problem he said is causing

fatigue - had two points and seven rebounds. He is taking medication and is scheduled to have his lungs re-examined on Thursday.

Dallas held a 46-30 rebounding edge while handing the Bulls their third loss in four games.

After Darius Songaila's free throw pulled the Bulls within three with 45 seconds left, Harris missed on a drive, but a free throw by DaSagana Diop increased Dallas' lead to 98-94 with 25 seconds remaining.

Songaila (13 points) missed a 3-pointer, and Nowitzki grabbed the rebound and hit both foul shots to make it 100-94.

With a 72-71 lead, Dallas scored the final seven points of the third quarter. Keith Van Horn followed Harris' basket with a 3, and Darrell Armstrong blocked Eric Piatkowski's fast-break layup from behind, leading to a jumper by Daniels that made it 79-71 with 2.5 seconds left.

Dallas' lead grew to 86-76 on Nowitzki's 3 4:40 into the fourth, but the Bulls didn't go away.

Back-to-back 3s by Andres Nocioni and Chris Duhon cut the Mavericks' lead to 90-89 with about 4:30 left in the game, but Dallas hung on for its 14th win in 15 games against the Bulls.

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SOFTBALL

JINGLE ALL THE WAY

Softball team helps collect toys for children from the New Orleans area

BY KATIE ANDERSON
STAFF REPORTER

It was a frigid 26 degrees and cloudy outside, but one would never have guessed by the attitudes and smiles on the members of Eastern's softball team last Saturday.

"It was very cold, but I had a lot of fun," senior pitcher/first baseman Ashley Condon said.

The players spent their afternoon helping the New Orleans Toys for Children Drive collect toys and stack them into a semi trailer bound for the children left needy by Hurricane Katrina last August.

Last September Reggie Phillips, owner of Unique Homes in Charleston, along with other local business owners Don Oakley and Butch Grimes of Grimes Dodge, traveled to the areas affected by Katrina.

Phillips was inspired by the devastation he saw there to start the toy collection project. He returned to work and spoke with Tanille Ulm, one of his employees.

"He called me into his office and said, 'Hey do you want to help me load a truck?'" Ulm said. When she asked what she would be loading, he replied, "Toys."

"I said 'yeah, I'd love to' and look where we are now," she said.

There is now over 15 drop off sites statewide and hundreds of trailers full of toys have been collected.

Ulm presided over the collection that took place Saturday in the parking lot next to the

Charleston Pizza Hut located at 105 W. Lincoln Ave.

Ulm's role has grown with the cause. She not only loads trucks for Phillips, but also paints the murals that decorate the sides of the collection trucks, runs the website for the project and coordinates the collection sites.

The toy drive was one of two volunteer activities the softball team participated in on Saturday.

The team was split into two groups. One group volunteered at Mark Twain Elementary School for Breakfast with Santa in the morning, while the other group helped the toy drive, assistant coach Jamie Rasmussen said.

The players were in the holiday spirit.

Freshman pitcher Kathleen Jacoby donned an outfit complete with foam ears, pointy hat and elfin shoes tipped with jingle bells.

A local radio station broadcasted live from the site and encouraged local listeners to go out and donate.

"(We were) surprised about the turnout," Condon said. "There were a lot of people there."

Kelly McMahon, Chelsea Adams, Condon and other players spent their time carrying toys from cars and trucks to the trailer and hoisting toys up to their teammates inside who stacked and arranged the items.

The program has been a success and extends as far as Cumberland, Shelbyville and Champaign.

"We have churches, schools, everyone is getting involved," said Ulm.

"It is really nice to see this project bringing the community together," said Virginia Trigg, a member of the Charleston Community Church who helped in the collection. "I am very proud to see the town so responsible, it is just a blessing to be part of it all.

It is better than receiving gifts."



ERIC HILTNER/THE DAILY EASTERN NEWS

Sophomore utility player Brittany Castle of the Eastern softball team lifts a box of donated trucks Saturday afternoon at the New Orleans Toys for Children toy drive. The toy drive, located on Lincoln and B street, will be collecting toys until Dec. 19.

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SPORTS

PANTHER SPORTS CALENDAR

THURSDAY	W-BASKETBALL VS. TENNESSEE TECH	5:15 p.m.
	M-BASKETBALL VS. TENNESSEE TECH	7:35 p.m.
SATURDAY	TRACK & FIELD VS. INDIANA STATE	10 a.m.
	Wrestling at INDIANA	1 p.m.
	W-BASKETBALL VS. TENNESSEE STATE	6:05 p.m.

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 6, 2005

Eastern Illinois University, Charleston



OUT OF BOUNDS
MATT DANIELS
ASSOCIATE SPORTS EDITOR

Drama of buzzer beaters

Dramatic finishes are what make sports so great.

Whether it is a Hail Mary pass to win a football game (think Doug Flutie), a walk-off home run (think Scott Podsednik or Albert Pujols) or a buzzer-beating half-court shot, the ending is what people remember most about sports.

Duke escaped with a win Sunday after a 40-foot game-winning shot from guard Sean Dockery against Virginia Tech at the buzzer. Another Duke player seems to come to mind when discussing buzzer-beating shots.

Christian Laettner in the 1992 NCAA Tournament broke the hearts of the Kentucky Wildcats after his turnaround jumper at the buzzer gave Duke a 104-103 win. After receiving a pass from Grant Hill at the free-throw line, Laettner turned and shot and broke the hearts of the people in the Bluegrass state.

I was hoping for a similar occurrence last March when my Kansas Jayhawks were down in the final seconds against Bucknell in the NCAA Tournament. Yes, a first-round game between Kansas and Bucknell should never have come down to a last-second shot in the first place, but that's beside the point.

Then-senior Wayne Simien took a pass at the free-throw line, making my mind wander back 13 years. Could Simien be the Laettner of 2005? He turned, shot...and missed.

If the shot would've gone in, Simien would've been labeled a hero and I would not have received phone calls from friends wondering how I am doing considering Kansas lost (I was too stunned to show any emotion).

But probably the most heart-breaking and worst last-second loss I have witnessed was in sixth grade.

Our high school boy's basketball team had an outstanding year, racing to a 26-1 record before reaching the sectional semifinals against our rival school. The game was back and forth and we finally took the lead with 2.5 seconds left to play.

I was jumping up and down and celebrating what I thought was a win. I turned around two seconds later and saw what seemed

SEE DANIELS PAGE 10

BASKETBALL

A New Balance for the OVC

Conference to have balanced schedule for '05-'06 season

BY MARCO SANTANA
SPORTS EDITOR

The Ohio Valley Conference is going back to a balanced schedule and for the first time in its history, each team will have 20 conference games on the schedule.

The schedule will have each team play every other team in the 11-team conference twice in the regular season.

"It's more fair to determine where you are (in terms of talent)," said Bill Worrell, Tennessee Tech's women's basketball coach.

The conference moved to balanced scheduling after two years of

having a random schedule determine which teams would play two times and which teams would play just once.

The move to unbalanced scheduling was necessitated by the conference's addition of Jacksonville State and Samford for the 2003-04 season.

Commissioner Jon Steinbrecher began working on a more feasible schedule almost immediately after starting on the job in May 2003.

He put together a committee comprised of administrators and coaches around the conference. The committee took its recommendations to the athletic directors

and presidents.

The change brings about some problems for the conference's coaches.

"Twenty games is too many league games," said Mick Cronin, head men's coach of Murray State. "There are

very limited nonconference opportunities."

Eastern Kentucky's first-year men's head coach Jeff Neubauer agreed with Cronin.

"I think it's tough to play 20 games and have no flexibility in the scheduling," he said.

NCAA rules limit teams to 27 scheduled games, although some tournaments only count as one game because there is no certainty as to how far a team will advance.

The conference schedule now takes up twenty of those games and ESPN's Bracket Buster in February takes up another game.

The Bracket Buster game was a factor that the OVC did not anticipate, Steinbrecher said.

The limited nonconference games also affects teams in evaluating their

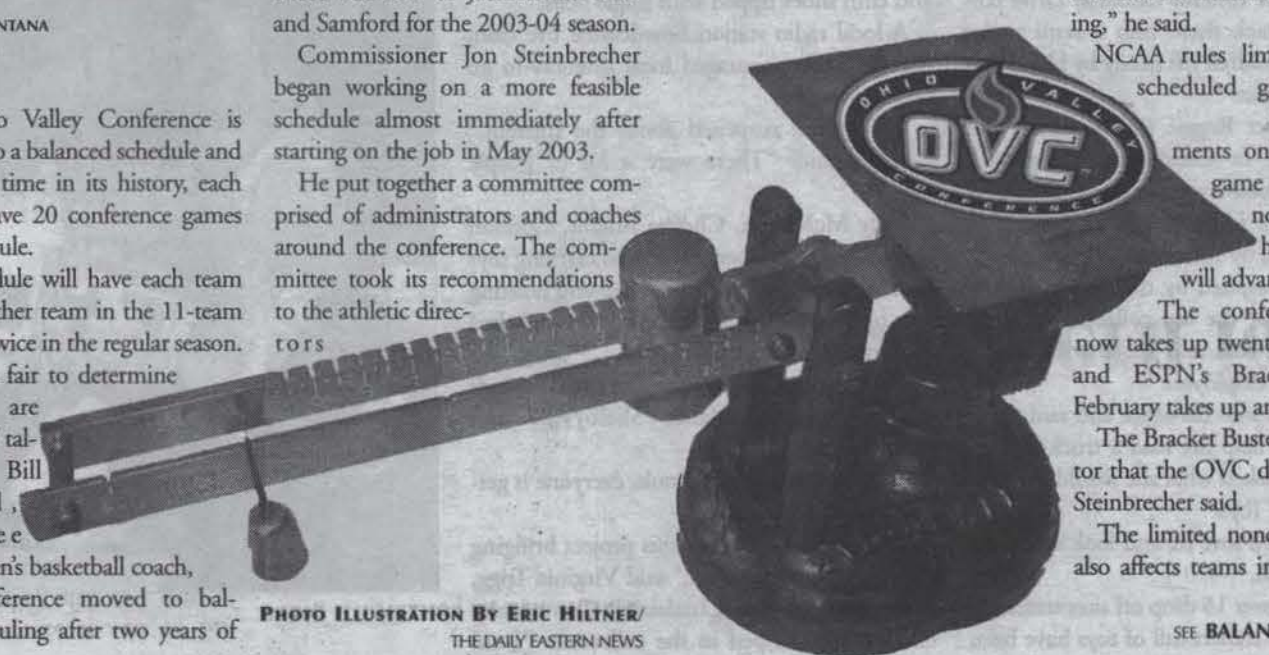


PHOTO ILLUSTRATION BY ERIC HILTNER/
THE DAILY EASTERN NEWS

SEE BALANCE PAGE 10

WRESTLING

Panthers fail to place in Northern Iowa

Underclassmen continue to show improvement

BY PATRICK VITT
STAFF REPORTER

The Panther's wrestling team failed to place a wrestler in the top five at any weight class for the first time this season at this weekend's Northern Iowa Open.

Eastern was without 174-pound junior captain Kenny Robertson (8-2), currently ranked No. 12 nationally in his division.

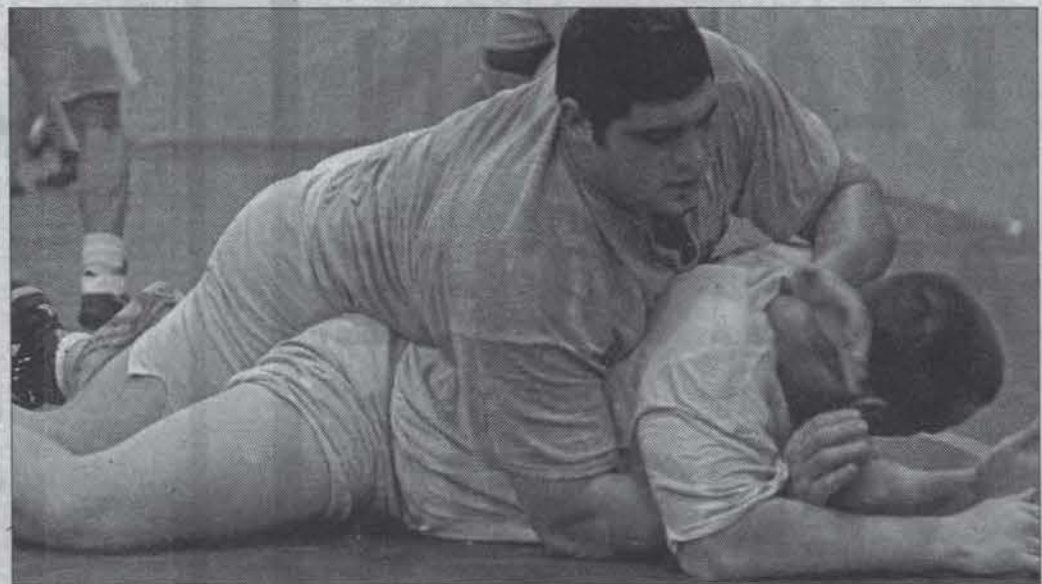
Robertson was held out of last weekend's meet to rest his knee which was injured at the Missouri Open Nov. 20.

Sophomore Greg Perz (4-3), who came into the tournament as the fourth seed in the 184-pound division, was in position to take fifth place in the division, but lost the match in a 7-3 decision to Phillip Keddy from Iowa.

This past weekend's results left more to be desired from Eastern head coach Ralph McCausland who knows the Panthers must drastically improve for Saturday's meet against No. 16 Indiana.

"I was not impressed with the overall results. We had some guys wrestle fairly well. Tharp and Perz had some good matches," McCausland said. "Looking back at the tournament, it is all about where you fall in the brackets. We just had some unfavorable matchups and did not step it up for those matches."

Junior heavyweight Danny Perez continues to step out of the shadows of last year's starting heavyweight



ERIC HILTNER/THE DAILY EASTERN NEWS

Junior heavyweight Danny Perez practices holds on his partner during wrestling practice Nov. 28. Perez finished four and two during last weekend's Northern Iowa Open.

Pete Ziminski, who qualified for last season's NCAA finals.

Perez improved from his last meet where he went 0-2 at the Missouri Open.

Perez finished Saturday's tournament with a 4-2 record. The performance improves his season record to 8-6.

Perez lost to No. 4-seeded Jon May from Nebraska. He beat the No. 3 seed, Remi Delcampe, in the fourth round.

McCausland is satisfied with the continual progress of Perez, but knows that he can still improve his overall performance.

"Danny needs to be more dimensional," he said.

"He has nice offensive attacks but most of them come from locking up with his opponent and people will start keying on that. We just do not have the big guys to train with him and improving will depend on his will to work for it."

Eastern's underclassmen continue to impress. Along with Perz' successful tournament, 197-pound freshman Terron Williams improved on his undefeated first-place finish at the Missouri open with a solid 2-2 finish at the NIU open.

"I was satisfied with the way I wrestled. This was only my second meet being on the roster and I look forward to more experience wrestling with the big boys," said Williams.