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The DAILY EASTERN NEWS

EASTERN ILLINOIS UNIVERSITY, CHARLESTON

THURSDAY | 7.10.08

VOL. 96 | ISSUE 17

Shuttle bus services in question

Contractual confusion originates from Eastern e-mail

By Rick Kambic
Editor-In-Chief

An e-mail sent to H and H Shuttle Taxi Services Inc. has led to questions about the future of shuttle bus services at Eastern.

Scott Harrison, the owner of the company, was contracted to provide shuttle bus services until his office received the e-mail on May 30.

"I just wanted to let you know that the university will not be letting bids out for university bus services for next year. I thank you for your past service," the e-mail from Monty Bennett read.

According to Harrison, his contract had expired after the original three-year term and a utilized three-year extension option. He is worried about the "university will not be letting bids out" part of the e-mail. He said a re-negotiation would have been needed because the original contract did not have a second three-year extension option and compensation for gas expenses needed to be re-discussed due to price inflations.

"(Gas expenses) were set in stone for a three year contingency six years ago and gas went a little higher than I thought, but I've fulfilled my end of the bargain, which wasn't a problem," Harrison said. "And they just opted to send me an e-mail. They've not asked me to do another year extended."

However, university spokesperson Vicki Woodard said all she's allowed to disclose is that negotiations are in progress. She could not comment on whether bids were in fact submitted or requested of companies.

Dan Nadler, vice president of Student Affairs, was out of town upon being contacted, but he said students will have shuttle bus services offered in the fall. Nadler was not in a position to explain the process by which a company was chosen to negotiate with in light of the e-mail claiming bids would not be released.

Harrison said his company is not in contact with the university and has not spoken with anyone since receiving the e-mail. According to the university budget, \$243,334 was spent on contractual services for shuttle buses in fiscal year 2007. That is up from \$226,307 in 2006.

"I got the feeling when I talked to the transportation committee after we got the memo that they were surprised," Harrison said. "I spoke with the chair(woman) of the committee, Karen Armour. She didn't know about this until I called her."

Armour said she is not at liberty to release any information and deferred comment to Nadler. Harrison said he is willing to create his own route and charge students individual fees per ride because he feels it would be the right thing to do.

"If Eastern is going to completely throw it out the window, I'm all for it," Harrison said. "I have vehicles ready and it's not a problem, but I think (a route) is needed."



ROBBIE WRUBLEWSKI/DAILY EASTERN NEWS

Ashmore estates, located in Coles County, has been closed since 1987 when the state government decided not to fund the establishment any further. Ever since, stories have spread across the county about the building and the ghosts that may haunt it.

Ashmore on Sci-Fi channel

Booth brothers visit haunted site to study paranormal activity for 2009 documentary film

By Ashlei Maltman
City Reporter

Full body apparitions, black mists, and a death-filled history. There couldn't be a more perfect place for a paranormal investigation than Ashmore Estates.

On July 2 and 3, Paranormal filmmakers, Christopher Saint Booth and Philip Adrian Booth, visited the Ashmore Estates. The brothers are compiling information for a sequel to their Sci-Fi channel docu-

mentary, Children of the Grave.

Their new documentary, Children of the Grave 2, will air on the Sci-Fi channel in May 2009.

The brothers are touring the country from Los Angeles, visiting different hot spots for paranormal activity, which included the Ashmore Estates.

They were given a lead by a paranormal investigator, who said the building seemed quite active. Hearing this, the Booth's were quite interested.

"We caught a lot of interesting stuff," Christopher said. "It was possibly the most active place on the whole tour."

They caught black masses, shadows crossing in front of the cameras,

things breaking the laser beams, and they heard screaming and crying.

While in the estate, they used high definition cameras, devices to read electromagnetic fields, audio recorders, and laser grids to monitor when something walks through a certain area.

The Booth brothers had their cameras running from 3 p.m. to 5 a.m. and felt those hours would be more conducive to paranormal activity.

According to ashmoreestates.net, Ashmore Estates was built in 1916 and was the Coles County Alms-house until 1956. The site said during that period, approximately 100 people died in the building.

From 1956 to 1976 it housed

the "mentally impaired," until Paul Swinford purchased the property, the site said. The building was then used as an intermediate care facility for the developmentally disabled.

According to the website, the building was closed in 1987 due to a lack of government funding.

The Booth brothers have been in the film industry for five years and have made documentaries and movies such as Spooked, Children of the Grave and they are currently working on Children of the Grave 2 and Possessed.

Philip is the director and Christopher is the producer of their films.

»» SEE SCI-FI, PAGE 3

An educational approach to alcohol

Program created to increase student knowledge, awareness

By Matt Wills
Staff Reporter

A stereotype for some, but for many, alcohol abuse in college is a problem across the country. Eastern is one of many colleges across the country to implement a web based program designed to increase practical knowledge and motivate students to change behavior, in regards to alcohol and the decisions you make.

The program, AlcoholEdu, by Outside the Classroom, has made its impact across the country with positive results that are seen within the first year of its implementation at a school. All incoming freshman and

transfer students require completion of the program at Eastern.

"Since the 2006-2007 academic years, EIU has required incoming freshman

students to take AlcoholEdu," said Rachel Fisher, the health communication and marketing specialist at Eastern. "After the first year, participants said they knew far more about alcohol's effects than before, and staff reported far fewer and less severe alcohol-related incidents."

AlcoholEdu takes approximately two hours to complete and it is a two-part course. All new incoming students are required to complete part one before the first day of class, but it is recommended to finish it before Aug. 21 to avoid a hold on the student's account. On August 1, students will receive an e-mail to

their student account with directions on how to login to the AlcoholEdu program. More information can also be found at www.eiu.edu/~alcoholedu, said Erica Roa, alcohol and tobacco education coordinator.

"At the completion of Part I, the student is required to complete a knowledge test," Fisher said. "A score of 70 percent or higher is required to pass part one. Should students not pass, they will be required to complete a retake course."

Sophomore business management major Rob Boldig said that he sees the value in AlcoholEdu.

"It prepares you to not do anything stupid," Boldig said. "I knew that alcohol had different percentage but it helped me make better decisions about what not to do."

AlcoholEdu was brought to East-



ern by Dan Nadler, vice president for Student Affairs.

"I wanted to see improvements in our students' knowledge about the impacts of alcohol," Nadler said. "I also wanted significant reductions in negative consequences associated with excessive consumption."

AlcoholEdu allows Eastern to reach out in an innovative way to address the issue of high-risk alcohol consumption, Nadler said.

"Our Problem Assessment Team indicated that there were fewer and less severe incidents during our opening weekend, and residence life staff in one of our predominately freshmen halls reported a reduction of approximately 50 percent in alcohol policy violations," Fisher said.

»» SEE ALCOHOL, PAGE 5

<p>THURSDAY 87° 67° Partly Cloudy</p> 	<p>FRIDAY 89° 72°</p> 	<p>WEATHER THIS WEEK</p> <p>There will be a short break from the severe weather of Tuesday night, but expect thunderstorms to begin again by Saturday. The rain will only last through the weekend, as sunshine returns to the area beginning Monday.</p>
<p>SATURDAY 86° 69°</p> 		

ENTERTAINMENT

Actors union ratifies deal with Hollywood studios

The Associated Press

LOS ANGELES — The major Hollywood studios have told the Screen Actors Guild that if the union does not accept its final contract offer by Aug. 15 any proposed wage increases would not be retroactive, the studios said Wednesday.

The producers alliance threw down that gauntlet in its final offer, which it said included \$250 million in additional compensation over three years.

If the deadline passes before the union ratifies a contract, that means the actors could lose more than \$200,000 a day in increases dating to July 1, the day the new contract would take effect.

The announcement was made as the two sides appeared to be headed toward an impasse in their contract talks.

"The producers have included this traditional incentive in the final offer in order to get everyone back to work," the producers alliance said in a statement.

Norman Samnick, a lawyer who has represented the studios in talks with actors, said such a clause was not unusual when negotiations extend beyond the end of a contract.

"The companies may use that as a point of negotiation," Samnick said.

A guild spokeswoman declined to comment.

The studios, represented by the Alliance of Motion Picture and Television Producers, plan to meet with the guild Thursday afternoon to discuss their final offer.

On Tuesday, the American Federation of Television and Radio Artists, a smaller actors union with 70,000 members, said it had ratified a three-year deal retroactive to July 1.

The Screen Actors Guild had campaigned hard against the AFTRA deal and claimed that if members approved it that would undermine SAG's ongoing talks.

The guild, which represents 120,000 actors in movies, TV and other media, said late Tuesday that its work at the bargaining table will continue, despite the ratification of the smaller union's deal.

The guild represents the vast majority of work in prime-time TV and movies.

Any work stoppage by its members could throw the industry into turmoil, even if AFTRA members continue working.

"We will continue to address the issues of importance to actors that AFTRA left on the table," SAG President Alan Rosenberg said in a statement Tuesday. "We remain committed to achieving a fair contract for SAG actors."

The guild has not called for a strike authorization vote.

Hospital: 'Impossible' to see inside Jolie's room

PARIS — The hospital where Angelina Jolie will give birth says it has covered the windows of her room with a special material to prevent paparazzi from taking pictures of the actress and her partner, Brad Pitt.

The Lenval hospital in Nice in southern France said Wednesday that photos that claim to show Jolie and Pitt in her room are fakes that have been manipulated or show other patients.

In a statement, the hospital said it is "totally impossible" to see inside the room from the outside due to a material on the windows that camera lenses cannot see through.

The statement wasn't specific but hospital spokeswoman Nadine Bauer said she believed the material was a type of film. She said it was put on especially for Jolie.

"So any pictures released are either posed fakes set up by paparazzi or they are pictures of other patients," the hospital said. "We hope this is clearly understood out of respect for all patients in this clinic."

Jolie is expecting twins. She has been resting and is being monitored by doctors in the seaside hospital ahead of the birth.

At a brief news conference last week, Jolie's obstetrician said the 33-year-old actress was doing fine.

PHOTO OF THE DAY

Cleaning Up The Damage



ERIN MATHENY | THE DAILY EASTERN NEWS

Eastern grounds workers cut up and remove a tree on Wednesday morning. The tree, which fell during Tuesday night's severe storm, destroyed a shed in the pool area of the University Court Apartments.

WHAT THE... | WEIRD, UNEXPECTED, BIZARRE NEWS

Fashion bug: Teens turn dead cicadas into jewelry

The Associated Press

SANDWICH, Mass. — Two 17-year-old jewelry makers from Cape Cod, Massachusetts are hoping swarms of customers will want their latest creations: earrings and necklaces made from dead bugs.

Katheryn Maloney and Brady Cullinan are selling jewelry made out of the cicadas that swarmed their town of Sandwich this summer.

The pair charges \$10 for earrings or necklaces made out of the bugs' lacquered carcasses.

They tell the Cape Cod Times that some people find the jewelry gross, but others are impressed with its uniqueness.

Maloney and Cullinan began making the bug jewelry in mid-June after Cullinan's mother suggested the idea.

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

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Eastern employees rally for health care

By Ashlei Maltman
City Reporter

While the General Assembly is doing overtime regarding the Illinois budget, negotiations with the governor's office for university-wide healthcare benefits are also going into extra session.

On June 23, eight Eastern employees and one community member went to Springfield to lobby for health care costs and 16 days later, a decision still hasn't been agreed upon.

Negotiations between the governor's office and the Association of Federal, State, County, and Municipal Employees, (AFSCME) for the cost of health care is concerning many employees through the state of Illinois.

Approximately 5,000 people arrived in Springfield to rally the increase of health care in Illinois.

"The reason the rally was held is that negotiations between AFSCME and the governor's office of the State of Illinois are not going well," said Charles Delman, president of Eastern's University Professionals of Illinois chapter.

"And in particular, the state was asking for sig-

nificant increases for the cost of health care for current employees and future retirees."

Many employees on campus, including faculty members, building services, cooks and clerical employees are represented by AFSCME.

Delman sent a standardized message to all University employees and the people who responded were English professors Deb Valentino and John Allison, chemistry professors Jon Blitz and Barbara Lawrence, Audrey Edwards, department of secondary education, and Tom Edwards.

They collectively rode together to Springfield for the rally. Anne Fritz, assistant professor of biologic sciences, and Gary Fritz, associate professor of biological sciences, joined later.

Illinois has been discussing the raising of emergency room visits by \$200, raising premiums by 50 percent, and switching from a co-pay system, where you pay a fixed amount and the rest of the treatment is covered, to a 90/10 system, where you have to pay 10 percent of the bill upfront, Delman said.

"They are talking about a very significant reduction in benefits for everybody," Delman

said.

Many members of AFSCME spoke at the rally about their experiences and difficulties with negotiating, and the unproductive atmosphere at the negotiating table.

"It was a rally, so people gave rousing speeches, and also related some of the facts that were pertinent," Delman said.

The members of the rally marched from the state capitol to the Hilton Hotel, which is where the negotiations meetings were being held.

"It was a show of strength, really," Delman said. "Now we're waiting to see what will happen."

After the rally, negotiation sessions were held. Delman said more progress was made, but AFSCME was still not satisfied.

"When will it be over? Who knows," Delman said. "It will be over when they reach a settlement agreeable to both parties."

Ashlei Maltman can be reached at 581-7942 or at anmaltman@eiu.edu.

CAMPUS BRIEFS

Bonnstetter's pre-trial scheduled

Associate Athletic Director Mark Bonnstetter's jury pre-trial will begin Sept. 30 at 9 a.m., originally set for July 7.

Bonnstetter, 40, faces residential burglary, criminal trespass to a residence and criminal sexual abuse charges stemming from a Nov. 25, 2006 incident in which he allegedly entered a neighbor's home "knowingly and without authority...with the intent to commit therein a felony."

He pleaded not guilty at a Jan. 22, 2007 preliminary hearing and charges Bonnstetter faces are a class 1 felony, a class 4 felony and a class A misdemeanor.

If convicted, Bonnstetter faces up to 15 years in state prison.

A jury trial is currently scheduled to begin Sept. 30.

Art School for students underway

The Summer 2008 Art School for High School Students began Sunday at Eastern.

The camp runs through Saturday.

Students learn four different concentrations in art: pastels, watercolors, cityscapes and sculpture.

Students paid \$424 to attend. This camp was sponsored by the Eastern art department, Eastern School of Continuing Education and the Illinois Federation of Women's Clubs.

High school journalism workshop

Over a dozen high school student will attend a journalism workshop starting on Monday.

Students will learn various skills associated with journalism. These skills are newswriting, feature writing, copy editing, meeting deadlines and much more.

The two-week workshop will be held in Buzzard Hall.

Briefs compiled by Opinions Editor Thomas Stevens and Sports Reporter Bob Bajek

Magazine reveals new details about NIU shooter

The Associated Press

CHICAGO — Steven Kazmierczak admired how the gunman at Virginia Tech chained the doors to prevent students from escaping and the plan by two Columbine High School students to create confusion before their mass murder.

And when he carried out his own deadly mission in a crowded lecture hall at Northern Illinois University in February, Kazmierczak was silent and emotionless as he fatally shot five students and injured 18 before committing suicide.

Those details and observations are included in a lengthy article in the August edition of *Esquire* magazine that sheds new light on the troubled childhood and personal demons of Kazmierczak, who struggled to cope with mental health problems, his sexual identity and the pressures of college and work.

Information for the 12,400-word story came from interviews with Kazmierczak's friends, including former girlfriend Jessica Baty, and a

1,500-page police file that included e-mail records, police reports from incidents when Kazmierczak was in high school, psychiatric evaluations, military records and interviews people gave police, according to *Esquire*. The magazine would not say how it got the file.

NIU Police Lieutenant Todd Henert said he didn't know but was trying to determine which of several law enforcement agencies involved with the investigation might have released the file.

Some of the information in the article has been reported, including Kazmierczak's use of medication, his discharge from the Army after a few months and his stint at a psychiatric treatment center as a teenager.

But the story also chronicles in great detail previously unreported or little-known incidents in Kazmierczak's life — from suicide attempts as a youth to his various sexual relationships with women and men — as well as accounts of his rampage provided by a teacher and teaching assistant, both of whom were injured.

It is clear from the article that Kazmierczak struggled with mental health problems throughout his childhood, then tried to hide them when he was an adult.

His military file details his discharge from the Army after officials "discovered he lied on his application, concealed his mental-health history, his suicide attempts, and his psychotic episodes, including hearing voices and hallucinations," according to the article.

Kazmierczak also struggled with his sexual identity, according to Baty and police interviews with his sister.

At one point, he confessed to his sister that he thought he might be gay, and according to the story had sexual encounters with males.

Yet he also had repeated sexual encounters with women he met on the Internet, *Esquire* reported.

The story includes Kazmierczak's fascination, chilling in retrospect, with Seung-Hui Cho, the Virginia Tech student who shot and killed 32 people before killing himself in April 2007.

"He was interested in what was

going on in the mind of Cho, and why it was so successful, and how someone could do it, how they could pull it off," reporter David Vann writes, quoting a friend he identifies only as Kevin.

The story also details the NIU shooting spree, much of it from the perspective of Joe Peterson, the classroom instructor, and Brian Karpes, Peterson's teaching assistant.

Peterson recounted how Kazmierczak looked "right at me" and fired a handgun.

"There was no change of expression not even excitement," Peterson is quoted as saying.

"It was like if you're repainting a room at home, painting the walls, and you realize you missed a few spots, it was that mechanical."

Karpes told of diving behind a podium, and Kazmierczak firing at him when he peered out from behind it.

"He just kept shooting me. I got hit right in the head. It felt like getting hit with a bat. As I fell to the floor face-first, all I could think was, 'I got shot and I'm dead.'"

» Sci-Fi

FROM FRONT PAGE

New ownership

Scott Kelley, and his wife Tanya, became owners of the property two years ago.

"It was a care facility for those with developmental disabilities, which in old lingo would be called a mental institution," Scott said. "It was not an insane asylum."

"Everybody wants it to be an insane asylum, but it was a nursing home for people with developmental disabilities," Scott continued.

Since becoming owners of the property, Scott and Tanya have started flashlight tours of the estate, have had 15 paranormal investigations, do hauntings on Halloween, and host classes.

There will be a class at the estate for paranormal investigators from 4 to 8 p.m. on Saturday for \$20, and from 8 p.m. to 8 a.m. is the Night of Insanity, where people can spend the night in the building.

Tours can be scheduled any day at anytime, except on Sundays. The minimum for a group is five people, the cost is \$12 per person and the tour lasts approximately two hours.

This documentary filming at the estates has increased business for the couple.

"When a place has been through a movie, people want to come see the setting of what they saw on television," Scott said.

Trespassing has been an issue in the past, but the Kelleys are fully prepared to arrest trespassers.

"When the facility was closed, they left 47 beds, 47 dressers, bedside tables, etc, because they

SCOTT KELLEY | OWNER OF ASHMORE ESTATES

"Keith Age, host of Children of the Grave, was carrying a thermal imaging device around 4:30 to 5 a.m. Bill, (an engineer who builds devices for the paranormal community), caught a black mist on his camera right in front of the nurses station watching them doing what they were doing. When the reporter came, it went down the hall and it disappeared."

wanted to reopen it as another facility," Tanya said.

There is only one bed left because the rest was stolen out of the building.

Paranormal occupancy

Kentucky Joe is the only full body apparition that has been seen on site. Scott saw Joe for the first time Monday night.

At around 7 p.m., Scott was walking past the building entrance toward the lawnmower and he saw something in the hallway.

"Looking down the hallway, I saw a man in a top hat just peek out and go back in," Scott said. "I saw it for about a second."

Scott is the twelfth person to have reportedly seen Joe.

During the morning, before the Booth broth-

ers left, another occurrence happened.

"Keith Age, host of Children of the Grave, was carrying a thermal imaging device, around 4:30 to 5 a.m." Scott said. "Bill, (an engineer who builds devices for the paranormal community), caught a black mist on his camera right in front of the nurses station watching them doing what they were doing. When the reporter came, it went down the hall and it disappeared."

While the early mornings are popular times to watch for action, Tanya said the building is mostly active around four in the afternoon.

"I would not even want to spend the night there alone," Christopher said.

Ashlei Maltman can be reached at 581-7942 or at anmaltman@eiu.edu

COMMENTS, CORRECTIONS, OR EVENTS

To report any errors, local events or general suggestions for future editions please contact our Editor in Chief, Rick Kambic, via:

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Other views on news

GET SERIOUS ABOUT GLOBAL WARMING, G-8

It seems like everyone wants to cut greenhouse gas emissions and clean up our planet.

Leaders of the Group of Eight, the richest nations on the planet, including the United States, announced their desire to cut emissions by 50 percent by 2050.

Athletes competing in this year's Olympic Games proclaim their concern with the Beijing air quality, and some are refusing to compete.

The "going green" fad has taken America by storm.

But is this really accomplishing anything?

The G-8 summit's announcement was vague and uncommitting. Little is known about developing countries' contribution to the cut.

Some environmentalists also believe the cut will be too little, too late.

Athletes refusing to run in the Beijing Olympics will make a bold statement, but it won't stop a Chinese commuter from driving rather than taking public transportation or riding a bike — we'll leave that to the Chinese government.

Housewives buying "green" detergent won't save all the whales.

What we need for a reversal of our carbon-emitting lifestyle are serious leaders who make this change their top priority.

The G-8 summit is a great opportunity to take that step by setting real deadlines that account for progress and harsh penalties for countries that do not follow the guidelines.

Otherwise, it will just be talk, and these Oklahoma summers will get hotter and hotter.

-The Oklahoma Daily

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

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

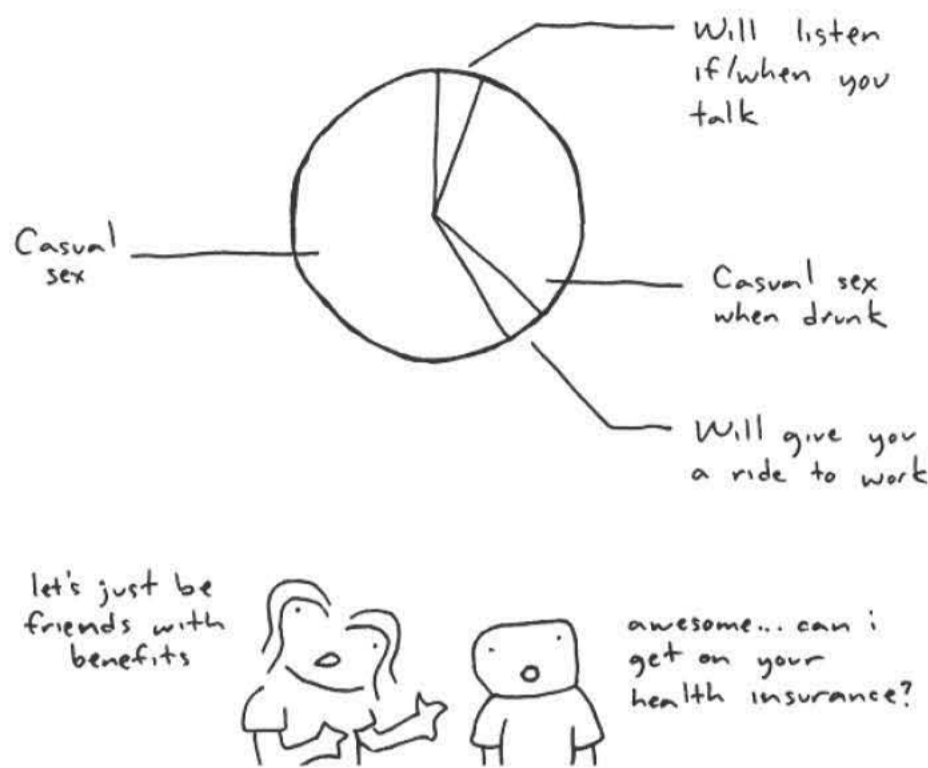
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STAFF EDITORIAL

Nine holes not enough for disc golf

Last summer the campus disc golf course opened up. There were rumors that another nine holes were going to be added this summer, and another nine next summer.

But the course still only has nine holes, which just isn't enough for those who thoroughly enjoy the disc-golfing experience.

For those that don't know what disc golf is, think golf with Frisbees. Instead of hitting a ball with a club, players throw discs at baskets.

The baskets are about three feet across at the bottom and are about three feet tall and about three feet off the ground. At the top of the basket, there is a ring a bit smaller than at the bottom, but chains are connected to a central metal pole. The chains catch the discs.

Players count up the number of throws on each hole, par 3's and 4's at the Eastern course, and move on to the next hole.

The sport is fun for all ages; young and old can oftentimes be seen playing side by side.

There are leagues all over the country sponsored by the Professional Disc Golf Association (PDGA), and other informal leagues of friends that get together on a regular basis and compete for prizes.

It is a national sport complete with championship tournaments and endorsements, admittedly not on par with other professional sports, but there are people who make a living from the sport.

It is a cheap form of entertainment and exercise that is accessible to nearly everyone with a desire to play. The cheapest golf discs can be acquired for under \$10. There are no greens-fees like in golf and the courses need minimal upkeep.

Eastern's course is on the open field just north of the University Apartments that, before its opening, used to be mostly empty besides the occasional band or sports camp.

It's easy exercise, because participants don't think about it as a stroll in the park; it's a game and the focus is on doing well.

OUR VIEW

- **Situation:** Last year, Eastern added a Frisbee golf course. Plans were to add nine more holes this summer, but that did not happen.
- **Stance:** Because the sport is popular enough, Eastern should consider adding nine more holes so more people can have more fun.

But because our course is only nine holes, none of which are exceptionally long or difficult, it is less fun than a regular 18-hole course.

Campus recreation estimates adding another nine holes would cost around \$15,000.

The department won't put in any more holes until it is brought up to the apportionment board.

It may seem like an inappropriate amount of money to spend on something like a disc golf course, but it would be money well spent. Take a drive south down Fourth street, look to the right after passing the rugby field, and you will see people using the course.

It would be a wise investment, mostly because it is something people want. It will be used, and the evidence is in the disc sales at Positively 4th Street Records, the main disc vendor in Charleston.

"The love of the sport has just gone crazy," said a manager at 4th Street Records, who declined to be identified. He went on to explain that they are almost completely sold out.

"I didn't think I would have to order another group (of discs) until school started."

At present, they will most likely have to place more orders.

So far they have sold upwards of 400 discs, averaging 50-75 a week.

The proof is in the pudding- people play disc golf and it is increasingly popular.

Nine holes just get too easy after a while, and the university should add to the course as soon as possible for the benefit of everyone in the community.

ATTENTION ALL READERS:

We are accepting columns and editorial cartoons. If you would like to contribute to the Daily Eastern News opinions page, send an email to the opinions editor or stop by the newsroom in Buzzard Hall, room 1811, and the ideas will be discussed further. Columns and comics can be about anything that is pertinent to Eastern students, staff, faculty, alums and area readers.

Olympics, not politics

DAVE PLAYER

University of Texas
Daily Texan

Michigan's Rep. Thaddeus McCotter, has never cleared nineteen feet on a pole vault. Rep. Maxine Waters from California can not swim a 100-meter breaststroke. Yet these politicians seem content to dash the dreams of this country's Olympic athletes by calling for a boycott of the Olympic games.

Last year, both representatives proposed resolutions to ban government officials from attending the games' ceremonies and urging them to skip the games entirely and keep American athletes state-side. The resolutions came in protest of the host nation, China, and its handling of recent political dissidence in Tibet as well as a general lack of political freedoms in the country. Both representatives have since backed off of their calls for a complete boycott, but they still strongly support a boycott of the opening ceremonies.

While the representatives' sentiments are justified, their proposed response to them is not. Bringing the heralded tradition of the Olympic Games into the political world is a blatant and unacceptable abuse of power. Many in Congress, such as Speaker of the House Nancy Pelosi, are asking President Bush to skip the Games' opening ceremonies in protest.

According to some accounts from ancient Greek mythology, the games were originally created as a festival to honor the gods. Warring nations would lay down their weapons to compete symbiotically. Today's games may not hold the same power, but a similar sentiment remains as the ceremonies and competitions can create a greater sense of global community.

Self-centered actions such as boycotts do nothing to foster relations and, as past attempts have shown, serve only to embitter the host country and its athletes. Many former American Olympians still have sour memories of the 1980 games in Moscow and President Jimmy Carter's choice to boycott them in protest of Soviet actions of Afghanistan. In response to that boycott, the Soviet Union staged their own protest of the 1984 games in Los Angeles. In both cases, the political effects of the boycotts were minimal. The main result was the compromised quality of the Games as valuable athletes were forced to stay home.

Presidential hopeful Sen. Barack Obama has stated he would skip the opening ceremonies because of their actions in Tibet and has previously called on President Bush to boycott them as well. But for such a statesman, who has shown a willingness to meet with nations like Iran and Syria, Obama may want to take a page from President Bush's playbook. China is an enormously powerful nation, and for him to take a stand on such a minute issue - Olympic ceremony attendance - harkens back to a Cold War mentality.

President Bush has defended his planned attendance of the opening ceremonies as a responsible measure that puts the U.S. in the best position to engage China in diplomatic talks over internal policies. Skipping the pomp and prestige of the opening ceremonies, an event that will highlight the Chinese nation and its people, would be a slap in the face to China.

But these political ploys should be forgotten during the Olympics. The U.S. government could very well use the games as a venue to open dialogue with China over its own perceived flaws. Those talks, however, should not come at the expense of the athletes or fans. Politicians should pay homage to the rules of this ancient tradition by closing their mouths and enjoying the game.

» **Alcohol**

FROM FRONT PAGE

"They talked a lot about poor decision making, like sexual choices which I already knew but I guess reinforcement is always good," said Ben Levin, a freshman marketing major.

In a statistical approach, Fisher found that 72 percent of students reported that after taking AlcoholEdu they knew more about blood alcohol concentration.

She said that 81 percent of students reported that they found AlcoholEdu helpful in general.

Along with statistics compiled by Fisher and the Health Education Resource Center, former Eastern education professor Andrew Wall did a study for NASPA Journal and reported, "50 percent fewer negative health, social and academic consequences related to drinking."

Those negative consequences were said to be blackouts, class absences, hangover, unprotected sex, vomiting in public, injuries and poor athletic performance.

"One sole effort does not create a healthy campus, but continuous efforts that promote risk reduction

AMBER M. SHAVERDI | GREEK HEALTH EDUCATION COORDINATOR

"One sole effort does not create a healthy campus, but continuous efforts that promote risk reduction do."

do," said Amber M. Shaverdi, Greek Health Education Coordinator at the Health Education Resource Center.

The Health Education Resource Center offers a wide range of programs to help students with just about any problem and inform them of future problems that could occur.

National influence

Erika Tower, director of communications and marketing for Outside the Classroom said AlcoholEdu is used by more than 500 college campuses and has been taken by more than 1.3 million college students.

The course would have been taken by almost 25 percent of all freshmen throughout the country in the 2007-2008 academic year.

The outstanding results and practice of AlcoholEdu at Eastern has landed them in the top 10 schools

and organizations in the country that use the program.

The university received the **Prevention Excellence Award from Outside the Classroom.**

Another school listed with Eastern is the University of Iowa. The program was implemented in 2006, along with Eastern, in order to combat the drinking problems associated with college.

"AlcoholEdu has been successful at the University of Iowa," said Angela Reams, the director for student services campus and community relations at the University of Iowa. "Student compliance is high and the assistance from departments across campus in motivating students is instrumental in our success rate. Residence Assistants in our residence halls meet with students and motivate students to complete the course on time. Instructors in our

freshmen transition course also discuss AlcoholEdu."

In the past two years, Reams and Iowa compared students who had taken AlcoholEdu to those who had not and found an array of positive results: A reduction in hangovers, reduction in blackouts, an increase in the number of students who abstain from use even after being in our environment during the college effect period, continued compliance of 98 percent by the deadlines and all freshman students completing the course by registration and a reduction in the number of students who do shots, pre-game, and play drinking games.

Eastern staff members have also reported fewer and less severe alcohol related instances since the course began.

"Alcohol is a key health issue on all college campuses," Roa said. "Part

of creating a healthy community is providing campus-wide approaches to health and using tools such as AlcoholEdu for college."

The online program AlcoholEdu is no perfect solution to the problems that colleges associate to drinking but the program does provide a factor for education to those who have not yet lived the college experience.

"We have successfully reached two entering freshman classes through the use of AlcoholEdu," Nadler said. "I can tell you we are very pleased with the results of AlcoholEdu."

City Reporter Ashlei Maltman contributed to this article.

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» Support

FROM BACK PAGE

A similar commitment for rugby at Texas A&M would help popularize the sport, but Carlson said the uncertainty of the sport's future makes such a commitment difficult to agree upon.

She said the state of rugby in Colorado high schools could help for long-term collegiate rugby.

The Colorado High School Activities Association is polling athletic directors to see if advancing rugby into a varsity sport would be acceptable, Carlson said.

Individual schools cannot make rugby varsity status without state approval. Raising rugby's status in Colorado high schools could generate a larger fan base for the sport and influence other states to follow suit, Carlson hypothesized.

Having a larger fan base and producing more rugby athletes could increase the demand for intercollegiate rugby.

A decision could be made by 2010. A 1991 survey of NCAA institutions revealed 30 percent of

collegiate athletes were women even though women consisted over 50 percent of college students, according to the NCAA Emerging Sports Web site. The NCAA Gender-Equity Task Force was created during the following year. In 1993, the task force developed the emerging sports program to help schools obtain compliance with Title IX legislation.

Title IX is a federal law that requires public and private institutions to provide equal opportunities for women athletes to participate in

college athletics and to obtain scholarships. To become a fully operational program that is not an emerging sport, which has national league championships, the sport needs to gain 40 NCAA teams within a 10-year period.

There are seven emerging sports: archery, badminton, equestrian, rugby, squash, synchronized swimming and team handball.

Carlson said that none of the emerging sports are close to achieving championship status except

equestrian, which has 25 teams. She is concerned with this trend.

"In the grand scheme of things, it isn't that rugby is struggling," Carlson said. "It's that emerging sports is struggling a little bit because of a lack of enforcement of the CWA."

According to Carlson, many schools have a 15-20 percent disparity with having more men than women athletes.

Bob Bajek can be reached at 581-7944 or at rtbajek@eiu.edu.

» Broncs

FROM BACK PAGE

The Broncs are currently participating as a Division I Independent and will become the third athletic squad at their university to become affiliated with a conference.

The men's tennis team is currently part of the Southland Conference while the men's and women's basketball teams are part of the United Basketball Conference.

According to the Assistant Commissioner for Media Relations Kyle Schwartz, this move is to make up for the loss of Samford in the OVC.

This means that the number of men's outdoor track teams is moved to six after Samford left the conference this past year.

Southern Illinois University

Edwardsville has joined the OVC, but will not be able to compete in the OVC championships until the academic year of 2012-13.

"When Samford left the conference there were only five teams on the men's side," Swartz said. "SIUE will be joining the conference next year, but will be not be able to compete in the championships."

If there were only five teams, then there would be no automatic qualifying.

An automatic qualification means the winner of each event automatically gets a bid to the NCAA Regional Meet. Athletes can also make it to the NCAA Regional if they obtain the qualifying time or mark.

Since UTPA moves the number of men's teams competing to six, the meet will keep its automatic qualifying status.

The Broncs will not be competing in the OVC Indoor Championships because there is no automatic qualifying for the indoor meet since there is no indoor NCAA Regional.

Athletes must obtain the qualifying mark or time in order to advance to the NCAA Indoor Championships.

The men's teams competing for the OVC Indoor Championships will remain at four since Samford left the conference and Morehead State dropped both their men's and women's indoor season.

Baseball alum All-Star

Former Panther Kyle Haines has been named an Eastern League All-Star.

Haines is currently playing for the San Francisco Giants' Double-A affiliate Connecticut Defenders.

Haines was signed to the Giants in 2004 and this will be his first All-Star appearance.

As of July 8, the second baseman is batting .312 with 20 runs batted in and a .411 on base percentage.

Haines will represent the Northern Division, which is to take on the Southern Division July 16 in Manchester, N.H. at the home field of the New Hampshire Fisher Cats.

The Defenders are currently in fourth place in the Northern Division with a record of 45-44, and have won nine of their last 10 games.

Haines played shortstop for Eastern from 2003-2004 after he transferred from Olney Central College. He was named First Team All-OVC in 2004 and was drafted by the Giants that June in the MLB First-Year Player Draft where he was promoted to the Double-A level in 2007.

Molly Clutter can be reached at 581-7944 or at mkclutter@eiu.edu.

» Rematch

FROM BACK PAGE

"We've got a lot of talented players on the team who are ready to step up, so I am interested to see how the beginning of the 2008 fall season plays out," DeRemer said.

The Golden Rams were outscored 179-208 in 2007 and when they lost, they allowed an average of 40.5 points a game. They finished 7-4 in

the 2007 campaign.

DeRemer said he scheduled the top rugby teams in the nation to compete against, like Navy and Penn State, who would overwhelm his defense.

"It was obvious that our defense struggled against these offensive powerhouses," DeRemer said. "We've got

to instill a different mentality in the players regarding defense."

Eastern finished last season 8-2 and outscored opponents 509-119. The offense averaged about 51 points a game.

For the 2008-2009 academic year, four incoming freshmen will offset the loss of three graduates. Six

seniors are returning to the squad.

Top scorers Samantha Manito (160), Victoria Rosales (86) and Molly Clutter (75) will anchor the Panther offensive attack.

Fromm said she will be in charge of warm-ups, drills, and be the play caller on the field. She will also assist the incoming recruits during a short

pre-season.

"There is only one week of camp and one of practice for the freshmen to learn the plays," Fromm said.

Bob Bajek can be reached at 581-7944 or at rtbajek@eiu.edu.

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Rugby to lobby for support

Annual meeting to discuss women's emerging sports

By Bob Bajek
Sports Reporter

Monday will be an important day for women's rugby.

The bi-annual meeting for Emerging Sports will take place in Indianapolis and growing women's sports will lobby for support from the Committee of Women's Athletics.

Emerging sports are club or intramural sports that apply to develop into a full NCAA program for women.

Eastern started its rugby program in 1998 and became an NCAA team in 2002 when rugby became an emerging sport.

USA Rugby will present a five-page report documenting what the organization has done during the last two years to advance the sport, said Becky Carlson, Emerging Sports program manager for USA Rugby.

"It's a basic update saying this is the stuff that we are doing and we are committed to it," Carlson said. "Our efforts aren't going to (diminish)."

Carlson said that the report would ask the National Collegiate Athletic Association and CWA for more support in promoting intercollegiate rugby.

Eastern played in the first ever NCAA women's rugby game and lost to West Chester University 20-19 on Sept. 15, 2007. Bowden College in Maine, Southern Vermont College and Norwich University in Vermont are the other NCAA rugby teams.

Norwich University and Southern Vermont College will play the second NCAA game on Sept. 6 at Bennington, Vt. A rematch between Eastern West Chester on Sept. 27 will be the third NCAA game.

Carlson said three Big 12 Conference schools, including Texas A & M, are interested in becoming NCAA teams and beginning play against each other, but distance has been part of the conflict among fellow Big 12 schools.

Despite its desire to play the other two Big 12 schools, Texas A&M is concerned about the lack of local competition, Carlson said, and having five NCAA teams makes persuasion to join more difficult. While Eastern is the only Division I school and is therefore the largest, Carlson said, having larger schools like Texas A&M could encourage other schools to enter rugby teams into the NCAA.

Carlson said she's uncertain how Texas A&M would support the program because other schools spend big money on multimillion dollar facilities and highly touted coaches for well established sports like softball.

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ATHLETIC DEPARTMENT | NOTEBOOK

Familiar face returns

Eastern alumnus returns as coach, OVC welcomes another

By Molly Clutter
Sports Editor

Alumnus Matt Bos was named the new head coach for the men's and women's swimming program by Eastern athletic director Barbara Burke on Wednesday.

Bos replaces Ray Padovan who retired in May after 42 years at Eastern.

For the past three years, Bos has been acting as the head swim coach for the San Antonio Wave.

During his time with the swim club, Bos has coached several Junior and Senior National qualifiers including Jimmy Feigen who has set two National High School records. Feigen recently competed in the 2008 U.S. Olympic Trials in Omaha, Neb. Feigen was ranked no. 28 in the 50-meter freestyle and 40th in the 100-meter freestyle. Unfortunately, he was unable to make it to the semi-final round.

Before coaching in San Antonio, Bos worked as the coaching director at Swimming Wanganui in New Zealand for a year and a half.

He coached athletes from seven different countries with his squad earning a Top 20 national ranking in 2004-05 making it the squad's first.

Although he has coached overseas, Bos is no stranger to Eastern.

He is an American Swimming Coaches Association level four certified coach and has earned both his bachelor's and master's degrees from

Eastern while being a member of the Panther swim team from 1996-2000.

He was a two-time Midwest Champion in the breaststroke and was named team captain his senior year in 2000.

He also helped the Panthers to the 2002 Midwest Classic Championship as a graduate assistant.

After leaving Eastern in 2002, he became the assistant coach at Trinity University for a year. In 2003-04, he hailed as the head coach for the

Swordfish Swim Team and assistant coach for Niles West High School in Skokie.

Bos has also served as a camp director with his wife, Amanda, for Swim with the Stars, which is a swim camp owned by Olympians Michael Phelps, Ian Crocker and Lenny Krayzelburg.

OVC bring in Broncs

The Ohio Valley Conference Board approved the addition of the Univer-

sity of Texas-Pan American as an associate member in men's track and field beginning in the 2008-2009 season.

The board made this decision in their annual Conference Spring Meeting this past May.

The UTPA, which is located in Edinburg, Texas, will participate in the OVC Outdoor Championship starting next year.

>> SEE BRONCS, PAGE 7



SUBMITTED PHOTO

WOMEN'S RUGBY | UPDATE

Panthers schedule historic rematch

Rugby to play West Chester in third NCAA game

By Bob Bajek
Sports Reporter

The Eastern women's rugby team is making history, again, by playing their second official National Collegiate Athletic Association game against West Chester University.

The rematch will be played on Sept. 27 at West Chester, Penn. This will be the third NCAA women's rugby game ever played.

Norwich University and Southern Vermont College will play the second NCAA game on Sept. 6 at Bennington, Vt.

The Panthers competed in the first NCAA game against the Golden Rams at Charleston on Sept. 15, 2007. The contest was a very close match that resulted in a 20-19 Panther defeat.

Senior captain Amanda Fromm said the Golden Rams played very good defense against the Panthers in the second half by limiting them to only seven points.

One reason for the defeat was due to injury. Fromm said former captain Eileen O'Rourke became injured during the previous game so she had

to move to flyhalf.

"It was my first game at flyhalf so I didn't know what I was doing," Fromm said.

West Chester head coach Tony DeRemer said he is excited that Eastern head coach Frank Graziano decided to face his team again this year. DeRemer said his team has to focus on slowing down Eastern's backs.

Coach Graziano has some wonderfully athletic backs, so our job will be to concentrate on stopping them from scoring," DeRemer said.

Fromm said that West Chester's strength is in their forwards. The captain said the Golden Rams' forwards ran a lot of punches to counter Eastern's backs.

"We need to be prepared for (the punches) they'll throw at us," Fromm said.

A new year

DeRemer has his three leading scorers returning in Michelle Kirk, Whitney Hartshorne and Katy Black. The three combined for 84 of West Chester's 179 points last season.

The West Chester coach said that Kirk, who scored 30 points last year, scored most of her tries by generating them without offensive support. However, he hopes his team will produce more support around Kirk.

>> SEE REMATCH, PAGE 7



FILE PHOTO

Members of the women's rugby team try to gain ground on their opponents during a game on Eastern's Lakeside Rugby Field. Eastern went 8-2 during the 2007 season while outscoring their opponents 509-119.