

7-12-2012

## Daily Eastern News: July 12, 2012

Eastern Illinois University

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Review: ‘The Newsroom’  
pulls no punches

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EDUCATION

ACT to be accepted  
as TAP alternative

College of Education  
embraces new rules;  
test options expand

By Nike Ogunbodede  
Editor-in-Chief

After a recent policy change made by the Illinois State Board of Education, students who would have previously had to take the Test of Academic Proficiency/Basic Skills will have the option to replace the exam with a 22 composite score on the ACT plus Writing.

The state board approved the change in late June.

Another stipulation requires the student to have taken the ACT within a specified time period—most likely five years—from when the test results were sent to the state board, said Doug Bower, associate dean for the College of Education and Professional Studies

But, depending on when incoming seniors took their ACT, their scores might not be accepted, Bower said.

“I’ve got a lot of students who took the (ACT) in April of 2008... That’s one of the (details) that is kind of in the limbo because if the state gets the process in place by April 2013, then April 2008 works,” Bower said.

Anything after April 2013 would make tests taken in April 2008 unacceptable—leaving seniors, who need to take the TAP/Basic Skills test, unable to meet requirements.

Students would be given the option of retaking the ACT plus Writing or passing TAP, Bower said.

Retaking the ACT would be more difficult for some students because the test is only offered at

“By Aug. 1, we are going to have something definitive in place for students to say yes (they) can use (their ACT score), or no they can’t.”

Doug Bower, the associate dean of the College of Education and Professional Studies

certain times, but the preparative materials, distance from test sites and cost would be easier for some, Bower said.

The ACT plus Writing can be taken at local high schools and costs \$49.50, which is less than the \$125 it costs take the TAP test. The closest location that offers the TAP test is in Terre Haute, Ind.

“By Aug. 1, we are going to have something definitive in place for students to say yes (they) can use it or no they can’t,” Bower said.

Incoming freshman, sophomore and most juniors, as long as they received at least a 22 or higher composite score on their writing included ACT, will be able to opt out of the TAP test, he said.

“The Illinois State Board of Education has said the ACT composite of 22 is career and college ready, which is really what we are looking for from people who want to enter into a preparation program,” he said.

However, older, non-traditional students may choose to take the TAP test because of the more comfortable test environment Bower said.

It all depends on the preference of environment, Bower said.

“The environment of taking it in the Charleston High School cafeteria is probably not their cup

of tea,” he said. “The TAP they will be in their own cubicle space taking the test.”

Bower also said he thinks students will be more focused on the rigorous classroom assignments and be less stressed.

“Right now, I think more people are being weeded out than should be,” he said. “I think the combination of the cost and the stress has discouraged some very, very good people from entering the field.”

Previously students were only allowed to take the TAP and Basic Skills test a maximum of five times, but because of the way the ACT reports scores the Illinois State Board of Education will not be able to see the number of times the ACT was taken, Bower said.

“When you send a score to Eastern or the state board, you send a test date,” Bower said.

Because of that there will not be a number restrictions placed on the ACT, Bower said.

In order to have the ACT score accepted, students will need to contact the College of Education and Professional Studies and fill out a form, then the student will need to ask the ACT to send the score report to the state board.

“The state board will not accept score reports from the university,” he said.

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CAMPUS

Eastern students  
taking the plunge

By John Downen  
Opinions Editor

Summer school makes Troy Kuziel want to jump off of a bridge.

Over the last few months, Kuziel, a senior art major, has been part of a small group of brave Eastern students who go bridge jumping every week.

Kuziel said he took his first plunge when he was in Charleston last summer.

“It was nerve-racking at first,” Kuziel said. “The bridge is probably 30 or 40 feet above the water, so it’s pretty scary to do the first jump.”

However, Kuziel said while his first jump was the most intimidating, it was also the most fulfilling.

“I was definitely scared, but eventually I just closed my eyes and leaped,” he said. “I was afraid of hitting the bottom of the river, but once I realized how deep it was, it was a lot easier to jump again.”

The bridge, located on East County Road, is about three miles outside of Charleston’s uptown square and hangs over the Embarras River.

Kuziel said the dark green hue of the water often discourages newcomers from taking the plunge, but most usually come around.

“The river definitely looks dirty,” he said. “But once I realized it was

the same water that flows into Lake Charleston, it didn’t really bother me.”

Kuziel said while many people come to simply swim in the water and cool off in the summer heat, his group of friends always comes for the jump.

“I’ve always been into extreme sports—skateboarding, wakeboarding, whatever—and since there’s not a lot to really do in Charleston, bridge jumping is the best alternative,” he said.

While Kuziel said the river’s cool water definitely feels good in the summer, he always looks forward to the adrenaline rush from jumping.

“Cooling off is just an added benefit,” he said. “The best part is the few seconds in between jumping and hitting the water below.”

“Every time I jump it’s exhilarating. It’s not scary anymore, but it’s still thrilling.”

Kuziel said he and his friends have become increasingly brave in their jumps, and can even do back flips and dives off as they descend from 40 feet above.

Brianna Walker, a senior elementary education major who shares Kuziel’s love for bridge jumping, said she usually goes once a week.

PLUNGE, page 7

WEATHER

Drought continues  
in Charleston area

By Seth Schroeder  
News Editor

An Eastern geographer said despite any rainfall we may have received this past week, the Charleston area is still in a moderate drought.

The geographer, Cameron Craig, said the area has only received rain during the weekend and it was only .01 inches.

“Even though we got some rain what people’s perceptions are is that when it rains they go ‘oh we’re out of the drought,’ this is not the case,” Craig said.

He said many people have many misconceptions about rain and droughts and think any kind of rainfall will reverse it.

Craig said because the surface atmosphere is so dry there needs to be continuous rainfall to reverse the effects of dryness.

“We need eight inches just to get us back to where we should be,” Craig said.

He said even though nearly half an inch of rain is supposed to fall Friday and Saturday, it will fall over the course of 48 hours and needs to be continuous to have any effect.

“A half an inch that’s nothing,” Craig said. “You have to exaggerate the precipitation to have any effect.”

He said the reason why minimal rainfall has landed on the Charleston area is because it is located below an arc of the jet stream of warm, dry air since the beginning of June.

Craig said areas to the north, such as Wisconsin and Michigan have been fine because of the part of the jet stream they are below.

He said if the jet stream moved farther south the Charleston area would receive rain as well.

Though the radar has been showing areas of precipitation above Charleston, Craig said this is actually picking up the atmosphere a mile above the town.

He said the concern should really be with the atmosphere 400 to 600 feet above the earth, which cannot be detected by radar because of the curvature of the Earth.

“So it’s raining up there,” Craig said. “But the surface is to dry. We need rain to reverse the affect of dryness.”

Seth Schroeder can be reached at 581-2812 or scschroeder2@eiu.edu.

CRIME

Stabbing suspect remains at large

By Marcus Smith  
Online Editor

Police have issued an aggravated battery warrant for the arrest of Devonj L. Wilson, 26, of Chicago, as a suspect in the stabbing June 26 at Panther Liquors.

On the evening of June 26, Robert Davies, a biology major, was working at Panther Liquors when he saw a man running to the east side of the building and thought it was suspicious.

Davies said he went outside to see what was going on and found two men in a struggle.

“I went out there and one guy on top of another guy,” he said. “I

(didn’t) have my contacts in, so I really (couldn’t) see the stabbing, but I knew something was wrong.”

He then proceeded back into the store and called the police.

Davies said a woman then came running across Lincoln Avenue to the store, and Davies flagged down an officer he saw in the street while he was still on the phone with the police dispatcher.

Davies said he then went back inside and locked the door.

“I come inside, I lock the door cause the guy runs over here,” he said. “I think he’s coming after me, but he’s not.”

Davies said there was still some

daylight out when the stabbing occurred, or he would not have been able to see the side of the building.

Davies said the victim came in to thank him the next day, and that the victim had three stab wounds.




Wilson

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# EIU weather

TODAY



Mostly Sunny  
High: 91°  
Low: 66°

FRIDAY



Thunderstorms  
High: 83°  
Low: 68°

For more weather visit [castle.eiu.edu/weather](http://castle.eiu.edu/weather).


## BLOTTER

A theft was reported from 1900 block of Fourth St. at 11 a.m. Tuesday. This incident is under investigation.

# EASTERN NEWS

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## CAMPUS



SETH SCHROEDER | THE DAILY EASTERN NEWS

Biology professor Stephen Mullin holds a water snake the herpetology class caught at Lake Charleston. When he and students caught the snake, it had cut on its neck that nearly went to the bone. Mullin said someone likely tried to behead the animal thinking it was dangerous. The snake is not venomous and has since healed.



SETH SCHROEDER | THE DAILY EASTERN NEWS

Corissa Lennon, a graduate student studying biology, holds Bernie her pet bearded dragon Wednesday in the Life Science building. Lennon keeps Bernie with the other animals on display for the public in the building. She said she chose the name Bernie because it was genderless and when the lizard was younger it was very difficult to tell whether she was male or female.



SETH SCHROEDER | THE DAILY EASTERN NEWS

Mullin holds a prairie king snake while discussing the reptile and amphibian display in the Life Science building. "The king snake is pretty cool because it largely just eats other snakes," Mullin said.

# Lab educates public about reptiles

By Seth Schroeder  
News Editor

When Eastern's herpetology class found their current water snake at Lake Charleston, it had a deep gash in the side of its neck that cut nearly to its bone.

Biology professor Stephen Mullin said someone likely tried to kill the snake thinking it posed a threat, despite the fact that there are no wild venomous snakes in Coles County.

"I continue to offer that statement, and people continue to ignore it," Mullin said.

He said he and the students in his lab hope to fight this misconception as well as other misconceptions about the dangers of snakes, other reptiles and amphibians.

To fight this misconception, Mullin and his students keep several specimens on display at the Life Science building and host several events where people can handle and learn about the animals.

These include workshops with area schools and a booth in the Doudna Fine Arts Center during Celebration.

"What's really nice is that we can take one of these animals out and know its disposition and be able to teach someone something about them," Mullin said.

As part of the herpetology class, students spend time in the field catching and studying different reptiles and amphibians. Mullin said these specimens do not normally enter the permanent collection, the injured water snake being one exception.

He said water snakes normally do not tolerate being handled by humans, but because he and his class had to nurse it back to health it is much more relaxed.

"As water snakes go, it's marvelous," Mullin said.

Because of the snake's calmer disposition, Mullin said the class decided to hold onto it after it was healed. He said telling people

about the snake's story and showing them its scar tissue help fight the persecution of reptiles.

One of the students in the lab, Corissa Lennon, said because most people lack knowledge of reptiles, the danger they pose is dramatized.

Lennon is a graduate student studying biology, and said she enjoys herpetology because it is an opportunity to teach people about something they do not understand or necessarily accept.

"A lot of people consider snakes and lizards to be in the 'creepy crawly' category," she said. "It really throws people off if something doesn't have legs."

Mullin said none of the specimens on display could pose a real danger to anyone while he is supervising.

"None of these can consume you or cause anything but temporary harm," he said.

When he came to Eastern 13 years ago, Mullin said he did not expect to take over what is basi-

cally a small zoo. He said they do not often take on new animals, and the ones they do are relatively low maintenance.

"It's not our intent to be the Coles County reptile shelter," Mullin said.

In addition to taking care of the reptiles and amphibians on display, both Mullin and Lennon have pet reptiles as well.

Mullin has a red rat snake he keeps at home named Jackie O.

Lennon has a bearded dragon named Bernie that she keeps on display with much of the other Life Science animals.

Mullin said many people do not realize how much work can go into taking care of a reptilian pet.

"If you want them as a pet, that's a responsibility that you better be prepared to deal with, but they're super cool," Mullin said.

Seth Schroeder can be reached at 581-2812 or [scschroeder2@eiu.edu](mailto:scschroeder2@eiu.edu).

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# Aquarium teaches about conservation

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STAFF EDITORIAL

## A challenge to Eastern students: start saving water

In recent publications, *The Daily Eastern News* has discussed at length Charleston's current drought and has commended the university for their commitment to energy and water conservation.

In fact, this very page has offered praise to the university, detailing and complimenting the new Center For Clean Energy Research and Education, as well as the adoption of a new energy-oriented major program.

In Tuesday's issue of *The DEN*, we reported that the community was currently in the middle of a moderate drought.

However, that term does not seem to convey the possibly devastating consequences of a moderate drought.

As of our report on Tuesday, Coles County was 7 inches below the normal rainfall amounts, and the water level at Lake Charleston had fallen by one inch.

While neither of those statistics seem to spell out imminent doom for the county, they are indicative of a very looming and possibly severe drought—a drought which would devastate the farming communities throughout Coles County even more than it already has.

Eastern geographer Cameron Craig expects Coles County to enter into a period of severe drought within two weeks if more rain does not fall, which could be detrimental to crops and farmers in the area.

With that in mind, it seems appropriate to challenge both Eastern students and Charleston residents to implement their own water conversation strategies.

To many, such strategies might already be a part of everyday life—whether taking shorter showers or simply turning off the faucet when getting ready, seemingly minute changes.

These are simple gestures, but they are nonetheless commendable, and if more people were conscience about water conservation, we would be far better prepared when drought does inevitably strike.

With a severe drought seeming more and more possible with every day without rain, the community needs to begin to prepare for a worst-case scenario.

In this case, the worst-case scenario would be a period of severe drought.

Though in our Tuesday issue we reported that water supplies are not of concern in Charleston, a severe drought could quite possibly change that fact.

Charleston residents and Eastern students need to begin preparing for that change as soon as possible.

The current drought in California stands as testament to the snowball effect of poor water conservation, proving that man is by all means capable of aiding in drought periods.

Should the community enter into a similarly severe period of drought, the consequences would be massively detrimental.

That fact should remain in the back of the community's collective mind.

Conserving both water and energy should always be a priority.

## The DAILY EASTERN NEWS

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

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

COLUMN

## You keep talking, I'll keep listening

"I haven't got a brain... only straw," the scarecrow said.

"How can you talk if you haven't got a brain?" Dorothy asked.

"I don't know," the scarecrow replied. "But some people without brains do an awful lot of talking... don't they."

Though this dialogue is taken from the 1939 film "The Wizard of Oz," it definitely holds true to most of our perceptions of the world around us.

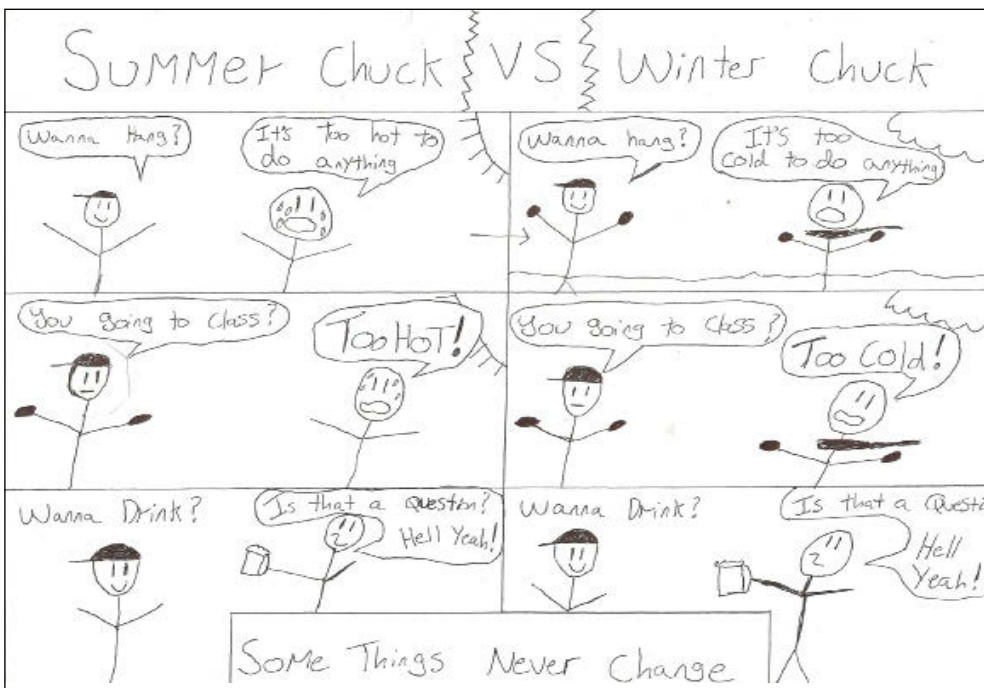
There seems to be a lot of stupid people out there begging for our attention. Don't they know now we have more important things to do?

From the politician we just can't stand, to the reality TV star who clearly has no real talent or even that friend or acquaintance we're just tired of hearing talk, we are constantly bombarded by people jabbering away about things we can't be bothered by.

But, even though I've experienced this more than I can count, even though I often get tired of processing the stupid words that wriggle into my ears, I honestly prefer it over the alternative.

Recently I've become so grateful that we live in a society where so many people can find their own voice. Even if most of those individuals sound like idiots to us, we are better for it.

FROM THE EASEL



TOMMY NIERMAN | THE DAILY EASTERN NEWS

COLUMN

## Embrace technology, it's here to stay

I have wanted to be a journalist almost my whole life.

When I was younger I imagined my place in the newsroom with the cigarette smoke, news hats and the chaotic sound of the old typewriter clinging away.

I dreamed of chasing down sources, writing investigative stories and drinking lots and lots of coffee.

The chaos of my imaginary newsroom interested and excited me.

Now, the world of journalism is a little different then a rusty tape recorder and a 4 p.m. nightly news deadline.

Today's newsroom is filled with smart-phones, Mac computers and Facebook.

Yes, technology has changed the face of journalism and the world around us.

At Eastern, professors no longer have to worry about students passing love notes back and forth.

Instead, they have to worry about students texting a girlfriend or boyfriend half way away across the country or looking up answers to test questions on their phones.

Computers, cell phones and iPods are changing society, but people should not be scared or intimidated by these inventions.



Elizabeth Edwards

Human advancements are part of our society and should be embraced—not thought of as intangible and scary monsters.

I understand that learning a new design program or navigating Facebook can be scary and intimidating experiences.

I have always been an old soul, the last person to know about the latest technology advancement or newest pop culture development.

Instead, I would rather snuggle with a good classic novel like Alice Walker's "The Color Purple" or write in a leather-bound journal.

Though, I understand that in order to stay with the times I have to empower myself to learn technology.

Even though it takes me longer than others, I take the time, learn and ask questions.

For example, this summer I managed an organization's Facebook page and helped construct a website.

It wasn't easy, but I did it.

Right now, I have a Facebook page, twitter account and have started reading books on a Kindle Fire.

Embracing technology does not mean completely annihilating everything old.

In my personal life, I still can be found reading classic novels and writing in a leather-bound journal.

Like the old-time journalists, I also still write investigative stories, chase down sources and drink lots and lots of coffee.

My imaginary newsroom may be wrong, but the world and journalism still lives.

My future may be different than I imagined, but it does not mean it will be anything less than bright.

*Elizabeth Edwards is a senior journalism major. She can be reached at 581-7942 or at DENopinions@gmail.com*

**Letters to the editor** can be submitted at any time on any topic to the Opinions Editor to be published in *The Daily Eastern News*.

*The DEN's* policy is to run all letters that are not libelous or potentially harmful. They must be less than 250 words.

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Letters may also be submitted electronically from the author's EIU e-mail address to DENopinions@gmail.com.



## Throwback Thursday



Tommy Nierman

## ‘Animal House’ still top of class

“Was it over when the Germans bombed Pearl Harbor?!”

If you do not recognize this quote, then odds are you have not seen one of the greatest college movies of all time.

“Animal House” is hands down still king of college movies because, even after 30 years, its slapstick humor and highly quotable one liners remain funny while keeping the characters relatable to any college student who has had a crazy night or good time.

The movie has the charm that many of the “American Pie” straight-to-DVD college movies missed. Yet sadly I’ve found out by asking around this summer that more college students have seen “American Pie: Beta House” or “American Pie: Naked Mile” than “Animal House.”

I first saw “Animal House” when I was in sixth grade, and even though a majority of the humor was lost on me, the funny situations and characters were still enough to make it an incredibly comical movie.

Directed by John Landis, who later went on direct successful movies like “Blues Brothers” (If you haven’t seen this one you might be a lost cause), “An American Werewolf in London”, “Trading Places,” Michael Jackson’s “Thriller” video, “Spies Like Us,” “Coming to America” and “Three Amigos.”

The movie also features legendary Illinois actor John Belushi as Bluto, the lovable, drunken animal whose body language and facial expressions were so funny they added many more scenes of him than originally planned.

Starting off with the classic college theme music, you witness two freshmen at college visiting fraternities for rush. As you are eased into the story, the two freshmen go to Delta House where a wild party is already underway and you meet many of the main members of the fraternity.

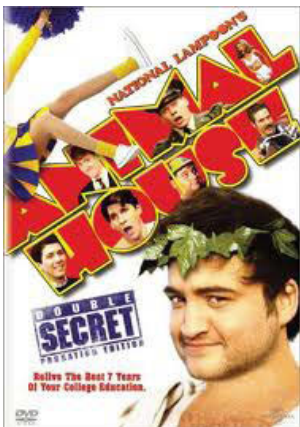
Anyone thinking this is another “frat movie” should reconsider at this point because the movie focuses more on shenanigans and going against the administration (meant to represent President Nixon) than rivalries and winning some competition.

As the movie unfolds, you see many of the same adventures college students embark on today, from the toga party (which for many good reasons should come back into popularity) to the classic road trip and common lecture hall. The movie emphasizes having a good time and not taking life too seriously (without saying it like in “Van Wilder”).

I showed a group of Eastern students “Animal House” for the first time. After recently seeing “Project X,” there was doubt that “Animal House” could even compare. That quickly changed as the movie started.

The brilliance of “Animal House” is that there is always something funny to laugh at in each scene. The balance between slapstick and witty conversation keep you laughing and the plot of the story draws you in.

By the end of the movie it was deemed as “legit” and “one of the funniest movies they had ever seen.” So if you have yet to enlighten yourself to the awesomeness that is “Animal House,” I suggest you do yourself a favor and hold a movie night with friends and really see “if it was over when the Germans bombed Pearl Harbor.”



## Television Review

## The real world of journalism exposed



## ‘The Newsroom’ pulls no punches

Reviewed by John Downen

The season two finale of “Game of Thrones” was a sad day for me.

I had exhausted virtually every good television show Netflix could offer, and with “Breaking Bad” not resuming for almost two months and “Weeds” “jumping the shark” virtually three seasons ago, I found myself craving a new show to occupy the last free time of my summer.

So, when previews for “The Newsroom” started airing on HBO, I found myself intrigued—I’ve said it in past columns: a show about political journalism written by Aaron Sorkin seemed to define my standard of good television.

Now in its third episode, it no longer seems premature to review “The Newsroom,” and with that in mind, I offer only one piece of advice: if you’re not already watching this show, you should start.

Thus far, “The Newsroom” has been virtually flawless, spotlighting a plethora of issues integral to the state of our country.

In just its’ pilot episode, “The Newsroom” was already the subject of intense debate and scrutiny, opening with one concise and intriguing claim: “America is not the best country in the world.”

Though the show definitely leans to the liberal side—the most recent episode is filled with Tea Party attacks—it is unique in its ability to discuss social and political trends in a very modest and fair arena.

Centered on a fictional news network, Atlantis Cable News (ACN), “The Newsroom” pulls no punches.

If you’re familiar with Aaron Sorkin’s writing, this is to be expected—whether in “The West Wing,” “A Few Good Men” or “The Social Network,” Sorkin rarely changes his style to complement the demands of an audience.

Sorkin’s absolute dedication to his own style seems to define the show’s characters, and as Will McAvoy (Jeff Daniels) and his crew take on the monumental task of reporting true and unedited news, it almost feels like the show is based on Sorkin’s own ideals.

Unlike shows like “The Office” or “Parks and Recreation,” you won’t find yourself revisiting episodes of “The Newsroom”—it is slow at times, and offers little humor or lightheartedness.

However, “The Newsroom” is successful because of that approach.

Between coverage of the 2010 BP oil

spill and fervor over Senate Bill 1070, Sorkin’s characters discuss news with an unprecedented truth, and though their ambitions are idealistic—almost quixotic—they successfully convey the true purpose of media: informing the public.

“The Newsroom” is not to be taken lightly. To truly appreciate the show, you must lend the full extent of your attention.

Sorkin’s writing demands such attention, and as his characters engage in intense dialogue, ranting about immigration or arguing over election coverage, I find myself captivated.

Thus far, all three episodes of “The Newsroom” have left me thinking—not about relationships or humor, but issues of true importance.

For an aspiring journalist with a fresh interest in the political realm, “The Newsroom” is a televised Shangri-La.

While the show’s direct alignment with my own passions makes it infinitely captivating for me, I would still suggest it to those without strong political opinion or experience in journalism.

“The Newsroom” is good television, plain and simple.

## In theaters this weekend ...

### ‘Ice Age: Continental Drift’

**Directors:** Steve Martino, Mike Thurmeier | **Writers:** Michael Berg, Jason Fuchs | **Stars:** Ray Ramano, Denis Leary, John Leguizamo  
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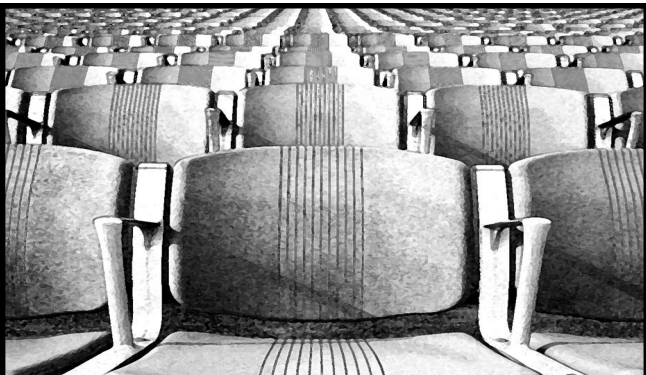
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The New York Times

ACROSS

1 Brewer Coors

7 Add liberally to

13 & 14 With 64-Across, familiar rule not always followed

15 5-Down and others

17 Da's opposite

18 Bygone record label

19 Melodramatic sound

20 Adobes and abodes

22 Touchdown stat

24 Twins sharing a star on the Hollywood Walk of Fame

27 Push to the right, say

30 Part of an extended family

31 Chem. assay

32 China problem

35 Cap

37 It's good for your health

39 Automaker Ferrari

40 QB calls

42 \_\_\_\_ Tales, magazine where many H.P. Lovecraft stories first appeared

43 Ban on strip mining, e.g.

45 Western and foreign, to moviegoers

46 Chess piece: Abbr.

47 "\_\_\_\_ want to talk about it"

49 Be behind

52 Relaxes

54 Fordham athletes

58 Studier of distant emissions

61 Major

62 Ones giving cash for quarters

63 Some Rijksmuseum holdings

64 See 13- & 14-Across

DOWN

1 "It's \_\_\_\_!"

2 Take out

3 Not paid for, as factory work

4 One to build on

5 Some charitable sporting events

6 Part of un jour

7 How some argue

8 One who's split

9 Pal

10 Authors

11 Vision: Prefix

12 Investigator of many accidents, for short

13 Engine part: Abbr.

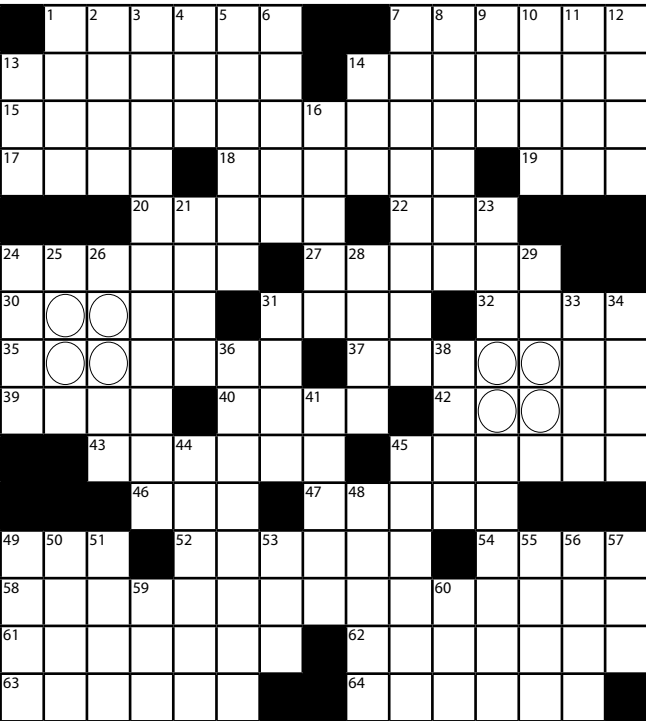
14 Northern extremes?

ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE

S	P	I	C	E		T	I	M	O	R		B	A	D
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E	M	O		A	Z	E	R	A		T	R	I	B	E
D	E	T		M	O	U	R	N		A	S	N	O	T

Edited by Will Shortz

No. 0607



PUZZLE BY JOE KROZEL

16 Mr. Mojo \_\_\_\_ (anagrammatic nickname for Jim Morrison)

21 "That's \_\_\_\_ hadn't heard"

23 Subject of a six-volume history by Edward Gibbon

24 "Going \_\_\_\_ ..."

25 Property claim

26 Lay claim to

28 Informal turndowns

29 Its for more than one

31 It flows in un río

33 Brief start

34 Ones hoofing it

36 Stars and others

38 Rocker Stefani

41 Plot feature

44 Temporarily out, say

45 Disappear

48 Sorghum variety

49 Stars, e.g.

50 Checkout line complaint

51 Kind of piece in a jigsaw puzzle

53 Literary monogram

55 Ascap part: Abbr.

56 Bobcat or Cougar, for short

57 Class that's soon to leave: Abbr.

59 Suffix with opal

60 Sarcasm clarifier

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# STATE

## Technology helps limit corn losses in drought

By The Associated Press

For months, Illinois farmer David Kellerman held out hope for rain, even as the worst drought in nearly 25 years spread across the country.

He finally gave up when the temperature hit 108 three days in a row. Corn won't develop kernels if it gets too warm during pollination, and Kellerman knew the empty cobs in the fields where he works would never fill out.

Just after the Fourth of July, he and the neighbor he farms with took an extraordinary step: They cut down the entire crop and baled the withered plants to use as hay for their cattle.

Almost a third of the nation's corn crop has been damaged by heat and drought, and a number of farmers in the hardest hit areas of the Midwest have cut down their crops just midway through the growing season.

But the nation could still see one of the largest harvests in U.S. history, thanks to new plant varieties developed to produce more corn per acre and better resist drought.

Kellerman said he was surprised his corn fared as well as it did, growing to a decent height even though there had been less than an inch of rain since mid-April.



SUBMITTED PHOTO

Troy Kuziel jumps off of bridge into the Embarras River.

## PLUNGE, from page 1

"It's a great way to cool off in the summer," Walker said. "Me and my friends are always looking for time to go, especially in the last few weeks since it's been so hot."

Walker said bridge jumping is a great alternative activity because it does not cost money.

"I'm a college student, so it's pretty normal to be broke and

bored in the summer," Walker said. "Jumping off a bridge may not seem like the best idea, but once you realize it's pretty safe, it's a ton of fun."

John Downen can be reached at 581-7942 or DENopinions@gmail.com

## FANS, from page 8

Orlando wishes for Eastern to have more of a road presence.

This came to the forefront at last year's Family Weekend game versus ECU, where the Colonel fans filled the entire visitors section at O'Brien Field in a victory.

The Panther Fan Travel Van will take fans to the venue and back the same day and supply beverages and snacks for the ride.

The bus will live or die based on student participation.

As far as the hardwood this fall, Midnight Madness will be making a return, and in-game prizes will also see a significant upgrade.

According to Orlando, prizes could include Chicago Bears or Chicago Blackhawks tickets, or even a trip to the Caribbean.

With the women's squad returning a solid team, the time is ripe to make a push for an attendance increase.

The same applies to the new eras beginning on the men's side and on the gridiron this fall, as both squads look to rebound and regain fans from lackluster seasons.

Joshua Bryant can be reached at 581-2812 or jpbryant@eiu.edu.

## SPORTS, from page 8

Daughter's boyfriend: "Didn't watch it."

Father: "Oh, I guess you had work."

DB: "No, I just don't like sports at all."

Nine times out of 10, that poor young man has lost every last cool point he could ever earn with his girlfriend's father.

Is it fair? Not really.

At the end of the day, you are who you are. It's not worth it to be anyone else, because if you do, it makes your life inauthentic.

Maybe athletic competition just isn't for some people. I guess there's always "Call Of Duty."

## ACT, from page 1

Bower said the board is looking into whether it will accept SAT scores from out-of-state students and the criteria it will be judged on.

Overall, Bower said he thinks the Illinois higher education system is taking a step in the right direction.

"I really believe that we should use the resources at hand as oppose to put another \$125 test in the air," Bower said. "I don't think we need to test people to death."

Nike Ogunbodede can be reached at 581-2812 or ovogunbodede@eiu.edu.

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MENS BASKETBALL



FILE PHOTO | THE DAILY EASTERN NEWS

Red-shirt freshman forward James Hollowell tries to split two Eastern Kentucky defenders March 2, 2012 evening in Lantz Arena. Hollowell finished the game with 10 points, eight rebounds and three blocks.

# Hollowell out for fall

By Joshua Bryant  
Sports Editor

Take a look at Eastern’s men’s basketball roster and you will not find James Hollowell on it. Not as a player. Not as a grad assistant. Non-existent. Despite having one year of NCAA eligibility remaining, Hollowell, an effective shot blocker and consistent contributor on the score sheet and on the boards in the past, will not be hitting the hardwood this fall. Sharp decisions are made on and off the lines in sports, especially in the professional ranks and the NCAA. Head Coach Jay Spoonhour is not exempt. “In my job, sometimes you have to make decisions, and they

don’t always benefit everyone,” Spoonhour said. Spoonhour cites the primary focus on the student-athlete in terms of the athletic department and himself fulfilling their obligation to Hollowell. “Eastern Illinois’ responsibility to James was to ensure he had every opportunity to earn his degree,” Spoonhour said. With both sides fulfilling their obligations to march toward that degree, moving on in the name of the team was the next step for Spoonhour. “My responsibility is to the program as a whole and to make sure that we have the best opportunity to win this year and in future years, and I have made decisions based on that,” he said. Understandably so, coach-

es have the obligation to put out the best team possible in order to earn wins, retain their jobs, boost recruitment and possibly ascend to greater heights in the future. Still cloudy, however, is the exact condition of Hollowell’s back injury, and if he could have been a consistent contributor in the fall as he was in the past. The stats say that a healthy Hollowell can contribute, with him still leading the team in points, blocks and/or rebounds in certain contests. One possibility is the emergence (or expected emergence) of newcomers (freshmen, transfers, JUCO signees) which could either fill the hole left by Hollowell (that is, if any hole was seen by the new staff in the first place) or create the kind of roster that will

best suit Spoonhour’s vision for the future of the program. Spoonhour says that by NCAA rule (and law) that the info provided is all that he can provide, so for now, the new-look Panthers will head into the fall one veteran down. Men’s hoops is a sport where younger and new players can make an impact fairly quickly versus other teams that may require more time to strike the learning curve. The Panthers will showcase their work for the first time this November.

Joshua Bryant can be reached at 581-2812 or jpbryant@eiu.edu.

COLUMN



Joshua Bryant

## No sports for you

The other day a young lady mentioned her ex-boyfriend to me, and I soon realized why he was cut loose. He did not like sports. Not a single one. Is it me, or does testosterone not force a man to love some form of competition? My eyebrows rose as I pondered it. I’ve never heard of a man speaking of what his son may become some day without mentioning athletics. Many kids are forced into sports at an early age, either to help them build character and friendships or because some parents like to relive their childhoods through their offspring. My early memories are hazy, but I don’t recall being forced into anything. I played all kinds of sports as a child because I loved them.

What kind of kid walks through the park on a sunny day, sees sports of all kinds being played and says, “Nope, I’ll go back inside. It’s way too fun out here for me.” Journalists are supposed to be able to see all sides, and I’m really trying on this one. The best I can come up with is that some people just don’t have the desire to win and/or prove themselves through competition. Some are brought up with the notion of everyone being a “winner,” no matter what happens. Though I disagree with the notion, I cannot dismiss it. But you have to wonder, if your child lost a pee-wee baseball game by a score of 45-0, how do you convince him/her that they are a winner? They may be young, but they aren’t stupid. Everyone knows what defeat feels like. I guess some people can just brush it off. So, if someone somehow managed to brush off the call of competition, with all of its benefits and experiences all the way through to adulthood, it’s possible that they may not like sports, despite it being a huge part of American culture. You would have to put up quite a few walls to evade the pull of the sports world. Anyone with a Twitter account knows what is about to happen once a big game begins.

Every single trending topic worldwide is going to have either an athlete’s name, the score of the game, the name of the teams playing or even something funny that an announcer said during the game. The same goes for the Facebook news feed. There are Super Bowl parties, live fantasy drafts, March Madness, bowl games, races and tournaments of all kinds, many of which are broadcast worldwide on top networks. You’d have to be quite the individual to avoid having any tie, connection or liking for a sport if you grew up here in the U.S (and the same goes for many other countries). Top athletes are worshipped. What person doesn’t want a bit of glory? The spotlight? The attention? Someone who just doesn’t care for it, I guess. That’s quite a story to tell to your significant other’s father while courting his daughter. Father: “Hey, what did you think of the Super Bowl?”

FANS

## New era to pump up Panthers

By Joshua Bryant  
Sports Editor

Getting butts in the seats increases the electricity at sporting events across the nation. Tony Orlando, in his second year as director of Athletic Marketing and Promotions at Eastern, will launch plenty of new schemes to create buzz surrounding the Panther teams this fall. “It’s all about generating excitement,” Orlando said. “Our whole slogan this year is that it’s a new era for men and women’s basketball and football.”

This excitement will be showcased on Aug. 30, as the football team seeks revenge in its first game against in-state rival Southern Illinois Salukis, who have gotten the best of the Panthers as of late. Events at the game will include fireworks, in-game festivities and contests. To encourage people to go to the game, the first 500 fans at each home game will receive a different give-away prize week-to-week as well. But where does the funding for the activities all come from? “There’s a set budget each year,” Orlando said. “With football, the

OVC helps us by giving money to each OVC football school. The general promotional budget can supplement the other sports.” Orlando wishes for the pre-game atmosphere to have more of a college feel to it than there has been in the past, which he says is a big deal for students. “We’re going to have a brand new student tailgate,” Orlando said. “A Division I tailgate in the parking lot with grills going. We haven’t had it here.” Also, coming in August, Panther fans with smart phones will be able to download an EIU fan applica-

tion, complete with a reward system for attending events. All of the new promotions will be aimed at the entire Charleston community. “When we talk about community, that’s what it is,” Orlando said. “A mom and a dad taking kids to an event and having such a good time that they want to come again and again.” Attendance on the road is also in focus. Fans will have the opportunity to enter the Panther Fan Travel Van, which will be open to any student or alumni.