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Daily Eastern News: June 14, 2012

Eastern Illinois University

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State treasurer visits Eastern, Boys State

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DRILLS



SETH SCHROEDER | THE DAILY EASTERN NEWS

Members of the Coles County Crisis Response Team stand ready outside of the Martin Luther King Jr. University Union Tuesday as part of a scenario for the Illinois Emergency Agency's 2012 state-level exercise. The team was armed with simulation non-lethal training ammunition for the exercise.

Emergencies simulated on campus

By Nike Ogunbodede and Seth Schroeder
Editor-in-Chief and News Editor

A hostage crisis at McAfee Gymnasium, chemical leak and shooting at the steam plant and an incident at Carman Hall made Eastern a microcosm for almost every disaster scenario possible—all before 3 p.m. on Tuesday.

All three scenarios were part of the annual Illinois Emergency Management Agency's state-level exercise, which takes place on a different Illinois college campus each year.

Tuesday's exercise started with a literal bang when a responding K-9 Ivan took down exercise volunteer J.B. Taylor, an Eastern electrician and former Marine, who opened fire in the steam plant.

During the scenario, Taylor ran between the Student Services Building and the Martin Luther King Jr. University Union, acting as a suspect being pursued by police.

Charleston police officer Heath Thornton led a K-9 unit to where Taylor was running and threatened to release the dog if Taylor did not surrender.

After Taylor refused Thornton let go of the dog, who then ran at Taylor and latched onto his padded arm.

Taylor said he has participated in this type of scenario

before when he was in the military and he was the only one who volunteered for it.

"I got riled for volunteering, but I wanted to do something good and wanted to help with this," he said. "It was good—it was fun and exciting."

Monken said apprehending a criminal with a K-9 unit is often non-lethal.

"Always preferable to capture the person alive than killing them," He said.

Timing is everything, and it was important to keep the exercise response times as realistic as possible, IEMA Director Jon Monken said.

"We try and incorporate the time that would be necessary for other units to respond," Monken said. "If something happened on (a college) campus, campus police are going to be the first on the scene—the important thing to know is when you need to take it to the next level."

Monken said campus security has become a high priority within the last decade.

He said IEMA try and train for a variety of situations with each of these exercises.

"The idea is to try and mix it up as much as possible," Monken said.

CRIMES, page 7

Top officials review outcomes

By John Downen
Opinions Editor

Officials and organizers from the Illinois Emergency Management Agency met at 3 p.m. Tuesday to discuss and evaluate the outcome of their drill earlier that morning.

President Bill Perry said the morning's operations were effectively seen from different perspectives, with multiple state agencies working together during the drills.

Perry said the drill necessitated involvement from state, Charleston and Mattoon police and fire departments, and allowed the university to activate their phone trees and alert system.

The agency ran a multitude of scenarios throughout the day, all with different layers.

Gary Hanebrink, Eastern's safety officer, said the drill

allowed the implementation of all fire and police squads.

Hanebrink said the drill focused on "emergencies within emergencies" in order to prepare responders for all possible scenarios.

Hanebrink also said the drill, which is planned once a year throughout Illinois, was the largest the agency has put together.

Hanebrink described the drill as a "once-in-a-lifetime opportunity."

Perry said the drill was meant to represent the fact that "anything can happen at anytime."

"The drill got to prepare people for scary thing that can happen," Perry said.

Hanebrink reflected on an actual scenario on Eastern's campus last year, in which a suspicious package was dropped at a building on campus.

REVIEW, page 7

CAMPUS

BOT to vote on FY '13 budget

By Seth Schroeder
News Editor

Members of the Board of Trustees will meet to approve the budget for Eastern's Fiscal Year 13 during their meeting 1 p.m. Monday in the Grand Ballroom of the Martin Luther King Jr. University Union.

The proposed budget would allocate around \$16 million of federal financial aid to students.

About \$400 thousand less would be allocated than in FY '12.

Jerry Donna, director of the financial aid office, said despite the decrease in aid there will not be a smaller percentage of students receiving access to funds.

"As our enrollment drops we can't pull in as much money for federal aid," Donna said. "There are less people accessing those funds."

Donna said this does not reflect the institution's attitude to giving aid to students.

The administration has expressed a greater desire to help students and put more funds in aid, he said.

Donna said things are going to get better for incoming students, as there is a recent push to give out merit scholarships to them.

"This is something we need to do," Donna said. "It's the right thing to do. The administration recognizes it's a time where more students need (aid) in order to go to school."

Students may have some financial aid concerns about the Pell Grant because it has "a lower ceiling," but Donna said he does not think it will be a big concern.

Donna said the Pell Grant change will not affect many students.

During its meeting, the board will also vote on potentially adding a Master of Sciences in sustainable energy degree.

Ryan Siegel, campus energy and sustainability coordinator, said the degree would be a part of a new, versatile curriculum.

"We're expecting a very broad student base," Siegel said. "Whether that be philosophy to psychology, or be it physics to chemistry, or even the arts."

He said the program would be cross-curricular with 10 or more departments involved.

Through the program, he said students could study different renewable energy sources, the science of energy conversion, the entrepreneurship and economic aspects of renewable energy, as well as several other fields.

BUDGET, page 7

EIU weather

TODAY

FRIDAY



Sunny
High: 86°
Low: 60°



Mostly Sunny
High: 91°
Low: 67°

For more weather visit castle.eiu.edu/weather.

CORRECTION

In the article “Cavaliers to perform dress rehearsal” in the June 12 edition of *The Daily Eastern News* the location of where The Cavaliers Drum & Bugle Corps normally perform their dress rehearsal was incorrect. The corps normally perform at O’Brien Stadium for their dress rehearsal. *The News* regrets this error.

EASTERN NEWS

“Tell the truth and don’t be afraid.”

Contact

If you have corrections or tips, please call:

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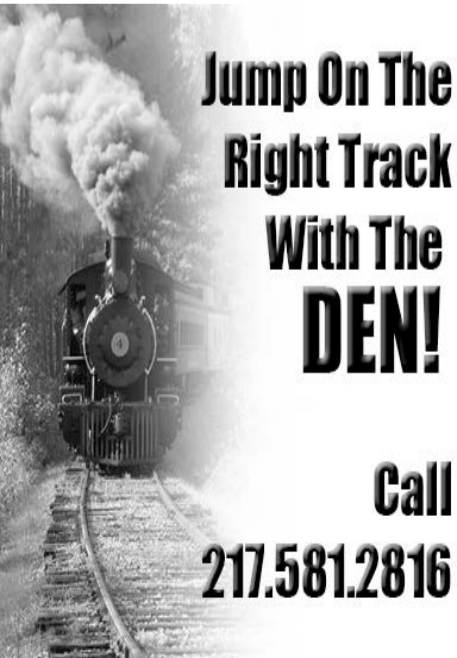
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Corrections

The *Daily Eastern News* is committed to accuracy in its coverage of the news. Any factual error the staff finds, or is made aware of by its readers, will be corrected as promptly as possible. Please report any factual error you find by e-mail, phone, campus mail or in person.



CAMPUS

State treasurer visits Eastern, Boys State

Rutherford talks about politics, early beginning

By Nike Ogunbodede
Editor-in-Chief

He who knows the most people wins, State Treasurer Dan Rutherford told members of Illinois Boys State, a summer program for high school juniors, in a speech Wednesday in Coleman Auditorium.

The proof he said was him—a Republican—being elected into the office of state treasurer.

“We work hard—the City of Chicago, suburbs, downstate—on the ballots... we got more votes in this state than the United States senator got; we got more votes in this state than Pat Quinn got as governor,” Rutherford said.

Rutherford spent the hour going through stories of his time in and out of public offices.

At 11, Rutherford was taken to the State Capitol by his grandfather—a Democrat—and remembers getting the signature of the secretary of the governor of Illinois—a big deal Rutherford at the time.

“I (still) have my autograph book today,” he said.

It was a big deal to him at the time and the start of his political aspirations, he said.

“I think that it is an important time in their lives to meet people who were elected officials to help encourage them to do things of service in government,” Rutherford said.

During the ask-answer portion of the meeting, one Boys State member asked about the current pension crisis—the boy’s father is an Eastern professor.

“Whatever he has invested is his, and that should not change,” Rutherford said.

Boys State President Terry Woodburn said the program allows attendees to form their own

political opinions in their early years.

“It gives them a chance to strengthen their ideals, and they learn a lot about local government, which most youngsters today don’t have,” Woodburn said.

Woodburn also said the program, which is in its 77th year, does not ask for participants to stipulate where they stand politically.

Instead the program assigns members to two fictitious parties: the Federalists and the Nationalists. Members of Boys State mock elect members to different levels of county, city and state office with the highest being governor.

“We have no desire to have their political leanings—the American Legion is an apolitical organization,” Woodburn said. “We don’t back candidates and we don’t back political parties.”

Woodburn said he hopes people become more politically aware.

“Speak your mind, vote your mind—it’s not important whether you are a Democrat or Republican—it’s important that you are involved in the voting process,” Woodburn said.

Rutherford said he does not think political unawareness is a generational problem, but instead is person-by-person issue.

“I would guarantee that every young man (that was) in there will be involved in some fashion or another in government or politics,” Rutherford said.

Woodburn agreed.

Boys State participants tend to be more aware of politics—even producing future presidents, Woodburn said.

“Probably our most famous photo is when President Kennedy was in the Rose Garden with the boys, and there was a young man reaching over the shoulder of another Boys Nations candidate shaking hands with Kennedy,” he said. “That was a young Arkansas representative named Bill Clinton.”

BOYS STATE

Summer program teaches about politics

By Cristina Medina
Staff Reporter

Eastern recently welcomed 504 young men participating in American Legion’s Illinois Boys State for their 77th annual program.

Kevin Gordon, the program’s director of finance and public relations, said Illinois is recognized as the premier model for the program.

He said currently all states except Hawaii host Boys State programs.

Their counterpart, Girls State, is hosted nationwide as well. Girls State will be arriving on Eastern campus next week.

Gordon said Boys State was created to combat youth camps in Nazi Germany. The program was established in the United States and gave a chance for youth to learn by doing, he said.

It is set on creating a mythical version of a 51st state with a constitution, body of law, and practices unfamiliar to it, Gordon said.

He said Boys State offers a unique lifetime experience for young outgoing high school, junior boys on their way to becoming seniors. This portion of the their

lives is considered an optimal age, he said.

“The program was created to help develop a sense of civic pride, civic engagement, and an attempt to get people to understand how government works,” Gordon said.

In 2000, Gordon said he started off as a participant operating as a city clerk in the program.

“It’s not like a typical classroom experience, where you can only retain so much information,” He said.

Gordon said he decided to join the counseling staff and eventually focused on maintaining an administrative role in the program.

Gordon explained that when participants come to Boys State instead of assigning them to a counselor or group, they are assigned to a city.

He said they are given the opportunity to operate American government on a local, state, and national level.

Participants are referred to as citizens.

Upon entering the first assembly, every participant swears an oath of citizenship thus earning the respective title as a “citizen.”



NIKE OGUNBODEDE | THE DAILY EASTERN NEWS

Illinois State Treasurer Dan Rutherford speaks to the members of the Illinois Premier Boys State about his time in political office Wednesday in the Coleman Auditorium.

Though admitting that he is mostly Conservative, Woodburn said the end goal of each party is the same with only different points of view.

Having different points of view is not a bad thing, Woodburn said.

“Our process is here’s what we want to do, and then we have two groups who decide how they want to get there—they take different paths, but they usually end up (with) the same result,” he said.

Rutherford said one problem

with Illinois is the overallocation of nonexistent funds.

“By the time I finish my first term in office, I hope we have some form of financial stability, and we need to be operating government much like you would your own household,” Rutherford said. “Live within your means and don’t expect more.”

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

“Once a citizen at Boys State, always a citizen at Boys State.”

--Kevin Gordon,
director of finance
and public relations

lic speaking skills, Boys State has been an incredible experience,” he said.

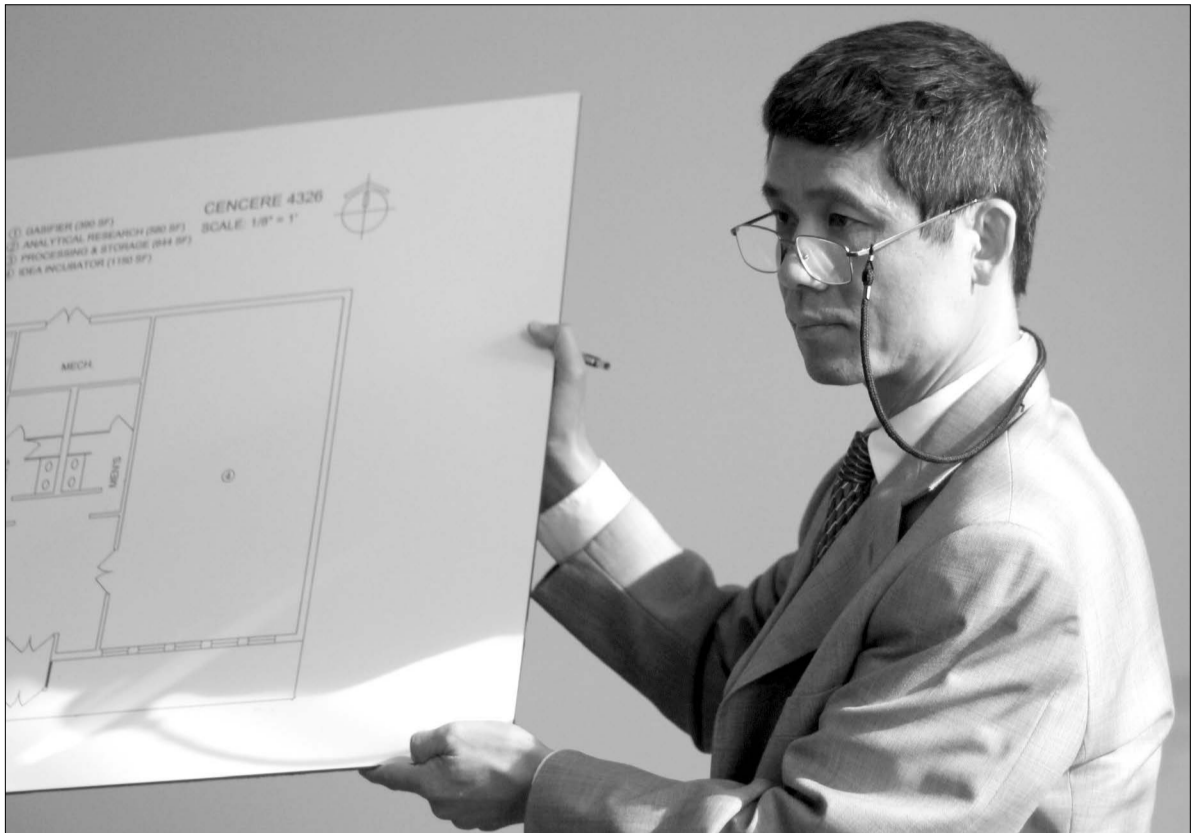
Tyler Goldammer, a citizen of Boys State from Edwardsville, agreed with Aumuller.

“The more I got involved the more I was able to get into it,” Goldammer said. “You know, they call it Boys State, but while I’ve been here, I’ve become a man.”

Although he has taken on the role as his city’s mayor, Goldammer is in the running for state treasurer.

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CAMPUS



MARCUS SMITH | THE DAILY EASTERN NEWS

Peter Ping Liu, a technology professor, helps President Bill Perry hold up the floor plan of CENCERE Wednesday evening in the Rotary Room a of the Charleston Carnegie Public Library.

Public input might drive relocation of CENCERE

By Marcus Smith
Online Editor

Placement of the upcoming Center for Clean Energy Research and Education was the major topic of discussion at the second of two meetings to discuss the future of the center Wednesday.

Charles White, who lives to the east of the Renewable Energy Center, is concerned with the placement of CENCERE blocking the view of the Renewable Energy Center.

"You have blocked the prettiest part of the energy center partially with this building," he said.

President Bill Perry said they will investigate the possibility of moving the building east of its current proposed location and he will present the

Board of Trustees with a general area for the placement building.

Nancy White, Charles White's wife, brought up a concern with the Renewable Energy Center and the noise that reverberates off the building when the wood chips are being delivered.

Bill Webber, vice president of business affairs, said the problem had been identified and the replacement has been ordered and should be here in one to two weeks.

One suggestion was to expand the building by building upward, but Perry said that the expansion would be outward.

"When you build a building and someday add another story, there is a lot more infrastructure to put in," Perry said.

He said they would be presenting

the CENCERE concept to the Board of Trustees Monday and that there will be further work to do for a final design and then go back to the Board of Trustees for final approval.

Webber said that now there will be a bid sent out for designers and eventually the faculty for CENCERE and buildings planning and management will look over all the proposals and choose one.

The center is slated to cost \$1 million for development. After construction the center would be a place for research into renewable energy. It would also have classrooms and a work area for people to develop new clean energy concepts.

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CITY

Mattoon to present Artworks Festival

By Tim Deters
Managing Editor

The Mattoon Arts Council will be hosting the first Mattoon Artworks Festival from noon to 7:30 p.m. June 16 in and around the bandshell in Morton Park, 1215 Division St, Mattoon.

The festival will feature 17 art vendors, hands-on projects and craft making, performances by local talents, and a talent contest said Janahn Kolden, vice chair of the Mattoon Arts Council.

Kolden said she hopes the first Mattoon Artworks Festival will expose the community to the local art scene and art in general.

"Our mission with the Mattoon Arts Council is to try and provide the opportunity for people to be exposed to the arts," she said.

The Summer Strings, an orchestra program for young students in Charleston, will open the event at noon, followed by performances by the Mattoon Middle School jazz band at 12:30 p.m.

Sullivan artist Karl Jendry will demonstrate the art of speed painting at 1 and 3:30 p.m. Speed painting involves an artist placing what seem to be ran-

dom splashes of paint on a canvas, Kolden explained. The artist sums up the work with a few final brushstrokes that complete the painting and give it a final, clear image.

Dancers from Margene's Dance Studio in Mattoon and Mattoon High School will then perform at 1:30 p.m. and 2 p.m., respectively.

The Mattoon High School drama club will present "Storybook Theater" at 2:30 and 4:30 p.m., performing classic children's fables and poems from writers such as the Brothers Grimm.

Students will take turns acting as the classic authors to narrate the performances, said Rebecca Nevius, Mattoon High School drama club director.

Local musician James Reed and the group Muddy Grove will perform at 3 and 4 p.m., respectively.

Reed is a Mattoon electric guitarist who is new to the local music scene, and Muddy Grove is a pop-folk band, Kolden said.

The final event of the festival will be "Mattoon's Got Talent," a talent show for local students between the ages of 10 and 18.

The talent show will be organized

by the Mattoon Public Library's Teens Program, headed by director Ryan Franklin, and will begin at 5 p.m.

There will be three groups of musical performers, Franklin said, and performers will not be judged. Each group will be recognized for their unique talents.

Throughout the day, arts vendors will be selling their handcrafted items, and students from the Mattoon High School art club will be selling pottery they made, said Kolden, who is also an art teacher at the high school.

Former Eastern ceramics professor Bill Heyduck will be demonstrating how to make pottery on a potter's wheel.

Children will also have the opportunity to create their own crafts for free and take them home at several make-and-take tents, Kolden said.

She said she is excited to present the first Mattoon Artworks Festival to the community and hopes it will become an annual event.

Tim Deters can be reached at 581-2812 or tadeters@eiu.edu.

STATE

Illinois justices: Improve access to court system

Legal self-help centers and affordable legal representation promoted

By The Associated Press

Throwing its weight behind a movement to make the justice system more accessible, the Illinois Supreme Court on Wednesday created a commission that will study the hurdles that keep some people from getting their day in court.

One of those hurdles is the complexity of legal documents, which can keep people from representing themselves in court even on routine matters. Another is the difficulty of reaching downstate courthouses for people who are poor or disabled.

The court also wants to promote legal self-help centers and assist people in finding affordable legal representation.

"The purpose is to make access to justice a high priority for everyone in the legal system," Chief Justice Kilbride said in a statement Wednesday. "This includes judges, clerks, attorneys, other court personnel and even our law schools."

Kilbride said 26 other states and the District of Columbia already have similar commissions. The Illinois panel is supposed to work with groups that are already

trying to improve access, such as the Illinois Coalition for Equal Justice.

The executive director of that group, Joseph Dailing, said the civil justice system should be "more user-friendly and accessible for the growing number of people who are coming to the courts without lawyers."

Dailing said poor people are often pulled into the legal system over divorces, rent disputes, consumer complaints and wills. Attorneys are too expensive for them and the legal process is too complex, he said, so people are left with little protection.

The commission could help with that by simplifying procedures and forms for routine legal matters. It could also work to ensure that self-help legal centers around the state are protected or even expanded.

Legal procedures aren't the only roadblock to access. So are physical location and services.

Poor or disabled people in downstate Illinois can find themselves far from the nearest courthouse with no car and no public transportation. People with physical disabilities may not be able to get the help they need.

Technology could help with some of those problems. The IIT Chicago-Kent College of Law, for instance, has developed "Access to Justice" software that guides people through some legal procedures, and Illinois Legal Aid Online is another resource.

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7 pm

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* MUST BE 21 *

STAFF EDITORIAL

Pell Grant cuts hurt students; take a stand

In less than two weeks, Congress will have to make a decision that affects almost 9 million college students around the nation.

The College Cost Reduction and Access Act, passed in 2007, bears a name that would seem to advocate lower tuition rates for college students.

However, provisions in the act could cost 9 million college students around \$1,000 annually, should Congress neglect it.

This \$1,000 is the result of the act’s provisions regarding funding and eligibility for Pell Grant—federally subsidized loans.

The important aspect of Pell Grant is that they do not require repayment. Through these grants, the government can award a student up to \$5,550 for annual college tuition and fees.

Should Congress choose to not revise the act, the average interest rate on Pell Grant would double from 3.4 percent to 6.8 for the nine million students currently using loans to pay for school.

While that change might not be enough to mobilize protests or boycotts, it is enough to drastically affect the already poor economic climate for college students and graduates.

According to the White House’s website, for the first time in history, American college students now owe more in student loans than they do in credit card debt.

Only adding to the difficulty of obtaining a college education, according to FinAid.com, a website that tracks tuition and loan trends, the average national tuition has risen by 8 percent on an annual basis in recent years. That eight percent raise is three times the national inflation rate, and is indicative of the challenges college students and graduates must face after they leave school.

In order for Congress to revise the College Cost Reduction and Access Act, and consequently keep interest rates at the current 3.4 percent, they would have to revise the fiscal 2013 budget, which has already been passed by the House of Representatives.

Revising this budget to keep Pell Grant funding consistent would necessitate cuts in other programs. Representatives on both sides of Congress are refusing to compromise, ultimately leaving the effects on the 9 million college students dependant on Pell Grant for education.

This is an issue that should be concerning to Eastern students.

The consequences of not revising the 2013 budget could be detrimental to incoming college students as well as the futures of those currently enrolled at universities across the country.

The massive effect that cuts to Pell Grant would have still has not warranted significant media attention, and it therefore falls on college students to take a stance on the issue.

As far as political decisions go, cuts to Pell Grant will have a very direct and substantial effect on Eastern students.

With that in mind, it is increasingly important that students take a stand before it’s too late.

Whether writing state representatives, informing other students about the issue or even just investigating the issue itself, any awareness and attention to these cuts get will help prevent them.

The DAILY EASTERN NEWS

“Tell the truth and don’t be afraid.”

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COLUMN

An open letter to Glenn Beck

Dear Glenn,
I really have missed you. Over the last few years, I have to say I’ve hungered for your voice.

I mean, it just isn’t the same having Rush Limbaugh tell me that Muslims are kidnapping my grandma or that Obama is actually Fidel Castro in disguise. He just doesn’t have the same conviction of lunacy that you did.

After two years away from the public light, I thought you were gone, Glenn.

I stayed up nights, put up “Missing” posters with your face on them—I checked every animal shelter within 100 miles for you.

And I thought you were gone forever.

But now I see it—you weren’t deserting us. You were merely planning the greatest comeback in the history of comebacks.

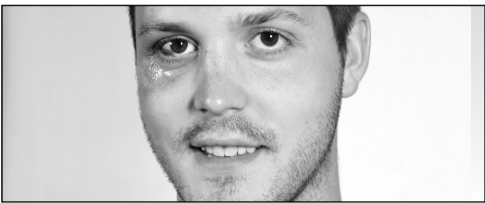
Jesus waited three days, you waited almost *three years*.

And I’ve got to say, it was worth the wait.

Because this grandiose “welcome back party” you’re planning will quench every thirst I’ve had since your departure from the spotlight.

The “Restoring Love” rally will be the culmination of everything you’ve done, Glenn.

Hundreds, maybe thousands of people will bask in your eternally pale glory—I’m sure we can say it was millions of people (you’ve gotten away with it before).



John Downen

You told us that politics needed another Dick Clark—little did we know that you’ve always been the Dick we were looking for.

I have to commend you for trying to integrate pop culture into the mix as well.

After all, Tea Party politics really are representative of America’s youth, and you’ve finally found out how to get those youngsters away from their silly Facespaces and Mybooks.

Thanks to you, the kids will finally get what they’ve always wanted—strict abstinence and subtle homophobia.

You should pair up with the cast from Jersey Shore for a straight-to-DVD rendition of Leviticus and Exodus—Snooki is already tan enough to look like she’s been wandering the desert for 40 years anyway.

And what’s this I hear about a rapper? How hip of you, Glenn.

Finally, the decades-long marriage between Hollywood and liberals will be tarnished and broken (take notes, North Carolina).

But however this whole transformation works out, Glenn, just know that somewhere, a kid is hiding under his desk because you told him the Russians were invading again.

Either way, this “Restoring Love” rally has been a big step forward for you, Glenn. I’m glad to see that you’ve moved past your chalkboard and anagram-based rants and have finally joined the hippie movement that died 40 years ago.

Congratulations, you’ve gone from 1950s anti-communist to 1960s flower child. Now you’re only half a century away from joining America’s social norms, and if you ask me, that’s pretty groovy, man.

Wait a second—if you rearrange the letters in “Restoring Love,” what do you get?
“IGNORE REVOLTS!”

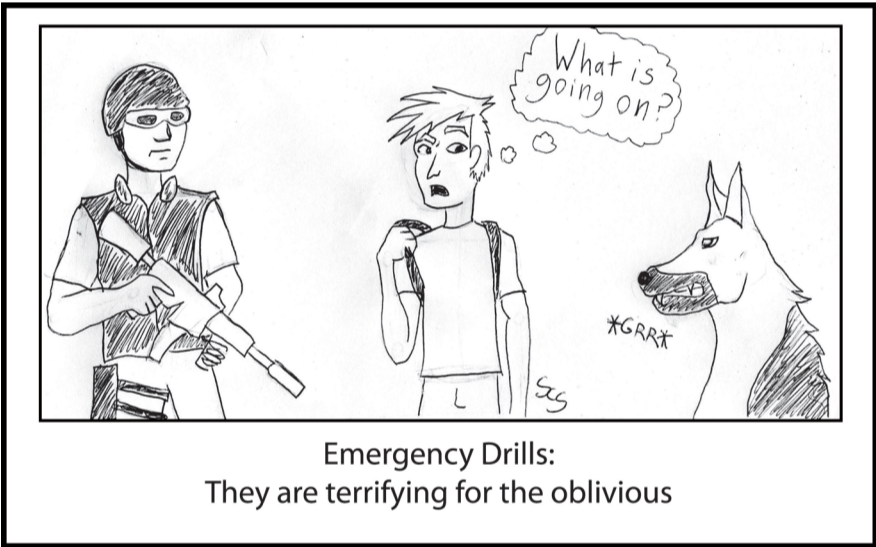
My God, Glenn, according to your logic, this rally is less about love, and more about support for the Syrian government.

And by THAT logic, you must be an anti-democratic Muslim. And by THAT logic, you must support Obama’s jihad on America.

My God, Glenn, how could you?

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FROM THE EASEL



SETH SCHROEDER | THE DAILY EASTERN NEWS

COLUMN

Nation loses nose, keeps spite

Pity the poor nation whose crippled proboscis can no longer enjoy the sweet smells of summer.

It had to happen, of course, to save freedom and the economy. Which is why last month the brave men and women of the House Armed Services Committee efficiently gave the nation a nose job, while teaching its face a lesson it won’t soon forget.

Somewhere in their busy schedule of not doing anything and seeming angry about everything, members of Congress recently coalesced around a plan to limit military spending.

“Incredible, es verdad?” you ask, illegally. Yes, it is true, a bipartisan bill passed both houses of the 112 Congress of the United States, limiting military spending. On renewable energy.

The military can no longer buy alternative fuels that cost more than fossil fuels. In times of relative austerity, they argue, the country can’t afford to fill its tankers with costly biofuels.

“When anyone says we can’t afford to invest in developing alternative sources of energy, my reply is, ‘We can’t afford not to.’” Navy Secretary Ray Mabus told a Senate hearing in March. “We can’t afford to wait until price shocks or supply shocks leave us no alternative.”

The Defense Department is the largest consumer of oil in the world. Oil is finite and the market is extremely vulnerable to geopolitical events we can’t control. The only certainty about oil is that prices will rise.



Dave Balson

The meanest fleet in the world isn’t worth a damn if you can’t afford to fill the tanks. So the Pentagon has been investing in alternative fuels, like biofuel, that are homegrown and renewable.

Oil is much cheaper, for now. The oil industry has had a century, and plenty of money, to develop the techniques that make it so affordable.

The relatively young biofuel industry has not yet scientifically or structurally developed to compete with the price of oil. By switching some of its fleet to run on biofuel, the industry will have the resources to develop into a competitive alternative to fossil fuels.

The military sees biofuel as a strategic investment, one it must make to ensure long-term stability and security. But that doesn’t matter to Sen. John McCain, whose integrity has rapidly declined since the morning of Nov. 5, 2008. McCain accused President Obama as “adopting a ‘green agenda’ for national defense.”

There was a time when McCain wore shades of

green to work. In 2003, McCain — or at least the actor who used to play him — cosponsored the first major bipartisan bill in the Senate to address climate change.

The outspoken environmentalist told a crowd in 2008, in a speech on the dangers of climate change: “We need to think straight about the dangers ahead, and to meet the problem with all the resources of human ingenuity at our disposal.”

It’s likely neo-McCain is not so much guilty of intellectual dishonesty as outright deception. The congressional ban plays to the base and scores a victory for the massive oil lobby, whose barrels of cash bend ears in the Beltway.

But it will cripple the very thing McCain and his fellow Republicans have sworn to always protect: national security. The most altruistic claim made on the right is that we must leave a stable economy for our grandchildren. This ban makes hollow even that hopeful appeal.

Instead, another costly can is kicked to our kin, who will have to figure out how to run the largest military in the history of the world on oil at \$200/barrel. And they will be forced to wonder, as they rub the nub where their nose should be, just whose face their grandparents were trying to spite.

Dave Balson is a senior journalism major. He can be reached at 581-7942 or at DENopinions@gmail.com

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COLUMN



Seth Schroeder

RPGs are better than you think

Need something to do this weekend with a small group of friends? Don't have a lot of money? Why not take your group on an adventure? You don't need to worry about gas money; there is no driving involved.

The adventure you're going on takes place in your mind. Wait! Come back.

Okay, what I'm offering you isn't the flashiest. In fact it's stereotypically one of the least sexy things you can do.

But ignore the mainstream opinion. You're too smart for that, I can tell. Instead make up your own mind, try this out.

The games I'm talking about consist of dice, pen and paper. You've probably heard of "Dungeons & Dragons," this is a lot like that. I'm talking about tabletop roleplaying games, and while these games have a bad reputation in more ways than one, they can be a lot of fun.

Tabletop RPGs are sort of like a combination of books and video games, except they give a lot more narrative control to the people playing them. The games often consist of four to six players and a central referee or game master or GM.

The GM's job is to create challenges for the players to overcome and generate story elements for the game to follow. If it was a TV show the players would be the main characters who drive the plot. The GM would be the plot.

This actually makes them better than video games. What you give up in flashy graphics, you get back in freedom. The GMs are free to write a story they want to share with their friends, and the players aren't limited to a set of pre-determined options thought up by a designer. They can attempt pretty much anything they can imagine.

Through gaming I've fought goblins with spells and steel, flown with a whole league of superheroes, robbed a high tech lab of its prized experiments, survived a post-apocalyptic wasteland and created entire worlds for my friends and I to adventure in.

You might have made fun of these games, but have you ever given them a try? There's a lot of bad press with RPGs for some key reasons that I'll try and clear up.

They are not the sole domain of social inept nerds (though there's nothing wrong with that). It can actually be a great way to meet some really cool people, and it's definitely more face-to-face communication than playing a video game. Some of your favorite celebrities like Robin Williams, Matt Damon and Vin Diesel have all played RPGs.

It's also not just a male activity. Throughout my five years of tabletop gaming, my group has had at least one female member half the time. I got my girlfriend, who initially scoffed at these games, to play and she is now a complete addict.

They won't make you start worshipping the devil. As long as you have a firm grip on reality versus fiction, you don't need to worry about gaining homicidal tendencies or becoming a satanic wizard of some kind. These are games are imaginary, that's why they're fun.

If you already play D&D (or any RPG) I probably don't need to tell you any of this stuff. But if you don't, I sincerely hope you give it a try. They're not for everybody and they require communication and cooperation from everyone involved but you can find a good time.

To get started, here are a few tips:

There are a lot of free games out there. They're not all great, but a simple Google search can pull them up. Though most games aren't cheap even if you do pay for them considering the amount entertainment that numerous people can enjoy from a single purchase.

You'll need a variety of different dice. You can again find free random number generators online but a physical set is your best bet if you're serious.

Be patient and open-minded. This might be an initially weird experience for you and it might make you shy or nervous, but just relax, it's for fun.

Seth Schroeder is a junior journalism major. He can be reached at 581-2812 or scschroeder2@eiu.edu.

Movie Review



LAST GENERATION

Blast from the past: 'Children of Men'

Reviewed by John Downen

With the recent prominence of talk about the zombie apocalypse, and December 21 creeping around the corner, I thought revisiting one of my favorite dystopian movies might serve as a precaution for the imminent and looming End of Days.

Directed by Alfonso Cuarón (most known for "Harry Potter and the Prisoner of Azkaban"), "Children of Men" is the tale of the world, circa-2007, gone infertile.

Starring Clive Owen, Julianne Moore and Michael Caine, "Children of Men" has slowly gained credibility for its cinematography, plot and unique camera work.

It is dystopian—even post-apocalyptic—and succeeds in portraying the social, cultural and political ramifications of international sterility.

The 2006 film went, for the most part, unnoticed by common moviegoers.

However, those who did see the film rarely find flaws.

Unlike many other dystopian thrillers, "Children of Men" does not serve as a warning.

It does not use government as a scapegoat, nor does it try to place blame on mankind for the world's inevitable end.

Instead, it examines the social implications of aged civilization, giving attention to how government, religion and criminal gangs would be drastically changed by the realization that they are the world's last generation.

The film's plot revolves around Theo (Owen) and his attempts to help the world's only pregnant girl named Kee escape from London's gangs and police.

Theo, Kee and company face a litany of violent criminals, all hoping to use Kee's pregnancy for their own personal gain.

With no place to go, and the hope of salvation, the film's main characters are forced to submit to London's immigration police and are eventually deported into the filthy ghettos of Britain.

The vulnerability of these ghettos immediately establishes the action of the film, all culminating in an epic gunfight between British police and rebel gangs.

Theo and Kee sit helplessly in the middle of the action, with their fate in constant question.

Owen delivers a brilliant performance, portraying a hopeless drunk who finds salvation and promise in Kee's pregnancy.

Michael Caine is equally brilliant, playing the same whimsical old man we've come to love in the "Batman" series.

"Children of Men" is full of pop culture reference—animals float in the London sky, reminiscent of Pink Floyd's "Animals" artwork; German renditions of The Beatles and The Rolling Stones serve as the film's primary soundtrack.

However, while the plot and allusion of the film are undoubtedly successful, it is Cuarón's cinematography that ele-

vates "Children of Men" past other dystopian thrillers.

Apocalyptic London is nothing like we've seen before—it does not borrow from some Orwellian novel, nor is it an overt military state.

Instead, it shows the consequences of a world without hope or future, depicting the senseless nature of a species without optimism.

The movie's most thrilling scenes come from the extended-sequence shots that Cuarón was exploring in prior films.

Three scenes stand out in particular, all shot with one camera in one take.

The result of such filming is immensely successful—I've seen the film four times, and each of these scenes still leaves me anxious, afraid and apprehensive.

Blood splatters across the camera lens, machine guns blast from every speaker, the camera runs with the film's characters—the audience is no longer just an audience.

Instead, they find themselves in the middle of the action, ducking grenades and running from tanks.

It's difficult to summarize the perfection of "Children of Men" on paper—to truly appreciate the film, one MUST see it.

Regardless of one's apprehension or love of sci-fi films, "Children of Men" is a must-see for anyone who appreciates good cinema.

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The New York Times

ACROSS

- Veers quickly
- Be aware of
- Breakfast cereal with a propeller-headed alien on the front of the box
- "Mmm-hmm"
- Part of a foot
- Before
- One sharing an apartment
- Rhône feeder
- Daddy Warbucks's henchman
- "Chow down!"
- Eastern dance-drama
- City near Vance Air Force Base
- Facilities housing large planes?
- Title in S. America
- Poles, e.g.
- Online financial services company
- Tower, of a sort
- Actress Parsons
- One of the Muses
- Film for which Lee Marvin won Best Actor
- Pre-C.I.A. org.
- Captain's log detail

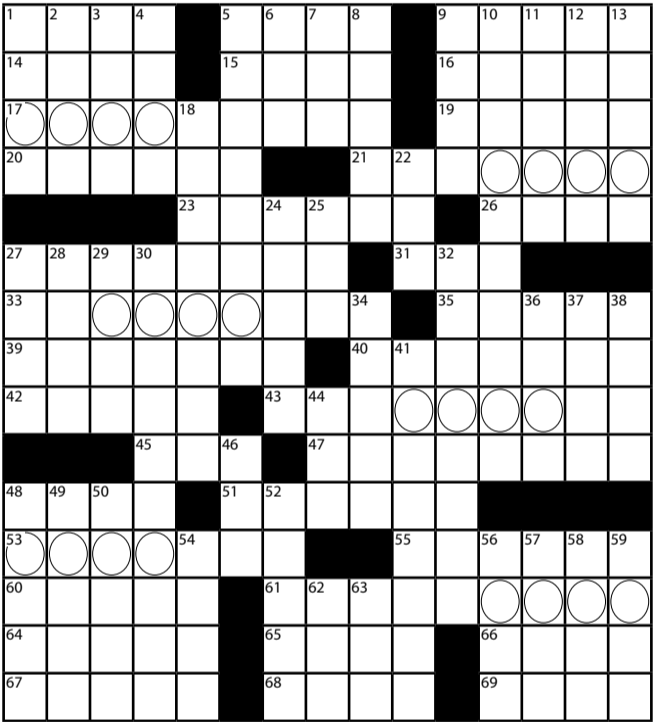
- Flanged structural element
- 1942 Tommy Dorsey hit with Frank Sinatra vocals
- Big Irish cream brand
- Event after a bowl game win
- Coppola subject
- Engagement precursor
- Hoard
- T.A.E. part
- Highest point
- D'Oyly ____ Opera Company
- Droids, etc.
- Word that can precede each set of circled letters, forming a literal hint for entering certain answers in this puzzle

DOWN

- Bad mark in school?
- Approximation ending
- "Wow!"
- Main
- City near Entebbe airport
- Sight-seeing grp.?
- Calendar mo.
- Marine snail
- Give out
- Opened
- Coast-to-coast route, informally

Edited by Will Shortz

No. 0510



PUZZLE BY JULES P. MARKEY

- Phone voice?
- Stated one's case
- Ones on top of the world?
- German treat
- Mont ____
- Mil. branch
- Saharan
- Violinist Leopold
- F.D.R. initiative
- Driver
- Spa, for one
- Sorrento seven
- Suffix with plug
- Frequently
- ____ Galerie, art museum on Manhattan's Fifth Avenue
- Five-time U.S. Open winner
- Set as a price
- Farm pen
- Desktop brand
- Rival of Ole Miss
- Light years off
- Record abbr.
- Allay
- Eastern rule
- "The Simpsons" character
- Blue, say: Abbr.
- The "2" in x²: Abbr.
- Erstwhile
- Institution founded by Thos. Jefferson

ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE



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MARCUS SMITH | THE DAILY EASTERN NEWS

George Gomez, an operator, uses an excavator to clean up debris June 4 at O'Brien Stadium. The field is being resurfaced and was originally built in 1970 at a cost of \$2 million.

ATHLETICS

Edinger next man in for Panther strength

Coach will oversee football, men's and women's basketball, and volleyball before Aug. 1

By Joshua Bryant
Sports Editor

The past two weeks have been insane for the new Head Strength and Conditioning coach for Panther athletics, Sean Edinger from Central Missouri.

"I got in last Saturday evening at about 5 o'clock, and Sunday at 4 we had our first football workout. We immediately had to come up with a

brand new program, scrambled to get numbers, a new running calendar and implement the whole deal with 24 hours to get it done," Edinger said.

Edinger had such a quick turnaround from getting hired that he only had 10 days to wrap up at Central Missouri. He arrived with one car load and crashed on coaches' couches for two days before subleasing the sublease of former coach Lee Taylor, who left Eastern for the University of Tennessee after arriving only in January.

The swift adjustment time has given Edinger plenty to look over and do, but the people around him have helped.

"Everybody has been very receptive to having someone new come in," he said. "It's not like I've pulled the rug out from anyone or tried anything

new, other than that it's been par for the course. The onus is on me to come in and see how everyone else has been running with their teams."

Edinger will oversee conditioning for football, men and women's basketball and volleyball over the course of the six-week session before Training Camp for football kicks off on Aug. 1.

In this short time, he has taken weight room maxes (bench press, back squat, hang clean) and projected where athletes should be at the end of the session.

"Setting new personal records is a huge deal," Edinger said. "Doing better than you've ever done is really the whole purpose of us training."

As for the conditioning side, Edinger will use a free-flow template for the summer using a seven-week progres-

sion.

"Athletes aren't expected to be in game-shape on day one," he said. "Our goal is to make sure we produce the most ready athlete we can come time for training camp. We want to push them, but we want to do it safely."

Edinger believes that the real trick to coaching is being able to get the most out of your athletes for the day. It will take time to get to know them all, but he is confident in his current approach.

"At this point it's just trying to learn the guys and implement the training that I need to do for them," Edinger said.

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

COLUMN

Who is coaching the Heat?



Joshua Bryant

LeBron James is the most athletic man on the face of the Earth.

At 6 feet 8 inches, 250 pounds with blazing speed, explosiveness and agility, no one should be able to stop him from attacking the rim.

Especially when you have a former Finals MVP in Dwyane Wade on one side and NBA All-Star Chris Bosh (though not totally healthy) on the other.

Mario Chalmers is also a capable point guard and respected three-point shooter.

Shane Battier showed up on the three-point line as well.

So how does Head Coach Erik Spoelstra explain how the Thunder destroyed the Heat's halftime lead, and allowed Kevin Durant and Russell Westbrook to outscore the entire Miami Heat team all by themselves in the second half?

The Heat must play as a team and run actual schemes in order to win.

Miami is unstoppable in transition when James and Wade are on the floor, which is all the incentive you need to run the playground style of basketball that the Heat use.

HEAT, page 7

ATHLETICS

Academic Center helps student-athletes adjust

By Joshua Bryant
Sports Editor

The critical adjustment from high school to college academics trips up plenty of students each year. It can be more of a troublesome task for athletes due to time constraints plus newer and tougher tolls on the body and mind.

That's where the Academic Center steps in.

Panther Academic Services provide what each student athlete needs to prepare for life after the last whistle, with solid support staff.

Cindy Tozer, director of academic services and a former athlete, can relate to the current generation, which gives her a leg up on helping players get the most out of offered services.

"I knew I would like working with students in general, understanding what they have to go through on a daily basis," Tozer said.

Her wingman, Assistant Director

LaVeasy Carter, has laced up at places without academic support for student athletes in his younger days and knows the challenges that the void can create.

"We had a lot of people who were deemed ineligible, and a lot of it, I think, if they knew the rules and knew what was expected of them, it probably wouldn't have happened," Carter said.

Required study hours, support services and tutoring bolster an athlete's chance of succeeding and enjoying their playing days at Eastern.

"Rarely does a student-athlete fall between the cracks. We usually know if they're struggling, and then we can provide support services for them," Tozer said.

The Center, now in its seventh year, has seen to it that academic stats receive a boost. Team GPAs, retention and graduation rates have all improved within that time span.

Carter considers the center very im-

portant for exposing opportunities for players.

"Athletics just brings in a whole different side of opportunities and things that they can take advantage of that they'd never know about if the center wasn't here," Carter said.

Of course, Eastern has a variety of services that cater to the student population, but the challenge of secondary education and Division I athletics creates a unique need that the center fulfills.

"It's like having a full-time job," Tozer said. "They have practice, competition, traveling on the weekends, sometimes mid-week. Other students can just be students. It's a challenge for some of them because of the weights in the morning and the practices in the afternoon. They really have to be on their game constantly. They have to manage their time a lot better than regular students do."

Carter credits the pressure that ath-

letes feel as a primary need for unique support services.

"Time is not on their side," Carter said. "The general student population can pace themselves, explore a little bit more and kind of take their time. Athletes don't really have that time."

One final key to the development of student-athletes is the relationship that Tozer, Carter and others working in academic support have with the Panther coaching staffs.

"It starts with recruitment, and our coaches do a really good job of recruiting strong academic-minded young men and women," Tozer said. "We have a good partnership where if there is an issue with a student-athlete we can talk to our coaches, and they support what we're doing."

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