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Daily Eastern News: August 21, 2013

Eastern Illinois University

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MEET RHA PRESIDENT

Miguel Williams, newly elected Residence Hall Association president, plans to work towards ROC Fest during his reign.

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FROM LINKS TO PITCH

Accounting major Emily Fitzgerald transitions from golf to rugby for her senior season.

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THE DAILY EASTERN NEWS

Wednesday, Aug. 21, 2013

“TELL THE TRUTH AND DON’T BE AFRAID”

VOL. 98 | ISSUE 4

CAMPUS | ASSISTANCE

Program alerts, helps students falling behind

By Samantha McDaniel
Associate News Editor
@SamMcDaniel20

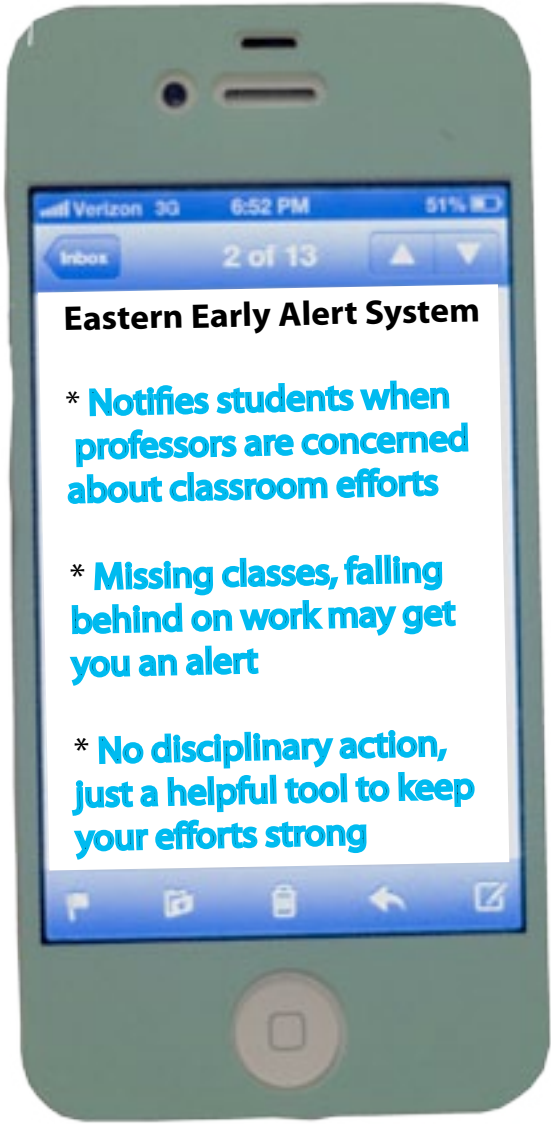
A two-year-old system allowing faculty members to report students who are not attending class or performing as expected will continue this year.

The Eastern Early Alert System is a program designed to notify students when a professor believes they are not meeting certain expectations.

Mary Herrington-Perry, the assistant vice president for academic affairs, said in an email that the program was created to give faculty a way to reach out to students.

“The Early Alert is designed to give the faculty the option to alert student affairs and academic affairs staff to issues students may be having in the classroom,” she said. “More importantly, it also alerts the student that the faculty member is concerned about that student’s performance in the class.”

Aseret Gonzalez, a graduate student in the College of Academic Affairs, works with the program to let on-campus residents know when a faculty member has submitted an early alert about them.



GRAPHIC BY JOANNA LEIGHTON & AMANDA WILKINSON

Gonzalez said when she receives the alert, they start the process of getting help to the residents.

“We give them to the resident director and the associate resident director and they go ahead and find the resident assistant (of that student),” Gonzalez said. “They do a follow up to see what is going on.”

After the RA meets with the student, they try to direct the student to whatever resources could help them with their situation.

The RAs also could plan programming for the floor to address anything that could be affecting the residence on the floor.

“We are trying to make sure if there is something that we can do to help, that we are there immediately,” Gonzalez said. “That is a nice thing about being on campus and doing these alerts.”

Off-campus residents are also contacted through email or over the phone.

If a student receives an alert, it does not mean the student is going to face disciplinary action.

“It’s a neat system because it is a nice feeling to see that the faculty member care about students,” Gonzalez said.

ALERT, page 5

NEW SCHOOL YEAR | MEETING

Faculty Senate addresses concerns

By Bob Galuski
News Editor
@DEN_News

President Bill Perry stood in front of the faculty senate Tuesday to help begin the first meeting of the semester – a meeting that included an update on sexual assault, committee naming, enrollment and how to improve racial relations.

Perry began his portion of the meeting by addressing several of the concerns raised by students, faculty and community members during the 2012-2013 school year.

Among these issues was sexual assault, which Perry said they have been working on improving.

“We have really good people, a really good foundation of strong policies and revisions,” Perry said.

Along with revising certain aspects of Eastern, such as the student code of conduct being updated to include a revision of what consent means, Perry said other actions were being implemented.

Shooting for a launch date of Sept. 1, Perry said a website is being developed to help give out more information about sexual assault and how to do anonymous reporting.

Training for new employees and new students has also become more intensive and is mandatory, he said.

However, training for current students and employees is not mandatory.

“At that point it’s a matter of individual social responsibility,” Perry said.

The training for new students and employees will be online.

In addition to new resources available for students, Perry also said the university police department is required to report all domestic and dating violence as well as instances of stalking.

Panther Patrol – the program that allows students to be escorted home if they do not feel safe – has also been updated.

The university police department will be training students who work with Panther Patrol and two members instead of one will escort students who take advantage of the program.

Going along with issues brought up last year, Perry also discussed plans for diversity on campus.

Perry said starting in September he would be meeting with different ethnic groups to figure out how to handle racial relations on campus.

“Meeting with student group leaders is very effective,” Perry said.

Blair Lord, the provost and vice president of academic affairs, spoke to the Faculty Senate about enrollment for the 2013-2014 school year.

However, he said he would only speak in generalities for now because the numbers would not be finalized until the tenth day when the census would be confirmed.

Freshman numbers are up, Lord said, but not at the 10-percent they anticipated.

“There was a different rate at our debut day, and we called each and every person and found the same thread of response,” Lord said.

FACULTY, page 5

CAMPUS | ASSISTANCE

Patherpalooza represents organizations at Eastern

By Jarad Jarmon
Student Governance Editor
@JaradJarmonReporter

Pantherpalooza, Eastern’s semi-annual Registered Student Organization fair, kicks off Wednesday from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

The RSO fair is a student government-organized fair in which Eastern organizations can promote and showcase themselves to new or returning students can see what Eastern organizations are available to them.

Darnell Tyms, the vice president of student affairs, is directing Pantherpalooza and said the fair is a good way for those organizations to recruit new members and promote any events that are happening during fall and spring semesters.

Student government executives will be guiding different organiza-

tions to their tables throughout the day.

So far, a little more than 100 organizations have registered for the fair with more being added until the start of the fair.

“It benefits those organizations that are trying to get their name up.”

Jesse Green, speaker of the senate

Because of the amount of clubs, teams and societies joining the fair late, student government members make sure they have more than the amount of room and tables for the fair.

Jesse Green, speaker of the senate, said they emphasis registering as early as possible but they won’t turn anyone away.

Tyms said he has the fair mapped out with every group being broken

off into sections based on whether it is a government organization, social organization or other types of organization.

Grouping of each organization is a change that took effect last year.

Green said they have improved the way each organization is mapped out in the South Quad as well as increase the marketing and participation from Eastern organizations.

“Last fall, we had 85 percent of organizations present which was just great and I expect we will be doing very well this fall as well,” Green said.

PANTHERPALOOZA, page 5





FILE PHOTO | THE DAILY EASTERN NEWS

Aaron Sieben, a senior history and political science major, speaks with the Director of Career Services Linda Moore at Pantherpalooza in the Grand Ballroom on Jan. 16. Moore handed Sieben several sheets with important upcoming dates for graduating seniors to take advantage of, such as internship searches and resumé builder workshops.

Local weather

TODAY

THURSDAY



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Thunderstorms

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Low: 61°

High: 84°
Low: 59°

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Tell the truth and don't be afraid.

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CITY | RESURFACING

Council approves real estate purchase

City Manager authorized to accept energy bid

By Seth Schroeder
Editor-in-Chief
[@DEN_News](https://twitter.com/DEN_News)

Members of the Charleston City Council approved resolutions to resurface Coolidge Avenue, purchase real estate at 2651 Douglas Drive and to give City Manager Scott Smith the authorization to accept an energy bid during their meeting Tuesday.

The resurfacing of Coolidge Avenue will go from University Drive to 0.27 miles west of University Drive and cost around \$89,000.

Mayor Larry Rennels said the resurfacing is one of the cheaper options to deal with the avenue's deterioration.

He said the city is purchasing real estate at 2651 Douglas Drive because it is a blind intersection. After purchasing the property, he said the city will be able to cut back the nearby brush and deal with other problems at the intersection in the future.

"The first step is to own the



AMANDA WILKINSON | THE DAILY EASTERN NEWS

Mayor Larry Rennels presents details on an agenda item at the city council meeting Tuesday at City Hall. The council approved to resurface .27 miles of road from Coolidge Avenue to University Drive for approximately \$89,000 and the purchase of real estate at 2651 Douglas Drive for \$27,500.

property," Rennels said.

The purchase will cost \$27,500.

Rennels said the authorization the council approved for Smith will allow him to pick the lowest, responsible bid for Charleston's energy provider.

"We give him a few guidelines but he mostly uses his common sense," Rennels said.

Smith said he could not say for

sure when he will receive bids from providers at this point. He said last year the city gave him authorization in August but he did not pick a provider until December.

When he does receive the bids he will have only a few hours to make a decision. He said this is because energy rates fluctuate on a day-to-day basis.

Any new contract chosen for an

energy provider will not go into effect until June 2014.

Members of the council also approved a renewal of their contract for consulting services with Good Energy.

Smith said members of the council have been satisfied with Good Energy's past service, and, while other options might be cheaper, it his professional opinion that the company is right for the city of Charleston.

He said the decision to pick Good Energy included price, but also took into account the results of a thorough vetting process.

Members of the city council also:

- Authorized the city to issue a renewal of a license agreement with the Charleston Water Fowl Association to use and regulate hunting activities at Lake Charleston.

- Approved of raffle licenses for HOPE of East Central Illinois, Charleston High School Student Council and the Charleston Area Chamber of Commerce.

- Approved a proclamation to recognize the week of September 9-13, 2013 as Chamber of Commerce Week.

Seth Schroeder can be reached at 581-2812 or deneic@gmail.com.

CAMPUS | RUBBER LOVERS

HERC, instructor set to educate students

By Jack Cruikshank
Staff Reporter
[@DEN_News](https://twitter.com/DEN_News)

As new students get acclimated to Eastern, graduate student Dana Jarrard, in partnership with the Health and Education Resource Center, has taken on the task of bringing about healthier sexual practices and fewer sexually transmitted infections to Eastern.

Through the Rubber Lovers program, students attend a session in which Jarrard teaches three main steps to better sexual health.

She teaches students sexual knowledge and the 18 steps to condom use, convinces students to be tested for sexually transmitted infections every six months and reiterates the difference in the types of consent and the rules governing sexual consent.

The first meeting of the year will take place at 7:30 p.m. Thursday in Coleman Hall Room 1255.

Jarrard said she is passionate

about giving students accurate information about sex, whether or not they choose to engage in sexual activity on campus.

"Sex is a taboo subject in college," Jarrard said. "People are exploring sexuality and that's great. As a sex educator, it is my job to tell them about the different necessary precautions."

Jarrard said Eastern is currently around the national average for sexually transmitted infections for students.

In the near future, she said she hopes the Rubber Lovers program can help lower that average, so Eastern is consistently under the national average.

Jarrard said when it comes to talking about sex, Eastern is already an open campus.

"I just want this program to be a space to further talk about sex," Jarrard said.

Jarrard does not run Rubber Lovers alone, however, she has help from many people.

One of those people, Eric Davidson, the assistant director of Health Services, oversees the entire HERC, as well as Rubber Lovers.

Davidson, a former sexual health coordinator, said he believes, as well as educating students about the different sexual infections and diseases, the Rubber Lovers program helps encourage students to get tested for STIs, as sometimes no symptoms exist, but could quickly escalate into a bigger medical problem.

"Our research shows that when you make condoms available, it lowers the rates of STIs," Davidson said. "And the students who go through the program use condoms more frequently and get more tests done."

Davidson said he was aware that sometimes sexual health causes controversy, however he said he defends the university's program.

"When you deal with sexual health, you are going to cause controversy," Davidson said. "That is where our program does a great job

in the middle of the two sides."

Davidson said in recent years, about 10 percent of the student population, or 1,000 students, went through the Rubber Lovers program.

He said he would be "ecstatic" if 1,500 to 2,000 students went through the program in the near future, and he and Jarrard are both working toward that goal of increasing membership in the group.

For students, the trepidation of talking about sex with a stranger might seem daunting, but Jarrard said she wants students to know that she is just there to help, and wants to better the Eastern community.

"Everyone has a story," Jarrard said. "I have heard it all. Nothing will shock me. I expect it and I want people to feel comfortable talking to me."

Jack Cruikshank can be reached at 581-2812 or jdcruikshank@eiu.edu.

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OFFICE | PLANNING

New RHA president working to plan organization’s future

ROC Fest to have game rule changes

By: Jarad Jarmon
Student Governance Editor
@JaradJarmonReporter

During the months of summer vacation, Miguel Williams, the Residence Hall Association president, has been working with other members of RHA on changes within RHA and upcoming programs.

Williams and the RHA executive board have been working to get ready for the Residents on Campus Festival.

ROC Fest is a RHA sponsored weeklong program in September where residents challenge each other through obstacles and puzzles.

“We are just trying to get everything to go smoothly,” Williams said. “Me and the exec board started planning during the summer.”

They are currently working on setting up the themes and events for ROC Fest as well as changing the rules for some games.

“We are setting up new rules so that people don’t stalk you during Panther Babies,” Williams said.

Panther Babies is a scavenger hunt where the executive board hides paper “panther babies” for residents from each hall to find and are worth points towards their hall.

The new RHA president was elected to the position at the end of the spring semester after being a representative of Weller Hall his freshman year.

Being a part of a couple of leadership programs in high school, he said he feels he was ready for the tasks brought before him.

Miguel has also been working with the rest of the executive board to change outdated sections of the RHA constitution.

Despite having the RHA constitution changed, Miguel said he feels has been able to keep up on his duties with help for the rest of the executive board and the previous RHA president Eddie Hillman.



AMANDA WILKINSON | THE DAILY EASTERN NEWS
Miguel Williams, the newly-elected Resident's Hall Association president, and the executive board are working on ROC Fest and the new constitution during his term as president.

“Me and Eddie had a little one-on-one session to transact everything,” Williams said.

Since being elected, Williams said attending the National Association of College and University Residence Halls nation-wide leadership program was the most fun thing he has been apart of as president.

“They give you tips and advice about how to better your RHA and how to get people to come to your programs,” he said.

Williams is also the president of

Weller Hall council.

He is also the information officer of Japanese Animation Culture.

Williams’ focus for the semester has been centered on finding a new treasurer and changing the Constitution to better fit the new RHA.

Williams said he likes to stay busy.

“The busier I am, the more fun everything is,” Williams said.

Jarad Jarmon can be reached at 581-2812 or jsjarmon@eiu.edu.

CAMPUS | FEATURE

CAA makes change happen in academics

Students give insight into council

By Sean Copeland
Online Editor
@DEN_News

On any given day, the Council on Academic Affairs can affect the students of Eastern Illinois University in one way or another.

The CAA is a governing body, which includes both key members of the faculty through various departments and also students.

Though not much is known about the students who also approve curriculum changes to the degrees offered here at Eastern.

The CAA meets every Thursday 3 p.m. to 4 p.m. in Booth Library on the third level.

They are also listed on the Eastern website.

Reggie Thedford, a junior political science major, said the CAA functions in several ways on campus.

“Faculty from different departments will come in and present a change to their requirements for a major or minor and we would approve of that, we approve of any of the classes [the faculty] wanted to add,” Thedford said.

Thedford said the CAA also focuses on the success of students on campus.

“We would find ways to make students here more successful, academically and that’s where us as students come in and voice how we feel about the curriculum.”

Thedford said he first came to Eastern from Elmhurst College and was originally appointed as a member of Student Senate in Spring 2013 before being elected to a full term.

Though he said he is excited about the impact of the CAA for this upcoming year, he said it’s too soon to know what new programs and curriculum changes have affected the student body this year.

Kathryn English, a junior mathematics major, first joined Student Senate as a freshman and is now

the student vice president for academic affairs.

English said several majors have already been changed and she hopes they have been for the better.

“It actually came up that they were changing something in education and I knew exactly how that program worked, and what it was before and what the changes were,” English said.

“I really want all these students to succeed in what they want to do ultimately in life.”

-Reggie Thedford, junior political science major

Likewise Thedford said that major revisions have also been made to the music department.

“The CAA integrated several of the classes in the music department together and there were also new Internet classes implemented for students commuting and students living off campus,” Thedford said.

Although both Thedford and English are the student representatives on the council, they have standard voting power equal to the other voting members.

English said Homework Heroes, a program implemented last semester, is also a big priority.

“Homework Heroes is run by the residence halls in the basements of the residence halls,” English said. “It’s more peer interaction and helping students who are already involved and who are trying to excel themselves and reaching that hand out so everyone else is included.”

Thedford said he feels like a parent sometimes, but wants the best for the students.

“I really want all these students to succeed in what they want to do ultimately in life.”

Sean Copeland can be reached at 581-2812 or srcpeland@eiu.edu.




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RETURN OF THE JED



Check out the online video featuring Jed and Cindy Smock as they return back to Eastern to continue preaching. Along with Jed Smock and Cindy Smock, the video also features Mikhail Savenko, a 24-year-old witness who travels with the Smocks.

COMMENTS, CORRECTIONS, OR EVENTS

To report any errors, local events or general suggestions for future editions please contact our Editor-in-Chief, Rachel Rodgers, via:
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Email | DENeic@gmail.com
Office visit | 1811 Buzzard Hall.

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TUESDAY’S QUESTION

Brother Jed and Sister Cindy from The Campus Ministry USA are back. What do you think of the group’s message?

HERE’S WHAT YOU SAID



Protesters should bring foil and reflect the sun at them.

@aacastillo07



I actually find how absolutely ridiculous their message is, to be hilarious. They are delusional and hateful and I can only laugh.

@angeloodle

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.

Letters to the editor can be brought in with identification to *The DEN* or to the DENopinions@gmail.com.

“LET’S GIVE THEM SOMETHING TO TALK ABOUT”

What do you think of the new Sombreros Grill at Thomas Dining Hall?

To submit your opinion on today’s topic, bring it in with identification to *The DEN* at 1811 Buzzard Hall or submit it electronically from the author’s EIU email address to DENopinions@gmail.com by 4 p.m. today or reply to us on social media.

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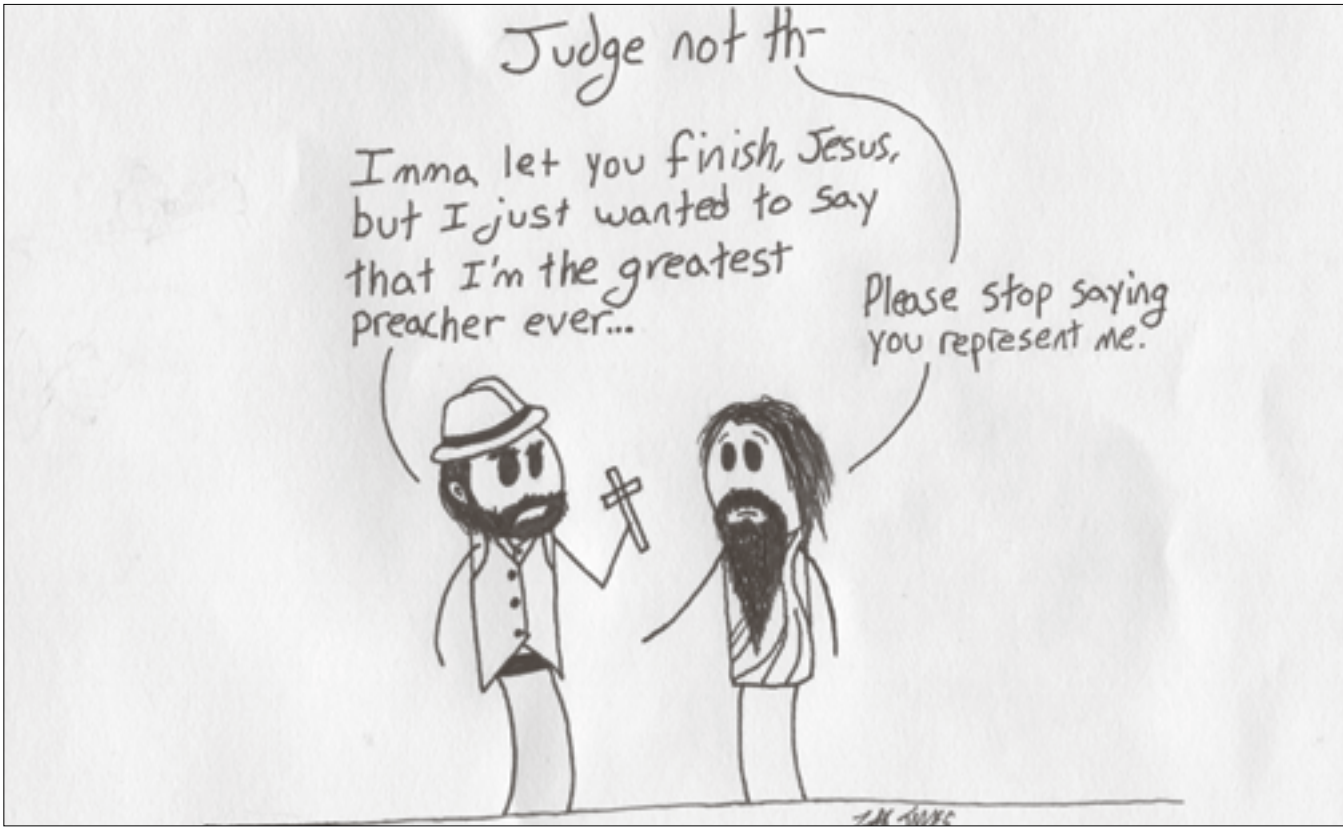
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DRAWN FROM THE EASEL



ZAK JONES | THE DAILY EASTERN NEWS

STAFF EDITORIAL

Organizations gather to cultivate

For five hours Wednesday, the South Quad will be stirring with opportunities for students to take advantage of their passions and possibly discover some new interests.

Pantherpalooza occurs once a semester and creates a showcase of student involvement and leadership. We encourage students, new and old, to take the time and the initiative to stop by the South Quad and peruse the options available to them.

Dozens of registered student organizations, commonly referred to as RSOs, will have tables set up with representatives present for the purpose of offering information about their organization.

All the commitment it takes is a conversation with the people behind the tables, and it’s an easy opportunity to score some free trinkets or snacks.

Don’t be afraid to sign up for more information about an organization; signing up is not a binding contract to join the club.

The university gives students an outlet to further their knowledge, and student organizations give people the chance to make a mark at Eastern that extends beyond academics.

Organizations expose students to all sorts of new people, whether they are like-minded in the same interest or they provide a different view on a topic.

OUR POSITION

- **Situation:** Dozens of organizations will be set up in the South Quad Wednesday to draw in new members
- **Stance:** All students who have free time between 10 a.m. and 2 p.m. should stop by Pantherpalooza to see that the organizations have to offer.

A word of caution could be not to stretch oneself too thin by being a part of too many organizations, but being involved in a few organizations can boost not only one’s time-management skills but leadership skills as well.

Becoming involved in different organizations can also lead to more perks than making friends and improving skills.

Organizations can lead to other opportunities and recognition such as by being able to gain access to awards and scholarships along with invitations to travel and attend conferences or make presentations in different parts of the country.

In addition to all of these benefits, registered student organizations can help students get a head start on pursuing their preferred profession. These clubs can lead to extra networking opportunities and possible chances to job shadow or intern.

Students can also discover organizations that they never heard of but would be interested in and students also have the resources to create their own organization on campus.

Information on how to create a registered student organization can be found in the RSO section on the Student Life Office website.

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

Free speech should be respected, not trashed

For those on campus not on the upkeep, it has been recently revealed everyone is a sinner and is going to hell.

At least that’s according to Brother Jed, a preacher who has been coming to Eastern since last April.

In case anybody has not noticed, Jed and his family have been posting up on campus lately and delivering their message – much to the irritation of surrounding students.

Their message consists of what they believe to be an immortal truth and one that everyone should abide.

And guess what?
I applaud them for standing up and saying what they believe in.

Upset? You shouldn’t be.

As people of the United States, we are also given an immortal truth, one written down by our founding fathers more than 200 years ago. It’s the one about Congress making no law prohibiting the free exercise of speech and press – look it up.

This freedom is one I carry close to my heart. As a journalist, it is one I will defend until the day I die.



Bob Galuski

I might not always like what is being said, but I respect the First Amendment enough to let it be said.

The first amendment is what gives students the power to stand up to people like Brother Jed and tell him what they think of him.

I do not like or enjoy what Brother Jed and his family are saying, not in the least, but I know they have the right to say it. After all, this is a public university.

When Brother Jed and his family first arrived on Eastern’s doorstep last year, they created quite a stir, spurning on students with their words – and words alone.

Some students, I remember, reacted by stealing a Bible Jed’s “Sister,” Pat’s, husband had

given her and passed it around, letting it get ripped to shreds.

Students then sprinkled the remnants down on the preacher like holy confetti.

That is not acceptable.

As people, we should hold ourselves to a higher principle, one that was envisioned when long ago men thought we could be better, thought we had more potential than given to us.

Things like the First Amendment are what make this country one of the greatest ones in the world, and it is our voices that can be heard.

Do not harass people like Jed and his family, who are in every right to be here, whether or not you and I like it.

If you don’t like what somebody is saying, stand up and say so. If you don’t like policy, change it.

Do not harass or jokingly encourage behavior you do not appreciate, but also remember it is their right.

Bob Galuski is a senior English and journalism major. He can be reached at 581-2812 or denopinions@gmail.com.

» **ALERT**
CONTINUED FROM PAGE1

“Although it sounds scary, it is really meant to be there to help that student.”

Herrington-Perry said the early alerts do not mean that the student cannot fix the problem.

“If a student receives an alert, they should seek help by talking to their faculty member, reaching out to tutors, visiting the Student Success Center for help with study skills and time management, and going to class on time and prepared,” Herrington-Perry said.

She said it is a good way to show students that their professors notice them.

“Some new freshmen especially think that college professors don’t notice if they are in class, but they do,” Herrington-Perry said.

Samantha McDaniel can be reached at 581-2812 or slmcdaniel@eiu.edu.

» **FACULTY**
CONTINUED FROM PAGE1

The response was the student could not afford to go to Eastern, a problem Lord said other colleges face as well.

Lord said while the number of transfer students at Eastern this year was not up, it “drastically closed the gap” from last year.

He added that there were now 207 international students at Eastern, which he called a “good, sharp increase.”

Grant Sterling, the Faculty Senate chair, also led the discussion in deciding on different committees for the semester and full-year.

Steve Scher, a psychology professor, became the naming committee chair, which involves donations and naming different sections of Eastern.

The next faculty senate meeting will be at 2 p.m. Sept. 3 in Room 4440 of the Booth Library.

Bob Galuski can be reached at 581-2812 or dennewsdesk@gmail.com.

» **PANTHERPALOOZA**
CONTINUED FROM PAGE1

Green said unlike other colleges around the area, Eastern has an RSO fair for the fall and spring semester.

“The more, the better honestly,” Green said. “It benefits those organizations that are trying to get their name up.”

Pantherpalooza has been a continuing Eastern tradition for more than five years.

Green said they will help everyone wrap-up and make sure they have everything they need at 3 p.m.

“It’s a really good opportunity for all students to be able to see all the RSO’s that are offered here at Eastern,” Green said.

Jarad Jarmon can be reached at 581-2812 or jsjarmon@eiu.edu.

CITY | RELAY FOR LIFE



FILE PHOTO | THE DAILY EASTERN NEWS

Doug Miller, a Charleston resident, walks with other cancer survivors during the first lap around Peterson Park on August 25, 2012. The first lap was for cancer survivors, the second lap for survivors and their loved ones.

Coles County to increase cancer awareness

Staff Report

Forty-three teams will come together to raise cancer awareness at the 18th annual Relay for Life celebration on Saturday at Peterson Park in Mattoon.

Alicia Pettyjohn, the income development representative for The American Cancer Society, said she assists and guides the volunteers through planning their Relay for Life event.

The relay will start at 6 p.m. on Saturday and will continue until 6 a.m. Sunday. Before the official kick off ceremony at 6 p.m., there will be a survivor dinner at 4 p.m.

The official first round walk of the relay is for the survivors and their caregivers, Pettyjohn said. This will give the volunteers and participants a chance to cheer in congratulations to the survivors participating in the relay.

While people will be walking all night long, there are other activities planned throughout the night for entertainment.

Local performer Kelsey Beard will be performing at the relay, as well as the Lakeland College cheerleaders and Break Away Band.

There are many other events planned throughout the night, but a more traditional and serious event is the Luminaria ceremony, Pettyjohn said.

The Luminaria ceremony is to honor those who have either lost their battle, survived their battle or are still going through their battle, she said. It is the part of the night where there is no fundraising and no walking.

Pettyjohn said that the Luminaria ceremony is her favorite part the Relay for Life.

“My aunt had cancer and it is so moving that she survived it,” Pettyjohn said.

Some of the other events planned for Saturday are “Relay has Talent,” “Relay Scrabble,” a frozen T-shirt contest, “Minute-to-win-it” and a silent auction.

These events are a way to get more people involved with more than just the walking and there are events for all ages, Pettyjohn said.

The ending to the night will be a relay breakfast at 4:30 a.m. and the closing ceremony at 5:30 a.m.

Pettyjohn said this will be a fun time for all residents of Coles County, so they should come out.

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VOLLEYBALL | PRESEASON



FILE PHOTO | THE DAILY EASTERN NEWS
Abby Saalfrank, a sophomore outside hitter, was named to the 2013 Preseason All-Ohio Valley Conference team. Saalfrank, a native of Hoagland, Ind., earned the OVC Freshman of the Year award last season.

Hutchinson, Saalfrank earn OVC honors

By Anthony Catezone
Sports Editor
@DEN_Sports
@AnthonyCatz

Senior Reynae Hutchinson and sophomore Abby Saalfrank of the Eastern volleyball team begin this season where they left off last season.

The outside hitters were both named to the Preseason All-Ohio Valley Conference Team.

“I think this is only an indication of good things to come for our volleyball team this year,” Hutchinson said. “We’ve put in a lot of hard work, and even though we were the only two to receive honors, our entire team is

ready to compete at the highest level we ever have.”

Hutchinson, who was also named All-OVC in at the end of the 2012 season, received her fourth career conference award and second career preseason honor.

Saalfrank, meanwhile, is the lone underclassman to receive the honor after earning OVC Freshman of the Year and being named to the All-Newcomer Team last year.

But even with last year’s success, neither saw the preseason honors coming.

“I had no idea, and didn’t expect it at all,” Saalfrank said.

Hutchinson, one of two team cap-

tains last year, led Eastern in kills (336) and attacks (1,040). She finished 10th in the OVC with 3.11 kills per set in conference matches. The Mattoon native also was selected to the Marquette Classic All-Tourney Team last September.

In her first three seasons, Hutchinson surpassed all Panthers by compiling 26 double-doubles, and has the possibility to become the 12th player at Eastern to enter the 1,000-kill/1,000-dig club.

As a double threat at both outside hitter and back-up setter, Saalfrank proved to be quite a sign last season out of Hoagland, Ind.

She totaled five triple-doubles last

season which not only lead the conference, but also set an Eastern record during the current OVC-era.

Saalfrank finished second on the team with 314 kills and 777 attacks. She also notched 15-plus kills in six matches in 2012.

“I can’t do what I do without my team,” Saalfank said. “It’s my teammates that push me to do my best, as well as my coaches. Receiving this honor is a privilege, and I give my teammates all the credit for it.”

Eastern was tabbed to finish fifth in the OVC this season, as voted on by the head coaches and sports information directors.

The Panthers ended last season

11-21 and suffered a 10-game losing streak in the middle of last season, including a 0-6 start in conference play.

But a late push at the end of the season allowed them to close out the year with an 8-2 conference record, while clinching the No. 6 seed in the OVC Tournament. Eastern lost to the eventual champion and conference newcomer No. 3 seeded Belmont.

The defending champion Bruins have been picked to finish first in the OVC this season.

Anthony Catezone can be reached at 581-2812 or ajcatezone@eiu.edu.

RUGBY | WALK-ON

Meeting scheduled for 6 p.m. Wednesday

Staff Report

A walk-on meeting will take place at 6 p.m. Wednesday in the Lantz Pool Lounge for any woman who is interested in playing rugby.

Coach Frank Graziano said no rugby experience is needed. The rugby team has athletes that have played different sports such as, basketball, volleyball track, softball and soccer.

“I am going to explain what the program is, what the student-athlete lifestyle is and what it is like to play a college sport that you know nothing about,” Graziano said.

The team is looking for athletes that have played high school sports and also players that are interested in becoming a student-athlete.

All attendees must bring proof of

insurance.

Also, incoming freshmen must be registered with the NCAA Clearinghouse and fill out all the necessary walk-on forms.

“We have had some players that have gone through this process and have turned out to be wonderful players,” Graziano said. “We are just trying to give them the opportunity to be a college student Division I athlete.”

Graziano is heading into his 14th year as the head coach and the team is looking to build off its 6-2 record last season.

Anyone interested can contact Graziano at (217) 581-7135 or through email at fjgraziano@eiu.edu.

MEN’S BASKETBALL | SIGNING

Newest Panther signee joins brother on Spoonhour’s roster

Staff Report

Eastern’s men’s basketball coach Jay Spoonhour announced the addition of red-shirt sophomore transfer 6-foot, 11-inch center Luke Piotrowski from the University of Richmond.

Luke Piotrowski joins his older brother, Mat Piotrowski, on the Panther roster, who was a junior college recruit.

Mat Piotrowski is a 7-foot, 2-inch center.

“We are very fortunate that Luke has decided to attend EIU,” Spoonhour said in a press release. “He and Mat played together in high school and they have a good feel for playing together. Luke is similar to Mat, but they are very different players. Luke

is more of a forward in terms of foot speed and skill, where Mat has more bulk.”

Luke Piotrowski in six games at Richmond last season — including hauling in six rebounds in his collegiate debut.

He was red-shirted for the season 2011-12 season at Richmond.

He averaged 10 points, 11 rebounds and four blocks per game as a high school senior at Atlantic Christian School, where he was a two-time All-NCSAA All-American selection.

As a junior, he played for his father, Tom Piotrowski, recording 11 points, 10 rebounds and four blocks per game.

Luke Piotrowski was a three-time

All-Conference performer and a McDonald’s All-America nominee.

Mat Piotrowski signed with Eastern in the spring after playing one season at Boston University and one season at Southwestern Illinois College.

The two come from a basketball family, as their father played college basketball at LaSalle and was selected with the 62nd pick of the 1983 NBA Draft. He played for the Portland Trailblazers.

The Panthers finished 11-21 last season in Spoonhour’s first season as head coach, losing to Southeast Missouri in the first round of the Ohio Valley Conference tournament.

RUGBY | RECRUITING



DOMINIC BAIMA | THE DAILY EASTERN NEWS

Emily Fitzgerald, a senior accounting major, is a native of Kitchener, Ontario, Canada. She was recruited to Eastern to play golf, but in her senior season, she decided to take on the challenge of playing rugby.

Rugby team reaches diverse athletes

By Bob Reynolds
Staff Reporter
@DEN_Sports

Though this will be her fourth year at Eastern, senior Emily Fitzgerald will be stepping onto a rugby field for the first time in her life this year. Fitzgerald, an accounting major, was recruited to Eastern to play golf. While picking out schools, Fitzgerald wanted a school that would fit her needs academically and coaches that would fit her needs on the golf course. “I sent out video of my swing and just ended up picking Eastern,” Fitzgerald said. “I really liked the coach and it was far enough away from home.” Coming from Kitchener, Ontario, Canada and to then go to school in the United States, Fitzgerald said there wasn’t much culture shock. “It was still hard being away from home, and you got homesick,” Fitzgerald said. “You just got to branch out and meet new people.” Playing hockey most of her life,

Fitzgerald said some of the footwork, as well as contact and body checking will help her with the transition from hockey to rugby. Fitzgerald approached her golf coach, Mike Moncel, about potentially playing rugby in her final season at Eastern, while playing golf at the same time. The rugby team does not have many upperclassmen, and coach Frank Graziano said with Fitzgerald being a senior, it would be valuable to the freshman coming in. “As a senior, she understands the lifestyle it takes to be a student-athlete,” Graziano said. “She becomes someone they can ask a question to and give them a student-athlete answer.” Even though Fitzgerald is playing rugby for her first time, Graziano likes her competitive edge. “Compleitive spirit is something I can’t teach,” he said. “From what I understand, Emily competes on the golf course and she was quite the competitor as a hockey player while she was in

Canada. She always comes to practice enthusiastic, ready to learn and puts a lot of effort into it.” Fitzgerald’s lack of experience will not be detrimental to the team either, seeing as Graziano generally recruits players with little to no experience. Most of the athletes, including all eight freshmen on the team, have never played rugby and Graziano has turned them into players. “Most of the athletes I recruit have a basketball and track and field background,” Graziano said. “Throughout the entire winter, I am attending high school basketball games and in the spring, track and field meets.” Graziano has as many as six multi-sport athletes at Eastern and freshmen that were multi-sport athletes in high school who have never played rugby in their lives and just started this week. The state of Illinois has been kind to Graziano when it comes to athletes that want to come to Eastern to play rugby, with 15 out of 16 women on the team being from in-state. Fitzger-

ald is the lone player on the roster not from Illinois. “I think sometimes it’s almost more convenient because I can readily go and see them,” Graziano said. Out of the 15 women from Illinois, two of them are from Charleston (red-shirt freshman Miranda Hankins) and Mattoon (sophomore Hannah Vieth). “Our rugby program is part of the Charleston and Mattoon community,” Graziano said. “Our spectators come from there.” The rugby program has connections with the Charleston High School and has done clinics with the Charleston Middle School. Graziano is currently working with the physical education teachers at Mattoon High School to come up with a block segment that is going to be rugby related. “I think that’s great to actually introduce it,” Graziano said.

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TENNIS | COACHES

Blackburn named director of tennis

By Aldo Soto
Assistant Sports Editor
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@DEN_Sports

Athletic Director Barbara Burke announced that men’s and women’s tennis coach John Blackburn will now serve as the director of men’s and women’s tennis starting this year. Blackburn’s head coaching responsibility will solely fall on the women’s team while former graduate assistant Eric Stark will remain on staff and primarily work with the men’s team; however, Black-

burn will still have oversight of both squads. “The opportunity to retain Eric Stark as a part-time assistant will help both programs have a designated coach during both practice and competition,” Burke said in a press release. “This should result in a better experience for all of our tennis student-athletes.” The women’s team advanced to the semi-finals of the Ohio Valley Conference last season, but lost to No. 1 seeded Eastern Kentucky. The post-season appearance came after a 13-6 regular season that included a 7-3 conference record.

The men’s team finished last season 7-10, its highest win total since the 2008-09 season, when the Panthers had a 10-13 record. Despite their best season in four years, the Panthers failed to qualify for the OVC tournament for the fourth straight season. Blackburn said he is excited for Stark’s return to the staff and said the new organization of the tennis team’s would be beneficial to the student-athletes. “I’d like to thank Barbara Burke and our administration for their leadership in this enhancement of men’s and women’s tennis,” Black-

burn said. “It will lead to us being a stronger team this year and enhance the experience of our student-athletes.” The women’s team begins its fall portion of the schedule at the Southern Illinois-Edwardsville Tournament that takes place Sept. 13-15 in Edwardsville. The men’s squad starts action on Sept. 20-22, also playing in the Southern Illinois-Edwardsville Tournament.

Aldo Soto can be reached at 581-2812 or asoto2@eiu.edu

MEN’S SOCCER | RECAP

Panthers shut out in road match

Final preseason match set for Saturday at 7 p.m.

By Michael Spencer
Staff Reporter
@tmskeeper

INDIANAPOLIS — It took the Butler Bulldogs less than six minutes Tuesday to break down the Eastern men’s soccer team for the first time in preseason action. The second time came thirty seconds later from freshman forward David Goldsmith, just minutes into his collegiate career. Goldsmith is a Bristol, England, native and already a factor in Butler head coach Paul Snape’s lineup. “If you look at the first five minutes, nothing really happened,” head Eastern coach Adam Howarth said. “They just had two shots and two goals went in. That’s when we had to regroup.” After taking the lead early, Butler never looked back, cruising to a 4-0 victory. The story of the first half was Goldsmith, who scored two goals in the first 13 minutes and assisted senior forward Jordan Burt in the 39th minute. Sophomore forward and Butler’s 2012 scoring leader, Jeff Adkins, opened the scoring with a shot that bent into the goal from outside the box. Butler mimicked Eastern’s shape from the first whistle, opting for an attacking 4-3-3, but the Bulldogs dropped two players into holding midfield positions after their third goal. Eastern’s first 11 did not include sophomore midfielder Tony Meza. Instead, senior Jake Plant took up the role as holding midfielder for the first part of the second half. Howarth opted to go with freshman Austin Miller in goal. It was the Manteno native’s second start of the exhibition season. The score was 4-0 at half and would remain that way for a lackluster second half that saw Butler drop its outside wings in and keep its shape narrow, confining play to the center of the pitch. “We challenged them in the second half,” Howarth said. “We ended up probably having a couple of chances as well that probably should have gone in.” Howarth cycled players onto the field as the team demonstrated its depth on the bench and particularly at midfield where six different players took up roles at the core of the Panther attack. Eastern returns home to round out its preseason against Dayton at 7 p.m. Saturday at Lakeside Field. The Panthers will open regular season play against the University of Illinois-Chicago Aug. 30.

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