

6-18-2013

## Daily Eastern News: June 18, 2013

Eastern Illinois University

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## HARD-HITTING

High school girl's softball camp takes place on Eastern's campus until Thursday.

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## SLEEP TIGHT

University employees are moving around 2,300 used beds into residence halls.

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# THE DAILY EASTERN NEWS

Tuesday, June 18, 2013

"TELL THE TRUTH AND DON'T BE AFRAID"

VOL. 97 | ISSUE 159

ADMINISTRATION | BOARD OF TRUSTEES

## No tuition rate increase proposed for 2015

By Robyn Dexter  
@robyn\_dexter

Members of Eastern's Board of Trustees approved a budget request for a flat tuition rate in Fiscal Year 2015 at their meeting Monday.

In light of ongoing economic conditions and the need to continue new recruiting efforts, President Bill Perry said keeping low tuition rate increases is key.

A 1.43-percent tuition increase for FY 14 was approved at the February BOT meeting, and as of now, there are no fee or tuition increases incorporated into the budget recommendation for FY 15.

"We're basing it also on what we expect to be the rate and number of students, both part and full-time," Perry said.

In the past few years, the board has continued to decrease the tuition rate.

The 2012-2013 tuition rate increase was 3.7 percent, and a 1.43 percent increase for 2013-2014.

Perry presented the FY 14 budget overview along with the recommended FY 15 budget at the meeting, reviewing both the national, state and local angles of the budget.

"When we budget, we budget in a context," he said.

The national contexts Perry presented were addressed by affordability, competition for students, post-graduation employment and federal student support.

He cited components such as Pell grants and competition from state to state.

"Illinois continues to be one of



ROBYN DEXTER | THE DAILY EASTERN NEWS

President Bill Perry presents an award to John Inyart, the former mayor of Charleston, for his work with the Charleston and Eastern communities while he was mayor. Inyart's term ended at the beginning of June.

the largest exporters of students, and we compete for students here in the Midwest," Perry said. "The competition really is all over the country."

In the state context, Perry talked about Illinois' economy and its effects on the university.

He highlighted unresolved budget issues, declining enrollments statewide and high unemployment rates.

At Eastern, Perry said there are several actions that should be continued and enforced.

He included investing in academ-

ic excellence, re-engineering the admissions process, lower tuition increases, strategic plan execution and program analysis.

"We've done a good job over the last several years of being conservative in our budgeting and keeping things lean," he said. "Because of

this, we are able to pass along those savings to our students."

Perry said he is not sure what the future holds for Eastern's overall revenue, but pension reform discussions and the lingering effects of the economic recession will play a role.

**TUITION**, page 3

LOCAL | CITY COUNCIL

## City council to vote on street repair, grants

By Zachary White  
@zacharytawhite

The Charleston City Council will vote on a resolution Tuesday to allocate \$35,000 for street repair on 4th, 6th and 7th streets.

Mayor Larry Rennels said the resolution is part of the annual crack, route and seal bid.

"Every year we take the asphalt streets and the cracks and things that appear in them and we fill them with a sealer substance," Rennels said. "So that water doesn't get down underneath the pavement and then during the winter time freeze and deteriorate and create potholes."

Rennels said this resolution takes motor fuel tax funds, which come from the state, and frees them up to be used by the city to fund the an-

nual crack route and seal bid.

"The primary part of the work this year is going to be on 4th, 6th and 7th streets," Rennels said. "But the cost is so much per foot. If they fill all of the cracks on those three streets and they still have some money left, then we're going to go a little farther and do some more streets."

Once the money is allocated, the next step is to award a bid.

However, Rennels said all the bids are not going to be in until July 1.

The council will also be approving a tax increment financing grant for the Sensible Rehabilitation program.

The grant will provide \$9,124 for 219 and 221 6th Street owned by Jim Wood of Wood Rentals.

TIF grants provide 50 percent of

exterior improvements to businesses located around the Square, which has been designated as the TIF dis-

**"The primary part of the work this year is going to be on 4th, 6th and 7th streets."**

Larry Rennels, mayor

trict.

Rennels said the repairs are being done to bring the look of the building up to the same quality as the buildings in their area and around the Square.

"They're going to do some tuck pointing work; they're going to replace some bricks that have deteriorated," he said. "They're going to wash the masonry and re-coat the brick, and they're going to cover

some wall caps."

Rennels said the remaining amount of \$9,124.69 will be paid

by owner Jim Wood.

The council will also be voting on five resolutions to grant tourism funds for upcoming events.

The Charleston Chill has requested \$2,000 in tourism funds for their Invitational and Summer Slam softball tournaments on May 17-19 and June 21-23.

The Charleston Baseball Association requested \$770 for the Cal Ripken 11 year old State Tourna-

ment from July 17 to 21.

The council will vote to pay \$700.

WEIU TV requested \$300 for WEIU Kids Day on August 17.

The Coles County Airport requested \$1,500 for the Coles County Air Show on August 24.

The council will vote to pay \$700.

The Charleston Riot Committee requested \$3,000 for the 150th Anniversary of the Charleston Riot from March 28 to 30, 2014.

The council will vote to pay \$2,000.

The council will also be voting on resolutions authorizing street closures for four upcoming events.

Zachary White can be reached at 581-2812 or [ztwhite@eiu.edu](mailto:ztwhite@eiu.edu).

# Local weather

TODAY WEDNESDAY



T-storms  
High: 84°  
Low: 60°



Mostly sunny  
High: 81°  
Low: 62°

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

# THE DAILY EASTERN NEWS

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

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If you would like to work for The Daily Eastern News as a reporter, photographer, columnist, cartoonist, copy editor, designer or videographer, please visit at the newsroom at 1802 Buzzard Hall.

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# Presentation to focus on healthcare coverage for businesses, employees

By Amanda Wilkinson  
[@akaywilkinson](mailto:akaywilkinson)

With hopes of educating employers on how the Affordable Care Act can affect them, the Charleston Area Chamber of Commerce will be hosting a "Lessons Over Lunch" presentation on Thursday.

Three presenters from Coventry Health Care of Illinois, Inc., Mike Wolff, Linda Laugges and Monica Zachary, will talk about what small businesses, employers and employees need to know about the act in the upcoming year.

Cindy White, the executive director of the chamber, said new rules and regulations have been rolling out since the Affordable Care Act was enacted in March 2010.

"Businesses are going to have to start making decision," she said. "For example, on October 1, they have to provide notice to their current employees of their coverage options."

Employers and employees need to know what is coming out next so they can be prepared, she said.

"What we're hearing, unfortunately, is that a lot of businesses are putting their people on 28 hours a week so they won't qualify as full-time equivalent employees, therefore, they don't have to be covered," White said.

Paul Saegesser, CEO of the First Mid Insurance Group, said one of the new rules is that the employer must offer employees who work 30 hours or more a week health insurance.

"There are employers who are trying to decide to cut people's hours back because, traditionally, the bar hasn't come that low," he said. "People who worked 30 hours weren't entitled to benefits. Now the question is, 'Do we want to pay for the benefits or do we want to reduce their hours?'"

White said the employees may be

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**\* As of October 1, employers will provide notice to current employees of coverage options**  
**\* Businesses are putting employees on 28 hours a week to save cost of health insurance**

---

**\* Healthcare providers cannot deny coverage or benefits to people with pre-existing condition**

GRAPHIC BY CAYLA MAURER

forced to work another part-time job to supplement the few hours they work, and they will still not be receiving healthcare benefits.

Saegesser said the act has changed and will continue to change how

is that healthcare providers cannot deny coverage or benefits to people because of pre-existing conditions.

That will take place when the "insurance market place" starts on January 1, 2014, Saegesser said.

**"What we're hearing, unfortunately, is that a lot of businesses are putting their people on 28 hours a week so they won't qualify as full-time equivalent employees..."**

*-Cindy White, the executive director of the chamber*

healthcare works. "Some of it affects providers, some of it affects insurance companies, it all affects patients," he said.

A rule that has come out is that children are now allowed to stay on their parents' policies until they are 26, Saegesser said.

The "cut-off age" used to be set at 19.

Another large aspect of the act

White said she hopes the presentation will answer some of the questions people have about the act.

"There's a lot of questions out there," she said. "Employers are trying to protect themselves because otherwise, this is going to be very costly to be forced to provide healthcare."

Saegesser said there's a large concern among employers to know

what is going on and make the right choice.

"(The act) is an evolving, changing structure because it's all brand new," he said. "They're still putting it together."

He hopes the presentation will be to provide people with the latest information about the act to employers, Saegesser said.

"The downside of (them not having this information) is if they make choices, if they get crossways with the rules, they're going to have to pay penalties," he said.

The presentation will take place from 12-1:15 p.m. at the Unique Suites Hotel, 920 W. Lincoln Ave. The lunch and presentation costs \$15 per person. Registration for the presentation ends Tuesday.

**Amanda Wilkinson can be reached at 581-2812 or [akwilkinson@eiu.edu](mailto:akwilkinson@eiu.edu).**

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CAMPUS | CONCERT

# Cavaliers perform for Charleston community, are cut short by rain

By Cayla Maurer  
@caymaurer

Men in long, black robes crawled, rolled and staggered onto the O'Brien Stadium field Saturday to present the first look at the Cavaliers 2013 production.

One hundred and fifty members of the Cavaliers Drum and Bugle Corps presented the first uniformed performance of the 'Secret Society' to the Charleston community at Fan Appreciation Night.

Mason Kimberly, a marketing and communication intern for the Cavaliers, said the Cavaliers perform for the Charleston community first because the whole community goes out of the way to accommodate the corps.

"It's not like we just rehearse in the stadium. We're all over the cam-

pus," Kimberly said. "The fact that we have just about every facility at our dispense it great. The fan appreciation night is a way to give back, it's a free show."

Rain shortened the two-hour event, but the Cavaliers did one full run-through before the storm hit.

The white plumes originally donned by every member of the corps were taken off so the rain couldn't ruin the traditional piece but the robes, green vests and aussies, the hats worn by the corps, were still worn.

Small details were of the utmost importance as the Cavaliers marched through intricate choreography while either playing an instrument or performing with the guard.

Head drops and raises were in unison and the guard threw and

caught the sabers, rifles and flags at the exact time that the bass hit all while keeping with the footwork and fast pace.

Directors of each specific section were in the press box to watch and critique members between each set individual set.

Members of the corps come from not only all over the country, but all over the world as well.

"These guys in this corps are the cream of the crop. A lot of them come from high school bands that are nationally recognized," Kimberly said.

Men from 24 different states are represented as well as three men from Japan, two from Taiwan, and members from Germany, Belgium and Canada.

Tara Page, a senior family and consumer science major, came to

watch the Cavaliers because it was advertised all over campus and would be an educational experience.

"My favorite thing to watch is the color guard because I have dance history in my background," Page said.

In the 30 days that the Cavaliers have been on Eastern's campus, the corps has practiced 12 hours a day, totaling about 360 hours. The Cavaliers show is about 12 minutes long.

The Cavaliers leave Thursday night and will perform the first show of the season on Friday in Lexington, Ky.

Cayla Maurer can be reached at 581-2812 or ccaurer@eiu.edu.

BLOTTER

## Criminal damage reported at Doudna Saturday

- At 12:52 a.m. Saturday, Kendel Fields, 20, of Country Club Hills, Ill. was arrested at 9th Street and Lincoln Avenue. He was charged with DUI-drugs, possession of cannabis <2.5gm, illegal consumption of alcohol by a minor and released at 3:15 a.m. after posting 10 percent of \$1,000 bond.
- At 10:03 a.m. Saturday, criminal damage to government property was reported at the Doudna Fine Arts Center. This incident is under investigation.

CORRECTIONS

In the May 14 edition of *The Daily Eastern News* in the article "Two sexual assaults reported, new chalk message appears," the people who went out to check on the chalking were incorrect. Dan Nadler was the only person who went out to look at the chalking.

In the May 14 edition of *The Daily Eastern News* in the article "Two sexual assaults reported, new chalk message appears," a sexual assault was reported at Pemberton Hall, but did not take place there.

COMMENTS, CORRECTIONS, OR EVENTS

To report any errors, local events or general suggestions for future editions please contact our Editor-in-Chief, **Zachary White**, via: **Phone | 581-2812, Email | DENeic@gmail.com Office visit | 1811 Buzzard Hall.**

» TUITION CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

"One thing we do know of for sure is that we are going to have to address these issues, and that's why in the past couple of years, we've re-engineered admissions and we're doing this program analysis so we can depend more on ourselves to get the job done," he said. "We need to continue to provide superior education to our students."

Paul McCann, Eastern's treasurer, presented expenditures of \$250,000 or more that included an annual supply of diesel and fuel oil, two sets of legal services for the univer-

sity and the construction of a Center for Clean Energy Research and Education.

The supply of diesel and fuel oil is an annual fee, and the board approved a two-year agreement for \$950,000.

The legal fees that were approved included fees from this current fiscal year that were additional to what was originally allotted not to exceed \$300,000, along with future legal services in four two-year interval renewals that are not to exceed \$500,000 for each two-year period.

The board also recognized John Inyart, the former mayor of Charleston, whose term ended earlier this month.

Perry commended Inyart for his service to the community and to Eastern, and presented him with a plaque.

The board also recognized two members: Roger Kratochvil, the former chairman of the board, and Jarrod Scherle, the board's student member.

Kratochvil will remain on the board as a member, and Scherle will

be replaced by the next student representative.

Joseph Dively is the new chairman of the board.

The board member's also approved personnel contracts for Barbara Burke, the director of intercollegiate athletics; Jay Spoonhour, the men's basketball coach; Debbie Black, the head women's basketball coach; and Regis Gilman, the dean of the School of Continuing Education.

Robyn Dexter can be reached at 581-2812 or redexter@eiu.edu.

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## PAWS UP/PAWS DOWN



FCS Magazine named Erik Lora the Player of the Year.



The Cavaliers Drum and Bugle Corps will be leaving campus Thursday.



Miss South Carolina will not be alone on Team USA any longer.

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 has been your favorite part of summer so far and why?

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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## DRAWN FROM THE EASEL



CAYLA MAURER | THE DAILY EASTERN NEWS

## STAFF EDITORIAL

# Proposed flat tuition rate will benefit the university

At Monday's Board of Trustees meeting, President Bill Perry presented the budget for Fiscal Year 2014 and the requested budget for FY 15.

The budgets include a continued decrease in tuition rate increases over the next two years, eventually dwindling down to a lack of an increase in FY 15.

In a state where the economy continues to suffer and students struggle to stay in higher education, this is a great selling point for Eastern.

While so many schools in Illinois see a continued increase in tuition rates every year, Eastern has made efforts to make a quality education affordable.

We can only hope this budget continues to be well-received by other members of the region and of the state government.

Students who may struggle to make ends meet throughout their four or more years at Eastern cannot handle increases in tuition or fees.

### OUR POSITION

• **Situation:** If the requested budget for Fiscal Year 2015 is approved, there will not be a tuition increase at all.

• **Stance:** No tuition rate increases are a great selling point for recruitment and will benefit the university's enrollment in the long run.

Knowing their school has their back, so to speak, is reassuring to not only current students, but to future students as well.

Looking into a university that is affordable and has the interests of the students in mind are two key factors when choosing an institution.

We at *The News* applaud the university administration and Board of Trustees for their

continued efforts to keep tuition rates comparatively low and stick to the best interests of the students and their families who help provide for them.

As the economy recovers, Eastern will recover from its enrollment decline as well.

This is just one more step in ensuring the future of the Eastern community and its members' wallets.

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

# Being polite only goes so far

Hey, to the judge-y woman with the huge dog who walks into my front yard without an invitation: keep out.

I've recently moved into my first off-campus apartment and it is beautiful.

I'm back behind Carman in the residential section of Charleston where families walk their dogs, jog, grill out, have gardens the size of forests, and ride bikes with their kids strapped in the back.

This is the kind of place I hope to be able to be able to live in when I graduate and find a job.

The people are incredibly friendly, always asking what breed of dog I have vice-versa.

My partner and I enjoy sitting outside while we grill with our dog.

When we first moved in, we were caught by surprise to see a dog the size of Clifford walking into our yard accompanied by what appeared to be middle-aged married couple, she later shared that it was her boyfriend.

I'm usually the kind of person who can talk to anyone about anything. I am also a person who believes in personal space. Luckily my partner is more open to nosy neighbors than I have found myself to be, so she humored her with conversation.



Olivia Diggs

As soon as the woman opened her mouth, she started judging us.

Don't people have filters?

She has since walked into our yard on six separate occasions for which she has worried about the amount of hair my dog had on him, the amount of water in his bowl, if we actually take him for walks, how we discipline him and on how loud he barks all in a passive-aggressive tone.

Did I ask your opinion?

What makes you think you hold all of the vast knowledge of having a dog?

I know I'm a college student, but just because I am doesn't mean I don't understand the amount of responsibility comes with taking care of another life.

My dog Dexter is like my son, and I would never do anything wrong by him. We go

to Fox Ridge, we play fetch for at least two hours a day, and I even leave an all-natural blueberry dog treat at the bottom of his dog food as desert.

Since the woman's third entrance into my yard, I have found my way into the house, leaving my partner to fend for herself because of my lack of knowledge on how to be nice to a nosy neighbor.

At what point should I tell her to get out of my yard?

Minding your own business is a great skill that not all people have.

What is it about this lady that makes me want to run away from her in my own front yard and back into my house rather than telling her to go away?

It is all about being polite.

Being nice, not wanting to create enemies, wanting to be well liked anywhere you go, but at some point in life, you have to realize that it is alright to say no.

"You have enemies? Good. That means you've stood up for something, sometime in your life." - Winston Churchill

Olivia Diggs can be reached at 581-2812 or osdiggs@eiu.edu.



CITY | BIKE SAFETY

# Cyclists to speak on bike safety

Library program focuses on bicycle laws, camaraderie

By Amanda Wilkinson  
@akaywilkinson

A local group of bicyclists will be presenting on bike safety and the different biking opportunities around Charleston Tuesday at the Charleston Carnegie Public Library.

Judy Looby, a member of Team High Maintenance, said she will be talking about bike maintenance, safety, community and touring.

While she only bikes about twice a week, Looby said she bikes for exercise and the social interaction.

"My husband was riding with a group of people for a while and was just having way too much fun without me so I said, 'I want to do this too,'" she said laughing.

Looby has been riding with the group for three years and they have 21 members.

Sheila Simons, a professor in the health studies department and a member of the group, said in an email that she also began cycling for exercise.

"Previously, I had been walking but found that it was taxing my Achilles tendon so I choose something less stressful on my body," she said.

Simons said she instantly loved riding her bike and lost 100 pounds as a result.

She said she became friends with Keith Cox, the former manager of Bike & Hike, because they both loved cycling and food.

"Our unofficial motto is 'Ride. Eat. Repeat,'" Looby said. "We're all about having fun and we like to go places where we can get a good meal."

She said the group has ridden up to 70 miles on one ride.

"(It) depends on the weather and the winds and what everybody's schedules are," Looby said. "There's some of them, they'll get out no



OLIVIA DIGGS | THE DAILY EASTERN NEWS

Bikes are are chained to a bike rack outside of Buzzard Hall on Monday.

matter what the weather's doing."

Simons said the longest distance she has ridden in one has been 160 miles.

"Myself and many team members participated in Ride Across Indiana," she said. "Last summer I rode with four other team members across Iowa."

During The Register's Great Bicycle Ride Across Iowa, Simons said she and her teammates rode a total of 471 miles in seven days.

Looby said she has not gotten to that point in riding yet.

"It's not for me but for those who want to do it, I'm all for supporting them," she said.

While cycling, Simons said she encounters many challenges.

"The biggest challenge is hostile drivers," she said. "Everyone in our group has had a close call with an automobile."

Simons said it can either the cyclists or the drivers fault for not following the law when cyclists have a right to be on the road.

"Most of the time, it is someone that doesn't feel we should be on the road," she said. "Some drivers have verbally assaulted us."

Looby said cars are a big challenge when they do not give cyclists the space they are allowed to have.

"Cars are supposed to give bicycles three feet. Some do and some don't," she said.

Looby said also watching out for squirrels, deer and loose dogs can be

a challenge.

Simons said it is also important for a cyclist to wear a helmet no matter the distance.

"Know that under Illinois law, you are a vehicle entitled to, and bound by all the rules of the road," she said.

Those of which, Simons said, are having a front and rear taillight, not riding on a sidewalk and not wearing ear buds.

Looby said she wants to inform people that cyclists and drivers must share the road.

"We try to educate people that bicyclists have to follow the same laws that drivers do," she said.

Simons said there is a lot of camaraderie when cycling with others.

"But there is something about being able to appreciate your surroundings, pedaling distances that you had no idea that you were capable of and finding within yourself a certain peace," she said.

Looby said she also enjoys riding because she is able to view her surroundings more closely.

"There's something just freeing about being out on your bike," she said. "You're just out in the fresh air and the sunshine."

The program will begin at 6:30 p.m. in the Rotary Room of the library.

Amanda Wilkinson can be reached at 581-2812 or [akwilkinson@eiu.edu](mailto:akwilkinson@eiu.edu).

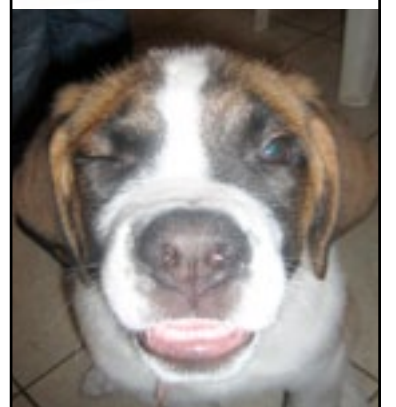


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Interest in these positions must notify Mr. Wooters by June 21, 2013 or apply on Applitrack at www.roe11@k12.il.us.

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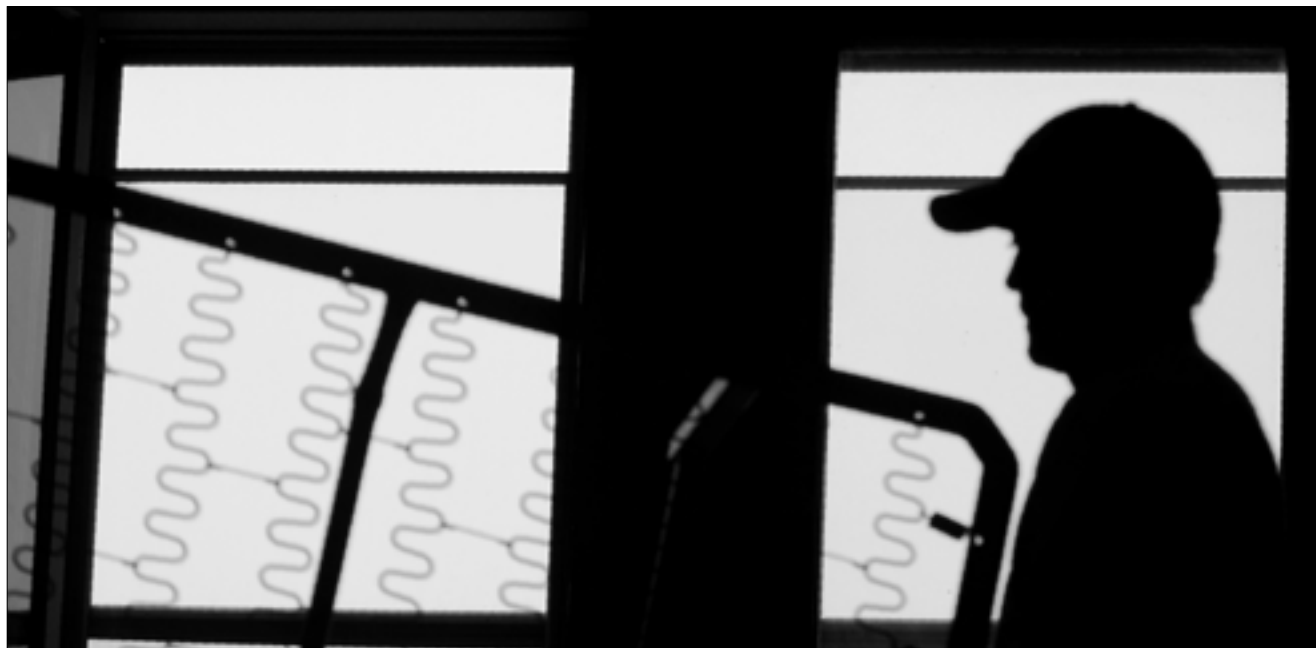
PHOTO ESSAY

# = Bedtime in Pemberton Hall =



PHOTOS BY ZACHARY WHITE | THE DAILY EASTERN NEWS

Kirby Moses, university employee, carries an old bed down the central stairs of Pemberton Hall Monday. Moses moved beds as part of a project to bring in around 2,300 pieces of used furniture from the University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign.



A university employee carries an old metal bed frame out of Pemberton. The metal bed frames are being replaced with wooden frames.



Headboards and footboards line the third floor hallway.



Jim Guymon carries a bed frame to the third floor of Pemberton Hall.



An employees walkie-talkie and sunglasses lay on a table in the Pemberton lobby.



Steve Walker waits for a second university employee to help him carry a bed frame to the third floor.



# High school girls play college ball

Zachary White  
@zacharytwhite

High school softball players will be taking Williams Field until Thursday this week as part of the high school girls' softball camp.

The high school students will be doing two hours of practice starting at noon, two hours in the afternoon, and a game in the evening.

Kim Schuette, head Panthers softball coach, said the girls are here to improve on their fundamentals.

"We work on the fundamentals of defense, offense, base running, as well as game strategy," Schuette said. "We try and challenge these high school kids to take their game to the next level."

She said they aim to make the program prepare the girls for what it will be like if they were to play for a college team.

"(We) treat them a little bit more like college kids so they get the first hand experience of what it takes and what it's like to be on a college campus and be a part of a college program, but most of all we have fun," Schuette said. "We do silly things, we do little competitions — we do fun competitions."

Schuette said the players worked in stations on the first day so that the coaches could see what level of play they were at.

"Day one we try and test them to see where they're at so we can put them in ability groups so that they can compete against people who they're going to have more success against," Schuette said. "As well as testing the first day, we

test them the last day to see how much they've improved. And that always tells them how they measure up against everyone else in the camp."

Jason Dorey, assistant coach, worked with players Monday afternoon to improve their batting stance and swing. He said the camp aims to give the players different aspects to work on in their game so they can go home and keep working and improving.

"When I worked in minor league baseball and major league baseball (one thing) they taught me was you're going to have your natural swing," Dorey said. "There's always going to be something little that you do that nobody else does. But a good coach is going to help them learn the little things they need to have in everybody's swing, but let them keep their natural swing."

With only a few days to work with the players Dorey makes sure that he gets as much work in with the players as possible.

He said during end of day scrimmages they try to coach as much as they can, bringing what they did that day into the game.

"A lot of our games what we do is I'll umpire and we'll have a couple of our kids coaching their team," Dorey said. "And sometimes we'll call time and I'll jump in there and I'll say 'hey let's get those feet a little wider, let's try to do what we were working on in the cages and see if it works.'"

Zachary White can be reached at 581-2812 or ztwhite@eiu.edu.



OLIVIA DIGGS | THE DAILY EASTERN NEWS

Eastern assistant softball coach Jason Dorey uses a pitching machine during the high school girls softball camp Monday at Williams Field.



ZACHARY WHITE | THE DAILY EASTERN NEWS

Head softball coach Kim Schuette walks high school players through an outfielder catching drill after getting done working in smaller groups.



ZACHARY WHITE | THE DAILY EASTERN NEWS

Softballs lay on batting tees during batting drills. Players were put into four groups and rotated through drill areas in the afternoon.

## COLUMN

# Chicago baseball heading in opposite directions

By Aldo Soto  
@Den\_Sports

It's a little past the middle of June and for Chicago baseball fans the 2013 season has been less than fun.

The White Sox and the Cubs have a combined record of 56-77 heading into Monday night's action and sit in last place and fourth place in their respective divisions.

But there's a difference between the two despite their similar records; the Cubs having one more loss than the White Sox (28-29).

The Cubs are coming off a heartbreaking loss to the New York Mets, well heartbreaking only if you have Carlos Marmol in your fantasy league and the blown save cost you a Matt Garza win. The four-run barrage capped off by a game-winning three-run home run by Kirk Nieuwenhuis marked Marmol's third blown save of the season.

One thing though, who cares? Really. Who cares? Another loss, but nothing new for Cubs' fans.

Now, that doesn't mean fans shouldn't want to watch the Cubs play it's just important to look for the right things.

Although the Mets won 4-3 Cubs' fans should be encouraged by the seven-inning performance tossed by Garza. The right-handed pitcher gave up a measly three hits and the Mets were unable to cross the plate against Garza, who is most likely not going to end up with Chicago after the July 31 trade deadline.

Sure there are things to analyze and speculate like why is Starlin Castro worse at hitting and still bad defensively in his fourth season in the big leagues, and what's the deal with Anthony Rizzo's .245 batting average?

Nonetheless, with young talent being molded in the minor leagues such as Jorge Soler and Javier Baez, who on



Aldo Soto

June 10 hit four home runs for Class-A Daytona.

Garza's progression should be looked at closely and for the betterment of the team fans should hope for a trade that brings back more prospects for the future.

The future is all that matters at this point, but there's a problem on the south side of the windy city.

So, the White Sox. Normally a series against Houston means wins for your team and a lot of runs as the Astros hold the worst ERA in MLB at 4.74. That ERA actually lowered af-

ter three straight wins against the White Sox starting Friday.

Maybe it's a bit premature to call this the start of the bottoming out of the White Sox, but it's pretty easy to make an argument that it is.

Three consecutive losses to Houston by itself should cause for the alarms to ring among White Sox supporters, but this series that concludes Monday night is a microcosm of their season.

Good pitching can only take a team so far.

The White Sox pitching staff possess the 11th best ERA at 3.77, but with the second lowest amount of runs scored (237) tied with the Washington Nationals and ranked in the lower third in fielding with 45 errors it is no surprise the pale hose reside in the cellar of the American League central division.

But, again just like the Cubs, this

season is irrelevant in the win/loss column for the south siders.

Unlike the Cubs, though, the future is not bright for first-year general manager Rick Hahn and the rest of the White Sox organization.

What's the plan? Right now the team is filled aging overpaid players, who don't have any trade value. The minor league system has never been a strong suit, and the only two young promising arms are already on the big league roster in starter Chris Sale and closer Addison Reed.

This isn't about being a Cubs fan or a White Sox fan it's about looking at both situations and realizing that one team's arrow is pointing up while the other's is pointing down.

That being said both teams are bad, Bears training camp is over a month from now so, go Hawks!

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