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Eastern Illinois University

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LAUGH WITH LOQUASTO

As a way to help students relax during finals week, the University Board will be bringing comedian Jonny Loquasto for a night of stand-up comedy.

PAGE 2

BALLIN' ON BALL STATE

The Eastern men's basketball team pulled away with a close win at home against Ball State Wednesday to improve to 3-5.

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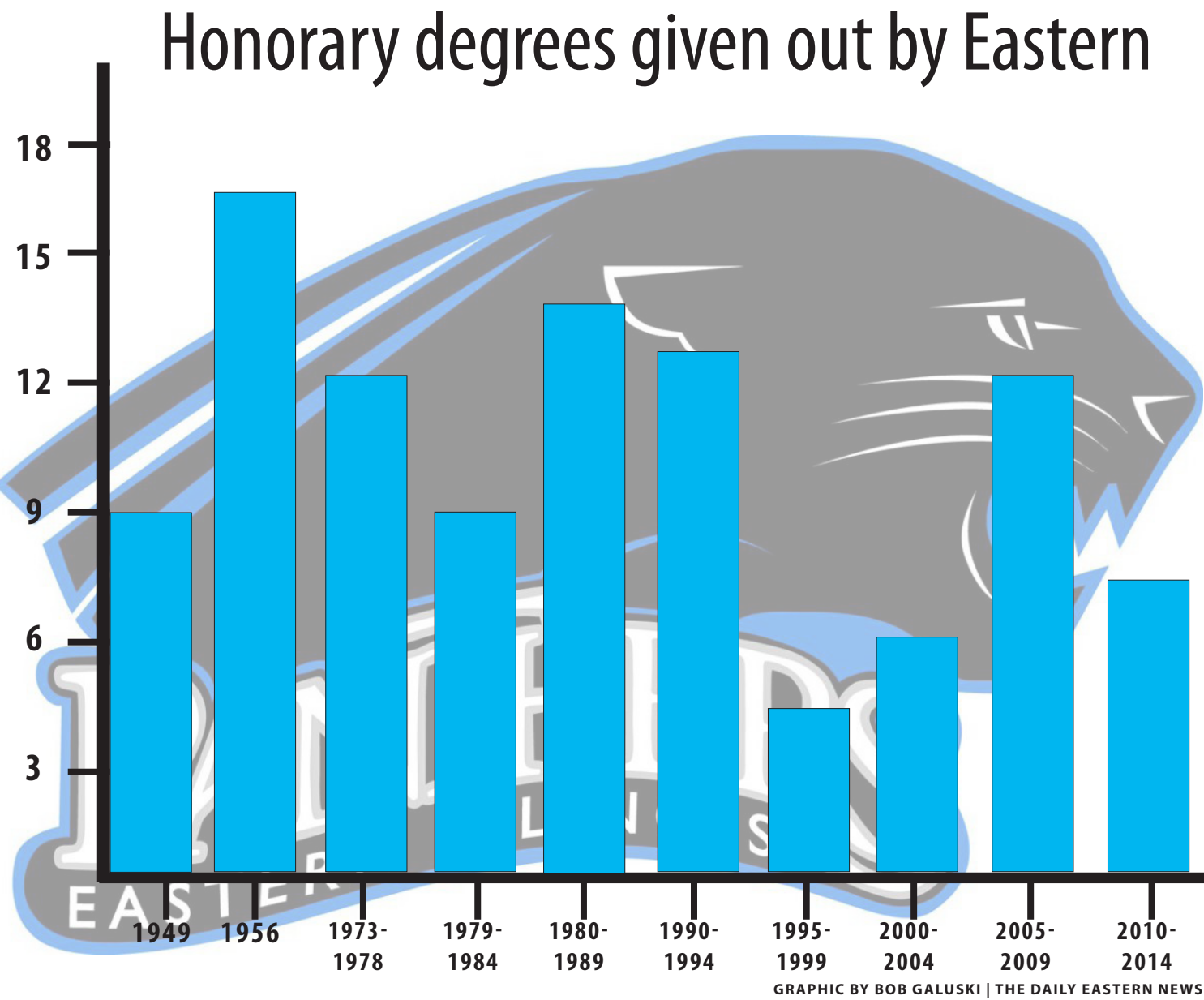
THE

DAILY EASTERN NEWS

Thursday, Dec. 4, 2014

"TELL THE TRUTH AND DON'T BE AFRAID"

VOL. 99 | NO. 67



Honorary degrees give recognition

By Bob Galuski
Editor-in-Chief | @BobGaluski

Sean Payton, the head football coach of the New Orleans Saints, former Illinois Gov. Jim Edgar and former Congressman Terry L. Bruce, along with numerous others, all share a connection—they all have honorary degrees from Eastern.

Nominations for individuals deserving of an honorary degree ends Monday, and all forms need to be turned into Robert Martin, the vice president for university advancement.

Applications for the honorary degree nominations can be found on Eastern's website.

Martin said the individuals who are usually nominated have national or state prominence in education, public service, research, business or specific to their partic-

ular profession.

There is also a category for significant donations, he said.

"If somebody gives a major gift, we really consider them," Martin said.

The number of nominations accepted by the committee is four; however, that doesn't necessarily mean the committee will approve any of the nominations.

"In 2014, the committee did not select any nominees for honorary degrees," Martin said.

Martin also said the significance of the degree also serves to give acknowledgment to a certain individual.

"I think it's both a feather in our cap and it recognizes an alumni who has excelled in their field," he said. "It's like Gordon Grado, who is one of the top oncologists of the nation. He already has a medical doctorate, but this is an honorary degree."

Martin also said figures such as Payton,

who received an honorary degree, not for his coaching, but instead for his volunteer work during the aftermath of Hurricane Katrina.

"You don't need to have a doctorate, and there is no requirement to have a degree," Martin said.

The only people who cannot be nominated are elected officials in office, members of the Board of Trustees or staff currently working at Eastern, just to avoid a conflict of interest.

"It makes it more of a distinction when you put more criteria in there," he said.

Martin said while the committee only accepts a maximum of four nominations each year, they usually have anywhere between six and 12 applicants to choose from.

"Some years are more; some years are less," he said.

HONORARY, page 5

2015 room, board rates presented

By Luis Martinez
Staff Reporter | @DEN_News

The Student Senate was presented with a possible 2-percent increase in room and board rates for 2016 on Wednesday.

Mark Hudson, the director of Housing and Dining Services, came to speak to the Senate at its meeting about the possibility of either increasing the rate or leaving it the same.

"The goal of Housing and Dining is to break even," Hudson said. "We're trying to give students the very best service that we can."

The propose rates would raise the room and board rates by \$58 and meal plan costs by an average of \$31.

"We have money from people who live with us," Hudson said. "We are very driven by making sure we do everything to serve our students."

The Senate also voted to reelect current Speaker of the Senate Courtney Sage.

As the members were accepting nominations, only one other member stepped forward, Senator Christopher Pickard.

Senators Danielle Burden and Catie Witt spoke on the behalf of Sage while Senator Marlene Acosta spoke on the behalf of Pickard.

"I feel super passionately about Courtney being re-elected," Burden said. "She is super involved; she comes to all out reach tables she can be at."

Burden also went on to talk about how well the executive board works well together now.

"She supports everybody," Burden said. "She's always pushing us forward."

Witt said she agreed on Sage's merit.

"I think we can all agree that Courtney has been an outstanding speaker," Witt said. "Courtney helped me out and many other new senators this semester."

Witt also said that Sage shows many signs of being a great leader, including being organized and on time.

Sage then discussed what she would like to accomplish as Speaker.

"Online orientation is one of the big things I would like to see accomplished, if I was voted Speaker again," Sage said. "There's going to be information that you can read to help understand what Senate does."

Sage also said that recruitment it is the primary duty of the Speaker.

"In the fall, I was leading recruitment, and it was a success," Sage said. "What I want to do is each Senator is going to go to their classes and talk about Student Senate."

Acosta said she believed Pickard would be the best candidate.

"He does have a lot of good ideas to add," Acosta said. "He seems like he can control order within the Senate."

Pickard said he came onto the Senate last year as a freshman and has only served the fall semester.

"If elected, I will follow exactly what I am supposed to do as stated in the bylaws," Pickard said.

After both candidates had presented their cases to Senate, the remaining Senators voted 13 to 3 for Sage to return as Speaker of the Senate.

The Senate will reconvene after the semester break.

Luis Martinez can be reached at 581-2812 or lpmartinez@eiu.edu.

'Helpers' assist families during holidays

By Roberto Hodge
Multicultural Editor | @BertoHodge

Students, registered student organizations and other organizations provide assistance during the holiday seasons by adopting families, both large and small, as well as the elderly each year.

Crystal Brown, the assistant director of the student community service, said they have been doing the Holiday Helper program for a long time and each year the

wish lists of the families change as well as those being adopted.

Brown said adopting the families is free, but there is a commitment to spend around \$50 per-person.

There are also three categories those who adopt can and usually donate too; some form of a clothing item, household item and a toy.

15 elderly and 15 families have been adopted this year. The number of adopted families and elderly changes every year,

Brown said.


The community service office begins putting out the word for their holiday helper program in late October to early November.

Those who wish to buy a gift for the family they're adopting should bring the presents back to the community service office for them to be wrapped, Brown said.

HOLIDAY HELPERS, page 5


Local weather

THURSDAY



Icy
High: 36°
Low: 35°

FRIDAY



Rainy
High: 44°
Low: 37°

For more weather visit dailyeasternnews.com

THE DAILY EASTERN NEWS

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

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Music to the ears



JORDAN GAY | DAILY EASTERN NEWS

Sullivan Peterson-Quinn, freshman music major, Richele Miller, freshman music major, and Joseph Goldstein, freshman music major, work on a group project for a Music Theory class on Wednesday. The project will feature Quinn, Goldstein, and another member that is not pictured in a brass trio. Quinn plays the trombone, Goldstein plays the french horn, and the unpictured member plays the tuba.

UB series continues with Jonny Loquasto

By Bethany Kulacz
Staff Reporter | @DEN_News

Students will have a way to de-stress and have some laughs before finals with a show by comedian Jonny Loquasto at 7 p.m. Friday in 7th Street Underground.

Loquasto, who is from Philadelphia and lives in Los Angeles, has been the host of “AXS Live” on AXS TV, the Tough Mudder on CBS Sports, and other shows on the Game Show Network and The Hub.

From stand-up comedy to creating his own web series, Loquasto has numerous ways to entertain his audiences.

He is currently in the process of co-directing a film that he wrote called “The Thumb Wrestler” in Los Angeles.

Other movies Loquasto was involved in include 2013’s “Snowpiercer,” in which he was a voice actor, and 2011’s “American Apparel Activity,” in which he played a starring role.

According to Loquasto’s biography on his website, he graduated from the University of Sciences in Philadelphia where he played on the Division II basketball team and earned a master’s degree in physical therapy.

“Shortly after graduation, he convinced himself that he was still a funny fat kid at heart and was determined to have a career in entertaining others,” his biography states.

Tony Alozie, the University Board’s comedy coordinator, said he believes Loquasto’s performance at Eastern will comprise mostly of standup comedy, but it may deviate

from that.

Loquasto has a series of videos he titles “Quasto Knows.”

Through this web series, Loquasto edits real interviews with well-known names such as Barack Obama, Lady Gaga and Tiger Woods to pretend he is interviewing them.

Throughout these interviews, Loquasto makes it look like he is having real conversations with these celebrities where he says mildly inappropriate things that contribute to the humor of the series.

Though Loquasto’s jokes include some adult topics, Alozie said he is not worried about offended anyone in the audience.

“The audience is usually 18 or 19-year-old students and everyone there knows it’s all fun and games,” Alozie said.

Although the coordinator before Alozie chose this comedian, he said he has to admit that the previous coordinator has great taste.

Loquasto’s standup has included jokes about his interactions with people as a comedian and a physical therapist, as well as the bad dates he has gone on.

He has even joked about interactions with porn stars and homeless people.

Alozie said he cannot wait to meet Loquasto and that he is a “funny character.”

“We get to hand pick each comedian that comes to our campus,” Alozie said. “And we think that Loquasto would be something the students and community would enjoy.”

The UB comedy coordinator gets to select three to four different comedians each semester to perform.

Alozie said he spends his time



SUBMITTED PHOTO

researching comedians on YouTube and other websites whether he knows them or not to find the perfect show for Eastern’s campus.

This show is open to students and the community free of charge.

Refreshments will also be provided.

Bethany Kulacz can be reached at 581-2812 or bdkulacz@eiu.edu.

PICK UP TOMORROW’S EDITION OF THE DAILY EASTERN NEWS TO READ ALL THE LATEST IN NEWS, SPORTS AND FEATURES!

Graduate, professor to join jazz ensemble

By **Chelsea Lee**
Staff Reporter |@DEN_News

The Eastern jazz ensemble will perform at 7:30 p.m. in the Doudna Fine Arts Center with two guest artists.

Sam Fagaly, the director of the jazz ensemble, said the ensemble, made up of Eastern students only, has performed only twice previous to this performance.

This is the jazz ensembles' third performance this year; the group has received many awards.

The most recent was its Outstanding Ensemble and Solo Performance, which were awarded to the group at the Norte Dame and Elmhurst College jazz festivals.

Fagaly is in his 24th year at Eastern, and under his direction the Jazz Ensemble has performed with Joe Williams, Snooky Young and many others.

The performance will feature new music and the students, who have performed in front of audiences before, have had a month to prepare for the show; there will also be two guests performing at the ensemble as well.

"We're featuring Andrew Cheetham, a faculty trumpet soloist, and Mark O' Conner," Fagaly said.

O' Conner is an Eastern graduate who has been performing and recording in Chicago for the past few months.

He will be featured in a few of the pieces as well. The students hope to perform better than their previous year, Fagaley said.

Tickets to attend the jazz ensemble are \$5 dollars.



Members of the Eastern Jazz Ensemble perform a song during the Jazz Ensemble Concert on Sept. 25 in the Doudna Fine Arts Center.

SAVE THE DATE

What: Eastern jazz ensemble
Where: Doudna Fine Arts Center
When: 7:30 p.m.

Two guest artists will be performing with the Eastern jazz ensemble.

Chelsea Lee can be reached at 581-2812 or cjlee3@eiu.edu.



SUBMITTED PHOTO

Members of Delta Sigma Theta are hosting "Breakfast with Santa" Saturday.

Sorority to host breakfast with Santa for area children

By **Roberto Hodge**
Multicultural Editor |@BertoHodge

Children ranging in ages from three to 12 will be able to receive a breakfast sandwich, juice and a toy at 10:13 a.m. Saturday in McAfee gym.

Hosted by the Delta Sigma Theta sorority, "Breakfast with Santa," is the holiday event where child and parents will receive a morning breakfast.

The children will also be able to take a photo with Santa Clause.

Jalyssa Woodall, the event planning chair for the sorority, said the children need to all be escorted by a parent or guardian; they will also have tables for arts and crafts, which the children can use coloring books or build gingerbread houses.

Woodall said the event planner from the previous year got the inspiration for the event because the girl was from East St. Louis and it was something put on over there, so she wanted to bring the event to Eastern's campus.

The event has been in its planning stages since October with the organization reaching out to other fraternities, sororities and Registered Student Organizations.

"It's been a long process, but it will be a good turn out," Woodall said.

The girls have many gifts and toys to hand out to the children, which every child attending the event will have a chance to receive.

A larger toy will also be handed out from a raffle win, said Woodall.

Woodall said not only have they reached out to other student organizations, but also through these RSOs they were able to get in contact with parents and families with children.

She said reaching out to parents to bring their children is the heart of the event, so they have used flyers, social media and Rachel Fisher, the director of student community service's help as well.

"We really want to show that we genuinely care about the community and the children," Woodall said.

Woodall said the goal is to feed as many children as possible for those who attend the event as well as get them their toy.

Some families may not be able to provide their child with a toy for Christmas, so this is an opportunity to provide them with a gift.

"Nobody wants to wake up on Christmas and not have anything," Woodall said.

Roberto Hodge can be reached at 581-2812 or rlhodge@eiu.edu.

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December 4, 2014

What's Happening at EIU?

Tarble Exhibits 10 AM - 5 PM
Illinois Biennial Drawing/Watercolor & Frankie Flood: Machines that Work both on display
A Faculty Reading of How the Grinch Stole Christmas 5 PM
Presented in in Spanish, French, Old English, Latin, German, and English; all are welcome; Booth Library
Music Department Student Recital 6 - 7:30 PM
Featuring Montana Thomason, voice and Mitchell Weakley, trumpet; Doudna FA Center
Check out more upcoming events at www.dailyeasternnews.com

Don't just read the news!

www.dailyeasternnews.com/podcasts/

COLUMN BY STEPHANIE WHITE

Thanksgiving is being destroyed by Black Friday

Many people in America go out the day after Thanksgiving, or at midnight the night of Thanksgiving, to get “amazing deals” that stores are having. But people have at least waited until after Thanksgiving dinner, when the kids are in bed and the food is put away, to leave late that night to line up in front of their favorite store.

For the past few years however, it seems like the stores have basically said that Thanksgiving is not important and have started to have their “special sales” times at 5 p.m. the night of Thanksgiving.

The main thing that bothers me is that people care more about buying stuff and saving money than being around people that they call family, blood related or not. It seems like people have become more reliant on possession then the people that they are buying these gifts for.

I like saving money as much as the next person, but it is not worth my sanity to fight for an item that in reality doesn't matter.

We buy all this stuff for people for Christmas, but we sacrifice spending time with them to buy them something. I don't see how something like this makes sense.

Days like this also affect the people working in retail. It means people who work have to come in instead of having that day off that they spend with their families.

I have worked in retail for a few years of my life, my first job at the age of 18, which was retail, and I work at another retail job now. My first job, like most, wasn't the greatest and I had to work on holidays the entire time. My family did not mind when I worked but it still stinks.

The only time that they really have time off is the holidays. For me, all I really wanted off was Thanksgiving day, the night of Christmas Eve and Christmas day so I can relax with my family and spend time with them. Now with me being at college I want that more than ever because I am away from my hometown and when I go home I work, and when I do not work I sleep. So I do want to spend time with my family when I can.

The fact that stores are starting to allegedly threaten their employees that they will fire them if they do not work on Thanksgiving and Christmas is pretty bad. I understand not everyone can have that day off if the store must be open, but why does the store have to be open in the first place? Have people across America lost what the true meaning of the holidays mean?

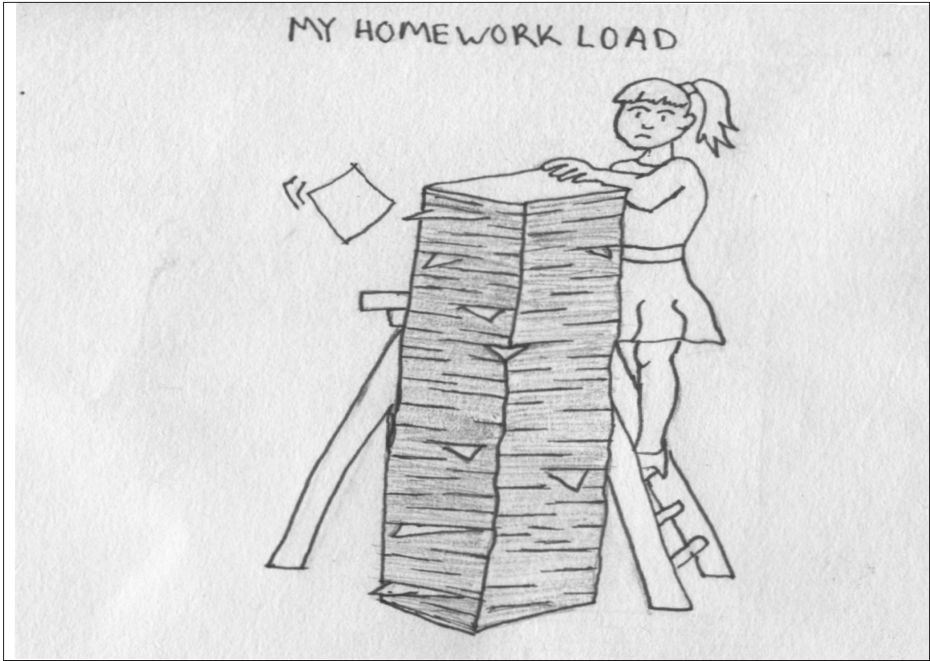
I find it funny how a day when we are supposed to give thanks we just go out to shop instead, wanting more and more. It is like people forgot what the holidays meant to us when we were kids. I wish more people could feel the same way when they got older.

Days like Black Friday have spoiled us, making us want more and more days for sales when we do not realize that it means we will sacrifice spending time with the people we are shopping and it is making the people who work at he shop miss time with their families as well.

I haven't heard anyone regret not buying something on sale when they are much older. I have heard regret for not spending more time with the people they care about more times then I can count.

So in the end, what is it costing us all?

Stephanie White is a senior journalism major. She can be reached at 581-7912 or denopinions@gmail.com



DEANNA TADLOCK | THE DAILY EASTERN NEWS

STAFF EDITORIAL

Diversity forum should lead others to change

While the idea of having a six-year graduation rate of 59 percent at Eastern may seem as if Eastern is not working its best to serve its students, in reality, the university is above average nationally, and that's something to take into consideration.

In Tuesday's article, "Eastern's graduation rate above national average," we reported that the Four-Year Myth report from Complete College America stated the six-year rate was because of students earning extra credits in addition to their standard degree.

While the 59 percent looks as if Eastern should be doing more for its students, in reality it means we are looking at a high rate of students earning far and beyond the traditional degree.

And for students ambitious enough to try and complete a degree within four years, there are also options for them to do so. Counselors and advisers are here at Eastern to make sure students stay on track for graduation.

Eastern also has plans in motion to help students graduate in both four and two years. So it is not as if Eastern does not want students to succeed within four years, it is a student choice.

Students shouldn't see the 59 percent rate of graduation for six years as a bad thing, but instead should see at as a reason to excel. The 59 percent graduation rate for six years means students are working toward more than just a standard degree, but instead want to achieve more.

It helps the university look better of course, but to be fair, when you walk out of this university, your degree is only as good as the university you leave. Don't think of the higher rate for six years rather than four

as a negative. It shows people that you went to the school that supports achieving more than a standard degree.

We also reported that Complete College America also stated in the report that the average graduation rate for four-year bachelor's degree granting institutions in Illinois is 4.6 years.

While it would be easy to say that the 59 percent graduation rate for six years is terrible or should be approved on, in reality, it takes a lot of hard work and dedication to complete a four-year degree.

In Tuesday's article, we also reported that Eastern is ahead of other non-top Illinois universities. Going into the program, students should know what they are getting into. It should take preparation to achieve a four-year degree.

Knowing this, when looking at your grades, students should realize that if they want to graduate in four years, it takes time and dedication to understand how to achieve a four-year degree.

The responsibility of getting a four-year degree should not fall solely on Eastern, but also its students. The students should figure out how to succeed in the timeline they want.

The 59 percent six-year-graduation rate is not a bad thing. It helps improve our university and image through multiple facets. But if students want to graduate in four years, they should realize what it takes to make it happen.

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

How I learned to enjoy doing nothing

For the longest time, and still to this day to some extent, it's kind of taken me a long while to really get into baseball. The amount of games in a season is kind of ridiculous really, by my normal human standards. I have a hard time believing that anyone actually watches all 100 plus games, but I'm sure there are some out there that do, and that's totally fine for them.

Me, personally, I just can't find the time. That's why football was always kind of my main sport. Sundays and occasionally Mondays (and now occasionally Thursday) were all I needed to be up on my favorite team (who, for the sake of embarrassment, will not be named in this piece).

I like football just as much as your average 20-something American male, and I love a lazy autumn Sunday just as much as the next guy. Just a whole day, waking up around 11:00 in the morning from a rough Saturday night, throw on some sweatpants and the jersey of my favorite player (who, for the sake of embarrassment, will not be named in this piece) and just park it on the couch and watch football all day from the noon kickoff until the late game at 7:30.

It was the perfect day of rest, just as the lord intended it to be. But recently, I've been finding myself a little footballed out. Maybe its just because [REDACTED] are under-



Dominic Renzetti

performing this year, but recently, I can't really bring myself to watch more than one slate of games.

If the team-whom-shall-not-be-named is playing at noon, I might watch the first half of the second slate of games, but by 4 p.m., I'm done. I just can't sit through it anymore. If my team is playing at 3 p.m. or the late game, I might not even watch a single snap until kick-off.

What happened to me? Why can't I watch the games anymore? Why is it that after watching a 50-point blowout (I've said too much), all I really want to do is watch "Family Guy?"

Football is such a serious game and it takes itself so seriously. There will never be a happy-go-lucky NFL pregame show with some Charles Barkley-like antics like there is with the NBA. Never. Football isn't a joke. This is THE NATIONAL FOOTBALL LEAGUE,

dammit. Men put their bodies on the line out there for this game. "We'll give you Frank Caliendo, but that's all the laughs you'll get and you'll like it!"

Why can't I watch the modern day gladiators do battle on the gridiron like I used to? Maybe that's just one of the less exciting parts of growing up – realizing that there's more to life than just sitting on the couch.

This is not a healthy living column. I'll leave that up to my colleagues. I'm not saying that instead of watching football all day on Sundays, I'm going to the gym or raising money for charity. I won't lie to you like that. I'm still largely doing nothing on Sundays (just the way the lord intended), it's just a different kind of nothing (yes, I see the low-hanging Seinfeld-related fruit there, and no, I won't take it).

So, if you ever find yourself unsatisfied with the nothing you're doing, try doing another kind of nothing. Go do nothing outside. Or at a friend's house. Or call your parents and see if they're doing anything (they're probably doing nothing). Whatever it is, just make sure you're satisfied while doing it.

Dominic Renzetti is a senior family and consumer sciences major. He can be reached at 581-2812 or denopinions@gmail.com.

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» **HOLIDAY HELPERS**
CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Brown said the holiday helper program is special because it is a way for the students and community to get more involved and give back to the elderly and families in need during the holiday season.

Each gift the families and elderly receive vary, but they all need clothing and housing items.

She added when it comes to the families the adults usually ask for some item relating to a hobby and the children normally want a toy.

Brown said adopting a family or elder to assist for the holiday can be a rewarding experience for the individual because they are providing items for a family who may not be able to afford them.

What stood out to Brown was there was a year when a group of students provided someone with a bookshelf along with other items on that person's wish list.

"You can see the sincerity and thought process in the purchase of those items," Brown said.

The holiday helper program differs from other programs because the student or whoever is holiday adopting is able to assist an entire family rather than a single person, Brown said.

"You help them have a nicer and less stressful holiday," Brown said.

Roberto Hodge can be reached at 581-2812 or rhodge@eiu.edu

SAVE THE DATE

What: Holiday Helpers
Who: Students, RSOs, other organizations on campus
Why: To help families that need assistance

Holiday Helpers lets people "adopt" struggling families during the holiday season.

Bonding by the bonfire



AJA TAYLOR | THE DAILY EASTERN NEWS
Members of the Zeta Phi Beta Sorority Inc. stand around a fire at their Bonfire of Expressions event in honor of the Blu Empire during Opreation Domination Zeta Phi Beta week Tuesday at Campus Pond.

» **HONORARY** CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

When the nomination application process ends, Robert Martin, the vice president for university advancement, will put the nominees through the approval process

He said the process would be him going over the nominations and letting the committee decide. Then the names would go to President Bill Perry, who has the right to accept or deny the nominations. Once Perry accepts the nominations, Martin will present the nominations to the Board of Trustees, who has the final say so on honorary degrees.

Martin hopes for the nominations to be presented to the board at its next meeting in January so that there is time to contact the nominees before the commencement

ceremony in May.

"It would be nice to get a few members here," he said. "Sometimes they speak at commencement, but it's not necessary."

He said the longest commencement ceremony occurred when Payton accepted his honorary degree.

"Every guy wanted to stop and shake his hand," Martin said, laughing. "A few of the girls did, too, but it was like every single guy stopped to shake his hand."

The committee also has it set up so that nominees not selected can only be nominat-

ed twice before they must go beyond what gave them the initial nomination.

"That's so we don't go over the same list of lesser-qualified names year after year," he said.

The honorary degree program began in 1949, and when it was initially created, more than four nominations were accepted.

Martin said it is interesting to see the different names that come up on the list.

Jan Tarble, in particular, who was honored with the degree in 2007, would not let the degree read doctorate.

"She felt she would take the degree, but wouldn't let it say doctorate," Martin said. "I thought that was interesting."

Along with Tarble, familiar names like Burl Ives (1985), Quincy V. Doudna (1985) and Richard Lumpkin (1993) also appear on the list.

"It's a wide variety and it's hard to make the list," Martin said.

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

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» WRESTLER CONTINUED FROM PAGE 8

“It was kind of hard paying out of pocket,” he said. “All that money I was paying, even though I had a partial scholarship and academic scholarships and student loans – I didn’t want to pay student loans. My family didn’t want to continue to pay out of pocket.”

Green said it was difficult, emotionally, to leave Iowa.

“They treated me well up there,” he said. “Definitely wish I could have stayed.”

Looking for a new school, Green reached out to Eastern admissions counselor Omar Solomon.

“I met Lenzell when he was in high school,” Solomon said. “We invited him to a program that we have called Access Granted in February, he came, he really enjoyed it, but didn’t get him.”

Even though Green picked Iowa over Eastern, he and Solomon remained in contact.

“He ended up going to Iowa, but we still stayed in contact through social media, kept me updated and he let me know that he was thinking about transferring,” he said. “I let him know that our door is always open and now he’s here and he really enjoys it.”

Access Granted, organized by the Admissions Office and the Office of Minority Affairs, is an

Eastern program that invites students of color from across the state of Illinois and the surrounding Missouri region to tour campus. The weekend leads up to Eastern’s February open house.

“Me and (Solomon) got pretty close and tight and I just kept emailing him about everything going on at Iowa as far as finances and how everything was going,” Green said. “He ended up making things happen for me.”

Solomon said the Access Granted program has been very successful for the university in recent years.

“We roughly yield 75 percent of the students that come,” Solomon said. “(Green) really enjoyed it. He stayed in contact with a lot of the kids from that program.”

Green expressed his interest about playing football to Solomon and Solomon helped him get in touch with the right people.

“I informed him of coaches to get in contact with and he took the ball and ran with it,” Solomon said.

Green had originally been recruited out of high school by Mike Lynch, who coached for nine seasons as an assistant at Eastern before leaving for Bowling Green along with former head

coach Dino Babers.

Green met with James Truxillo, a safeties coach and defensive recruiter for the Panthers.

“When I first got here, Coach Truxillo, he Googled my name in front of me and he was shocked to see that I was an Iowa wrestler,” he said. “He was shocked; he was like ‘wow, what made you come here’ and I told him my situation.”

Truxillo, a former graduate assistant at Louisiana-Monroe, was hired as a part of new head coach Kim Dameron’s staff this past year.

“You know what goes into wrestling at that level: hard work, sacrifice, dedication, all those things,” Truxillo said. “We knew that he was a pretty good person just to have on our team.”

Truxillo said sometimes coaches run into problems with walk-on players, but that Green was not one of them.

“He’s a nice kid, very respectful, you could tell that he was brought up that right way,” he said. “We get a lot of kids that want to walk on, and you don’t want to have to necessarily deal with them being a distraction. He’s a good kid.”

Truxillo said with Green being a wrestler, he likely has good hand skills and plays low to the ground – all qualities that make for a good

defensive lineman.

Green, a sports management major, was ineligible to play last season because of NCAA transfer rules, but said he will be eligible for spring practices. Just like at Iowa, Green is a walk-on who is trying to earn his way on to the team and hopefully get a scholarship.

“I don’t really need nobody in my ear,” Green said. “It’s just common sense to me: work hard, play hard.”

Green said his biggest motivation is his family.

“Going through some of the struggles I went through in St. Louis, it wasn’t easy coming up,” he said. “I grew up in a rough neighborhood and seeing some of the things that I saw, I don’t want my kids to see, I don’t my little cousins, I don’t want anybody to have to go through that.”

Green said after college he hopes to coach at the college and eventually professional level.

“I think I could be a better football coach, but I could still do wrestling,” he said. “I’ve still got a couple moves in me.”

Dominic Renzetti can be reached at 581-2812 or dcrenzetti@eiu.edu.

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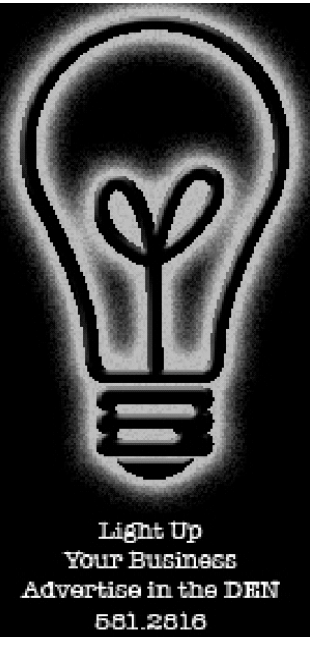
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High expectations for track, field teams

By Mark Shanahan
Staff Reporter | @DEN_Sports

The Eastern men's track and field team is coming off a second place finish in the Ohio Valley Conference after winning the conference five straight years in a row prior to last year.

The men's team returns Calvin Edwards, who earned two first-place finishes last season.

Director of Track and Field Tom Akers is heading into his 20th year as head coach. He has won Coach of the Year for indoor track 15 times. Akers is also the head coach and director of the cross-country program.

Akers sets his expectations high for both his teams this season.

"We've been on the top of the conference for a number of years," he said. "Last year we didn't have a conference championship, but that's what our goal is. We know it's a tough battle, Southeast Missouri is probably the odds on favorite returning champions and got almost all their kids coming back."

Jessica Sommerfeld serves as the assistant head coach for the track and field teams and is in her seventh year with the program. Sommerfeld specializes in the throws while Akers handles high jumps, sprints and middle distance.

Junior sprinter Calvin Edwards finished first in six out of seven 200-meter dash races with his best time being 21.21 seconds at the Notre Dame Mevo Invite. His best time placed him fourth in Eastern's all-time list in this event.

Edwards finished first in all five of the 400-meter dash races he competed in last year. His best time was 47.35 in the 400-meter and put him at third on Eastern's all-time list for that event.

Sophomore sprinter Jonathon Boey ran indoor track last season and red-



FILE PHOTO | THE DAILY EASTERN NEWS

Junior pole-vaulter Annemarie Reid, vaults the bar during the 2013 OVC Championship meet on Feb. 23 in the Lantz Fieldhouse.

shirted the outdoor track season. His best 60-meter dash time was 6.71 at the EIU John Craft Invitational and that time ranked him fourth on the Eastern all-time list.

Boey ran the 55-meter at the OVC championships and placed third with a time of 6.32. He is the younger brother of former Eastern All-American sprinter Zye Boey.

Akers assigns individual workouts for players during the summer and

during holiday breaks.

"Over the summer they have summer workouts that they are supposed to get done on their own," he said. "We've been working out since the second week of classes with our pre-season and regular season practices."

The women's indoor track and field team finished third place in the OVC last year. They return red-shirt senior pole-vaulter Jade Riebold who earned one of the two first places finishes for

the team last year.

Riebold returns after she earned the 2013 OVC indoor Female Field Athlete of the Year for the second year in a row. Riebold was named to the first team All-American team for indoor track by USTFCCCA. She holds a school record for clearing 14-feet, 7.25 inches in the NCAA National championships where she placed second in 2013.

Akers recognized juniors Dhi-

aa Dean and Kristen Paris who went first and second in the 800-meter last year as notable returners and sophomore distance runner Julie James who scored in the mile as a freshman last year.

The first meet is at home at 3 p.m. Friday in the Lantz Indoor Fieldhouse.

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J-State continues hot start, keeps pace in conference

By Bob Reynolds
Staff Reporter | @BobReynoldsDEN

Jacksonville State's women's basketball team continues its hot start after winning five straight games.

In their last five games, the Gamecocks have won by an average of 13 points and three of those wins have come at home.

The only close game was the second game of the season, when they defeated Alabama 64-62.

Gamecock senior Candace Morton was named Ohio Valley Conference Player of the Week.

She averaged 17.5 points a game and became the 10th player in Jacksonville State history to reach 1,000 points for her career.

She scored 21 points in the Gamecocks' win against Central Arkansas and added 14 more in the win against Wofford.

Morton is averaging 15 points per game on the season, which ranks eighth in the OVC.

Jacksonville State as a team is leading the conference in multiple categories, including scoring defense, scoring margin, 3-point field goal percentage and turnover margin.

The Gamecocks have given up only 56.8 points a game this season, while scoring 66.5 points a game, which is ranked No. 5 in the conference.

Jacksonville State is shooting 36.1 percent from the 3-point line

with the help of Destany Mclin and Courtney Strain, who are averaging 39.4 and 41.7 percent from the 3-point line, respectively.

Ward and James honored

Jessy Ward of Tennessee-Martin and Ke'Shunan James of Murray State were honored with the Newcomer and Freshman of the Week honors for last week's performances, respectively.

Ward recorded 10 points against Samford and she followed that up with a career-best 25 points against Evansville.

She also had a career-best seven 3-point shots made and nine field goal attempts made in the win over the Purple Aces.

Ward has reached double-digit point totals in all of the seven games she has played this season.

James scored 18 points and grabbed eight rebounds in the Racer win over Lipscomb.

In the Ball State Federal Classic, James had 20 points and nine rebounds against Ball State and followed that up with 17 points and nine rebounds against Jackson State.

PANTHERS STRUGGLES CONTINUE

Despite winning the last 2-of-3 games, the Panthers struggles from every aspect on the floor continue. They rank at the bottom or near the bottom in almost every category possible in the OVC.



KEVIN HALL | THE DAILY EASTERN NEWS

Sabina Oroszova, a senoir forward, discusses a gameplan with her team in the their game against Kansas City on Nov. 15 in in Lantz Arena. The Panthers loss 69-53.

Most notably, the Panthers are struggling to shoot and defend the 3-point shot as they have only made 15-of-63 (.238) this season and have allowed 31-of-74 (.419).

The Panthers rank 11th in the conference in field goal percentage at 37 and rank 10th in field goal percentage defense at 44.8 percent.

Eastern is also getting outscored

by more than 12 points a game during the first six games, and losing 91-55 to Florida State didn't help its cause.

One of the bigger problems for the Panthers is they rank last in scoring offense at 53 points per game.

Despite having the offensive struggles this season as a team, freshman Grace Lennox said the defense

has been one of the teams' strengths.

"Pushing the ball in transition is something that we can do really well," she said. "We have to do it all the time, not only when we feel like it. We need to work on reversing the ball and finding the right shots, also putting the ball in the hole."

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Eastern downs Ball State with strong 2nd half

By **Jehad Abbed**
Staff Reporter | @Jehada

The Eastern men's basketball team combined smothering defense with an eruption of offense to beat Ball State 61-54 Wednesday night in Lantz Arena.

Junior forward Chris Olivier entered the game midway through the first half and brought energy the Panthers were previously lacking.

"(Olivier) puts our guys at ease a little bit," Eastern coach Jay Spoonhour said. "He can get a pretty good look at the basket about every time."

While down by 11 points in the first, Olivier led a short run that woke up the Panthers for good. He strung together two scoring drives.

"Chris came in and really made big plays," junior forward Trae Anderson said.

Olivier continued his strong play with a smooth drive from the top of the key. He followed that up with a big block on the defensive end that gave Eastern possession and a new life. He scored in a team-high 16 points and 4 blocks for the game.

Both the Panthers and Cardinals struggled offensively during the first half. Ball State made four early 3-pointers, but they were having difficulties shooting inside the arc. They shot just 28 percent from the field by the end of the half.

Eastern started off the game with three straight turnovers while maintaining a tight hold on defense. Spoonhour said they did a good job continuing to battle when shots were not going in.

"We always start off slow, but we have to pick that up," Trae Anderson said.

Eastern was unable to get on the



KEVIN HALL | THE DAILY EASTERN NEWS

Forward Trae Anderson orchestrates the offense in the game against Ball State University Wednesday in Lantz Arena. he finished with 13 points and 11 rebounds.

scoreboard for the first 5:13 of the game and made just 6-of-24 shots in the first half.

"We took some silly shots," Spoonhour said. "The reality is that you're not going to score on anybody if you make silly plays."

The Cardinals' sophomore guard Xavier Turner had a game-high 20 points on 6-of-14 shooting. As Eastern crept back to within two points

on the heels of a 6-0 run led by Olivier, Turner and junior guard Le-Trell "Snoop" Viser traded words and shoves that led to a double technical foul.

"He was shoving on Luke (Norman)," Viser said. "I had to let him know that's my teammate."

After the technical foul, Viser and Trae Anderson continued what would turn into 14-2 run for the

Panthers.

Viser hit a 3-pointer that gave Eastern its first lead of the game and then returned to hit yet another from beyond the arc that seemed to suck the life out of Ball State.

Spoonhour said the shots they missed in the first half were the same shots that gave the Panthers the lead in the second half.

"Sometimes a shot just looks right

or feels right," Spoonhour said.

Viser ended the game with nine points all coming by way of the three-point shot.

"The last few days of practice coach has been telling me to shoot," Snoop said.

Jehad Abbed can be reached at 217-581-2812 or Jaabbed@eiu.edu.

Former Iowa wrestler finds home at Eastern

By **Dominic Renzetti**
Assistant Sports Editor | @domrenzetti

From the time he was eight years old, all Lenzell Green wanted to do was play football. Now, after a long journey, he's hoping he can play at Eastern next season.

Like a lot of high school football players, Green decided to go out for the wrestling team in order to stay in shape during the off-season.

But Green, who played offensive and defensive line while at East Hazelwood High School on the north side of St. Louis, Mo., didn't just want to stay in shape. He wanted to win.

"[Football] was my No. 1 sport," Green said. "I only did wrestling to stay in shape. But I ended up winning, doing my thing. I hated to lose."

Green played football all four years at East Hazelwood and wrestled for his first three years, taking his senior year off to recover from a shoulder injury. He received opportunities to play college football from Eastern, as well as other smaller Division II and Division III schools, but Green decided to try his luck as a walk-on at the University of Iowa.

When Green got to Iowa, he said the recruiter told him there wouldn't be a spot for him just yet – to wait until next spring and try and walk-on again.

Wanting to stay in shape, Green decided to contact Iowa head wrestling coach Tom Brands to try and earn a spot on the team.

Green knew what he was getting into. The Hawkeyes are one of the most suc-



CHYNNA MILLER | THE DAILY EASTERN NEWS

Lenzell Green, a junior sports management major, transferred to Eastern from the University of Iowa, where he was a walk-on on the wrestling team. Green is now a walk-on on Eastern's football team as defensive lineman.

cessful Division I wrestling programs in the nation with 23 NCAA national championships.

A big part of that success goes back to Brands, who won three national championships with the Hawkeyes as a wrestler in the late 80s and early 90s. A 1996 Olympic gold medalist and member of the National Wrestling Hall of Fame, Brands returned to his alma mater as

head coach in 2006.

"You could definitely tell he was the head coach," Green said. "He definitely put that fear in you."

Green said he did his research on Brands and the program but was still nervous when it was time for his first meeting in the coach's office.

"(My) heart was pumping, definitely," he said.

In the office, another person, who Green said he thought was "just a regular guy", joined Brands.

"He introduced me to him in the office," he said. "First he asked me if I knew who he was and I said no. I was thinking he was just a regular guy."

Green said Brands later told him about the statue outside of Carver Arena, where the Hawkeyes hold their meets, of

former head coach Dan Gable, who was the man with Brands in the office.

"I didn't know who he was, you know, coming from St. Louis and everything," he said.

Gable won 15 national championships as the Hawkeyes' coach between 1976 and 1997. Gable, who lost just one match in his entire collegiate career at Iowa State, won the gold medal at the 1972 Olympic games without giving up a single point. In Iowa, Oct. 25 is Dan Gable Day.

"They told me that they don't just let anybody on," Green said. "I remember the first workout they put me through. I aced it, but it was hell."

Green, who wrestled in the heavy-weight level, often partnered in practice with Bobby Telford, Iowa's top heavy-weight, who finished fourth at the NCAA championships last season and was previously ranked No. 1 in the nation.

Green said each morning after the team finished its running, Brands would have the team carry teammates up the stairs of the 15,000-plus seat Carver Arena.

"You're going to work when you get there," he said. "There's no light practices, no going easy. You're going to give it your all or go home."

Green eventually worked his way to earning a partial scholarship, but the financial burden of paying out of pocket was quickly becoming too much to handle. For that reason, Green needed to start looking for another school.

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