

3-4-2016

Daily Eastern News: March 04, 2016

Eastern Illinois University

Follow this and additional works at: http://thekeep.eiu.edu/den_2016_mar

Recommended Citation

Eastern Illinois University, "Daily Eastern News: March 04, 2016" (2016). *March*. 4.
http://thekeep.eiu.edu/den_2016_mar/4

This is brought to you for free and open access by the 2016 at The Keep. It has been accepted for inclusion in March by an authorized administrator of The Keep. For more information, please contact tabruns@eiu.edu.



WEEKEND AWAY

The Eastern men's baseball team will compete against the Arkansas Razorbacks this weekend in Fayetteville, Ark.

Page 8

ON THE VERGE

Check out this week's Verge for information on Unofficial, a story about Miss Black EIU and more.

SECTION B

Faculty union, administration negotiate options

By **Cassie Buchman**
Associate News Editor |@cjbuchman

Amidst some concern, faculty members talked about why some are hesitant about taking furlough days.

Furlough days are mandated days where employees would not work or get paid.

Kai Hung, biology professor and media coordinator of the University Professionals of Illinois, said he got a sense of people wondering why the faculty are not taking cuts or furlough days, especially following the announcement that 177 civil service workers were given layoff notices.

There are three groups of people who work at Eastern: Administrative and Professional employees, such as deans, vice presidents, the faculty, and civil service workers.

Of the three, civil service and faculty members can be part of a union.

Since the A and P employees are not represented by the union, if the administration says they have to take a furlough, or pay cut, they have to take it since they do not have a channel to resist them.

Jon Blitz, president of the UPI, said they were told faculty members taking furlough days would not have made a difference in the number of people laid off this semester.

Paul McCann, interim vice president for business affairs, said that group of people would have been laid off regardless.

"That was the plan that we developed. We needed a certain amount of money and that was part of the plan," McCann said.

Besides getting an appropriation from the state, McCann said nothing would have affected that plan.

The amount of money saved by furloughs would depend on the amount of days the faculty would take.

McCann said it could save several million dollars that would go into cost-savings, helping them cover cash flow needs of the

university such as operational expenses but they were exploring a number of different ways to save money.

"It could go anywhere from a salary reduction to a furlough," McCann said.

McCann said the salary reductions and furloughs would do basically the same thing.

Blitz said he wanted to look into options that would prevent further job losses without hurting collective bargaining agreements.

Hung said there is no formal channel to furlough, but the UPI and administration are now negotiating options for what else can be done.

FURLOUGH, page 5

House passes bills for potential state funding

By **Mackenzie Freund**
Online Producer |@mgfreund_news

Eight months without a budget has left about 200,000 students in the cold and other state services without money.

The ongoing budget impasse has left the legislature trying to find a way to compromise with Gov. Bruce Rauner after he vetoed funding of almost everything except K-12 schools.

Rauner has vetoed all of the bills that have passed through both the House and the Senate that involve funding higher education.

The Illinois House of Representatives looked over and approved two bills that could help bring the budget impasse to an end.

The two bills originated in the House. House Bill 2990 involves funding higher education, social services, and local school construction.

House Bill 0648 gives bill 2990 the funding platform it needs while forgiving the obligation Rauner has to repay the money he had borrowed back in June.

Steve Brown, the press secretary for Speaker of the House Michael Madigan, said the \$454 million Rauner borrowed was left over from the money that came to the state for special reasons.

BILLS, page 5

Murder Mayhem



MOLLY DOTSON | THE DAILY EASTERN NEWS

Emma Dambek, a freshman history major, replies to questions posed by Nathan Barnett-Bishop, a sophomore engineering major, during the "Murder Mystery" game in Andrews Hall basement Thursday. The theme of this game was "The Grammys." Dambek played the roll of Emma Watson, and Barnett-Bishop played Lady Gaga.

SACIS to host trivia night for campus, community

By **T'Nerra Butler**
Multicultural Editor |@DEN_News

After a well-received trivia night last year, Sexual Assault Counseling and Information Service is bringing it back to the Mattoon community as a way to raise money.

The event is at 7 p.m. Friday, in the Veterans of Foreign Wars of Mattoon, which is at 1220 South 19th St.

Erin Walters, the executive director at SACIS, said the night is an easy way to raise money for the rape crisis center.

Last year they had 10 teams that participated and this year they have 17.

It is \$10 to participate and that is a direct donation to SACIS.

With 10 rounds, the questions will target different generations and Walters said that ensures that no one age has an advantage. The teams consist of six to eight people.

People often enjoy playing trivia games, Walters said, so it gives SACIS a chance to provide information about local services and meet members of the community.

"It's opportunity for people to come out with their friends and have a good time," Walters said. "It doesn't take much energy to support local rape crisis services because you're doing something you enjoy."

Walters said it is little expense to put on the night so all of the money will go to the crisis center.

It took about two months to plan the night.

Walters said the most time consuming thing was for one of the workers from SACIS to come up with the questions.

Last year the night made around \$400 and Walters said she anticipates making over \$1,000 Friday night.

Amanda Feder, an educator at SACIS, said the trivia would bring in an opportunity for SACIS to engage with the community.

She said they wanted to bring in a fun experience that would in the end bring in money.

Feder said this helps especially with the recent budget cuts at the organization.

"It's a hands on way for the community to get involved directly with us," Feder said. "It's making ourselves visible to the community to show that we're not just a name."

This shows another side of SACIS, Feder said.

She said the nature of the event, with it being fun allows the community to relate to the organization.

She said if anyone has questions about who SACIS is or what they do, the event night provides an opportunity to ask.


"Charleston is a close-knit community, so it's nice to see us all come together in a time of need," Feder said.

Walters said she encourages the teams to come at 6:30 p.m. so they can get settled as well as mingle.

T'Nerra Butler can be reached at 581-2812 or tabutler@eiu.edu.


Local weather

FRIDAY



Sunny
High: 45°
Low: 36°

SATURDAY



Partly Cloudy
High: 48°
Low: 29°

For more weather visit dailyeasternnews.com





The Daily Eastern News
1802 Buzzard Hall
Eastern Illinois University
Charleston, IL 61920
217-581-2812
217-581-2923 (fax)

News Staff

Editor-in-Chief

Stephanie Markham
DENeic@gmail.com

Managing Editor

Lauren McQueen

News Editor

Luis Martinez
DENnewsdesk@gmail.com

Associate News Editor

Cassie Buchman

Opinions Editor

Chris Picazo
DENopinions@gmail.com

Online Editor

Jason Howell
DENnews.com@gmail.com

Online Producer

Mackenzie Freund

Photo Editor

Josh Saxton
DENphotodesk@gmail.com

Assistant Photo Editor

Molly Dotson

Sports Editor

Sean Hastings
DENSportsdesk@gmail.com

Assistant Sports Editor

Maria Baldwin

Administration Editor

Analicia Haynes

Multicultural Editor

T’Nerra Butler

Entertainment Editor

Abbey Whittington

Verge Editor

Kalyn Hayslett

Verge Designer

Travis White

Faculty Advisers

Editorial Adviser

Lola Burnham

Photo Adviser

Brian Poulter

Online Adviser

Bryan Murley

Publisher

Sally Renaud

Business Manager

Betsy Jewell

Press Supervisor

Tom Roberts

Night Staff for this issue

Night Chief

Lauren McQueen


Lead Designer


Liz Dowell


Copy Editor/Designer

Mike Parsaghian

Get social with *The Daily Eastern News*

 The Daily Eastern News

 dailyeasternnews

 @DEN_News

Visit our website: dailyeasternnews.com

About

The *Daily Eastern News* is produced by the students of Eastern Illinois University. It is published daily Monday through Friday, in Charleston, Ill., during fall and spring semesters and twice weekly during the summer term except during university vacations or examinations. One copy per day is free to students and faculty. Additional copies can be obtained for 50 cents each in the Student Publications Office in Buzzard Hall.

Advertising

To place an advertisement or classified ad in *The Daily Eastern News*, call the ads office at 581-2812 or fax 581-2923. Visit our online advertisements at dailyeasternnews.com/classifieds.

Comments / Tips

Contact any of the above staff members if you believe your information is relevant.

Corrections

The *Daily Eastern News* is committed to accuracy in its coverage of the news. Any factual error the staff finds, or is made aware of by its readers, will be corrected as promptly as possible. Please report any factual error you find to Editor-in-Chief Stephanie Markham at 581-2812.

Employment

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.



Printed by Eastern Illinois University on soy ink and recycled paper.

Attention postmaster: Send address changes to:

The Daily Eastern News
1802 Buzzard Hall
Eastern Illinois University
Charleston, IL 61920

Students compete for fitness titles

By T’Nerra Butler
Multicultural Editor | @DEN_News

Since 1983, “The Iron Panther Classic” has been on Eastern’s campus as a showing of the many physiques of students around campus.

The contest, formerly known as “Mr. EIU,” will be at 7 p.m. Saturday in the McAfee Gym.

Kevin Linker, the assistant director of the Campus Recreation Center, said the name change was implemented to give the competition a sense of inclusion. He said because there are more than just male competitors, they wanted to choose a name that would describe the event as a whole.

Linker said body building is another form of competition that allows students a chance to push themselves above their limit and persevere.

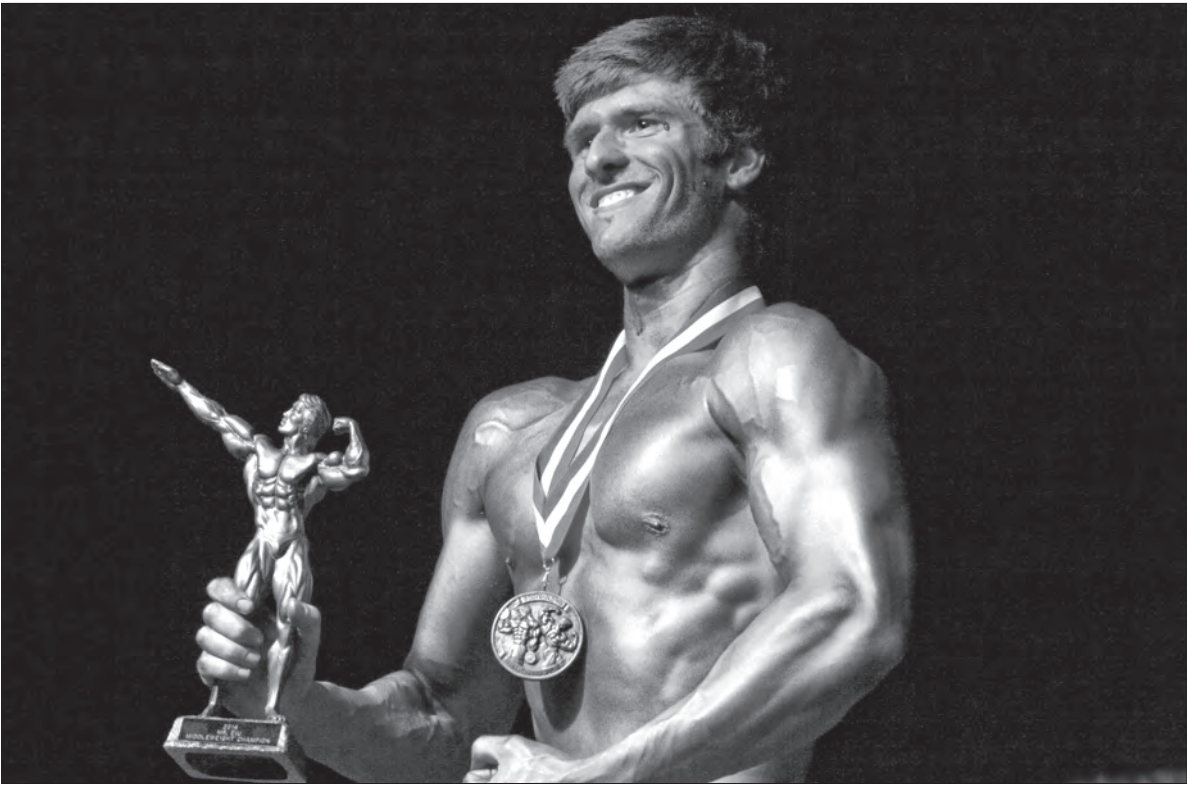
With choosing judges, planning out the technicalities and finding committed contestants, Linker said the event takes a lot to plan. Planning for this event started November of last year.

“Sometimes they have to miss a Thanksgiving meal to get ready,” Linker said. “They are eating smaller portions along with lifting and toning their bodies.”

Three categories will be presented and they are “Mr. EIU,” “Miss Physique,” and “Miss Fitness.” 13 males will be competing for Mr. EIU, one female for Miss Fitness and two for Miss Physique, Linker said.

“It’s a unique event and the campus recreation tries to provide something for everyone,” Linker said. “Some like basketball, some like to work out and this is something for those who like to work out.”

The evening will include the competitors doing routines set with mu-



FILE PHOTO | THE DAILY EASTERN NEWS

Kody Waggoner, a competitor in the middle weight division, accepts the trophy for his weight class, Mar. 1, 2014, in the McAfee Gym. "The Iron Panther Classic," formerly known as "Mr. EIU," has changed its title because there are more than just male competitors.

After their routines, competitors will flex and pose for the judges. These poses will show their different muscle groups and they will be judged on their definition.

There are four different weight levels for the guys; Linker said some are bigger than others as far as height and body build. Those four divisions will be in the final running for the crown of “Mr. EIU 2016.”

David Mitchell, a graduate student in technology, is one of the competitors for the title of Mr. EIU. He said he decided to join after joking about the competition and being laughed

by his friends. He said he has always been a skinner male, and the contest gave him the motivation to build some muscle.

“That laughter turned into real motivation to actually do it, because they didn’t think I was capable of it,” Mitchell said.

Mitchell said his strict diet and dedication at the gym helped him to gain his targeted weight. He said he would drink two gallons of water a day and eat lean meats. His diet along with getting up at 5 a.m. to go to the Student Recreation Center helped him to lose 21 pounds.

This year the contest will be a diverse one, Mitchell said. He said not too many African-Americans know much about the event and he said he thinks this year support from them will probably be shown.

Mitchell said training for the event brought a sense of fellowship with him and the other competitors.

“We’re all going through the same thing and it was motivating to see a group of guys who are chasing a common goal,” Mitchell said.

T’Nerra Butler can be reached at 581-2812 or tabutler@eiu.edu.

Stand-up comedian to perform at Union

By Abbey Whittington
Entertainment Editor | @DEN_News

Nathan Macintosh, an award-winning stand-up comedian, will be performing at 7 p.m. Friday at 7th Street Underground.

The performance is free and there will be nachos, salsas, dips and giveaways including exclusive posters, gift cards and game sets.

The comedian has been noted for being compelling, interesting and “ranty,” and for giving a different and deeper perspective on overlooked topics.

Macintosh won ‘Best Writing’ and ‘Best Taped Performance’ 2009 in the Canadian Comedy Awards and the Tim Simms Encouragement Award in 2007, and has been involved in radio shows, comedy festivals, and TV

shows including “Gotham Comedy LIVE,” and his self-taped, half hour "Comedy Now!" show.

Some of the radio shows Macintosh has been heard on are CBC radio’s “The Debaters,” XM radio’s “Laugh Attack” and “Chomping at the Bit.”

While Macintosh is offstage, he also regularly updates his blog, “Too Much To Say.”

After Friday’s show, the stand-up comedian will be traveling to Alfred University and Nate and Kate: Comedy Club both in New York, and then to the Halifax Comedy Festival 2016.

These shows will be throughout the months of March and April.

Tylen Elliott, chair of the University Board, has been working with other coordinators to prepare for the

event.

To find entertainers to perform at Eastern, the UB contacts several agencies, and once they have informed UB of possible performers students take surveys, and with this feedback a performer is chosen.

“UB is always happy to bring new and exciting entertainment and activities to the campus,” Elliott said. “These outlets give students things to enjoy during their EIU experience.”

There will also be food and beverages served at the comedy show.

“(Nathan Macintosh’s) opinions and thoughts focus on a unique sense of individuality, making him compelling and interesting, while touching on topics most people overlook,” Elliott said.

The amount of comedy shows on campus varies for each semester, but

it usually comes out to an average of 5 performances.

The show will be free and open to everyone.

In addition to the comedy act, the UB will be showing the film “Daddy’s Home” at 7 p.m. in Buzzard Auditorium.

The film is about a man named Brad Taggart, played by Will Ferrell, a radio executive who is trying to be the best stepfather to his wife’s two children, until he finds himself in an intense competition with the children’s biological father, played by Mark Wahlberg.

The film screening will also be free and open to the public.

Abbey Whittington can be reached at 581-2812 or anwhittington@eiu.edu.

March 4th, 2016

What’s Happening on Campus?

Thesis 101 Workshop Series 2:00 PM
Booth Library
The Beauty of Butterfly Gardens 10:00 AM - 12:00 PM
Douglas-Hart Nature Center
Kim Krause: The Nature of Things 10:00 AM - 5:00 PM
Tarble Arts Center
Check out more upcoming events at www.eiu.edu/eiu360/

Lecture highlights role of women in politics

Editor’s Note: The title of the event in this article contains profanity.

By Abbey Whittington
Entertainment Editor | @DEN_News

To start the Women’s History Awareness Month, keynote speaker, communication studies professor and author, Karrin Vasby Anderson presented “Hillary Clinton, From ‘Bitch’ to ‘Badass’ and Beyond: Women, Feminism, and Pop Politics” Thursday at 5 p.m. in the Lumpkin Hall Auditorium.

Anderson and Kristina Horn Sheeler wrote “Woman President: Confronting Postfeminist Political Culture” and Anderson has written many articles about Clinton’s campaign.

The keynote speaker’s interest in Clinton’s political stance started with a writing assignment for a rhetorical criticism class during her first year as a master’s student in 1994.

For the assignment, Anderson had to choose a speech to analyze, and she chose Clinton’s speech to the American Medical Association about healthcare.

“People have asked me when I’m going to stop studying Hillary Clinton,” Anderson said. “And

I always say ‘when she stops doing things for the first time.’”

T.M. Linda Scholz, a communication studies professor, who said she met Anderson in 1993 at Colorado State University where Anderson teaches, said she was always impressed with the speaker’s political savvy.

Scholz introduced Anderson. The presentation began with Anderson discussing Clinton running in the primaries in 2008 against President Barack Obama, and a Saturday Night Live skit with Tina Fey and Amy Poehler, where the two comedians advocated for Clinton.

After showing the clip, Anderson went into what it has been like for Clinton in the campaign as a woman and the archetypes that emerged with Clinton’s announcement of her presidential campaign presented in 2008 on YouTube.

Anderson said that as a woman candidate, Clinton would need to have more political experience and more money than her opposing candidates.

Something that has also changed from Clinton’s campaign in 2008 to now is that she is now going as a feminist.

“I hope the audience under-



MOLLY DOTSON | THE DAILY EASTERN NEWS

Karrin Vasby Anderson talks about Hillary Clinton’s role in politics during her speech about pop politics Thursday in Lumpkin Hall Auditorium.

“People have asked me when I’m going to stop studying Hillary Clinton and I always say ‘when she stops doing things for the first time.’”

-Karrin Vasby Anderson, visiting speaker

stands that mediated framing of candidates is oversimplified and often stereotypical and doesn’t necessarily reflect candidate’s actual pol-

icy positions or stances,” Anderson said. “No matter what candidate students support, I really hope they were inspired to engage in the pro-

cess rather than disengage because that’s what will keep our democracy healthy.”

Once the presentation ended, Anderson was open to answering any questions the audience had.

This brought up issues such as the validity of Clinton’s policies and stances on controversial topics including gay marriage, and what Clinton planned to do for people of color and their communities.

Terri Coleman, an alum who graduated in May, asked Anderson about how Clinton would help communities for people of color.

“I really don’t think either Bernie Sanders or Hilary Clinton really talk about specific issues my community, specifically the black community,” Coleman said. “But I really appreciated the way Anderson talked about togetherness and intersectionality and contextualized the two with actual platforms in Clinton’s ads.”

Coleman said she had been ambivalent about the 2016 campaign before the presentation, and it would have her thinking more about whom she supports.

Abbey Whittington can be reached at 581-2812 or anwhittington@eiu.edu.

CAA approves courses, School of Business revisions

By Jeff Coy
Staff Reporter | @DEN_News

The Council on Academic Affairs approved a proposal from the School of Business and several course revisions at its meeting Thursday.

The course revisions included changes to geography, math, psychology and applied engineering technology.

The School of Business proposed revisions to change its old admissions process and allow students to declare a business major while they are freshmen.

“[This] is a very major revision for us,” said John R. Willems, the Chair of the School of Business.

In the past, students have had to complete a sequence of tools classes and other general education requirements before applying to the School of Business.

This would typically take two years of coursework before applying.

There was not only an application process but a 2.0 GPA requirement for admission in the program as well.

The department felt the proposal for taking these requirements out of

the program was necessary.

“We would like to be able to have students have a connection to business as freshman,” Willems said. “So that they can very much learn about what it’s like in the business world.”

Willems said this would include students being able to start their internships earlier and even gain connections with faculty involved with the program early on.

Along with the admissions process, the School of Business also proposed revise their “two strike policy” to “three strikes.”

In the past, if a student failed a course in the program twice they would no longer be able to complete their business major and be removed from the School of Business.

Both revisions proposed by the School of Business were passed, 10 members voted yes and one abstained.

CAA also discussed revisions to MAT 2250, Elementary Statistics.

Grant Lakeland, an assistant professor for the department of Math said the main reason for this revision is to make MAT 2250 available online.

On the Eastern website, MAT

2250’s course description reads, “Descriptive and inferential statistics including measures of central tendency and dispersion, confidence intervals, and hypothesis testing. Recommended as a first course in statistics. Not open to mathematics majors.”

Rebecca Throneburg, a CAA member, asked how MAT 2250 lectures will differ from taking the course in a classroom.

There was concerns of students taking the online class online only having the course textbook to learn material without any lecture.

The proposal to revise MAT 2250 was tabled.

The psychology department proposed to revise PSY 2999, Orientation to the Psychology Major; PSY 3310, Biological Psychology and PSY 3805, Research Methods and Experimental Design.

All three of these course revisions will let students take the classes online.

According to the rationale for PSY 2999 and PSY 3805, “Because the course is required of all psychology majors, revising this course for online delivery will allow students to

complete a BA in psychology fully online.”

The rationale also said the addition of online instruction for PSY 3310 is another necessary component for the online degree.

The proposals to revise PSY 2999, PSY 3805 and PSY 3310 were all unanimously approved.

The Applied Engineering and Technology Department proposed to add AET 4903, OSHA Certification for General Industry and AET 4913, OSHA Certification for Construction to the 2016-2017 catalog.

According to the rationale for AET 4903 and 4913, the courses will provide students with the opportunity earn the OSHA-30 General Industry and Construction certification that will make them more desirable for future employment.

The rationale also said people who complete either course will have the knowledge to help protect themselves, employees, co-workers, employers and foster a safer workplace.

The Applied Engineering and Technology Department also plans to revise nine other courses as well as add two new courses to the 2016-2017 catalog.

The courses will be offered online and will give Eastern the opportunity to compete with other public universities.

According to the rationale for several of the revised courses, other equivalent institutions such as Western Illinois University and Illinois State University are both offering a similar course in this format.

These online courses will also give students the opportunity to enroll in these classes in a convenient manner.

Both AET 4903 and AET 4913 were unanimously approved.

The Department of Geology and Geography proposed to revise GEG 3810, Geographic Information Systems I.

The reason for this was so students will no longer confuse Geographic Information Systems II as a required course.

The proposal passed with 10 CAA members voting yes and one voting no.

The deadline to revise courses or majors is March 11.

Jeff Coy can be reached at jrcoy@eiu.edu or 581-2812.

Siam Thai Restaurant

Mention this ad and get TWO FREE egg rolls with any meal.

Under New Ownership

Hours 11:00-9:00

431 Lincoln (Next to Ike's)
Charleston, IL 61920
Phone: 217-345-0313

WE UNDERSTAND.

During this stressful time, you may be finding yourself questioning your future plans. We understand!

If you sign a Lease at Campus Pointe and EIU does not open for fall classes, we will let you out of your lease with no penalty!

We are confident that EIU will come out of this better than ever and we want to offer you peace of mind until then.

Together we are strong.
Together we are EIU!



OPEN HOUSE

March 8th 8am-6pm

ASK ABOUT OUR NO SECURITY DEPOSIT SPECIAL THAT EXPIRES 3/10/16





Mackenzie Freund

A professional attitude is key

They always say, “dress for the job you want, not the job you have,” and they are right. Professionalism is the key to securing your future, no matter what road you are going down. The way you present yourself in a professional environment can make or break your professional future.

If you are going to start an internship, business casual is typically what you would wear, unless your boss told you otherwise. Don't let the word “casual” fool you. While many people see this as the option to wear jeans, it actually means wearing black slacks with a polo shirt or a nice sweater.

Dressing nicely, however, is not the only thing that needs to be done when you are trying to show your professional side.

Acting professional is the other side of professionalism. When going to interviews, it means sitting up straight and talking as a professional, meaning no swear words.

When you are ever in the spotlight of your company, you should make people think they are talking to a person who has a lot of experience, even if you have only a couple of years under your belt.

This is especially important when you are a student. When you show characteristics like these, you will be remembered more by the people you are talking to and you can break that thought of “Oh well you are just a student.”

By breaking that status that is thrust upon you while you are a student is an important thing because many adults do not see students as the professionals they can be because of what is left to learn.

Professionalism is more important than we, as students, give it.

Many people watch us in our daily lives, and they are the ones who can help us out the most when it comes to finding jobs.

These people are our professors and the advisers of the clubs we are in. If you go and ask any professor whom they know in the field, they very well may say that they know a lot of people.

This is something that can help you so much in the future, especially if you end up needing a reference or recommendation from your professors.

If you show that you have a good level of professionalism to your professors, you could be able to ask and put them on an application for a reference.

Professionalism is such a key ingredient to the rest of our lives that I personally do not know what I would do if I was not able to be at a place where I am able to practice this trait.

Knowing when to be professional and when to be casual is something that will be a saving grace for the rest of our lives.

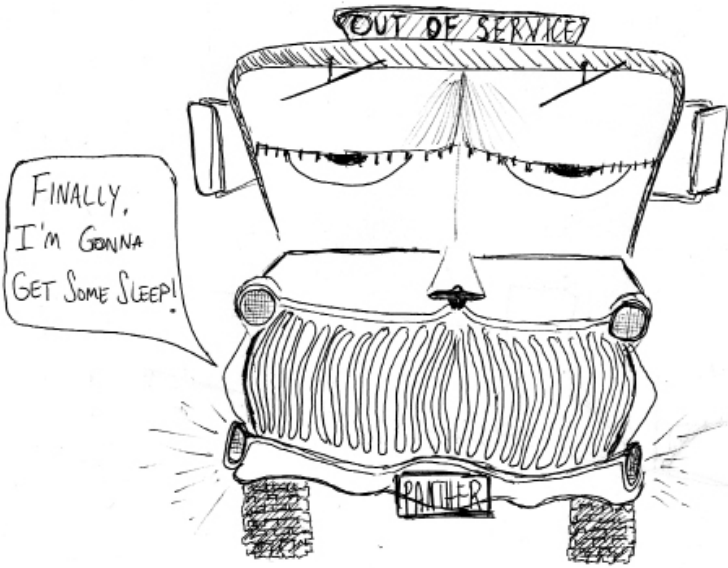
Mackenzie Freund is a junior journalism major. She can be reached at 581-2812 or mgfreund@eiu.edu.

Political Letters

Letters to the editor supporting candidates or political parties will be accepted by denopinions@gmail.com until Tuesday, March 8.

If you plan to submit a letter, please do so by the date to ensure it is published before spring break and the primary elections.

Don't Leave Home Without Your Walking Shoes



JEHAD ABBED | THE DAILY EASTERN NEWS

Staff Editorial

General Assembly fails to fund students

Illinois entered its ninth month without a budget on Tuesday, which means higher education is still experiencing many difficulties.

Wednesday seemed to show a sign of hope as the Illinois House of Representatives made an attempt to override Gov. Bruce Rauner's veto of SB2043.

SB2043 would have funded Monetary Award Program grants and community colleges in the state with a total of \$721.5 million in state appropriations, but the Democratically controlled House was not successful in its mission.

In Thursday's edition of *The Daily Eastern News*, the article titled, “House fails to override funding veto,” said that the voting resulted in a 69 to 48 vote to override the veto.

71 votes were needed, which means that this override did not succeed because of two votes.

Two more votes would have given appropriations to fund MAP grants and community colleges. Two more votes would have helped students in higher education receive grants to attend school.

Just two votes. *The News* article also mentioned that Rep. Reggie Phillips of our very own 110th District voted no to override the veto.

His reasoning was given from a spokesperson

who said that the money given to Eastern would not have been enough to what the school actually needs.

Isn't any amount of funding helpful at this time of crisis?

In the Feb. 3 edition of *The News*, the article titled, “Phillips talks Eastern funding during traveling office hours,” gave mention to a bill that was being voted on, and it would provide funding to MAP Grants and community colleges in the state.

That same article also mentioned that Phillips was not in Springfield to vote on the bill because he was away on “personal business.”

He said the bill was “hoax” anyway, but it would not happen again because his first priority is Eastern.

Phillips was sure there Wednesday for the vote, and he voted no against overriding a bill that was meant to help students.

If Eastern is a first priority, doesn't that mean that helping students should be a priority as well?

Thursday's article said that some of the representatives that voted no to override the veto gave the reason that the bill would not have given money to universities.

The reason to give appropriations to fund

MAP Grants was obviously not enough reason to help students in the state, and neither was giving money to help community colleges.

And why should community colleges matter? It's not like one-third of the student population is made up of transfer students, which probably came from community colleges, according to a Sept. 15 edition of *The News*.

Community colleges do not play a role in helping students finish their education by helping them transfer to a four-year university like Eastern.

The last sentence is obviously not true, and you see the point to how important overriding this bill would have meant.

Overriding SB2043 may not have given Illinois a budget, but that doesn't mean it wouldn't have helped higher education in the state.

Higher education seems to be treated like a game to see which school could run out of money the fastest to many of the state representatives up in Springfield.

If higher education is actually important to our state representatives as they say it is, why wouldn't they vote “yes” to help students?

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

Sean Says: Know your limits in situations



Sean Hastings

an accident.

I have never in my life, seen something bruise and swell up as fast as his eyebrow did. It was impressive, actually.

My brother toughed it out, but man was he ugly. His eyebrow didn't just swell up, but it was like a bubble right above it.

So the next day comes, and the bubble is sagging over his eye.

When I say that it was a bubble, it was an actual bubble. It was squishy and disgusting, but still pretty cool nonetheless.

What kind of sucked was that he told some people that I actually hit him. Technically I was the reason he had the bubble, but it was not on purpose.

One of these days Ryan and I will learn to try to be smarter.

Maybe me being at college has helped that because we're together less. Who knows?

So the main thing I want you to get from this is, know your limits. Just because it sounds like a good idea doesn't mean that it is. Going in a bouncy house at 15 and 170 lbs. may not be the best decision to make, and I know that now that through experience. I hope your weekend is as good as mine.

Sean Hastings is a sophomore journalism major. He can be reached at 581-2812 or smhastings@eiu.edu.

Editorial Board

Editor- in-Chief
Stephanie Markham

Managing Editor
Lauren McQueen

News Editor
Luis Martinez

Associate News Editor
Cassie Buchman

Photo Editor
Josh Saxton

Online Editor
Jason Howell

Opinions Editor
Chris Picazo

» FURLOUGH, CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

“There will be some plans that will be forthcoming,” Hung said. “What it will amount to on the bottom line is we will be giving up some salary in some form. Whether it is called furlough or called something else remains to be seen.”

The administration will come up with a proposal that the UPI members will vote on. If a majority of the members vote to keep it the proposal will be implemented.

Hung said they were happy to entertain other options where the UPI could help the financial situation, but the way furloughs would work is still unclear.

“We can all see the financial situation and we understand, especially during the time when we started knowing that there will be a specific number of civil service workers laid off,” Hung said.

However, Hung said furloughs are not a very good option for faculty members, since they would have to miss work; meaning classes would end up being canceled.

“We can’t legitimately say to our students, OK, every ninth day, you’re not coming to class,” Hung said. “Imagine, if you are a student, you have a test on Monday and you need help on Friday (but it’s your professors) furlough day. How is that going to affect our students?”

He said classes were not arranged where the professor could just disappear for a day so furloughs would hin-

der the university’s mission to serve students, which is why some faculty resist the option.

Hung said if the furloughs were the only option the administration came up with, the UPI would consider them and they would vote on them.

“We are going to give up some amount, in some way, to help, it’s just that the details need to be worked out,” Hung said.

Hung said the UPI has given up a pay raise they were going to get in the beginning of fall but said this was not enough to keep the laid off employees.

“(We gave up) that 1 and a half percent, but we didn’t solve the problem,” Hung said.

Hung also mentioned that there had been cuts in faculty, such as 26 annually contracted faculty members who did not receive teaching assignments for the school year.

As the budget situation got worse, the administration started talking to the UPI about what to do.

Blitz said if Eastern wants the union to take cuts, give up money, or more this has to be negotiated.

He said he did not see how furlough days would not affect the institution, especially when faculty would have to take a day off.

Cassie Buchman can be reached at 581-2812 or cjbuchman@eiu.edu.

Strummin’ Along



MOLLY DOTSON | THE DAILY EASTERN NEWS

Chelsey Hutmacher, a senior communication studies major, plays guitar and sings during “Open Mic Night” at Jackson Ave. Coffee Shop. Hutmacher said she started playing guitar in high school because of her love for singing.

» BILLS, CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

“The state has a whole bunch of funds and money sits in those funds, usually the money comes to us for special reasons,” Brown said. “It doesn’t all get spent every year so under the law the governor has the ability to borrow some of that money to use for paying bills or whatever is needed, but he has an obligation to pay it back.”

Brown said some of the members of the House and Senate mentioned that Rauner would support the idea of forgiving the repayment and the house saw the opportunity to compromise and meet Rauner half way.

HB2990 is a piece of legislation described as a “gut-and-replace” amendment that would give appropriations to the agencies and education that currently do not have any

funding.

When the 2016 fiscal budget was being negotiated, Rauner proposed a 30-percent cut to higher education, but the General Assembly countered with a 6.5-percent cut.

If the bills are signed into law, there are different appropriation amounts that would go to all of the colleges and universities.

For Eastern, passing these bills with the cuts would give appropriated funds of just over \$40 million, compared to the 2015 fiscal year when Eastern received almost \$43 million.

The Monetary Award Program grants would also be appropriated to the public and private universities and students who receive them.

The bill would fund communi-

ty colleges at the same level that was part of the budget passed by the general assembly in May.

Brown said there is no clear understanding of why Rauner would not fund higher education.

“It is a real mystery of what he is trying to do,” Brown said. “Why would he fund kindergarten through high school but not colleges and universities?”

HB2990 also funds Human Services, Senior Services, Public Health Services, Regional Transportation Authority, Military Affairs, Dry-cleaners Environmental Response Trust Fund Council, Illinois Housing Development Authority, Illinois Criminal Justice Information Authority, Illinois Emergency Management Agency, Environmental Protec-

tion Agency, Metropolitan Pier and Exposition Authority, and Illinois Power Agency.

Rauner vetoed the funding for these services and agencies in May along with the funding for higher education.

The last part of HB2990 involves paying school districts back for state operated construction programs.

“Those are elementary or unit schools that built buildings or qualified for state reimbursement that have not received them,” Brown said.

HB2990 passed with 70 votes for the bill, 43 against the bill, and one abstention.

HB0648 passed with 61 votes for the bill, and 52 votes against the bill.

Rep. Reggie Phillips (R) voted in favor of HB2990 but did not vote

on HB0648.

The bills will now move onto the Senate where they will be voted on. The Senate is scheduled to be in session on Tuesday, March 8th.

If the Senate chooses to pass the bill as well, they we be delivered to Rauner, where he has 60 days to either sign them into law or veto them.

Brown said he does now know what will happen if the bill makes it to Rauner’s desk.

“For those of us who are concerned about funding universities and colleges and other things, we will cross our fingers and hope he supports it,” Brown said.

Mackenzie Freund can be reached at 518-2812 or at mgfreund@eiu.edu.



BE INSPIRED
BE CREATIVE
BE CHALLENGED
@ THE TARBLE
2010 9TH STREET, CHARLESTON, IL

OPEN: 10AM-5PM TUESDAY-FRIDAY | 1-4PM SATURDAY-SUNDAY | CLOSED MONDAYS AND HOLIDAYS
(217) 581-2787 | EIU.EDU/TARBLE | TARBLE@EIU.EDU | [FACEBOOK.COM/TARBLEARTS](https://www.facebook.com/tarblearts)
FREE ADMISSION AND VISITOR PARKING

117 W Polk - 1 bedroom apartments



WE HAVE WHAT YOU WANT
Quality Housing, Affordable Pricing,
& Great Locations

4 BEDROOM 2 BATH - 1520 9TH STR
3 BEDROOM - 820 Lincoln Ave
2 BEDROOM - 1306 Arthur Ave, 2001 S 12TH STR,
1305 18TH STR, 955 4TH STR, 605 W Grant
1 BEDROOM - 117 W Polk, 905 A STR, 1305 18TH STR,
1306 & 1308 Arthur Ave, 605 W Grant



CALL
348-7746
FOR AN APPOINTMENT
OFFICE: 820 LINCOLN AVE
WWW.CHARLESTONILAPTS.COM

Since 1965

Doughnut Delight



MOLLY DOTSON | THE DAILY EASTERN NEWS
Dominic Hamilton, a junior kinesiology and sports studies major, grabs a couple of Krispy Kreme doughnuts from the Panther Pantry in the Martin Luther King Jr. Student Union Thursday.

The New York Times
Crossword

- ACROSS**

1 Shout when there's no cause for alarm?

5 2008 R&B Grammy winner for "Growing Pains"

10 Throw

14 Little opening?

15 Peripheral

16 Like many flu sufferers

17 Taking some heat?

19 Heat meas. that also names a major L.A. TV station

20 Request at a ticket window

21 Really get to

22 Bit of vaquero gear

23 Product boasting "a unique blend of 23 flavors"
- 25 Dungeons & Dragons race

26 University of Cincinnati squad

27 Replies from con men?

28 Norman who wrote "A River Runs Through It"

29 Smidge

30 Resident

31 Ed promoter

34 Green-glazed Chinese porcelain

35 Attorney general under Bush 41

36 Not fit for Passover

38 "Miss Julie" composer

39 Like literati

40 Networking aid

41 Opposite of division

42 It's similar to pale lager
- 44 Going ____

45 Possible purse pooches

46 Provide design details for

47 Comparatively corrupt

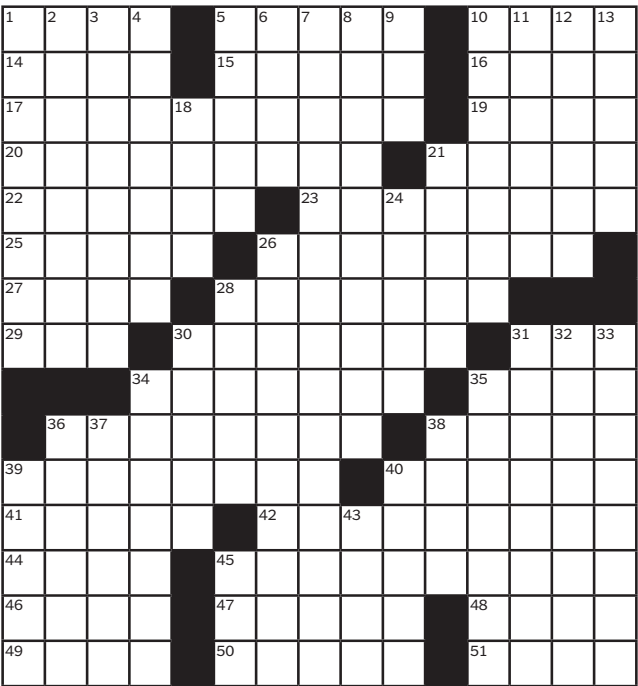
48 Send packing

49 "One World" musician John

50 Mancala playing piece

51 Fiddle (with)

Edited by Will Shortz No. 0129



- PUZZLE BY DAVID PHILLIPS
- 18 Interjection of dejection

21 Tart flavor

24 Primp

26 Vehicle that's loaded in a Harry Belafonte hit

28 Highlight for some hockey fans

30 For-profit university with dozens of U.S. campuses

31 What a reverse stock split increases

32 Like much of northern Siberia

33 Chair pair

34 Prestigious Pasadena institution

35 A rut often leads to it

36 Delaware Valley tribe

37 Groups of power brokers

38 Change

39 Oktoberfest fare

40 Embarrassing sound in a lecture hall

43 Start for seas or seasons

45 Atlanta-based media inits.

Online subscriptions: Today's puzzle and more than 7,000 past puzzles, nytimes.com/crosswords (\$39.95 a year).
Read about and comment on each puzzle: nytimes.com/wordplay.
Crosswords for young solvers: nytimes.com/studentcrosswords.

ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE



The Daily Eastern News

About The Daily Eastern News

Organization

The Daily Eastern News is a student-run newspaper published for the community of Eastern Illinois University in Charleston, Illinois. The newspaper was founded in 1915 and publishes on weekdays during the school year and twice--

74 people like this topic

Like the Daily Eastern News on Facebook to get all the latest news and sports info!

Continue Reading

From Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia - Edit on Wikipedia

Wood Rentals

Jim Wood, Realtor
1512 A Street, P. O. Box 377
Charleston, IL 61820
217 345-4489 - Fax 345-4472
www.woodrentals.com

Rentals for 1 or 2
Rent now or Spring Term
From \$290-440
Call for appointment

MARCH on into Youngstown Apartments before Spring Break and take advantage of our amazing rates and deposit special!

217-345-2363

916 Woodlawn Dr.-South on 9th ST.

Now leasing for the 16-17 Lease Term!

1, 2, 3 & 4 bedroom options still available!

Apartments and Townhouses!

Fully Furnished!

www.youngstowncharleston.com

\$150/PERSON ANY SIZE UNIT DEPOSIT SPECIAL SIGN LEASE BY 3/11!

CLASSIFIEDS

Sublessors

Sublessor needed for 2 BR apartment across from Buzzard. 1515 9th Street. \$550/month includes cable and wifi. Allowance given for water and electric. Roommate is staying. Pet friendly. Call or text 309-696-2853.

Help wanted

Positions for Pizza maker wanted part time. Apply in person after 4PM Wed. thru Sun. Pagliai's Pizza, 1600 Lincoln, Charleston.

For rent

Summer and Fall 2016 - 1 Bedroom apartments, all inclusive; near Buzzard. rcrrentals.com or (217) 345-5832.

Awesome 3 bedroom townhouse. Call 24 hours for details 217-549-2668.

Sublessor needed for 2 BR apartment across from Buzzard. 1515 9th Street. \$550/month WiFi & Cable included, allowance for water and electric. Roommate is staying. Pet friendly. Call or text 309-696-2853.

See our properties at ppwrentals.com 217-348-8249

GREAT LOCATIONS 1, 2, and 3 bedroom apts available August 2016 ppwrentals.com 217-348-8249

Follow the Daily Eastern News Twitter!

den_news

For rent

AVAILABLE JANUARY 2016 one bedroom apt ppwrentals.com 217-348-8249

5 bedroom house good location also 1 & 2 bedroom apartment water included new carpet/ nice appliances Village Rentals (217) 345-2516

NICE UPDATED HOUSES AND APARTMENTS great locations and low prices, some pet friendly, lease date negotiable (217) 549-6967

3 or 4 Tenants off street parking 2 bathroom washer dryer 3 blocks from campus 1710 11th St. (217) 273-2507

Fall 2016: Very Nice 1, 3, 4, 6, 7, & 8 BR Houses. 1 - 3 Blocks from Campus. Rent includes lawn care, trash, and utility allowance. 217-493-7559. myeiuhome.com

Very nice 2 & 3 BR, 2 Bath furnished apartments behind McHugh's. Rent includes cable and internet. Call 217-493-7559 or myeiuhome.com

For Summer & Fall 2016 - 1, 2, 3 and 4 BR Apts. 348-7746. www.CharlestonILApts.com

STORAGE UNITS 4X12 TO 10X30 348-7746

WE

WANT YOU

to run an advertisement with the DEN

581-2816

Softball team travels to Coach B Classic

By Sean Hastings
Sports Editor | @DEN_Sports

The Eastern softball team lost four-straight games last weekend after winning the opening game of the Tennessee-Chattanooga Frost Classic.

The Panthers will now head to the Southern Illinois Coach B Classic with a chance to get back on track.

The Panthers will take on Kansas, Southern Illinois Carbondale and Butler this weekend.

Eastern has a 4-11 record through the first three weekends of the season.

The Panthers will play a double-header against Kansas and Southern Illinois Carbondale and a double-header against Butler and Kansas on Saturday.

Senior shortstop Katie Watson has been the biggest offensive force through the first part of the season, batting .364 and a team lead nine runs batted in.

Sophomore pitcher Jessica Wireman had a great start to the season earning Ohio Valley Conference pitcher of the week.

Wireman started the season 3-2 but has since struggled.

Wireman has not won again since the opening weekend, three weeks ago.

She does have 52 strikeouts this season though in 56.1 innings pitched.

Kansas has a record of a 7-8 this season and is currently on a one-game losing streak.

The Jayhawks top hitter is Daniella Chavez with a .396 batting average.

She has also driven in 16 runs. The Jayhawks have four players hitting over .300.

The team's top pitcher Ania Williams who has a .197 earned run average and holds a 4-2 record.

She does not strike out a lot of batters though with just 17 in 32 innings pitched.

Shaye Harre is the big bat for the Salukis with a .406 batting average. She has three homeruns and 11 runs batted in.

Pitching wise, Brianna Jones is the ace for Southern.

She has a 1.26 earned run average and has pitched five complete games.

She has 40 strikeouts in 39 innings pitched.

Alyssa Lach is the top hitter for the Bulldogs, as she has a .341 bat-



FILE PHOTO | THE DAILY EASTERN NEWS

Sophomore utility player Tori Johnson watched her coach as she rounded third to see if she should run home during the game against Southern Illinois-Carbondale at Williams Field on April 29, 2015.

ting average.

Kristin Gutierrez is the ace for the Bulldogs.

She holds a 1.20 earned run average and has 24 strikeouts through 35 innings pitched.

Sean Hastings can be reached at 581-2812 or smhastings@eiu.edu.

Men's tennis team to face Marquette this weekend

By Tyler McCluskey
Staff Reporter | @DEN_Sports

The Eastern's men's tennis team has had more than a week off since their last match.

After a week of training, they will be taking on Marquette on Saturday.

"It's a grind going through practices and matches each week," head coach Sam Kercheval said. "Having that weekend off is a nice break to rejuvenate and refocus."

The Panthers (2-6) and the Golden Eagles (5-5) have faced two similar teams this season: Northern Illinois and University of Illinois-Chicago.

The Panthers lost to Northern, 2-5, and to Illinois-Chicago, 1-6.

Marquette defeated both Northern and Illinois-Chicago, 6-1. Despite Marquette being a tough opponent, Kercheval said that Marquette could be a very competitive team.

"We know they are another strong team, but we are excited to keep building on the progress we have

had," Kercheval said.

Kercheval said that the key to victory this week is belief and being competitive and it has been for the past three weeks.

He also said the team needs to work on being more aggressive in both singles and doubles.

"It will take that belief that we can go in and get the win and then to actually go show it on the court with our competitiveness," Kercheval said.

Marquette has a 4-0 record at home and just recently defeated Northern on Wednesday.

Senior Daniel Fernandez defeated junior Carlos Manzanos 6-2, 6-4. Freshman Alvaro Verdu won 6-4, 7-5 over sophomore Louis-Philippe Hamel.

Junior Nick Dykema beat sophomore Georg Lundkvist in three sets 5-7, 6-4, 6-4. Junior Kristiyan Trukov won 7-6, 7-6 against Austin Russell.

Freshman Greg Anderson won 7-5, 6-2, over sophomore Kevin Daun.

The only Golden Eagle to come away with a loss was junior Mackenzie Stearns, who lost 6-1, 6-3 to sophomore Tom Hjertonsson.

For doubles, the Golden Eagles swept the Huskies. Fernandez and Verdu went unfinished against Manzanos and Russell.

Stearns and Dykema defeated Daun and Lundkvist, 6-3. Anderson and Trukov beat Hjertonsson and Hamel, 6-1.

So far for the Panthers, the singles overall record sits at a combined 17-25, a win percentage of 40.

Senior Ryan Henderson is leading the way in the singles record of 5-2 at the No. 2 spot.

Behind Henderson are freshman Ognjen Jevtic and senior Robert Skolik with a 3-4 record.

Senior Rui Silva and sophomore Grant Reiman have a record of 2-5. Sophomore Jared Woodson is perfect, going 2-2.

Senior Jacob Wendell is 0-1 and sophomore Trent Reiman is 0-2.

In doubles, the Panthers have a



LAUREN MCQUEEN | THE DAILY EASTERN NEWS

Red-shirt senior Jacob Wendell returns the ball during a game at practice in the Lantz Fieldhouse Tuesday, Feb. 23.

record of 7-13, only a winning percentage of 35.

The duo of Silva and Skolik lead the way with the best record for the team at 3-4. Henderson and Jevtic are 2-4 on the year.

The Reiman brothers are 1-2. Grant Reiman and Woodson are 1-2.

Grant Reiman and Wendell are 0-1.

After Marquette, the Panthers will head to Chicago to take on DePaul on March 12.

Tyler McCluskey can be reached at 581-2812 or trmcccluskey@eiu.edu.

Timbercrest Apartments

517 Lucinda Ave DeKalb, IL
2 Bedroom \$765

Mason Townhouse Suites

Deerpath Lane DeKalb, IL
4 Bedroom Townhouse \$1600

Normal Road Apartments

921 Normal Road DeKalb, IL
2 Bedroom \$690

Cardinal Apartments

823 W Lincoln Hwy DeKalb, IL
1 Bedroom \$619
2 Bedroom \$799

COME TO NIU DEKALB

WWW.MASONPROPERTIES.COM



(815)756-1198

WHY PAY MORE FOR RENT?

University Heights

1110-1120 Varsity Blvd. DeKalb, IL
Studio \$529

1 Bedroom \$615
2 Bedroom \$799
3 Bedroom \$925

4 Bedroom \$860-\$950

Colonial/Old Orchard

Townhouses

1001-1010 W Lincoln Hwy DeKalb, IL
3 Bedroom \$805
5 Bedroom \$1500



Print, Online, and Email...three GREAT ways to get your ad seen and customers at your door!
Call DEN Advertising at 217-581-2816



Panthers heading to Arkansas for 3-game series

By Jack Arkus
Staff Reporter | @DEN_Sports

Eastern is set to square off against the No. 12 ranked Arkansas Razorbacks starting Friday afternoon for a three-game series in Fayetteville, Ark.

As a team, the Panthers sit at 0-8 coming into the weekend, while the Razorbacks had their eight-game winning streak snapped earlier this week by Louisiana Tech as they fell to 8-1 on the season.

Jason Anderson, Eastern head coach, is in his first year leading the team, and he is eager to pick up his first win. Opposing coach, Dave Van Horn, has had much experience coaching the Razorbacks as he is in the early weeks of his 27th season as head coach for Arkansas.

The wet conditions during the week kept the Panthers from their home opener against Indiana State, and has allowed the team to get some more reps on the turf at O'Brien Field.

Red-shirt senior Matt Wivinis will represent Eastern on Friday night as he caps off the series on the mound.

As for Saturday's game, right-handed junior Michael McCormick, will get the start for the game. He is looking to record his first win and keep the hits to a minimum.

Brendon Allen, a right-handed senior, will close the series as he makes his second start of the season for the Panthers Sunday afternoon.

Andy Fisher, sophomore pitcher for the Panthers, will be ready for relief if needed after coming off a strong showing last weekend against Central Arkansas.

He pitched 6.2 scoreless innings and recorded 10 strikeouts. This will be the 2nd top-25 team Eastern will face this season. As usual, coach Anderson is confident in both his offense and defense.

"We are competing this week-



FILE PHOTO | THE DAILY EASTERN NEWS

Former first baseman Adam Casson catches the ball in an attempt to get a player out at first base during a game against Eastern Kentucky on April 26, 2015, at Coaches Stadium.

end like we typically would against any other team," Anderson said. "It's more than just showing up. We need to play."

Anderson knows his team is capable of competing with top-ranked opponents. Though the pitching will need to be strong, bringing the bats and playing fundamental baseball is a bigger element in itself. Demetre Taylor, who had an outstanding junior

season at the plate, will be back in the lineup for the Panthers this weekend. Like last season, Taylor looks to provide an offensive spark while covering ground in the outfield.

"Demetre is fast, strong, and can hit forever. We are happy to have him back," Anderson said.

The Panthers have been outscored by their opponents, 62-18, this season. Despite the two games that got

away from them, Anderson feels as if this season so far has been nothing but improvement on their part.

He sees the first month of this season as a stepping-stone for what the team has to offer for the rest of the year and is nothing but proud of his team, he said.

Freshman outfielder, Dane Topel, comes into Friday's game with five hits in six games on the season.

He currently holds a five-game hitting streak, including one double, a stolen base and has scored six times while on base. He is one of the 10 true freshmen that make up the young Panther squad.

Arkansas is 24-1 all-time against Eastern.

Jack Arkus can be reached at 581-2812 or jtarqus@eiu.edu.

Men's basketball team finishes season with 13-17 record

By Maher Kawash
Staff Reporter | @DEN_Sports

The Eastern men's basketball season has come to a close, and it ended with a game that the Panthers never led in.

The Panthers were eliminated from the Ohio Valley Conference tournament Wednesday, as Murray State handed them a 78-62 first-round loss.

That was not a representation of what Eastern has done this season, but it showed how inconsistent this team can be.

Eastern had nine new players to begin the season, finished the year at 9-7 in the OVC, and finished 13-17 overall.

While the Panthers finished over .500 in the OVC, it took a while to get there.

The Panthers got off to a slow start against non-conference teams to begin the season.

Eastern was just 4-9 heading into the conference schedule and continued a little longer from there.

The Panthers opened conference play against some of the top teams in the OVC, and their record showed just that.

Eastern was 1-3 at the beginning of OVC play, and then the Panthers started to find a rhythm from that point.

After the slow start, the Panthers rode a five-game winning streak as they won seven of their next eight games.

With that stretch of wins, Eastern found itself in first place of the OVC

West, and in the driver's seat to a double-bye in the conference tournament.

In fact, that eight-game stretch came against the more difficult part of the Panthers' schedule, while the rest of the season was filled with matchups against teams at the bottom of the OVC.

But Eastern would hit a bump in the road, as the team lost three-straight games en route to falling hard in the divisional standings.

Along with an upset loss at home to Austin Peay, the Panthers went on to lose to last-place Southern Illinois Edwardsville on the road.

And with a chance to make up ground in the standings, and take back first place in the West, the Panthers traveled to take on Tennessee-Martin in one of the final games of the season.

But it was to no prevail as Eastern dropped a tough overtime loss to Tennessee-Martin, allowing the Skyhawks to take control of the OVC West, and drop the Panthers further in the standings.

The Panthers found a way to bounce back in the OVC, winning their final two games of the season.

Eastern's biggest win of the season may have been the final win, which came against Murray State at home.

The Panthers' 11-point victory over the Racers seemed to be the one to send them into the conference tournament poised to make some noise.

Although they earned that big win, that three-game losing streak proved to be critical as Eastern earned the No. 7 seed in the tournament, while



JASON HOWELL | THE DAILY EASTERN NEWS

Sophomore guard Cornell Johnston scored 12 points in the Panthers' 78-62 loss to Murray State in the first round of the OVC tournament on Wednesday at the Nashville Municipal Auditorium in Nashville, Tenn. Johnston scored 331 points in 30 games averaging 11 points per game this season.

the chances of earning the No. 2 seed slipped away.

Even though the Panthers were disappointed with an early exit in the tournament, there were plenty of bright spots for the team.

Eastern has 11 players returning next season, while just one starter is graduating.

That starter was an important one though, as it was the team's leading scorer, senior Trae Anderson.

Anderson had a career year for the Panthers, as he averaged 15 points per game as well as five rebounds per game.

His performance throughout the season was good enough to earn him

First Team All-OVC Honors in his final year with Eastern.

The Panthers have plenty to build on, and expectations will be high for this team to return to the tournament next year.

Maher Kawash can be reached at 581-2812 or mwkawash@eiu.edu.