

Eastern Illinois University

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“Tell the truth and don’t be afraid.”

SECTION ♦ Men’s basketball wins in OT: page 12A

THE DAILY EASTERN NEWS

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90th Anniversary

Eastern Illinois University, Charleston

FRIDAY
JANUARY
13
2006



JAY GRABIEC/THE DAILY EASTERN NEWS

UNMISTAKEN IDENTITY

Bars not oblivious to fake ID use

BY ROB SIEBERT
STAFF REPORTER

In a town filled with bars and college students, it may come as no surprise that fake identification cards are an issue to be dealt with in Charleston.

“The problem’s pretty rampant in Charleston,” said Mike Knoop, owner of Roc’s Black Front, 410 Sixth Street. “Anybody with a computer can pretty much duplicate them.”

Bars and pubs like Roc’s have reason to be wary of false IDs.

If discovered serving underage drinkers, the business as well as the bartender can receive a fine. The business can also be shut down for a period of time.

The Uptowner, 623 Monroe Ave., suffered such a fate four years ago and was forced to shut down for two days. Luckily for the bar, the incident occurred during the holidays, and the Uptowner was closed on Dec. 24 and 25.

To protect against such ramifications, local bars pay close attention to the IDs of their customers.

“We record every ID on every person that comes in,” said Chris Clayton, owner of the Panther Paw, 1412 Fourth St.

Most bars have their customers checked at the door. However, if the bartender is suspicious he

or she may ask for identification as well. Some businesses, like the Panther Paw, may ask for more than one ID, to make sure that the two match up. There are also certain other features on an ID card that may give away forgeries.

On the other hand, some bouncers simply quiz suspicious customers on their credentials.

“We just drill them for any information on the ID,” said Stephanie Stiles, a manager at the Uptowner.

If caught with false identification, a person may receive an ordinance violation, a fine and be forced to appear in court. Repeat offenders may even have their licenses suspended.

“The state has drawn a firm line as far as that’s concerned,” said Deputy Chief Dave Chambers of the Charleston Police Department. “The state’s not going to tolerate that.”

In Charleston, false identifications are monitored not only by the city police, but by the secretary of Illinois State Police as well.

“We deal with that, to some extent, on a weekly basis,” Chambers said. “We do occasional compliance checks, the secretary of state police does compliance checks. So that is pursued with some degree of regularity.”

Fake IDs come in a number of forms, Chambers said.

“We’ve had people make them, we’ve had people borrow them, we’ve had people alter existing ones,” he said. “They’re creative.”

Creative or not, the issue of fake IDs has been a constant one in the city of Charleston for some time.

STAYING HOME

Townies explain benefits to attending EIU

BY CHRIS ESSIG
STAFF REPORTER

Students often consider the perks of being away from home when choosing a college, but a few decide to take a completely different route.

Welcome to the world of “townies,” students who not only attend college in the Charleston and Mattoon area, but also live here. And despite what students craving separation from home may think, there are plenty of advantages.

“I choose to attend Eastern because I have basically grown up on the campus,” said Mark Bates, a senior physical education major. “My father is the chair of Health Studies, and I have been running the halls of Lantz since I was 5 years old.”

Scott Barber, a freshman art major, did an internship in Texas last year and said he missed

the home cooking. He decided to live at home and attend Eastern because he figured it would save his parents some money.

“Plus I don’t have to worry about roommates or anything like that, and housing is free,” Barber said.

There are also plenty of differences from the images that usually go with the idea of “college life” when choosing to live at home.

“If you went away for school you have a lot more things that you have to do for yourself,” Bates said. “There is no one to help or assist you on daily matters like doing the dishes, washing your clothes, buying food, fixing broken things, and there is no sense of comfort.”

Although it may not offer as many fresh sights, attending college in one’s hometown also helps preserve bonds created in childhood and adolescence.

“Social life away from home is usually completely independent of any previous social interaction you had,” Barber said. “There are new faces and new places to go.”

The city of Charleston itself also provided to be cozy enough for these students to stick around for a few extra years.

“Charleston is a cheap town,” said Tony Gross, a junior physical education major. “A

Staying in town:

Advantages:

- ♦ Having grown up on campus
- ♦ Eating home cooking
- ♦ Dependent on parents
- ♦ Community-oriented programs
- ♦ Free room and board

lot of businesses look for student employees during the breaks.”

Community-oriented programs in conjunction with Eastern are a factor for some natives who stay in their hometown.

“The town offers many different activities through the university that have appeal to me like badminton club, the rec, and the Booth library,” Bates said. “It also offers me safe area to live and play.”

Still, attending a college so close to home does provide its fair share of disadvantages.

“Living with the family is tough sometimes,” Barber said. “You have to stay relatively organized.”

SEE HOME PAGE 7A

Wrestlers to clash in Union

BY MATT POLI
ACTIVITIES EDITOR

Members of the National Wrestling Coalition will come to the Martin Luther King Jr. University Union Saturday night to perform a variety of stunts for a children’s charity.

The event, which was concocted by Mitch Saret of Karate USA, is not only to entertain fans, but also to raise money for Project Action Foundation.

Part of the proceeds will go to help children who are involved in extracurricular activities such as gymnastics and karate, Saret said.

“I contacted friends in the NWC to have them come in to do a fundraiser,” he said.

Participating wrestler George Jr. said the proceeds from the event will help the children build self-esteem and confidence.

There will be a total of seven matches including a ladies’ No. 1 contender match.

Featured in the match are pro wrestler Camron Star and Scarlett Rose, both of whom will be contending for a shot at the ladies championship belt to be announced at a later date.

SEE WRESTLERS PAGE 7A

FIVE-DAY OUTLOOK

TODAY

49

28

Rain/Snow

SATURDAY

40

27

Partly cloudy

SUNDAY

44

36

Partly cloudy

MONDAY

50

43

Showers/Wind

TUESDAY

48

30

Cloudy/Wind

THE DAILY EASTERN NEWS

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CAMPUS BRIEFS

CAA approves new classes

The Council on Academic Affairs approved seven courses in political science, health studies and mathematics for Eastern's future curriculum during its meeting Thursday afternoon. The courses, some of which were slightly modified, will be first held sometime during the coming school year. The courses will be listed as: MAT3870 Data Structures, MAT4880 Design and Analysis of Alogorithms, MAT 4885 Theory of Computation, PLS 3703 African American Politics, PLS 4923 African American Political Thought, PLS 4943 American Political Thought and HST 3100 Terrorism: The Public Health Response.

The title of HST 3100 Terrorism: The Public Health Response was changed from "bioterrorism" because of the meaning of the word.

"Bioterrorism denotes biological agents used in terrorism," said CAA Chair Debra Reid. "The course includes biological agents as well as chemicals and explosives."

Revisions of the pre-law minor and political science major were also approved, while discussions on revisions of the mathematics major and math and computer science major have been postponed until Jan. 26, Reid said.

The revision of the grade appeals policy will be discussed after CAA meets with the executive committees of the graduate studies department and Academic Affairs.

Fraternity celebrates MLK, Jr.

On a day recognized for one of their brothers, Alpha Phi Alpha fraternity members are having a candlelight march that will end at Eastern's student union named for him. The march, in honor of Martin Luther King Jr., will begin at 6 p.m. at Thomas Hall and will proceed at 6:30 p.m. to the Martin Luther King Jr. University Union with participants



ERIC HILTNER/THE DAILY EASTERN NEWS

Freshman accounting major Mike Hanrahan takes advantage of the warm weather and plays a game of tennis Thursday at the Lantz Arena tennis courts.

singing "We Shall Overcome" along the way. The program will include a performance of the black national anthem by a gospel choir, as well as a keynote speaker.

Grad workshop scheduled

The Graduate and Professional School Enrollment Management Corporation will be at the Martin Luther King Jr. University Union

today to teach attendees how to recruit graduate students. GAPSEMC is a professional corporation, which specializes exclusively in this area. Thomas Jackson, recruiting expert and president and CEO of GAPSEMC, will conduct the seminar. Sponsored by Eastern's Graduate School, the event costs \$25 and will be held in the 1895 Room of the Union.

COLLEGE & UNIVERSITY NEWS

Professor includes 'South Park' in syllabus

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

BOWLING GREEN, Ohio – As "South Park" moves out of its ninth season it makes its first move into academia.

A professor at Central Michigan University, Jeffrey Weinstock, has decided to put together a collection of scholarly essays from around the

world about the cultural significance of the adult themes in "South Park."

"Because of the show's continuing popularity and incredible timeliness with contemporary issues, I was surprised there were no collections of essays on 'South Park,'" Weinstock said.

Dr. Angela Motz, chair of Bowling Green State University's Pop Culture department, also

thinks the show is worth studying.

All pop culture touches individual people's lives in different ways on a daily basis, and "South Park" is a part of pop culture, she said.

Even though the show is offensive, there are still many people who are able to connect with the issues brought up and connect with the way characters say what they say, Motz said.

WTF?

'Vampyre' candidate backs public impaling, drinks blood

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

MINNEAPOLIS – One gubernatorial candidate in Minnesota is giving a whole new meaning to the "dark side" of politics. A man who calls himself a satanic priest plans to run for governor on a 13-point platform that includes the public impaling of terrorists at the state Capitol building.

Jonathon Sharkey, also known as "The Impaler",

plans to launch his gubernatorial campaign on - when else? - Friday the 13th. He'll make the announcement in Princeton.

"I'm going to be totally open and honest," said the 41-year-old leader of the "Vampyres, Witches and Pagans Party."

"Unlike other candidates, I'm not going to hide my evil side," he said.

In Minnesota, anyone who pays the \$300 filing fee

can get on the gubernatorial ballot and it seems that every year a few eccentric candidates make the rounds.

Sharkey raises the bar. For one thing, he told the Star Tribune in an e-mail that he drinks blood.

Including the impaling of terrorists, rapists, drug dealers and other criminals, Sharkey's platform includes emphasis on education, tax breaks for farmers and better benefits for veterans.

TODAY'S EVENTS

Late Registration

All Day|7 a.m. to 9 p.m.
Monday through Friday, 7 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturday
\$25 Late Registration Fee Applies. Today is the last day to add classes.

Decrease Meal Plans

All Day | Today is the last day to decrease meal plans for spring.

Spring Textbook Distribution

All Day | Textbook Services will be open from 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

IPAC Meeting

9:30 a.m. | Monthly International Programs Advisory Committee meeting Arcola/Tuscola Room.

EARLY HEADLINES

Listen to "Wake Up Live" with Rob and Jenn Monday through Friday for morning headlines on 88.9 or at <http://weiuhitmix.net>

ONLINE POLL

This week we ask our readers what is the worst part about the first week of school.

- A) The moving in process
B) Stepping foot in the classroom again
C) Dealing with all the drunk people
D) Nothing, the first week of school is the easiest

VOTE @ WWW.THEDAILY EASTERNNEWS.COM

Denis Roche appointed WEIU general manager

By CINDY TANNEY
ADMINISTRATION REPORTER

The days of videotape are almost over at WEIU, thanks to Denis Roche.

Audio and video are now digitally recorded and stored, saving nearly \$4,800 per month. Almost two years ago, Roche was asked to spearhead a project to replace WEIU's analogue transmission with digital technology.

Roche accepted the challenge. "I wanted to build something from the ground up," he said.

The project is expected to reach completion by Feb. 15 when WEIU goes live from a newly constructed tower and transmitter.

"You could pretty much pick up our signal with a coat hanger," he said. "A digital signal is even stronger."

Roche was hired at Eastern in May 2004. Roche served as acting general manager of WEIU less than one year ago and received the official title on Jan. 1. He chose to come to Eastern during a management change at the CEO level at his former job at a broadcast



ERIC HILTNER/THE DAILY EASTERN NEWS

Newly appointed General Manager Denis Roche stands in the WEIU master control room Thursday morning.

technology distribution company. "Good people were losing jobs," he said. "There was some uncertainty."

Roche, who had served as a direc-

tor in the customer service department, had been offered more benefits. However, the low cost of living in Charleston and the WEIU project appealed most to Roche.

"It was an opportunity to take on a big challenge," he said.

After earning more than 30 years experience in broadcast technology, Roche said he remembers the first

150-pound mini-computers of the 1970s.

"They were about a hundredth of the speed of a (personal computer) now," he said. "But believe me, it was fast back then."

Before Roche took an interest in technology, he considered a career in business management.

"I was the quarterback and the pitcher," he said. "I liked putting the team together as a youngster."

Today, Roche finds himself in a new team-building situation as WEIU's general manager.

"My duty is to make sure this place stays in operation," he said.

Roche has plans to focus on gathering additional revenue for WEIU, such as leasing space from the station's new tower and underwriting.

"We want to be able to afford the best equipment for our students," he said.

Roche credits WEIU as one of the top three university broadcast news teams in the nation. He is also pleased with student interaction with the new technology.

"It's a very dynamic place," he said. "Nobody on our scale has what we have."

Four Student Senate members chosen to attend national conference in Texas

By LAUREN MOORE
STUDENT GOVERNMENT EDITOR

Four Student Senate members will be given a chance to learn about student governments at schools across the nation and will look to bring back ideas for Eastern's organization.

The annual Conference on Student Government Associations will be Feb. 25-28 at Texas A&M University in College Station, Texas, and those attending will be able to participate in roundtable discussions, workshop and listen to speakers.

Senate members Cole Rogers, Kenney Kozik, Tori Frazier and Jillian Ruddy have been selected to represent Eastern at the conference, which is also called COSGA.

Former Student Senate Speaker Adam Howell and current Student Body President Ryan Berger selected the members on the basis of leadership they have shown within the organization.

"We picked senate members who have the potential and desire to learn more and complete what they learn here at Eastern," Berger said.

Current speaker Sean Anderson said senate members will be able to "meet with different leaders across the country and discuss ideas about elections, the budget process, the perception of student government at (their) schools, diversity programs, freshman programs and how to increase involvement."

Last year, Eastern's Student Government hosted a workshop at the conference on guaranteed representation legislation and heard other presentations on student government budgeting processes, diversity issues and increasing involvement of other clubs or organizations.

Some of the ideas Student Government has taken from this conference in the past have come into effect over the years, such as Panther Service Day and the Registered Student Organization sandwich boards that are used for advertising purposes.

"Texas A&M presented their idea called the Big Event, which was a campus-wide service project done within the community, and we turned that into Panther Service Day," Berger said. "Another school did a presentation on sandwich boards for organizations, which brought personality to the campus and helped people get more involved."

Senate member Cole Rogers, chair of the student relations committee, who will be attending COSGA for the first time this year, said he's looking to better his committee through what he learns at the conference.

"Personally, I want to bring back creative ways other student governments have reached to students and gotten feedback from them," Rogers said.

"Every semester is different, and I want to learn a more efficient way to deal with the transition so we aren't spending two to three weeks on that."

Berger said he believes the conference will benefit the students of Eastern because senate members will bring back ideas to improve the organiza-

tion.

"I'm expecting them to bring back something we aren't doing or improve on something we are doing," Berger said. "If we are adding on to the organization it will benefit the students."

Conference Information

- ◆ **Who:** The Student Senate
- ◆ **What:** Four Senate members chosen to represent Eastern at COSGA conference
- ◆ **When:** Feb. 25-28
- ◆ **Where:** Texas A&M University in College Station, Texas
- ◆ **Why:** To learn about student government across the nation and bring back ideas.

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OPINION

“Tell the truth and don’t be afraid.”

FRIDAY, JANUARY 13, 2006

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COMMENTARY



HOLLY MOHR
ASSOCIATE VERGE EDITOR

LUCY IN THE SKY WITH DIAMONDS

Happy birthday to you! Happy birthday dear father of LSD...

The scientist who discovered the drug lysergic acid diethylamide-25, better known as LSD, turned 100 years old on Wednesday Jan.11.

Albert Hofmann, United States scientist, discovered LSD in 1938. He did not make this finding in order to picture himself in a boat on a river with tangerine trees and marmalade skies; his mind-altering drug was a promising hope in psychotherapy.

In Hofmann’s research studies, LSD helped patients expand their minds, open up and explain their feelings. He found that this would help in dealing with their psychological problems.

The United States banned LSD in 1967, but Hofmann continues to defend his discovery and his original intentions for the drug. Right now many organizations are fighting for the legalization of LSD for medical purposes.

I honestly believe that the Unites States government should intensely consider legalizing LSD for medical research only. Many drugs in the past started out with ridicule from the government and now are accepted as everyday prescriptions.

Take for example, RU486, otherwise known as “the morning-after pill.” According to a battle for legalization in the United States that backs farther than the 1980s was approved for marketing in the United States in September 2000. Like LSD, RU486 was controversial because of fatalities that resulted from taking the drug during research studies. Most fatalities that resulted from taking LSD were not due to the research studies, but due to people taking street LSD with an unknown purity for pleasure not medical treatment. Despite the deaths during the studies and when RU486 was legalized, it can still be found in clinics such as Planned Parenthood.

Now, I’m not dissuading or persuading the use of RU486, I’m merely making the point that there were risks to the drug. But it’s still legal and has benefited many.

How do we know LSD won’t do the same? We don’t unless we let our scientists do extensive research on it. Of course there are risks to experimenting with LSD, but where would this country be if we never took a risk?

Don’t get me wrong, LSD can be a harmful drug if abused and used for pleasure, and I do not believe it should be legalized to the general public. But chocolate can be abused and can be a component in obesity, which can cause fatalities as well. Should the next step in fighting obesity result in outlawing chocolate?

Studies may find a miraculous use for the drug or maybe even components of the drug. We won’t know until data is available to back it up. At least we would know for sure then.

I know what you’re thinking. “If LSD is legalized for medical research, won’t the use of LSD by the general public increase?” Well here is my answer to that.

Marijuana is now legalized in 11 states, Illinois not among them, as a medical prescription. In 1999, The Institute of Medicine did a report on medical marijuana and concluded that the drug was therapeutic for patients suffering from such illnesses as cancer. In the same report, they stated that there was no convincing data that proved the increase of marijuana use outside of its medical purpose.

So I believe we can expect the same results if LSD was legalized for medical research. Again, let me be clear, for medical research not as a prescription. Only research could determine if the drug is stable enough to be used as medicine.

Who knows maybe the girl with kaleidoscope eyes is the next cure for chronic depression or schizophrenia?

Mohr, a senior journalism major, can be reached at DENverge@mail.com.

EDITORIAL CARTOON BY DAVID THILL



EDITORIAL

Mercury plan needs to change

Gov. Blagojevich’s latest election-year push is a proposed cut of Illinois’ coal-fired power plants mercury emissions within the next three years. The *Chicago Tribune* reported Jan. 5 that mercury would need to be cut 90 percent in Illinois plants by July of 2009.

While Blagojevich’s intentions seem to be good ones, the mercury cuts could cost the state a large sum of money and provide only a few health benefits.

Mercury, a toxic metal that can cause learning disabilities in children and neurological problems, is exposed to people in fish.

The utility industry is currently against Blagojevich’s plan, and has fought off even tougher limits on air pollution in the past.

President George W. Bush proposed a national plan that would require coal plants to cut mercury emissions 70 percent and they would have until 2018 to get it done.

In a Jan. 6 issue of the *Tribune*, state Sen. Steve Rauschenberger, candidate for lieutenant governor and member of a legislative panel that could block proposal, was quoted as saying he wasn’t sure if Blagojevich’s proposal was practical or affordable.

If the president has a national plan to decrease mercury usage, then Blagojevich should let the president’s proposal deal with the problem and then take it from there. The *Tribune* reported

At issue

Gov. Rod Blagojevich’s proposed mercury cuts that would require coal plants to cut 90 of mercury emissions in three years.

Our stance

While mercury is a health risk, Gov. Blagojevich is asking the utility industry to make a massive cut in a very short amount of time. President George W. Bush has made a federal proposal that would ask for a smaller cut and would give the coal plants more time to work out the problem.

Blagojevich’s proposal, if passed, could increase the cost of electricity and jeopardize the reliability of the state’s power grid.

Six other states are working on mercury standards that would demand bigger cuts than the federal proposal. Illinois’ would be one of the stingiest states in the country dealing with mercury.

Mercury is definitely a problem that needs to be looked at and the president is looking into it. If it would cost too much money to cut 90 percent of Illinois mercury in three years then Blagojevich should reconsider and either increase the time span for power plants to make the cuts or decrease the requested percentage.

In the *Tribune’s* Jan. 5 article, Doug McFarlan, spokesman for Midwest Generation, which is an owner of five coal plants in the Chicago area, said “The shorter the time frame, the greater the risk you could have that some units will have to shut down.”

Blagojevich wants to prove he is taking the mercury problem serious, but he doesn’t need to risk state money and state power plants in the process. It is cer-

tainly a problem, but the prevention shouldn’t be rushed. Blagojevich should look over his options and propose a plans that’s still firm, but more practical.

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

YOUR TURN: LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

The staff at *The Daily Eastern News* wants to know what students think about current events, campus issues, college living and anything else students would like to address.

Editorial cartoons run everyday, while guest columns run once a week on Wednesday. Anyone is welcome to write a column or draw a cartoon, but it is at the editor’s discretion when to run the column or the cartoon.

COLUMNISTS NEEDED

Have an opinion? We want to hear it! *The Daily Eastern News* is looking for students interested in voicing opinions on campus, state, national and international issues through columns. *The DEN* reserves the Wednesday guest column spot for students, faculty and members of the community. Guest columns should be a minimum of 550 words.

CARTOONISTS WANTED

The DEN is interested in recruiting cartoonists that display artistic ability, particularly caricatures and tasteful humor as well as address campus issues. A grasp of the news and current events is necessary for cartoonists to be effective.

Columns, cartoons and letters can be submitted at room 1811 of Buzzard Hall.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR: The Daily Eastern News accepts letters to the editor addressing local, state, national and international issues. They should be **less than 250 words** and include the authors’ name, telephone number and address. Students should indicate their year in school and major. Faculty, administration and staff should indicate their position and department. Letters whose authors cannot be verified will not be printed. We reserve the right to edit letters for length. Letters can be sent to *The Daily Eastern News* at **1811 Buzzard Hall**, Charleston IL 61920; faxed to 217-581-2923; or e-mailed to **DENeic@gmail.com**

Bush tries to play booster-in-chief of New Orleans

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

NEW ORLEANS— After a three-month absence from the hurricane-ravaged Gulf Coast, President Bush offered a fresh commitment to the region’s long, expensive rebuilding and spoke optimistically about progress in a New Orleans seething over proposals for bringing back the still-ruined city.

Bush dropped in on two of the towns hardest-hit when Hurricane Katrina slammed ashore Aug. 29 – New Orleans, the majority of which was flooded after levees failed, and Bay St. Louis on the Mississippi coast, most of it shattered into sticks by the punishing winds.

The president liberally laced remarks in both places with references to the many daunting problems that remain – a lack of housing in New Orleans, the slow pace of Small Business Administration loans, problems with homeowner insurance payments, the urgent need for bridge rebuilding.

“People in faraway places like Washington, D.C., still hear you and care about you,” he said in the gymnasium at St. Stanislaus College in Bay St. Louis. “I recognize there’s some rough spots We’re going to work to make them as smooth as possible.”

The White House said the federal government’s costs for rebuilding are driving up the deficit for this year. Joel Kaplan, deputy budget director, said the administration expected the deficit for this year to top \$400 billion, up \$60 billion from estimates made the month before Katrina hit.

Bush promised Gulf Coast residents that his administration is learning the lessons of its too-slow and much-criticized response to Katrina. “We want to know how to make it better,” he said. “I just want to assure you, we are, we are.”

In New Orleans, especially, the president played booster in chief. Before a colorful mural of jazz musicians, a riverboat, masked Mardi Gras revelers and crawfish, he suggested it as a great



TOM GRALISH/KRTNEWS SERVICE

A Hurricane Katrina damaged car is abandoned and spray-painted in New Orleans, La, Wednesday. Mayor Ray Nagin’s “Bring New Orleans Back Commission” released their blueprint for New Orleans’ rebirth, outlining how parts of this devastated city could have a chance to rebuild in the wake of Hurricane Katrina.

place for a convention and as an attractive tourist destination with “some of the greatest food in the world and some wonderful fun.”

Bush praised the city’s success in getting services like electricity and water mostly on line, said new federal tax incentives will encourage businesses to create jobs and insisted stronger promised levee protection will make the city both safer and more attractive for investment. All those things, he said, will help turn New Orleans back into a “shining part of the South.”

“I will tell you, the contrast between when I was last here and today is pretty dramatic,” a smiling president said before meeting privately with local government officials and small business owners.

But many of New Orleans’ neighborhoods still are abandoned wastelands of uninhabitable homes and sidewalks piled with moldy garbage. Barely a quarter of the city’s former population of nearly half a million has returned yet and it’s not clear how many more will.

Though the president’s motorcade route wound past some previously underwater areas and a smattering of damaged buildings, his meeting was held in a gleaming visitor’s center in the Lower Garden District neighborhood that never suffered serious damage.

And Bush’s visit came one day after initial city rebuilding proposals were unveiled to residents who reacted angrily, particularly to the suggestion that worst-hit neighborhoods have just

four months to prove they should be rebuilt.

Some of the president’s language in New Orleans recalled the more pilloried statements from his first stop in the region four days after Katrina struck.

On that visit, he laughingly lauded the increasingly desperate city as great because it was where he used to “enjoy myself – occasionally too much.” On Thursday, he said the New Orleans of today “is reminding me of the city I used to come to visit.”

Bush also called the city “a heckuva place to bring your family” – a reminder of his endorsement of Michael Brown, then chief of the Federal Emergency Management Agency. “Brownie, you’re doing a heckuva job,” Bush said then to the man who was seen by many as the face of the clumsy and who eventually gave up his post amid the criticism.

In Bay St. Louis, Bush drove past thousands of snapped trees, debris still hanging from limbs and lots emptied of their buildings. There are almost no intact structures – concrete foundations are virtually all that is left on most lots – and little evidence of new construction.

The president emphasized progress.

“We’ve come a long way in four months,” he said across the street from enormous piles of broken lumber. “And a lot more is going to happen in the next four months and the next four months.”

Bush made eight trips to the Gulf Coast in the six weeks after Katrina hit. Lately, the president has been eager to show his attention to Katrina victims has not faded and Thursday’s trip was intended to signal that Katrina recovery ranks in the top tier of his priorities for 2006.

The president ended the day headlining a fundraiser in Palm Beach, Fla. He helped scoop up \$4 million for the national Republican Party and various GOP candidates at the sprawling oceanfront mega-mansion of home-builder and Washington Redskins co-owner Dwight Schar.

Teacher pay tied to test scores in Houston schools

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

HOUSTON— Houston became the largest school district in the country on Thursday to adopt a merit pay plan for teachers that focuses on students’ tests scores.

By a 9-0 vote, the Houston school board approved a plan that offers teachers up to \$3,000 in extra pay if their students show improvement on state and national tests. The vote came after several teachers told the board during its monthly meeting they believed the plan was flawed and unfair because some teachers will be eligible for larger bonuses than others.

NATIONAL BRIEFS



Six killed on rural Miss. highway in pre-dawn crash of rig, pickup

WIGGINS, Miss.— A tractor-trailer rig slammed into a pickup truck that was stopped in the middle of a fog-shrouded rural highway early Thursday, killing six people, all students or recent alumni of a nearby community college, authorities said.

Chief Deputy Jimmy Green said two other young adults in the extended-cab pickup were injured. They were hospitalized but no information on their conditions was available.

The driver of the rig was not seriously injured, Green said.

Candidates remain short in GOP leadership race

WASHINGTON— Despite a weeklong campaign, both Missouri Rep. Roy Blunt and Ohio Rep. John Boehner acknowledge they remain short of the tally required to succeed embattled former-Majority Leader Tom DeLay as the No. 2 Republican in the House.

Blunt claims the lead and issued a statement claiming more than 100 supporters, though his list of those willing to make their names public contains just 70 lawmakers. To win the race to replace DeLay, R-Texas, requires 116 votes, a majority of the 231 member House GOP conference.

An aide to Boehner claimed the Ohio Republican and chairman of the Education and the Workforce Committee has 90 committed supporters, but only 36 have made public commitments.

A potential dark horse, Rep. John Shadegg, R-Ariz., was inching toward a decision on whether to run, saying candidates Blunt and Boehner won’t move aggressively enough.



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Martin Luther King, Jr. University Union
Eastern Illinois University

Durbin says filibuster over Alito unlikely

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

WASHINGTON— Illinois Sen. Dick Durbin said Thursday he is still undecided about whether to vote to confirm Supreme Court nominee Samuel Alito and that a filibuster to try to block President Bush's choice for the high court is a long shot.

"When you consider the numbers involved, it is unlikely," Durbin said, referring to the apparent lack of support among his fellow senators for such a move.

Republicans have a majority on the Senate Judiciary Committee, which is holding hearings on Alito's nomination. They also control the Senate – 55-44 with one independent. It takes just 41 votes to sustain a filibuster, but a handful of Democrats are expected to support Alito.

Durbin has been one of the more aggressive questioners of Alito during his many hours of testimony this week. At one point during Wednesday's questioning – when Durbin was not directly involved – Alito's wife, Martha, left the committee room in tears.

"I'm sorry to see that happen," Durbin said Thursday in a satellite feed to reporters in Illinois. "She seems like a very nice person. Her family has stood with her and stood behind the judge during this entire proceeding. I'm sorry if anything happened yesterday that led to this. We, all of public life, understand the strain that this light puts on our families."

Durbin said he had not made up his mind about whether to support Alito, a 15-year veteran of the federal bench from New Jersey, because he wanted to hear from all the witnesses and carefully review the transcripts of the hearings.

WRESTLERS

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1A

Grapplers come to Eastern

Not only will the ladies be contending for a shot at a championship match, but NWC wrestlers Vulcan and Rampage will slug it out for the heavyweight title.

The tag-team championship belts will be on the line, also.

George Jr. and George III of the tag team The Animals will take on Hostile Inc.

The match came about when manager of Hostile Inc., Brooklyn Bobby, decided to put his guys in the match after the former tag-team champs were forced into early retirement from health issues, George Jr. said about the upcoming match.

"Brooklyn Bobby's been a thorn in our butt for awhile, so hopefully this (match) will pay off," George Jr. said.

A 60-minute cage match, which will feature Lucky Dane and "Homicidal" Steven Davis, will be the main event, Saret said.

Dane was allowed by NWC commissioner Bud Chaplin to come out of retirement to duke it out with Davis in a steel cage, Saret said.

"I have a feeling it's going to be like two rabid dogs locked up together going at it," George Jr. said.

Tickets for the event are on sale at the ticket office in the Union, Brian's Place or Color Time in Mattoon for \$10 in advance with student identification or at the door for \$12.

While alcohol will not be served in the ballroom of the Union, concessions will be available for attendees.

Doors will open at 6:30 p.m., and the first match is scheduled to start at 7:30 p.m.



SUBMITTED PHOTO BY THE NATIONAL WRESTLING COALITION

The Animals tag team championship belt will be placed on the line against Hostile, Inc. Saturday night in the University Ballroom of the Martin Luther King Jr. University Union.

TOWNIES:

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1A

Charleston attracts students

"I usually see them (family members) at least once or twice a day for 10 to 15 minutes. I see them more on the weekends," Bates said.

And while it's obvious that the college experience is different for everyone who chooses to continue living with or near family, it can


still seem like home for some.

"I see the college and Charleston as two different towns honestly," Gross said. "I see my parents about as often as anybody else."

All in all, though, there are enough pros provided by the town to stick with Eastern.

Bates said he plans to continue his education at Eastern.

"I plan on entering graduate school at Eastern in the area of College Student Affairs (in Fall 2006) because they have a really strong program," he said. "And once again, I love the people, sports, atmosphere and the students as a whole."



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Grand Ballroom

Martin Luther King, Jr. University Union


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Comedy
Friday, January 13th
9pm
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PERSONALS

ATTENTION ALL GRADUATING SENIORS! If you are interested in a yearbook of your senior year, and are not sure how to pick it up, come to the Student Publications office, Room 1802 Buzzard Hall, and for only \$6 we will mail you a copy in the Fall when they are published. Call 581-2812 for more information.

_____00

ANOUNCEMENTS

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_____1/13

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_____1/20
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CAMPUS CLIPS

OFFICE OF ORIENTATION PRESENTS: Concert Tomorrow Night! Bands include So Long Forgotten, Jason Schwartz, Charleston Sound Machine, and River Oaks. Friday, January 13, 2006 from 8-11 p.m. in MLK Union in the Grand Ballroom.

CLINICAL EXPERIENCE OBSERVATION DEADLINE: Monday, Feb. 6, will be the last day the Student Teaching Office will accept clinical experience observations if you are observing in schools (other than Charleston, Mattoon, or Effingham High School) on Feb. 17 (EIU Holiday).

PRE-PLACEMENT MEETINGS/ SIGN-UPS: All Students planning to student teach in Fall 2006 are required to attend a pre-placement appointment. Appointment will be held Tuesday, Jan. 31 and Wed., Feb. 1. Registration is required. Students must register for appointment by signing up in the Student Teaching Office on Jan. 18, 19, or 20. There is no early registration.

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The New York Times Crossword

Edited by Will Shortz

No. 1202

- ACROSS
- 1 No. for Na or Ni

5 Give ____ of the hat

9 Symbols of masculinity

14 Shows no one comes to see

17 Takes the wrong way

18 Opening

19 Relatively common letters

20 Popular writers

21 It's unresolved

22 "Ah"

24 Center in a state's center

26 "No kidding"

28 Thompson of "Family"
- 30 Org. to which eight U.S. presidents have belonged

32 Footed receptacles

33 Conductor seen at night

35 Change one's focus

37 Beans

39 Product with three heads

41 "____ come to that"

42 Boom

44 Takes a course

45 Limb's end

46 Anatomical passage

48 Confectioner's raw material

50 Caballero's locale

- 52 King ____ II known as "The Stout"

54 It might expose rings

56 Went after

57 Something folded before a meal

59 Mucho

61 Kinsey report topic

64 John Le Carré characters

65 Takes an alternate course

66 Adopted son of Claudius

67 Anhydrous

- DOWN
- 1 Not hide

2 Boom producer

3 Brunch order

4 Anticommunist leader

5 Early Surrealist

6 Clipped

7 Wishful words

8 Salt's partner

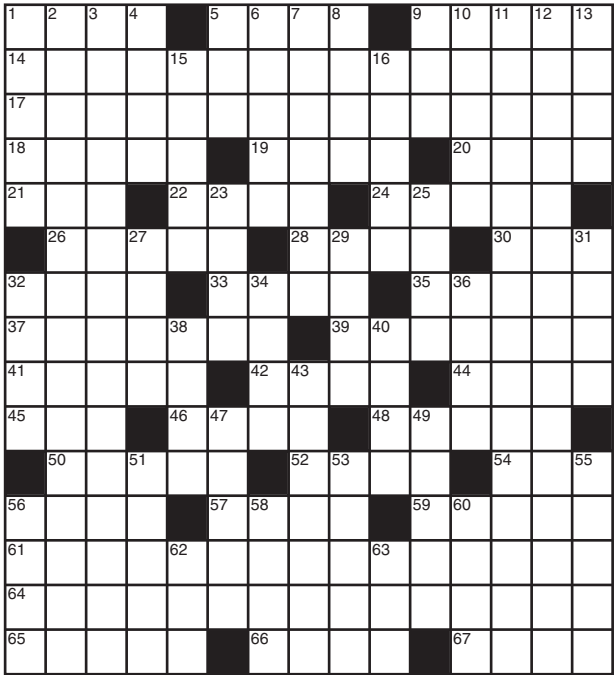
9 Dr.'s order

10 How easy things might be

11 Source of pop-ups?

12 Source of pop-ups?

13 Bacon sizzle



Puzzle by Patrick Merrell

- 15 Pamper

16 Carrying

23 End of a Scottish title sung at many parties

25 Catherine of history

27 Big employer of inspectors: Abbr.

29 A Freud

31 Old radio title character

32 Soldier's group
- 34 Start of North Carolina's motto

36 Color-conscious grp.

38 "____ Eyes" by the Eagles

40 Relative of a bottlenose

43 One being brought along

47 Famous player of a milkman with many daughters

49 Big name in insurance

51 Run like ____
- 53 Not so hard

55 Detroit's county

56 Knife

58 Hasn't left

60 They ring out in rings

62 Literary inits.

63 Game with a Wild Draw Four card

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SWIMMING

Eastern takes on a short-handed Millikin squad

BY JOE WALTASTI
STAFF REPORTER

After a successful training trip over winter break, both the swimming and diving teams get back to business. The Panthers host the Big Blue of Millikin at 1 p.m. Saturday in Lantz Natatorium.

“[Big Blue’s] not quite as deep or strong all the way through, so it probably won’t be a real close meet,” said Eastern’s head coach Ray Padovan. “But they do have some very good

swimmers at the top that will challenge us.”

Millikin will be sending all 23 girls from their women’s team. However, the men are only sending 10 from their squad. Since both Millikin teams are lacking in numbers, it allows the Panthers to switch things up a bit, Padovan said.

“It allows us to mix up some people in other events that I need to see them in,” he said. “It may be an event that I am trying to see if they could swim in conference.”

At a typical meet in Lantz, each team would have three swimmers per race, filling up half of the six total lanes.

Against Millikin, Eastern will have four swimmers opposed to two Big Blue swimmers.

Regardless of the apparent discrepancy in talent and numbers, Millikin head coach Paul Kueterman is excited about the upcoming meet.

“It’s a really good opportunity to go against some good competition, some division one swimmers,” he said.

“Plus it’s very close so it’s a good meet for us.”

The Big Blue athletes are in the middle of a tight part of their schedule, as they will be competing in their second of three meets over a ten-day span.

“We are coming off Christmas training and a meet on Wednesday so our team might be a little tired,” said Kueterman. “I don’t know how they are going to swim,”

Swimming will be the only events on Saturday, as Millikin does not

have a diving team. Eastern divers will still participate in the meet but they will not be judged.

The meet may be a good way for the Panthers to get back into the swing of things after their Florida trip.

The Panthers have one month until they will take part in their first Mid-Continent Conference championship meet on Feb. 16 in Indianapolis. The next home meet after Saturday is Feb. 4 against St. Louis.

WOIKE:

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 12A

Panthers prove themselves in first home win

home win of the Ohio Valley Conference season. Then things fell apart.

The offense slowed from a sprint to a crawl. The defense went from swarming to sleeping. And the score went from a 21-14 lead to a 33-26 deficit heading into halftime.

The seven-and-a-half minute run negated the some of the best basketball the Panthers have played

all season.

But then we finally got one solid answer.

Would this team fold after squandering yet another first-half lead?

No.

Eastern would fight its way back into another ball game behind a slashing Catchings and a spark off the bench from sophomore forward Jake Byrne.

This isn’t a team that will go away. The Panthers proved it Thursday night.

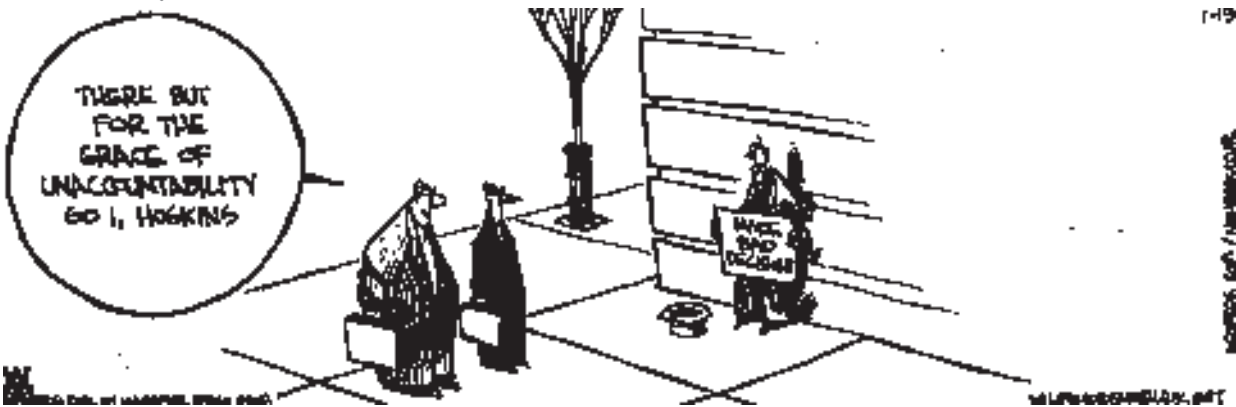
And in the end, the Panthers got more than a much needed victory — they got some much-needed answers.

Dan Woike is a senior journalism major. He'll answer any question imaginable at Woikedagmail.com.

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BOONDOCKS BY AARON MCGRUDER



SEALED:

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 12A

Gomes sets pace for Eastern in overtime win

“We came out and really made that good first play and took over the game,” he said.

After Skyhawk forward Jared Newson hit two free throws to give UT Martin a 67-66 lead in overtime, Gomes answered with a three from the left corner.

The ensuing possession for Eastern resulted in a layup for Gomes and he converted the free throw after being fouled by Skyhawk guard Zerek Knight.

Free throws were the story the rest of overtime, as both teams traded trips to the line.

The win was not easy for Eastern, as they had to overcome several deficits throughout the game and inconsistent play that has characterized the team this season.

After being tied 8-8 at the under 16 timeout, the Panthers took control and showed flashes of what this team could be like.

Eastern went on a 10-3 run to lead 18-11 before the

EASTERN 80, TENN-MARTIN 70 (OT)

		fg	ft	reb			
EASTERN	min	m-a	m-a	o-t	a	pf	pts
Tandy	23	5-8	2-2	3-12	0	4	12
Wilkin	13	1-1	0-0	0-1	0	3	2
Robinson	40	3-12	8-10	1-6	10	4	14
Gomes	42	6-15	8-9	1-2	0	1	23
Catchings	31	8-13	1-2	3-6	3	5	18
Sinclair	23	1-1	1-1	0-1	3	0	3
Parrish	24	0-2	0-0	2-4	0	1	0
Burke	5	0-1	0-0	0-0	10	1	0
Byrne	24	3-5	2-4	2-6	4	3	8
TOTALS	225	27-58	22-28	14-41	20	22	80

Percentages: FG 27-58 .466. 3-point goals: 4-13 . 308 (Gomes 3-7, Catchings 1-3, Robinson 0-3) Blocked shots: 3 (Wilkin 2, Parrish) Steals: 10 (Tandy 3, Robinson 3, Gomes, Catchings, Sinclair, Burke) Turnovers: 16 (Catchings 5, Robinson 3, Gomes 3, Tandy 2, Parrish 2, Wilkin) Fouled out: Catchings

TENN-MARTIN	fg		ft		reb			
	min	m-a	m-a	o-t	a	pf	pts	
Newson	37	4-15	8-9	4-8	2	4	16	
Lewis	22	4-10	0-0	6-10	0	1	8	
Woodfork	27	2-6	4-5	2-3	1	1	8	
Kelly	39	0-7	0-0	0-3	5	5	0	
Flatt	23	1-5	0-0	0-0	3	2	3	
Knight	15	1-3	0-0	0-0	0	3	3	
Ferrell	3	0-0	0-0	0-0	0	0	0	
Tolliver	29	5-10	4-4	1-4	2	2	16	
Thompson	6	1-2	0-0	0-0	0	0	2	
Ingram	1	0-1	0-0	0-0	0	0	0	
Jones	24	6-7	2-5	5-8	1	2	14	
TOTALS	225	24-66	18-23	19-38	14	20	70	

Percentages: FG 24-66 .364. 3-point goals: 4-21 . .190 (Tolliver 2-4, Knight 1-3, Flatt 1-5, Kelly 0-6, Newson 0-2, Ingram 0-1) Blocked shots: 2 (Knight, Thompson) Steals: 9 (Kelly 3, Newson, Lewis, Woodfork, Knight, Tolliver, Thompson) Turnovers: 17 (Jones 5, Woodfork 4, Kelly 3, Lewis 2, Thompson 2, Wilkin) Fouled out: Kelly

Skyhawks answered with their own run.

Early in the game the Panthers were led by Robinson, who finished with 14 points and 10 assists.

UTM junior guard Justin Flatt ended the Panthers’ run by knocking down a three from the right wing.

Eastern senior guard Josh Gomes responded with a three-pointer to push the lead back to seven.

The Skyhawks went on a 12-0 run over the span of four minutes and two called timeouts by Eastern to retake the lead 26-21.

“It was us not doing our individual jobs that put us down,” Gomes said.

A jumper by sophomore guard Bobby Catchings ended the Panthers scoring drought and left Eastern behind 26-23. After a defensive stop by Eastern, Catchings came down and hit a three from the right corner to tie the game up with 2:54 remaining in the first half.

The Skyhawks called time and went off on a 7-0 run to end the half and led 33-26 as both teams headed to the locker room.

“Coach really got after us at halftime,” Gomes said.

Catchings led Eastern with 9 first-half points on 4-of-6 shooting. Jared Newson, the Skyhawks’ leading scorer averaging 17.5 points per game coming in, led his team with 7 points.

Fellow senior Jeremy Kelly came into the game averaging 17.1 ppg but was held scoreless for the game as he misfired on all seven of his attempts.

“He’s a slasher and he gets to the hole,” UTM head coach Bret Campbell said. “And I thought their game plan with the zone was certainly the best game plan against us.”

The game plan consisted of a matchup 2-3 zone that the Panthers have employed more in recent games.

“It was just our emphasis going into the game,” Gomes said. “We’re not going to let people, marked players and just have them leave the game without any scratches.”

Catchings picked up where he left off by starting the second half with a drive baseline followed by a two-handed dunk.

“He’s gotten a lot more physical and aggressive taking it to the basket,” said sophomore forward Jake Byrne.

Trailing 38-32, the Panthers got back into the mix of things with the play of Byrne.

After converting one of two free throws, the sophomore finished inside on Eastern’s next possession to cut the Skyhawks’ lead to three.

Byrne then made a nice backdoor pass for a Gomes reverse layup to pull Eastern within one. Catchings gave the Panthers their first lead since 7:02 in the first half with a layup to make it 39-38. The game was back and forth the rest of the way as neither team led by more than three before reaching overtime.

The Panthers get back into action Saturday afternoon at Lantz Arena with a 3:05 p.m. game against Eastern Kentucky.

EASTERN 67, TENN.-MARTIN 58

		fg	ft	reb			
EASTERN	min	m-a	m-a	o-t	a	pf	pts
Sims	25	3-6	0-0	1-5	1	1	6
Galligan	30	3-6	0-1	3-7	0	2	6
Edwards	37	4-10	8-9	0-1	4	2	18
Sparks	38	10-14	3-4	1-8	2	2	30
Canale	19	0-4	0-0	0-0	3	4	0
Kramer	5	0-2	0-0	0-0	0	0	0
Eck	15	0-3	0-0	0-0	1	0	0
Maxedon	6	0-1	0-0	0-0	0	0	0
Scaggs	10	0-0	4-4	0-1	1	3	2
Kluempers	15	1-4	1-2	0-2	2	0	0
TOTALS	200	21-50	16-20	5-20	14	14	67

Percentages: FG 21-50 .420. 3-point goals: 9-20 . 450 (Sparks 7-8) Blocked shots: 6 (Galligan 3) Steals: 10 (Edwards, Canale 3) Turnovers: 14 (Edwards 7) Fouled out: None

		fg	ft	reb			
TENN-MARTIN	min	m-a	m-a	o-t	a	pf	pts
Jackson	32	6-8	4-6	3-6	14	14	14
Willingham	37	7-18	0-0	1-7	18	18	18
Bonner	28	0-1	0-0	0-2	28	28	28
Cox	33	1-3	0-2	1-5	27	27	27
Robinson	33	4-9	0-2	0-2	19	19	19
Mitchell	7	0-1	0-0	0-0	1	1	1
Fuller	20	5-11	2-3	2-9	9	9	9
Harris	10	2-3	2-2	0-0	13	13	13
TOTALS	200	25-54	8-15	11-37	200	200	200

Percentages: FG 25-54 .463. 3-point goals: 0-5 . 000 Blocked shots: 2 (Bonner, Robinson 1) Steals: 6 (Robinson) Turnovers: 18 (Robinson 6) Fouled out: None

HEATS UP:

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 12A

UTM turnovers crucial in 67-58 Eastern win

“It didn’t matter what kind of defense we played,” UTM coach Tara Tansil said. “When she plays like that, it doesn’t matter what you do.”

Going into Thursday night’s game, the Skyhawks ranked last in turnover margin while the Panthers were first. The statistics held true as UTM committed 18 turnovers (12 in the first half) and the Panthers continued to force the issue before the Skyhawks could get in their half-court offense.

“The press did what it was supposed to do,” Eastern coach Brady Sallee said. “(UTM) kept saying ‘slow it up, slow it up!,’ but they never did slow their game down and that was the difference.”

Edwards was second on the team

with 18 points.

As well as Sparks and Edwards played, the post players failed to display a presence as Eastern was outrebounded for the 11th time in 15 games.

“We’ve got to be the best team that doesn’t rebound in the nation,” Sallee said.

The one statistic of concern for Sallee was UTM holding a 38-18 advantage for points in the paint.

“It didn’t matter what kind of defense we played. When (Sparks) plays like that, it doesn’t matter what you do. ”

TARA TANSIL,
TENN.-MARTIN HEAD COACH

“We can’t get constantly beat in the paint,” Sallee said. “We have got to figure out a way to get our rebounding right or it’s going to be a struggle every game.”

When Sallee was asked about the string of close games EIU has been in, he said the 9-point win

was the perfect cure for his insomnia. “I didn’t sleep at all last night,” he said. “If we would have lost another close game ...”

Thanks to Sparks, Sallee can rest easy.

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MEN'S BASKETBALL

Eastern limits second chances in second half

By DAN WOIKE
SPORTS REPORTER

For one half Thursday night at Lantz Arena, the Panther men's basketball team did a lot of things right.

Eastern forced eight Tennessee-Martin turnovers, scored easy baskets in transition and spread the ball around offensively.

But what the Panthers failed to do cost them a seven-point first half lead and almost cost them the game.

Despite the troubles, the Panthers hung on for their first conference win at home, 80-70, in overtime.

Though the first-half rebounding statistics were identical — 7 offensive rebounds and 11 defensive — Tennessee-Martin made the most of its second chances.

The Skyhawks (6-8, 3-5 Ohio Valley Conference) scored 15 points after offensive rebounds while Eastern failed to convert on any of its second opportunities in the first half.

"We're not a great outside shooting team, and obviously that showed once again tonight," UTM head coach Bret Campbell said. "What we're about is trying to create things defensively and getting to the lane and crashing the boards."

"That's usually to our advantage."

The offensive rebounds came at crucial times, too.

"They weren't scoring on offense," Eastern senior guard Josh Gomes said. "It was a lot of rebound putbacks and second-chance shots."

"That's what Tennessee-Martin thrives on."

Tennessee-Martin senior forward Jared Newson helped spark a 19-5

run to end the first half by pulling down an offensive rebound with 7 minutes, 29 seconds in the first half. Newson then was fouled on the made putback and converted the three-point play.

Less than 30 seconds later, Newson rose above everyone around the basket and followed another UTM miss with a two-handed tip dunk.

Newson's five-straight points cut Eastern's largest first-half lead, 21-14 to two points, and his two putbacks started a 12-0 run that shifted control of the game to the Skyhawks.

Newson along with junior forward Will Lewis, grabbed 12 of Tennessee-Martin's first-half rebounds.

Newson, said crashing towards the rim is a big part of his role.

"That's what they tell me to do," he said. "We lack in rebounding, so it's my job to get offensive and defensive rebounds and be that spark for our team."

"Along with scoring that's my job."

Newson finished with 8 rebounds, and Lewis led the Skyhawks with 10 rebounds.

But second-half adjustments helped keep Tennessee-Martin from getting more than one chance to score per possession and allowed for the Panthers to work their way into the game with some second-chance points of their own.

Eastern outscored UTM 12-8 on second-chance points for the remainder of the game.

Campbell praised the Panthers' resilience.

"I just think they didn't fall apart," Campbell said. "They hung in there when they got down."



ERIC HILTNER/THE DAILY EASTERN NEWS

Tenn.-Martin senior forward Jared Newson (far right) battles for a rebound during Thursday night's game in Lantz Arena. Each team had 7 offensive rebounds in the first half, but UTM outscored Eastern in second chance points 15-0.

SPARKS:

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 12A

Senior guard has answers for Skyhawk comebacks

With just eight and a half minutes remaining and the Skyhawks within two points of the Panthers, Sparks pushed the lead to five with another three-pointer.

"Being a senior and a leader of the team that's my position and that's what I'm here to do," she said. "To step up and make the plays when we need them."

Sparks didn't get off to a great start.

She turned the ball over on the Panthers' first two possessions.

But three minutes into the game she hit her first three-pointer.

"By your senior year, you just have the mentality that you have to go out and make up for (the turnovers)," she said.

With all of the talk about the freshmen on the team, Sparks' consistency has been a key to the Panthers' 5-3

Ohio Valley Conference start.

She has scored in double digits in every game this season but two (the Panthers won both games).

Sparks and freshman Megan Edwards combined to score 48 of the team's points.

"That's not the way we've been winning games," head coach Brady Saltee said. "(Edwards) did a great job of getting (Sparks) the ball."

Sparks played well in all areas. She led the team with 8 rebounds, shot 72 percent from the floor and hit 3 free throws.

Tansil did not need the stat sheet to know this.

"(Sparks) was pulling up for dribble-jump shots, she was knocking down threes," she said. "She played one of her best games that I've seen her have here. She played her butt off tonight."

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**FROM LEFT
FIELD**
DAN WOIKE
SPORTS REPORTER

Home win provides answers

It's getting to be that time. Before taking on Tennessee-Martin Thursday night, the Panther men's basketball team had 13 chances to give us some answers. Instead, the Panthers had us asking progressively more questions. We've been asking things like "How can a team with as many good shooters not score points?" Before Thursday night's game, Eastern was scoring 59.2 points per game — worst in the league. Before the season began, it was easy to have higher hopes for the offense. George Tandy and Bobby Catchings would join Gomes. The pair of sophomores would be relied upon to help carry some of the scoring load. And yet through 13 games, the two were averaging a combined 18 points, but neither could consistently score in double figures. But then again, there were some roster questions. Can a team really win with a freshman point guard? Freshman Mike Robinson was given the unenviable task of running a new system in his first year. And his job wasn't made any easier when combined with the Panthers' scoring woes. At times, Robinson pressed, forcing shots that weren't open and passes that weren't there. The turnovers came mostly in the half-court offense, where the Panthers often stalled. So, why doesn't this team get out on the fast break? They're athletic, and they're fast. Well, they better be fast because one thing they certainly aren't is big. Speaking of big, how much longer will the Panthers have to wait for a big win? The Panthers have lost winnable games to Indiana State and Tennessee Tech at home and were in position to win at Eastern Kentucky and Murray State. And for a good chunk of the first half Thursday against Tennessee-Martin, the Panthers looked primed to get their first home win of the Ohio Valley Conference season. Then things fell apart. The offense slowed from a sprint to a crawl. The defense went from swarming to sleeping. And

MEN'S BASKETBALL

First home win sealed in OT

BY MATT DANIELS
ASSOCIATE SPORTS EDITOR

Eastern was involved in another close game Thursday night at Lantz Arena. After losing their last two games by a combined 7 points, the Panthers defeated Tennessee-Martin 80-70 in overtime. Senior guard Josh Gomes scored the first seven points of overtime for Eastern as the Panthers (3-11, 2-6) won for the first time at home this season and head coach Mike Miller's first career win at Lantz. "We owe it to everybody," said Gomes, who led all scorers with 23 points. "We had to protect our home court. This was the first time we came out and played with a huge amount of energy." "It wasn't easy and we had to earn it," Miller said. "They found a way to come back and get one." The game went to overtime after freshman point guard Mike Robinson missed an off-balance jumper with 3 seconds left. Once in overtime, Gomes took over.

SEE SEALED PAGE 10A



PHOTOGRAPHER NAME/THE DAILY EASTERN NEWS

Senior guard Josh Gomes brings the ball down court during the first half of Eastern's 80-70 overtime win against Tenn.-Martin Thursday evening in Lantz Arena. Gomes had 23 points in the win.

WOMEN'S BASKETBALL

Senior sparks Panthers in win

After a slow start, Eastern heats up Lantz

BY MARC CORRENTI
STAFF WRITER

In the first two possessions of Thursday night's 67-58 victory over Tennessee-Martin, senior guard Megan Sparks committed two turnovers in what looked like a bad omen for the Eastern women's basketball team. "The way I started," Sparks said. "I didn't think it would be a good night." However, the bad vibe floating around Sparks and the Panthers (6-9, 5-3 OVC) quickly vanished as she scored a career-high 30 points, connecting on 10-of-14 field goals. She also tied a school record by going 7-for-8 on three-pointers. "There's no way to explain it," Sparks said. "I was feeling it." A big reason for Sparks' huge night was her teammates ability to penetrate UTM's (5-8, 3-3) zone defense where she was constantly occupying the corners. "The best way to beat a zone is to penetrate and dish to the corners," freshman guard Megan Edwards said. "It just happened that Megan was in the corner and she knocked it down every time." Every time UTM sliced into the EIU deficit, Sparks had the answer. The Skyhawks were as close as 48-46 with 8 minutes, 32 seconds left in regulation when Sparks buried back-to-back three-pointers in a span of 38 seconds to put the Panthers in firm control.



ERIC HILTNER/THE DAILY EASTERN NEWS

Senior guard Megan Sparks attempts a 3-pointer in the fourth quarter of the Panthers' 67-58 win over Tenn.-Martin at Lantz Arena Thursday evening. Sparks tied the school record of seven 3 pointers.

Megan Sparks scores 30 in win over UTM

BY MARCO SANTANA
SPORTS EDITOR

Tennessee-Martin head coach Tara Tansil lost count of Megan Sparks' points. "I thought she had 35 or 40," she said after Thursday night's 67-58 Panther victory. Tansil wasn't that far off. Sparks scored a career-high 30 points and etched her name in the record books as she tied the school mark with 7 three-pointers in 8 attempts. The .875 3-point percentage broke a school record that was held by three players. "Shooters never expect to come out and shoot the ball like that," Sparks said. Sparks is definitely a shooter. The 7 three-pointers moved her into fourth place on Eastern's all-time list and she is also fourth on the list of all-time three-point attempts. The Skyhawks would not go quietly and the Panthers needed every one of Sparks' three-pointers. UTM fell behind by 10 points in the first nine minutes, 23 seconds but went on a 15-4 run that gave them a brief one-point lead. Sparks responded with a three-pointer. When UTM erased a six-point deficit to tie the game with 14 minutes left in the second half, Sparks responded with a three-pointer.

HE SAID/SHE SAID

Re-gifting:

If you don't like it, why not give it to a friend? Is sharing sometimes not caring? David and Holly will help you decide.

Page 2

BETTER LIVING

How to lose a roommate in 10 days:

Why should you move out? Nudity, toenail clippings, and sharing deodorant is a part of life. Right?

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FEATURES

Dangerous fun:

You don't need to travel out of state to climb a wall of rock. Learn about a Champaign recreation center which is equipped with boulders and bolsters.

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REVIEWS

Ghastly and

gruesome: Sadism reigns in Eli Roth's latest flick, 'Hostel.'

Tony's got a brand new bag:

Actually, it's a video game. Skaters, gamers, punkers or general Tony Hawk fans, if you haven't bought 'America's Wasteland', check out our little piece of praise.

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BOREDOM

Cheap thrills:

Lack of money isn't cool. Lack of imagination is also uncool according to some Eastern students.

Page 3

The habitual



PHOTO ILLUSTRATION BY ERIC HILTNER/ON THE VERGE

making and breaking

OF NEW YEAR'S RESOLUTIONS

BY HOLLY MOHR | ASSOCIATE VERGE EDITOR

New Year's Eve fills people with laughter, love and a hope to better one's self for the New Year. But when the ball has dropped, the champagne is gone and Dick Clark has called it a night, people are left with a hangover and their New Year's resolutions to wake up to.

Waking up to an impulsive and unrealistic resolution on Jan. 1 can be as awkward and disappointing as waking up to a stranger after the night of glitter'n'glam.

"Making New Year's resolutions is a cultural game we play," psychology professor Russell Gruber said. "People have, in what we call in psychology, a drive to fulfill potentials or self-actualization. We want to better ourselves."

Gruber said waiting until the New Year starts to improve one's self is an excuse to procrastinate what people feel needs to be done.

Eric Feigl, a senior physical education major, said New Year's resolutions are "an easy way to cop out of doing something for yourself that might take work."

"If you are going to do it, just do it," he said. "Why wait until the New Year?"

This may be why people are known for breaking resolutions so easily.

"The reason we break New Year's resolutions is the reason they didn't work out before,"

Gruber said. "Self-regulation is really hard to do. There are so many aspects of our lives we need to control. It's hard."

Breaking resolutions is nothing new to college students.

"I've broken too many to count," Ashley Pagano, a junior hospital administration major, said. "It's crazy to make resolutions that are realistically impossible to achieve."

She said low self-esteem will result from those failed goals.

Others have found staying true to their resolutions is a difficult task as well.

Kari Bentley, a senior physical education major, said she usually forgets her resolutions by March and then three months later remembers and tries again.

Resolutions motivate people to change something they do not like about themselves.

According to an article on www.walsall.gov.uk titled "Librarians issue New Year facts" on Jan. 3, the history of celebrating the New Year began in 4000 B.C. with the Babylonians. The first resolution was "marked in 153 B.C. by the Romans who traditionally asked for forgiveness from their enemies."

New Year resolutions have changed over the ages, but culture is still influencing resolutions.

Gruber said most resolutions have to deal with losing weight, kicking bad habits and

doing anything to make someone feel better about their appearance and themselves in general.

"In this culture we emphasize self-improvement," Gruber said. "New Years gives us a time to reflect on ourselves."

Pagano said one of her New Year resolutions was to get a personal trainer at the recreation center on campus.

"I want to improve myself," Pagano said. "I want to look and feel better for 2006."

Having a better study habit is another infamous resolution on campus.

"I'm so close to graduating that my resolution this year is to keep working hard and stay on track," Bentley said.

Another of Pagano's resolutions is to focus on school more.

While resolutions motivate some, others are not playing into the game.

"I don't make New Year's resolutions," Feigl said. "When I want to change something about myself, I'll do it then, not wait for the New Year."

The game of resolutions is being ignored for simply being a culture trend.

Gruber said he did not make a resolution this year because of the game.

"I don't play along with a lot of things we do this culture," he said.

HE SAID SHE SAID

Give the gift of giving again



LOOK THE REGIFT HORSE
IN THE MOUTH

DAVID THILL
VERGE EDITOR

Apparently, there is a trend among people out there called "re-gifting." This trend, I am told, is one in which a person receives a gift which they, in turn, proceed to give away to another person.

It has even been brought to my attention that certain co-workers of mine, who shall remain nameless, (Associate Verge Editor Holly Mohr, for one) commit this most heinous of acts. Personally, I find this "re-gifting" to be revolting—did you catch the alliteration?

Of course, there have been times in my life when I received certain gifts that I neither needed, nor even wanted. There have been other times when I have received gifts that I actually already had. So I am aware of the frustration and dismay that occurs after one tears through the glinting, gleaming wrapping paper, discarding the bow and tag like so much rubble in the wake of a tornado of greed—a "greednado," if you will.

But all that aside, I still find it just plain sickening to think of someone giving away a gift that I spent large amounts of time and even larger amounts of my hard-earned money on.

In a perfect world we would all get exactly what we want all the time, every time. But we don't live in a perfect world; we don't even live in a near-perfect world.

If I spent all that time drawing up a Christmas List (and even a key with symbols to show just how much I wanted each and every gift. That's right, I am just that dorky), opening the presents wouldn't be any fun. If you know just what you are getting for Christmas, then the only real surprise is which gift is in which box. All the shock and surprise would be gone.

The fact of the matter is that people try their best and despite those efforts, sometimes friends and family members just come up a bit short. How can one expect Grandma to know the newest Xbox games? She doesn't even know what decade she's in. And who would ask Uncle Jack for an iPod? You'll be lucky if he doesn't think you're on drugs and smack you in your iHead.

The point is that those close to us spend all the time and care they can to buy you a gift. So even if you don't want it, even if you don't need it, just hold on to it for their sake. Besides, you never know when Grandma might kick the bucket. I bet if you wear that God-awful sweater she knit you a few times she might leave you a bit more in her will. But you didn't hear that from me.



PRO'S TO REGIFTING

HOLLY MOHR
ASSOCIATE VERGE EDITOR

Though nothing is worse on Christmas morning than opening a present you hate, receiving a gift you already have and can't return ranks up there. Holiday fruitcake gets passed around with a smile, so why not gifts?

I recently received two copies of "The Catcher in the Rye." An amazing book, but I didn't need two copies. So I wrapped one and gave it to my best friend. I knew she'd enjoy it and it wasn't like that's all I gave her. I had previously purchased a sweater from The Limited as well. The book was just an add-on gift.

I don't see anything wrong with re-gifting as long as you are smart about it. Why not let that present fill out its destiny of being used? If you already have it, you more than likely won't use it.

My personal re-gifting experiences have been successful. The times I've gotten a gift twice, I've been able to save on time, money and the stress of a crowded mall. It also saves me from having to ask for the receipt, saving the gift-giver the knowledge of my intentions of taking it back.

I don't depend on re-gifting, but when the opportunity comes around I take it. Does that make me a bad person? I don't think so. I buy most of my gifts like everyone else and put a lot of thought into them. But sometimes you can re-wrap a gift and get the same effect. They don't need to know you were given it first because they've got it in the end.

Re-gifting has been around for a while. Ask anyone you know that's married if they have ever re-gifted any wedding presents. More than likely there were a few gifts they couldn't return, so they wrapped them up and put them on the gift table of their next friend's wedding. It happens more than you know.

I've actually been on the receiving end of a re-gift. It was a Guess purse that my grandma had bought my sister for her birthday two months prior to Christmas. My sister was going through her Emo stage and refused to have any brand name clothing or accessories so she kept the purse in the gift box and rewrapped it. I opened it on Christmas morning and was thrilled because it was a quality purse and it hadn't been used. I look at it as being better than receiving a second-hand gift. At least the gift I got was never used. Isn't it the thought that counts?

Fundraiser to honor musician Lou Rawls

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

LOS ANGELES—In a bittersweet coda to Lou Rawls' life and long dedication to the United Negro College Fund, the annual fundraiser he took part in last September was broadcast shortly after his death.

"An Evening of Stars," a syndicated telethon honoring Stevie Wonder, showed Rawls in typically smooth voice and engaging form as he performed twice and was heard narrating the stories of students helped by the UNCF.

The program aired nationally throughout the weekend. Rawls died of cancer Friday in Los Angeles, a loss the program acknowledged with an on-screen message.

"In memory of Lou and in celebration of his devotion to UNCF, please make a contribution to help deserving students earn a college degree," the message read, in part.

The telethon, which Rawls initiated nearly three decades ago, had raised more than \$15 million in pledges, according to an on-screen tally shown Saturday night during the Los Angeles area broadcast. It was to air Sunday in other cities.

The evening included an exhortation by Rawls, who didn't attend college, for the cause he held dear.

"Year after year, the UNCF keeps fighting the good fight and creating opportunities for deserving young students to become tomorrow's leaders. And that's what it's all about," said Rawls, who looked thin but dapper wearing a pinstriped suit and relaxed smile.

He and other performers, including Smokey Robinson, Toni Braxton and Fantasia, offered their versions of Wonder hits.

Rawls, in his singular velvet tones, first performed "You Are the Sunshine of My Life." In his second appearance on stage at the Kodak Theater, he turned to a song most closely identified with Frank Sinatra, with a special resonance.

"It Was a Very Good Year" was done in a swinging, big-band arrangement, with a nod to the evening's honoree.

"But now the days grow short. It is the autumn of the years," Rawls sang. "And now I think about life as vintage wine from fine old kegs. From the brim to the dregs, Stevie, it pours sweet and clear. Yes, it was a very good year. It was a very good year."

Sinatra once said that Rawls possessed the "silkiest chops in the singing game."

During his telethon appearance, Rawls perched briefly on a stool but otherwise stood and sang, giving

THE LIST

The Verge makes new year predictions

1. In an effort to boost ticket sales, the Chicago Cubs change their name to the Chicago White Sox. Confused fans decide to root for Toronto Blue Jays.
2. In an effort to solve the growing parking problem at Eastern, officials approve construction on monorail system.
3. MTV realizes it has betrayed the youth of the world and the spirit of rock 'n' roll. It apologizes, shapes up and starts playing music again.
4. Michael Jackson debuts his own brand of wine labeled Jesus Juice.
5. Eastern students shrug off apathy and rush polls for emergency election, Spuds McKenzie is elected new mayor.
6. Ex-FEMA Director Mike Brown finds the FEMA manual he was using as a coaster.
7. After being vacant for three years, the governor's mansion is finally turned into a homeless shelter.
8. TomKat gives birth to a bouncing baby boy named El Ron Hubbard 2.
9. In a shocking move to connect with students, Eastern administrators electrify fences around construction and dub them "extreme."
10. Just when the public thinks it can't take anymore... Hurricane Katrina gets its own reality TV show.

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Engineering your return to healthy living

Lilly and Grayce to grace Friends

By GREG WALKER | VERGE REPORTER

After years of playing in venues around Charleston, twin sisters Courtney and Kristen Bosco have finally put together their first album, “Through These Halls,” under the moniker Lilly and Grayce. To celebrate, Lilly and Grayce, (which was named after their grandmothers), will be playing an album release show at the Galaxie room inside Friends and Company this Friday.

According to Courtney, they have always had enough songs to record an album, but just had not done so yet. It was not until their mother challenged them that they got serious about recording.

“She said we never would (record an album),” Courtney recalled. That dare became the biggest inspiration for the duo to get the album done.

The two got their act together and became serious about achieving what their mother did not think would ever happen.

“Through These Halls” was put to track this past Thanksgiving Break and produced by Peter Landry. The band kept it all in the family over the 16 acoustic folk inspired tracks as they are accompanied by their older sister Melinda. Courtney feels that the songs they’ve selected for the album are they best ones that they have all written.

“The three of us share vocal duties throughout the album,” Courtney said. Along with vocals, all of the sisters play guitar on the album, with Melinda at the piano on some tracks.

Overall, most of the songs are “voice and guitar,” according to Courtney. With this album the group decided to go the acoustic route and tried to keep all of the sounds natural.

But that doesn’t mean that’s the way it will always be for Lilly and Grayce. Courtney said that Lilly and Grayce have big plans for their future album. They hope to have a bigger variety of instruments and sounds like bass, percussion, keys and maybe even a little effect or two.

Courtney is satisfied with the finished product, “It was a

goal, and it is nice to have it done and be able to get music to more people.”

If anything, Courtney likes the prospect of being able to one day show that she recorded an album.

The group also has plans to tour this Spring Break, and we’re not talking about the greater Illinois area. The band is in the process of booking shows in California, Colorado and Montana as they plan on traveling the country in a motor home.

“Through These Halls” will be available for purchase at the show. You can also contact Joshua at Friends & Co. for a copy of the album. Courtney is not sure how much they will be selling it for, but assures us that it probably won’t be much money.

The show starts around 7:30 p.m. with openers Victory Garden, Egon Unicat, Kwench, Swizzletree, Treaty of Paris, The Stirring and with Lilly and Grayce, (minus Melinda), hitting the stage sometime around midnight. The show costs \$3 and it is at the Galaxie Room at Friends & Co.

Spending time finding ways to spend time

By BRIAN GARTLAN | VERGE REPORTER

In the mist of a cold, cloudy Illinois winter, Eastern students are always searching for cheap and creative ways to pass the time until they can go outside to enjoy the warm, colorful spring season again.

Although each student’s mind thinks differently, all routes are designed to escape from the classroom, homework and the hardships of the daily grind.

Students like Scott Chaplinski, a junior communications major, imagine and create their own games.

He spells and says words backwards—for fun, and he has been doing it for six or seven years.

“When I’m driving I spell out street names and billboard signs,” Chaplinski said. “I even do short sentences that I hear on the radio.”

Everything is backwards.

He said friends will bet him and he will immediately recall it.

“I’ve never met anyone as good as me,” he said. “I’ve been told that I should be on Ripley’s Believe It or Not.”

Other students play traditional card games like Uno.

Two different groups of students stayed up late on Monday to skip, reverse, draw-two and change card numbers and colors at Thomas Dining Center’s Late-Night Pizza.

Avis Coleman and Ava Coleman, who are both undeclared freshmen, said they always find satisfaction playing games with each other and their friends.

The Coleman sisters and two of their friends played Uno for a couple hours at the dining center until it closed at 1 a.m. Tuesday.

“The originators of late-night games,” as they like to be called, remember playing Monopoly until 5 a.m. only a couple weeks ago. The “duo” brought dominoes to the dining center to enjoy their late-night snack, last semester.

There is a broad range of what students can do; most college students pass the time by sleeping and going to the recreation center.

Danny Young, a junior accounting major, invested money in “Madden 2006” and a new basketball that he brought from home.

“Playing basketball is the best and most inexpensive way for me to relax my mind,” he said. “It’s also good to get some exercise.”

Young said he plays “Madden 2006” almost every day and is striving for another perfect season in-game.

Nolan Pickett, a senior English major who lives off-campus, said he has a huge interest in making and listening to music.

“I love making beats,” he said. “It’s a good way for me to express my creativity.”

While some students play games and pass through life with fun, others find a peaceful state of mind by productively organizing their lives.

Erin Gudewicz, a junior sociology major, likes to wake up early on Saturday mornings to organize her closet and bulletin board in Stevenson Tower.

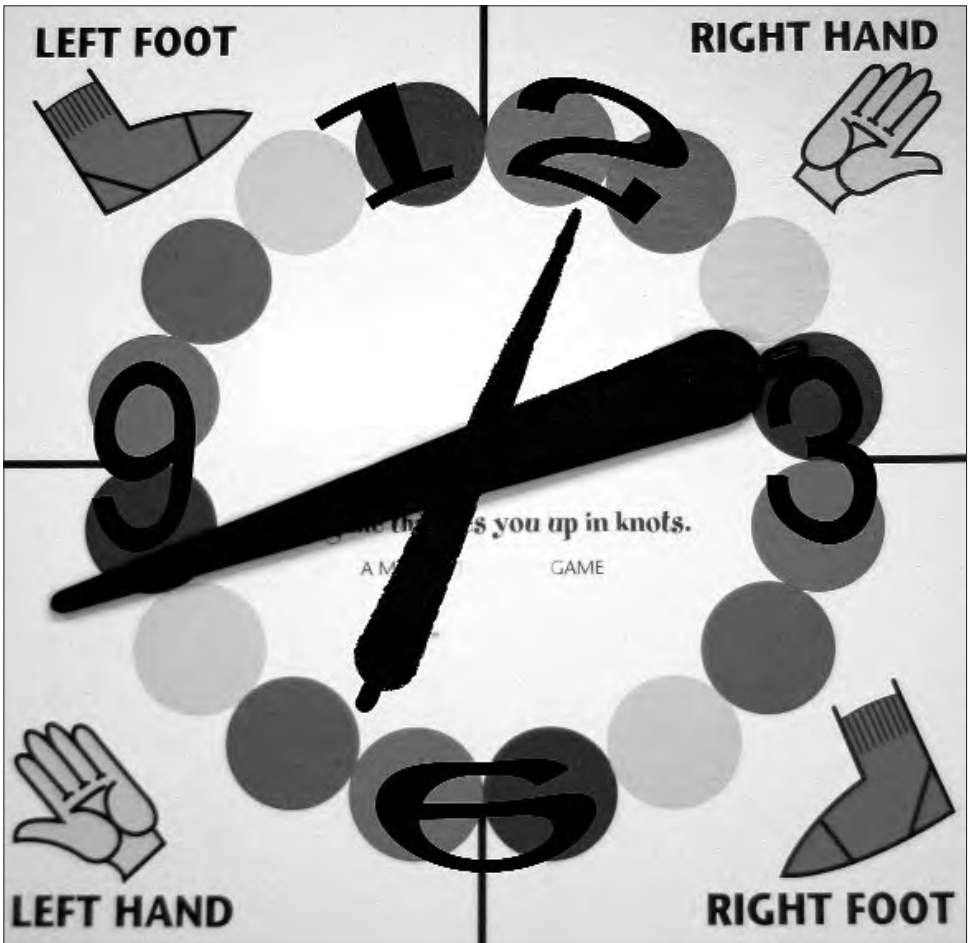



PHOTO ILLUSTRATION BY ERIC HILTNER/ON THE VERGE

“I like a change of scenery,” she said.

Gudewicz changes pictures of her friends whenever they are updated and clips up weekly news articles, especially ones about Notre Dame football and Brady Quinn, Notre Dame’s quarterback.

Pickett thinks a creative mind is the best escape from reality.

“We all lead busy lives,” Pickett said. “It’s good to slow down and remember the simple things in life.”



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How to lose a roommate in 10 days



**GUIDE TO
BETTER LIVING**
HOLLY MOHR
ASSOCIATE VERGE EDITOR

Coming back to school after a long, relaxing break can be a bummer; coming back to an unwanted roommate can be hell.

Maybe these unwanted roommates are annoying, mean or show no resemblance of human life. Maybe you just don't like them. Here are some tactics that might just shove that roommate out the door for good.

How to lose a roommate in 10 days or on the flip side, what not to do to keep your roommate:

✱: Greet them in drag. Heavy make-up and flamboyant clothing do not always go over to well with the roomy. Make sure you say good-bye with a kiss on the cheek or anywhere else you dare.

✱: Cry. Cry a lot, and often, for no reason at all.

✱: Blow your nose and throw the tissue under their bed. Who wants to sleep on a collection of your snot?

✱: Walk around in your underwear and then leave them out on display for days.

✱: Clip your toenails while you're watching TV together. If you have got skills, make a game out of it and see how high and far you can get them to fly. Bonus points if you hit the roommate.

✱: Eat their food. I do not know what is more annoying than a roommate who has just ate the last of something I bought. There are unwritten rules about these things. The person who bought it gets the last one.

✱: If that does not work, give away their food. Let all of your friends indulge in your roommate's stuff.

✱: Erase their music files. You can always download other classics to make up for them. Who needs Fall Out Boy on their computer when they can have Kenny G?

✱: Invite random couch sleepers. Maybe they are your friends or maybe they were drunk, tumbling down the road, and needed a place to pass out. Nothing says good morning like a stranger washing in your tub.

✱: Use their deodorant or any other hygiene products.

✱: Try to schedule your sleep schedule at the opposite time of theirs. For this to truly work, blasting music when you are awake is essential.

✱: Use baby talk in the most serious conversations.

✱: I knew a guy whose roommate never talked to him face to face but would e-mail him all the time.

The line was finally crossed when the roommate e-mailed him asking him to pleasure himself in front of him or at least do it and write about it in an email. I am sure this tactic would work 99.9 percent of the time.

✱: Watch your roommate sleep. Maybe eat a sandwich at the same time. They're bound to wake up and freak out.

✱: Urinate on the carpet. It will dry. Using these tactics, I guarantee you will lose that roommate in 10 days or less.

Jon Stewart to host Academy Awards

LOS ANGELES--Billy Crystal said he passed on the Oscar hosting job that went to Jon Stewart because his one-man stage show is consuming his attention.

Academy Awards producer Gil Cates repeatedly asked, "please do the show," calling as late as just before Christmas, Crystal said. But his Tony Award-winning "700 Sundays" was his first priority.

"I'm so tired at the end of '700 Sundays,'" Crystal told the Los Angeles Daily News. "I didn't want to go from that into a meeting where I'm saying, 'Give me 'Brokeback Mountain' jokes.' It seemed so not what I wanted to do."

"700 Sundays," currently playing in Los Angeles, concludes its limited engagement Feb. 18. It previously played in New York and Chicago.

Crystal has been a reliable performer for the Oscars. The ceremony turned last year to Chris Rock, who

drew younger viewers but managed to annoy some academy members with his jokes about stars including Jude Law and Tobey Maguire.

Rock is producing and narrating "Everybody Hates Chris," a UPN sitcom based on his life.

Stewart, host of Comedy Central's "The Daily Show with Jon Stewart," will be making his first appearance as Oscar host. He has twice hosted the Grammy Awards.

When Stewart was announced as host last week, Cates said he doesn't believe that Stewart _ whose show revels in pointed political humor _ will have any problems.

"Jon knows the difference of being irreverent without being impolite," Cates said. "This is not a political show. I think he understands that."

The 78th annual Academy Awards will air March 5 on ABC from Hollywood.

Kanye West, Alicia Keys earn Image Award nods

LOS ANGELES—Kanye West, Alicia Keys and Mariah Carey earned four nominations each for the NAACP Image Awards, including best song and album, while Terrence Howard had two acting nominations for the films "Hustle & Flow" and "Crash."

"Crash," an ensemble drama weaving multiple story lines over a tumultuous 36-hour stretch in Los Angeles, led movie contenders with six nominations, including best picture and four of the five supporting-actor slots, for Howard, Chris "Ludacris" Bridges, Don Cheadle and Larenz Tate.

Thandie Newton earned a supporting-actress nomination for "Crash."

Howard had a lead-actor nomination for "Hustle & Flow," in which he plays a pimp and drug peddler trying to start a rap-music career. The film also was nominated for best film.

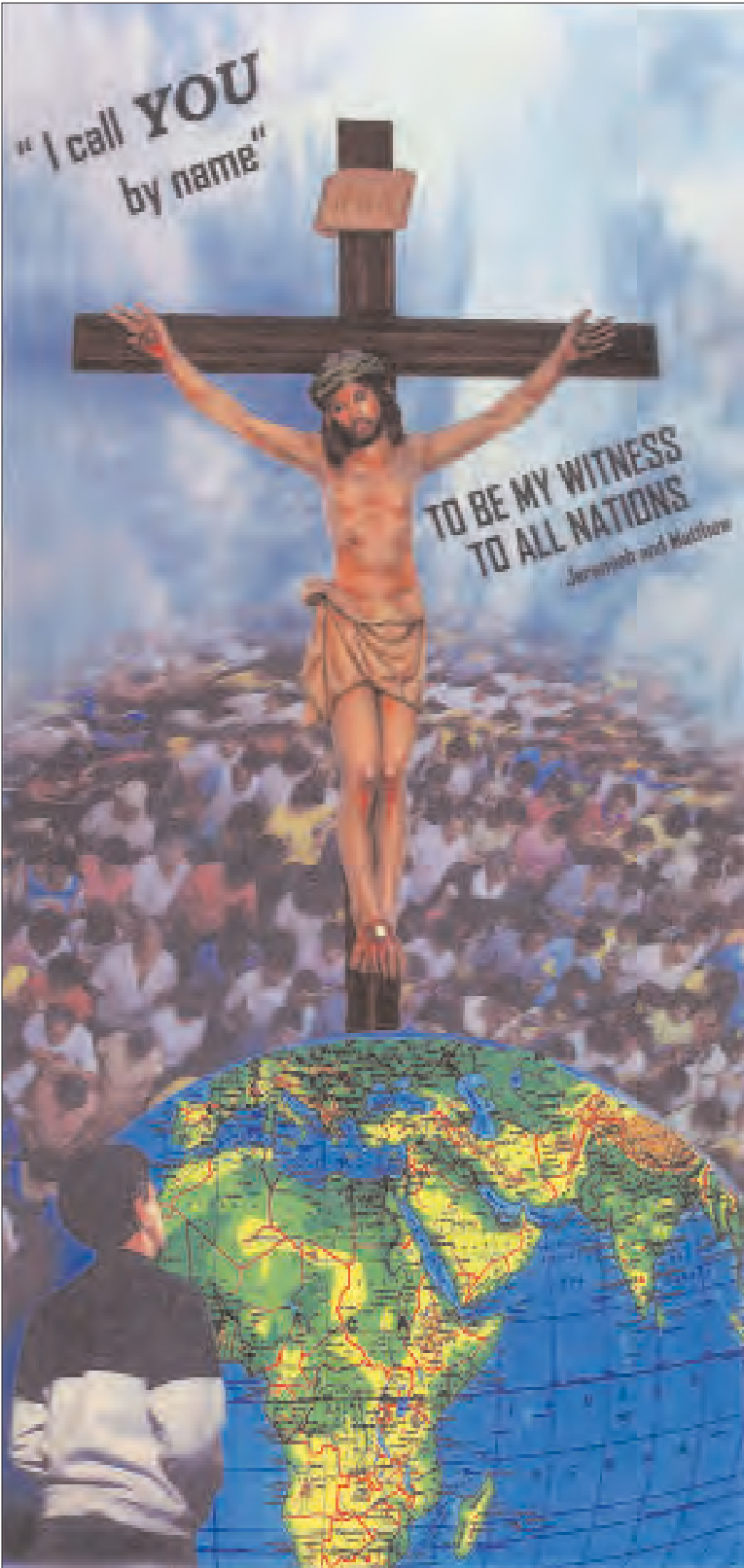
Other best-picture nominees were "Coach Carter," "Diary of a Mad Black Woman" and "Hitch."

Best-album nominees included Keys ("Alicia Keys Unplugged"), Carey ("The Emancipation of Mimi") and West ("Late Registration"). All three had best-song nominations, Keys for "Unbreakable," Carey for "We Belong Together" and West for "Diamonds From Sierra Leone."

Kimberly Elise had two nominations, for best movie actress ("Diary of a Mad Black Woman") and actress in TV drama ("Close to Home").

Other television nominees included Halle Berry for best actress in a movie, miniseries or dramatic special ("Their Eyes Were Watching God"), Dennis Haysbert for best actor in a drama series ("24"), and "The Bernie Mac Show" and "Everybody Hates Chris" for best comedy series.

The 37th annual Image Awards, for achievement by blacks in movies, television, music and literature, will be presented Feb. 25 in Los Angeles, with the ceremony airing on Fox on March 3.



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Gone Vertical

CLIMBING WALLS IS AN EVERYDAY OCCURRENCE IN CHAMPAIGN

Lewis Hutcheons, a climbing instructor and supervisor, makes his way up a Vertical Plains' rock climbing wall. Vertical Plains is part of Life Lines, a recreation center in Champaign.

By MICHAEL PETERSON | VERGE REPORTER

When people hear the words “mountain climbing” or “rock climbing,” they tend to think of movies such as Sylvester Stallone’s movie “Cliffhanger” or possibly even “Vertical Limit,” but in truth these movies are regarded by many in the climbing community as unrealistic. In fact, even though “Cliffhanger” grossed over \$250 million worldwide when it was released, it was also nominated for Worst Picture in the 1993 Golden Raspberry Awards.

Other than just a few sub-par movies, rock climbing remains very popular. Even the local rock climbing scene is doing well. For example, the Eastern Student Recreation Center has Tread Wall available for students. “(The Tread Wall) is more of a curiosity item for students,” said Ken Baker, the director of the Student Recreation Center.

“A pure climber is not as interested. It’s very repetitive.”

But according to Baker, there is talk of adding an actual rock-climbing facility to the Rec center. But before they can make serious plans they are sending out surveys to see if students want one and will actually use the rock wall if it is built.

“Before I spend any of the students’ money, I want to see if the students actually want it,” Baker said. “But if the students actually want it, then it is going to be first class.”

In addition to the Tread Wall, Eastern also provides an indoor rock climbing and bouldering class taught by professor John Pommier. The class meets once a week on Fridays and the students are charged an extra \$40 for equipment. The class goes to Upper Limits Rock Gym and Pro Shop in Bloomington to do the climbing.

Another local rock climbing facility can be found in Champaign at the Lifelines Center. The facility is called Vertical Plains and it is open to the general public. Terri Mason, the manager and program director of the center, said Vertical Plains is especially popular for University of Illinois students. For students, an annual pass is \$220 and a four-month pass is \$110.

But Mason said that other people use the climbing facilities as well. They even have had “Rock Climbing Birthday Parties.”

In addition to just normal rock climbing, there are different types of climbing, such as: mountaineering (climbing up mountains), ice climbing (climbing on frozen structures), bouldering (solo climbing on boulders), building (climbing on the outside of buildings) and tree climbing.

In addition to the different types of recreational climbing, there are two “methods of

ascent.” First, is aid climbing, in which the subject uses all means necessary to climb, such as climbing rope-ladders drilled in by bolts. Second, is free climbing, where subjects climb a structure only using their hands, feet and other body parts to reach their destination.

Shawn Ready, a freshman physical education major, has been rock climbing since he was 12 years old. He also is a certified belay and lead climber. Ready said that he got into climbing because it was something that his family has always done.

“(Rock climbing) really interests me,” Ready said. “It’s fun and it is also kind of dangerous.”

He said that another thing he loves about rock climbing is the uncertainty, as opposed to mainstream sports such as baseball and football. In rock climbing “anything can happen.”

Back on board

NEW TONY HAWK GAME LIVES UP TO SERIES' GLORY

By CHRIS ESSIG | SENIOR VERGE REPORTER

★★★★★
out of
★★★★★

When it comes to gaming longevity, few gaming series have reached the platform that the Tony Hawk series has. It consistently rates not only as one of the best sporting games but also best video games every year a new addition is released, period. 2005's "American Wasteland" is far from an exception.

This year's rendition on the now infamous skating series brings new and old fans alike together by providing for the user two game modes: story and classic. The story mode's premise is identical to that of the previous "Underground" series. One creates a skater, travels around the city impressing the locals with certain abilities and gaining skills and tricks until the entire city is convinced the skater is truly the next best thing.

Along the way, the game has plenty of oddball missions that don't merely limit players to skating. For example, one of the earliest ways to collect cash is by helping locals spray paint their symbol in every corner of the city. Later, the player has to ride a BMX bike to complete missions given out by BMX legend Rick Thorne. The only difference between "American Wasteland" and the "Underground" series is the game's particular ;locations of Hollywood and its surrounding



suburbs. For anyone who has seen the commercials for the "American Wasteland," it's obvious that one of the main features of the game that Activision is marketing is the absence of loading screens in the story mode. While one immediately thinks of one massive city just waiting to be torn up, such initial reactions are a tad off. Instead the city is broken up into areas, each connected by some sort of pathway. The easiest way to think of it is by comparing it to the "Grand Theft Auto" series, where the pathways are usually highways or dirt roads - only there are no loading screens between the worlds in "American Wasteland." One can see the obvious disadvantages; fortunately it works and the pathways aren't too strenuous and are easily navigated.

The game truly shines by bringing back the classic mode found in the first four Tony Hawk releases. Here, one picks a pro skater and an area and skates around finding secret tapes, the five letters in skate and combo lines - all while busting out big enough tricks to reach not only the high score but the high combo score. On top of that, Activision also brought back a variety of levels from the first four Tony Hawk games, giving "American Wasteland" a truly old school feel. Any fan of the original Tony Hawk series will drool over the advent.

While two modes of gameplay will provide hours of one player action, the real beauty is found in the game's two-player mode. Activision brought back all the classic game types, including horse firefight, slap! and trick attack. Now the worlds are bigger and have plenty of action to keep any two players busy for days.

One of the areas of the game the Tony Hawk series always manages to sparkle in is the soundtrack - and "American Wasteland" is no exception. Featuring diverse artists, among them being The Doors, Bad Religion and Public Enemy, "American Wasteland" provides the skater with the most raunchy and appropriate tunes for busting out insane tricks across Hollywood. It's no secret the only thing sweeter than pulling off a double kickflip varial indy to a backside bluntside is doing it while listening to Dead Kennedy's. "American Wasteland," just like all of its predecessors, makes this dream a reality.

One could go on for days listing off the game's ridiculous amount of features. The bottom line is that "American Wasteland" is a must-have for skating and gaming fans alike and is further proof that the Tony Hawk series only gets better with age.

Torture on the big screen

By DAVID THILL | VERGE EDITOR

★★★
out of
★★★★★

There are certain things in life that are best left unseen. Eli Roth's "Hostel" is perhaps one of those things.

It is not that the film is so awful it should remain hidden away from human eyes, it merely depicts a laundry list of torturous acts that one may wish simply not to see.

Would my life, as a whole be any better if I saw a young man's thigh be treated as the lumber to a sadistic Dutchman's power drill? Most likely not. Is one's life not complete until they see a blowtorch taken to a young girl's eye? Doubtful.

But, such has become the horror movie genre that films must constantly strive to out-gore and leap ever higher over the top of necessity just to best one another at the box office.

"Hostel," though, even by modern-day movie standards, is gross beyond all repair. Imagine, if you will, a film that makes "Saw" look more like a Disney movie than a scary one.

The film revolves around two American friends and an Icelandic man they meet backpacking across Europe in a never-ending quest to find the most beautiful women with the fewest inhibitions as possible.

They find what seems to be a Shangri-La of Eastern Europe in Slovakia, as unrealistic as it may seem.

The trio ends up checking into a hostel

(where else?) where women are more than eager to spend their time and energy on the fellows.

In fact, the first 45 minutes of the movie is basically nothing more than a mocumentary of young men, flagrant nudity and sex, drug use and racial and homosexual epithets. To be perfectly honest, when the first of the main characters meets his torturous fate, some people in the theater could be easily heard commenting on how much they enjoyed seeing the annoying character get his comeuppance.

As the characters begin to disappear, the main character Paxton (Jay Hernandez) starts playing a game of cat and mouse trying to find the people responsible for the disappearances and his friends.

The film's director, Eli Roth, does a commendable job weaving in horrific shots of bloody violence with ones that merely allude to the act rather than actually showing the goar. And Roth actually finds a way to take the viewer from hating the main characters to feeling sympathetic for Paxton by the end.

The plot is weak, the dialogue sounds as though an intolerant high school senior wrote it and there are more needless breast shots than "Showgirls." But, if one can ignore all these factors as well as believe a roving gang of 10-year-old Slovakian children could terrorize urbanized American semi-adults, one might find "Hostel" truly riveting.

But the fact of the matter is you get what you pay for and if you pay for an Oscar-caliber film, you will not find it here. However, if you are paying to be nauseated, pay on.

Life Unearth

By CHRIS ESSIG | SENIOR VERGE REPORTER

★★★
out of
★★★★★

When Unearth stormed onto the scene nearly six years ago, not many could predict the impact that would soon ensue. After releasing two EPs, an LP and relentlessly touring in their support, Unearth made quite a stir and gained a cult-like following in the process. Metal Blade records took notice and with the release of "The Oncoming Storm," Unearth was seemingly on the top of the world. Instead of playing in front of half-packed bars, Unearth was now performing in front of sold-out stadiums across America with the likes of Slipknot and appearing on the second stage of the 2004's Ozzfest tour. This year's first annual Sounds of the Underground tour saw the band at its pinnacle, one of the premier bands on one of the summer's most successful tours.

But before Unearth seemingly blew up, it had quite a stint with a couple of underground labels. Eulogy, the band's second official record label, who had certainly not forgotten where the band started, has released "Our Days of Eulogy" to commemorate the band's short but lustrious upbringing.

While no doubt a disappointment to fans' wishing for new material, "Our Days of Eulogy" instead invites newcomers to discover one of metal's most popu-

lar bands by showcasing some of the band's most important work.

The album begins with five live tracks, four of which are on the band's only other LP, "The Strings of Conscious." The other, "Internal War", was on the band's "Endless" EP. Don't think that having the live tracks at the beginning is any sort of accident; instead it is appropriate. The listener will immediately recognize the raw intensity, synonymous with the band's description, in its most perfect atmosphere: live and in Long Island. From the opening live track of "My Heart Bleeds No Longer" to the closer "One Step Away," listeners may feel like they're actually there but most certainly wish they were.

From there the album quickly finishes off the rest of the "Endless" EP, including the original studio version of "Internal War." Released a year after "The Strings of Conscious," the "Endless" EP follows in the footsteps its predecessors created by beating the listener inside-out with their emotionally driven anthems, not-too-repetitive hardcore riffs and the occasional appropriate breakdown.

Unearth, with its two releases on "Eulogy," proves the world that it is the connection between metal of yesteryears and today.

The album closes with the band's first release, "Above the Fall of Man" EP, originally released on Endless Records. While the sketchiest track on the album, it is an appropriate vantage point to gauge the band's development.

A new year, a clean slate

By LINDSEY DUNTON | VERGE REPORTER

As the saying goes, first impressions are everything, so as students begin a fresh semester and meet new classmates, spending a little extra time deciding what to wear in the morning could create a positive classroom and social experience.

When fall semester wound down, it was common to see students in grungy sweatpants and dirty sweatshirts with messy hair. In contrast, the first day of classes this semester brought out blue jeans, a nice shirt and a noticeable change in appearance.

“Upon meeting a new encounter you are evaluated within the first three seconds, even if it is just a glance,” according to Michelle Sterling, image consultant for www.globalimagegrp.com.

A trend among Eastern students seems to be that they put a little extra time deciding what to wear at the start of a new semester, but after awhile it becomes old news.

“People always put more effort in getting ready early on in the semester, but I didn’t really,” said Jennifer Auchincloss, sophomore journalism major. “I usually wear jeans and a sweatshirt to class all year.”

Denim jeans are always a safe fashion option upon starting a new semester. It is one of the few articles of clothing that will never go out of style, unless they resemble the ‘80s or are loaded with patterns and designs.

“Demin jeans are a basic item that you can put almost anything with,” said Chris Halsey, a manager at the Charleston Maurices. “They can be dressed up or down and can even be worn out.”

This season’s denim jeans seem to be classic-styled vintage wash with five pockets. Stores like Rampage and Guess are advertising these jeans with stitched holes and minimum embroidery on the back pockets or on the hip.

Athletic pants or tracksuits are another choice to begin the new semester.

“I love athletic pants,” Halsey said. “I think they are a wonderful option and completely appropriate to wear to class.”

“People always put more effort in getting ready early on in the semester, but I didn’t really. I usually wear jeans and a sweatshirt to class all year.”

JENNIFER AUCHINCLOSS, SOPHOMORE JOURNALISM MAJOR

Department stores like Neiman Marcus and Nordstrom sell the popular Juicy Couture tracksuits. Celebrities like Sarah Michelle Gellar and Cameron Diaz, according to InStyle magazine, have advertised these suits.

Appearance is not everything, but it can make or break some people’s opinions early on.

By avoiding crazy print pajama pants and oversized shirts at the beginning of the semester, students will be apt to communicate more, which can potentially lead to academic success and creating new friendships.

“Jeans and hoodies are what I typically wear to class,” said Tracie Vitale, junior elementary education major. “I have, though, put in more effort getting ready this semester because I got a new hair straightener and some new clothes for Christmas.”

STYLE SNAPSHOT

Hair be‘wear’

In the absence of humidity during winter months, hair styling should get easier, right? But, unfortunately, problems from the past season get replaced with the new dilemmas of this season. No matter the cut, the same exact style will look different in the two different seasons.

CONDITIONING

Air is dryer in winter. This is a fact, and thus requires deep moisturizing and patience.

In cold months, it’s important to overall, be more aware of your hair.

To protect hair from harsh, cold air and general roughness, stylists suggest hairstyles such as braids, cornrows and up-dos or covering hair with scarves and hoods.

However, be careful when applying and removing scarves, hats and coats. Fabric like wool can cause hair to snag and break off.

Wearing stocking caps or silk scarves over hair, then a hat can prevent breakage, but above all deep conditioning is key.

Excessive blow-drying heat stresses, tresses and promotes breakage. When styling hair, try to do a “messy” overall dry without making hair hot to the touch, then finish shaping and styling with a round brush.

Time inside with no humidifier will also dry hair out. One method to treat brittleness is by using hot oil treatments once a month.

Applying a clear gloss will also boost shine, but above all, purchasing a humidifier is an investment worth making.

Humidifiers, sold in a variety of sizes and prices, put moisture back into hair and prevent static.

As an alternative to purchasing a humidifier, set a pot of hot water on your stove or in front of heat

Quick Fix

◆ **Problem:** Dry, frizzy ends

◆ **Solution:** Schedule trims every four to six weeks, stock up in rich conditioners and try an ultra-moisturizing hair mask every week.

◆ **Problem:**

Static & Fly-aways

◆ **Solution:** Use a leave-in conditioner before styling to weigh down hair. Apply a small amount of shine hair serum to wet hair or mist a light dose of hair spray.

◆ **Problem:** Ht head

◆ **Solution:** Make sure hair is completely dry before wearing a hat. If hair is long, gather it into a loose pony tail before putting on a hat. Once inside, remove the ponytail and shake hair loose. For short hair, apply a small amount of pomade post-hat for a piecey look.

vents to let the water steam into the air. Add a few drops of an essential oil or potpourri to invigorate the experience, but it’s not necessary.

COLOR & SHADING

Hair coloring can do more than liven up dull hair, lightening up hair can make skin look brighter in these sun-neglected months.

However, although lightening hair can allude to a warmer skin tone, transforming hair to too-light shades can create a washed out appearance.

Very dark hair should not go too light and similarly, light hair

should not go too dark.

Hair should be a slightly darker shade in winter months since not as much sunlight is received.

Lowlights create a great natural look by blending g two different colors in the same family such as brown and reddish brown.

Rich dark colors are rumored as “in” this year with a few equally rich highlights peaking through from underneath.

CUT

In any month, a haircut should be determined by shape, type of hair, lifestyle and ability: determine whether the cut can be high maintenance or should be more low maintenance.

Style predictions suggest we will all be mad for mod in 2006. Mod is all about bold exploration: slicing and texturizing, asymmetrical cuts and products such as waxes.

This mostly means bobs and heavy side-swept bangs.

Luckily, today’s strategic layering, performed by most stylists, allows each look to be unique rather than generating another army of “Rachel” look-alikes.

Remember to pick a style that accentuates your facial structure.

If you are unsure of the shape of your face, perform this quick test:

On a mirror, use a lipstick (preferably last season’s has-been shade) and draw a heart, circle, oval and vertical rectangle the size of your face. Look through and see what’s you.

- *The Couture Co-ed*
Style Snapshot is written by an Eastern student based on personal opinion and accumulated research acquired through Internet research (and years of fashion magazine subscriptions).

Winfrey defends book club pick

By HILLEL ITALIE | ASSOCIATED PRESS

NEW YORK — Oprah Winfrey broke her silence about James Frey's disputed memoir of addiction, "A Million Little Pieces," dismissing allegations of falsehoods as "much ado about nothing" and urging readers who have been inspired by the book to "Keep holding on."

"What is relevant is that he was a drug addict ... and stepped out of that history to be the man he is today and to take that message to save other people and allow them to save themselves," Winfrey said Wednesday night in a surprise phone call to CNN's Larry King, who was interviewing Frey on his live television program.

Frey has been under intense scrutiny since The Smoking Gun, an investigative Web site, posted a story last Sunday alleging the author had substantially fabricated his criminal record and other aspects of his past.

Publishers, writers and readers have offered their opinions, but none mattered so much as Winfrey's. Her selection last fall of "A Million Little Pieces" for her book club made the memoir a million seller and Frey a hero among recovering addicts. She might have fatally ruined Frey's reputation by condemning him.

Frey, in his first interview since The Smoking Gun story came out, acknowledged he had embellished parts of the book but said that was common for memoirs and defended "the essential truth" of "A Million Little Pieces." "The book is about drug addiction and alcoholism," he said. "The emotional truth is there."

Frey received another endorse-

ment Wednesday night, from his mother, Lynne, who appeared with him during the latter part of the program.

"I believe in James," she said. "The book stands on its own."

Frey's book continues to top the best seller list on Amazon.com, as it has much of the time since Winfrey endorsed it. His publisher, Doubleday, said Wednesday that it had received a small number of calls to its customer service line about "A Million Little Pieces."

Frey's book was first published in 2003. He has been challenged before about passages describing such things as him receiving root canal surgery without anesthesia and boarding a commercial plane covered in blood and vomit.

But The Smoking Gun's story was by far the most thorough. Relying on extensive documentation, The Smoking Gun disputed everything from Frey's claim to having served three months in jail to being blamed for a car crash that killed two fellow students while he was in high school.

"Police reports, court records, interviews with law enforcement personnel, and other sources have put the lie to many key sections of Frey's book," according to the article that appeared on <http://www.thesmokinggun.com>.

Wednesday night, Frey said that only a small percentage of his 430-page book had been challenged and offered a defense similar to that of his publisher: Memoirs are by nature imperfect and subjective and should not be held to the standards as other nonfiction books.

"In the memoir genre, the writer usually takes liberties," he said.

Gifts: the good, the bad, & the ugly

By CHRIS ESSIG | SENIOR VERGE REPORTER

Each year 95 percent of the population wake up Christmas morning and find wrapped neatly under their Christmas tree, gifts of compact discs, movies, calendars, clothing, cologne or anything else they could have possibly asked for.

Given that we are typical people, we ask for typical gifts and with the advent of Christmas lists, we get what we want, or at least pretty close to what we want. Just ask around. Most of us did not get anything out of the ordinary. And that may not be such a bad thing.

"I got a Mary Kate and Ashley Olson framed poster," said Timmy Comp, a sophomore mathematic major. "It was a joke from my cousin and then I got a Peter Griffin in drag action figure."

Not a bad thing at all.

"My cheap ass friend gave me 100 count q-tips," said Pollard Glenn, a freshman Physical Education major.

Some of these gifts demeaned out of the ordinary may make sense but only to an extent. Take the case of Ben Thompson, a sophomore mathematics major. Thompson loves tennis. A lot. In fact, he has received the nickname "Tennis Ben" because of his devotion to the sport. So it is only natural that he would receive something pertaining to the sport for Christmas.

"I received a miniature Christmas tree, about waste high, with tennis balls as the sole ornaments on the entire tree," said Thompson.

He said it was from his grandma and she asked him if he was bringing it to college.

Thompson opted to leave the gift at home.

His relatives were not the only ones with college life on the mind when holiday shopping this year. Some merely considered the educational aspect.

"My parents got me a stapler and a scotch tape dispenser," said Elliot Knick, a freshman management major.

Some gifts draw upon past experiences but, unfortunately, are as much use to college students as a Christmas tree covered in tennis balls.

"I got a potato masher from my mother," said Trevor Moore, a junior industrial technology major. "Awhile back I was cooking and needed a potato masher but we didn't have one. I was enraged. I had to use a spoon and it didn't work out too well."

Needless to say, Moore, like Thompson, is not currently taking advantage of the perks of certain holiday gifts.

Some gifts, given the occasion, are not only out of the ordinary but also out of place.

"I got a Chanukah candle making kit," said Caitlin Richine, a freshman elementary education major. "I'm Catholic."

Then there are the random gifts that live up to the title.

"I asked for Tony Hawk's American Wasteland for the Xbox and got Madden 2006 instead," said Timothy McCormick, a freshman music education major. "And I got the War of the Worlds DVD for some reason."

That's not all.

"I also got one of those big red Easy but-



PHOTO ILLUSTRATION BY ERIC HILTNER/ON THE VERGE

tons from the Staples commercials," McCormick said. "You press it and some stupid ass voice goes 'that was easy.'"

It is just ironic that the most zany of gifts come from those closest to us and know us best.

ADDING UP TO ANOREXIA

A VARIETY OF DIFFERENT FACTORS PLAY INTO THE DEVELOPMENT AND GROWTH OF THE EATING DISORDER

By JESSICA KINSELLA | VERGE REPORTER

She told friends and family she could deal with it, but she could not. The disease began in February of her senior year of high school and has not improved.

For confidentiality reasons the student will be referred to as Sarah.

Sarah, a freshman early childhood education major, has had bulimia for about 10 months and weighs 130 pounds.

When her parents found out over the summer, she received counseling at a clinic in Naperville where they told her things such as, "You don't need to throw up" or "You are skinny enough."

Sarah also had the option of going through a treatment program twice a day for 14 weeks, but she chose not to.

A few weeks after attending the clinic, she came to Eastern, and returned to her old habits of vomiting after meals.

Her condition worsened after she and her boyfriend broke up. She became anorexic, not eating for up to three days at a time. Sometimes she would eat and throw up, other days she would refuse to eat at all. She thought about help, but kept blowing it off.

Students similar to Sarah with eating disorders rarely come to the counseling center themselves, said Shauna Summers, a counselor and coordinator of the eating disorders treatment team at Eastern.

More concerned parents or friends come in that recommend a possible patient, she said.

Summers treats approximately one patient with an eating disorder per week, she said.

So far this year, Summers has already had about four students, a few trying to adjust to the pressures of college life by vomiting to feel better. Others have already been vomiting since the age of 12; it just becomes more known when they get to college, she said.

Laura Shuette, a senior exercise science major, works in the ATP lab at Eastern where she tests students' blood pressure, measures height and weight, and compiles body com-

position of fat.

Shuette said she has never thought about throwing up her food because she knows there are other ways to lose weight.

She works out at least five days a week by running on the treadmill or elliptical and lifts weights every other day.

Shuette is content with her 155 pound, 5-foot-8 inch physique. However, she knows someone who is not.

For the sake of confidentiality this student will be referred to as Maggie.

Maggie was approximately Shuette's height and weight during freshman year, but has withered down to 105 pounds and has coarse hair this year.

Maggie still has not received help, but Shuette does not feel close enough to her to extend a helping hand.

Sarah's family and friends have tried to step in. They get frustrated when she says, "I have it under control" and "It's not a big deal."

Her parents feel helpless while Sarah is at Eastern, she said.

If given the opportunity to stop, Sarah would want to, but throwing up is the only thing that has ever given her effects she can see. Not only does she think she sees effects, but throwing up after a meal makes her feel more relaxed.

Sarah deals with stress by vomiting twice a day. Especially after arguments with her mom and boyfriend, or when she must complete a project or a test. Her first meal begins in late afternoon, which she will throw up immediately afterwards. It is something she knows will happen ahead of time, so she makes sure no one is around and that she quietly pukes in the bathroom.

College students have eating disorders because it is how they deal with stress or anxiety, Summers said.

Summers once had a student who threw up because she was so stressed out, and continued to do it thereafter because she liked how it made her feel.

Susan Woods, who has a doctorate in health studies at Eastern, said students have difficulty focusing on class-work and family/friend relationships eventually suffer damage as eating disorders and body preoccupation continue.

Julie Dietz, a health communication adviser at Eastern, and Justine Karduck, a registered dietician at University of Illinois, agree there is an increase in the number of college students who have eating disorders.

More are even starting at a younger age, said Karduck.

She receives three to four patients a week, 98 percent being girls.

Dietz said family values about appearance and perfection and the media can influence an eating disorder.

"Studies conclusively show that the media teaches us what is normal," Dietz said.

The more one is exposed to a certain image, the more you are going to believe it is true, Dietz said.

The National Eating Disorder Association describes the average woman as 5-foot-4, 140 pounds, and the average model is 5-foot-11, 117 pounds. This makes fashion models 98 percent thinner than the average American woman.

Sarah compares herself to these images. Her goal is to look like the stars and weigh 119 pounds, which she weighed her sophomore year in high school.

"An eating disorder can cause a lack of energy, disgust with one's self for not being able to curb the behavior or self-destructive fear management behavior's," said Dietz.

Sarah has only experienced an occasional sore throat and does not believe she has had any of the serious side effects.

"I am not doing anything that hurts me," said Sarah. "I can't see it getting to that point."

Not all hope is lost for those who have eating disorders. A good majority of sufferers recover, said Summers.

Summers said the students most likely to recover are in their late 20s or women in their early 30s.

She dealt with one student in particular last year during her internship at Appalachian State in North Carolina. The student she helped went from bingeing and purging five to six times a week to once every six weeks, she said.

It took her two years to get to that point but her patient wanted to stop so badly, she said.

Sarah continues to purge, unable to find a reason to stop.