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Eastern Illinois University

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The DAILY EASTERN NEWS

EASTERN ILLINOIS UNIVERSITY, CHARLESTON

FRIDAY | 8.29.08

VOL. 97 | ISSUE 5

CAMPUS | EVENTS

DOUDNA ART GROWS WILD

New graduate student program creates sculpture walk along Seventh Street

By **EMILY ZULZ**
Administration Editor

A small, clumsy-looking house sits on campus. The house is actually a sculpture made by Matthew Searle as part of Eastern’s new summer residency program for graduate students.

Searle’s work is just one of many sculptures on display at the Doudna Fine Arts Center.

About two years ago, the College of Fine Arts asked faculty and staff to write proposals for special events to go on during the dedication year of the Doudna.

Jeffrey Boshart, a professor in the art department, submitted a proposal that would establish Seventh Street as a sculpture walk that would extend from Doudna’s main entrance down to Tarble Arts Center.

“Initially, we wanted to bring in professional artists to really put in some high-end artwork, but we simply did not have enough resources for that,” he said.

Through the New and Emerging Artist Program, funded by Jan Tarble, it became a summer residency program for students who are early in their careers as sculptors.

The program involved 24-hour access to a professional sculpture studio for two weeks. The participants were also given \$1,000 for materials and supplies, and a furnished apartment to house the students free of charge for those two weeks.

» SEE **ART**, PAGE 5



ERIN MATHENY | THE DAILY EASTERN NEWS

“Balance,” a sculpture by graduate student Luke Achterberg, stands on the south side of the Doudna Fine Arts Center. Achterberg’s sculpture and other works from graduate students line the section of Seventh Street leading to Doudna.

LOCAL | BUSINESS

Budget cuts force Log Cabin site to close

11 other Illinois sites closed, 34 employees will also be laid off

By **STEPHEN DI BENEDETTO**
News Editor

The Blagojevich administration will close down the Lincoln Log Cabin and 11 other historic sites in Illinois, effective Oct. 1.

David Blanchette, spokesperson for the Illinois Historic Preservation Agency, said 34 employees within the historic sites division will be laid off as well.

The reason for the closures and layoffs is because Blagojevich is cutting the historic sites division’s budget in half from \$5.6 million to \$2.8 million.

“When you cut the budget in half, you aren’t really left with much choice than to cut half your sites,” Blanchette said.

Blagojevich cut \$1.4 billion from the fiscal year 2009 budget in mid-July.

» SEE **LINCOLN**, PAGE 2

CITY | ECONOMY

New salon, eatery open

Sarina’s Salon, Bliss BBQ Works join lineup of local businesses

By **KRISTINA PETERS**
Editor in Chief

After selling China 88, Sarina Sun decided to attend Lake Land College for cosmetology to open her own salon.

“I tried opening my own (salon) for a long time, but couldn’t find a place,” she said.

Sun finally found the right place – the old Jimmy John’s building located right behind Positively 4th Street Records.

Sarina’s Salon is just one of the new businesses that opened between last spring semester and this fall semester. Bliss BBQ Works is another.

Opening a salon is something Sun always wanted to do. She was a stylist at Smart Style in Wal-Mart for five years and also styled her own hair for years.

The building was leased to Sun around May, and she opened Sarina’s Salon last week after two months of preparing. Sun said she likes the location because many students walk past the area. The shop is the perfect size for a small salon, she added.

The black-and-white tiled floors of the old Jimmy John’s remains, but Sun incorporates the two colors throughout her store with white walls and black accents.

Since opening, Sun said she has had about five people come in and more on the weekends.

“It’s kind of slow right now,” she said.

Sun offers cuts, color, perms, highlights and waxing at the salon. Haircuts are \$12, and color perms and highlights start at \$39.95. She said she takes \$2 off for students on cuts.

A few of Sun’s customers have been students.



ERIN MATHENY | THE DAILY EASTERN NEWS

Bliss BBQ Works employee Caleb Humphres prepares a plate of food for Robert Davies, a freshman pre-pharmacy major, on Thursday afternoon. Humphres said patrons have responded well to the restaurant changing from a coffee shop. “Everyone that comes in says it’s a good change,” Humphres said.

Sun, who has the color pink at the bottom of her hair, offers non-natural colors as well.

» SEE **BUSINESS**, PAGE 5

NATION | ELECTION 2008

Obama promises to cut taxes, oil use

McCain picks running mate, will announce his choice today

The Associated Press

DENVER — Before an enormous crowd, Barack Obama promised a clean break from the “broken politics in Washington and the failed presidency of George W. Bush” Thursday night as he embarked on the final lap of his audacious bid to become the nation’s first black president.

“Now is not the time for small plans,” the 47-year-old Illinois senator told an estimated 84,000 people packed into Invesco Field, a huge football stadium in the shadow of the Rocky Mountains.

He vowed to cut taxes for nearly all working-class families, end the war in Iraq and break America’s dependence on Mideast oil within a decade.

Obama called Sen. John McCain, his Republican rival, a good man who “just doesn’t get it” – a backer of economic policies that favor the rich and a senator who “stands alone in his stubborn refusal to end a misguided war.”

“John McCain has voted with George Bush 90 percent of the time,” he said, attempting to preempt his rival’s claim that he is a maverick who breaks with the administration on key issues.

Obama’s formal acceptance speech was delivered in a dramatic setting, the filled stadium, the camera flashes in the night, the made-for-television backdrop that suggested the White House, and the thousands of convention delegates seated around the podium in an enormous semicircle.




Obama and his running mate, Sen. Joseph Biden of Delaware, leave their convention city on Friday for Pennsylvania, first stop on an eight-week sprint to Election Day.

Polls indicate a close race between Obama and McCain, the Arizona senator who stands between him and a place in history.

McCain countered with a bold move of his own, hoping to steal some of the political spotlight by spreading word that he had settled on a vice presidential running mate.

Minnesota Gov. Tim Pawlenty canceled all scheduled appearances for the next two days, stoking speculation that he was the one.

EIU WEATHER

FRIDAY  83° 58° Mostly Sunny N 5-10	SATURDAY  81° 58°
	SUNDAY  83° 61°

WEATHER BRIEF

Expect mostly sunny skies today and the rest of your holiday weekend. Daytime temperatures will rise into the mid to upper 80s by Labor Day. No precipitation is expected until next Thursday.

For current conditions visit EIU WeatherCenter at www.eiu.edu/~weather

ENTERTAINMENT | A DAILY LOOK

Lohan lashes out at father on her blog

The Associated Press

LONDON — Lindsay Lohan had words for her father on her blog.

The 22-year-old actress lashed out at father Michael by calling him a “public embarrassment” and a “bully” in a MySpace blog entry posted Thursday. Earlier in the week, Michael said in an interview with E! that Lohan gal pal Samantha Ronson was “using” his daughter.

Lohan’s publicist, Leslie Sloane-

Zelnik, confirmed the post by Lohan was legitimate.

“If you have something to say to me, say it to my face – that’s what I have believed my whole life – don’t be a coward and say it to others first, let alone all the media in the world,” Lohan wrote.

The father and daughter have publicly quarreled for years. Lohan said in the dash-happy blog post that she tried to make things work in hopes “of having a father again” and “wanting things to change” despite what her mother and siblings

have gone through with him.

Lohan continued: “Having said that – the people were right, and he is yet to change – but this time, without his daughter by his side – he has become a public embarrassment and a bully – to my family, my co-workers, my friends and a girl that means the world to me (it’s obvious who that is).”

The “Mean Girls” star went on to say that she believes her father is addicted to fame, and if he really cared about her, he would respect her wishes.

Blanchette said.

The cuts are coupled with layoffs to more than 450 state employees, including cuts to the Department of Children and Family Services and the Department of Human Services.

Stephen Di Benedetto can be reached at 581-7942 or at sdbenedetto@eiu.edu.

» Lincoln

FROM PAGE 1

He said the cuts were needed because the General Assembly passed a budget that did not have enough revenue to pay for everything, as reported

by *The Times-Courier*.

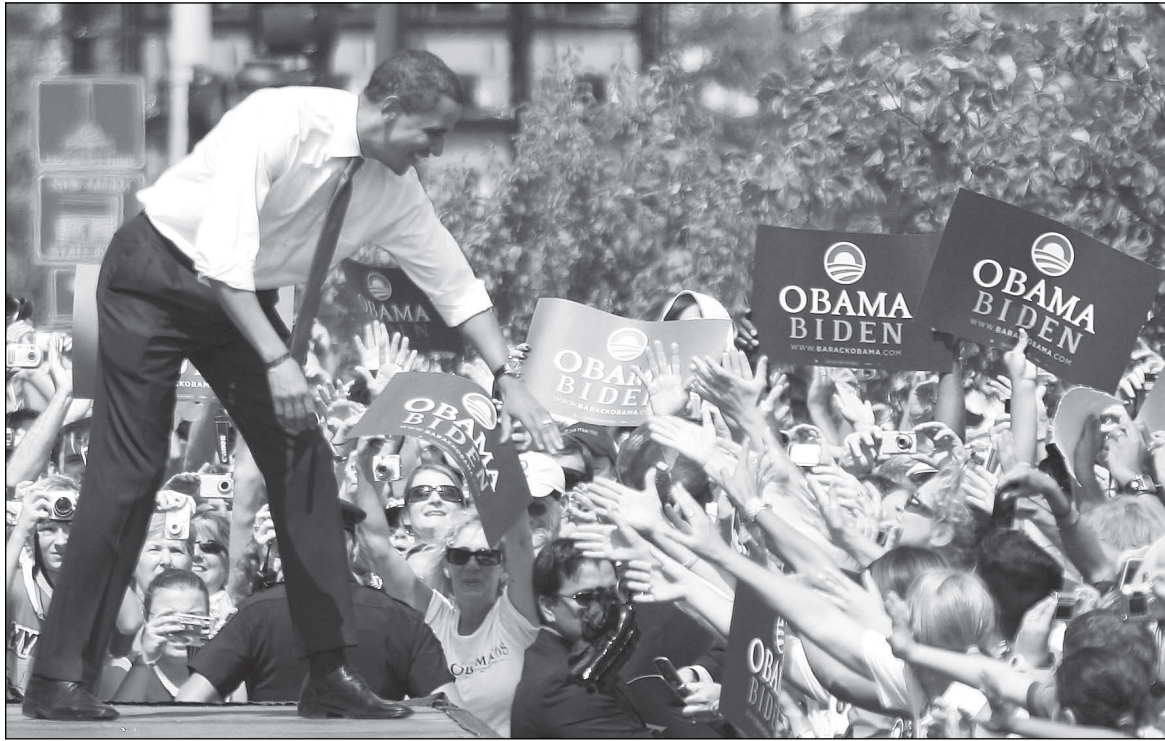
Blanchette said lack of attendance was the reason why the Lincoln Log Cabin and the 11 other sites were selected to close.

The historic sites division manages a total of 24 sites.

The Lincoln Log Cabin will open periodically for special events,

MORE ONLINE

Dennews.com Slideshow



ROBBIE WROBLEWSKI | THE DAILY EASTERN NEWS

Democratic candidate Barack Obama shakes hands with supporters outside of the Old State Capital in Springfield. See dennews.com for a slideshow of Obama at Springfield.

WHAT THE... | WEIRD, UNEXPECTED, BIZARRE NEWS

Help-wanted ad for nanny: ‘My kids are a pain’

The Associated Press

NEW YORK — It was an unusually honest ad for a live-in nanny, a 1,000-word tome beginning, “My kids are a pain.” But it worked, attracting a brave soul who’s never been a nanny before.

“If you cannot multitask, or communicate without being passive aggressive, don’t even bother replying,” Rebecca Land Soodak, a mother of four on Manhattan’s Up-

per East Side, wrote Aug. 19 in her advertisement on Craigslist.

“I can be a tad difficult to work for. I’m loud, pushy and while I used to think we paid well, I am no longer sure.”

This being the age of instant communications, the ad took on a life of its own, making the rounds of parenting blogs and e-mail inboxes and inspiring an article in Thursday’s New York Times.

Soodak, a 40-year-old painter

whose husband owns a wine store, eventually hired Christina Wynn, a 25-year-old University of Virginia graduate, to take care of Rubin, 12; Ellis, 9; and Shay and Cassie, both 6.

“I made a commitment to stay in the job for at least a year,” Wynn told the Times. “I met the oldest child, but not the others, which my mother said was crazy — to accept the job without meeting all the kids. So we’ll see.”

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ADVERTISING STAFF

Advertising manager Kevin Good
..... DENads@eiu.edu
Promotions manager Ashley Allen
..... DENads@eiu.edu
National advertising Mandy Stephens
..... DENads@eiu.edu
Ad design manager Ashley Owens
..... DENads@eiu.edu

FACULTY ADVISERS

Editorial adviser Lola McElwee
..... lamcelwee@eiu.edu
Photo adviser Brian Poulter
..... bpoulter@eiu.edu
Publisher John Ryan
..... jmryan@eiu.edu
Business manager Betsy Jewell
..... cejewell@eiu.edu
Press supervisor Tom Roberts

ABOUT THE DAILY EASTERN NEWS

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Contact any of the above staff members you believe your information is relevant to at their provided e-mail address. You may also call 581-7942 or visit the student publications newsroom at 1811 Buzzard Hall.

CORRECTIONS

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DENEic@gmail.com
DENnewsdesk@gmail.com
581-7942 (phone), 581-2923 (fax)

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Friday

Band: Fuse

\$2.00 Coors Light bottles

\$2.50 Jim Beam mixers

Saturday

\$2.00 PBR bottles

\$2,50 Captain Morgan mixers

Friends & Co

Deal

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and get a

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581-2816

CAMPUS I ACTIVITIES

Brinker reveals plans for UB

Movies, comedy shows, lectures, concerts, events and more

By JESSICA LEGGIN
Activities Editor

Ceci Brinker thinks University Board will have an overall good year.

“I think there is more in store with the events University Board has planned,” said Brinker, director of student life.

Different activities planned include movies, comedy shows, lectures, concerts and events for Homecoming.

University Board is a program that tries to find the top entertainment to bring to campus.

“I think UB has some really good programs in the book,” Brinker said.

This semester comedian Bill Engvall will come to campus to entertain students, parents and faculty during Family Weekend.

Bill Engvall is a member of the Blue Collar Comedy group and also has a sitcom on TBS called the “Bill Engvall Show.”

University Board will also host a showing of Sex and the City along with other movies.

“We really have some good movies this year,” Brinker said.

To give input and feedback on campus activities, students can go to UB’s Web site and e-mail members of the group.

Brinker said there would be a recruitment night announced later for students who are interesting in becoming a UB member.

“This will give students an opportunity to get involved,” she said

Brinker said there are some positions open, both volunteered and paid.

Brinker said this semester UB will try to incorporate more student input to who and what they want to have on campus.

At the same time, Brinker said students have to be realistic.

“Beyonce (Knowles) ain’t coming to Charleston,” she said.

“Realistically, I would like Beyonce to come here, but it’s not going to happen.”

Brinker said students need to be educated on what it takes to bring a concert to Eastern.

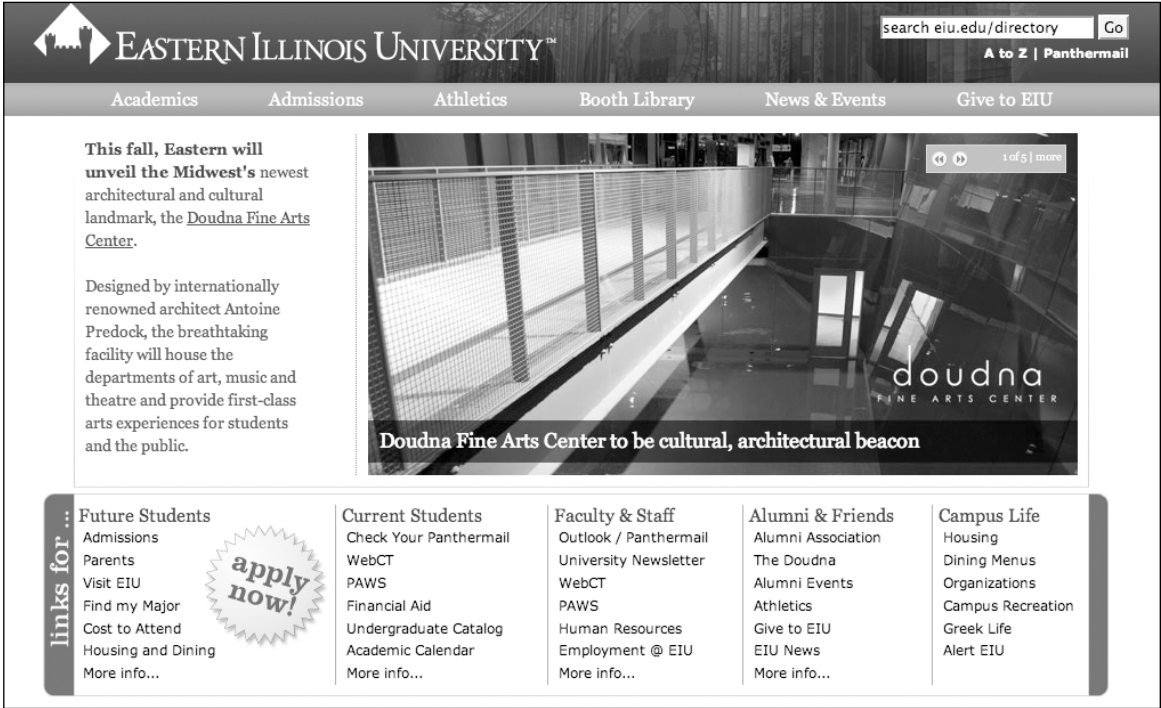
“You have to think, is it affordable, available and does it fit in our venue,” she said.

Jessica Leggin can be reached at 581-7942 or at jmleggin@eiu.edu.

UNIVERSITY BOARD

- For more information, UB’s website is eiu.edu/~uboard/
- For more information on the Bill Engvall Show, go to tbs.com/video/index/#/107983

CAMPUS I INTERNET



COURTESY OF WWW.EIU.EDU

Web site more effective

Statistics used to see what links were important on pages

By KRISTINA PETERS
Editor in Chief

Ryan Gibson said Eastern’s new Web site is getting people to information quicker.

Gibson, Eastern’s webmaster, redesigned the Web site with the help of Christine Kilgore, graphic designer in the University Marketing and Communications office.

Together, they worked to create a more up-to date Web site along with other individuals from UMAC, the Center for Academic Technology Support and Information Technology Services that would be more accessible and functional.

Gibson, who built the site, said not only is it getting people to information faster, but also the site is being used more.

He said hits to the current student page have quadrupled.

“Hopefully, the redesign had something to do with that,” Gibson said.

To make the site more functional, Gibson looked at statistics to see what links people were using the most and put those links on the redesigned main page.

“We cut the number of links on the homepage in half,” Gibson said.

Another new feature is the revamped search tool. Before, there were two separate search boxes – one for the campus director and another for Google.

Gibson said the two were

“We haven’t gotten negative feedback.”

- Ryan Gibson, webmaster

combined because people were using the directory search when they should have been using the Google search and vice versa.

The calendar was also revamped.

“Functionality wise we think it’s a lot better,” Gibson said.

Gibson said the old Web site was around for about three or four years.

“We wanted to update the look, make it more modern and reflect EIU,” Gibson said.

Kilgore took the reins in redesigning the look since she is the person who does much of the web work for UMAC.

“Basically, what I started out doing was mock up a page in Photoshop,” Kilgore said.

When creating the mock up, Kilgore said the web team wanted to streamline the main page.

To get ideas for the Web site’s new look, Kilgore said she visited edustyle.net, which is a web design gallery for college and university Web sites.

“I looked on there a lot to see what other people are doing,” Kilgore said.

From edustyle.net, Kilgore said she was able to see general trends and what works and doesn’t work.

“We wanted to keep the background neutral, but still Eastern,” she said.

A majority of the new home page has the same white background, but the header at the top is different,

and can be different every time someone visits the site.

In the blue box where Eastern Illinois University is displayed, a picture can be seen in the background. Sometimes the picture may be of Old Main or the gates that can be seen off of Lincoln Avenue.

“They are subtle,” Kilgore said of the images in the header.

The bottom of Eastern’s homepage is less subtle with the new EIU Photo of the Week feature and the new calendar system.

Photographs for the Photo of the Week come from Eastern’s Flickr group where people can post pictures they have taken of and around Eastern.

“There’s no one better to show EIU,” Gibson said.

Gibson said the group has been around for a year and that it has taken off within this week.

There are 371 pictures currently posted on the Flickr group.

Gibson said the look of the site went through 10 different stages, each time changing it after getting feedback from prospective students, current students, faculty and staff as well as alumni.

The new Web site has prompted a lot of response and mostly positive.

“On the general, we haven’t got any negative feedback or that they hate the site,” Gibson said. “Our site is a hundred times better.”

Gibson said usability tests would also be conducted every summer, which is something that wasn’t done in the past.

“We will continue to make updates,” he said.

Kristina Peters can be reached at 581-7942 or at kmeters2@eiu.edu.

CITY I ENFORCEMENT

Charleston Police issue 141 alcohol citations

By MATT HOPF
Associate News Editor

Charleston Police gave out 141 alcohol-related citations during the first weekend students were back in town. Most of the tickets issued were for public possession of alcohol and underage drinking.

Deputy Chief Bryan Baker said

the number was higher than usual, but he wasn’t sure if it was higher than previous years.

Only one extra officer was patrolling the city between 10 p.m. and 2 a.m. during Thursday, Friday and Saturday nights, Baker said.

The additional officer will remain on duty for future weekends as long as it is necessary, Baker added.

He said most of the citations were issued in areas where there is frequent pedestrian traffic.

Drinking citations increase when students come back to school and the population of Charleston almost doubles, Baker said.

Matt Hopf can be reached at 581-7942 or at mthopf@eiu.edu.

CAMPUS BRIEFS

No classes Monday for Labor Day

Monday is Labor Day. There are no classes for the federal holiday. Classes will resume Tuesday.

Observatory hosting open house tonight

The Eastern observatory, located between O’Brien Stadium and the intramural softball fields, is hosting an open house at 8:30 tonight.

Visitors will have the opportunity to view Jupiter as well as tour the facility and hear about local plans from six guest speakers to celebrate 2009, the International Year of Astronomy.

Parking is available in the lot north of Wesley United Methodist Church.

For more information call the physics department at 581-3220.

Auditions for EIU Dancers this September

The EIU Dancers will hold auditions at 7 p.m., Sept. 9 in the McAfee Gym Dance Studio.

Anyone interested in auditioning should pick up an application next week from McAfee Gym, Room 1110 and return it before the audition.

Auditions will consist of warm-ups, basic loco-motor movements across the floor, and two short choreographed combinations, one ballet and the other jazz.

Men and women are encouraged to participate.

Dancers will need to bring dance shoes or they can dance barefoot.

For more information contact Jeanna McFarland, director of the EIU Dancers at 581-7591.

- Compiled by Staff Reporter Nick Draper and Associate News Editor Matt Hopf

BLOTTER

A laptop computer and case were stolen Aug. 21 from a 2001 GMC while it was parked in a lot east of the Doudna Fine Arts Center, the University Police Department reported.

Michael Schumacker, 18, of Wilmington, was charged with possession of a controlled substance after a 5:13 p.m. arrest Saturday in Carman Hall, the University Police Department said.

Drew Hawkins, 18, and Ryan Batts, 19, both of Tuscola, were charged with possession of less than 30 grams of cannabis after an 11:43 p.m. arrest Monday in Taylor Hall, the University Police Department said.

COMMENTS, CORRECTIONS, OR EVENTS

To report any errors, local events or general suggestions for future editions please contact our Editor in Chief, **Kristina Peters**, via: **Phone | 581-7936, E-mail | DENeic@gmail.com Office visit | 1811 Buzzard Hall**

The DAILY
EASTERN NEWS

“Tell the truth and don’t be afraid.”

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Other views on news

GIULIANI FILES GOLF LAWSUIT

Duke – Fore! That’s the number of unsettled cases filed against Duke University in recent months.

This time the plaintiff is senior Andrew Giuliani, the son of former New York mayor Rudy Giuliani, which is generating media attention.

Last month Giuliani filed suit against the university, complaining that he was unfairly dismissed from the men’s golf team last school year.

The complaint hinges on an alleged “contract” between the university and Giulini. Apparently, over the course of four years, Giuliani would pay \$200,000 in tuition and fees, and in return the university would provide education, housing, a spot on the golf team and lifetime access to the golf program’s training facilities.

Giuliani’s counsel, Bob Ekstrand, Law ‘93, argues that by cutting Giuliani from the men’s golf team and terminating access to the facilities, head coach O.D. Vincent-and, by connection, the University-violated this contract.

The central argument of the case-the contract between Duke and Giuliani-is undeveloped and unclear. It receives only a brief mention and a cursory explanation in the beginning of the complaint, yet it dominates the body of the claim. This shaky concept of a contract is further belied by the fact that no formal, written contract was signed by either party in this case. Vincent was clearly acting within his jurisdiction when he decided to reduce the number of players on the roster from 13 to six. Since Giuliani had never been one of the best six golfers on the team, it is reasonable that Vincent did not offer him a spot on the 2008-09 men’s golf roster.

It is odd that the university is now refusing Giuliani lifetime access to its golf training facilities. In the interest of reconciliation, this would not be an undue burden on the University.

The Chronicle

EDITORIAL POLICY

The editorial is the majority opinion of the DEN editorial board. Reach the opinions editor at:
DENopinions@gmail.com

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Letters to the editor can be submitted at any time on any topic to the Opinions Editor to be published in *The Daily Eastern News*.

The DEN’s policy is to run all letters that are not libelous or potentially harmful. They must be less than 250 words.

Letters to the editor can be brought in with identification to *The DEN* at 1811 Buzzard Hall. Letters may also be submitted electronically from the author’s EIU e-mail address to DENopinions@gmail.com.

Drawn from the News | Dylan Polk



STAFF EDITORIAL

Fee increase could solve
Doudna’s BSW shortage

Money is hard to come by, for everyone. Anyone and everyone are asking the state of Illinois for funding, but our legislators are too irresponsible to properly budget.

For higher education, the students are the ones facing the burden of that irresponsibility as tuition and fees continue to climb exponentially.

The latest budget situation at Eastern relates to the Doudna Fine Arts Center. Don’t worry, it’s built and open to the public, but maintaining it is another story.

Here enters yet another fee increase – or so we suggest. A lack of building service workers has created a problem that only the students can resolve. Consenting to a fee increase is not a popular decision; however, new real estate deserves to be clean real estate.

Eastern hired four new BSWs this year to help maintain the campus with the addition of Doudna, but the overall total still does not equal the amount of BSWs Eastern had before Gov. Rod Blagojevich cut state appropriations for fiscal year 2003.

“The increase we had serves a purpose in Doudna, but we are still understaffed from the level we were prior to the budget cuts,” said Jeff Cooley, vice president for business affairs.

With the four new BSWs, Eastern has 52 total full-time BSWs maintaining the campus, but there’s more to clean in the renovated Doudna.

Tuition cannot be raised to fulfill these needs because tuition freezes for returning students and placing this weight on incoming students is not fair.

An adjustment to the Campus Improvement Fee would therefore be universal to all students who would utilize the new building. As of now, the building has BSWs on loan.

John Sigler, associate director of support services, said four BSWs were relocated from elsewhere on campus to join the four newly hired personnel in Doudna. However, the building designers suggested 10 or 12 BSWs.

The task of making a five person team maintain Doudna during the day, and a three person team work during the night will be an immense obstacle with the countless feet of additional glass windows and mirrors.

“We have to make it work, and we’re going to make it work because the alternative is unacceptable,” Sigler said.

The type of cleaning is also a new task that accompanies the supplementary square footage included onto the remaining building. The building looks great cosmetically, and there are no complaints to that extent.

In fact, making the building look breathtaking was the point to the decision to renovate the building made seven years ago.

While President Bill Perry worked at Texas A&M when the schematics were being designed, he has since publicly emphasized Doudna’s importance to this campus and its future.

“The way it was built was for people to walk through here on their way to other places on

OUR VIEW

• **Situation:** The Doudna Fine Arts Center has opened after seven years, but more building service workers are needed to maintain it.

• **Stance:** The building is too important and large to go without needed personnel. A student fee increase could provide the solution.

campus,” Sigler said. “It was designed to get students in the building and with that amount of students, it will take longer to clean.”

Aside from permitting our students new travel routes, Perry said the building would also put Eastern in a good position to attract big name theatrical productions, musical performers and community activities.

The rewards will be marvelous, and maybe Bon Jovi would want to visit Eastern and be willing to charge less for a performance – hint, hint, University Board!

If Doudna is going to be the university’s crown jewel, then we need to treat it as one. But doing so is difficult with an overextended staff, yet relief is not on the way.

“The next projects on the horizon are textbook rental, a new steam plant and a new science building,” Sigler said. “I do not anticipate any new BSWs in the immediate future and it’s highly unlikely in the distant future. I just can’t see the budget for Eastern going up enough.”

The textbook rental building will be completely funded through a \$1 fee increase to the Textbook Rental Fee, and therefore will not have the state-caused delays to its production as Doudna did.

He said the best approach to the situation is to constantly keep an eye out for new equipment on the market that would make cleaning easier, and to be aware of any new efficiencies to the maintenance procedures.

A few float positions have also been assigned in case work piles up. Sigler said if the use of floating personnel becomes common, then they will be permanently reassigned to Doudna.

Not hiring new personnel does have its benefits. Fewer employees equal less insurance expenses and more overtime for the current staffers.

“We probably use overtime more than anyone on campus,” Sigler said. “For instance, we can’t set up graduation without overtime (pay). In that regard, it is cheaper to pay someone overtime than to bring in another person.”

Overtime is only good in moderation, though. Having prolonged workdays on a regular basis can take a toll on individuals and their families.

The use of faculty is thankfully not being used. Sigler said faculty is not being asked to keep watch any more than usually for litter in classrooms or in the halls.

The BSWs are therefore being pressured to pick up the pieces of a budgeting mess that leads back to Springfield. If students are going to enjoy the benefits of this masterful complex, then we should pay a few extra bucks for that luxury.



RICK KAMBIC

Ask for what
you want,
don’t whine

Anonymity. That word was referenced in my Tuesday column just once. I even said I didn’t care to embark on the discussions involving anonymous postings on dennews.com, yet that topic dominated the reader feedback.

The point of that column was to get people moving beyond the common whining that I tend to hear every day. I’m not encouraging people to leave their name on a comment to a controversial story.

The right to be anonymous is not the issue at hand. I’m urging students, and even faculty, to take initiative on the everyday misfortunes or irritabilities.

Unless you’re a member of *The Daily Eastern News* or a close friend of a staff member, I see no harm in providing your name when giving us feedback. It doesn’t matter what your name is or if you disagree with us because we serve everyone in the public, regardless of names.

But even if that is uncomfortable, feel free to stop in our newsroom located in room 1811 of Buzzard Hall and tell us your concerns in person so we can ask follow-up questions to make sure we understand you.

Many online comments are poorly written or often irrational statements. We cannot meet your needs if you’re not being mature. Phone calls are also welcomed and names are not needed either.

The DEN wants to know what you think. Our coverage can only get better when we know what information on campus you find most important.

Likewise, the Housing and Dining department would prefer to know about issues pertaining to the residence halls. Yeah, a smelly bathroom is gross, but if no one tells the administrators then it might be a while before they find out.

And trust me, they would want to know if a toilet is broken, they aren’t conspiring against any students by making you smell unpleasant odors. A simple phone call would do the job and a name usually isn’t needed to report maintenance.

Housing and Dining is here to serve you because you are a paying customer of the college, and *The DEN* is here to meet your information needs.

Every student pays approximately \$4.50 per year for more than 170 issues of *The DEN*, an issue of *The Warbler* yearbook, numerous issues of *Minority Today* and two issues of Eastern’s literary magazine, *The Vehicle*.

You’re paying for a service, and we want to learn how to improve our journalistic responsibilities.

One of the many life-long lessons that people tend to learn while in college is independence. It’s time to take responsibility for your feelings and speak out. Media organizations try to provide the readerships with information needed for their daily lives.

Please, give *The DEN* an idea of what information is significant to you. Your name is not necessary, so long as we have your eyes every day.

Rick Kambic is a senior journalism major. He can be reached at 581-7942 or at DENopinions@gmail.com.

» Art

FROM PAGE 1

Applicants had to submit photos of a model along with a budget. After receiving 12 applicants, four people were chosen.

A protective shelter

Searle recently finished his master's degree in arts at Eastern. He got his undergraduate degree at the University of Notre Dame, where he studied photography and printmaking.

His sculpture is titled "Spector," and is made out of cedar, salvaged wood and corrugated steel.

For about two weeks, Searle drove around Charleston scavenging the area for wood. He put an ad in the newspaper asking for wood from old barns and sheds. Searle built the structure out of new wood, cedar, and covered the outside with the salvaged material from a shed Searle tore down and from a barn that had been hit by a tornado.

"The form of the sculpture is meant to be an amalgam of many different forms," Searle said.

The piece represents the forms of everything from a tree house and bird-house to a hunting blind and watch-tower. "It's meant to kind of resemble the architecture in the area," he said.

The sculpture can also bring different reactions from passersby. Searle said in some ways the house-like structure is enticing in that it's a small house one can climb up into.

The piece, however, can also receive an opposite reaction.

"It can also be an intimidating fortification or watch tower," Searle said.

When Searle built the sculpture he knew it would be on campus.

"It's meant to stick out on campus in that it has a cobbled-together

appearance," he said.

The sculpture looks "as if someone had gathered those materials and built this shelter to be protected from being seen," Searle said. The piece also could represent escape for privacy or from force or weather. "It looks like someone has made a definite attempt to protect themselves," Searle said.

Searle was interested in seeing what happens when he made a form and the function wasn't clear.

Last year, as part of a graduate project at Eastern, he made the white tent-like pieces out in the quads. Searle took ideas from this project for his sculpture, such as what happens when a piece is exposed to different sets of conditions, including the public audience and weather.

A grass-filled cornucopia

Carey Netherton started his art training at Eastern, and he wanted to end it poetically by finishing it here through the summer residency program.

Netherton has been involved in the arts since he was a young child. He attended Eastern for six years from 1992 to 1998. As an undergraduate, Netherton was inspired by the professors, with whom he still has close ties.

He taught at Johnson Atelier Technical Institute of Sculpture for about four years in Mercerville, N.J., before being accepted into the sculpture graduate program at Southern Illinois-Carbondale, which he just completed. Netherton was reading "The World Without Us" by Helen Weisman and was inspired by the book and how it described what happens in the world when all the people are gone.

His piece is titled "Fallow." The structure is a cornucopia, which addresses the notion of plenteousness and the fertility of the surroundings, he said. Inside the sculpture grows

prairie grass that is indigenous to the region. The piece is made with steel and concrete, main components of city structure, which contradicts the organic material growing within.

The concrete and steel essentially becomes a planter for the grass, but Netherton sees it more as a sculpture.

"A lot of it becomes about experimentation," he said.

The piece also represents change in that next year the sculpture will not look the same. The plants, at first foreign to the sculpture, will become an integral part of the piece. Once rooted properly, the plants will grow and thrive. The steel and concrete will weather.

Netherton said he hopes the sculpture will encourage people to look at life in different ways. "I'm guilty as anyone in overlooking the simple things," he said. But as an artist, he added, he tries to pull those things out into his work for people to notice.

One single plane

Lucas Greco is a third year master's of fine arts candidate at SIUC with a concentration in sculpture.

He studied engineering for two years at Baylor University in Waco, Texas, before changing majors and getting a bachelor's degree in studio art. Greco's previous experience includes building an outdoor piece for the Fine Arts building at Baylor, and working full time at a metal fabrication shop. From this Greco learned how to work on his own and also learned invaluable technical skills.

The summer residency program provided Greco with another opportunity to create another large outdoor sculpture as well as develop his professional career as a sculptor.

He looked at Doudna's architecture as inspiration before he began constructing. He said he wanted to

create a construction system that would in effect make its own form.

"The complex angles gave the form a dynamic feel, and I wanted to exaggerate that notion by adding the sweeping lines which penetrate into the air," he said.

Greco's previous work has also been kinetic and mechanical in nature.

The main body of the piece was designed from one single plane folded upon itself, using steel sheets and tubing, and then painted with automotive acrylic enamel.

Before completion the piece was titled "Folded Form with Protuberance," but Greco now calls it "Origami Comet."

A metaphorical balance

Luke Achterberg wanted to bring his art to a new audience that may not have the opportunity to see something like it.

"I'm excited about the things I create and want to share them with a wider audience and beautify the campus at EIU," Achterberg said. "I really wanted to challenge myself to execute a drastically difficult masterpiece within a very limited time period."

Achterberg did a piece in three weeks that should have taken six. He said he worked 19 straight days, where the shortest day was 10 hours and the longest day was 32 hours.

Achterberg is a third-year graduate student in the Master of Fine Art Program at the University of Kentucky in Lexington, Ky. He received his bachelor's degree in sculpture and ceramics, and psychology from the University of Wisconsin-La Crosse. He also received a Welding Technical Diploma from Western Technical College in 2005.

Achterberg's sculpture is titled "Balance," and he said it is metaphorical.

"The balance in the piece by the cantilever action between the upper and lower fabricated, welded and painted steel elements speaks to the balance that the college student, in particular, and everyone needs to find in their own life to be successful," Achterberg said. Cantilevers are beams supported on only one end.

The concept of the sculpture connects two events – how a person is when they enter college and how that person is upon graduation. The lower, less complicated area of the sculpture represents the student at the beginning and the more complex upper area represents the student at graduation. "I hope to inspire people to think with this piece, drive them towards excellence and balance in their life," he said.

A commitment to sculpture

The students had to have at least 30 hours toward their graduate degree or just completed the degree.

"These are people who have a commitment to being in sculpture," Boshart said. "These are people who have shown that this is the direction they want to pursue as a profession, but they're getting their academic credentials."

The program is a two-year cycle. Every year, there will be new four pieces. Next summer, four new pieces will appear and the following summer, these four original pieces will disappear and go back to the artist who retains ownership.

Boshart said he hopes the program grows and is embraced by campus. "I would like to see this be something that Eastern is known for," he said.

Emily Zulz can be reached at 581-7942 or at eazulz@eiu.edu.

» Business

FROM PAGE 1

"A lot of high school girls like all the crazy colors," Sun said.

Sarina's Salon is opened from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Monday through Friday and 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday. Sun said she would do special appointments on Sunday.

Another new business is Bliss BBQ Works, formerly known as Jitters and Bliss, which was predominantly a coffee and ice cream shop. Keith Bliss owned Jitters and Bliss, but decided to change the direction

of his business.

"I was the only one doing coffee in Charleston and now there's four others," Bliss said.

Bliss decided to sell barbecue since he has been catering it for about four years, and he said it is the fastest-growing food segment in the restaurant business.

"There's a lot to know about barbecue," Bliss said. "I think we got it down pretty good." He said it's about timing and control.

Bliss opened Bliss BBQ Works on May 3 during finals week, and said business has been good.

At the barbecue shop, Bliss sells

regional barbecue, Texas brisket, Carolina pulled pork, rib tips, turkey and chicken. But Bliss said it is mostly barbecue.

"It's genuine, slow-smoked barbecue," Bliss said. "We smoke everything on site."

Bliss said the restaurant's signature item is the Pulled Pork Parfait, and added a lot of it was sold during the Celebration: A Festival of the Arts.

Also on the menu are desserts and sides. Some of the desserts are pineapple upside-down cake and a cobbler of the day and some of the sides are cornbread, and macaroni and cheese.

"Everything is homemade," Bliss said. "It's all about quality and flavor." Bliss makes his own sauces as well. He serves four: an original and mild, sweet and tangy, Alabama white sauce and Carolina vinegar sauce.

When walking into Bliss BBQ Works, it's hard to tell Jitters and Bliss was once there. The only feature remaining is a few tables and chairs. The walls were redone in blue and red, and the counter, where an order is placed, is done in corrugated steel.

"We changed everything," Bliss said, emphasizing that he wanted to give it an industrial look.

Brick was added to one wall as well and in the brick "Bliss" is spelled out. From the brick hangs a roll of paper that has the day's specials on it. On Tuesdays and Thursdays Bliss is offering a dollar menu. Every day will have a happy hour from 3 to 5 p.m. where customers can get \$1 off any meal.

"There's always a special," Bliss said.

Bliss BBQ Works is open 11 a.m. to 9 p.m. Monday through Saturday and 11 a.m. to 7 p.m. on Sundays.

Kristina Peters can be reached at 581-7942 or at kmpeters2@eiu.edu.

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A look back at the first week



ERIN MATHENY | THE DAILY EASTERN NEWS

Student Body President Levi Bulgar emcees at the First Night event on Sunday in the South Quad.



ERIN MATHENY | THE DAILY EASTERN NEWS

Jess Montgomery, a junior health studies and psychology major, helps new students move into Lawson Hall during Move-In Day on Aug. 21.



ERIN MATHENY | THE DAILY EASTERN NEWS

Ryan Kerch, vice president for Student Affairs, prepares bags of popcorn for students during a showing of "Harold and Kumar Escape from Guantanamo Bay" in the Charleston Room in the Martin Luther King Jr. University Union as part of the Up All Nite event on Friday.



ERIN MATHENY | THE DAILY EASTERN NEWS

Comedian Chad Daniels performs in the 7th Street Underground during the Up All Nite event on Friday.



ERIN MATHENY | THE DAILY EASTERN NEWS

Student helpers known as "Panther Pals" separate moving carts for students during Move-In Day on Aug. 21.

STATE BRIEFS

The Associated Press

Rabid bats found in McHenry County

WOODSTOCK — Health officials say 16 rabid bats have been found this year in McHenry County.

The Illinois Department of Public Health says 69 rabid bats have been found statewide. Spokeswoman Kelly Jakubek says that’s on pace with last year, when 117 were found across Illinois.

Last year 13 rabid bats were found in McHenry.

She says there’s been no human cases of rabies in Illinois since 1954, but the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention have cautioned that a shortage of human rabies vaccine nationwide is a public health concern.

Second suspect charged in caustic liquid attack

CHICAGO — Authorities in Chicago have charged a second suspect in a robbery that left a Chicago woman with third-degree burns from a caustic liquid.

Police officials say they’ve charged a 15-year-old female in Cicero as a juvenile with one count of armed robbery and one count of heinous battery.

Police say 48-year-old Esperanza Medina was outside her home in Chicago’s Logan Square neighborhood on July 28 when offenders threw the caustic liquid in her face.

WORLD I RUSSIA

Putin: US created Georgia conflict

Russian leader says American poultry will be banned

The Associated Press

MOSCOW — Russian Prime Minister Vladimir Putin accused the United States on Thursday of pushing Georgia toward war and said he suspects a connection to the U.S. presidential campaign — a contention the White House dismissed as “patently false.”

In another sign of unraveling Russia-U.S. ties, Putin said that 19 U.S. poultry producers will be barred from exporting their products to Russia.

Putin, the former president and architect of an assertive foreign policy that stoked East-West tension even before Russia’s war with the U.S.-allied ex-Soviet republic, suggested in an interview with CNN that there was an American presence amid the combat with a potential domestic U.S. political motive.

“We have serious grounds to think that there were U.S. citizens right in the combat zone,” he said the interview broadcast on state-run Russian television. “And if that’s so, if that is confirmed, it’s very bad. It’s very dangerous.”

Putin’s acid attack on the United States came as Moscow’s bid to redraw Georgia’s borders hit an obstacle among its Asian allies. France, meanwhile, said the European Union is considering sanctions against Russia for its conduct in the

Caucasus.

The Russian leader said the poultry decision was unrelated to the Georgia issue. He said that the unnamed American producers ignored demands that they correct alleged deficiencies after examinations by Russian inspectors last year.

“We try and keep our industry out of politics and into marketing opportunities, but sometimes it’s very difficult to separate the two,” said Jim Sumner, president of the U.S.A. Poultry & Egg Export Council. He said Russia is a major market for American producers.

Putin said that Russia had hoped the U.S. would to restrain Georgia, which Moscow accuses of starting the war by attacking South Ossetia on Aug. 7. Instead, he suggested the U.S. encouraged the nation’s leadership to try to rein in the separatist region by force.

“The American side in fact armed and trained the Georgian army,” Putin said. “Why hold years of difficult talks and seek complex compromise solutions in interethnic conflicts? It’s easier to arm one side and push it into the murder of the other side, and it’s over.”

“It seems like an easy solution. In reality it turns out that it’s not always so,” he said.

The United States has close ties with the Georgian government and has trained Georgian units, including for service in Iraq.

But Russian officials have made statements aimed to convey the idea that Americans may have directly supported Georgia’s offensive.

At a briefing Tuesday, the deputy chief of Russian military general staff, Col. Gen. Anatoly Nogovitsyn, showed off a color copy of what he said was a U.S. passport found in a basement in a village in South Ossetia among items that belonged to Georgian forces.

“We found a passport for Michael Lee White,” Nogovitsyn said. “He’s a Texan.”

The U.S. Embassy in Georgia said it had no information on the matter.

Putin appeared to link claims of an American presence amid the combat with a potential domestic U.S. political motive.

“If my guesses are confirmed, then that raises the suspicion that somebody in the United States purposefully created this conflict with the aim of aggravating the situation and creating an advantage... for one of the candidates in the battle for the post of U.S. president.” Putin did not name a party or candidate.

White House press secretary Dana Perino called Putin’s contentions “patently false.” She said “it also sounds like his defense officials who said they believe this to be true are giving him really bad advice.”

She added: “To suggest that the United States orchestrated this on behalf of a political candidate just sounds not rational.”

Perino said Russia is facing the consequences of a diminished global reputation and that “there will be other” consequences as well.

She refused to say what they would be and said there is no timetable.

NATION BRIEFS

The Associated Press

Jury acquits former Marine of killing Iraqis

RIVERSIDE, Calif. — A former Marine accused of killing unarmed Iraqi detainees was acquitted of voluntary manslaughter Thursday in a first-of-its-kind federal trial.

The jury took six hours to find Jose Luis Nazario Jr. not guilty of charges that he killed or caused others to kill four unarmed detainees on Nov. 9, 2004, in Fallujah, Iraq.

The verdict left the 28-year-old defendant in tears. His mother, family and friends cried so loud the judge smacked his gavel in a call for order.

“It’s been a long, hard year for my family,” Nazario said outside the courtroom. “I need a moment to catch my breath and try to get my life back together.”

Half of Katrina victims 75 and up, report says

CHICAGO — As New Orleans residents warily track another threatening storm, a new report presents the clearest picture yet of deaths from Katrina in Louisiana. Of the nearly 1,000 who died, almost half were 75 or older, according to researchers.

The high death toll in the elderly was likely due to those factors along with older people being more vulnerable and frail and unable to fight the catastrophic storm, the report said. Drowning was the leading cause of death.

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8/29

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The Eastern Student Parents Association will host its ESPA week Aug. 25-29, with these events: AUG 25th - Parent to Parent Meeting, Andrews Hall Basement, 5-6 p.m.; AUG 26th: Dinner at Pizza Hut, 5 p.m. Kids 10 and under eat free; AUG. 27th: Ice Cream Social

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» Football

FROM PAGE 9

Reeder and McGrath connected six times for 66 yards and the score, but Central Michigan's offense proved to be too tough to stop in the Chippewas' 31-12 victory.

Eastern head coach Bob Spoo said the Panthers would go to McGrath even more as the season progresses.

"He's deceptively fast, has great hands (and) runs good routes," Spoo said.

Reeder said he was excited about the way McGrath played and McGrath's abilities would be something Eastern could use to its advantage.

"He's a vertical threat from the tight end position which is very irregular," Reeder said. "It's something you don't get a lot of times."

Despite a solid passing game from Reeder (201 yards on 19-of-28 passing), Eastern was unable to get its running game going.

The Panthers combined for just 83 yards on 31 carries.

Spoo said the Chippewas played tough run defense, so the Panthers had to resort to their passing game.

The Chippewas' running game, however, was fine. And so was their passing game.

Central Michigan red-shirt junior quarterback Dan LeFevour lived up to his reputation as a threat both through the air and on the ground by throwing for 217 yards and three touchdowns and rushing for an additional 42 yards on 11 carries.

Central Michigan struck first with an eight play, 78-yard drive that was capped off by a 17-yard field goal by junior kicker Andrew Aguila to give the Chippewas' a 3-0 lead 12 minutes into the game.

Eastern tied the game at 3-3 after a 29-yard field goal by red-shirt senior Tyler Wilke on a clock-eating drive that took 6 minutes, 45 seconds.

The Panthers' lone scoring drive in the first half was highlighted by a 20-yard reverse around right end by freshman wide receiver Shawn Williams.

But the Chippewas pulled away in the second quarter behind LeFevour's arm and senior running back Ontario Sneed's legs.

Sneed scored on a 23-yard touchdown run down the right side of the field to give the Chippewas' a 10-3 lead with 11:58 remaining in the second quarter.

Sneed looked to be stopped at the 10-yard line but spun around

OVC SCORES

- Cincinnati 40, Eastern Kentucky 7
- Southeast Missouri 35, South West Baptist 28 (OT)
- Georgia Tech 41, Jacksonville State 14
- North Dakota State 41, Austin Peay
- Tennessee Tech 28, Gardner-Webb 12
- Murray State 41, Lambuth 17

“Obviously it’s tough to defend no matter what defense you’re going to run, but those types of plays you just have to rally to them and make tackles.”

– Pierre Walters, Eastern defensive end

a would-be Eastern tackler to free himself for the score.

"Plays like that, coach just tells us to rally to them," said Eastern red-shirt senior defensive end Pierre Walters. "Minimize the yardage. Obviously, it's tough to defend no matter what defense you're going to run, but those types of plays you just have to rally to them and make tackles."

Central Michigan red-shirt junior wide receiver Jean Pitts made a diving grab of a LeFevour pass in the middle end zone to increase the Chippewas' lead to 17-3 with 2:03 remaining in the first half.

The Panthers had forced a Central Michigan turnover on downs just moments before Pitts' 18-yard touchdown grab, but Reeder was sacked by Central Michigan red-shirt junior defensive end Frank Zombo and fumbled the ball.

The Chippewas recovered the fumble.

One play and 18 seconds later, Pitts scored.

LeFevour threw for two more touchdowns in the second half to seal the Chippewas' win.

Scott Richey can be reached at 581-7944 or at srrichey@eiu.edu.

» Cusack

FROM PAGE 9

Each season begins with the hope of hoisting the conference championship trophy above their heads, going undefeated and knowing you will be spending time with friends playing the game they love as the leaves fall from the trees.

The hard work the athletes put in during the sweltering heat of summer, the bone chilling temperatures of the winter and the chilly breezes

of the spring are rewarded with improvement in their respective sport.

Injured players from a season ago return and some of your favorites graduate or retire, but new faces emerge that you know will be able to entertain for years to come.

For the fan, fall is all about hope. No team enters the season in last place. When a new year begins, regardless of the teams record the year before, every team has a shot.

Fall is a time to erase the sour taste that still lingers in from last

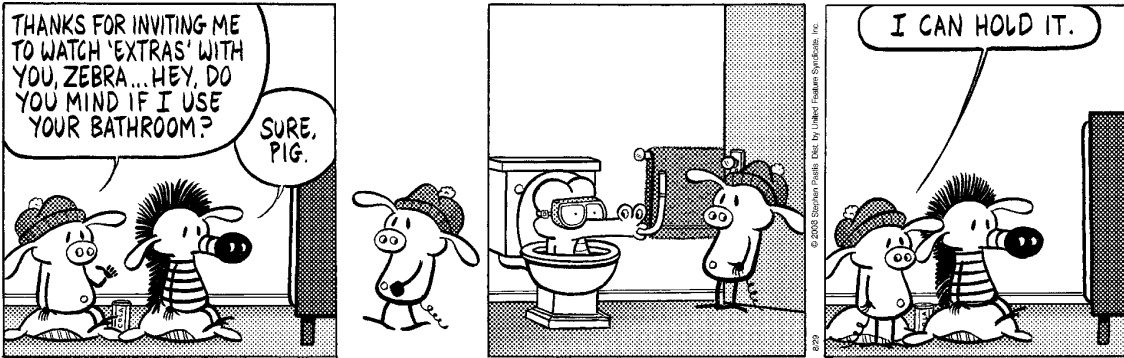
season's loss to a rival or a crushing defeat in a national title game.

For the fan, it is a time to sit around with friends and root for the team you talk about daily, even during the months they are not competing.

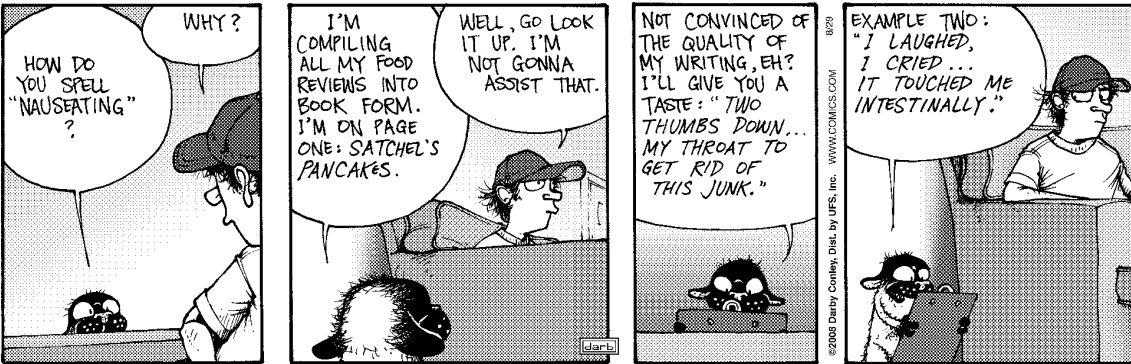
Fall creates heroes on the gridiron, pitch or hard-court and memories that will live on a million times longer than the fleeting seconds in which they occurred.

Dan Cusack can be reached at 581-7944 or at dscusack@eiu.edu.

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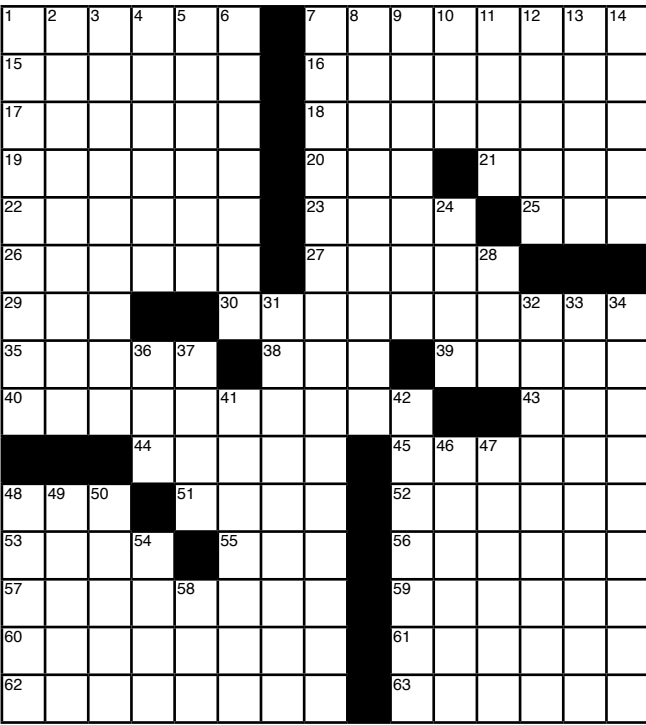


The New York Times Crossword

Edited by Will Shortz

No. 0725

- ACROSS
- 1 Spell
 - 7 Crams
 - 15 Continue the journey
 - 16 In Dutch
 - 17 Least hospitable
 - 18 How some are offended
 - 19 Cobbler, at times
 - 20 Practice
 - 21 ____-majesté
 - 22 Turkey's dewlap
 - 23 Tribulations
 - 25 Baseball's Belinsky and Jackson
 - 26 Prickly area of a prickly pear
 - 27 Sue Grafton's "N"
 - 29 "Should ____ shouldn't ..."
 - 30 Visitors
 - 35 Cousin of a woodcock
 - 38 Britton who wrote "The President's Daughter," 1927
 - 39 Fifth-century pope, the first to receive the title "the Great"
 - 40 Ones with read faces?
 - 43 Mac
 - 44 Got by
 - 45 Rebelled
- DOWN
- 1 Goal of middle management?
 - 2 Quaker Oats product
 - 3 Acting
 - 4 Must
 - 5 TV announcer who played himself in "Bananas"
 - 6 Some specials
 - 48 "Calvin and Hobbes" bully
 - 51 Part of the N.C.A.A.'s purview: Abbr.
 - 52 Look daggers
 - 53 Start of a "Name That Tune" bid
 - 55 Text te-hee
 - 56 "Your children are not your children" poet
 - 57 Bank of America Stadium team
 - 59 Attire
 - 60 Inclusive words, fittingly?
 - 61 They may be lined up at the bar
 - 62 Weed
 - 63 Herbs of the mint family



PUZZLE BY JOHN FARMER

ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE



» Soccer

FROM PAGE 9

Junior defender Chris Pearson said the team was not ready for the game against Indianapolis, but the team improved in the intrasquad game.

"After the game against Indianapolis we realized what we have to do," Pearson said. "Especially the younger guys showed in the intrasquad match the kind of effort we need."

Senior forward and All-Missouri Valley Conference forward Brad Peters said this Valpo team is physical and athletic.

"We have played them in previous years, but every year is a new team," Peters said.

Peters said the tone of the season depends how the team starts, so the Panthers must come away with a win against the Crusaders.

This season the Panthers must start strong as the non-conference schedule includes national powerhouses Northwestern and Ohio State. Pearson said he is excited after the two-weeklong preseason to start the regular season.

"I picked up a knot (in his leg) awhile back but I'm feeling better now," Pearson said. "We have to take our game to them we can't let them take their game to us. Start fast."

Howarth is confident in his team's ability to come away with a victory.

"He have to focus on what we do," Howarth said. "If we play at our highest level, we will be in good shape."

The Panthers will open its home schedule at 1 p.m. on Sunday at Lakeside Field against Missouri-Kansas City.

Dan Cusack can be reached at 581-7944 or at dscusack@eiu.edu.

- 7 Rolling Stones hit just before "Honky Tonk Women"
- 8 Ill-fated NASA effort
- 9 Jazz pianist/composer Williams
- 10 Tax fig.
- 11 Landlocked ____ Sea
- 12 One with a high Q score
- 13 Five-time Horse of the Year, 1960-64
- 14 Celtic canines
- 24 Former union members: Abbr.
- 28 Apnea specialist, for short
- 31 Some court contests
- 32 Shortage in a rush-hour subway
- 33 Not intended for just a single application: Var.
- 34 Dry state
- 36 Walker, quickly
- 37 Grand
- 41 Put on a pedestal
- 42 Intimate
- 46 Base of support
- 47 Legendary MacGregor
- 48 Child prodigy of "Heroes"
- 49 Florida's ____ National Forest
- 50 Lords of London
- 54 Have a little something
- 58 Invention that's not thought highly of

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VOLLEYBALL | EASTERN AT NORTH CAROLINA CENTRAL TOURNAMENT

Eastern focus on blocking in preseason

Panthers will face unfamiliar foes at tourney

By BOB BAJEK
Staff Reporter

The Eastern volleyball team is seeking to start off the season on the right foot this weekend at the North Carolina Central Tournament in Durham, N.C.

The Panthers began the 2007 season with a blistering 7-2 record. They finished the year with a 12-17 record overall, 5-15 in the Ohio Valley Conference.

Eastern is looking to repeat last year's fast start, but not fade out.

Senior middle hitter Lauren Sopcic said the Panthers gained a more positive attitude in the offseason.

Senior libero Laura Welch said the team practiced hard in training camp, which began on Aug. 9.

"We are a lot more competitive in this pre-season than last year," Welch said.

Eastern head coach Lori Bennett said camp consisted of two, two-to-three hour practices daily. To avoid a late season cold spell this time around, Welch and Sopcic are advising the five incoming freshmen about how to care for their bodies.

They told their teammates about

the importance of eating and sleeping right in order to perform well during volleyball matches.

One area from last year Bennett is addressing is blocking. The Panthers finished with 181 blocks, but allowed their opponents to convert 298 blocks.

Sopcic said blocking drills take precedence in practice with repetitions and the coaches constantly critique blocking technique.

"We've been doing numerous blocking and eye work in practice," Sopcic said. "(We) have to watch the ball and the setter without breaking concentration."

Stiff competition

The Panthers will face North Carolina Central, Campbell and Houston Baptist at the NCCU Tournament. This will be the first time Eastern has faced all of these schools.

If Eastern advances to the third place or championship match, they will play Elon, Florida Gulf Coast, Maine or North Carolina-Asheville from Pool 2 on Saturday at 3 or 5 p.m.

Bennett said the team needs to execute their transition offense and control the ball in the tournament. She isn't going to change the Panthers offensive system for their competition.

"Most of the focus right now is



ERIC HILTNER | THE DAILY EASTERN NEWS

Sophomore outside hitter Alex Zwettler, center left, and sophomore middle blocker Jorie Dieter, center right, get ready to hit the ball during practice on August 26, 2008. The team will participate this weekend in the North Carolina Central Tournament in Durham, N.C.

what we're doing on our side of the net," Bennett said. "If we do what we can on offense, we can play well. If we do system, we're fine." Some of Bennett's goals for the tournament are for Eastern to ex-

cute offensive and defensive systems well, manage swings and have a low error count.

The toughest opponent is Houston Baptist. The Huskies were 26-3 and maintained an 11-0 home record last season. The team doesn't have any glaring weaknesses.

In 2007, the Huskies dominated their opposition in attacks (1,617-990 kills), passes (1,408-870 assists), serves (287-121 aces) and blocking (231.5-101). They are vulnerable in errors, making 532 last year and 337 on serves.

NCCU ended last year 21-13. The Eagles strength is serving. They out-served opponents 276-175 aces. Also, they had 1,563 kills and were a superior passing team with 1,396 assists. The Eagles weren't very good defensively. Last year, NCCU had 1,653 digs while giving up 1,755. Blocking was average at 167.5 blocks.

Campbell finished their 2007 campaign 21-13. The Fighting Camels were a solid blocking and serving team. They had 234 blocks and 264 aces. The Fighting Camels can be defeated offensively. They had 1,282 kills, while their opponents had 1,392, and lost the assist battle 1,126-1,205.

Bob Bajek can be reached at 581-7944 or at rtbajek@eiu.edu.

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DEATH RACE (R)
4:10 6:45 9:20 SAT SUN MON MAT 1:20
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WOMEN’S RUGBY I EASTERN AT WISCONSIN ALL-STARs

Panthers open season on the road

Graziano hopes opponent’s lack of chemistry will benefit Panthers

By BRANDY PROVAZNIK
Staff Reporter

The Panthers’ rugby team opens their season on the road and that is the way head coach Frank Graziano likes it.

“I like playing on the road the first game,” Graziano said. “It is good to get the team together, bonding experience to travel right out of the gate and put everybody in an unfamiliar territory. Not being at home and comfortable, the girls tend to cling to each other, which is a great way to start the season off.”

The Panthers head to play the Wisconsin College All-Stars at noon Saturday in Milwaukee, Wis.

Graziano said the good thing about playing this all-star team is that while all the players are very skilled, they most likely will not have had too much time to play together.

The All-Star team is comprised of the top women’s rugby athletes from various college club teams in the Wisconsin area. They are brought together for the game, but usually don’t have more than a two-hour practice to play as a team.

“When dealing with an all-star team you usually have very talented individuals, but you just aren’t sure what their chemistry is going to be like and how they are going to work together,” Graziano said.

One advantage Graziano said the Panthers might have is that they have been working as a team for two full



KAROLINA STRACK | THE DAILY EASTERN NEWS

Junior flanker Stephanie Militello reaches out for the ball thrown by senior teammate Ashley Lukaszewski during practice on Wednesday. The team discussed plans for the new season and practiced drills to prepare for the upcoming game against the Wisconsin All-Stars on Saturday in Milwaukee, Wis.

weeks and should be more organized and efficient. Graziano said the first game of the season is always a huge learning experience and you never know exactly what to expect.

“We know we are going to make

mistakes but we have discussed looking beyond those and working through those,” Graziano said. “We are preparing ourselves for bad bounces, bad passes and missed tackles and that type of stuff that is going

to occur in the first game of the season.”

Graziano said the team would use this game as a stepping-stone and take specific incidents from it and learn from them.

“When dealing with an all-star team, you usually have talented individuals, but you aren’t sure what their chemistry is going to be like and how they are going to work together.”

- Frank Graziano, women’s rugby head coach

Having so many new players, the Panthers are expecting it to be quite a big learning experience.

“I am so excited, but still a little nervous with all the new people,” senior flyhalf Amanda Fromm said. “You can never be sure if they are 100 percent ready and they never really are until they get that first game out of the way. The freshman and the walk-ons that we have this year are doing fantastic so far and I am excited to see the light bulb click this weekend.”

Red-shirt freshman Narissa Ramirez, who will be starting at scrum half, shares that feeling of nervousness and excitement.

“Honestly, I am nervous,” Ramirez said. “I have never played rugby. It is my first game ever, but the girls have helped me a lot and I feel confident in my knowledge and what I learned so far. It also helps to know that my team is behind me and will help me out. I think we are going to do very well.”

Brandy Provaznik can be reached at 581-7944 or at blprovaznikh@eiu.edu.

WOMEN’S SOCCER I EASTERN AT NORTHERN ILLINOIS TOURNAMENT

Team wants to rebound from slow start to season

Nowak’s squad faces North Illinois, Northern Iowa

By COLLIN WHITCHURCH
Staff Reporter

The Eastern women’s soccer team has struggled to get their offense going through the first two games this season. The result has been the first 0-2 start since the 1997 season.

The Panthers will look to reverse the trend this weekend when they travel to play in the Northern Illi-

nois Invitational in DeKalb.

The Panthers will open the tournament against the host Huskies at 4 p.m. today. They conclude play on Sunday when they take on Northern Iowa at 1 p.m.

Today’s game will be the first of the season for the Huskies, as well as the first at their newly revamped soccer complex, which has a state-of-the-art artificial surface that has been built to specific International Federation Association of Football regulations.

The Panthers played Purdue in the Boilermakers home opener Tues-

day.

After the team’s 5-1 loss, Eastern head coach Tim Nowak talked about the difficulties of playing a team in their first home game.

“It’s never easy to play a team in their home opener,” Nowak said. “(Purdue) came in primed to get a win and were able to take advantage of the mistakes we made.”

The Huskies return 15 letter winners and 10 starters from a team that finished 10-5-5 last season, which was the third best in the Missouri Valley Conference.

Among those returning for the

Huskies are junior goalkeeper Lindsey Curnock, who had nine shutouts and was ranked 14th in the nation with a .053 goals against average last year.

Sunday’s game against Northern Iowa will be a match-up of two Panther teams, as well as two struggling offenses. Northern Iowa opened the season with a 5-0 loss at Minnesota.

The team was out shot 38-2 by the Gophers.

The star of Northern Iowa’s offense is sophomore midfielder Chelsie Hochstedler.

Hochstedler was Northern Iowa’s

leading scorer as a freshman and took both of the team’s shots on goal in the loss to Minnesota.

Georgia Southern rounds out the four-team field in the Northern Illinois Invitational, which the Huskies are hosting for the second consecutive year. This is the first year Eastern has taken part in the tournament.

The Panthers return home for the first time all season for their home opener against Wright State at 5 p.m. next Friday at Lakeside Field.

Collin Whitchurch can be reached at 581-7944 or at cfwhitchurch@eiu.edu.

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3
TRIPLE THREAT



Bob Spoo

Eastern head football coach Bob Spoo (above) and the Panthers kicked off the season last night against Central Michigan in Mt. Pleasant, Mich. This is the opening weekend of college football, something all of the fans have been looking forward to all summer. Whether it's Louisville against Kentucky or Oregon playing Washington, the season is here. Here are three games to watch this weekend.

1. **No. 6 Missouri vs. No. 20 Illinois**
— These top 25 squads want a BCS Bowl game, but first, they must get through each other. The showdown is in St. Louis at 7:30 p.m. Saturday on ESPN. Both Missouri's Chase Daniel and Illinois' Juice Williams will put on a show. The Tigers barely held onto a 24-point lead last season.
2. **Appalachian State at No. 7 Louisiana State**
— The Tigers look to defend their BCN National Championship against the giant killers. Who could forget Appalachian State's victory against Michigan last season? Get a chance to check it out at 5 p.m. Saturday on ESPN.
3. **No. 9 Clemson vs. No. 24 Alabama**
— This will be a test to see if the Tigers are for real. And nothing's better than Nick Saban and the Crimson Tide. Clemson, the Atlantic Coastal Conference pre-season-favorites, will be tested against an Alabama team that is rated about sixth-best in the SEC at 7 pm. Saturday on ABC/ESPN regional networks.

—Kevin Murphy



DAN CUSACK

Fall is a
season of
optimism

Most people look at the seasons of fall and winter as seasons of death. The air grows cold, the arms of trees begin to lose the leaves and the flowers that once brightened up the outdoors wither and die as the cold air floats in and suffocates away their life. But for sports fans and athletes, these seasons are not filled with glum and despair. Instead, they are highlighted with optimism and joy. Football, men's and women's soccer, cross-country, volleyball and women's rugby are about to begin or have already begun their season and are set to compete over the next few months.

>> SEE CUSACK, PAGE 9

KEVIN DUCKWORTH | UPDATE

Autopsy shows former player died of heart disease

Memorial service
set for Saturday

The Associated Press

PORTLAND, Ore. — Officials in Oregon say an autopsy shows former Eastern and Portland Trail Blazers center Kevin Duckworth died when his enlarged heart failed. Duckworth died Monday at 44

on the Oregon coast, where he was on a goodwill tour for the team. The Oregon State Police said Wednesday the autopsy was done by Dr. Larry Lewman. He's a state medical examiner who concluded that Duckworth died of "hypertrophic cardiomyopathy with congestive heart failure." The Trail Blazers, along with the Duckworth family, will be holding a memorial service for Duckworth.

The memorial service will be held at 11 a.m. on Saturday at the Memorial Coliseum. The Memorial Coliseum is located adjacent to the Rose Garden Arena, at 300 N. Winning Way in Portland. The police statement says the heart disease had combined with high blood pressure to result in "marked enlargement of his heart which had been failing for some time." Duckworth played for the Pan-

thers from 1983-86. He led Eastern to the 1984-85 Mid-Continent Conference Tournament Championship and was the 1986 MCC Tournament Most Valuable Player. He finished second in career games for Eastern, is Eastern's career rebounding leader (867) and is sixth in Eastern career scoring with 1,589 points. Duckworth was born in Harvey and went to Thornridge High School.

FOOTBALL | CENTRAL MICHIGAN 31, EASTERN 12

Chippewas' offense too much

LeFevour, Sneed lead
CMU to win in
season opener

By SCOTT RICHEY
Sports Editor

MOUNT PLEASANT, Mich. — The football game Thursday night between Eastern and Central Michigan stood still for nearly 15 minutes during the fourth quarter. Instead of 22 players, the field at Kelly/Shorts Stadium had a bevy of trainers, two ambulances and one injured Eastern player.

Red-shirt junior guard Kevin Mahoney was injured at the 12 minute, 50 second mark in the fourth quarter and laid face down on the field, barely moving. First one ambulance responded from the north end zone area. Then another, lights blazing, drove behind the stadium and entered the field as well. Mahoney was loaded onto a backboard and driven off the field.

Eastern associate athletic director of operations Mark Bonnstetter said Mahoney was suffering some neck pain but did have feeling in his arms and legs. He was taken to a local hospital as a precaution. When play resumed, Eastern red-



FILE PHOTO | THE DAILY EASTERN NEWS

Senior tight end Jordan Campanella runs past a Samford player during last year's game on Nov. 17, 2007 at O'Brien Stadium. The Panthers lost their season opener at Central Michigan 31-12 on Thursday night.

shirt junior quarterback Bodie Reeder made short work of the Panthers' drive with a 15-yard pass to red-shirt sophomore tight end Sean McGrath.

"It was a good momentum booster for us – we needed it," McGrath said. "They were playing hard on the hitch, so we said we'll go with the

pump. Sure enough the safety flew and (the pass) was wide open."

>> SEE FOOTBALL, PAGE 9

MEN'S SOCCER | EASTERN AT VALPARAISO

Panthers look to keep shutout streak

Intrasquad match
helped team improve

By DAN CUSACK
Assistant Sports Editor

It's been a while since the Valparaiso men's soccer team scored a goal against the Eastern men's soccer team. How long? Not since 1997. Eastern has shut out the Crusaders in three consecutive matches since they began playing again in 2005 including a 4-0 victory at Lakeside Field last season. Junior defender Nick Bonacker said the Panthers' defense would definitely keep a clean sheet tonight as Eastern opens its 2008 regular season against the Crusaders at 4 p.m. in Valparaiso, Ind.



ERIN MATHENY | THE DAILY EASTERN NEWS

Sophomore midfielder Darby Kehoe goes for the ball during an exhibition game against Saint Xavier at Lakeside Field on Aug. 15.

Eastern head coach Adam Howarth wants the Panthers to dominate

the Crusaders again, but knows this time it will be a difficult task.

"They are going to be direct, and they are going to be organized," Howarth said. "They have a good coach and he has recruited a lot of good players the last couple of years." Howarth noted sophomore midfielder Adrian Ortiz, senior midfielder Yukki Guzman and senior forward Oscar Lomeli were among the Crusaders' top players. Howarth said the match would especially be tough since it is the season opener on the road. The Panthers struggled in their last preseason match as they fell to University of Indianapolis on the road, 2-0. Howarth said the team showed a much better effort in the intrasquad game as the underclassman defeated the upperclassman 4-3.

>> SEE SOCCER, PAGE 9

EASTERN SPORTS SCHEDULE				
MEN'S SOCCER Today at Valparaiso 4 p.m. – Valparaiso, Ind.	VOLLEYBALL Today at N. Carolina Central Noon – Durham, N.C.	WOMEN'S SOCCER Today at Northern Illinois 4 p.m. – DeKalb	WOMEN'S RUGBY Saturday at Wisconsin All-Stars Noon – Madison, Wis.	MEN'S SOCCER Sunday vs. UMKC 1 p.m. – Lakeside Field

08.29.08

issue 01 the daily eastern news' weekly arts and entertainment magazine

on the
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JAZZ AND JAVA

Jackson Avenue Coffee on the square serves up both and is one of four places for live music in Charleston.

PAGE 4



PHOTO COURTESY OF WARNER BROTHERS

"The Dark Knight" was this summer's No. 1 motion picture, coming close to breaking 1997's "Titanic" for top-grossing flicks of all time. Other films such as "The Incredible Hulk" and "Iron Man" led to *Daily Herald* movie critic Dann Gire calling summer the "season of the superhero movie."

SUMMER 'KNIGHT'

Batman, parade of other superhero movies among season's blockbusters

By **SAM SOTTOSANTO**
Senior Verge Reporter

For Eastern alum Dann Gire, the summer of 2008 was the season of the superhero movie, with films like "Iron Man" and "The Incredible Hulk." But to Gire, no other movie stands a chance against the new Batman movie, "The Dark Knight." Gire, who has been a film critic for the *Daily Herald* in Arlington Heights for 30 years, said the movie's success is due partly to the "nut-job" character Bruce Wayne.

"It presents a concept of a hero as one who will not kill unless it's unavoidable," Gire said. "(Also) because of the total vision of the piece as laid out by the director and co-writer, and ingenious use of Chicago as Gotham City." "The Dark Knight" has grossed \$490 million domestically this summer as of Aug. 26 and led a season dominated by movies geared toward the male demographic. Box office analyst Chad Hartigan of Exhibitor Relations in Los Angeles said the blockbuster is doing things no film has ever done before at the box office. "While we expected it to be big,

GAINING GROUND

The big mega-hit of the summer, *The Dark Knight*, came close to grabbing the title of the highest-grossing movie of all time. Here are the Top 10 movies with their U.S. box office totals as of Aug. 26.

1. *Titanic* (1997): \$600.8 million
2. ***The Dark Knight* (2008): \$490.6 million**
3. *Star Wars: Episode IV - A New Hope* (1977): \$461.0 million
4. *Shrek 2* (2004): \$441.2 million
5. *E.T.: The Extra-Terrestrial* (1982): \$435.1 million
6. *Star Wars: Episode I - The Phantom Menace* (1999): \$431.1 million
7. *Pirates of the Caribbean: Dead Man's Chest* (2006): \$423.3 million
8. *Spider-Man* (2002): \$403.7 million
9. *Star Wars: Episode III - Revenge of the Sith* (2005): \$380.3 million
10. *The Lord of the Rings: The Return of the King* (2003): \$377.0 million

Source: Box Office Mojo

we never thought it would turn into the juggernaut it has, and it can probably be attributed to a 'perfect storm' of factors all lining up into place," Hartigan said. Among those factors is the death of Heath Ledger from an accidental overdose Jan. 22. Critics lauded his performance, which helped "The Dark Knight" become the No. 2 highest-grossing film in history, just behind "Titanic." "Guy-humor" vehicles such as Will Ferrell's "Step Brothers" also fared well during the summer. Analyst Jeff Bock said the trend toward guy humor might be a dis-

advantage, especially in movies like "Pineapple Express." "There is no female presence," Bock said. "It's definitely more of a guy comedy, which is why it probably won't gross as much." Sophomore dietetics major Amanda Simmons disagrees, saying "Pineapple Express" was her favorite movie of the summer. "I saw this movie with my boyfriend who was home on leave from the Navy and we both really wanted to see it," she said. "James Franco was my favorite actor in this movie because I think he played the part very well, and not to mention he is

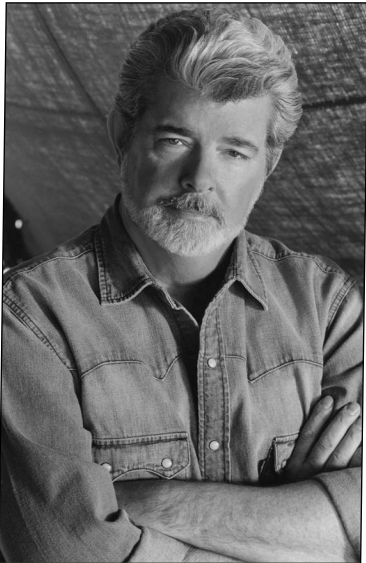


PHOTO COURTESY OF WARNER BROS. George Lucas released "Star Wars: The Clone Wars" on Aug. 15. *Daily Herald* film critic Dann Gire said the animated film diminishes the brilliance of the original trilogy.

good-looking." One movie geared toward women that premiered this summer was "Sisterhood of the Traveling Pants 2." Karen Heidner, sophomore communication disorder studies major, did not see the movie, but she and a friend made their own traveling shirts. "My best friend and I have a traveling shirt, and it just came

back from South Africa, but we didn't get time to see it due to hectic schedules." Heidner said the shirt is blue with the abbreviation "JAKTS" (Jessica and Karen's Traveling Shirt) written on the front. They have owned the shirt for three years. "We just randomly decided to have a traveling shirt one summer night," Heidner said. "We got the idea from the movie." This summer's new movie releases may have inspired some audiences, but not everything released this summer was brilliant, Gire said. He said the animated film, "Star Wars: The Clone Wars," a precursor to a television show set to debut Oct. 3, could diminish the sci-fi movie's legacy. "It is a reminder of just how far a Hollywood icon like George Lucas will go to sell out and diminish the greatness of his original trilogy with Saturday morning sludge like this," Gire said. Despite the frequency of box-office flops, Gire still says movies are all unique. "Each film is like a fingerprint, individual and created from different sensibilities and imaginations," Gire said.

News, fun can mix

Verge to put the day's events in an entertainment perspective; Obama's party in Springfield could lead to the end of your party on the Internet

Just as every year, the Labor Day weekend gives students an early break during the fall semester, the Verge returns after a summer hiatus in hopes of helping students make entertainment decisions.

In the coming weeks, you'll notice a few changes in the Verge.

We will still review the latest DVDs, CDs, movies, books, etc.

And we will still profile people around campus who make Eastern's entertainment landscape what it is.

But we hope to become the place you go for entertainment information, by expanding our area to cover more extensively places outside of Charleston that lie within a short drive – hello, Champaign.

Charleston will, of course, get preference as there is a lot more to do in Charleston and on campus than at first glance.

But giving you options is priority No. 1.

Along with this, we will have a consistent look so you know exactly where to look.

Page 3 will always have music, Page 5 will have features and Page 6 will always have movie-related content.

This doesn't mean we will ne-



Marco Santana

Verge Editor

glect Page 1, of course. Entertainment-related features will inform and entertain.

And occasionally, we will even tell you how the news and entertainment interact.

Which brings us to the first bit of news.

Last Saturday in Springfield, Barack Obama finally announced his running mate.

Many Eastern students made the trip and for good reason.

College students across the country seem to be paying quite a bit of attention to this year's election.

Obama has turned many people who might not have cared about politics in the past into political junkies.

But when Obama introduced Delaware Senator Joe Biden as his vice presidential candidate, he might have accidentally slapped a large group of technology advocates in the face.

Biden, 64, is a leader in the

fight against international piracy, as a founding member of the Congressional International Anti-Piracy Caucus.

According to the Hollywood Reporter, Biden's emphasis is on countries like China, Russia, Mexico and India.

A welcome quest in the eyes of producers and artists whose work is reproduced illegally overseas.

But Biden has also been at the forefront against file sharing.

This goes against the Internet crowd, most of which has embraced the practice of file sharing as a large part of today's digital age.

The ramifications could be bad for Obama, with the blogosphere already blowing up with people claiming they might change their vote because of the announcement.

That might be a bit dramatic but it's been thrown out there nonetheless.

If cooler heads prevail, Obama will be fine.

If not, however, a small bump away from Obama – a big deal right now considering many polls have McCain and Obama tied – could result.

And that could devastate the campaign.

SEND US YOUR ART!

• If you have artwork you want to show off, let us know! Either e-mail the work to denverge@gmail.com or come into *The Daily Eastern News'* office at 1811 Buzzard Hall. If you have drawings, paintings, photography, poetry, etc., we will run what we can. Just give us a little bit of information about the piece along with your name. Also, if you have short stories you want to share, we'll take those. Any creative piece will be considered. In the next few weeks, *The Daily Eastern News* will debut a new Web site. Included will be a Verge-devoted site that will be able to accommodate longer pieces of work.

COMING SOON!

• The new Verge debuts next week with more content, consistent features and a more solid focus. The Verge staff has worked hard to develop something you can use. Every week, we will devote a page to movies and to music. Also, the new etc. page will contain any other entertainment-related content, such as books, television, DVDs and video games. We will also roll out our new feature that puts the spotlight on Eastern's artistic students.

• Coming in the next few weeks, we will introduce contests and competitions for you to participate in as the Verge and *The Daily Eastern News* look to showcase the talent of Eastern's students.

MORE ONLINE! WWW.DENNEWS.COM/VERGE

• There's more to the Arthur Cheese Festival than just what we have in today's Verge. Cheese curling, a cheese parade and more. For a complete calendar and a story about the cheese curling event, go online.

• Also online, staff reporter Dylan Polk reviews "Pineapple Express," the new stoner comedy with Seth Rogen and James Franco as two potheads running from crazed killers.



CONTACT US
(217) 581-7943
denverge@gmail.com

STAFF

Verge Editor.....Marco Santana
Associate Verge Editor.....Jason Duarte
Senior Verge Reporter.....Sam Sottosanto
Designers.....Julie Beaulieu
Dylan Polk
Copy Editors.....Tyler Angelo
Angela Pham

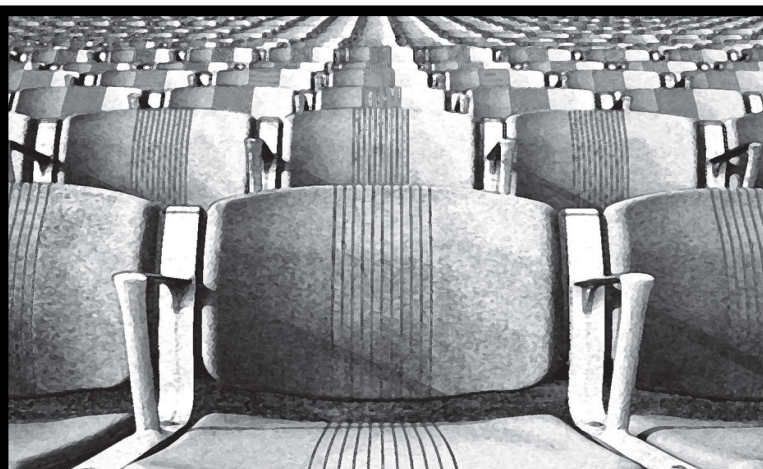
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LET THEM EAT CHEESE



PHOTO COURTESY OF AMISH COUNTRY

Contestants in a past year’s National Cheese Eating Competition munch their blocks of cheese. The contest, held every year in Arthur, will take place at 3 p.m. this Saturday.

MORE ONLINE!

Check out www.dennews.com/verge for a complete schedule of the events at the 2008 Amish Country Cheese Festival!

By **KRISTY MELLENDORF**
Staff Reporter

The objective might not seem that difficult: Devour a one-pound block of Colby cheese in less than five minutes.

But George Fritz, an organizer for the Arthur Cheese Festival, said it has only been in recent years that contestants in the annual cheese-eating competition have made it all the way through.

The 10th Annual National Cheese Eating Competition will begin at 3 p.m. Saturday in Arthur as part of the 37th Annual Amish Country Cheese Festival in Arthur.

Fritz supplies the contestants with a bottle of water to “chase” the cheese.

“No one has ever requested any other type of chaser; seems as though the water works quite well,” Fritz said.

In previous years, the title went to whoever could finish the most cheese in the shortest amount of time. Only in the past couple of years has the entire block been finished.

“It’s taken pretty close to the five-minute range,” Fritz said.

The rules are simple: no vomiting, and whatever is in the contestant’s mouth at the end of the competition must be swallowed to count.

The contestants are divided into a youth division (12 years old and under) and an adult division (13 years old and above). The adult division is limited to the first 40 people who sign up.

“It’s strictly an individual competition, though support helps the more serious competitors,” Fritz said.

The typical cheese-eating contestant hails from the local area and has often competed more than once. Many of the contestants have come from University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign and Eastern.

As with consuming any large quantity of food, particularly of one type, health becomes an issue. However, Fritz says he has not seen any health problems arise from the competition.

“I don’t know of anyone getting sick as a result of the competition,” Fritz said.

In the time that Fritz has been organizing the contest, he has not known of any preparation or training for it.

“This isn’t like the hot dog-eating contests in that I don’t know anyone that really takes time to prepare for it,” Fritz said.

Those who wish to compete do not have to fill out any forms in advance. They may simply show up on the day of the competition and sign up.

THE NEW FUSE RETURNS TO TOWN

Eastern alums happy to show off their new jam-influenced album

By **KRISTY MELLENDORF**
Staff Reporter

When Shane Davies left Eastern in 2000, the Charleston Police Department knew him well.

Local neighbors called frequently to complain about Davies practicing with one of his several bands.

He and Brent Kimbrough, another former Eastern student, return to Charleston with their current band, The New Fuse, to play a show at 9 tonight at Friends & Co., 509 Van Buren Ave.

“I hope we don’t have any outstanding noise violations against us,” said Davies, the bass player for the band.

The duo’s Chicago-based band formed in 2004 and released their first album, a four-track piece called “In the Now,” last January. Davies said he has fond memories of Eastern.

He started playing music in



PHOTO COURTESY OF THE NEW FUSE

The New Fuse plays Chicago’s Double Door in January at the CD release party for their independently released album “In the Now.” The band will play at Friends & Co. tonight.

Charleston and often attended the now-defunct Stu’s for their Phish and Grateful Dead music night.

On the weekends, his bands played wherever they could, often at parties.

Eventually, he played at Mac’s Uptowner with a band called Trickle Down.

“It was the first show I ever did,” Davies said. “I was a mix of both nervous and excited.”

This is the band’s first show in Charleston since 2006, when they played Santana covers at Friends & Co.

Since then, Davies said the band has developed their own sound,

FYI

THE NEW FUSE

Time: 9
Date: Tonight
Place: Friends & Co.
509 Van Buren Ave.

playing mostly original music but sometimes mixing in a choice cover, depending on the crowd.

“We’ve had our sound called ‘jam-rock-reggae-funk,’ which I think is pretty accurate,” Davies said.

Keyboardist Kevin Yanong and saxophonist Rodney “Hot Rod” Brown were added to the lineup of Davies on bass, Chris Morris on drums and Kimbrough on guitar shortly after 2004.

In the time between Davies’ graduating and playing with the band, he has not stopped making progress.

“I’m still learning every day; that’s the beauty of music,” Davies said.

Davies’ continual learning is a by-product of being self-taught on bass. He first learned how to

play drums in high school after discovering his brother’s drum kit in the basement. He added bass to his repertoire when one of the bands he was in at Eastern requested it. He said it was a smooth transition.

After working to polish their sound, the band put together “In the Now,” and released the album independently.

To support their record, The New Fuse has played several shows in the area. They have played the Canopy Club in Champaign, as well as Flatlanders in Chicago.

“I’m influenced by a lot of jam bands and improvisations, as you can hear in our shows,” Davies said.

College crowds are a great way to expand the band’s audience, he added.

“It’s always a strategy to get the school market, and the easiest way is to be on campuses,” Davies said.

Davies would like to play at the House of Blues in Chicago. He considers the most important thing about a venue to be the crowd.

“For us, we don’t want to play places that the crowd isn’t coming in for the band,” Davies said.

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ROBBIE WROBLEWSKI | ON THE VERGE

The Big Blue Mountain Band practices at Jackson Avenue Coffee on Monday evening. Big Blue Mountain practices every Monday at Jackson Avenue and offer a variety of traditional bluegrass and country music. The JAC is one of four venues in Charleston that offers live music.

NEED A MUSIC FIX? HEAD OUT TO THE JAC

Coffee shop, three local bars feature live performances each week

By SARAH JEAN BRESNAHAN
Development Director

When musicians perform, most will tell you the audience’s mood can make or break a performance. So when they perform at Jackson Avenue Coffee, 708 Jackson Ave., owner Ryan Dawson said the setting creates a different feel. “At bars, people come in for the atmosphere, but when a band is performing, don’t really pay attention,” he said. The JAC, as Eastern students have come to know Dawson’s business, is one of four places to go for live music in Charleston. The

other three are Mac’s Uptowner, Panther Paw Bar & Grill and Friends & Co. The JAC’s shows are free while the three bars charge a cover for entrance, usually less than \$5. Some bars try to lighten the damage to patrons’ pockets by lowering prices elsewhere, such as having drink specials the same nights as performances. “We always have a discount on something,” said Zack Hausner, a manager at Panther Paw Bar & Grill. Hausner said the Panther Paw is trying to add new bands to their roster this year, such as bringing in Wedding Banned, a cover band from Chicago. They will also continue to hold performances by Sixteen Candles, Hairbangers Ball, and Mike & Joe on Thursday nights. The JAC offers live music four

WHERE TO ROCK OUT

There are four places in Charleston to see live music.

Mac’s Uptowner
623 Monroe Ave.
(217) 345-4622

Jackson Avenue Coffee
708 Jackson Ave.
(217) 345-5283

The Panther Paw Bar and Grill
1412 4th Street
(217) 345-5283

Friends and Co.
509 Van Buren Ave.

nights a week, including a bluegrass jam band on Mondays, Eastern’s Jazz Combo on Tuesdays, open mic nights on Thursdays and booked shows on Saturdays. Dawson said the difference between going to a bar and going to the coffee shop is that the people who go to the performances are there strictly for the performance.

“We don’t do it for the money,” Dawson said. “We do it for the spirit.” The shop has, on occasion, asked a few open mic performers to open a show. “There’s a high school girl who has a pretty good voice that we have asked to open a show a few times,” Dawson said.

Bands can also audition at open mic if they don’t have a demo for Dawson to listen to. “They should be a legitimate band, not just some guy who can only start a song but not finish it,” Dawson said. Dawson also talked about how difficult it can be to bring in musicians from other towns and states because of the lack of advertising. Dawson said he had booked a band from Pennsylvania, and because no one in the area knew who they were, the shop was completely empty that night except for the employees and the band. Dawson does try to pay the bands that come in, but his pay is based on merit. He said that if they promote the show and seem to make an effort, he pays them more than somebody who just shows up.

around town

this weekend in charleston and the region



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this weekend

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SATURDAY

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Place:: Arthur
Cost: Free
1-800-72-AMISH

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Time: All Day; for calendar, visit www.popcornfestival.net
Place:: Casey
Cost: Free
217-232-CORN

SUNDAY

37th Annual Arthur Cheese Festival
Time: All Day; for calendar, visit dennews.com/verge
Place:: Arthur
Cost: Free
1-800-72-AMISH

Tea Leaf Green w/guests 56 Hope Road
Time: 9 p.m. (doors open at 8 p.m.)
Place:: Canopy Club in Campaign
Cost: \$12 advance tickets
217-344-BAND

21st Annual Casey Popcorn Festival
Time: All Day; for calendar, visit www.popcornfestival.net
Place:: Casey
Cost: Free

217-232-CORN

MONDAY

No classes, Labor Day

37th Annual Arthur Cheese Festival
Time: All Day; for calendar, visit dennews.com/verge
Place:: Arthur
Cost: Free
1-800-72-AMISH

21st Annual Casey Popcorn Festival
Time: All Day; for calendar, visit www.popcornfestival.net
Place:: Casey
Cost: Free
217-232-CORN

CONTINUOUS EVENTS

“itty-bitty photo blog” by Brian Poulter
Time: Through Sept. 28

Place: Tarble Arts Center
581-2787

“Rural Happenings” by James Oliver
Time: Through Oct. 12
Place: Tarble Arts Center Main Galleries
581-2787

“Optical Unconscious” by Beverly Fishman
Time: Through Oct. 12
Place: Tarble Arts Center Main Galleries
581-2787

Library Orientation Tours
Time: 6 p.m. Mondays, 11 a.m. Tuesdays and 5 p.m. Wednesdays through Sept. 30
Place: Booth Library North Foyer
581-6072