

4-5-2013

## Daily Eastern News: April 05, 2013

Eastern Illinois University

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## MUSIC EXHIBIT TO END

The America's Music Exhibit will end at 7 p.m. Saturday with a free concert in the Dvorak Concert Hall at the Doudna Fine Arts Center.

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## SHUTOUT CELEBRATION

Eastern's softball team beat Southern Illinois University-Carbondale 8-0 on Thursday.

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"TELL THE TRUTH AND DON'T BE AFRAID"

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# THE DAILY EASTERN NEWS

Friday, April 5, 2013

VOL. 97 | ISSUE 132

## Reaching for the stars



MARCUS SMITH | THE DAILY EASTERN NEWS

Marissa Horton, a dancer with DanceWorks Chicago, teaches dance moves Thursday evening in the Theatre of Doudna Fine Arts Center. DanceWorks will be performing Friday at 7:30 p.m. in the Theatre of Doudna Fine Arts Center.

### ADMINISTRATION

## Enrollment planning delayed

By Stephanie Markham  
Administration Editor

With the last two Noel-Levitz consultations having been canceled, Eastern's strategic enrollment planning efforts may take longer than expected.

Noel-Levitz, the enrollment management consulting service, hosted an open forum in January where the consultants shared information about the process and gathered ideas from about 100 faculty and staff members.

Colleen Murphy, the marketing and recruitment consultant, was scheduled to come to campus to write a final plan in February and was rescheduled for March 25-26.

Marry Herrington-Perry, the assistant vice president for academic affairs, said the first visit was canceled because of a medical emergency, and the second was canceled because of the weather.

Herrington-Perry said the strategic enrollment planning committee now has a list of initiatives to present to the consultant.

During these visits, Murphy would have written an action plan with the committee outlining the steps to implement those initiatives.

One initiative is to "increase our market share of in-state and out-of-state students."

Eastern's contract with Noel-Levitz extends to June 30, 2013.

Herrington-Perry said the original deadline to complete the strategic planning was July, but with the consultations missed, it might take longer.

She said the next consultation is scheduled for May 6 and 7, and the consultants would likely stay with Eastern until October.

She said the strategic enrollment planning effort since Murphy set up parameters in July has mostly been collecting and analyzing data.

She said the next steps after the plan is drafted would be to calculate the return on investment for each initiative to be implemented and conduct an analysis on how many students could be enrolled and retained.

"It's a little bit different than regular strategic planning in that you don't end up with numerical goals until the end of the process," she said.

Herrington-Perry said she is certain the enrollment will increase in the fall.

She said Eastern is at 92 percent of its goal for freshmen applications, representing about 4,338 admitted students.

She said the goal for the yield rate of students is about 30 percent, and it is currently about 28 percent.

She said most of the enrollment effort is now being focused on yield activities like the new "Experience EIU" program for merit scholarship recipients to become acquainted with campus.

Stephanie Markham can be reached at 581-2812 or samarkham@eiu.edu.

### CAMPUS | CREATIVE ACTIVITY

## Next stop: Capitol Hill

### Students to present Alzheimer's research to Congress

By Stephanie Markham  
Administration Editor

Through a collaboration of more than two years of research, two recent graduates are going to present their findings on Alzheimer's disease to congress.

William Fernandez began his honors thesis research as a junior in the summer of 2011 with biology

professors Michael Menze and Britto Nathan.

They joined efforts with Mary Konkle, a chemistry professor, and chemistry student Logan Erbacher to study the development of and potential cures for the disease.

The group looked at how particular chemicals could increase the energy produced in brain cells by mitochondria, which dysfunctions in Alzheimer's patients by not producing enough energy.

By surgically removing the ovaries of mice, injecting estrogen weeks later and isolating brain tissue, the team was able to show that estrogen helps mitochondria produce more energy in order to make nerve cells healthier, Fernandez said.

Erbacher said they extracted brain tissue from the mouse models and probed for proteins that were affected by oxidative stress, which

causes brain damage.

Menze said the collaboration was essential for the research process.

"Mary Konkle could look at the molecular level of how proteins are impacted and how that leads to Alzheimer's disease, but in order to get samples and to test the hypothesis, we needed to have a biological model," he said.

RESEARCH, page 5

### CAMPUS | SOCIAL JUSTICE AND DIVERSITY

## 'Wall of Oppression' to be torn down

### Staff Report

Throughout the week, students painted and built the annual Wall of Oppression, and they will be tearing it down at noon on Friday in the Library Quad.

Sabrina Sibert, a freshman recreation administration major, said the wall represents all the words that oppress or hurt students or groups of people.

This is the last activity for the Residence Hall Association's Social Justice and Diversity Week, themed "You, Me and Diversity."

Sibert said the week is all about learning about different communities and people.

"Normally, when you think of diversity, you think of race, gender, abilities and disabilities, but you don't necessarily think about the effects of it," Sibert said. "We took a twist to show what happens to people who are different in today's society."

She said the wall is one way to find out what different groups find hurtful.

"We write hateful words on (the bricks), and at the end of the week, we tear it down," Sibert said. "We take the strings and pull it down, and it symbolizes that we can overcome the negativity and become a more diverse and unified community."

Some of the words represented on the wall are 'ugly,' 'stupid' and 'retarded.'

"They are just hateful words like that towards any community," Sibert said.

She said the words cover all different groups and characteristics like race, gender, intelligence, ability and disability and sexual orientation.

The tearing down of the wall is inspirational to see, Sibert said.

"The symbolic part of it is the coolest because seeing it actually come together is very empowering," Sibert said.

Sibert said the RHA will also have student speakers at the tearing down of the wall.



DOMINIC BAIMA | THE DAILY EASTERN NEWS

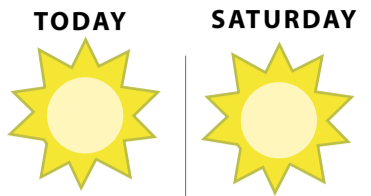
The wall constructed of bricks that students painted throughout the week stands in the Library Quad on Thursday. The wall is part of the Social Justice and Diversity Awareness week and will be torn down on Friday at noon.

She said as the wall comes down, the communities can come together.

"It's like all the negativity is coming

down, and all the communities become one at that point in time, even if it is just for a moment," Sibert said.

## Local weather



**TODAY**  
Mostly Sunny  
High: 59°  
Low: 42°

**SATURDAY**  
Mostly Sunny  
High: 68°  
Low: 51°

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

# THE DAILY EASTERN NEWS

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

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CHARLESTON | CIVIL WAR

# Re-enactor to portray slave, Union soldier

By Jazmin Smiley  
Staff Reporter

In honor of the 150th anniversary of the Civil War, the Lincoln-Sargent Farm Foundation is hosting an annual fundraising dinner along with a Civil War re-enactment.

The Lincoln Log Cabin Historic Site, located in Lerna, is a venue that honors the life of Abraham Lincoln.

Lori Henderson, the board president for the foundation, said the group provides non-profit support for the Lincoln Log Cabin.

She said last year they had a re-enactor playing Harriet Tubman, and this year they chose to have Andrew Lewis' story told because it ties in with the 150th anniversary of the Civil War.

This year the foundation is welcoming re-enactor Robert Davis to their annual dinner to commemorate the Civil War.

Davis will portray Andrew Lewis, a former slave and Union soldier.

"The story is a combination of fic-

tion and real facts. Andrew Lewis is a real person, and the battles he fought in were also real," Davis said.

Davis' re-enactment will portray a 52-year-old Civil War veteran reminiscing about his journey from slavery to freedom.

In this account, Davis will acknowledge essential moments and achievements that took place during the Civil War.

Lynne Curry, a historian and history professor, said Lincoln played a huge role in the Civil War.

"During the Civil War, Lincoln used his constitutional powers as commander-in-chief of the armed forces to issue the Emancipation Proclamation which began the process of ending slavery," Curry said.

Jazmin Smiley can be reached at 581-2812 or [jnsmiley@eiu.edu](mailto:jnsmiley@eiu.edu).

For the in-depth version of this article go to [dailyeasternnews.com](http://dailyeasternnews.com)

## Horsing around



DOMINIC BAIMA | THE DAILY EASTERN NEWS

Joe Callahan, a senior kinesiology and sports studies major, and Blake Heyman, a senior kinesiology and sports studies major, participate in a horse race during the softball game against Southern Illinois University-Carbondale Thursday. Callahan and Heyman were supposed to ride separate horses, but chose to switch to just one halfway through the race.

CHARLESTON | WALK

# Groups to chalk for awareness, poetry

By Katelyn Siegert  
Staff Reporter

Community members will have a chance to express themselves through sidewalk chalk and poetry Saturday.

I Sing the Body Electric, a collaborative program of Sarah Bush Lincoln Health Center, is hosting the Poetry Walk to celebrate National Poetry Month from noon to 4 p.m. Saturday on the Square.

Georgia Hillard, the collaborative program coordinator, said they are hosting the Poetry Walk for the first time in hopes of showcasing the troubles teen face every day.

"The Poetry Walk sounded like a fun event and a more creative way to display the substance abuse and other teen

health risk prevention messages," Hillard said.

The coalition will have a "Star of Fame" area where children can chalk their names in stars like the Hollywood Walk of Fame.

Along with the coalition, the Charleston Transitional Facility will also take part in the event.

Amanda Luksander, the administrator of operation of Charleston Transitional Facility, said their program members will be designing on the east side of the Square.

The Charleston Transitional Facility provides residential and vocational assistance to individuals with disabilities.

The program members will be showcasing their own art while celebrating National Autism Awareness Month and

Poetry Month.

"Individuals who join the program become entrepreneurs," Luksander said.

Nell Wiseman, an English teacher at Charleston High School, said her senior creative writing students will showcase their free verse poetry on the sidewalks.

"Body Electric has inspired my students to think about different aspects of their lives," she said.

Art Smart will also feature chalk drawings outside of the store along with an open house and free balloons.

Shannon Johnson, the director of the studio, said the Poetry Walk also encourages students to make better choices, presents them with positive messages and gives them a way of expressing themselves.

The Poetry Walk will also feature Joe McLean, Violins Against Violence and Break Away.

Joe McLean and Violins Against Violence will perform from noon to 2 p.m. at the Lincoln Book Shop.

Break Away will perform at the gazebo on the corner of Sixth Street and Monroe Avenue, weather permitting.

An open mic at Jackson Avenue Coffee will be free for individuals to express themselves during the Poetry Walk.

Luksander said she has hopes for a large turnout for the new event.

"We hope the event is a success for everyone," Luksander said.

Katelyn Siegert can be reached 581-2812 or [kesiegert@eiu.edu](mailto:kesiegert@eiu.edu).

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

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## CAMPUS | DEBATE

# Professors to square-off on religious beliefs

By Clarissa Wilson  
Staff Reporter

Two professors, one from Eastern and one from the University of Missouri, will debate the existence of God as part of the speaker series.

The debate will take place at 5 p.m. Monday in the Lecture Hall of the Doudna Fine Arts Center.

Jason Waller, a philosophy professor at Eastern, will be arguing for the likelihood of God's existence, while Richard Foley, a philosophy professor at Missouri, will debate on the non-existence of God.

Janet Marquardt, the director of the Center for Humanities, said the idea was to have one of their own faculty members from the center to present for the speaker series.

Waller said he was a former atheist, but he became interested in the argument for God's existence.

"I think my argument will succeed," Waller said.

He specializes in modern philosophy, political philosophy and metaphysics, all of which he said help to cultivate his theories and foundations.

He will debate against long-time atheist, Richard Foley, a former

Eastern faculty member of the philosophy department.

Foley now works under the Department of Classical Studies at the University of Missouri, teaching students the history of philosophy.

Foley said he never felt the need for a religion as a child.

"There is no heaven or hell," Foley said.

Teresa Britton, a member of the speaker series committee, said the program goals were to bring humanities to a wider audience, both on campus and off.

Britton said Foley's arguments were well articulated on the topic of atheism and should be heard.

"We know and respect his ideas and look forward to seeing him," she said.

Foley will hear Waller's arguments on the phenomena known as "cosmic fine-tuning."

Clarissa Wilson can be reached at 581-2812 or [cjwilson2@eiu.edu](mailto:cjwilson2@eiu.edu).



For the in-depth version of this article go to:

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## Cheeky baby



DOMINIC BAIMA | THE DAILY EASTERN NEWS

Parker Malnar-Bass, 21 months, of Charleston, smiles at a dog during the softball game against Southern Illinois University-Carbondale on Thursday at Williams Field. Malnar-Bass was attending with her family for the faculty fellows and faculty appreciation game.

## CAMPUS | COMMITTEES

# Students approved for RHA positions

By Jarad Jarmon  
Staff Reporter

The Residence Hall Association members elected committee chairmen and chairwomen for RHA events next year.

Kadie Peterson, a family and consumer sciences major, was elected for programming chairwoman.

RHA President Eddie Hillman, a junior biological sciences major, said Peterson would be handling Kids and Friends Weekend.

Hillary Fuller, an undecided freshman, confirmed Peterson's involvement in Kids and Friends Weekend.

"We really weren't prepared, and it was because of her that we were able to get everything done," Fuller said. "She did call people from other buildings."

Sabrina Siebert was voted to be the chairwoman of Social Justice and Diversity Weekend over running mate Doyle Nave.

Siebert said she has already planned a few ideas of what they will be doing next year including new T-shirt designs, a mural and having an improv group sketch event.

"There are two improv organizations on campus, and I have already talked to one of them," Siebert said. "I kind of brought it up to them, and they both seemed very interested in doing a diversity improv thing."

Meghan Garby, a junior special education major, was elected chairwoman of community services and Spring Fling over running mates Jaccari Brown and Jaquille Phillips.

Garby said she plans to open up more opportunities for groups within RHA to be involved in events.

Brown and Nave were nominated for community development and ROC Fest chairman because no valid nominations were offered last week.

Brown won the election with plans for ROC Fest next year.

Brown said has previously been involved last year's ROC Fest.

Fuller said Brown can bring new ideas to the event.

"By his personality, you know that he can bring light to ROC Fest and probably new ideas that would bring more people," Fuller said.

Hillman also pointed out that the constitution committee would have the constitution ready by the next RHA meeting at 5 p.m. on Thursday at Carman Hall.

Jarad Jarmon can be reached at 581-2812 or [jsjarmon@eiu.edu](mailto:jsjarmon@eiu.edu).

## ONLINE | BLOGS



Check out News Editor Robyn Dexter's music blog featuring artists such as Cnadyland, Disclosure and Dillon Francis at [www.dextersbeatlaboratory.com](http://www.dextersbeatlaboratory.com)

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To report any errors, local events or general suggestions for future editions please contact our Editor-in-Chief, Rachel Rodgers, via: Phone | 581-2812, Email | [DENEic@gmail.com](mailto:DENEic@gmail.com) Office visit | 1811 Buzzard Hall.

## FUNDRAISER | HUMANE SOCIETY

# Students to dodge for good cause

By Vicky Kane  
Staff Reporter

What started as a class project has become a full-fledged dodgeball tournament to raise money for the Humane Society, and it has all the athletes coming out to support the fundraiser.

Alison Berens, a senior wvmanagement major, said she and five other students from her project management course had to choose an organization they wanted to raise money for and create a fundraiser to do so.

The dodgeball tournament will take place at noon Saturday in the Student Recreation Center.

Each team has five members and each member pays \$5, which leaves each team spending \$25 to take part in the tournament, Berens said.

To ensure the fundraiser had a good turnout, Berens recommended involving the volleyball team, which she has spent the last four years being a part of, to her class group.

"I suggested we do something through the volleyball team since I already know them," she said. "I suggested that everyone in the group make their own team as well, so that's six more teams. That way we will have about 15 or 16 teams."

Larry White, a business professor,

said the students are in charge of the entire process.

"Students take these projects all the way from the initial proposals through execution of the actual project and post-project evaluation," White said.

Berens' teammate Kelsey Brooke said this tournament is a positive thing for everyone involved, and said she hopes the fundraiser will be a success.

"I think any chance to do something with our team together is always good, and I think bringing in other athletic groups makes the athletic program a tighter knit community," Brooke said. "This is definitely something we can carry on because it's something that

people enjoy, and hopefully it's able to raise quite a bit of money where it makes an impact."

Berens said the goal is to raise between \$300 and \$400 after taking out all expenses, but she said she hopes to raise much more by keeping her costs low.

Vicky Kane can be reached at 581-2812 or [vakane@eiu.edu](mailto:vakane@eiu.edu).



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## PAWS UP/PAWS DOWN



**FLOP THE VOTE:**  
Just more than 900 students voted in the student government elections on Thursday. Out of a school of around 10,000? C'mon.



**TEAR DOWN THIS WALL:**  
The Wall of Oppression will be torn down today at noon. A great show of tearing down the boundaries of diversity.



**MERCY RULE:**  
The Eastern softball team, like the baseball team, knocked out an in-state rival. This time it was Southern Illinois-Carbondale. The Panthers won 21-10.

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

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

Letters to the editor can be brought in with identification to *The DEN* or to the DENopinions@gmail.com.

**"LET'S GIVE THEM SOMETHING TO TALK ABOUT"**

**Around what time do you start studying for finals?**

To submit your opinion on today's topic, bring it in with identification to *The DEN* at 1811 Buzzard Hall or submit it electronically from the author's EIU email address to DENopinions@gmail.com by 4 p.m. today or reply to us on social media.

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## DRAWN FROM THE EASEL



DOMINIC RENZETTI | THE DAILY EASTERN NEWS

## STAFF EDITORIAL

# Marriage equality on the horizon

The fight for marriage equality took a huge step forward last week, as two cases concerning same-sex marriage reached the halls of the Supreme Court.

On March 26, the court heard arguments in a challenge of California's Proposition 8. The ballot proposition was passed by California in 2008 and restricts the recognition of marriage to opposite-sex couples.

Fresh on the case's heels, the court heard arguments on March 27 challenging the Defense of Marriage Act.

DOMA is a federal law signed by President Bill Clinton in 1996 that denies recognition of same-sex marriages for all federal purposes, including federal employee insurance benefits, Social Security survivors' benefits, taxes and immigration. The court is expected to reach a decision on both cases in June.

The fight for marriage equality is not just a national issue. Proponents of same-sex marriage are also fighting within Illinois to convince legislatures to pass a bill that would recognize same-sex marriage.

Though the bill has passed the Illinois Senate, and Gov. Pat Quinn has vowed to sign the bill, uncertainty remains if the House will pass the bill and make Illinois the 10th state to recognize same-sex marriage. The House reconvenes from a break on April 10 and is expected to take up the issue quickly, though the bill's future remains uncertain.

However, while the vote of Illinois legislatures and the ultimate decision of the Supreme Court remain uncertain, the momentum of the call for marriage equality is undeniable. In the past decade, the issue of same-sex marriage has become a passionate national topic that has moved many to stand up and speak out against what they perceive as

### OUR POSITION

- **Situation:** Same-sex marriage remains a hot issue in government.
- **Stance:** All Americans should soon have the same rights to unite under marriage.

discrimination.

National polls have reflected this groundswell of support for marriage equality, showing a majority of Americans now believes same-sex couples should have the same rights as opposite-sex couples.

Multiple national organizations have been founded seemingly overnight within the past few years, their sole purpose to raise awareness and support for marriage equality.

Even politicians have reflected the shift in national opinion. The conservative mainstay of same-sex marriage opposition is no longer as solid within the party as it once was. Republicans, such as Ohio Sen. Rob Portman and Illinois Sen. Mark Kirk, have recently crossed the aisle in support of same-sex marriage, symbolizing the crumbling foundations of same-sex marriage opposition.

Even the fact that the issue of marriage equality has reached the halls of the Supreme Court is a clear signal of the direction the nation is headed. The people of the nation want to see the issue of marriage equality resolved, and the Supreme Court is willing to hear their voices and make its ruling.

And again, while the court's ruling cannot be decisively predicted, the momentum of the nation's call for marriage equality is one that will not easily be halted, and one that will burst through any barriers in the future. Soon, all Americans will be afforded the same rights under the law and be able to unite in the bonds of marriage; it is only a matter of time.

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

# Spring style isn't worth the money

As crazy as it sounds, it is finally warming up outside.

I can't believe it was just a year ago, I was standing in line at Thomas Hall, and one of the sandwich makers was angrily ranting about how the early warm weather cut "yoga pant season" off to soon.

Despite his intriguing suggestions, I'm not too upset that I can wear shorts without the wind chill punishing my legs.

I was eating lunch the other day and I overheard someone say they spend \$300 on clothes per season.

Ladies, despite your stereotyped sensation for shopping, you have to be kidding me?

That is 1,200 smackers per year.

That is a lot of dough toward looking "fresh." I hear my roommates, friends, and other randoms talk about how they need to look "fresh" when they go out to fulfill their day.

The only thing that should be fresh is my Subway sandwich.

Maybe, I am unable to comprehend why people do this is because I don't understand fashion.



**Kyle Daubs**

Scratch that, I definitely don't understand fashion.

I mean, I'm the guy who didn't own a pair of jeans until two months before I graduated high school.

My choice of a nice shirt is my Derrick Lee pinstripe Cubs jersey.

My version of my Sunday's best was my finest pair of sweatpants and my First United Methodist Church sweatshirt.

For all of you who know me, just look at my family Easter photo. I'm the guy with the mismatching Eastern sweats and U of I hoodie.

I grew up in a poor household, give me a break.

I didn't own nice clothes, and I grew up not seeing a point in shelling out currency on new clothes each year.

For those who do indulge on this, why the hell is this necessary? What is wrong the clothes you already own?

Ladies, I know you have clothes by the boat load. I lived in the dorms once.

I remember seeing carts being wheeled out of Carman, mostly being full of clothing.

I still wear clothes that I wore in the eighth grade. Maybe the reason I'm forever alone is because I don't look poppin' when I dress, right?

The overall message is who cares what you look like. That being said, it's your money, and you have the right to spend it on whatever you please.

When you are older, just don't complain about not having extra cash because of your apparel mountain residing in your basement.

**Kyle Daubs is a junior math and special education major. He can be reached at 581-2812 or denopinions@gmail.com**

## ADMINISTRATION | NEW CLASSES

# CAA approves technology courses

By **Stephanie Markham**  
Administration Editor

The Council on Academic Affairs approved two courses about current trends in media technology during its meeting Thursday.

Gabriel Grant, a technology instructor, said the "Trends in Digital Media Technology" course would help acclimate students to a changing industry.

"It developed out of the need for our students simply because when they graduate, they may enter a field, and the technology they are working with will be obsolete or changed within a short period," he said.

Grant said the course would be offered both traditionally and through a combination of labs and online instruction.

He said this would be a more hands-on course, and students would mostly use technology available for free.

"There's a number of technologies we can't offer by hands-on learning in a traditional course simply because of cost or facilities," he said. "But that doesn't mean they shouldn't get the opportunity to research and discuss and look at the implications of many of these technologies that they will be dealing with when they graduate."

He said the Print Industries of America recommended offering a course focusing on electronic publishing.

He said the "Digital Media Publishing Technologies" course would focus on creating applications like electronic books and magazines for mobile applications and other Internet media.

"Print publication is rapidly declining especially with the advent of mobile technology," he said. "As a result of that, we need to be able to offer our students an opportunity to be able to investigate, create, publish and share technologies

specific to these devices as well."

Both courses will be available in the Fall 2013 semester.

The council also approved a reduction of the prerequisites for political science departmental honors from 19 to 16 hours.

Melinda Mueller, a political science professor, said students had been required to have a 3.5 GPA and take all introductory courses.

"Over the past decade we've added hours, and that presents a problem for a lot of our majors, particularly those who transfer who are in an excellent position to do departmental honors but don't identify until they're juniors," she said.

She said students would now have the option to choose between two introductory courses.

The council also voted to offer two introductory philosophy courses online starting in the fall semester.

Jonelle DePetro, chairwoman of the philosophy department, said the online versions would only be available to off-campus students.

Rebecca Throneburg, a council member and communication disorders and sciences professor, suggested having synchronous class sessions so students can better demonstrate speaking skills.

John Best, a psychology professor, gave a presentation about the Bachelor of Arts in psychology.

He said about half of students who graduate with the degree work in fields outside of psychology like marketing, managing or sales.

"When I call alums on the phone, often times I hear some new job that I've never heard of before that they're doing, which is fantastic," Best said.

*Stephanie Markham can be reached at 581-2812 or samarkham@eiu.edu.*

## Remembering the fallen



DOMINIC BAIMA | THE DAILY EASTERN NEWS

Regina Schwindenhammer, and Maddie Mudd, both sophomore special education majors, look at the Illinois Fallen Heroes Traveling Memorial Wall in Booth Library on Thursday. Mudd said they saw the trailer and wanted to check it out.

### » RESEARCH CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

He said the biology side of the team would raise the mice, isolate tissues and look at organelles.

"It's a very synergistic approach that we can look at different levels of biological organizations by addressing a common question," Menze said.

Fernandez and Erbacher are presenting their findings to members of the Senate and House of Representatives from April 23 to 24.

Their project was one of 60 selected from 800 by the Council on Undergraduate Research, and it has been presented in five states at seven different conferences.

The research was funded through grants from the National Science Foundation, the National Institute of Health and the Honors College.

"It's basically to show that even undergraduate students doing relatively small scale research can have pretty significant success," he said.

Erbacher said Alzheimer's disease would interest people in Congress because it is a topic people do not know a lot about.

"We know how it entails, but we don't know how it starts or progresses, and I think that's something that interests a lot of people in Congress," he said.

Fernandez said he initially decid-

ed to do research to boost his résumé, and it helped him get into medical school.

He said he spent 45 to 50 hours per week during summers and about 20 hours per week during the school year doing research.

Erbacher said he took only one credit hour of research as an undergraduate but spent seven to eight hours per week in the lab.

He said they passed their research on to other students to continue the study.

*Stephanie Markham can be reached at 581-2812 or samarkham@eiu.edu.*

#### NOTICE OF CONSOLIDATED ELECTION

APRIL 9, 2013

COLES COUNTY, ILLINOIS

Notice is hereby given that a Consolidated Election will be held on Tuesday, April 9, 2013 at the various polling places in Coles County, Illinois for the nomination of candidates to the offices listed below:

**City/Village:** Mayor or President, Clerk, Treasurer  
Council Members, Commissioners, Trustees

**Township:** Supervisor, Clerk, Assessor/Multi-township  
Assessor, Road Commissioner Trustees

**Board/Trustees** for the following districts:

Regional School, Community College, School, Fire, Park,  
Library

Polls of said election will be open from 6:00 AM to 7:00 PM on said Election Day. Check Voter ID card for precinct and voting site locations or call Coles County Clerk's Office.

Sue Rennels  
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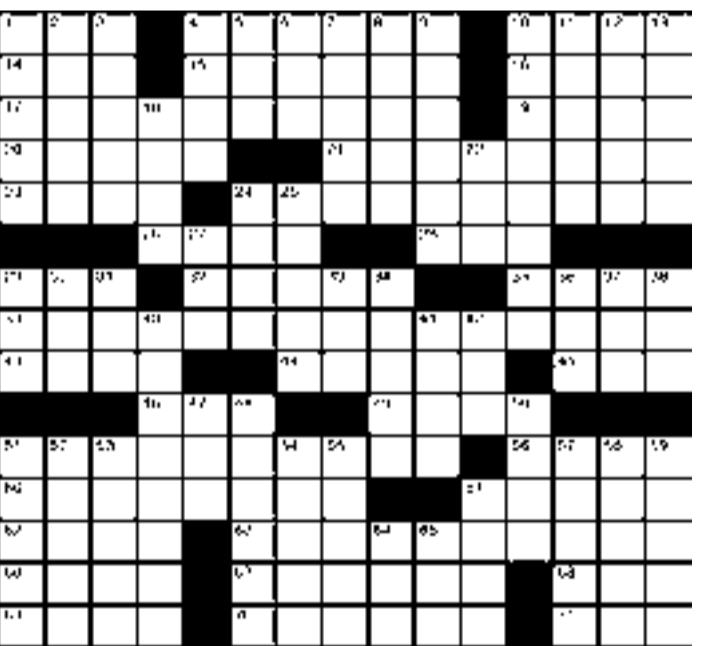
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**Los Angeles Times Daily Crossword Puzzle**  
Edited by Rich Norris and Joyce Lewis

- ACROSS**
- Org. where weight matters
  - Ancient Ephraimite's home
  - Pasture calls 14 "Ben-\_\_"
  - Caterer's supply
  - Succotash bean
  - Falk and Fonda after mud wrestling?
  - Since
  - Overhead views
  - "You got me"
  - Hawaiian coffee
  - Overzealous peach eaters?
  - Treated, as a patient
  - Midwinter Asian holiday
  - Tin \_\_
  - Packs in a hold
  - End notes?
  - Oils a deck of cards?
  - Office specialist
  - Lost, as a tail
  - Storm maker of yore
  - CIA predecessor
  - Falls back
  - Security images of an armed robbery?
  - Salon choice
  - Nine to three, say
  - Heart conditions?
  - Inter \_\_
  - Gal idolizing actor Matthew?
  - Scratch
  - Pathetic to the max
  - Mauna \_\_
  - Wolverine sneaker brand
  - '50s tankers?
  - Bungle
- DOWN**
- Roux-making tool
  - Chichester chap
  - "Catch-22" actor
  - Net profit makers, briefly
  - Sault \_\_ Marie
  - Like many a mil. officer
  - Ain't right?



TRACK AND FIELD | AWAY GAME

# Team prepares for Ohio game

Staff Report

Eastern's men and women's track team will compete for the second time this outdoor season, and they will travel to Miami University of Ohio on Friday.

At last weekend's meet, on Southern Illinois University's turf, the track team came back with six first-place finishes.

Red-shirt junior pole vaulter Jade Riebold won the women's pole vault with height of 14 feet.

Red-shirt junior pole vaulter Mick Viken, who normally ranks in the top 10 in the men's pole vault when he competes, did not compete at last week's meet. Sophomore thrower David Johansson took first place in the men's javelin, and he won with a throw of 204-feet, 9-inches.

Sophomore distance runner Bryce Basting won the men's 1,500-meter run. Basting ran a time of 3:51.84.

Sean Wiggan, a red-shirt senior distance runner, placed first in the men's 800-meter run. Wiggan ran a time of 1:51.69.

Red-shirt senior Tyler Carter won the men's long jump competition, and senior distance runner Britney Whitehead won the women's steeplechase.

Carter won after jumping a length of 24-feet, 3.75-inches.

Whitehead ran a time of 10:33.12.

Butler University, Shawnee State University, Xavier University are some of the schools competing at the meet.

There was a string of top 10 victories.

Junior hurdler Jalisa Paramore was second last weekend in the women's 100-meter hurdles.

Paramore ran a time of 13.89.

Pablo Ramirez, a red-shirt junior



FILE PHOTO | THE DAILY EASTERN NEWS

Junior red-shirt Mick Viken flies through the air during his pole vault in March 2012 at O'Brien Field. The Panthers travel to the Miami Redhawks Invitational in Oxford, Ohio for a meet Friday and Saturday.

distance runner, placed eighth in the men's 1,500-meter run with a time of 3:59.10.

Freshman pole vaulter Eric Gordon was sixth in the men's pole vault with a height of 15-feet, 9-inches.

Red-shirt freshman Joe Calio was third in the men's steeplechase.

Calio ran a time of 9:50.55.

Sophomore Maura Cummins was third in the women's high jump.

Cummins jumped a height of 5-feet, 4.25-inches.

Reid cleared a height of 11-feet, 8.5-inches, and Schmitz cleared the bar at a height of 12-feet.

The competition will kick off with the men's 100-meter dash at 1 p.m.

TENNIS | AWAY GAME

# Women ready for spring season

By **Cody Delmendo**  
Staff Reporter

The Eastern's women's golf team has its first tournament of the spring starting on Sunday in the Don Benbow Butler Invitational at Jacksonville Beach Golf Club in Jacksonville, Fla.

During the fall season, the women's squad managed to finish in the top 10 of every tournament they played.

The best finish as a team was fifth at the Butler Fall Invitational.

The Panthers hope to continue that trend this spring.

Two seniors, Lauren Williams and Emily Calhoon, lead the Panthers.

Head coach Mike Moncel said he is confident in his team going into the spring, but knows this first tournament is going to show a lot of rust since they have not had much practice time due to weather.

"Were going in blind," Moncel said. "We aren't the only team from the Midwest going into this tournament so I expect us to be in the middle of the pack."

Senior Emily Calhoon finished in the top 20 in three out of the four tournaments in the fall season. Her best finish was at the SIU-Edwardsville Fall Intercollegiate where she finished in ninth individually.

Lauren Williams had her two best

performances at the Chicago State Cougar Classic, where she finished in the top five individually and at the Dayton Fall Invitational, where she finished in the top 10 individually.

Williams said she hopes to finish her last semester at Eastern with top finishes.

"I'm hoping to have a productive spring," Williams said. "I am looking forward to playing my last semester."

Because the squad has not had much practice time because of the inclement weather, it is hard to tell who could be a surprise for their team, but from the fall season one person who stood out were Tiffany Wolf and Elyse Banovic, Williams said.

"Tiffany had a strong last tournament and will hopefully carry into the spring, and Elyse always gives it her all and she is starting to put all the pieces together so I think she could be a someone to look out for," Williams said.

The tournament this weekend is the first of four tournaments this spring and then the Ohio Valley Conference Championship at the end of the season.

Eastern is the only school from the OVC to be participating in the tournament.

*Cody Delmendo can be reached at 581-2812 or cdelmendo@eiu.edu.*

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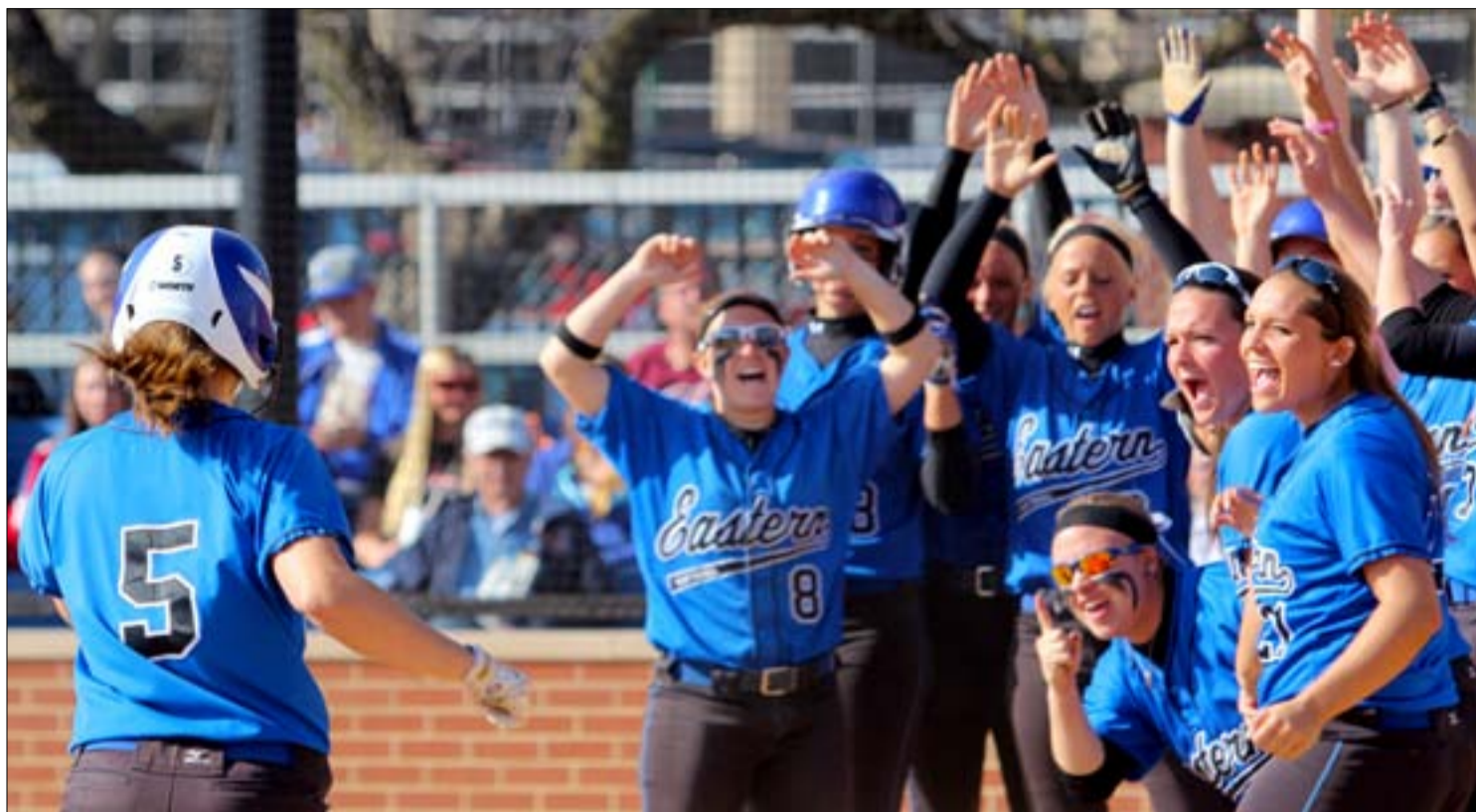
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## SOFTBALL | AWAY GAME



DOMINIC BAIMA | THE DAILY EASTERN NEWS

The Panther softball team celebrates junior infielder Carly Willerts's homerun during the softball game against Southern Illinois-Carbondale Thursday at Williams Field. The Panthers beat the Salukis 8-0.

## Panthers shutout Salukis in non-conference win

By Anthony Catezone  
Sports Editor

Pitcher Hanna Mennenga adjusting to the size of the strike zone may have been the only difficult part of the Eastern softball team's 8-0 win over Southern Illinois-Carbondale Thursday.

Mennenga walked Morgan Barchan, the first Salukis she saw, on five pitches to begin the game at Williams Field.

"I learned the zone after the first few (pitches) there," Mennenga said. "(The umpire's) strike zone wasn't very low. The first batter, I threw a lot of low pitches and brought it up a little bit after that."

She said after learning what calls she was going to see from the umpire, she knew she could not throw too low in the strike zone.

Coach Kim Schuette said despite the questionable calls early in the game, Mennenga was able to work ahead in the count.

"Hanna did great, besides walking the first kid — which were some close calls," Schuette said. "She was working ahead and her ball was moving she just let it fly. She took over and that's what we want her to do."

Mennenga, the reigning Ohio Valley Conference Pitcher of the Week, struck the next six batters and 12 for the game — extending her

NCAA-best strikeout total to 186.

Mennenga, who improved to 14-4, pitched five innings, giving up one hit and one walk on 85 pitches.

"My curveball was really moving," she said.

Mennenga said her curveball was her go-to pitch whenever she had the two strikes on the batter.

Meanwhile, in the bottom of the first inning, it was the Panthers who took advantage on offense, scoring three runs and capitalizing on two Salukis errors.

With the bases loaded and one out, shortstop Bailey O'Dell hit the ball down the third base line.

The ball went through third baseman Kelsea Ashton's legs — leading to the Panthers first two runs.

One out later, with O'Dell on third, first baseman Reynae Hutchinson hit a line drive to right field where Barchan appeared to catch the ball, ending the inning, until she juggled it and it fell out of her glove.

O'Dell reached home safely, putting the Panthers up 3-0.

Schuette said she compares her offense to a horse race in terms of how it attacks early in the game.

"When the bell goes off in a horse race, the horses don't just stand there and look at each other," Schuette said. "The bell goes off, the horses get out of the gate. We did that today, right from the first inning."

Mennenga said the early lead Eastern allowed her to pitch with a clear mind and no pressure for the remainder of the game.

Carbondale coach Kerri Blaylock credited Mennenga's 12-strikeout performance, but thought the game was lost in the bottom of the first.

"The game started in the bottom of the first when we make two errors and give them (three) runs," Blaylock said. "From there Eastern had tons of momentum, and we had zip. I don't think we're a 12-strikeout team, but I give her credit for throwing very well."

Eastern added a solo home run by Carly Willert in the bottom of the second and four more runs in the bottom of the fourth off two two-run singles by Hannah Cole and Brooke Owens.

Mennenga then struck out two of the last three batters in the top of the fifth, causing the mercy rule of an eight-run lead after five innings.

Eastern improves to 21-10 overall with the non-conference win and Carbondale falls to 14-18 overall with the loss.

Anthony Catezone can be reached at 581-2812 or ajcatezone@eiu.edu.

## BASEBALL | AWAY GAME

## Eastern to battle for first OVC triumph

By Aldo Soto  
Assistant Sports Editor

Improving its record to 7-18 with a 20-2 win against Illinois State, Eastern's baseball team won its second straight home game Wednesday.

But Coach Jim Schmitz and the rest of the Panthers are still looking to win their first Ohio Valley Conference win of the season.

Eastern will host a three-game series against Murray State beginning at 3 p.m. on Friday.

The Panthers' last OVC series resulted in a sweep at the hands of Jacksonville State.

The Eastern bats scored five runs in the three-game series, which led to Schmitz having a team meeting Monday.

The message to the offense was clear, follow the game plan, Schmitz said he told the team.

"We showed them some film and they saw that the only reason they are not having success with it, is because they haven't done it," Schmitz said.

Schmitz said following instructions would be important this weekend against Murray State.

Murray State likes to frequently pitch away, he said.

"I can't imagine it not going well in terms of our approach," he said. "We made it very clear, this is what we have to do. The guys had success Wednesday and that's what it's all about."

The approach is for the Eastern batters to take pitches thrown on the outer third of the plate the other way and not to pull the pitches.

Brant Valach is one of the players who responded with a good game after the Monday meeting and what Schmitz said was on the best practices he has seen in years that took place on Tuesday.

The third baseman recorded three hits in his six-plate appearances in the 20-2 win over Illinois State.

Valach hit two doubles, one coming to the opposite field.

Left-handed hitter Nick Priessman also followed through with the game plan and doubled down the left field line.

With these adjustments Schmitz said the players have been more effective.

"The lesson from (Wednesday) is that we have to do it again today and we'll sense that because the guys had success with it," Schmitz said about the approach to hitting.

Murray State struggled against eastern last year, losing all three games played against the Panthers.

Eastern went on the road in early May and outscored Murray State 39-17 in the three-game sweep.

Schmitz said the Murray State team coming into Coaches Stadium Friday will have to be pitched at and not around.

"They tend to hit in the gap a lot and they do not strike out," Schmitz said. "They're a good hitting team and we're not going to have a lot of easy outs. We're going to attack the strike zone with our pitchers' best strengths."

Murray State is hitting .282, which is fourth highest in the OVC, and the Racers have the third least strikeouts in the conference at 169.

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## TENNIS | AWAY GAME

## Women to prepare for 5th victory

By Al Warpinski  
Staff Reporter

Armed with the Ohio Valley Conference 'Female Athlete of the Week,' Merritt Whitley and the Eastern women's tennis team will attempt to do something they have not done in five years: beat Jacksonville State.

The women this year are poised to do just that.

Winners of eight of the last nine matches, the women's squad is one of the best teams coach John Blackburn has seen in his eight year coaching tenure at Eastern.

"This is the most balanced team I've had here," Blackburn said. "One through eight, they can all play."

The 10-3 Panthers sit in second place of the Ohio Valley Conference standings and look to knock off the fourth place Gamecocks in Alabama Saturday, but it will not be easy.

The Panthers have lost five consecutive matches to the Gamecocks dating back to the 2007-08 season including last year's 3-4 OVC opener loss at home.

Jacksonville State also comes into Saturday's match with momentum of its own. Winners of four out their last five games, the Gamecocks are 3-1 in OVC play with their only OVC loss stemming from a 7-0 sweep at the hands of first place Eastern Kentucky.

The women's squad does have some experience winning against the rival Gamecocks.

Janelle Prisner, Merritt Whitley and Jennifer Kim were the three teammates to pick up singles wins in last years loss.

Prisner won in the first position in a three-set match. She dropped the first set, 4-6, then fought back to claim the second set, 7-6, to force a third set. In come from behind fashion she won the third set and match, 6-4.

Kim defeated her opponent in the fifth position in a straight set sweep, 6-0, 6-0. Whitley won in straight sets as well, defeating her second position opponent, 6-2, 6-4.

Whitley will be searching for her ninth singles win of the season and fifth OVC win. She and Prisner will look to claim their seventh doubles win of the year as well.

The men's squad will also be searching for their first win against Jacksonville State in five years.

The men are coming off a 2-5 OVC road loss to Southern Illinois-Edwardsville on Wednesday.

The 7-6 Panthers sit in the bottom half of the OVC tennis standings at seventh place. They face a Gamecocks squad who sit at 7-11 overall and losers of two out of their last three matches.

Jacksonville State is 3-2 in OVC play and fifth in the standings.

The Panthers will have their work cut out for them. The previous three years, the Panthers have only won two singles matches in their three losses to the Gamecocks.

The 1-6 loss last season saw all six Panthers lose in singles play in straight sets.

The only point they picked up was in doubles play.

Blackburn is confident the men's, relatively, successful season will continue Saturday morning.

"We have good leaders that really care about the success of this team," Blackburn said.

The leaders, like seniors Warren Race and Michael Sperry and junior Kevin Bauman, infused with youth like freshmen Robert Skolik and Ryan Henderson, give the Panthers a great chance to climb the OVC standings and pick up a few more wins before the start of OVC tournament play.

"All of (the men) pull for each other," Blackburn said. "We're excited for the conference matches to close out the season."

The men's and women's teams will be down in Alabama for the start of their sixth OVC match.

First serve for both squads is slated for 10 a.m. on Saturday.

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# ON THE VERGE

## OF THE WEEKEND



# It's time to celebrate

## Concert closes semester-long exhibition

Jordan Thiede  
Verge Reporter

**T**he semester-long tribute to the history and traditions of American music will come to an end this weekend with an eclectic mix of music and dance performances.

The closing concert for "America's Music: A Film History of Our Popular Music from Blues to Bluegrass to Broadway," will take place Saturday at 7 p.m. in the

Dvorak Concert Hall of the Doudna Fine Arts Center.

Some of the performers will include Reverend Robert, the Unity Gospel Choir, Marilyn Coles, Mark Rubel and Friends, Motherlode, the Pink Panthers, Flat Mountain and the EIU Dancers among others.

The exhibit has been focusing on genres of music that are thought of as being culturally important in America.

The different music styles have included Broadway, blues and gospel, jazz and

swing, rock 'n' roll, bluegrass and country, Latino and hip hop.

Marilyn Coles, a professor of voice performance, will be part of the presentation by performing three Broadway standards.

She said she thinks this type of music will be enjoyable to those in attendance, even if they are not familiar with Broadway.

"I think it will interest people of all ages," Coles said.

## 'Hobbit' longer than needed, but still heartwarming

The long-awaited movie, "The Hobbit: An Unexpected Journey," is filled with action and excellent cinematography, but the audience should not expect to get out of the theater early.

The movie, based off of J. R. R. Tolkien's acclaimed book "The Hobbit," which has never been out of print, is now playing in Buzzard Auditorium this weekend. "The Hobbit" is a prequel to the "Lord of the Rings" book and movie trilogy.

Like the "Lord of the Rings" trilogy, "The Hobbit" is 169-minutes long, which may be too long for the casual moviegoer, but for a J. R. R. Tolkien fan the almost three-hour-long movie is well worth the wait.

The same director of the "Lord of the Rings" trilogy, Peter Jackson, gives this movie the same feel and pace as the previous trilogy, with even some of the same actors such as Ian McKellen, Cate Blanchett and Christopher Lee.

The movie starts off with the main character, Bilbo Baggins, living a peaceful, reserved life where his most immediate concern is his next meal. His modest home on top of an easygoing,



Elizabeth Edwards  
Verge Reviewer

grassy hill sets the beginning scene of the movie.

Baggins will leave his peaceful surroundings in "The Hobbit" world and will embark on a journey to the sinister world of dark magic, cruel ogres and hungry trolls.

He reluctantly sets off for an adventure with 13 dwarves and a wizard, Gandalf, to help the dwarves reclaim their lost city, which was taken by a dragon, Smaug.

Baggins must steal the sacred stone, Arkenstone, away from the fire-breathing dragon to help the dwarves win their city and honor back.

Along his journey, Baggins is bombarded with the beautiful city of the elves, boogers of hungry trolls and the grotesque appearance of the ogres.

Throughout his journey, the leader of the dwarves, Thorin Oakenshield, will question if Baggins should be part of their quest, but the wizard, Gandalf, will always insist that Baggins should stay.

Since I have not read the J. R. R. Tolkien books, I found the beginning of the movie to be long and tedious, but overall I found that the movie was action-packed and entertaining.

For example, the movie is slow when Gandalf tricks Baggins to host all the dwarfs at his homestead, where there is a lot of dialogue and very, little action.

The movie contains themes of greed, heroism and friendship throughout, which the average movie viewer can relate to.

The viewer will find themselves rooting for the little guy — Baggins — to ultimately save the day. They may not even notice they sat through an almost three hour movie.

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## Killswitch Engage- 'Disarm the Descent'

With their original screaming manic back on track, the melodic metalcore leaders Killswitch Engage bellowed out their latest album "Disarm the Descent."

Killswitch Engage was significant in the spawning of the metalcore genre, and their dynamic, yet palatably catchy songs contributed to what was known as the new wave of metal in America.

The album opens with the track "The Hell In Me," which suggests being lost and helpless in one's own mind. It's a fast paced, drum heavy song that sets the tone of the rest of the album fairly well.

Knowing Leech's past (the lead singer), "This Hell" is probably referring to depression and being a slave to one's own emotions or psychotic thoughts. One line in particular lets you know this is a Killswitch Engage song, "I will not be moved from this place inside of me until I understand this part of me."

A lot of their songs bring up loneliness or sadness, and then propose empowerment over those struggles.

The strong, screaming vocals and fast, heavy riffs set up an acknowledgement and a healthy release of those difficult emotions, and the shift to softer transitions and clean vocals takes the listener down from those heights and lends itself to healing.

"In Due Time" is the album's single. It does not sound much different than the rest of the record, but it does continue the theme. These lyrics in particular are very directly empowering, proclaiming that, "all in due time, shadows



Stephanie Markham  
Administration Editor

will give way to light."

The album is definitely cohesive and centers on the theme of rising over emotional struggles, but there is no larger story to follow. Listeners probably would not have expected there to be, but the execution of very similar songs gets a bit tiring.

There really is no shift or variation in content or in delivery. The song "Always," toward the end is more ballad-like, and is a nice insertion before the album ends.

The album almost seems like it ends too soon, and when it ends, it sort of drops off randomly with no resolution. However, there was resolution prevalent throughout the album. Songs are short and to the point, but packed with meaning.

All in all, this record was a good comeback for Jesse Leach.

He proved he really took the time to self-reflect and to rise over his struggles like many of these songs suggest.

He also proved he still has it in him to carry out intense screams.

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**weekend events** what's going on around town

Friday	Saturday	Sunday
UB Movie: The Hobbit <b>Buzzard Auditorium</b> 7 p.m.	America's Music: Closing Concert <b>Doudna Fine Arts Center, Dvorak Concert Hall</b> 7 p.m.	Cello Studio Recital <b>Doudna Fine Arts Center, Recital Hall</b> 6 p.m.

**STAFF**

**Verge Editor** | Jaime Lopez  
**Verge Designer** | Courtney Runyon

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## Music, from page 1

The music she will be performing is coming from a different era, so Coles said she feels like it will appeal to those who are older.

She said the younger audience members will also be able to learn about how the music that they listen to today evolved from the music of decades past.

Coles also said she thinks it is important for people to attend shows such as this because they are fortunate "to have the opportunity to see these events in a town this size."

Brenda Major, the adviser for the Unity Gospel Choir, said her group will be performing songs that help to celebrate the history of American music.

She said most members of the group typically enjoy performing as a hobby, rather than as an avenue to a potential career.

"Most of them just love to sing," she said. "Some of them view it as an opportunity to share their love for Christ with the community."

Major said she felt that this show has the potential of making people more conscious of the various events that are constantly going on in the area.

"I think people need to be made aware of the variety of culture and events on campus, not just for the campus, but for the surrounding community," she said.

Community and faculty members are the people that typically go to these events, Major said.

She said she hopes that by having more student organizations performing, more of their peers will want to attend.

Although the America's Music tribute focused on that art form, dance is going to be a big part of this closing concert.

Antoine Thomas, the director of the EIU Dancers, thinks this event will give his group a unique opportunity to showcase their talents to an audience that may not be familiar with their work.

"For us as EIU Dancers, it's a perfect opportunity to participate in something of this level," Thomas said. "As a performance based team, we are always excited and thrilled at the opportunity to entertain people."

Thomas said most members view this as a hobby, but some have furthered their talent into possible future careers.

"Since Eastern doesn't have a dance program, people don't come here for dance," he said. "They initially think of it as a hobby. Once they get started, some do start thinking about it as a career."

Thomas said the group will likely be performing two to three selections from their spring performance, which included a tribute to Michael Jackson, since there was such a quick turnaround in between these two shows.

He said he thinks it is important for people to come out and support his group and other organizations on campus to encourage them at their art.

He said he feels that this performance will also be able to inspire the audience and "take them on a journey."

The support from the audience will also help the performers in Thomas' opinion.

"Performers by nature love and feed off of feedback," he said. "The harder the audience supports them, the harder the performers will work for you."

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PHOTOS BY MARCUS SMITH | THE DAILY EASTERN NEWS

Dakota McDaniels, playing the role of the patriarch, and Jacob Cole, playing the role of the matriarch, talk of their duty to Queen and Country during a practice of "Cloud 9" Sunday in the Black Box of Doudna Fine Arts Center.



Andrew Swanson and Miranda Buob, directors of the student rendition of "Cloud 9," give the actors some words of encouragement before practice Sunday in the Black Box of Doudna Fine Arts Center. "Cloud 9" was written by British playwright Caryl Churchill in 1979.



Julie Zielinski, playing the role of the grandmother, and William Stinde, playing the role of the slave boy, strike a pose during a practice of "Cloud 9" Sunday in the Black Box of Doudna Fine Arts Center.

# Student directors stage their first show

Stephanie White  
Verge Reporter

"Cloud 9" is the first show at Eastern that is being directed by students.

"Cloud 9" is a play that was written by British playwright Caryl Churchill.

It is a two-act play, the first act is staged in British colonial Africa in Victorian Times.

The second act is staged in London Park in 1979.

Between the acts, however, only 25 years have gone by for the characters.

Andrew Swanson, a senior theatre arts major, is one of the students directing the show.

This is his first time working behind the scene.

"I was drawn to 'Cloud 9' because of the challenge to it. There is a lot of material that is very adult," Swanson said. "It is very mature, really out there and kind of strange."

Swanson said this play is one viewers have to think about and analyze.

"The challenge of it was neat," Swanson said.

Swanson said the play is about gender roles and stereotypes.

"It is how it feels to have a label placed on you," Swanson said.

Swanson said a huge jump in between the two acts occurs, and because of that, viewers see how much has changed over the years Swanson said.

"But at the same time, how little has really changed with these stereotypes," Swanson said.

There is a lot of material that is very adult. It is very mature, really out there and kind of strange.

ANDREW SWANSON, SENIOR THEATRE ARTS MAJOR

The play is an ensemble piece and there are seven actors in the play, but between those actors they play more than 14 different characters, Swanson said.

"Because it is this big commentary on gender roles in the first act, some female roles are played by males and vice versa," Swanson said.

Swanson said that he is both excited and nervous about directing.

"I've been main a performer and I feel that when you are on stage you have more control of the show," Swanson said. "When you are directing, you have to sit there and watch it and see what happens."

Swanson said he performance experience has helped find his best way of directing.

Miranda Buob, a senior English major, is also a student director for "Cloud 9."

This is her first time directing a main stage big production as well.

Buob said her and Swanson were chosen by the department to direct as a team.

"It is the most difficult thing that I have done in all my four years here," Buob said. "All plays are challenging, but this play has a lot of levels that were hard to work with, because there is a lot of symbolism in the play."

The playwright, Caryl Churchill, likes to push the boundaries and make people uncomfortable, but think at the same time, which is why "Cloud 9" is a play that is more difficult to direct, Buob said.

The taboo issues that are talked about in the play are another reason why this play is hard to direct.

"This is a great show and different than all the other shows that we have done and perfect for our campus because it is edgy, modern and outside of the box," Buob said.

Buob said this is the type of show that more students will be interested in watching.

"We want the audience to leave the play in self-reflection because this play not only talks about labels that people place on you, but the labels you live up to as well," Buob said.

Shelby White, a sophomore theatre arts major, plays three different characters in "Cloud 9."

She plays Ellen in the first act, who is the governess to the family and is hopelessly in love with the character Betty, who is the mother of the children Ellen looks after.

The other character she plays in act one is Mrs. Saunders, who is a widow and a feminist made strong. In act two, White plays Betty.

It is the same Betty character as in the first act, but has changed a lot.

"She's left her husband and has found a new found independence and is learning to live by herself," White said.

Julie Zielinski, a senior theatre arts major, plays two characters. She plays Maude in the first act and Lin in Act Two.

"Maude is Betty's mother in the first act. She is very overbearing and over stays her welcome and is very opinionated," Zielinski said.

In the second act, her character Lin is the complete opposite of Maude, White said.

Lin is a lesbian raising a four-year-old daughter, and has no regard for social norms.

She has no concern with other people's opinions of her.

"I think that this play will really make the audience think and is definitely something different that what Eastern is used to seeing," Zielinski said. "I think that it will shake things up a bit and that they will realize that you don't have to stick to societies norms and you can be who you are."

"Cloud 9" is an adult-themed play and is not intended for children.

It is advised that audience members be 18 years old or older to see the play.

"Cloud 9" will open at Doudna's Black Box Theatre on Wednesday at 7:30 p.m.

It will close on April 14 at 2 p.m.

*Stephanie White can be reached at 581-2812 or sewhite2@eiu.edu.*

# Betty White, Jane Leeves wax philosophical

By Jaime Lopez  
Verge Editor

By the time they become 91, most actors are retired.

Betty White, on the other hand, has maintained a stable acting career for more than half a century.

Currently, she is starring in two shows: "Hot in Cleveland" and "Off their Rockers," "The Mary Tyler Moore Show" and "Golden Girls" are just some of the shows White helped put on the map.

White said she has never been this busy.

She barely has time to watch TV.

"I watch the news, but I don't have time to watch most television. I'm 91, and I'm the busiest I've ever been in my life," White said.

However, White said despite having years of acting experience under her belt, she still gets nervous when it comes to acting in front of a crew.

White and her cast mate Jane Leeves said they are both nervous because of the level of professionalism each director and writer demonstrates, White said.

"Hot in Cleveland" is currently on its fourth season, and the actress said there will be a few surprises left in store for audiences.

Among them, White revealed that a "Mary Tyler Moore Show" reunion will happen somewhere down the road.

Craig Ferguson, White and Leeves said, will also make a guest appearance on the show.

"Hot in Cleveland" is TV Land's first original sitcom, and Leeves said the series helped put the cable channel on the map. It was picked up for a fifth season, and that will put the show well past 100 episodes.

The show has gotten the green light for syndication through CBS

Television Distribution.

"I heard it said that 'Hot in Cleveland' did for TV Land what 'Mad Men' did to AMC, which is give the network a brand name," Leeves said.

White said she is thrilled to have opportunity to support a long career.

"It's the best thing in the world, you can't get rid of me," White said.

White said what keeps the program fresh and relevant is the chemistry between cast mates Jane Leeves, Valerie Bertinelli, Wendi Malick and herself.

"I think that chemistry was there from the start," White said.

Leeves agreed. "When we first sat down at that first reading, it felt like there was chemistry," Leeves said.

When she was on "Golden Girls," White played the character of Rose Nylund, one of the three characters desperately looking for some kind of calling.

With the new show, White has become the voice of reason.

In a way, she said she has become a version of Sophia Petrillo, the oldest character in the quartet from "Golden Girls."

"I think the writers write Elka (White's current role on Hot in Cleveland) with Estelle (Getty, the actress who played Sophia) in mind," White said.

Leeves acknowledged that while they are in close proximity to the writers, the actors on the set are kept in the dark about where their characters are going.

"It's always exciting for us because we don't know our characters are going," Leeves said.

White said writers of today, and since the inception of "Golden Girls," have helped female comedians gain notoriety among audiences.

She and Leeves said audiences



Jane Leeves and Betty White sit on the set of "Hot in Cleveland."

SUBMITTED PHOTO

"I watch the news, but I don't have time to watch most television. I'm 91, and I'm the busiest I've ever been in my life."

BETTY WHITE, STAR OF 'HOT IN CLEVELAND'

have also taken well to female comedians like Tina Fey and Amy Poehler and Roseanne Barr.

White said it is easier to be a female comedian now, especially on a cable show.

She said working on a set for a cable show is much different from working on a set for a network show.

"It feels like there's trust and a lot of freedom," White said.

"Somebody was always trying to rewrite the script or change our clothing on 'Golden Girls.'"

On this show, Leeves said the actors have freedom to work without the interference of executives.

Leeves starred in "Frasier" on NBC years before landing her spot on "Hot in Cleveland."

On her other show, "Off Their Rockers," White and an army of seniors take to the streets of Los

Angeles to pull pranks on unsuspecting victims.

"It shows you don't stop having a good time even when you're old," White said.

White said with all of the work in front of her now, she has had no time to think about her future as an actress, but she's content on living in the moment. Leeves pointed out that there is young following for their show, and that it is mostly because of White's appeal.

"You draw all of these young people in," Leeves said.

White joked and said, "Yeah, at 91."

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# Husband-wife duo brings brand of religious music to JAC

By Jaime Lopez  
Verge Editor

Rebecca Congleton did not marry her high school sweetheart.

Her husband, Joe Congleton, attended the same high school as her, but they hardly ever interacted with each other.

"He was the jock in high school, and I really wasn't into that," Congleton said. "We were two people who knew the other, but never really made an attempt to talk to each other."

Rebecca Congleton said she lost contact with him and ended up meeting Joe after discovering they both played music for the same church.

They married in 2008 and started a rock band with a few friends, launching an album together.

However, most of the band's members picked up and left, making their original group more and more of a pipe dream until it dwindled down to a party of two.

Rebecca and Joe were the only two left, and they changed their

genre of music, along with the subject matter.

They went from being an alternative rock band to a Christian, folk, indie group, as Rebecca Congleton described it.

That's when The Surrendering was conceived.

"We reinvented ourselves," she said.

Even though they reinvented their music and sound, Rebecca Johnson and her husband had a limited background in music, even though they gave a facelift to their sound.

For the past three years, Congleton said they have played every weekend and embraced their dream of being a duo.

"It's our calling, and we don't do this for the money. We actually do it for our love of music," Congleton said.

The only problem they currently face is going from being an amateur act to a full-on professional band, Congleton said.

Plus, Congleton said she and her husband are trying to find a way to make a living out of live

performances

Congleton said it is hard to venture on a new career when there is no stable foundation for them to start from.

"It's scary to think about losing stability and not knowing where you're future will take you," Congleton said.

She said they also took to a recording studio and decided to produce an album, which is nearing completion.

"We're at the mastering point with it; we're getting close to ending it and hope it will be released by next month," Congleton said.

Their music is mainly folk, religious and traditional, the kind of raw music Congleton grew up playing as a child.

"Everything we ever wrote was written in our living room, and that is the kind of stuff we enjoy," Congleton said.

Though they are a folk duo with religious lyrics stretching throughout their body of work, Congleton said they have performed at several music festivals in lineups that are stacked with



Joe and Rebecca Congleton will be playing as The Surrendering at 7 p.m. Saturday at Jackson Avenue Coffee.

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traditional rock bands and fared well among audiences.

Congleton also said religious music has transformed drastically and embraced new genres as it has grown and become more mainstream.

"We also found that we could be successful after watching artists

like The Civil Wars achieve success with their stripped down, raw music," Congleton said.

"We think we'll be able to get our foot in the door."

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