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## Daily Eastern News: April 08, 2010

Eastern Illinois University

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## Final Open Mic Night of the semester

Page 6



## Softball tries to sweep Bulldogs

Page 12

### STUDENT GOVERNMENT

# Senate to vote on budgets next week

Scherle urges student senators to come prepared

By Erica Whelan  
Student Government Editor

With three weeks remaining in the academic year, Isaac Sandidge, student speaker of the senate, asked student senate members to reflect on what they would have left to accomplish if Wednesday’s meeting were their last.

He told the senate members they still have time to tie loose ends and achieve goals from the start of their terms.

With the Monday and Tuesday elections approaching, senate members unanimously approved emergency legislation to provide funds for printing 2,000 ballots.

Members also voted to table the budgets presented by the four fee-funded boards on campus, which are the University Board, the Apportionment Board, the Student

SENATE, page 5



DANNY DAMIANI | THE DAILY EASTERN NEWS

Lisa Brown, coordinator for the office of study abroad, speaks to the student senate about the benefits of studying abroad Wednesday in the Martin Luther King Jr. Student Union.

### SPRING CONCERT

# Malfunction causes smoke in Lantz

### Staff Report

A lighting malfunction occurred at the Drake concert Tuesday in Lantz Arena.

Ceci Brinker, director of Student Life, said one of the cords that plugged into an outlet and connected to one of the spotlights had a short-age, which caused overheating.

This caused smoke from the cord to fill the arena during Drake’s performance.

Brinker said technicians and electricians looked at the cord and fixed it.

“We were able to use the spotlight for the rest of the show,” she said. The spotlight operators knew to unplug the light when the smoking started so as not to cause any harm.

“There was never any danger of a fire,” Brinker said.

She said when the students saw smoke, there was some attention and some people might have assumed there was a fire, but everything was handled calmly. The concert was not paused because of the incident and went on while the light was being fixed. Brinker said the attendants most affected by the smoke were in the corner balcony seats.

### EVENT

# Dancers take first steps on Doudna stage

By Sam Bohne  
Staff Reporter

The EIU Dance Team stretched and made last-minute changes in preparation for “Unique Sole” during its Monday rehearsal.

Jeanna McFarland, a kinesiology and sports management instructor and director of the show, gave the group instructions as it prepared to step onto the stage and dance.

DANCERS, page 7

### UNIVERSITY

# Staff senate postions open

### Staff Report

Petitions for the eight open staff senate positions are due by 3 p.m. Friday to Room 1140 of Old Main.

Two positions are available for both non-negotiated civil service staff and AFSCME 981 building service workers/food service employees. The other senate spots that will be voted for April 28 are one administrative and professional staff, one negotiated facilities staff, one AFSCME 981 clerical/technical staff and one at-large university police department staff.

Those interested in running need to fill out a nomination petition. No signatures need to be collected.

This election will be the first electronic vote the staff senate has held.

### EVENT

# ‘Battle’ rages on at Union

6 acts to perform; winners to take home Guitar Center gift card

By Megan Tkacy  
Staff Reporter

The University Board and *The Daily Eastern News* have been working together to bring the campus a Battle of the Bands event at 7 p.m. today.

Six musical acts will take the stage of the Grand Ballroom in the Martin Luther King Jr. University Union, and the winner will go home with a \$150 gift card to Guitar Center.

Each of the acts performing have received space on *The DEN* Web site, DENnews.com, where students can listen to their music and vote on their favorites.

Tyler Angelo, a senior journalism major and editor in chief of *The DEN*, said this voting was helpful in promoting the bands and DENnews.com.

“Originally, it was going to be the top five bands that got the most number of votes would play at the actual show, but that’s not the case,” Angelo said. “Now there’s actually six total so (Lauren Phillips said) ‘We’ll just have all six play in the show.’”

Phillips, mainstage coordinator for the UB, has worked with *The DEN* on the Battle of the Bands in the past and enjoys seeing a diverse

BANDS, page 7



PHOTO ILLUSTRATION BY CALEB BRANSON | THE DAILY EASTERN NEWS

Clockwise from top left: Funk Biscuit, Verbal Epiphany, The Staff Blues Band, Madison’s Avenue, So They Ran, Matthew McKay.







## Folding to perfection



DAVE PARKS | THE DAILY EASTERN NEWS

President of the Asian American Association and senior psychology major Ayaka Hisanaga demonstrates the art of origami in the Sullivan Room of the Martin Luther King Jr. University Union on Wednesday.

### EDUCATION

# Connecting inside, outside of classroom

## Undergraduate students apply experiences to real world

**By Emily Reid**  
Staff Reporter

Making connections between experiences inside the classroom and out is one of the most important aspects of education.

A workshop on this topic, “More Than the Sum of the Parts: Fostering Integrative Learning,” will be presented by Pat Hutchings, vice president of the Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching, from 1 to 3 p.m. today in the Grand Ballroom in the Martin Luther King Jr. University Union. Registration for the workshop is required.

The main goal of the integrative learning process is to help undergraduates piece together all aspects of their experiences — general education, concentration, electives, co-curricular

activities and the real world — to help prepare them for the world and their lives beyond campus.

The Carnegie Foundation defines integrative learning as “fostering students’ abilities to integrate learning — over time, across courses, and between academic, personal and community life.”

The workshop will focus on the meaning of integrative learning in academic settings and examine strategies to promote integration across courses, among disciplines, between schools and the community, life and work.

Hutchings, who will discuss ways to help students make educational connections, said participants will learn about the various approaches toward integrative learning.

“Session participants will learn about promising steps toward this kind of more ‘connected learning’ that have been tried in other settings, and will have the opportunity to talk together about how to adapt these approaches to the EIU context,” Hutchings said. “We will also talk about creating a campus culture in which inte-

**“...Connecting the various classes together, integrative learning helps a student make sense of their education. Integrative learning makes education more meaningful for a student.”**

Bonnie Irwin, current dean of the Honors College

grative learning can thrive.”

Mildred Pearson, the director of faculty development, said that although Eastern is in its early stages of implementing integrative learning across campus, steps are being discussed to move toward a more connected form of learning.

“While we have senior seminars that enable our students to incorporate the skills and knowledge developed in their individual courses, a form of integrative learning, I have had several conversations with the deans that detail how integrative

learning will necessarily look different across colleges and across disciplines,” Pearson said.

Bonnie Irwin, the current dean of the Honors College and the next dean of the College of Arts and Humanities, said she is looking forward to hearing Hutchings’ discussion on curriculum design and learning how to incorporate integrative methods into classes while still retaining rigorous content.

“In my experience, students learn more when they can connect what they learn in class to their lives out-

side of class,” Irwin said. “Also, by connecting the various classes together, integrative learning helps a student make sense of their education. Integrative learning makes education more meaningful for students.”

Irwin said learning is more meaningful when it can be connected to other things.

“When students connect their learning to their lives, they enjoy their classes more and the learn more,” Irwin said. “Integrative learning asks students to reflect on what they learn and how they learn; this reflection makes them better students, and the better they get at learning, the more they will learn.”

Pearson said that integrative learning is an ongoing process that does not end in the classroom.

“It’s great when we begin to see what we’re doing in residential life,” Pearson said. “It’s important to have discussions with students about how to learn to live, and live to learn.”

Emily Reid can be reached at 581-7942 or at ejreid@eiu.edu



VIEWS



Julian Russell

Difficulty of math adding up

So goes it for all of us, every semester there is always that one class that haunts us like an evil specter.

For some it is English, for others it involves public speaking, but for me, that ghostly specter is math.

As far as I'm concerned, math is like a foreign language.

Sometimes I think I'd have an easier time trying to learn Chinese than algebra.

When I was working on my associate's degree at Lake Land College, I knew I had to take at least one math class before I could transfer to Eastern.

I originally didn't have to take any math because my degree did not require it but once I decided I was going on to earn my bachelor's I found it had to be done.

I put it off until my final semester and even made a decent attempt to get out of it via assessment testing, but no matter how long I waited, I knew its evil presence was creeping up on me.

When the time came, I found myself sitting in the classroom of the instructor I considered to be the best math teacher on the face of the planet.

God bless her soul, she worked with me outside of class, explained everything in the simplest forms possible, and, in many ways, I learned more in that semester about math than I had ever known in my life.

In the end, though, I did not pass the class. I took it as a heavy blow at first and kept thinking about how I was still going to have to take the class eventually.

Luckily, I was able to move on to Eastern but I still have to take at least one math class.

This summer I am finally coming around to it and, in some ways, I'm nervous. But I'm optimistic this time around.

The way I see it is that I got approximately 62 percent in math at Lake Land, which was not enough to pass. But I think I walked away with 62 percent more knowledge about math I did not have before.

It sounds silly, but with that previous knowledge I feel like I will be able to apply what I did learn to the course when I take it again. This time around, I plan on conquering that evil demon of a course.

So my point is, to all of you out there who are facing that one torture of a class in the near future, buck up and hang in there because, in the end, we are not going to let one course bring us down.

If you are at Eastern at this point you are obviously on a good path to your future and neither you nor I will let one hellacious class hold us back.

I've spent my time letting it bring me down and, like I said, I am now ready to conquer that sucker.

Coincidentally enough, I also have to take a foreign language requirement, so we will see which one is more difficult in the end.

When I first had to take speech class, I was nervous, but I kept hearing the words of Franklin D. Roosevelt in my head repeating over and over again, "There is nothing to fear but fear itself."

Believe it or not, that quote makes a lot of sense and it managed to get me through.

So, once again, I shall face my fear of math and this time, it's going down!

Julian Russell is a junior communication studies major and can be reached at DENopinions@gmail.com or 581-7942.

THE DAILY EASTERN NEWS  
"Tell the truth and don't be afraid"

DAILY EDITORIAL

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

Student government election turnout could show group's true irrelevance

One vote can make a difference. Your vote *does* count.

We've all heard these clichés concerning the democratic voting process as long as most of us can remember. It is important to make your voice heard and go out and vote if you wish to see change enacted or have any say in those who will lead us.

That being said, student government elections take place Monday and Tuesday. And it would seem in the matter of Eastern's student government, one vote could literally make all the difference.

The question is, should we vote for an entity whose effectiveness and relevance on our campus is fading with every passing semester?

The numbers don't lie. Last year, the voter turnout for student government elections barely hit 6 percent. How proud can one be of being elected by the student body when barely 750 out of about 12,000 students show up to vote?

It has been years since student government elections garnered even 10 percent of student voter turnout.

This past year, so few students even ran for election in the student senate that empty seats remained and former senate members had to be asked back simply so the group could meet quorum.

For too long we have given a pass to those involved, saying they surely must be trying their best. While we may oppose certain efforts and endorse others in our editorials, the plain truth is that student government simply does not exercise the influence it is capable of.

Let's face the facts. The student senate has the ability to vote on and pass resolutions. Most of these resolutions either deal with changes to the group's bylaws or the constitution or concern the goings on of committees and the

"The question is, should we vote for an entity whose effectiveness and relevance on our campus is fading with every passing semester?"

events they plan.

Occasionally, the student senate will vote on a resolution concerning a matter of greater importance. However, all these really accomplish is to report to higher bodies, such as the faculty senate or the Apportionment Board, whether the student senate agrees with a certain topic.

It may be harsh to hear, but the student senate simply does not plan the quantity or quality of events it used to.

Student Body President Michelle Murphy's largest effort was to dissolve the Blue Crew in lieu of Panther Nation.

Well, congratulations. As the student body president of a university of more than 12,000 students, your largest accomplishment was altering an athletic fan organization that, after the football season, is absent from many sporting events and from most students' minds.

The fact is Monday and Tuesday offer a chance to vote for members of the student government, but do these current members deserve our vote?

Eastern students who want change should take a more active role and run for these positions.

The student senate has so much potential but those currently at the helm have done little compared to what they could be doing and we venture a vote wasted on a lame duck candidate is a vote wasted completely.

It is time for those who care to run, for those who run to actually make an effort at improving our university and for those who win to *do something*.

If this year's elections turn out like the past several have, we could see fewer than 5 percent of students vote. And if the group cannot even get 500 students to write down a name on a sheet of paper, perhaps it is time for the group to stop wasting money and valuable resources and simply say good-bye.

FROM THE EASEL

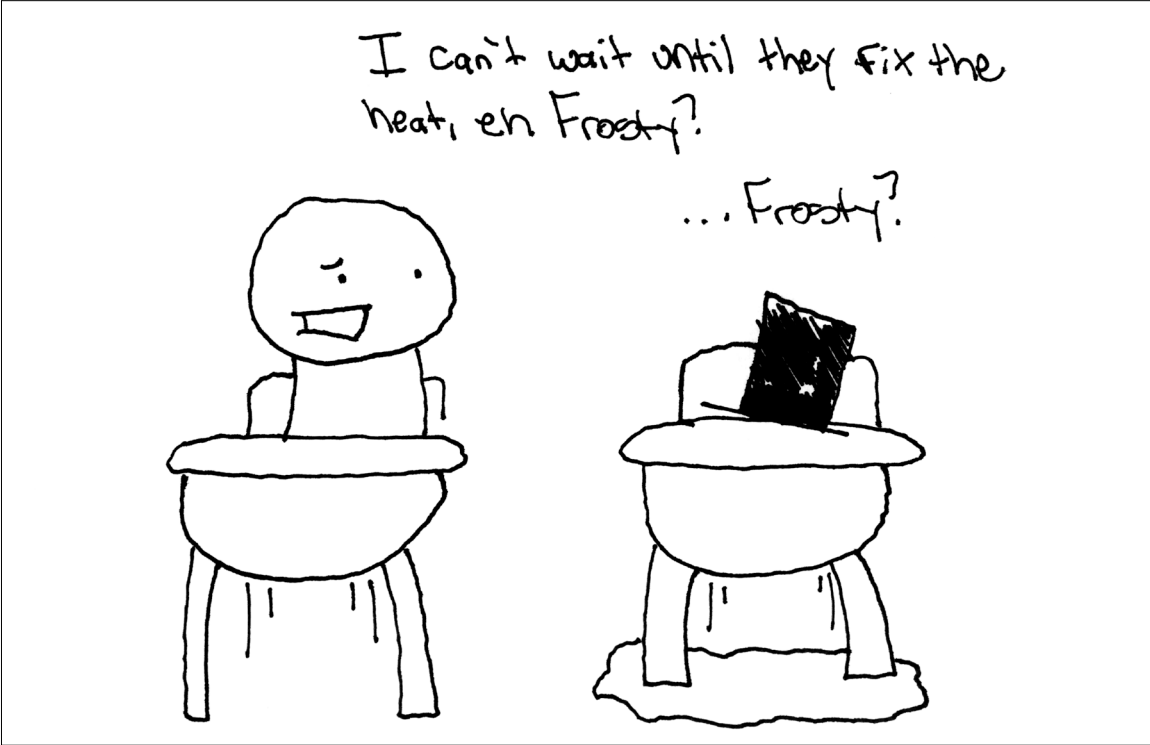


ILLUSTRATION BY DARIUS JUTZI | THE DAILY EASTERN NEWS

FROM AROUND THE STATE

Conflicts of interest in SA Senate causes problems

By the Northern Star Editorial Board  
Northern Illinois University

Conflicts of interest are an inevitable facet of life, but they seemed to be the theme of Sunday night's Student Association Senate meeting.

Two candidates — one for senator, the other for the SA Supreme Court — were denied due to concerns of conflict of interest: the candidates had ties to Austin Quick, an SA senator and a presidential candidate for this week's SA executive elections.

Hearing the SA complain about conflicts of interest is like hearing Congress complain about overspending: it's nice that you care, but you do

not realize that you are the problem.

We do not care that Quick's picks were rejected by the Senate; indeed, the outcome of the elections does not change the underlying fact that this student body is apathetic to the SA's activities.

What we have an issue with, however, is why the candidates were rejected: conflicts of interest.

Kevin Mack, junior political science major, was rejected by the Senate for a Supreme Court spot because of a memo that was released that showed Quick's support of Mack. As a Supreme Court justice, one resolves electoral disputes. If there were a problem with these upcoming elec-

tions, then Quick would have already had a vote in his favor, critics argued.

The same concern arose with Scott Hudek, who is running with Quick for student trustee.

We do not deny that there are conflicts of interest here, but we think the SA as a whole should be a little more honest with itself.

If the SA is really going to be concerned with conflicts of interest, then what does it say to the fact that current SA president Robert Sorsby (who is running for student trustee) and Election Commissioner Patrick Frierson are members of the same fraternity: Alpha Phi Alpha.

To read more, visit [www.northernstar.info](http://www.northernstar.info)

EASTERN ALUM

# Olympian inducted into hall of fame

By James Roedl  
Staff Reporter

Students may not know Darrin Steele as an Eastern alum, but he led the U.S. bobsled team that won gold in the 2010 Winter Olympics, breaking a 62-year dry spell.

Darrin Steele is the CEO of USA Bobsled & Skeleton Federation and competed for Eastern athletics from 1989-1992.

“We saw potential in both Darrin and his (twin) brother Dan,” said Thomas Akers, director of track and field at Eastern.

Akers recruited Steele to Eastern as a high school senior coaching him in track. Steele had competed in track, but there were other sports on his mind.

“There was actually a time at EIU when I was going to join the baseball team and give up track,” Steele said. “Football was always one of those ‘opportunities lost’ situations. If I knew how big and fast I was going to get, I would have probably stuck with it.”

He did not think of bobsledding until 1994 when he talked to an athlete who now coaches for him.

His career arch is different from most athletes; he competed and did well in many different races, but was

**“I feel very honored to have been inducted into the EIU (hall of fame). There are so many great athletes in that organization and I really loved my experience there (Eastern). I learned so much about myself as an athlete and a person there.”**

Darrin Steele, Eastern alum

unable to be a part of the 1996 Olympics track team.

This led Steele to change sports so he could continue to compete with the rest of the world, even if it was not track.

“The bobsled opportunity was there when I completed the trails, but I never took it that seriously,” he said. “Track was always my love, but I wasn’t ready to throw in the towel either.”

Akers said Steele had three things going for him, the same two things every successful college level athlete has.

“His success at the college level is due to the same thing that brings suc-

cess to anyone at this level, obviously first is some God-given abilities, add to that a highly competitive nature (part of being a twin) and a strong work ethic,” Akers said.

On Steele’s path to becoming the CEO of an Olympic team he gained leadership experience in the National Guard, and as a manager of Home Depot stores.

“My first taste of leadership came from the National Guard and my time with Home Depot was probably my graduate school,” Steele said. “Those experiences were priceless and I draw from them constantly when it comes to difficult decisions or conversations.”

As a fellow coach, Akers pointed out how good coaching is needed for any team, and why Steele is important part of the bobsled team even if he is not in the sled.

“A coach is a key element to the success of any team or individual, but just one of the pieces,” Akers said.

He described a coach’s job as a facilitator.

“The coach tries to create an environment that instills confidence in each person and helps the athlete see beyond their perceived limitations,” Akers said.

Steele competed in two Olympics as a bobsled pusher without a win, but is thankful for the opportunity.

“I was very fortunate to have competed in two Olympic games regardless of who I pushed,” Steele said.

While Steele will not take credit for the bobsled teams that gold medal, he said he worked hard to remove obstacles that had previously gotten in the way.

While he said it is a special thing to be a part of, requiring the right athletes, coaching and equipment, the tight control has to come loose sometimes.

“Still, at the Olympic Games there comes a time when you have

to sit back and cross your fingers because anything can happen,” Steele said.

While there have not been any celebrations at Eastern for Steele, or jerseys hung in Lantz in his honor he is in the Eastern Hall of Fame, which is not a small award to Steele.

“I feel very honored to have been inducted into the EIU (hall of fame),” he said. “There are so many great athletes in that organization and I really loved my experience there. I learned so much about myself as an athlete and a person there.”

Akers, who has seen many of his athletes do well, has not forgotten Steele.

“It is a great feeling to see EIU alums — no matter what sport or endeavor — do well in their particular field,” Akers said.

He also said the success of Eastern’s graduates helps validate the school as a great place where students can accomplish great things.

The athletic department keeps track of students after they graduate, and knows about Steele’s achievements.

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## SENATE, from page 1

Recreation Center and the student government.

All four budgets will be voted on at next week’s meeting, where Jarrod Scherle, vice president for business affairs, said he hopes senate members will come prepared to discuss.

“I don’t want this to be like last year where we allocated half a million dollars in 15 minutes,” Scherle said. “Please don’t just come in here and call to question; I’d be very disappointed.”

Ceci Brinker, student government adviser, informed the senate during her report that all candidates who wish to hang campaign posters and other promotional materials must get each item stamped by the Office of Campus Scheduling.

She said organizations are the only

bodies permitted to advertise on campus message boards, and while political parties are not technically considered organizations, an exception has been made for the election as it takes place next week.

Following the election, explicit guidelines for hanging campaign posters will be determined, Brinker said.

She also told senators that posting on trees, windows, doorways or any location other than designated campus message boards is against the elections rules.

Senate member Brad Saribekian also presented a special report on the issues explored at the Illinois Board of Higher Education Student Advisory Committee.

Saribekian and fellow senate member Michael Stopka, chair of the shut-

tle bus committee, attended the meeting at Illinois State University in Normal from March 27 to 28, taking part in discussions relating to the state-wide funding crisis.

“It’s scary, and it’s all across the state,” Saribekian said.

He recounted testimony offered by a committee member whose school accommodates a building with an elevator that has been deemed unsafe, coupled with a crumbling staircase.

Saribekian said all proposals to construct new buildings must pass through the IBHE, as well as the advisory committee to ensure that students’ input is not overlooked.

He also urged students who are dependent on the Monetary Awards Program grant to complete their Free Application for Federal Stu-

dent Aid.

Those interested in lobbying state legislators for the immediate dispersal of funds can travel with the Student Action Team, led by Eric Wilber, student executive vice president, to Springfield on April 22.

The lobbying event will include a rally to support statewide higher education and is expected to include Eastern’s Student Education Association, whose representatives appealed to the senate on March 10 to provide transportation to the event.

A signup sheet is available in the Student Activities Center on the first floor of the Martin Luther King Jr. University Union.

As for those interested in studying abroad, Lisa Brown, a coordinator for the department, gave a presentation on the 50 educational travel op-

portunities offered through Eastern’s program.

She said study abroad opportunities are not just limited to the 50 locations advertised in the program, but destinations must be considered safe by U.S. National Security.

“You can pretty much go anywhere you want, and we can get you there,” Brown said.

The final order of business present on the consent agenda was the approval of a new registered student organization known as Eastern’s Next Top Model, Inc.

Senate members approved the new RSO, which is intended to provide experience for students who wish to model.

Erica Whelan can be reached at 581-7942 or [elwhelan@eiu.edu](mailto:elwhelan@eiu.edu)

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## 7TH STREET UNDERGROUND



AMIR PRELLBERG | THE DAILY EASTERN NEWS

Zach Wcislo, a junior music education major from Hickory Hills, plays an original tune of his at Open Mic Night Wednesday in 7th Street Underground.

# Open Mic sees its final crowd

By Heather Holm  
Activities Editor

The last Open Mic this year was also the largest.

"This is one of the biggest ones we've had," said Lauren Phillips, the mainstage coordinator for the University Board.

Pamela Machala, one of the performers and first year grad student in music, won first place. She sang an original song of hers called "Golden Delicious" about a guy along with another song she wrote.

Machala won a \$50 gift certificate to Guitar Center with her vocals and piano playing skills.

Merritt Whitley, a freshman journalism major, won second place.

Whitley started performing in talent shows in elementary school and started writing songs in high school.

She sang one original song with guitar, "When I'm With You," with the lyrics "when I see you, it's like fireworks in my skies" and "when I'm with you, there's nothing I can't do" about someone who she has a crush on right now.

"I usually write about people or whatever is on my mind," Whitley said.

Whitley won a \$25 gift certificate to Wal-Mart.

One of the third place winners, Zach Wcislo, a junior music education major, performed a song called "Haven't Met You Yet" about a girl he is looking for along with one other song.

Wcislo won a \$10 gift card to Starbucks.

Other performers did less traditional performances. Jared "Ziggy" Chuck

performed what he called acoustic hip-hop where he rapped with an acoustic guitar. One of his songs was called "Welcome to EIU."

Jacob "Verbal Epiphany" Unterberger, a sophomore communication studies major, did a rap called "Free For All" and Ian "I2K" Winston, a senior art major, also rapped with a song of his called "Rock the Bass."

Stephen Tyler, another performer, recited poetry to get students to open their eyes.

"The purpose of poetry should be to enlighten others," he said.

Two-member band Warren Charles was invited by the UB to introduce Open Mic Night and they also played after the Open Mic contestants performed.

The band Warren Charles is made up of brother Warren and Charles Jacobson, with piano-based Rock n' Roll.

"Our influences are ragtime, folk and reggae," Warren said.

The brother's lyrics are based on odd stories from parties or that happen in their everyday lives.

Warren Charles played before and after this week's Open Mic with songs about surfing, one of the brother's ex-girlfriend and one song where they had audience members sing part of the chorus.

The last two songs they sang were titled "You Don't Know Me" and "Girl of My Dreams" about a fake, robotic girl.

Warren Charles uses a keyboard, guitar to perform and is based out of Los Angeles.

Heather Holm can be reached at 581-7942 or haholm@eiu.edu.

## BINGO @ The MOOSE Family Fraternity



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Non-members can play  
**TONIGHT**  
**7 pm**

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CAMPUS

# CATS seeks student input

## Survey explores university's technology use

By Kayleigh Zyskowski  
City Editor

The Academic Technology Advisory Committee is in the process of completing a student survey to identify how technology funds should be used on campus.

Eastern students pay a technology fee that helps fund the labs and other resources offered on campus.

Michael Hoadley, assistant vice president for academic technology, said students' input is important.

"We try to hear all voices on campus to find where these funds should best be spent," Hoadley said. "Because it is their money, I would think the students would have a vested interest in helping us make those decisions."

The survey is set up to ask the stu-

dents what kind of technology they have brought to school, what kind of technology services they use on campus and what they would like to see in the future. The 16-question survey should take fewer than 10 minutes to complete.

The student technology fee subcommittee, a part of ATAC, will review the results of the survey.

"They will look at the data and compare it to what they have been talking about and use that information to see if our ideas are consistent with the viewpoint of the students," Hoadley said.

They will then make a recommendation to the rest of the ATAC members on what they feel is the best way to use the money.

"We want to know if the students want to have video cameras they can check out, do they want training in using software," Hoadley said. "We have asked these kinds of questions on the survey."

Zach Caskey, a freshman business major from Marengo, is one of two

student representatives who serve on the committee.

"Currently, we are at a crossroads where we need to start thinking about if the money should be spent to improve the labs, or if more people want to utilize their own technology, if we should bolster the network," Caskey said. "The survey results will be used internally as a guideline to begin to plan."

The ATAC will have the results for three weeks at the end of the semester to start planning for next year.

"Any chance we get to have student input, that is something we want to have," Caskey said.

While the survey was intended to last two weeks, Hoadley has decided to continue the survey for an additional week, ending it April 15.

The survey can be found on Eastern's Web site at <http://www.eiu.edu/~cats/atacsurvey/survey>.

Kayleigh Zyskowski can be reached at 581-7942 or [kzyskowski@eiu.edu](mailto:kzyskowski@eiu.edu).

STATE

# Feds: Make former Blago lawyer testify

By The Associated Press

CHICAGO — Prosecutors asked a federal judge Wednesday to order a former counsel general in the Illinois governor's office to produce documents and testify at ousted Gov. Rod Blagojevich's upcoming racketeering and fraud trial.

Prosecutors said in court papers that Blagojevich has indicated he does not plan to try to prevent testimony from former general counsel William J. Quinlan by asserting attorney-client privilege, but has refused to provide Quinlan with an express waiver of that privilege.

Quinlan's attorney Jon King said

the former counsel general is ready to cooperate with the government, but not until he gets a specific waiver of attorney-client privilege — the principle under which lawyers must not divulge secrets that they hear from their clients.

"Blagojevich's counsel has told me repeatedly that there's an applicable attorney-client issue here," King said.

He said Quinlan has no intention of hiding anything from the government but merely wants to make sure that he is in accord with fundamental legal ethics.

## DANCERS, from page 1

The group, made of 12 dancers from varying majors and ages, has been rehearsing for the show since mid-September.

"These three nights is what it all comes down to," said Jenna Miglio, a junior kinesiology and sports studies major.

"Unique Sole" will be performed at 7 p.m. Thursday, Friday and Saturday in The Theatre in Doudna Fine Arts Center.

Miglio, from Palos Park, hopes to "get the crowd going" with the piece she choreographed, called "Believe."

"It's really high energy," Miglio said.

Lyndsey Weber, a junior elementary education major from Teutopolis, serves as the club's secretary and treasurer. She said Miglio's piece was her favorite.

"It's very upbeat and the audience will enjoy it," Weber said.

In previous years, the group's performances took place in McAfee Gymnasium.

"This is really a great experience for us," McFarland said. "It's really such a thrill to be in this theater."

Weber choreographed the tap piece, "7 NA," and shares McFarland's enthusiasm about performing in Doudna.

"I'm very excited to perform in the Doudna," Weber said. "The first time

we were in here was last Tuesday."

Although the dancers are still perfecting their dances and cleaning up their steps, Lynn Gearica, president of the EIU Dance Team, is confident the show will come together in the end.

"I think the biggest challenge is the last two weeks," Gearica said. "Somehow, every single year, it just comes together."

The senior elementary education major from Wadsworth said she will not get nervous until the night of the show.

Gearica has choreographed dances including "Breathe," "Cobra Style," "Forever," "Officers Dance" and "Finale."

The group will be performing tap, hip-hop, modern, jazz and modern ballet dances to many well-known songs from movies like "Twilight" and "Mamma Mia!"

"It's a lively, upbeat show," McFarland said. "(The audience) should expect music that they're familiar with."

The show, which Gearica said is the groups "way to put ourselves out there," will start at 7 p.m.

"Get here early," McFarland said. "I'm a to-the-minute person."

"Unique Sole," is a free concert and seating is on a first come, first serve, basis.

Sam Bohne can be reached at 581-7942 or at [shbohne@eiu.edu](mailto:shbohne@eiu.edu).

## BANDS, from page 1

group of performers take the stage.

"There's going to be a variety of bands at the battle like there always are, a whole mash of different kinds of bands," Phillips said. "There's probably going to be a jazz band, a rock band, a pop band, maybe a DJ. It could all vary."

Those who attend the event will get to vote for their favorite act of the night on a ballot they receive at the door. Phillips will also be participating in the event by providing entertainment during breaks between bands' performances.

"I perform in the middle of each band that plays so that there's music going on at all times so that bands can move stuff on and off the stage while I'm playing," she said.

The six acts performing are Madison's Avenue, Matthew McKay, So They Ran, The Staff Blues Band, Verbal Epiphany and Funk Biscuit.

Sean Walker, vocalist for The Staff Blues Band, has been encouraging fans to vote for his band on DENnews.com all week, but said the battle is more of a mingling ground for

bands than a competition.

"I personally feel it's pointless to really call it a battle of the bands, as we always use the night to listen for bands we would like to share a show with," Walker said. "The battle is one of the main reasons we were lucky enough to play shows with great bands like Little Boy Jr. and Mugwump Specific. It put us in contact with them, so this is more about meeting new groups and having fun for us."

The Staff Blues Band performed in the Battle of the Bands in fall 2008 and Walker, a senior art major from Vandalia, promises it will be an exciting performance for fans who come out.

"Our performance will be mostly original songs, but we might throw a cover or two into the set," Walker said. "Music lovers will be promised a high-energy show which we hope to get everyone singing along with."

The seven-piece jazz-rock band Staff Blues Band received the most votes on DENnews.com, followed closely by Madison's Avenue.

Madison's Avenue is a four-piece

rock/alternative band that may be debuting a new member at the battle.

"We're inducting a rhythm guitarist right now and he might not be ready for the Battle of the Bands, but if he is, he will be there," said Madison's Avenue singer Logan Richardson.

He said the band would be preparing for the battle by practicing some of their older songs so the audience will hear those pieces at their best.

"We've been practicing the same thing we normally do," Richardson said. "We practice like we play and we try to bring the same thing from our practices to our performances."

Madison's Avenue will be performing from 10 p.m. to 1 a.m. Friday at Friends and Co. with Tork and Cured by Fire. There is a \$5 admission.


The Staff Blues Band will be performing Friday at Top of the Roc and at the Woodchuck Music Festival at the end of the month.

Megan Tkacy can be reached at 581-7942 or [metkacy@eiu.edu](mailto:metkacy@eiu.edu).

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4/9  
The Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of Eastern Illinois will meet from 1:15 to 2:30 p.m. Sunday April 11, in Rotary Room B of the Charleston Carnegie Public Library (on 6th Street) in Charleston. Bryan Miller, Ph.D. of EIU, will present "Organic - Spirit - Organic: Conflict or Compatible?" Unitarian Universalists are a caring, open-minded religious community characterized by supporting a free and responsible search for individual truth. Unitarian Universalists affirm the worth of every person with respect for the interdependent web of all existence of which we are a part. For more information about Unitarian Universalism, go to www.uua.org.

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The New York Times Crossword

Edited by Will Shortz

No. 0304

- ACROSS
- 1 Proceed without notes, say
- 6 How kids grow up, it's often said
- 13 Soviet space dog
- 14 "One who dislikes unruly hair?"
- 15 Spy satellite's acquisition
- 16 Bygone emporium
- 17 \_\_\_\_ position
- 18 Housewares brand
- 19 Felipe Calderón's land: Abbr.
- 20 Night class subj.
- 21 "Alternative way to get directions?"
- 26 Heroic verse
- 28 Artist's portfolio
- 32 "Molly \_\_\_\_," popular Irish song
- 34 "Better, in hip-hop slang?"
- 35 Spanish waves
- 36 Church perch
- 37 "\_\_\_\_ in London" (jazz album)
- 38 "Kitchen or living room?"
- 41 Like XX vis-à-vis X, likewise
- DOWN
- 43 "American Beauty" setting
- 44 Canadian station sign
- 45 "Via Veneto?"
- 47 Villainous member of the Serpent Society, in Marvel Comics
- 50 39-Down vote
- 53 FedEx rival
- 54 Half of a 1980s sitcom duo
- 56 Football's Adam Vinatieri, e.g.
- 60 Sewers have them
- 61 "Be funnier than comedian Bill?"
- 62 Pick
- 63 2003 hip-hop hit by Fabolous
- 64 Pharmacy units

- 6 Song sung by an orphan
- 7 Expose, poetically
- 8 Sounds of surprise
- 9 Stout
- 10 \_\_\_\_ smasher
- 11 Very dry
- 12 "The Lost World" menace
- 14 Answer to each of the six starred clues, literally
- 16 Play-\_\_\_\_
- 22 Literary monogram
- 23 Chip, maybe
- 24 Amaze
- 25 Piccolo players, e.g.
- 27 Affected one
- 29 Masked men with blades
- 30 Big blow?
- 31 Alpha, beta or gamma
- 32 Eponymous scale developer
- 33 Diamond family name
- 36 Devotional bench
- 39 Voting 50-Across
- 40 1972 treaty subj.
- 41 Judge's cry
- 42 Red-faced
- 46 Pilot's abbr.
- 48 "\_\_\_\_ when?"
- 49 Gadflies, e.g.
- 50 Hairy Himalayan
- 51 Nebraska senator succeeded by Hagel
- 52 Datebook entry: Abbr.
- 55 "Fiesque" composer
- 57 I love, to Livy
- 58 Scotland's Firth of \_\_\_\_
- 59 Greek character

ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE

ARE SQUARE SPED  
MEL SUPPED AHSO  
ALI RED AND WHITE  
SIZE BAR HALAS  
SCARLETT OHARA  
RACE DELANEY  
ASCOT MERE DNA  
ROLL OSCAR BECK  
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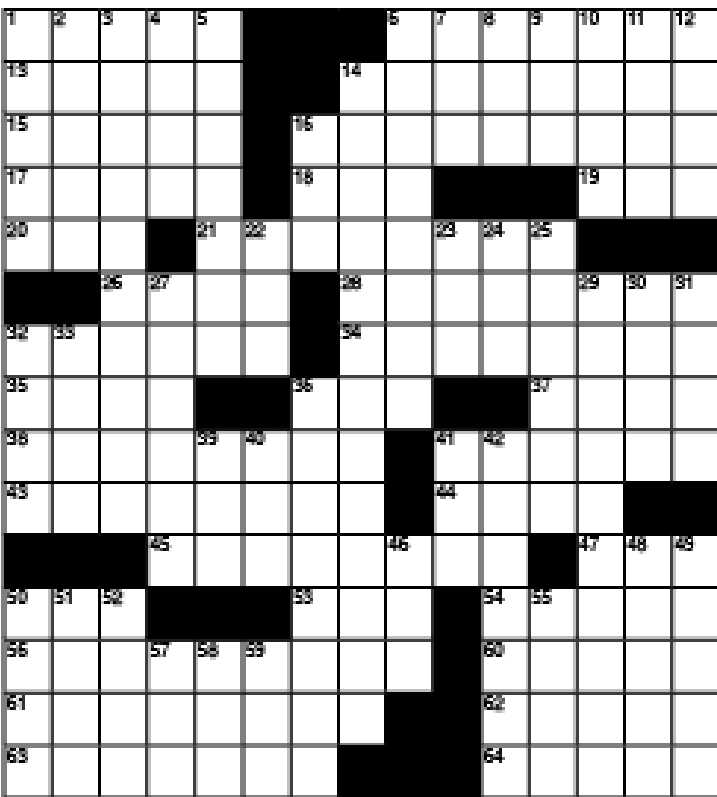
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- 6 Song sung by an orphan
- 7 Expose, poetically
- 8 Sounds of surprise
- 9 Stout
- 10 \_\_\_\_ smasher
- 11 Very dry
- 12 "The Lost World" menace
- 14 Answer to each of the six starred clues, literally
- 16 Play-\_\_\_\_
- 22 Literary monogram
- 23 Chip, maybe
- 24 Amaze
- 25 Piccolo players, e.g.
- 27 Affected one
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- 52 Datebook entry: Abbr.
- 55 "Fiesque" composer
- 57 I love, to Livy
- 58 Scotland's Firth of \_\_\_\_
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GOOD BALL, from page 12

game, maybe she'll start the second game. She might not see action, or maybe she'll just be a reliever in both games.”

Against Butler, Schuette said she hopes to have the team playing well coming into this weekend's OVC series against Eastern Kentucky (11-25, 5-5 OVC)

“The only thing we want to do with these mid-week games is make sure that we are playing good softball for the weekend,” Schuette said.

Butler will have played four games in three days after tomorrow's doubleheader following playing Valparaiso in

a doubleheader Tuesday. The Bulldogs got the day off Wednesday after the Valpo series finale was rained out.

The Bulldogs can play long stretches, having played six games in four days between April 1 and April 4.

Since the start of April, Butler has only gotten one day off. On April 5, the Bulldogs didn't have a scheduled game.

The Bulldogs (27-8, 5-2 in the Horizon League) aren't slowing down going into the doubleheader against Eastern.

Schuette said Butler is looking good lately, doing a good job winning.

“They're a good team and they're

doing a good job of getting W's right now,” Schuette said.

The Panthers will look to gain some momentum out of the Butler game and look to be playing good softball going into a crucial weekend series against Eastern Kentucky, who is sitting behind Eastern in fourth place in the OVC.

The first game of the Eastern-Butler doubleheader is slated to begin at 2 p.m., with the nightcap to follow at approximately 4 p.m.

Alex McNamee can be reached at 581-7944 or admcnamee@eiu.

UNBELIEVABLE, from page 12

spring training this year and Kreke said the difference from college to the professional level is astounding.

“It's ridiculous how much you learn when you get to the pro level,” he said. “You get top-notch coaching and it has made my game improve and helped slow the game down for me. It's helped my game get 100 percent better.”

Kreke played his Rookie League ball last season with the Danville Braves and got his feet wet rather quickly. After making the transition to third base, Kreke hit .271 in 63 games with two home runs and 15 RBIs. He said he stays motivated every day to get better by watching the professionals around him.

“You try to pick up a hint from what they do,” he said. “They get to the facility early and get extra work in. People don't realize outside of watching on the field how much work they put in to having great seasons.”

The Braves' spring training facility is located in Kissimmee, Fla., and the Eastern baseball team played a series against South Florida in Tampa, Fla., on March 13 and 14 so Kreke said he took it upon himself to head to Tampa and catch a few games.

“I got to say hi to Coach Schmitz and those guys,” he said. “I try to keep in touch with them and let them know I'm watching them and paying

2009 stats

Jordan Kreke  
Danville Braves  
.271 BA, 2 HRs, 15 RBIs  
2010 Team: Rome Braves  
Debut: Today at Kannapolis

Brett Nommensen  
Hudson Valley Renegades  
.258 BA, 1 HR, 26 RBIs  
2010 Team: Bowling Green Hot Rods  
Debut: Today at Fort Wayne

Tyler Kehrer  
Orem Owlz  
Record: 3-3, 4.75 ERA, 57 Ks  
2010 Team: Cedar Rapids Kernels  
Debut: Today vs. Beloit

attention to what they're doing.”

While spring training stats are not officially kept, Kreke said he had a good camp and hit two home runs and five doubles. And as he gets ready to kick off another season in his pursuit of making the majors, he said he's eager to get going.

“I'm just getting settled in Rome getting accustomed to everything,” he said. “I'm exited to get the season kicked off.”

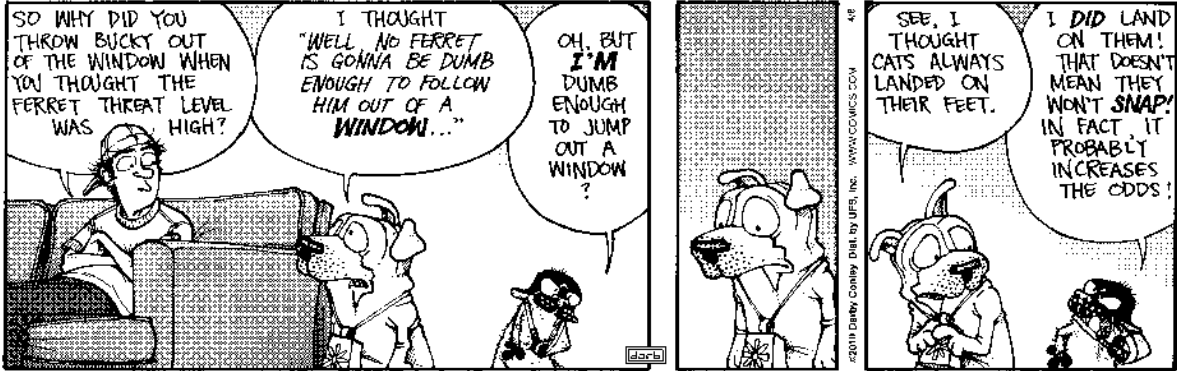
Collin Whitchurch can be reached at 581-7944 or cfwhitchurch@eiu.edu.

COMICS

PEARLS BEFORE SWINE BY STEPHAN PASTIS



GET FUZZY BY DARBY CONLEY



OLD STYLE, from page 12

some of the true greats may not even get the chance because the paycheck they demand will instead be replaced with a pink slip, only to see a 19-year-old replace them on the diamond.

But baseball's loss could still be our gain, Illinois! Let us sign Darin Erstad, Jason Istringhausen and Mike Hampton! Let's go coax Rocco Baldelli out

of retirement! Let's even go so far as to see if Kenny Lofton still wants to lace up the cleats!

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## Top Cat

Alex Gee, senior first baseman



AUDREY SAWYER | THE DAILY EASTERN NEWS

Senior first baseman Alex Gee is on a hitting streak, he has hit for nine games, a personal best. Gee had one hit and one RBI during Tuesday's game against Illinois College at Coaches Stadium.

# Patience at the plate for baseman

## Gee heating up after slow start

By Bob Bajek  
Sports Editor

Eastern's baseball bats have pinged a bit less this season, hitting .264 as a team opposed to last year's .362.

For the Panthers to win more games, head coach Jim Schmitz said they will need to rely on the sizzlin' bat of senior first baseman Alex Gee.

Gee, a Springfield native, tore apart rival Austin Peay's pitching last weekend, going 7-for-11 with 4 RBIs. He also had an RBI against Illinois College Tuesday.

Schmitz said he was impressed with Gee's weekend performance as he has been a bright spot on a struggling 7-20 team.

"It's very simple but it's hard to do;

you've got to drive the ball the other way," Schmitz said. "As a hitting coach, my biggest disappointment has been the team has not done that on a consistent basis. Alex's first at bat (against Austin Peay), boom, double to right-center."

When Gee is hot, Schmitz said he can be imposing to opposing pitchers with is 6'3", 220 lb frame.

"It scares people to come in with him being so big and strong," Schmitz said. "He got some fist hits and made them wonder how to get him out."

The weekend is not the only thing going for Gee, as the Sacred Heart-Griffin product is on a career-high nine-game hitting streak.

To be on a long hitting streak, Gee said he does not think about the pressure to hit, saying the key is getting good pitches to hit.

"You just go to the plate and you just try to take your bat and take the

best swing when you are up there," Gee said. "When you are hitting like I am, it's pretty easy to be confident and I'm getting easy pitches to hit."

A senior, Gee said he and fellow seniors, right fielder Curt Restko and designated hitter Richie Derbak, have to be good examples at the plate for their teammates.

"Being a senior, I've learned a lot about hitting and the only two things you need to hit at this level is confidence and being comfortable in the box," Gee said. "Everybody at this level has the ability to hit, but this game is so mental, if your mind isn't right, you won't hit."

No. 35 has worked hard being patient at the plate, gaining 16 walks and striking out only 11 times. In the past two seasons, he has 52 whiffs to 25 walks.

"It hasn't always been that way," Gee said of his plate discipline. "I've

**"Everybody at this level has the ability to hit, but this game is so mental, if your mind isn't right, you won't hit."**

Alex Gee, senior first baseman

struggled. I've struck out more than walked, but you get to the point you've seen certain pitches so many times you get disciplined at the plate and realize what pitches will do out of the pitcher's hands."

The walks to strikeouts ratio was one reason Schmitz stuck with Gee in the lineup, even when he was hitting sub .200, with Gee walking a team-leading seven times. The coach said this shows Gee understands the strike zone and swings at good pitches.

"The key thing was he stuck with

us," Schmitz said. "When he was batting under .200 awhile back, all you can say is keep going. We tried doing some motivation with Gee a few weeks ago. We're not going to win this thing (OVC Championship) without Alex Gee."

For the hot-hitting Gee, he said his goal for this season is to hit over .300 for the first time in his career. Right now, Gee is hitting .309 with two home runs and 11 RBIs.

Bob Bajek can be reached at 581-7944 or [rtbajek@eiu.edu](mailto:rtbajek@eiu.edu).

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BASEBALL | NOTEBOOK



AUDREY SAWYER | THE DAILY EASTERN NEWS

Junior Dillon Roark pitches against Illinois College Tuesday afternoon at Coaches Stadium. Roark pitched one inning and threw 10 of his 13 pitches for strikes.

# Recchia named OVC Pitcher of Week

By Bob Bajek  
Sports Editor

All it took was 109 pitches Friday against Austin Peay for junior pitcher Mike Recchia to gain Ohio Valley Conference Pitcher of the Week, the second time in his career.

With those 109 pitches, Recchia pitched 7 1/3 innings of one-hit baseball, giving up no runs and having seven strikeouts.

One weak spot in that game was the five walks Recchia issued, but he pitched out of the jams to preserve the 2-0 win.

Recchia, who turned 21 that day, was more excited for the win instead of the stellar outing or celebrating that night.

"It really doesn't bother me if I give

up one hit or 10 hits as long as we win the game," Recchia said. "That's what really matters to me."

Recchia is ranked the fifth top pitcher in the league, going 3-2 with a 4.61 ERA. He has pitched 41 innings and is second in the league with 43 strikeouts.

**Game canceled**

Wednesday's 3 p.m. game with Chicago State was rained out at on the South Side of Chicago.

As of now, Schmitz is talking to Cougars coach Michael Caston to try and reschedule the game later this season. If the game is not made up, it would be Eastern's first cancelled game in 2010. The Panthers next game is against rival Morehead State (17-14, 1-2 Ohio Valley Conference) 1 p.m. Saturday at

Coaches Stadium, the first of a double-header.

**Holes in bats**

Head coach Jim Schmitz team has been cold this season, with his team hitting an OVC low .264, with the second-worst Tennessee Martin batting .286. Also, Eastern's run production is down significantly from 2009. The Panthers last season were averaging 9.18 runs per game, while this year's squad is mustering 5.11 runs.

Schmitz has been frustrated with his players leaving guys on base, with 39 stranded the last four games.

"That's the big thing we harped on during practice (last week)," Schmitz said. "It just happens. (Sophomore leftfielder) Ben Thoma got the big

2 RBI hit in the second game. Same thing. It's been a really hard year and we're trying to move on."

The coach referred to when Austin Peay was leading 2-1 in the third inning of Friday's second game when Thoma smacked the ball to the outfield to give Eastern a 3-2 edge.

"The whole game and the game before, they were really throwing off speed at me, so I was sitting on a changeup or a slider and he left it over the plate," Thoma said.

**Around the league**

Eastern is currently in sixth place in the OVC standings at 2-4 in league play, making them eligible for the OVC baseball championship tournament if it started today despite having

a 7-20 record.

Southeast Missouri (18-10) and Jacksonville State (16-12) are both in a first-place tie at 5-1, while Murray State (16-12) is in third at 4-2.

The Redhawks are also first overall in team batting (.357), pitching (5.93 ERA) and second in fielding (.961). Eastern Kentucky leads the OVC with a .962 fielding percentage.

For home runs, Tennessee Tech junior first baseman A.J. Kirby-Jones has bopped 15 homers. Murray State senior first baseman Wes Cunningham and Morehead State senior outfielder J.D. Ashbrook have 13 and 12 dingers, respectively.

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

PANTHER BRIEFS

## Women's tennis brings home win, plans to keep going

The Eastern women's tennis team won its Ohio Valley Conference match Tuesday against Southeast Missouri.

Out of the six singles matches, Eastern (6-10, 3-4 OVC) took four with mostly easy wins.

Freshman Merritt Whitley had her work cut out for her against Southeast Missouri's junior Ashton Hartley, who took Whitley three sets.

Whitley fell behind Hartley early, losing the first set 6-2 but that did not put the freshman out of the match. Whitley took the last two sets with wins of 6-0 and 7-5 in the second and third set.

Sophomores Shannon Brooks, Ju-

liana Frey and Annie Egan each took their matches in straight sets, locking up wins at the three, five and six spots.

Junior Cara Huck dropped her match at the No. 1 spot in two sets to Southeast Missouri's freshman Nikole Novikova.

Sophomore Amanda Dibbs dropped

her match in three sets, unable to take advantage of winning the first set.

In doubles play, the team of Huck and Egan were able to pick up a win. Also, the duo of Brooks and Frey picked up another win, clinching the doubles point for the match.

Eastern is currently in sixth place in

the OVC. They are tied with Murray State, who has the same record.

The women are back on the court Saturday as they will hit the road to play Murray State in Murray, Ky.

*—Compiled by Assistant Sports Editor Alex McNamee*

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VIEWS



David Thill

Illinois expansion team: Old Style

Illinois' economy is in shambles. Funding for higher education is in question at best and legislators still can't find a solution.

However, it seems Major League Baseball has placed the perfect answer to this equation square at our feet.

With the recession still affecting major sports franchises and baseball's continued transition to a younger man's game, there is a slew of very talented, very capable — even if slightly older — baseball players currently jobless.

Thus, I submit Illinois create its own expansion team: The Springfield Oldies. Or the Galesburg Geriatrics. Or the Rockford Rock-Bottoms.

Ultimately, the name doesn't really matter.

The point is, now more than ever, there are enough unemployed veteran ballplayers that one could easily "MacGyver" up an expansion team.

Think about it.

Braden Looper, John Smoltz, Livan Hernandez, Pedro Martinez; right there is 4/5 of your rotation, all of them currently unemployed, all still very capable.

Outfielder Jermaine Dye hit 27 home runs last year and he can't find a team, so let's put him in a corner spot in Springfield. Carlos Delgado still swings a big stick and he, as well, is sitting on the couch, watching baseball instead of playing it.

Let's face it, these aren't just geezers who are clinging to some faint hint of glory. Most are still extremely capable gamers.

The fact is the current economy has driven America's pastime to a game dominated by younger and younger players.

Perhaps these older players are victims of their own success. After all, the better they played, the larger a sum they demanded. And as the economy began to buckle, teams began to realize, say, a Jason Heyward, who may hit fewer homers this year and may not get on base as regularly in his rookie season, is a safer gamble at one-tenth the cost of, say, a Gary Sheffield. Oh! There's another senior to add to our new team!

The question one must truly ask is how far will this age regression in baseball go?

While right now it is the 35- and 36-year-old player struggling to find work, will it soon be the 30- and 31-year-old who is sitting above the dugout as opposed to in it?

Will we soon see teams populated by nothing but teens and early twenty-somethings?

Let's not forget there was a time when seeing someone younger than 24 in MLB was a great rarity. Now, it would seem, seeing someone older than 35 is like finding a diamond in your Cracker Jack box.

However, wily veterans still have a place. After all, Jamie Moyer, who turns 45 this year, is still hurling in Philadelphia.

Whatever the trend and how far it goes, the fact still remains we may soon see baseball players who have careers closer in length to football players and, sadly, this may mean records may stand much longer. Those who could become

OLD STYLE, page 9

SOFTBALL

Focused on playing good ball

Panthers will try to sweep Bulldogs

By Alex McNamee  
Assistant Sports Editor

The Eastern softball team will wrap up its road trip today against Butler in a doubleheader beginning at 2 p.m. in Indianapolis, Ind.

The Panthers (17-14, 7-3 in the Ohio Valley Conference) are coming off a mid-week sweep of Saint Louis, who defeated them last season, and look to avenge a loss to Butler in 2009.

Eastern freshman pitcher Hailie Ray threw well for the Panthers in Tuesday's second game, entering the contest with two outs in the second inning.

Ray (2-1) relieved freshman pitcher Natalie Wunderlich, who had been beat up by the Saint Louis bats for four runs in 1 2/3 innings of work.

Ray, the Ottawa, Kan. native, pitched 5 1/3 innings to help the Panthers complete a comeback win, 6-4.

Eastern head coach Kim Schuette was impressed with Ray's pitching performance but has not thought



AUDREY SAWYER | THE DAILY EASTERN NEWS

Freshman outfielder Andi Morgan had three runs, one hit and one RBI during the series against Saint Louis.

yet of giving the freshman a start in the Butler series.

"I tell the team to take everything one game at a time, so I have to take it one day at a time, too," Schuette said following the Saint

Louis series.

Ray has been the least used of Eastern's three pitchers, only making nine appearances this season in 20 2/3 innings of work.

Schuette said she was not only

impressed with Ray's ability to throw strikes but also liked her fielding ability.

"Anything can happen," Schuette said. "She might start the first

GOOD BALL, page 9

BASEBALL | DRAFT

For Kreke, road to MLB still 'unbelievable'

By Collin Whitchurch  
Managing Editor

It's been almost a full year since Jordan Kreke played his last game with the Eastern baseball team. It's been 10 months since he was selected in the 13<sup>th</sup> round of the Major League Baseball First Year Player Draft. But for the shortstop turned third baseman, the idea that he's a professional baseball player is still surreal.

"It's unbelievable," said Kreke, one of three former Panthers selected in the 2009 draft. "(At spring training) I'd go out to the facility and Chipper Jones is hitting in the cages."

Kreke is beginning his second year in the Atlanta Braves' organization, and first full season. He will start the season with the Rome Braves in Rome, Ga., and is expected to be the team's starting third baseman when they open the season in Kannapolis today at 6:05 p.m.

Kreke is joined by Brett Nommensen and Tyler Kehr as former Panthers trying to make their marks in the Major Leagues. Kehr, a left-handed pitcher who anchored Eastern's rotation last season as a junior, was selected 48<sup>th</sup> overall by the Los Angeles Angels. Nommensen, the team's leadoff hitter and starting center fielder over the course of his collegiate career, went

Huber begins season

Erik Huber, 2007 Eastern alumnus and former Panthers' baseball player, will begin his season with the Bradenton Marauders of the Class A Advanced Florida State League.

The Marauders are an affiliate of the Pittsburgh Pirates.

Huber was drafted by the Pirates in the 12th round of the 2007 First Year Players Draft. Last season he split time between the Lynchburg Hillcats and West Virginia Power.

Huber played in 105 games overall between the two teams, hitting .301 with five home runs and 51 RBIs.

in the eighth round to the Tampa Bay Rays.

All three players will begin this season in low Single-A ball with their respective organizations. Nommensen begins the season with the Bowling Green Hot Rods in Bowling Green, Ky., while Kehr starts the season with the Cedar Rapids Kernels in Cedar Rapids, Iowa.

While the trio got drafted last June, they all experienced their first

UNBELIEVABLE, page 9



THE DAILY EASTERN NEWS FILE PHOTO

Jordan Kreke was selected by the Atlanta Braves in the 13th round of the 2009 Major League Baseball Draft last year. He was selected 388th overall, the seventh pick in the 13th round.

EASTERN SPORTS SCHEDULE

<b>Softball</b> Today at Butler 2 p.m. – Indianapolis , Ind.	<b>Baseball</b> Saturday vs Morehead State 1 p.m. – Coaches Stadium	<b>Softball</b> Sunday vs Eastern Kentucky Noon – Williams Field	<b>Men's Tennis</b> Sunday vs Austin Peay Noon – Darling Courts	<b>Softball</b> Sunday vs. Eastern Kentucky Noon – Williams Field	For more please see <a href="http://eiupanthers.com">eiupanthers.com</a>
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