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Rain



The Daily Eastern News

www.den.eiu.edu

Eastern Illinois University
Charleston, Ill. 61920
Vol. 84, No. 56
12 pages

Tuesday
November 10, 1998



Inside Longer hours

The university union stays open longer to accommodate students.

Story on Page 3

Sports The MVC's No. 6 seed

Men's soccer team draws Western Kentucky for first-round playoff game.
Story on Page 12



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

Booth library is movin' on out



Todd Musso / Staff photographer

The \$17 million library renovations are scheduled to begin at the end of the spring 1999 semester. The newly renovated library will modernize the facilities and provide better work space. Booth Library Planning Committee has selected four on-campus locations and one off-campus location to temporarily house all of the library's materials.

Library to move materials to five different locations during May renovations

By Meghan McMahon
Staff writer

Five temporary locations have been selected to house Booth Library during its renovation, slated to begin in May 1999.

"The goal is to get everything out of the library so the renovation can occur," said Ted Weidner, director of facilities planning and management.

The Booth Library Planning Committee has selected four on-

campus locations and one off-campus location to house all of the library's materials.

The four on-campus locations include the Gallery area of the Martin Luther King Jr. University Union, Gregg Triad, McAfee Gymnasium and a newly constructed area of the Facilities Planning and Management complex located west of O'Brien Stadium.

The off-campus location has not yet been made public because

the contract is still under negotiation, Weidner said.

"The decision was reached with the assistance of the provost, dean of library services, vice president for student affairs, vice president for business affairs, dean of the college of education and professional studies and an architect," Weidner said.

Steve Shrake is the architect who will design the renovation, he said.

The \$17 million library renovations

are scheduled to begin at the conclusion of the spring 1999 semester. The newly renovated library will modernize the facilities and provide better work space, a press release said.

The plans for the renovations are not yet final.

"We don't know specifically (what the renovations will be) because it is still in the design stage," Weidner said. "We know in general we are going to gut the building and start all over again."

Booth Library's 1 million print volumes, 1.5 million microfilms and 225 computers must be relocated before the renovations can begin, a press release said.

"We expect to make the formal move of library collections right after (spring semester) finals are over," said Allen Lanham, dean of library services.

Weidner said it is not finalized who will be in charge of moving

See **MOVIN'** Page 2

Illinois students are book happy

Students satisfied with textbook rental vs. purchasing program

By Christy Kilgore
Staff writer

Administrators and staff from three other Illinois colleges indicate overall satisfaction among students using a textbook rental system rather than textbook purchasing programs.

Southern Illinois University at Edwardsville, Lake Land Community College in Mattoon and Lincoln Christian College are the other universities in Illinois besides Eastern that utilize a rental system.

SIU at Edwardsville has used a textbook rental system since the establishment of the university in the mid 1960s.

"It's one of the biggest selling points of the university," said Bonnie Elmore,

department supervisor of Textbook Rental at SIU at Edwardsville.

She said the students appreciate the money saving qualities of textbook rental.

Elmore said because of their success, textbook rental service is getting its own building next year.

At orientation each year, the textbook rental staff makes examples of one or two typical freshmen textbook scenarios that show how much students save using rental services rather than buying their books.

Elmore said students spend "a couple hundred (dollars) less each semester using rentals."

Students at SIU at Edwardsville have the option to buy any books carried by

the university, including their current books or books they may have used in previous classes.

Books may be bought during the sixth, seventh and eighth weeks of the semester.

"We do pretty good business those weeks," Elmore said.

Most students know by then if they would like to keep their books for future reference, Elmore said.

The books also are discounted each month and total discounts can save students up to 45 percent off of the original purchase price.

The rental fee is included in student fees and is determined by semester hours

See **BOOK** Page 2

Snowed over

Charleston to stay moderate

By Nicole Meinheit
City editor

The snow that fell on Charleston Saturday may be the only snow Charleston sees until the last week in November.

"There is a powerful storm coming in from the west and it is putting in a lot of snow in the western planes but it won't snow here because of the temperatures," said Dalias Price, local weather observer.

Average winter temperatures in Charleston do not drop low enough for snow to stick until the last week in November, Price said.

"I don't foresee snow yet," Price said. "The first accumulation of snow is the last week in November."

See **SNOW** Page 2

The Daily Eastern News

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Snow

from Page 1

Annually we get only an inch the whole month of November. The possibility of snow is still later in the month, if we look at averages," Price said.

Last year Charleston had a mild winter, with only 17 inches of snow, Price said.

This year Charleston should have a more normal winter getting closer to the average snowfall of 4 inches in December and 6 inches in January, he said.

Temperatures should average 32 degrees in December and 29 degrees in January, Price said.

"I would anticipate a more normal winter this year and a normal winter in this area is still a cold one," Price said.

While Charleston winters are cold, the 3 degrees of latitude that separate Charleston from Chicago make a big difference in the weather, Price said.

Snow doesn't stick in the Charleston area, he said.

"The snow doesn't last more than a few days and we have a mild spell and then we have another (snow storm)," Price said.

This week the temperatures will remain moderate, Price said.



Todd Musso / Staff photographer

Monica Moga, a freshman elementary education major, and Jessica Horn, a freshman sociology major, laugh to keep warm Monday on their way to the Martin Luther King Jr. University Union during the sudden cold weather.

"Behind this storm there is another one coming out of the west so the week will be interspersed with warm weather and dropping off a little bit," he said.

According to the National Weather Service, today temperatures will reach a high of 65 degrees and a low of 55 degrees.

Movin'

from Page 1

the materials from the library to the five locations.

All five of the relocation sites will be used to house the library's materials during the renovations.

"We need every square inch of space because the library is a big building with a lot of stuff," Weidner said.

Several of the library's temporary locations will require the assistance of library staff to retrieve items, a press release said.

"Many selections will be available just as they are today and in

others (library) staff will retrieve items," Lanham said.

As a result of the library's relocation to McAfee Gym, some classes may be temporarily relocated.

"We are still looking into what can move (out of McAfee Gym) and what cannot move and where they can be moved," Weidner said.

Book

from Page 1

enrolled. Most students pay \$60.50, the charge for 12 to 18 semester hours.

At Lake Land, a rental service also has been in use since the establishment of the college, said Mike Davidson, director of accounting services at LLC.

According to the LLC web page at www.Lake Land.cc.il.us, students can save up to \$300 using the service compared to actually buying their books.

Davidson said he doesn't think students realize how much they like the rental service until they see how much money they could spend on books.

Students at LLC also have the option of buying their books during the semester.

Students who buy their books still must pay the rental fees which are \$3.50 per semester hour.

At Lincoln Christian College, the rental service just recently took effect. The one-semester old rental service was started when the college book store came under ownership of the college this fall.

The Lincoln system was modeled after Eastern's system, said Kim Stevens, Lincoln bookstore manager.

"Students really are appreciative (of the rental system)," Stevens said. Stevens said since Lincoln has not done returns for the semester, potential problems are still unknown.

Eastern recently overcame a possible textbook request shortage after Dan Klingenberg, director of Textbook Rental services, examined the amount spent on spring and summer semester textbooks last year and determined only 60

percent of the spring semester requests would be able to be processed.

But requests were submitted in a timely manner and there were fewer requests than expected by Klingenberg, so all textbooks will most likely be supplied for spring semester.

Not unlike Eastern, the other established textbook rental services have their problems.

At SIU at Edwardsville some difficulties arise with faculty not wanting to use the books provided for a given class by the rental service.

"(The professors) are not required to get their books through here," Elmore said.

University professors, if unhappy with the given text, can require students to buy all or some of their class texts.

Elmore said some students are troubled by having to occasionally buy and rent books. She said the rental service has no say as to

Suspected serial rapist on the loose

ST. LOUIS (AP) — A suspect in the rapes of at least 20 St. Louis-area women has been reported seen in western Missouri and may be heading further west, police said Monday.

A nationwide search is being conducted for Dennis Rabbitt, 42, of Cedar Hill, who has been charged with raping two Jefferson County women. A warrant has been issued for his arrest in those cases. He has also been linked by preliminary DNA evidence to the rapes of at least 20 St. Louis-area women. Rabbitt has not been charged in any of the St. Louis rapes linked to the so-called South Side Rapist.

"While I'm not prepared today to confirm that he's the South Side Rapist, I will say that we are very, very, very close to solving this case," said St. Louis Police Chief Ron Henderson. "We do have the break that we were looking for."

Correction

In Friday's edition of the Verge, an article incorrectly reported that the date of the swing dance that is being hosted by the theater department would be Nov. 6. The dance will be Nov. 13.

The editorial in Monday's edition of *The Daily Eastern News* incorrectly noted that the Residence Hall Association held a date auction to benefit the Brad Wright Memorial Foundation, which is raising funds for a scholarship. Taylor Hall held the date auction.

The *News* regrets the errors.

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Student Government voting begins today

By Joe Sanner
Student government editor

Polls will open today for students to vote on new Student Senate members and an amendment to the Student Body Constitution.

Voting will take place from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. today and Wednesday in the Martin Luther King Jr. University Union Walkway and in Coleman Hall.

A constitutional amendment will also be included on the ballot for students to vote on, which would limit the number of offices a student can hold to three offices. If it passes, it would change Article VII, the division of powers section of the constitution, to read: "A student body executive officer, student senator, or student supreme court justice shall not hold more than one of the above stated offices concurrently."

After elections, the senate will begin accepting applications for appointments to the remaining five seats, said Keith Cosentino, speaker of the senate.

The last meeting of the current senate will be Dec. 2 and the newly elected senate will begin meeting Dec. 7.

Student Body President Steve Zielinski said he considered canceling the elections because only 16 petitions were submitted for the 21 seats available, but he decided to hold them because of the amendment.

Shoo-in senate candidates discuss their roles in Student Government

By Chris Sievers
Staff writer

Twelve of the 17 candidates running for Student Senate Monday addressed members of a panel on the leadership and involvement they would provide if elected.

Senate candidates were questioned by panel members Colette Guerdet, Residence Hall Association president; Chuck Burke, editor in chief of *The Daily Eastern News* and Student Body President Steve Zielinski.

Possible senate members were asked about what they would like to change while in senate to get more students involved as well as senate members.

"We need to get more students to see what's going on (in the senate)," said Marie Olsen, a freshman political science major and current senate member running for an at-large seat.

"Something needs to spark an interest in the students because they don't seem to take much of an interest in what's going on in student senate."

Burke questioned candidates about the lack of leadership by certain members of the Student Senate.

A number of senate members have either resigned or been removed from the senate this

semester because of low grade point averages, not fulfilling required office hours or not attending meetings.

"You can't lower the minimum time commitment," said Bill Gruen, a current senate member and senior psychology major running for an at-large seat. "You can only hope that people who come in know what they are getting into."

RHA President Colette Guerdet said senate members have not been as involved with recognized student organizations as they should be.

"I definitely think that is a problem," Gruen said. "There are too many RSOs to be represented."

"I think we are all spread pretty thin right now and we are doing all that we can."

Jolyn Daugherty, a current senate member and junior speech communications major who is running for an at-large seat, said one possible solution is using an e-mail or list server service to keep in contact with RSOs.

"We could keep our (senate's) minutes posted on a weekly basis," Daugherty said.

Some of the candidates said they were already involved with RSOs on campus.

"A lot of us are already involved with RSOs," said William Brooks, a speech communications major who

The candidates

Here's a list of the 17 students running for the 21 open seats in the Student Senate. Since there are more open seats than candidates, each candidate needs only one vote to be elected.

- Melissa Girten, a current senate member and political science major who is running for an at-large seat
- Emily Buckley, a current senate member and psychology major who is running for an on-campus seat
- Bill Gruen, a current senate member and psychology major who is running for an at-large seat
- Matt Layette, a current senate member and political science major who is running for an at-large seat
- Rita Gerber, a finance major who is running for an at-large seat
- Jolyn Daugherty, a speech communications major and current senate member who is running for an at-large seat
- Amanda Furlan, a current senate member and computer science and political science major who is running for an at-large seat
- Karla Grossi, a current senate member and early childhood education and elementary education major who is running for an at-large seat
- Marie Olson, a current senate member and political science major who is running for an at-large seat
- William Brooks, a speech communications major who is running for an at-large seat
- Carol Kiely, an elementary education major who is running for an at-large seat
- Matthew Kennedy, a speech communications major who is running for an at-large seat
- Jeremy Wendel, a computer management major who is running for an on-campus seat
- Ricky Jean-Pierre, a business management major who is running for an at-large seat
- Angelina Reinche, a business management major who is running for an at-large seat
- Michael Patrick, a journalism major who is running for an on-campus seat
- Sabrina Bowers, a freshman computer management major running for an on-campus seat

is running for an at-large seat. "It would be really easy if you were already going to a meeting to stand up for two or three minutes and tell them what's going on in the senate."

Melissa Girten, a senior political science major and current member of the senate who is running for an at-large seat, said that the RSO problem is an internal senate problem.

Most of the senators feel they are ready to take on the duties the office requires of them.

"We've got to work on keeping each other motivated," Gruen said.

"I see a lot of little changes happening," Olsen said. "I'm just a freshman but I hope that by the time I'm a senior we can say that we have these certain things that other schools don't have."

Senate elections will be held from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. today and Wednesday in the Martin Luther King Jr. University Union Walkway and in Coleman Hall.

Three arrested on battery charge

By Nicole Meinheit
City editor

The three men accused of beating and threatening a Charleston resident with a knife and the woman who drove the getaway car are still being held in Coles County Jail.

Romonda K. Stevenson, of Harvey; Charles Grant Kelly, of 612 North Fifth St.; Kenneth E. Burnett, of Maple Grove, Minn.; and Jennie L. Hanton, of Mattoon are accused of home invasion, aggravated battery and aggravated assault, a police report said.

On Nov. 3 Stevenson, Kelly and Burnett allegedly entered a Charleston apartment and beat the resident with their fists and threatened him with a knife, police reports said.

Hanton allegedly transported Stevenson, Kelly and Burnett to the apartment and acted as a lookout during the incident, a police report said.

The resident was not injured in the incidents, said Lt. Rich Fisher of the Charleston Police Department.

The suspects were arrested later during a traffic stop at State Street and Five Points Laundry later that evening, a police report said.

The victim positively identified the suspects in a lineup, a police report said.

Fisher said the victim knew the suspects prior to the incident.

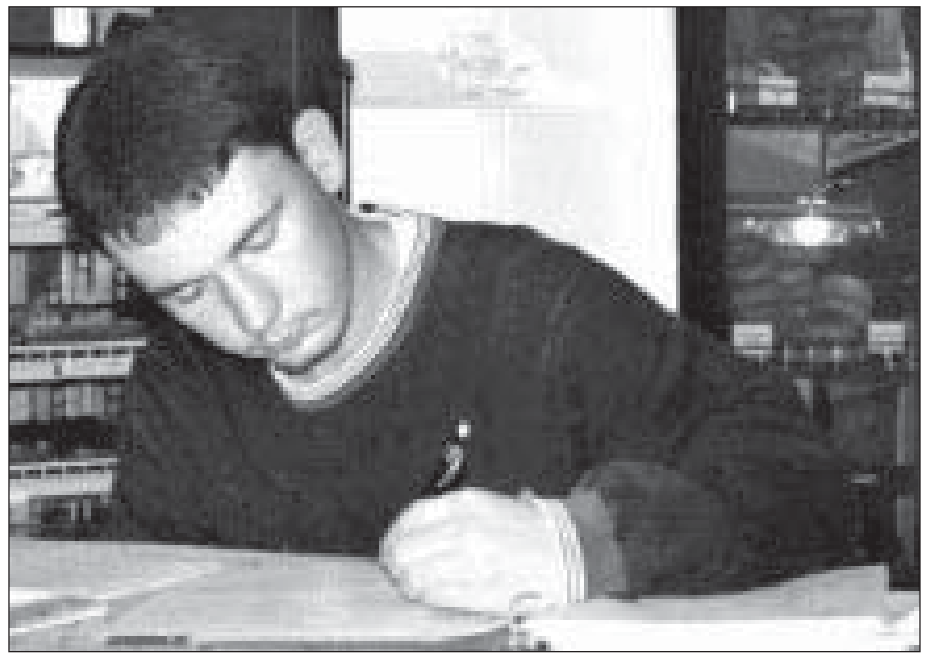
"I believe, from what I heard, that the man who lives there owed the suspects money," Fisher said.

The case has been turned over to the state's attorney, Fisher said.

Currently the suspects are charged with home invasion, a Class X felony, punishable by six to 30 years in jail; aggravated battery, a Class 3 felony, punishable by 2 to 5 years in jail; and aggravated assault, a Class D felony, punishable by a maximum of 364 days in prison, jail records said.

Stevenson's and Kelly's bonds were set at \$30,000. Burnett's bond was set at \$20,000 and Hanton's bond was set at \$15,000.

To be released from jail, each of the suspects must pay 10 percent of his or her bond.



Todd Musso / Staff photographer

A place to study

Jay Hildebrand, a junior zoology major, studies at Coffee Express in the Martin Luther King Jr. University Union Monday evening. The union has expanded its building hours to 1 a.m. this semester to better serve the students. **Story on Page 7**

Omar Says:

After reading

The Daily Eastern News

Please Recycle it!

★ ★ ★

Late Night

★ at the ★

University

★ Union ★

Union Building Hours:

Sun.....10:00am-1:00am

Mon-Thurs.....7:00am-1:00am

Fri.....7:00am-12:00am

Sat.....10:00am-12:00am

Coffee Express:

Sun.....3:00pm-12:30am

Mon-Thurs.....7:00am-12:30am

Fri.....7:00am-4:00pm

Sat.....Closed

New Union Hours!

Extended Hours of Service

Late Night Study Groups

Group Meetings

Opinion page

Tuesday, November 10, 1998

Page 4

Post-election aftertaste

It's usually right around now that people check out the post-election news on TV and in the papers, deciding that a bunch of morons just got voted into office on the federal, state and local level.

Lots of these people are old enough to register to vote but haven't gotten around to it yet. And lots of them *are* registered voters but didn't get around to going to the polls last Tuesday. If one of this group complains about who ended up in office, that's one too many.

Choosing to not vote, whether one is not informed on the issues and candidates or whether one is frustrated about the choices, pretty much voids all

One last chance

The Student Government election ballot isn't full, but voting shows there's a student interest in government regardless.

opportunities to complain.

Post-election news is always accompanied by stories of dismal voter turnouts, especially when there isn't a presidential

campaign going on. Last week was no exception.

So amid this voting climate of "what the hell did we just do to ourselves?" comes Tuesday and Wednesday's Student Government elections, and everyone – especially those who didn't participate in or are upset with the choices available in last week's elections – owe it to themselves to vote this time.

It's time we prodded ourselves into becoming consistent, informed voters. And any interest in how we govern ourselves begins partly with how much we pay attention to student governments on college campuses. These are likely the same people who will be running for election in state and local races in the coming years.

This week's elections aren't exactly promising. The Student Senate has 21 open seats, and only 16 students are vying for them. All of them are expected to get in, and the news of the election results might leave many with a similar "what the hell did we just do to ourselves?" feeling.

But vote anyway. Showing an interest in the Student Government is what counts. And a greater campuswide interest in how it is run just might lead to a ballot that has more candidates than open seats next time around.

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

Today's quote

There is but one unconditional commandment, which is that we should seek incessantly, with fear and trembling, so to vote and to act as to bring about the very largest total universe of good which we can see.

William James,
American philosopher and psychologist, 1842-1910

Do not pout before you take action

It's the post-Generation X era, and our college student crop is next to get a label signifying what our elders deem is the most memorable characteristic of our generation.

We've already been deemed Generation MTV by a handful of magazines and cynical adults because of the rapt fascination the younger portion of the crowd seems to have with MTV sometimes. Yeah, you got me – even I am a fan of *Celebrity Deathmatch*. But I digress.

Yet this image does not do a portion of our generation justice. So I would like to suggest a new vision for our generation. For our generation's poster child, I would like to have a squealing baby with the world clenched in his/her chubby fists. The beach-ball globe should be partially deflated and maybe even have a band-aid taped to it. Add in a dark, depressing background and some sort of a whiny message, and lo and behold: You have a good portion of our generation represented.

I refuse to believe that the world is a big, bad environment dedicated to making my life difficult. I renounce the idea that all people in power are evil and corrupt. And I won't whine that the government needs change when I can actually do something to change it.

But I will discuss my ideals with other people who are willing to open their minds and possibly even their ideals to those of other people. Because there is no greater beauty on this earth than that of an open mind.

Unfortunately, most of the people I have talked to lately aren't interested in enjoying such a thing.

Change is foreign ideal to them. The concept of being able to accomplish goals by actually being motivated is a ridiculed notion.

And I know I'm probably going to get loads of hate mail for saying this, but I'll cheerfully wade through cussing e-mails just to say it anyway. For the love of Pete, please just



Jaime Hodge
Verge editor

"For our generation's poster child, I would like to have a squealing baby with the world clenched in his/her chubby fists."

shut up.

You aren't accomplishing anything by whining, except maybe giving the guy next to you a headache. Action is the one step that must be taken if any change is going to affect your environment. I understand it's a terribly romantic notion to sit in a coffee shop, suck down java and pretend that the reason you're hermetically sealed from anything remotely involved with democra-

cy is because the world is out to get you and you can't do anything about it, but who do you think you're kidding?

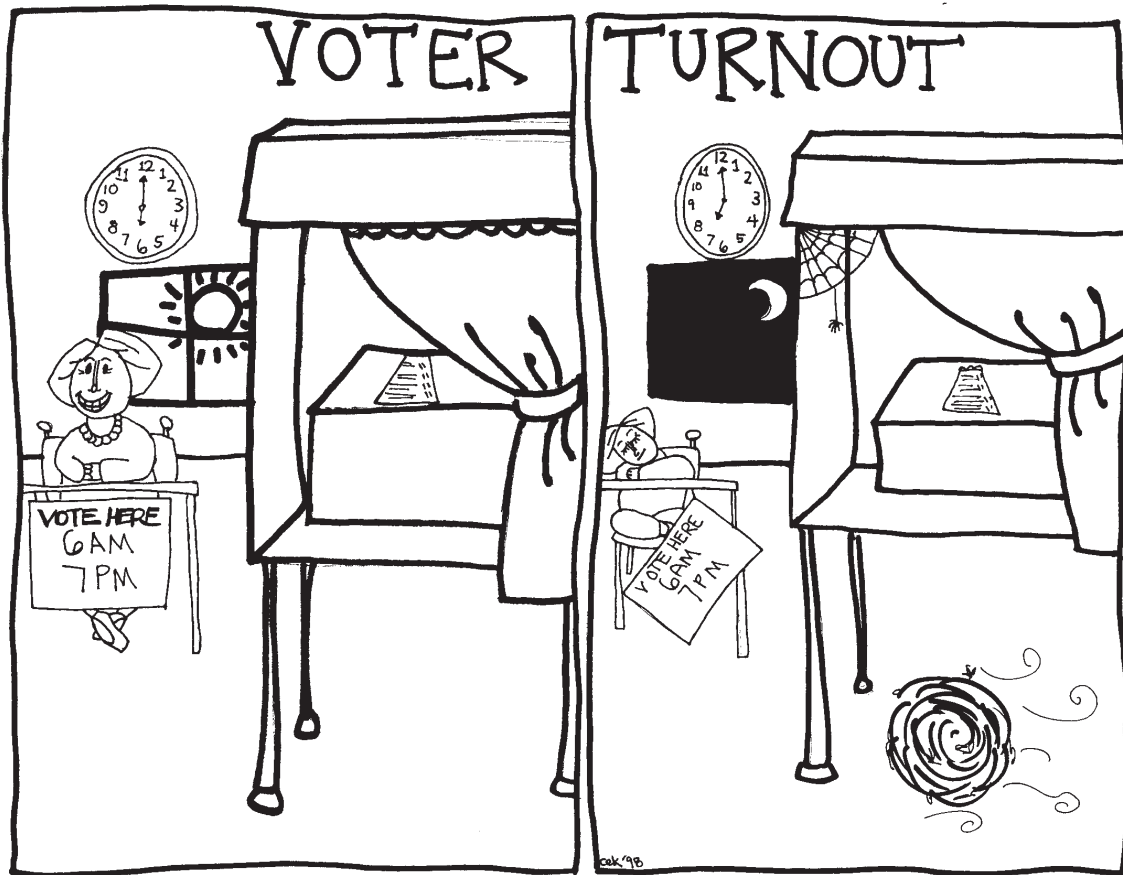
Sit up and take note. It only takes one person to effect a change. Still doubting the sincerity behind that statement? What about Mother Theresa? She became a beacon of life and light to thousands. She helped comfort those nearing the end of their hopes and called for peace and understanding in our world. There is no denying what good she did for the planet.

Need another example? I have one. Martin Luther King Jr. had similar hopes of bringing peace to our world. It is undeniable that King swept the ideas of change through the minds of people who may or may not have been willing to heed his ideas. He voiced his opinions proudly and with passion and helped one of the most important eras in our country's history: the civil rights movement.

In light of the memories of these two powerful and influential people (and others who were not mentioned because of space restrictions), an important lesson is derived.

Complaining doesn't do what the emphatic voices of those whose ideas and passions seem to have died on the winds of history have done. And remember the power of one; it can often do more than dreamed possible.

■ Jaime Hodge is a freshman journalism major and a biweekly columnist for The Daily Eastern News. Her e-mail address is cujmh19@pen.eiu.edu. Columns are the opinion of the author.



Honors student priority form of discrimination

I am writing this letter in response to the girl who stated there is too much emphasis on the "all-female" part of the Pemberton Hall debate. That is true, but who do the honors students think they are? What makes them so special that they think they deserve to occupy three dormitories? She mentioned discrimination; this is discrimination as well. It's discrimination against those who are not honors students. It doesn't seem fair that they get to take over the oldest and most beautiful dorm on campus because they are assumed to be smarter than the rest of us.

If they need a bigger area to study, McKinney and Ford Halls are the perfect places for them, seeing as it is right next door to the library. Just because they live somewhere else does not mean that they can't come to the Pemberton Lounge or study area when they need it.

Your turn

Letters to the editor

Why do honors students feel they need to be separated from the rest of us? Is it because they think regular students don't do their homework or study?

If honors students want to live separately, there are plenty of places off-campus to live where you can have a quiet study environment any time you like!

Natasha Jackson
psychology major and Pemberton resident

'Small enough to care' is an incorrect motto

As an international exchange student I was initially impressed by the Eastern motto "Big enough to matter, small enough to care," and the courte-

ous and helpful faculty and staff seemed to confirm that impression. However, since completing my exchange last December, I have found it a rather shallow claim. Ten months later, I am still waiting for my academic transcript. Eastern's International Office sent one in July, but it was incorrectly completed and although I immediately requested a replacement, it is yet to arrive. From a point of reciprocity, Central Queensland University ensures its exchange students have their certified transcripts within six weeks of completing their exams. But most disturbing of all is the International Programs Administration's indifference to electronic correspondence. Since this issue arose, not once have they had the courtesy to acknowledge receipt of or responded to my e-mail requests or concerns. It seems out of sight is out of mind. "Small enough to care?" I don't think so.

Neville Tickner
Eastern alumnus

Local shopping reaps benefits within town

When I first heard of Charleston's plan to provide a bus service for Eastern students, I wasn't quite sure why. Just a few years ago I was an Eastern student hiking around town to do my shopping. This isn't a large metropolitan area. Large metropolitan areas have many places to go and long stretches of tarmac between them. These areas also have large tax bases to supply the necessary funds to provide mass transit services. Initially, the idea was to bus students to local shopping areas such as the Square and the grocery stores. The students voted for a "minor" fee increase, and a few local businesses offered to chip in and help pay for the bus service.

But Charleston just couldn't raise enough money on its own. (This should be an indicator of the busing program's future.) So to the dismay of local merchants, many of whom had already pledged money,



Ed Thomas
Owner of Bike and Hike

"Busing people out of town to shop is only a good idea if we also bus people in to shop."

Mattoon businesses were solicited. So who cares? What does this mean to the Eastern student? What this means is fewer local businesses offering fewer products and services. Charleston's retail sector has been struggling for years. Why? Some say socio-economic issues are the cause. Others say there is nothing available locally. And many think they shop locally and buy most of their goods from Wal-Mart. Let's keep in mind that large corpo-

rate chain stores (i.e., Wal-Mart) send the majority of their earnings to home offices far away. Products and services will not be available locally if people do not shop locally.

The flip side of this argument is that people will not shop locally if products and services are not available locally. However, if we bus people outside of the community to buy products and services, how are the local merchants to take this

action? Granted, not all products and services are available in Charleston. Not even close. Proximity is a key factor in business location; at least that's what I learned in a business course taught here at Eastern. The three most important factors in business success are location, location and location. Not just for the merchant, but for its patrons. Close proximity means ease of service and shopping. The merchants in Charleston are here to serve Eastern and the local community. If we bus people away, we take away the single advantage that local businesses have: location. Local merchants need your business in order to succeed and to offer new products and services in the future. The city needs local merchants to generate tax dollars to fund city operations. The consumer needs businesses that offer quality goods and services. This economic cycle works in many communities. It can work in

Charleston. Busing people out of town to shop is only a good idea if we also bus people in to shop. Think about it. We carry the infrastructure and tax load to support people living here in Charleston. Then we bus them and their money to Mattoon so that Mattoon reaps the benefit. This is not a slight against Mattoon. As a business owner I want to see Mattoon and Charleston both do well. Who knows, maybe twin cities some day. But Charleston merchants and taxpayers only stand to lose by busing students to Mattoon. Students may have something to gain short-term. But if the busing thing works out, long-term effects will include even fewer local shopping venues. And that will be a loss for the students at Eastern.

■ Ed Thomas is the owner of Bike and Hike and a guest columnist for The Daily Eastern News. Columns are the opinion of the author.

Letter to the editor

Coming Out Day has unoriginal theme applicable to anyone

Yes, that time of year has once again found its way to return to Eastern. Coming Out Day has hit the campus like a bad rash crawling on the inside of your leg.

Who, in his or her right mind, ever thought of the idea to give homosexuals a day of their own? The idea is revolting and detestable. Granted, no one should be discriminated against, in the workforce, because of their sexual preference. But, a day to support one's sexual orientation is just too much.

I read Chuck Burke's column and laughed like a crazed maniac. He's right on one thing: Whoever came up with the idea to wear jeans is one smart cookie.

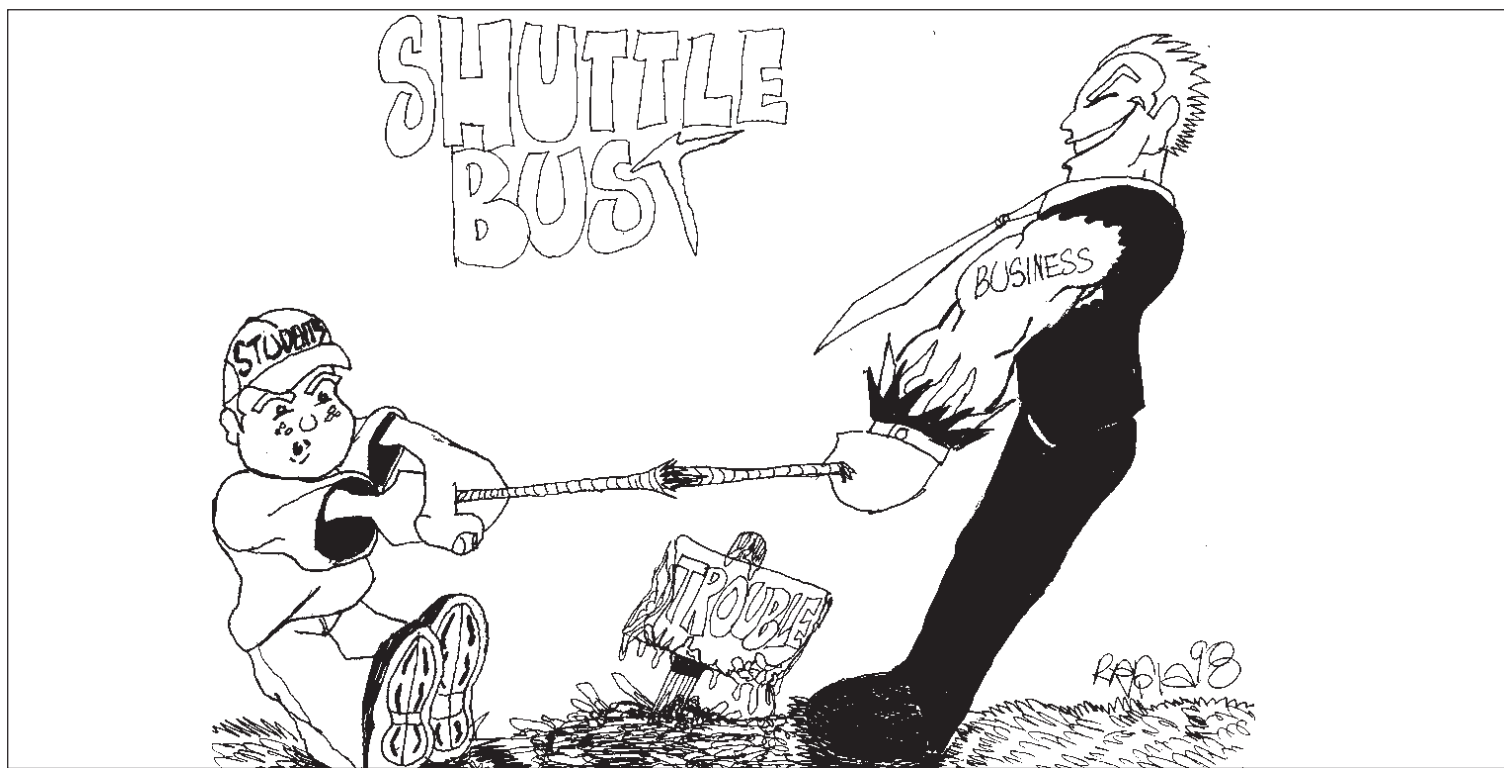
Maybe for Heterosexual Day everyone can wear a T-shirt to support all those who favor the opposite sex. Please, how unoriginal is the idea to wear jeans? Who doesn't when it's October and the temperature is almost freezing? You would think that being different they would actually find an article of clothing that represents their fetish. Maybe say, tie-dye.

The whole idea of a day to support someone's sexual desires is absurd. The next item on their agenda is to establish a whole week in support of their immoral quality. I will admit, our founding fathers did adopt a document allowing the freedom of expression. However, I don't think supporting the freedom to express one's sexuality is what they had in mind.

In conclusion, I end on a quote that I hope many will take to heart. There are only two things to remember on Coming Out Day: whether your homosexual or heterosexual, and if you're wearing jeans it means you're homosexual.

Jeremy Ruppel

sophomore business education and computer management major



Shuttle to serve 10,000 customers

Since March, the university, the Chamber of Commerce and the City of Charleston have been working on a shuttle system for Eastern. On Dec. 1, the "Panther Express" will begin operation.

For years, the university has recognized the need for a transportation system to take Eastern students to areas on campus and within the cities of Charleston and Mattoon. Providing this service involves a lot more than buying a bus and hiring a driver. The service has a high price tag and many special requirements (administration, legal requirements and tax considerations, to name a few). By contracting with an outside firm, the university frees itself to concentrate on more important things, such as marketing the system to the students and ensuring that the route is efficient.

The shuttle project has encountered a few problems over the last several months. These problems have forced us to push the starting date back from Nov. 1 to Dec. 1. I take full responsibility for this delay. In March, when we began seriously planning the service, we estimated the system would cost about \$60,000 a year. After meeting with the Chamber of Commerce,



Melissa Girten
Student Senate member

"While overall business support has been disappointing to say the least, I think it is important to recognize that we have received support, financial or otherwise, from several local groups and businesses."

we all agreed that we could rely on about \$20,000 in pledges from local businesses. Based on this and a desire to keep the student fee low, I submitted legislation to the Student Senate that called for the proposed creation of a \$2.50 per semester fee. I now know that this fee is not enough.

Yes, it is true most of the businesses in Charleston have chosen not to support the shuttle for one reason or another. This is incredibly disappointing and frustrating because no one has a solid answer for why the businesses would choose to ignore 10,000 of their customers. But, the fact is that they are ignoring us, which puts the responsibility for the system on our shoulders.

I feel the shuttle is important enough to this university and its students that we need to step up and cover this funding gap, and we have. With \$10,000 from the Student Senate and \$20,000 from President David Jorns and Vice President Lou Hencken, we will have enough money to run the system for 1998-1999 school year. Next semester we will have to evaluate the system and decide if it is worth a fee increase. I think it will be and I hope you agree.

While overall business support has been disappointing to say the least, I think it is important to recognize that we have received support, financial or otherwise, from several local groups and businesses. I would like to thank those businesses and

people who have helped get the system started: President Jorns, Vice President Hencken, Larry Rennels and Cindy Titus with the chamber, Wal-Mart, Wilb Walkers, Citizen's Bank, First Mid-Illinois Band and Trust, Campbells Apartments, the Lincoln Bookshop, the Uptowner, What's Cookin', the Cross County Mall and the Student Senate.

The Student Senate will be forming an informal shuttle committee at the beginning of next semester. The purpose of the committee will be to evaluate the system so that it is effectively serving the students. If you are interested in serving on this committee, call the Student Government office at 581-5522 and let us know.

I am excited the shuttle will soon begin operation and I hope it functions as well as we anticipate it will. I encourage all of you to ride the shuttle. Try the system out and see if you like it. If you have ideas for improvements or encounter any problems, let us know.

■ Melissa Girten is a senior political science major and a guest columnist for The Daily Eastern News. Her e-mail address is cumg5@pen.eiu.edu. Columns are the opinion of the author.



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By Amy Thon
Campus editor

Program encourages women in business

characteristics businesses are looking for, she said.

"We've got to try to train our kids for an economic environment that is way different from what we are used too," McDonough said.

She said students need to be taught to be flexible, understand their options and respond to the changing economic environment. They also will be taught basic financial literacy such as banking skills.

"Basic life skills are an important part of this too," McDonough said.

The goal is to have the program initiated in all parts of the state, but McDonough said she is not sure if this will happen by the year 2000.

"As we get more into this, we'll figure out what works," she said.

The council works on outreach and education. They also listen to hearings to find out economic and business ownership issues that affect women.

"We are responsible to annually report to the governor and general assembly," McDonough said. "Our focus is supposed to be women business economic issues."

The council also sponsors conferences hosted by banks to discuss issues concerning women in business. McDonough said they have held two conferences this year, one in Peoria and one in Princeton.

Each year, the council prepares an annual report and makes recommendations. She said the council looks at the big picture in terms of women's presence in the business. The council also discusses affirmative action for minorities and women. One recommendation the council often makes is to increase the number of women on boards and councils and in higher management-level positions.

A new program sponsored by the Women's Business Ownership Council will demonstrate to children that a women can be the president of her own company.

The council, which was started four years ago, consists of nine members. Four members are appointed by the four legislative leaders and one member is appointed by the governor. The chair of the council is also named by the governor.

The goal of the program, Economic Empowerment Education 2000, is to raise the visibility of women in business for school-age children.

The target of the programs is to teach life and entrepreneurial skills to every grade level between kindergarten and 12th grade.

The council is sponsoring the program in conjunction with the Illinois Institute for Entrepreneurship Education and Junior Achievement of Chicago. The project will use the collective resources of the three partners to pilot the program.

"Our objective would be to get some level of this entrepreneurship training in the schools," said Council Chair Pam McDonough.

She said the project will start in the Chicago area because Junior Achievement already does programs there.

"We are trying to see if we can raise the visibility," McDonough said. "The kids seem to get quite a bit out of learning from someone who's doing (something in the field.)"

Education and business will be blended together and the students will be trained with the kinds of

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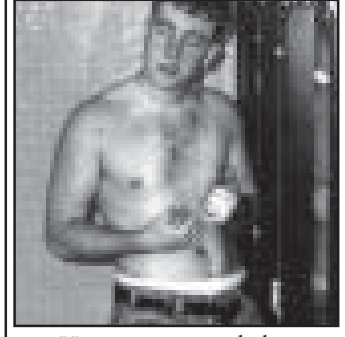


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Union, Coffee Express open later

By Shinnelle Dismukes
 Staff writer

The Martin Luther King Jr. University Union has expanded its building hours to 1 a.m. this semester to better serve the students.

Previously, the union closed at 11 p.m. Shirley Stewart, associate vice president for the student affairs, said she believes the expansion of the union hours will be popular with the students because there will be another location for students to study besides the library.

Coffee Express, located on the first floor near the union bookstore, will be open until 12:30 a.m. This is the second time it has expanded its hours since it opened.

When Coffee Express first opened its hours were from 7 a.m.

New union hours

The Martin Luther King Jr. University Union has expanded its hours to give students another place to study at night.

Union	OPEN	CLOSE
Sunday	10 a.m.	1 a.m.
Monday-Thursday	7 a.m.	1 a.m.
Friday	7 a.m.	12 a.m.
Saturday	10 a.m.	12 a.m.

Coffee Express

Sunday	3 p.m.	12:30 a.m.
Monday-Thursday	7 a.m.	12:30 a.m.
Friday	7 a.m.	4 p.m.
Saturday	Closed	

to 1 p.m. The hours were extended until 4:30 p.m. and because of the increased popularity, Coffee Express decided to expand to 12:30

a.m. Stewart said Coffee Express will stay open longer for students to have coffee and snacks to munch on.

Coffee Express serves a variety of coffees, homemade muffins, sandwiches and soups.

Meeting rooms will also be available during the extended hours for student groups to use. This will provide more space students can reserve for various meetings, Stewart said.

The vending lounges will stay open 24 hours during final exam week.

The continuation of the expanded hours for next semester depends on student use during this semester. Stewart said there will be a building supervisor conducting counts on how busy the union is. "It all depends on the students Stewart said,

campus inbrief

Student jazz combo to perform tonight

Combo I of the Jazz Studies Program will perform jazz selections at 7:30 p.m. today in Dvorak Concert Hall in the Fine Arts Building.

The combo, directed by Mike Stryker, will perform "Just In Time" by Julie Styne, arranged by Sammy Nestico; "Wild Oats" by Mark Taylor; "Smile" by Charles Chaplin, arranged by Dave Barduhn; "Some Like It Blues" by Lennie Niehaus; "Swing House" by Gerry Mulligan; "Li'l Darlin'" by Neal Hefti; "Stolen Moments" by Oliver Nelson, arranged by Paul Jennings; and

"Latin Journey" by Jeff Taylor.

The combo is made up of student musicians Brian Shaw on trumpet and fluegal horn, Patrick Wright on tenor saxophone, Jonathan Siddle on trombone, Jordan Kaye on guitar, Zachary Rodriguez on drums, and Gordon Jackson playing bass.

Admission is free for the concert and open to everyone.

By Christy Kilgore, Staff writer

Students asked to show their spirit

Eastern's Office of Admissions Wednesday is sponsoring the second open house of the year for potential Eastern students and their families.

"The first open house was on Columbus Day and there are two more scheduled for spring," said Dale Wolf, director of admissions.

Registration begins at 9 a.m. in the Grand Ballroom of the Martin Luther King Jr. University Union. At that time, families can pick up free meal passes for lunch at any dining hall. They can also talk to a number of representatives from various departments. Families are welcome to visit any department during the afternoon to ask further questions.

To help prospective students become better acquainted with the campus, student guided tours will leave the Union no less than every half hour throughout the morning, and will resume in the afternoon from the Office of Admissions. Residence halls also will be toured from 10 a.m. until 2 p.m., Wolf said.

Eastern students are invited to help spread school spirit to the visiting families by wearing Eastern clothing. Students who do so will receive free popcorn in the Union.

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Wood barely wins NL Rookie of the Year

NEW YORK (AP) — Kerry Wood was narrowly voted NL Rookie of the Year, capping a season in which he struck out 20 batters in a game and helped the Chicago Cubs make the playoffs for the first time since 1989.

The 21-year-old right-hander received 16 first-place votes and 16 seconds to finish with 128 points in balloting by the Baseball Writers' Association of America. Colorado Rockies first baseman Todd Helton got 15 firsts, 14 seconds and two thirds for 119 points.

"It adds confidence that people who watch the game and people who follow baseball acknowledged as good a season as I've had,"

Wood said.

Wood was 13-6 with a 3.40 ERA in 26 starts, striking out 233 in 166 2-3 innings. He was even more impressive at Wrigley Field, going 9-1 with a 2.97 ERA in 13 starts during the regular season.

Baseball took notice of Wood on May 6 when he struck out 20 — only Roger Clemens had done it in a nine-inning game — while pitching a one-hitter against Houston.

"It helped me finally realize that I was capable of pitching at that level," Wood said. "The previous four starts before that were rocky. I had a couple of good ones and a couple of bad ones."

Wood was the odds-on favorite to win the rookie award heading into the final month of the season. But because of a dead arm, his start against Cincinnati on Aug. 31 was his last of the regular season.

Wood returned in Game 3 of the NL playoffs, allowing one run — not earned — against Atlanta as the Cubs were eliminated. His elbow will be examined again in about two weeks.

"Hopefully, in the next couple of days or so, I will start getting ready for the offseason program and we go from there," Wood said.

Helton batted .315 with 25 homers and 97 RBIs, taking over at first base for the Rockies

after Andres Galarraga left to sign with Atlanta following the 1997 season.

Arizona first baseman Travis Lee was third with 21 points and Atlanta closer Kerry Ligtenberg, who received the other first-place vote, was fourth with 18 points.

Lee hit .269 with 22 homers and 72 RBIs. Ligtenberg replaced Mark Wohlers as the Braves' closer and finished with 30 saves.

The AL Rookie of the Year will be announced Tuesday.

Oakland outfielder Ben Griever and New York Yankees pitcher Orlando "El Duque" Hernandez are the favorites.

Hot NBA free agent, McDyess, fires agent, hires new one

NEW YORK (AP) — Antonio McDyess, one of the most sought-after players in the upcoming free agent market, will have a new agent negotiating his next contract whenever the NBA lockout ends.

McDyess fired agent Arn Tellem and replaced him with Tony Dutt, who also represents Shawn Kemp, Tellem's office confirmed Monday.

The agent switch was the second this offseason involving a high-profile young client. Earlier, Stephon Marbury of the Minnesota Timberwolves fired agent Eric Fleisher and hired David Falk after

Marbury lost a lucrative sneaker endorsement contract.

McDyess' move was one of the scant pieces of NBA news Monday as the lockout went through its 132nd day with no end in sight.

No negotiations between owners and players are scheduled, although the union's negotiating committee and several team player representatives will meet in New York on Wednesday to discuss strategy.

The NBA's chief negotiator, deputy commissioner Russ Granik, was spending Monday and Tuesday in Atlanta for USA

Basketball's annual board meeting. Granik is the president of USAB.

"My guess is we'll hear something from the union after their meeting Wednesday," Granik said by telephone from Atlanta.

"There's really nothing going on."

The sides haven't met since last Friday, when a 90-minute meeting failed to produce any movement from either side.

The union had been expected to present a new proposal, but none was offered.

The league and union are bickering over how to divide about \$2

billion in annual revenues. The players, who received 57 percent last season, now want 60 percent. The league is offering a 50-50 split.

Union director Billy Hunter has spent the past several days speaking with players and agents by telephone, in part to combat what the players are hearing from some of the teams since commissioner David Stern lifted the ban that prevented team personnel from discussing the lockout with players.

Some agents said teams seemed to be taking an informal poll of the players, trying to gauge whether they have the stomach to withstand

another month or two without paychecks.

The season was supposed to start Nov. 3, but now it will not be possible to begin until mid-December at the earliest. Stern and Granik have said a deal needs to be in place by mid-December to avoid the cancellation of the entire season.

If a deal is reached, McDyess would be one of approximately 200 free agents who would be signed during a three- to four-week period in which teams would be scrambling to get ready for opening night.

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Visit the Health Education Resource Center in Health Service for Health-Related information for papers, speeches, projects, and personal use. 11/13	Katie Franz of Alpha Gamma Delta. Good luck during I-Week. You've done great so far. You Guardian Angel is proud of you! 11/10	COME TO SHANTYTOWN FOR BRITNEY'S 21ST THEN GO TO IKE'S. 11/10	Erica J. of AGD. Good luck during I-week. You're a great kiddo! Alpha Gam love, Paula. 11/10	It's Greek Week all semester at DALE BAYLES ON CAMPUS. Come in Tri Sigs, Lambda Chi's and Alpha Gams and get 20% OFF all clothing this week. Only, at DALE BAYLES ON CAMPUS. 11/10	It pays to advertise in the Daily Eastern News. OO/HA
Personals	Allison Elmore of ALPHA GAMMA DELTA. Congratulations on entering I-Week. You have done a SUPER job so far and I'm so proud of you!!! Alpha gam love and mine, Dana. 11/10	Allison Leary-Congratulations on getting Delta Zeta Dream Girl! You looked beautiful Saturday night! 11/10	Announcements	CASH LOANS 345-3623. Buy-Sell-Trade-Stereos, V.C.R.'s T.V.'s, C.D.'s, Jewelry, etc. COLES COUNTRY PAWN. 4th and Madison. 12/14	

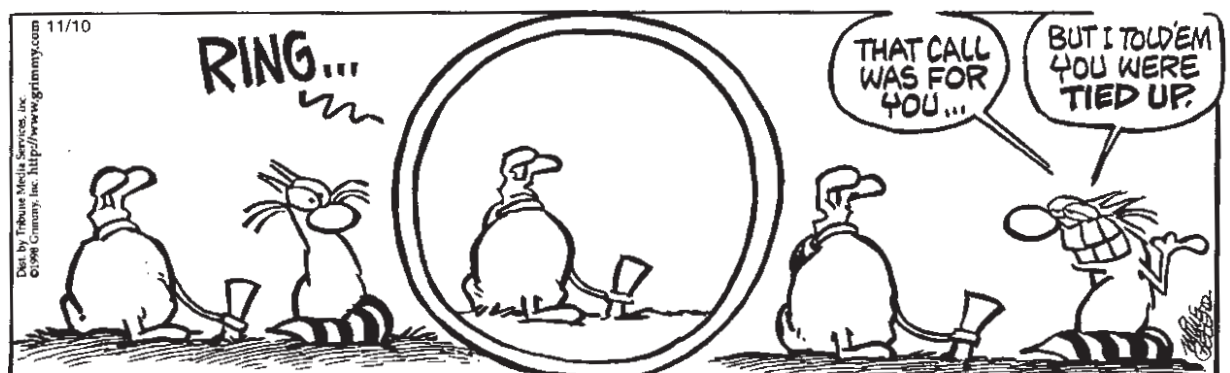
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MOTHER GOOSE & GRIMM

BY GARRY TRUDEAU

BY MIKE PETERS



Field narrowed to two in conference title hunt

At the beginning of the football season, coaches around the Ohio Valley Conference said the competition was much more even than in years past. While Murray State and Tennessee State are the only two teams still alive in the conference title hunt, there is still evidence supporting those earlier statements.



would be that much more costly. The junior tailback who transferred from Georgia, decided to leave the team last week for what he called personal reasons.

However, he still leads the league in rushing with nearly 97 yards per game; Eastern's Justin Lynch is second with 80 yards each time out.

With both Murray and Tennessee State having a conference loss, it's the first time since 1990 that the OVC champion will not be undefeated - both are 7-2 overall and 5-1 in OVC play. It's also crowded in the middle, with three teams being 5-4: the Panthers, Middle Tennessee and Eastern Kentucky.

Saturday against Tennessee-Martin, Middle Tennessee's Kelverick Green picked up the slack in Kirtsey's absence as he rushed for a school-record 259 yards and a touchdown. Freshman Tony Wesley also contributed 191 yards and three touchdowns.

Thanks, Eastern Illinois

As a result of their play against the Panthers, two Murray State players earned weekly conference honors.

Junior quarterback Justin Fuente earned Offensive Player of the Week for his 396 yards passing and three fourth-quarter touchdown passes.

Sophomore placekicker Greg



David Pump / Staff photographer

Eastern receiver Phil Taylor tries to elude a Murray State defender in the Panthers' 35-21 weekend loss.

Miller took the Special Teams Player of the Week for his four field goals. He has now converted on 13-of-16 attempts and leads the conference in that category.

Eastern's Chad Lerner, after not getting an attempt in the last two

games, sunk down to a fifth-place tie with Eastern Kentucky's Stephen Brown.

Where's the passing attack?

After only getting 132 yards in

the air from Eastern quarterback Anthony Buich, the Panthers are now second to last in the OVC in passing offense with 180 yards per game.

However, Buich still ranks in the upper half in passing efficiency at No. 5 with a rating of 128.0; Eastern Kentucky's Jon Denton leads with a 161.8 rating.

Pressure's on

After dropping two OVC games, Eastern faces 0-9 Tennessee-Martin this weekend. And while it's a game the Panthers should win, caution needs to be taken.

The Skyhawks have been putting up some staggering offensive numbers of late, even if they still rank last in scoring offense and second to last in total offense.

Martin did manage to come through on offense in its 47-33 loss against a respectable Middle Tennessee squad.

As has been the case for Martin most of the season, three first-quarter turnovers overshadowed a game where it tallied 423 yards of total offense.

■ compiled by Chad Merda

Bye bye

Fortunately for Middle Tennessee, it's not in the hunt for post-season play - otherwise Torin Kirtsey's decision to leave the team

Evansville headed to NCAA women's soccer tourney

By Chad Verbais
Staff writer

Winning the Missouri Valley Conference Women's Soccer Tournament has its perks. Bragging rights are one, the other is an automatic berth into the NCAA Women's Soccer Championship Tournament.

Evansville won the MVC Tournament with a 2-1 victory over Illinois State, and now has the opportunity to showcase its talent in front of 47 of the best teams in the nation.

Evansville (14-5-2) will play Northwestern

(14-4-1) in the opening round Wednesday. The game will be held in Evansville at Black Beauty Field.

This appearance will mark the first in the NCAA tournament for Evansville, as it will for 11 other teams, and the second appearance in three years for the five-year-old Wildcat program.

Northwestern will be led by the Big Ten Player of the Year, Erica Westrich. The junior midfielder from St. Louis' prestigious Cor Jesu Academy scored two goals and had an assist this season.

The Wildcats will be coming off a 1-0 loss to Michigan in the opening round of the Big Ten Tournament, while Evansville will be moving full speed ahead after a 2-1 victory over Illinois State in the MVC Tourney.

Defending NCAA Champion North Carolina currently has a record of 20-0 and is on a 63-game unbeaten streak. They have won 14 titles in 16 years and have now appeared in all 17 of the NCAA Women's Soccer Championships.

The winner of the Evansville/Northwestern game will face Baylor (15-4-1) on either

November 14 or 15. This season could possibly have marked the last chance for a while for Eastern to get into the NCAA Tournament.

Earlier this season Eastern was defeated by Evansville in a conference game at Lakeside Field by the score of 3-1. The Panthers may now be forced, if Eastern administration has its way, to drop MVC play and have the OVC as their sole conference affiliate.

This would mean Eastern would have to play some pretty tough teams in order to get an at-large bid for the NCAA tournament, as the OVC does not receive one yet.

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ADVERTISE

Intramurals provide students with alternatives

By Joe Collins
Staff writer

As we approach the harsh winter months with seemingly endless days of gray, excitement may be hard to find. Instead of watching reruns of Webster and McGyver, students can head on over to the Student Recreation Center and participate in a vast array of intramural programs.

Men's and women's power lifting will begin on Nov. 14, while men's and women's one-on-one basketball starts on Dec. 1. Also, spring semester kicks off with men's and women's basketball, indoor soccer and wallyball in the first few weeks of the semester.

Currently, men's and women's floor hockey is headed towards their respective play-offs. On the men's side, the Puckheads have cruised to a 5-0 record. The Delta Zeta's and Tri-Sig's also have jumped out of the gate with 5-0 records each on the women's side.

Jason Podjasek, captain of the Puckheads he is honored to be the captain of the 5-0 team.

"It's a really great program," Podjasek said. "I have participated in it for the last three years. Everyone involved in the organization does a fine job."

Coed basketball is also in the midst of another fine season. The Sigma Chi / Delta Zeta team is off to a 3-0 start, while the Sigma Kappa / Sigma Pi team is off to an impressive 4-0 start.

Intramural director and assistant director of campus recreation Kevin Linker emphasized that running an intramural sports program is a team effort.

"One of my responsibilities is to hire and train a staff," Linker said. "We have a great team of workers here, including students that help with referee work."

Linker said organization is also essential to running intramural sports.

"We have to make sure that the schedules are put together properly," Linker said. "Also, the scheduled sport should correlate with the time of the year. For instance, we would schedule football in the fall, and tennis in the spring."

Linker, who is a member of the National Intramural Recreational Sports Association, said he is working on new sports to get students involved in. NIRSA is a group of 2,000 members, and at its workshops coordinators provide ideas for different intramural sports, as well as receiving feedback on existing programs. For instance, Linker and his staff are working on a coed kickball tournament that will start shortly after spring break. Hopefully, kickball will catch on as one of the more popular intramural sports at Eastern.

"Right now, basketball is the most popular sport in the men's class," Linker said. "In the co-ed class, volleyball is by far, our most popular sport by means of teams and partici-

pation."

The busiest time for Linker and his staff is in September, when there are many different outdoor sports taking place.

January is a lively month as well with many indoor activities. Linker said he is grateful to have student workers such as special events coordinator April Belva on his staff.

"We look to hire students like April to help this program," Linker said. "Choosing students that have participated in different sports or in a wide range of activities really helps us out."

Students can get involved in as many sports as they want by stopping by the recreation center for more schedules and sign-ups. For more information, call the student recreation center phone tree at 581-2821. Coming soon, Eastern will offer a web page for students interested in intramural sports at www.eiu.edu/~crecsr.

Title

from Page 12

so spirited."

The one problem remaining for Eastern is the tournament falls on the first days of Thanksgiving break.

As students rush to get out of Charleston, Ralston and her team are hoping at least a few will stay and support them.

"It would be nice to have people show up," Ralston said. "My greatest fear is that people will think that we already have it won and that it is not a big deal."

While the tournament field is not set yet, the matches are. The tournament will kick-off on Friday at 10 a.m. with the fourth seed playing the fifth seed.

The second match is scheduled to start at noon on Friday with the third seed set to play the sixth seed.

The Panthers will see their first action of the tournament at 6 p.m. Friday night when they take on the winner of the first match.

The Eastern match will be followed by the number two seed meeting the winner of the second match at 8 p.m.

The tournament will conclude at 2 p.m. Saturday with the championship match.



Deanna McIntyre / Photo editor

Eastern freshman outside hitter Amy Heimann spikes the ball in a match earlier this season.

FSU quarterback out for season with bad neck

TALLAHASSEE, Fla. (AP) — Florida State quarterback Chris Weinke will undergo neck surgery and miss the rest of the season, doctors said Monday.

X-rays revealed Weinke suffered a herniated disk, ligament injuries and a small bone fragment in his right arm when he was sacked during FSU's 45-14 win over Virginia Saturday. The injuries caused numbness in his arm.

Doctors said Weinke, a 26-year-old sophomore who took over the starting job at QB for Florida State this year, could return to action next August.

The injury occurred when Virginia defensive end Patrick Kerney sacked Weinke for a 6-yard loss on the last play of the first half. Weinke missed the second half and said afterward he was in severe

pain.

The team's medical staff initially thought Weinke suffered only a mild concussion and nerve pain in his neck, which caused the numbness in his throwing arm.

The surgery was scheduled for Friday.

"The toughest part about it is it seemed everything was falling into place," a tearful Weinke said at a news conference Monday night.

Weinke had emerged as a team leader, completing 145 of 286 passes for 2,487 yards and 19 touchdowns. He became the starter when junior quarterback Dan Kendra suffered a season-ending knee injury in an April scrimmage.

Junior Marcus Outzen will replace Weinke at quarterback for the Seminoles (9-1, 6-1 Atlantic Coast Conference).

Merda

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The quarterback change was motivated by Buich's ability to make plays and a marginally stronger arm. And that would be fine, but how many times have the Panthers gone deep or tried to make the big play?

The majority of big plays by Eastern this year have come from 10-yard passes that, with a few moves and a little speed, have turned into 40- or 50- yard gains.

While the quarterback change was made after the Central Florida loss, there was no mention of

Odam getting a shot to shake things up offensively after losses to Illinois State or Tennessee State.

Now he should.

Both Buich and Odam are sophomores and one of the two will be the ones to lead the offense in the next two years. Here's a perfect opportunity to put any chance of a quarterback controversy to rest.

Odam was never really given much of a chance. One bad half against a I-A opponent should not weigh so heavily in dictating the rest of one's collegiate football career.

If it did, there would be some serious overcrowding on the Eastern bench.

Don't feel bad – you're not alone.
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Men's soccer earns No. 6 seed



David Pump / Staff photographer

Creighton's Danny Madrigal dribbles the ball against Eastern's Tom Dillon. The Panthers tied 1-1 Sunday at home with the nationally-ranked Blue Jays. If Eastern wins in the first round against Western Kentucky, that sets up a rematch with Creighton in the second round of the MVC playoffs.

Western Kentucky first round opponent at Southwest Missouri

By David Pump
Associate sports editor

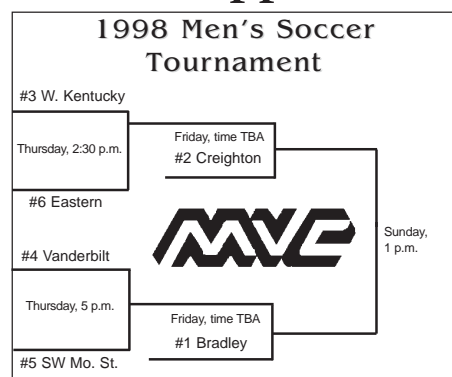
Thursday afternoon opens the Missouri Valley Conference men's soccer tournament to decide which team from the league goes on to compete in NCAA tournament.

Eastern (12-4-2, 2-4-1), the sixth seed, and Western Kentucky, the third seed, open tournament play at 2:30 p.m. in Springfield, Mo., with host Southwest Missouri, the fifth seed, and Vanderbilt, the fourth seed, scheduled to follow at 5 p.m.

"Either way, it's going to be tough," Eastern coach Tim McClements said. "Every team is tough so it doesn't make a difference in who we play."

Regular season conference champion Bradley and runner-up Creighton receive first-round byes. Bradley, No. 25, defeated Creighton, No. 7, 1-0 in overtime Friday to give the Braves their first ever MVC regular season title and the tournament top seed.

Bradley is anchored by freshman Gavin Ginton who is tied for the Missouri Valley lead in goals with four and by goalkeeper Adam



Gross. He leads the conference in goals against average, 0.55 and saves per game, 7.29. Gross has also stopped a league-high 51 shots this season.

"He has kept us in a lot of games," Bradley coach Jim DeRose said.

Friday, Gross and the Braves will play the winner of the Southwest - Vanderbilt contest, while Creighton awaits the Eastern or Western Kentucky outcome. The respective winners of those match-ups will meet at 1 p.m. Sunday.

Southwest played Vanderbilt Sunday after-

noon, with the Commodores coming away with a 3-2 overtime win. Mark Modersohn is the conference's shutout leader, with four; the most goals he's allowed in a game is three.

Western Kentucky defeated Eastern 2-1 on Oct. 4, in the conference opener for both teams. The loss to the Hilltoppers was the first of the season for the Panthers, and the second win in the Missouri Valley for the second-year Western Kentucky squad.

"We feel glad to get another opportunity to play Western Kentucky," McClements said. "Not too often do you get to play teams twice in one season."

The Panthers found out Sunday they had earned the right to compete in the tournament when Drake lost to nationally ranked Bradley 2-1 in double overtime, and Western Kentucky knocked off Evansville 2-1.

Eastern squeaked into the sixth spot by one point over Evansville and by three points over Drake.

If the teams would have all ended the regular season with the same amount of points, the Panthers would have held the right to advance as it had defeated both teams in head-to-head action.

Title no longer in doubt

Volleyball team guaranteed at least a tie for OVC title

By Kyle Bauer
Staff writer

In only their third season of competition in the Ohio Valley Conference, the Panthers have assured themselves of at least a share of the regular season title.

Eastern is making a name for itself in its first three years of playing in the OVC. The Panthers have twice been the runners-up in the tournament and can now boast their first regular season championship.

As it stands now, Eastern (15-1) has a two-game advantage over Tennessee Tech (13-3). One Panther win this weekend would give Eastern sole possession of the regular season crown.

But should the unthinkable happen and Eastern were to lose both conference matches this weekend and Tech were to win both of its matches, the two teams would share the title.

"We still have to win one more," Panther head coach Betty Ralston said. "We are the regular season co-champions at worst. We have tried to stress good values but now it is OK to get greedy because we do not want to share."

With the regular season championship in sight, Eastern is being careful not to get too excited too early, because it is still one win away.

"We are pleased with what we have done, but we still have to win this weekend," Ralston said. "Once we win one more and are the outright champs, then we will start celebrating."

Although the outright regular season title may be in question still, what we do know is Eastern will be hosting the tournament on Nov. 20-21.

"We are just so excited that we get to play at home," Ralston said. "It has been a big plus when we have played at home all year, the crowd has been

See **TITLE** Page 11

Following this logic, everybody would be on the bench

There's a couple different ways to look at the final two football games for the 5-4 Panthers:

1. Meaningless - They can't make the playoffs so no matter what happens, who cares.

2. Critical - Right now, winning the last two games of the season gives them a 7-4 overall record and third place in the Ohio Valley Conference. That respectable finish could help in recruiting; especially in addressing the ever-pressing issue surrounding Panther football - the need for speed.

3. Building towards next year - Playing the first-string the last two games and finish-

ing out with a 7-4 record will only do so much for recruiting. Regardless of who plays, Eastern should still be able to finish with a winning record, especially considering its next opponent, Tennessee-Martin, is 0-9.

The emphasis in the last two games has to be on the future and whatever happens in the last two games could very well influence



Chad Merda
Managing editor

next season.

That's right, it's time to clear the bench.

It all begins with the quarterback position.

Since being benched in only the second game of the season, sophomore Jeb Odam has been reduced to wearing the headsets on the sidelines.

It appears he's perfected that job, but perhaps Odam should get a second shot at the quarterback position. Current starter Anthony Buich has done a respectable job - he's made some big plays, but he has also made some key mistakes characteristic of a young quarterback.

Looking back to the second week of the

season, the benching of Odam really doesn't make that much sense. After Odam led the team to a 24-7 win over St. Joseph's, he was taken out in the second half of the Central Florida debacle. Odam was 5-of-13 for 32 yards while Buich was 7-of-11 for 36 yards. Neither of the two lit it up in the 48-0 loss.

However, the coaching staff made it known the two would battle it out for the starting spot the following week against Northern Illinois. As we all know, Buich won and so did the Panthers, 24-10 against the Huskies.

The move paid off.

See **MERDA** Page 11