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Eastern Illinois University

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Madison’s Avenue wins
Battle of the Bands

Verge, section B



Bulldogs sweep softball
in doubleheader

Page 12

UNIVERSITY

Essential
items come
first during
budget crisis

Budgets leaves
limited options for
departments

By Sarah Ruholl
Administration Editor

The effects of the state budget crisis can be felt across Eastern’s campus.

“Our budget crisis is real,” said Jonelle DePet-ro, chair of the philosophy department. “And all departments across campus are being asked to do their part.”

To date, Eastern has received \$20.5 million of its \$50.6 million state appropriations. Treasurer Paul McCann said the university does not know when the remaining money will be paid. To handle the restricted cash flow, the university has been limiting spending and cutting costs wherever it can.

“At this point, we’re allowing people in their departments to decide what’s necessary, but (the purchasing department) second guess every-thing,” McCann said. “Someone looks at every single item and considers whether each one is necessary. This is a significant amount of addi-tional consideration paid to every purchase.”

The history department, which chair Anita Shelton said already had a very limited budget, has cut back or eliminated photocopying and long-distance phone calls.

BUDGET, page 7

EVENT

Literary
personality
to speak
at Eastern

Vowell to present
Reading, question-
answer, sign autographs

By Heather Holm
Activities Editor

A famous humorist writer will do a reading bringing her insights on the human condition tonight.

Sarah Vowell, author and commentator, will speak at 7:30 p.m. tonight in the Dvorak Con-cert Hall of the Doudna Fine Arts Center.

Vowell has traveled across the U.S. to plac-es such as New York, Los Angeles and Chica-go reading from books and commenting on var-ious issues.

She has been on National Public Radio’s This American Life since 1996.

“I’ve been a fan for a while and it turns out a lot of people here have heard her material and read her books,” said Dan Crews, director of

LITERARY, page 7

EVENT

‘Unique Sole’ showcases variety



AMIR PRELLBERG | THE DAILY EASTERN NEWS

Trish Garvey, a sophomore kinesiology major from Homer Glen, performs at the Unique Sole dance recital Thursday evening in the theatre of the Doudna Fine Arts Center.

Dancer’s have
first performance
on Doudna stage

By Sam Bohne
Staff Reporter

Chatter among the audience grew as students, faculty and com-munity members trickled into the Doudna Fine Art Center’s theater Thursday night for “Unique Sole.”

As the almost-filled house of the theater grew dark, the audience quieted when Lynn Gearica intro-duced the performance.

When the lights came up, the dancer’s sequined costumes sparkled in the stage lights as the EIU Dancers had their first ever perfor-mance on the Doudna’s stage with their opening number “Forever.”

The groups spring performance featured a variety of music ranging from Enya to Whitney Houston.

Kaitlin Helms, a junior kinesiol-ogy and sports studies major from Roselle, attended the show and enjoyed “The River Sings” for its beauty.

“I just liked it because it was re-ally modern,” Helms said.

The show also had a variety of dance styles and costumes ranging from glimmering dresses to flannel shirts and overalls.

Brittney Loucks, a sophomore business major from Edwardsville, said she liked the costumes in the show, but also liked the piece “Tormented.”

Audience members may have recognized the song for the dance “Tormented” from the soundtrack of “Twilight.”

“I felt like it had a good story be-

hind it,” Loucks said.

The story Loucks said she got out of the dance was that of a man being tormented by the three wom-en in his life.

“Tormented,” the dance per-formed to Blue Foundation’s song “Eyes on Fire,” added flag twirling into the mix of the shows different dance forms.

“(Unique Sole) was really well put together,” Loucks said

The “Can Can’t,” a humorous piece, performed to Jaques Offen-bach’s well-known melody, brought laughter to the audience.

At the beginning of the perfor-mance, the dancers walked in and prepared to dance, followed sec-onds later by a single dancer walk-ing across the stage, talking on her phone. The single dancer stumbled to the ground in her cluelessness to the rest of the performers getting

ready. As the rest of the dancers put on their tights and started to dance, the latecomer straggled behind, rummaging through her bags.

Toward the end of the perfor-mance, the dancers did the Can-can; latecomer at the end of the line with her skirt around her head, in a last effort to put the rest of her costume on.

Alicia Cook, a sophomore eco-nomics major from Decatur, liked the “Can Can’t” the best.

“I liked how the girl came in and kin-da’ messed everyone up,” Cook said.

After the “Finale,” Jeanna Mc-Farland, director of the show ap-peared onstage before the compa-ny danced into sight to take their bows.

Sam Bohne can be reached
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CITY

Mattoon school district finances being watched

ISBE watching
over second
year in a row

Staff Report

The Mattoon school district has been placed on a watch list for the Illinois State Board of Education’s financial profile for the 2010 fiscal year.

“The financial profile is basi-

cally a snapshot in time of five different indicators we use to try to show a district’s financial con-dition on June 30 of each year,” said Deb Vespa from the school business and support services di- vision of ISBE.

The five indicators include the amount of money the school district has in savings, invest-ments and the estimated reve-nue ratio.

A school district can be placed on the warning list or watch list.

“If a school is on the warning list, we watch them to see there are any patterns,” Vespa said. “We kind of target the district to see how they are moving on-ward and watching the trends if they need help with anything.”

If a school is on the watch list, the ISBE watches the school a lit-tle closer.

“We see if they should be do-ing deficit reduction or that sort of thing,” Vespa said.

The lists have been adjust-

ed to account for the state’s late payments to the school districts within the state.

The profile makes the school districts aware of their trends and where they stand financially.

“It gives a school district an idea of how to view their financ-es,” Vespa said.

This is the second year Mat-toon has been on the watch list.

The Mattoon School District Superintendent was not available for comment.

WEATHER TODAY



Mostly Sunny

HIGH

60°

LOW

33°

The sun returns today, with temperatures in the mid 60s. The sunny conditions will continue for the next week or so, with temperatures slowly increasing as we approach the weekend. Saturday will be sunny with temperatures near 70, warming up even more by Sunday to a high of 73.

WEATHER TOMORROW



Saturday
Mostly Sunny
High: 71°
Low: 40°



Sunday
Mostly Sunny
High: 73°
Low: 47°

For more weather information: www.eiu.edu/~weather

CAMPUS BRIEFS

Global diversity symposium held in MLK Union today

The inaugural symposium for the Interdisciplinary Center for Global Diversity will be held from 9 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. today in the Martin Luther King Jr. University Union.

The symposium will have two separate panels. The first panel, titled "Culture of Body, Gender and Hybridity," will take place from 9 to 11:30 p.m. Panel two is called "Politics of Language and Land" and will run from 1 to 3:30 p.m.

Undergraduate excellence honored with Showcase EIU

Eastern will hold its second "Showcase of the Exploration and Inquiry of Undergraduates," otherwise known as Showcase EIU all day today.

The university-wide program is designed to recognize academic excellence among undergraduate students and will focus on research projects, outreach activities, internship experiences, study abroad and special activities.

For more information contact Bonnie Irwin, dean of the Honors College, at 217-581-2017.

—Compiled by Managing Editor
Collin Whitchurch

THE DAILY EASTERN NEWS

“Tell the truth and don’t be afraid.”

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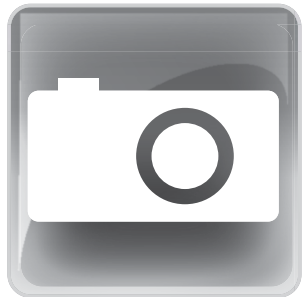
Tossin' bags for charity



BREANN PLEASANT | THE DAILY EASTERN NEWS

A bags tournament was held at 4 p.m. Thursday in the south quad. Monday raised from the event went to the Little Hands Big Hearts Children's Foundation.

DENNEWS.COM



Fishing at Lake Charleston

Online reporter Chaz LeGrand shares his photos of Lake Chareston. Check out his photo blog on DENnews.com.

BLOTTER

Criminal damage to state-supported property was reported at the Martin Luther King Jr. University Union and Lumpkin Hall Sunday. The incident is under investigation, the UPD said.

University Board
Comedy Presents...

Last Comic Standing

9 pm
Friday, April 9th
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RESIDENT HALL ASSOCIATION

RHA helps make a wish come true

Pie Day among topics discussed at meeting

By Rob Mortell
Staff Reporter

The Resident Hall Association meeting at Thomas Hall began with the discussion of one of the association's upcoming events — Pie Day.

RHA president Karla Browning said Pie Day is going to take place at Carman Hall on April 15. Students will be able to hurl pies at their favorite RHA executive board members, advisers and hall presidents after the RHA meeting has been completed.

"It's going to be really exciting and a lot of fun," Browning said.

All money raised at the event will go to National Residence Hall Honorary and RHA scholarships. All students are encouraged to come out and throw a pie.

The new business on the agenda was guest speaker student Meg Ryan. She is a part of the Eastern Make-A-Wish foundation. Three other members and Ryan asked the RHA for help raising money.

They have found a candidate to make a wish come true; his name is Joel, he has had cystic fibrosis since he was 10-years-old. His dream was to be in a movie, which he got to do. Joel just finished filming for the movie "Earth Bound," but the cost of the trip still needs to be covered. The movie stars Kate Hudson and Whoopi Goldberg.

"Definitely go check out the mov-



AUDREY SAWYER | THE DAILY EASTERN NEWS

RHA president Karla Browning talks about the wall of oppression that RHA sponsored during the RHA meeting Thursday evening in Thomas Hall.

ie because Joel is in it," Ryan said

The group is helping pay for the cost with a fundraiser night a Monical's Pizza on Monday. They must raise \$5,000. Students who attend must bring a blue flyer and 20 per-

cent of their order will be donated. The restaurants participating are in Charleston, Mattoon and Shelbyville. Flyers are available in the resident halls.

Secretary Shannon Davis remind-

ed RHA and NRHH members to RSVP to the banquet on April 29.

Treasurer Dan Clark asked for the help of RHA members with making final exam kits after the Lincoln Hall meeting on April 22.

The next meeting is at Thursday at Carman Hall.

Rob Mortell can be reached at 581-7942 or rdmortell@eiu.edu.

COMMUNITY

Locals to walk against own smoking habits

Kicks Butts Day allows people to learn ways to quit smoking

By Kate Kelleher
Staff Reporter

Community members will race toward kicking their smoking habit at the third annual Kick Butts Day Saturday as part of a national campaign for the fight against tobacco use.

Kick Butts Day, sponsored by Health Service, allows the community a chance to learn more about the harms of tobacco use

and to show their support for strong tobacco policies and education.

"Kick Butts Day began after the university received a grant for the live free tobacco free project," said Ryan Messinger, health service assistant director.

The purpose of the Live Free Tobacco Free project is to promote a tobacco-free living, and a component of the project has become Kick Butts Day.

The schedule of events for Saturday includes a 5K walk/run, followed by a community picnic where local vendors will have booths filled with food, games, and information. Local businesses will also be in attendance to raise awareness of cessation services that

"In recent years (Kick Butts Day) has allowed people to get information for themselves or for family or friends on cessation services."

Ryan Messinger, health service assistant director

are available to those dealing with tobacco addiction.

"In recent years (Kick Butts Day) has allowed people to get information for themselves or for family or friends on cessation services," Messinger said.

One of the organizations in attendance on Saturday will be the

Coles County Health Department, which will have information on different services available throughout the county and state.

All proceeds from the day will benefit tobacco education. Proceeds from previous years have gone toward the Illinois Tobacco

Quitline which is a statewide program aimed to help people quit smoking. Callers can speak with a certified cessation counselor who is trained to assess callers' needs and to reinforce a successful path to quitting smoking.

The race is expected to have about 30 participants, while attendees of Kick Butts Day typically reach near 100.

"We're hoping for a big turnout this year, but it always depends on the weather," Messinger said.

Kick Butts Day will be held at Morton Park, 1215 Division St., and will run from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Kate Kelleher can be reached at 581-7942 or kmkelleher@eiu.edu.

STUDENT GOVERNMENT

New party on ballot for student government elections

By Jenna Mitchell
Staff Reporter

In the upcoming student government elections a new political party, VOLT, will be on the ballot.

The VOLT party was started by Tommy Nierman, a sophomore business management major, as a result of his inability to run for Student Body President the other two parties.

"I wanted to run for president and I felt that I was ready," Nierman said.



Tommy Nierman, student body president candidate with VOLT

One of the party's main purposes is to approach the student body in a down-to-earth way to start involving more students.

"We really want to jump start the student body and get as many students involved as possible," Nierman said.

Currently, there are only two students affiliated with the VOLT party other than Nierman; Charles Jaques, a junior biology and French with teacher certification major, and Anna Nasinska, a sophomore history education major.

Jaques and Nasinska will both be on the ballot for the first time in the fall semester running for the student senate.

"I am really excited for the opportunity to work on the student senate, I love being involved on campus and

"I wanted to run for president and I felt that I was ready."

Tommy Nierman, sophomore business major

giving back to my academic and local community," Jaques said. "For me, this represents a chance to work hard

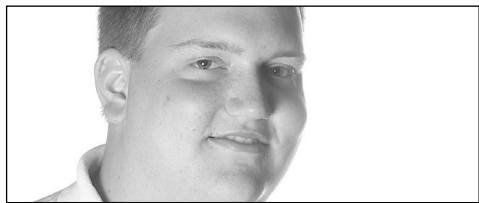
and hopefully make a real difference."

The other parties that will be on the ballot are the United Party of Students and the Party of United Leaders Supporting Excellence.

Executive elections take place on Monday and Tuesday from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. in Coleman Hall and the Martin Luther King Jr. University Union.

Jenna Mitchell can be reached at 581-7942 or jl Mitchell@eiu.edu.

VIEWS



Collin Whitchurch

Fee increase necessary for campus

President Bill Perry has drawn some ire in recent weeks for proposing an increase to the campus improvement fee.

The increase, which has already passed a student senate vote and awaits approval by the Board of Trustees, would increase \$2.50 per credit hour in fiscal year 2011, increasing from \$12 to \$14.50 per credit hour. This \$2.50 increase will continue yearly until the rate reaches \$22 per credit hour in fiscal year 2014.

Questions have been raised regarding the proposal. Should Perry be allowed to increase a fee that was initially introduced by students?

Should students really be required to foot the bill for improvements to our campus when the cost to go to school is rising year after year?

It's hard to imagine any student answering "yes" to either of these questions when a majority of them will be leaving this campus tens of thousands of dollars in debt already.

But in reality, the increase is miniscule and a necessary evil to keep our campus competitive with other state universities.

When it was announced in late February that Eastern's athletic department unveiled a master plan to improve the campus' athletic facilities, the news was met by horror that our university was focusing so much of its attention on athletics when our academic facilities needed improvement just as much.

That argument, however, is flawed.

The athletic department's plan to improve facilities isn't a sign that the university doesn't have its priorities straight. Instead, it is a sign that Athletic Director Barbara Burke, whose sole purpose in her position is to try to improve Eastern's athletic department in any way possible, is doing her job.

So whether you agree with the idea that a new football stadium needs to be built, you can't fault Burke's mindset.

As athletic director, she is trying her best to push our athletic department in the right direction.

Thus, the complaints about Perry's proposal bring about hypocrisy.

The overused cliché is that you can't have your cake and eat it too. Well, you can't wish for updates to our campus and then complain when it might actually cost money to do so.

The update to our facilities is badly needed. While Doudna Fine Arts Center is a bright spot on campus, renovations are still needed at the Physical Sciences Building, as well as other buildings on campus.

This fee will help make our campus more accessible for current students and more appealing to perspective students who will be making decisions whether to attend Eastern, Illinois State, Southern Illinois, Northern Illinois or elsewhere.

The student senate put the wheels in motion by overwhelmingly passing the campus improvement fee, and I expect the Board of Trustees to approve the fee with its vote.

And while the increase will be met with moans and groans, it shouldn't be.

If you want our campus to be the most state-of-the-art, updated campus around, deal with the extra couple of bucks.

It's understandably difficult in a time when money is tough to come by, but it will help our university tenfold in the long run.

Collin Whitchurch is a senior journalism major and can be reached at 581-7942 or DENopinions@gmail.com.

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.

New textbook rental should be up and running at this point

For the past 15 years, there have been many changes on our modest campus — with renovations and upgrades to Booth Library, Buzzard Hall, Blair Hall, the residence halls, Ninth Street Hall and the construction of Doudna Fine Arts Center.

This is all part of the Campus Facility Master Plan to improve buildings for students, faculty and staff.

One project that has been a scramble to finish is the new Textbook Rental facility, which was scheduled to be up and running by April 1.

Well, eight days and a press release by Dan Nadler, vice president for student affairs, later, the new Textbook Rental facility will be put on hold until most likely the summer or fall.

In the press release, he said installation delays of the radio frequency identification technology are keeping the facility from opening. Equipment testing is set to begin on April 19.

This testing is essential for this technology to make the self-checkout process of books to work, thus making Textbook Rental operate.

Despite how the administration wants to make sure the new technology has the bugs worked out, the facility not opening on time is a damper.

Construction began in November at the Edgar Drive location, and according to an article in the March 12 edition of *The Daily Eastern News*, Sarah Daugherty of the academic affairs sub-committee said the facility was almost complete. Daugherty said a third of the books have been electronically tagged and hoped for all books to be processed after the spring semester.

Steve Shrake, associate director of design and construction for Facilities Planning and Management, said in the same article that the remaining work of the new Textbook Rental project consists of installing furniture, finalizing the automated check-in/check-out system — which is be-

"Despite how the administration wants to make sure the new technology has the bugs worked out, the facility not opening on time is a damper."

ing coordinated with the ITS department — and seeding and landscape work, which depends on the weather.

It should not come as no surprise that the new facility will not be on time. Construction projects, especially ones that cost in the millions, are large undertakings. Doudna, a \$66 million project, was years overdue because of limited state funding.

Now, we are not saying that having Textbook Rental open in the fall or spring is as bad as Doudna, but this is indeed a more manageable project.

The center was planned after Eastern received an institutional development grant for the U.S. Department of Education for \$1.8 million over five years in 2006.

The cost of the new Textbook Rental facility is approximately \$4 million.

The Board of Trustees approved a bid by Felmley-Dickerson to construct the new facility off Edgar Drive, near Greek Court, for more than \$2.8 million on Nov. 21, 2008.

During the September BOT meeting, it passed \$415,000 additional funds for the new project, including an additional \$75,000 used to increase the initial \$750,000 passed for the self-checkout and automated material handling systems to fix a miscalculation.

The other \$340,000 was for shelving.

Despite the developmental grant from the federal government, Eastern's administration has had to dip into other avenues to pay for the construction.

In a March 25 *DEN* article, President Bill Perry said a portion of the campus improvement fee goes to the new Textbook Rental facility.

"Buildings do make a difference when people come to look at the school," Perry said.

That they do, but if the administration has this attitude, why does it not make its projected deadlines and why does it make miscalculations on orders?

FROM THE EASEL

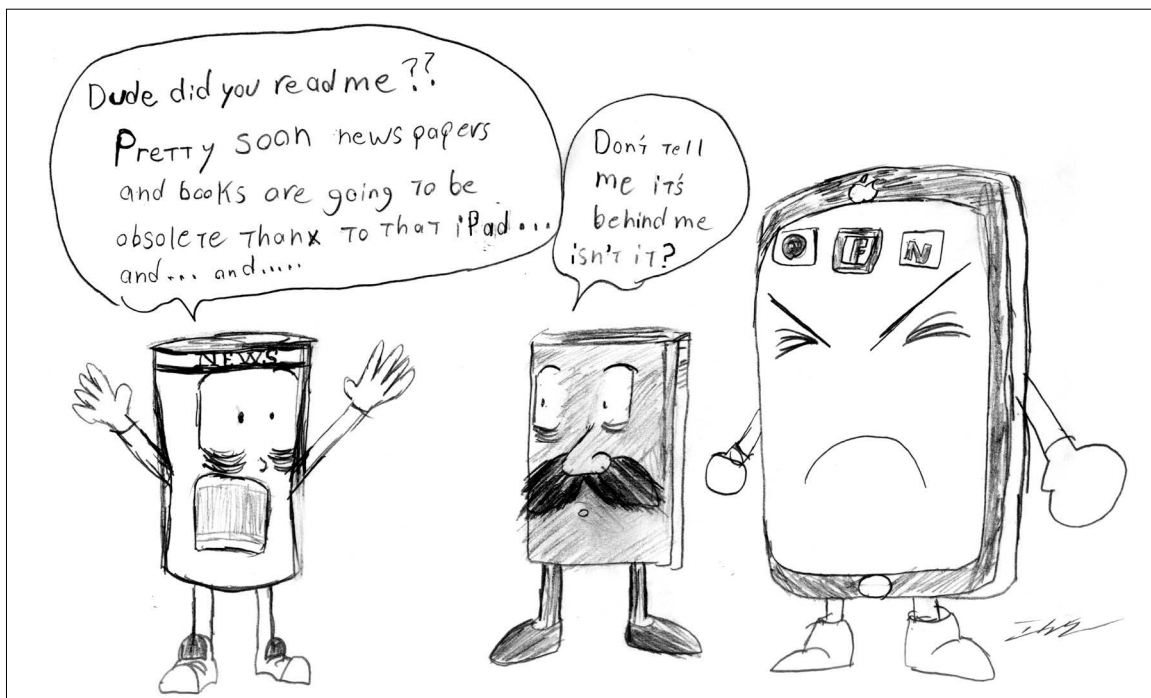


ILLUSTRATION BY IAN WINSTON | THE DAILY EASTERN NEWS

FROM AROUND THE STATE

The politics of sexual education

By *Daily Vidette* Editorial Board
Illinois State University

With one-third of teenage girls becoming pregnant before the age of 20 and roughly another one out of four teenage girls having a sexually transmitted infection, something drastic needs to be done to combat this growing epidemic of sexual misinformation among teenagers.

Wisconsin has enacted different guidelines for their sexual education program, but teachers there are already being threatened with arrest if they teach the newly passed curriculum.

Scott Southworth, the district attorney in Juvenile County, Wisc., is telling teachers in five

districts they could be arrested for "contributing to the delinquency of a child" for teaching the new sex education curriculum.

This new curriculum that Southworth is up in arms about teaches students not only about contraception, but also how to use them.

He claims since it is illegal for minors to have sex in Wisconsin, teachers who use the curriculum are "encouraging students to engage in sexual behavior."

The partisan fuss over the bill came after the legislation did not receive a single Republican vote in the state legislative process and Wisconsin's Democratic governor signed the act into law.

While the issue of sexual education in the

classroom is a hot button issue, Southworth's actions in this case appear to be nothing more than attempted intimidation and a temper tantrum over the passage of the curriculum.

Even if he doesn't agree with the new sexual education lesson plans, which he obviously does not, attempting to threaten teachers to not teach the material is not the way to go about making his case known.

While there are serious problems with Southworth's methods, the state could be making the right decision regarding the shakeup of sexual education.

To read more, visit www.DailyVidette.com

EVENTS

Students settle nerves for their comedy showcase

Last Comic Standing has students preparing until last minute

By Megan Tkacy
Staff reporter

So a woman walks into 7th Street Underground and becomes the first to perform at the Last Comic Standing competition.

The third annual Last Comic Standing competition will bring together a diverse group of comedians including the first female comedian to take the stage in the event's history.

The event, coordinated by the University Board, will take place at 9 p.m. tonight in 7th Street Underground and feature six comics, including Carri Wafford.

When Wafford, senior journalism major, realized she was the only female comic, she was a little nervous at first, but then embraced the news with enthusiasm.

"I realized I was the only girl and, at first, I thought it would be kind of awkward because there is that gender bias in comedy, but I think it will be a good time," Wafford said. "I hope that I'm treated the same way as everyone else as far as jokes go, I mean, you don't have to put a genitalia on a joke to make it funny."

Matt Caponera, a senior corporate communications major and vice chair for UB, will be the emcee for the evening and is thrilled to have diverse comics performing.

"These are student comedians, so I hope a lot of people come and see

"When people laugh, if you don't laugh, it's OK. It's a learning experience. I use original material which people of my culture can relate to and some family issues that people can relate to."

Anthony "OC" Boyd,
freshman theatre
arts major

how talented some of these young comedians are and I'm happy that we have such a diverse group of people," Caponera said. "A bunch of different styles of comedy will be represented and that's what I was looking for."

Caponera performed and won in the first Last Comic Standing competition at Eastern and will be sitting on the judging panel this time around. Caponera will be joined by UB Comedy Coordinator Rovion Reed and UB graduate adviser Mindy Gayheart on the panel to decide which three comedians will be going home with prizes provided by

Students take down hate one brick at a time



NIKE OGUNBODEDE | THE DAILY EASTERN NEWS

RHA President Karla Browning, a junior FCS merchandising major, and RHA Social Justice and Diversity chair Jake Ives, a sophomore sociology major, lead students in tearing down the 'Writing on the Wall' Thursday afternoon.

Positively 4th Street Records.

The comedians will get 10 minutes to impress the audience and the judges with their comedy routine. The audience will also get a say in who wins through their applause and comments to the judges according to Caponera.

Reed, a senior African-American studies major and UB comedy coordinator, arranged the event and has been working to promote it and make sure it is a fun environment for the talent and audience alike.

"I've been making sure all of the promo is out, making sure the comedians know what to do and make sure that the people in the audience enjoy themselves," Reed said. "That's really all that it's about, making sure the audience and the comedians enjoy themselves."

Anthony "OC" Boyd, a freshman theatre arts major, will also be performing tonight.

Boyd has gained some experience in stand up comedy by performing at Open Mic Nights and has since learned a method to master his routines for performances.

"I'm practicing everyday," Boyd said. "I just talk to the wall."

Boyd admits to being a little bit nervous about performing, but has a plan to calm his nerves before he takes the stage.

"I'm going to scream to the top of my lungs before I enter the building," Boyd said.

All nerves aside, Boyd considers Last Comic Standing to be a great opportunity and is looking forward to being a part of it even if he doesn't win.

"When people laugh, if you don't laugh, it's OK. It's a learning experience," Boyd said. "I use original material which people of my culture can relate to and some family issues that people can relate to."

The first place winner of the Last Comic Standing will receive two tickets to a Second City comedy show in Chicago.

The second place winner will get a \$50 gift card to Positively 4th Street Records and third place winner will receive a comedy book with tips on how to be successful in their comedy careers. The rest of the participants will receive a shirt from the UB.

Megan Tkacy can be reached
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CAMPUS

Renewable energy idea brought to campus

Brothers work together to demonstrate product

By Doug T. Graham
Staff Reporter

With the topics of clean, renewable energy being more prevalent each day, Eastern is making an effort to focus on teaching the next generation of clean energy engineers.

A demonstration of the Wind Turbine Trainer, which is essentially a scaled-down version of the wind turbines that are popping up all over the country, will be held today.

The trainer, designed by local start-up business Lotus Creative Innovations, is a prototype and the first of its kind.

"This is the only trainer turbine in the world," said Ashish Gavali, R&D Engineer and co-founder of Lotus Creative Innovations.

The Wind Turbine Trainer is being displayed at Eastern because of its

strong showing at the Association of Technology, Management, and Applied Engineering trade show in Louisville, Ky. in November.

James McKirahan, an engineering professor for the school of technology, attended the show and said he could see the wind turbine's potential as a useful teaching tool.

Ashish said he invented the trainer because he was not satisfied with the tools he learned with as a student. He is a graduate of Iowa Lakes Community College, which is considered to have the premiere wind technology school in the country.

He built his first prototype of the trainer, which is made up of smaller versions of the same parts that an actual, power-generating turbine has, and showed it to his former professors and peers and was encouraged by their response.

"They loved it," Ashish said. "When you see how the typical wind technology students react, that's when you know you've got a winning product."

Sales Manager Arvind Gavali, Ash-

"When you see how the typical wind technology students react, that's when you know you've got a winning product."

Ashish Gavali, R&D Engineer and co-founder of Lotus Creative Innovations

ish's brother, said there is a clear market for their unique product.

Arvind said their product is designed to teach both current wind energy technicians and the college-level students. He said they plan to sell the Wind Turbine Trainer as a kit.

"The idea is that the students can start learning by building it from scratch," said Arvind.

They plan to develop a more basic version for younger students as well.

The presentation at Eastern will be the first showing of a new clear gearbox that allows the viewer a better view at the turbine's in-

ner workings. In fact, Ashish only received the custom-made gearbox yesterday.

"It is hot off the presses," said Ashish while picking up the part from the robotics supply manufacturer's office in Indiana.

The gearbox is designed to be see-through, which allows students to get a view of the inner workings that they wouldn't see normally.

In addition to a clear gearbox, the prototype has a series of remote-controlled cameras that allow for a larger audience to get look inside via projectors.

At today's demonstration they will

use the cameras to give the audience an inside view without leaving their seats.

Ashish said part of the model turbine's success will be based on its ability to keep students and onlookers interested.

"It's something that clearly keeps a person's attention," said Ashish about the turbine. "(With) other laboratory equipment, we'll be lucky to get more than five minutes before it's not very interesting anymore."

McKirahan said members of the faculty senate were excited about having a demonstration done at Eastern because of the University's own renewable energy initiatives.

McKirahan cited the Renewable Energy Center to be built in 2012 as well discussion among faculty senate members over the construction of a small wind farm for Eastern's campus.

The demonstration will be held at 10 a.m. in Klehm Hall Room 3226.

Doug T. Graham can be reached at 581-7942 or dtgraham@eiu.edu.

STATE BRIEFS

U of Ill. president lowers tuition increase target

By The Associated Press

CHAMPAIGN — Incoming students should expect tuition to increase at least 9 percent at the University of Illinois' three campuses this fall, interim President Stanley Ikenberry said Thursday, cutting back his earlier worst-case prediction of a 20 percent hike.

Ikenberry said the university's own cost cutting was yielding enough savings to allow him to lower the projection he made earlier this year. Cuts in next year's state funding also are now expected to be less severe.

Illinois' state government is facing a \$13 billion budget shortfall. The university alone is owed \$464 million, more than half of what it is supposed to receive from the state this year.

"We've simply had to bring down our rate of spending because we've simply not had the cash from the state," Ikenberry said in an interview Thursday.

Universities and other government-dependent institutions and agencies across the state have been waiting for months on money the state says it doesn't have to spend.

The university has frozen most new hiring and, at the flagship campus in Urbana-Champaign, furloughed thousands of workers for four days this semester.

An ongoing, department-by-department review of university operations also should lead to savings, Ikenberry said, noting that he was waiting on recommendations.

Ikenberry said his earlier projection of a 20 percent tuition hike was also based on the possibility that Gov. Pat Quinn's budget would cut the university's state appropriation by up to \$120 million. But as it stands now, the cuts should be around \$45 million, he said.

A 9 percent tuition increase would mean incoming freshmen in Urbana-Champaign would pay about \$10,337 a year, plus room and board.

Freshmen at the Chicago campus would pay about \$9,092 a year, and those in Springfield would pay roughly \$8,068.

Tuition increased for the 2009-2010 school year by only 2.6 percent.

Under Illinois state law, tuition increases can only affect incoming students and are locked in for four years. Rates for current students won't increase.

University trustees must approve tuition hikes, and it wasn't clear Thursday when they might vote. Ikenberry's prediction will likely go through, university spokesman Tom Hardy said.

Media ask judge to unseal Blagojevich document

CHICAGO — Three news media organizations asked the federal judge presiding over former Gov. Rod Blagojevich's corruption case on Thursday to unseal a key document that outlines the evidence and indicates how

federal prosecutors plan to present it at the trial.

The *Chicago Sun-Times*, the *Chicago Tribune* and The Associated Press told Judge James B. Zagel in their six-page motion that the public has an intense interest in the facts of the case and should be able to see the document, which is known as a Santiago proffer.

"No one should question the public's interest in receiving information about a case alleging public corruption at the highest levels of state government, including the alleged 'sale' of a United States Senate seat by sitting governor," they said.

Blagojevich is charged with scheming to trade or sell President Barack Obama's former U.S. Senate seat and using his powers as governor to pressure campaign contributors illegally for money. He has denied any wrongdoing.

Prosecutors often use a Santiago proffer in corruption cases to persuade the trial judge to allow them to introduce third-party testimony from al-

leged co-conspirators.

Such documents are watched closely by the news media because they preview the evidence and sometimes include a glimpse of the government's strategy as well as significant facts that have previously gone undisclosed.

Prosecutors filed the proffer under seal last week, saying they were acting "out of an abundance of caution" lest the disclosure of such facts bias a Blagojevich jury. But they said it would be up to the judge to decide if keeping the document under seal was necessary.


Blagojevich attorneys Samuel E. Adam and Sheldon Sorosky did not immediately return messages left at their offices.

The former governor's brother, Robert Blagojevich, is accused of helping him as head of his campaign committee. He has also pleaded not guilty. Robert Blagojevich's attorney, Michael E. Ettinger, said after reading the motion from the media that he hoped the document would remain under seal.

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BUDGET, from page 1

“We have an inadequate budget to start with,” Shelton said. “After reductions several years ago, our current operational budget is the same as it was in 1995. There is not much fat to cut.”

Departments use the operational budget for office supplies, phone bills, postage, copying, classroom and lab supplies and other items essential to regular operation.

James Tidwell, chair of the journalism department, said, “That’s going to pretty much wipe out your operating funds right there.”

Making cuts to these purchases can be difficult, and some departments are waiting to make some purchases until the funding can come in. Robert Bates, chair of the health studies department, said he tries to hold off on as many purchases as he can.

“It is very difficult, as faculty only request essential items,” Bates said. “I review the immediacy of the need, i.e., can I delay it or is it crucial now?”

Faculty and student travel reimbursements are being cut as well, but attending and presenting at conferences is a large part of earning tenure, educating students and keeping up with developments in different fields.

Tidwell said he had \$5,000 of travel costs that had not been reimbursed when he was working toward tenure in the early 1990s. He said this personal spending is often referred to as the “tenure tax.”

He said he tries to fund as much departmental travel as he can because it builds both the individual’s and the de-

partment’s portfolios. He often uses donated funds to pay for travel.

“It’s really unfair to faculty members to force them to pay for it out of their own pocket,” Tidwell said. “We do have some other resources we can use. I try to be creative.”

Bates said the health studies department currently is only reimbursing faculty who are presenting because of budget constraints.

Many departments on campus are using a similar standard. Shelton said the history department funds as much as they can, but even in better times they could not fully reimburse all travel expenses.

“This is a critical component of academic life and scholarship,” Shelton said. “However, let’s be clear: the funds to support faculty or student travel are limited and have never sufficed to reimburse individuals for anything close to all their expenses.”

William Weber, vice president for business affairs, said faculty and staff who cannot afford to pay for their own travel expenses should look at other options for professional development such as webinars. Weber has paid for all of his own travel since October.

Tidwell offered another suggestion for tenure-track faculty, having work published instead of presenting at conferences.

“It doesn’t cost anything to get a paper published,” he said.

Sarah Ruholl can be reached at 581-7942 or at seruholl2@eiu.edu.

LITERARY, from page 1

promotions and publicity for the Doudna Fine Arts Center.

Crews is familiar with two of Vowell’s books, “Assassination Vacation,” “Take the Canoli” and “The Wordy Shipmates,” which is about how she visited sites where American presidents were killed.

“She writes about odd, unique things,” Crews said.

Crews said the Doudna Fine Arts Center has housed dance acts, music acts and so on and wanted to have someone who did spoken word for once.

Crews enjoys Vowell’s humor.

“You get it when you read it,” he said. “Her observation of things we are familiar with are fascinating and it is interesting to hear her point of view.”

Dennis Malak, public functions supervisor of the Fine Arts Center, has heard Vowell on This American Life and enjoys her speeches about American lifestyles and her perceptions of them and thinks she is funny in the way she describes and relates things.

Malak said he likes that people who see Vowell can actually meet and interact with; unlike with Drake, who performed and left.

Dwight Vaught, the assistant dean of programming at Doudna, was to bring someone who could speak to multiple generations.

“Part of what we try to do is present different disciplines,” Vaught said. “She’s a recognized author with



SUBMITTED PHOTO

a particular style of humor and way of talking about American history, from pop culture to politics.”

Vaught said Vowell always makes the reader or listener think with her delivery and writing styles and is funny in a dry, sardonic way.

“Her voice, whether writing or speaking, surrounds a topic,” he said. “You can’t take one quote and say that’s her.”

Crews said people as far away as Indianapolis have called in for tickets.

She will read for an hour, then do a question and answer session for

a half hour afterward and will also sign copies of her book.

Vowell has also appeared on a number of late-night talk shows, including the “Late Show with David Letterman,” “Late Night with Conan O’Brien” and the “Daily Show with Jon Stewart.”

Vowell was also the voice of young superhero Violet Parr in the Academy Award-winning movie “The Incredibles.”

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

NATION

NC GOP wants national party head Steele to quit

By The Associated Press

RALEIGH, N.C. — The head of the North Carolina Republican Party asked Republican National Committee Chairman Michael Steele to step down Thursday, saying the resignation is the only way to end scrutiny of the national party over lavish spending.

A day earlier, national party leaders had a conference call with Steele but didn’t bring up the prospect of his resignation — seen as a positive sign for the embattled national chairman.

North Carolina’s Tom Fetzer is the first state party chairman to call for Steele’s resignation, a spokesman for Fetzer said. Fetzer said the move would ensure Republicans maximize gains during the mid-term elections.

“I believe that the best service

“I believe that the best service you can render to your party at this critical juncture is to graciously step aside and allow the party to move on from this current quagmire,”

Tom Fetzer, Republican party chairman

you can render to your party at this critical juncture is to graciously step aside and allow the party to move on from this current quagmire,” Fetzer wrote in a letter to Steele.

Steele, who has been a lightning rod for criticism since taking the job last year, has come under renewed scrutiny recently after the committee paid a nearly \$2,000 bill at a sex-themed nightclub in Los Angeles. The RNC fired a staffer it blamed for the outing.

Instances of questionable RNC purchases continued to surface on Thursday. RNC spokeswoman Katie Wright said a \$1,000 purchase from jeweler Tiffany & Co. was used to buy gifts for major donors. The purchase was listed as “office supplies,” but Wright said that’s the catchall category that the RNC and other political organizations often use for such gifts.

The RNC had also paid \$18,361 over the past several months to the

Tiny Jewel Box, a Washington, D.C., jewelry store, for “office supplies,” which may have included trinkets or gifts for big donors.

Also this week, Steele accepted the resignation of his chief of staff and allowed one of his senior advisers to leave in an attempt to reassure GOP donors upset about his leadership.

Fetzer, a former mayor of Raleigh, said local activists have been upset in North Carolina over the

past few weeks about Steele’s leadership.

He told Steele he should step down because “recent events, regardless of who is to blame, have made it difficult if not impossible for you to lead the party in the direction that it needs to go.”

Steele said earlier in the week he would not resign and defended his stewardship of party affairs. He dismissed criticism — some of it centered on spending on flights, limousines and high-dollar hotels — as griping by GOP figures uncomfortable with his “streetwise” managerial style.

Responding to Fetzer’s letter, RNC spokesman LeRoy Coleman said Steele “has maintained broad support from RNC committee members, who have been pleased with the proactive measures put in place for greater accountability.

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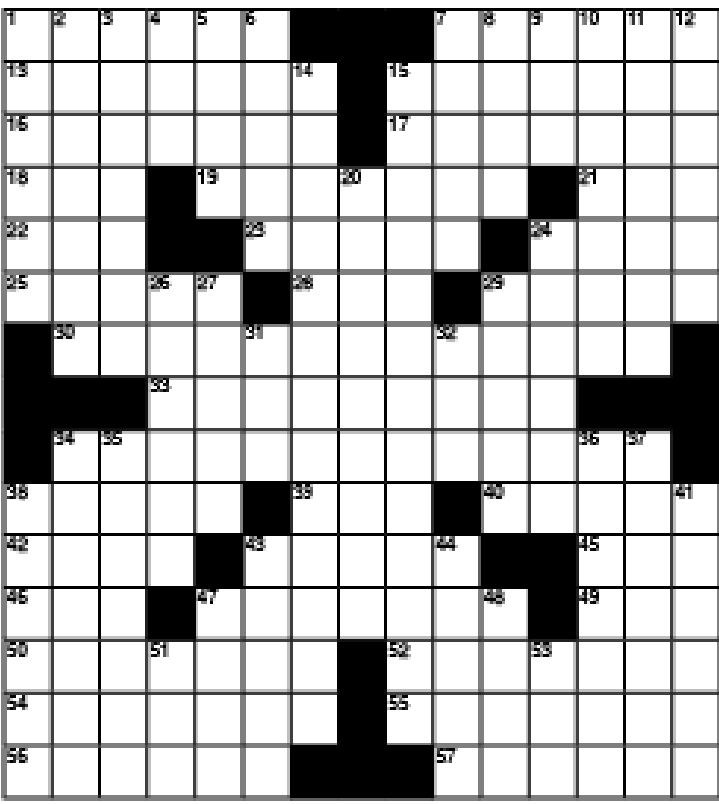
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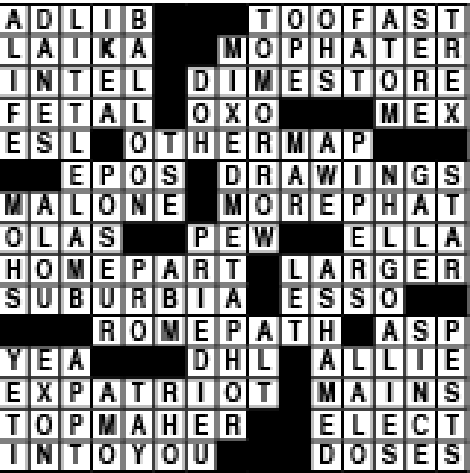
- ACROSS
1 Crescendos
7 Eye-opening things
13 In the database, say
15 Not look upon favorably
16 Brutal force
17 Nice thing to cut through
18 It's not hot for long
19 They're not hot
21 Lifesaver, briefly
22 Plains folk
23 Rankled
24 Goalkeeper's guarded area
25 People may be put out if they're not put up
28 Part of an exchange
29 Engine sound
30 Figure seen on the lunar surface
33 Multitasking, e.g.
34 Like some cruises
38 Conceived in a nonstandard way
- DOWN
39 Badge holder: Abbr.
40 White House girl
42 Revolting bunch
43 Setting for everything
45 X-ray spec?
46 "... woodchuck could chuck wood?"
47 Worker in the medium of torn and pasted paper
49 Will be present?
50 Sword or dagger
52 Yaps
54 Part of a board
55 Safari jacket feature
56 Give some relief
57 Marathoner's concern



PUZZLE BY LOUIS HILDEBRAND

- 7 Caffeinated?
8 Tom and Huck, e.g.
9 "A lie that makes us realize truth," per Picasso
10 Try to steal a basketball from another player, e.g.
11 Cartography
12 "Journal to Eliza" author, 1787
14 Early flag warning
15 West Jordan is near it
18 Semi professionals?
19 Second of January
20 They were brought down by Olympians
21 Move furtively
22 Members of the genus Troglodytes
23 Times for wake-up calls, briefly
24 Longtime power provider: Abbr.
25 Cruise vehicle
26 Drumming sound
30 Arab-
31 Like some steaks
32 Sorrowful
33 Carol's first word
34 Stock to hawk
35 Jobs for plumbers
36 Roles, figuratively
37 It has two critical reading sects.
38 That Mexican?
39 Charge lead-in

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TRACK & FIELD | WEEKEND PREVIEW

'It's all about the performance' for track

Akers readies team for Western Illinois Invitational

By Kevin Murphy
Staff Reporter

Capturing a team title is never easy for a track and field team.

A team's athletes have to be healthy and better than the other competitors.

A team has to have the ability to pick up points in almost all events or be stacked in a certain event.

While the Eastern track and field teams are noted for their many Ohio Valley Conference Championships, this weekend the Panthers will try to attain Western Illinois' Lee Calhoun Invitational titles for the second year in row.

The men's and women's teams both won teams titles last season and also in 2007.

Competition starts today at 3 p.m. for throwing events and 4:30 p.m. for running events.

The competition continues on Saturday at 9 a.m. for throwing events and 11 a.m. for running events.

"You gotta go out there and compete," Eastern head coach Tom Akers said. "That's one of the things I think our kids have been doing week in and week out. Whether we win the Lee Calhoun Invitational or not, it is not important at this point in time. Our sights are set on preparing the kids and preparing our team for the OVC Championships."

The meet will be Eastern's first outdoor meet away from Charleston as the Panthers will compete in Macomb.

"Hopefully, we have some good weather like we have been for the past couple of weeks," Akers said.

Western Illinois, Iowa, Marquette, Bradley, Illinois State, Indiana-Purdue-Fort Wayne and Chicago State are some of the teams competing.

"You're going to find some events this weekend that we don't have very many people competing if any," Akers said. "Some other events are really loaded up. Right now, it's about per-



JORDAN BONER | THE DAILY EASTERN NEWS

Red-shirt junior Marcus Williams and red-shirt freshman Lamaar Pottinger compete in the 110-meter hurdles Saturday afternoon at O'Brien Stadium.

formance. Hopefully, we'll have some good conditions to get some good performances."

Some of those good performances were notched last weekend at Big Blue Classic at O'Brien Field.

The OVC recognized this and awarded three Eastern athletes OVC honors earlier this week.

Junior Darren Patterson was named OVC Male Track Athlete of the Week. Senior Kandace Arnold was named the OVC Female Field Athlete of the Week.

This is the second straight honor

"You gotta go out there and compete. That's one of the things I think our kids have been doing week in and week out."

Tom Akers, head coach

for Arnold during the outdoor season. Senior Shawana Smith named was named the OVC Female Track Athlete of the Week.

Around the league

The Austin Peay women's team, both Eastern Kentucky teams will compete at Tennessee Sea Relays this

weekend.

The Murray State women's team, Jacksonville State women's team and both Southeast Missouri teams will travel to the Ole Miss Invite on Saturday and Sunday.

The Tennessee Tech women's team, the Tennessee State teams will be competing at TSU. The Morehead State teams are traveling to Miami of Ohio.

Kevin Murphy can be reached at 581-7944 or kjmurphy@eiu.edu.



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TENNIS | WEEKEND PREVIEW

Busy, crucial weekend ahead for tennis

Weekend to help determine OVC position

By Dane Urban
Staff Reporter

It's do or die for the Eastern men's and women's tennis teams this weekend as they will challenge two Ohio Valley Conference foes against Murray State Saturday 2 p.m. in Murray, Ky. and Austin Peay noon Sunday at Darling Courts.

Both Eastern squads will fight to improve their conference records for higher seeds in the OVC Tournament as the women hold a 3-4 OVC record, good for sixth. The men's team has a 1-4 record, good for fifth in the conference.

The men (4-13, 1-4 OVC) have a chance to turn their season around with a couple of wins that would separate themselves from being in a three-way tied for fifth with the Racers and Governors, whom they play this weekend.

"We are trying to stay mentally strong and realizing that these are our last chances," freshman Warren Race said. "We want to finish (the season) strong."

Murray State (4-10, 1-4 OVC) and Austin Peay (4-5, 1-4 OVC) have fallen on hard times this season, both with records sub .500.

The Panthers will have a chance to increase the possibility of getting a higher seed in the OVC Tournament with a weekend sweep.

"If we win both matches, we probably won't have to face the No. 1 seed or even the No. 2 seed in the tournament," Race said.

This week in practice, the men have been playing simulated matches to prepare for the busy weekend.

"We are doing some practice matches to keep ourselves focused throughout the whole match and just working on staying with every point," Race said.



AUDREY SAWYER | THE DAILY EASTERN NEWS

Junior Cara Huck returns the ball Sunday morning during the match against Tennessee State at Darling Courts.

"We are trying to stay mentally strong and realizing that these are our last chances."

Warren Race, freshman tennis player

The women (6-10, 3-4 OVC) will also be looking to improve their OVC standing with two wins.

The Panthers would reach five wins total this season, with a sweep this weekend, placing them as the third OVC team with five wins, depending on how Eastern Kentucky (11-14, 5-3 OVC) and Tennessee Martin (8-5, 5-2 OVC) do this weekend.

Eastern Kentucky is playing matches today against Lee in Cleve-

land, Tenn. at noon and will stay on the road Saturday to play Jacksonville State at noon in Jacksonville, Ala.

Tennessee Martin will be playing twice this weekend as well, Friday against Southeast Missouri at 2 p.m. in Martin, Tenn., then they will play again

Sunday against Southern Illinois-Edwardsville at 2 p.m. also at home.

Sunday's home matches for the men's and women's teams will be their first home matches since April 4. The men were slated to play Southern Illinois-Carbondale at home Wednesday, but it was rained out.

Dane Urban can be reached at 581-7944 or dcurban@eiu.edu

VIEWS

Tennis can only hope for the best

With only two regular season matches left for Eastern tennis, the men and women will be looking toward the Ohio Valley Conference Tournament to salvage a disappointing season.

The men sit at 4-13 overall this season and have a brutal 1-4 OVC re-



Dane Urban

cord with two conference matches left vs. Murray State and Austin Peay.

This means the best shape the men can come out of the season is with a 3-4 OVC record, which will

be better than last years mark at 3-5.

This is a realistic goal for the Panthers as both teams since their last match up are under .500.

Murray State is 4-9 record and Austin Peay is 3-5.

If the Panthers sneak away with a couple of conference wins at season's end, it could possibly spark them of momentum that could carry them through the OVC Tournament.

The men hope to end this season positively this weekend as they compete against Murray State on the road

at 2 p.m. Saturday and then will come home on Sunday to end the season versus Austin Peay on Darling Courts at noon Sunday.

On the women's side, the Panthers are sitting better than the men.

Winning 5-2 against Southeast Missouri, the women are 6-10 overall and have a very manageable 3-4 OVC record.

The Panthers have two conference matches left coming this weekend against Murray State and Austin Peay, the same as the men.

They will first travel to Murray

State, taking on a beatable opponent with the same losing record of 6-10.

The women then travel back home to play a tough 13-2 Austin Peay.

Austin Peay are currently in an eight-match winning streak as the Panthers are looking to snap.

If the women walk out with a couple wins, they could turn their disappointing season into a storybook comeback.

Dane Urban can be reached at 581-7944 or dcurban@eiu.edu

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BASEBALL | WEEKEND PREVIEW



AUDREY SAWYER | THE DAILY EASTERN NEWS

Sophomore third baseman Zach Borenstein had four hits, one run and two RBIs during the game against Illinois College Tuesday afternoon at Coaches Stadium.

Panthers looking for a solid weekend

Schmitz hopes team sustains success against Morehead State

By Bob Bajek
Sports Editor

With an overall record of 7-20, the Eastern baseball team is dependent on winning the Ohio Valley Conference Tournament to play in the NCAA Tournament.

The Panthers will try to win their second straight conference series against Morehead State (17-15, 1-2 OVC) beginning 1 p.m. Saturday at Coaches Stadium.

Head coach Jim Schmitz's crew is 2-4 in OVC play, ranking sixth in the league. The top six teams make the OVC Tournament.

After being swept in three games by Eastern Kentucky (14-14, 3-3 OVC), Eastern beat Austin Peay 2-1 last weekend with strong pitching and timely hitting.

Hopefully, Schmitz said, the Morehead State series will go well because the Panthers will travel to the 2009 OVC Tournament Champion Tennessee Tech (13-17, 0-3 OVC) and Murray State (16-12, 4-2 OVC) the next two weekends.

"We're back on the road for two straight weekends, so it's definitely a situation where we're telling our

LOOKING, page 9

SOFTBALL | BUTLER 5, 4 EASTERN 2, 0

Offense strikes out

Bulldogs' pitchers combine for 19 Ks, Panthers 17-16

By Alex McNamee
Assistant Sports Editor

The Butler softball team (29-8) is rolling right now as Thursday night demonstrated by sweeping the Eastern softball team by scores of 5-2 and 4-0 in Indianapolis, Ind.

"You know Butler is hot right now," Eastern head coach Kim Schuette said. "They have a lot of confidence and it shows."

The Panthers (17-16, 7-3 in the Ohio Valley Conference) were in a 2-2 tie going into the bottom of the seventh inning, with junior pitcher Amber May (10-10) on the mound trying to bring the game into extra innings.

The bottom of the seventh didn't go as planned for May right from the start, with Butler's sophomore catcher Mallory Winters singling up the middle with no outs.

After a pop out, Bulldog junior left fielder Erin Jackson reached base on a botched play at second base as the Panthers tried to get out the lead runner, Winters.

Then Butler sophomore third baseman Alyssa Coleman was called on to pinch-hit for senior third baseman Annie Dolan. Coleman then launched a three-run, walk-off blast to end the game.

"May pitched OK," Schuette said. "I think she would agree that she threw some mistakes tonight."

One of May's mistakes, Schuette said, was in the second, allowing Butler even the game 2-2.

Butler sophomore first baseman Erin Falkenberry smacked a two-run home run over the center field fence for the tie.

Eastern's offense was held to three hits in the first game, which Schuette said she was disappointed with be-



AUDREY SAWYER | THE DAILY EASTERN NEWS

Junior Amber May throws the ball to the first baseman during the weekend series March 27 against Tennessee Tech at Williams Field.

cause the batters didn't hit the ball to right-center like they do and struck out 19 times.

Butler sophomore pitcher Breanna Fisher (3-2) retired eight Panthers.

"We just didn't put the ball in play,"

Schuette said.

The offense stalled in the top of the seventh following a lead off double by junior first baseman Melinda Jackson.

"We had a lead off double to start

OFFENSE, page 9

Strongest point, power is in hurdles

Junior Chad Aubin is next in the line of elite hurdlers for the Eastern men's track team.

At the Big Blue Classic on Friday, he was able to finish the race and secured a win in the 400-meter hurdles. At the EIU Invitational he tripped and fell over and went from first to fifth.

"I just tried to run faster and relax around the turn," Aubin said. "This week I wanted make sure I got over the



Kevin Murphy

hurdles and finished strong. I knew I could have a good time because I was on for a good pace last week. It was just a matter of finishing today."

The mark (53.13 seconds) was a personal best, in his second outdoor meet of the season.

Aubin led an Eastern contingent with a 1-2-3 finish in the event as juniors Preston Smith and Pat Tortorici finished rounded out the top three. Freshmen Danny Harris and Dominique Harris finished fifth and eighth re-

spectively in the event.

In the 110-meter hurdles, Hall showcased his speed with a runner-up finish and freshman Lamarr Pottinger finished third.

"It's great for training," Aubin said. "You always have someone there pushing you. Everybody's pushing everybody else. Everywhere you go, you're going to have great competition."

Although the outdoor season is still young (Eastern has only competed in two events), Eastern hurdlers have registered five of the top seven marks in the Ohio Valley Conference in the 400-meter hurdles. Aubin has notched the best mark this season in this event. Eastern hurdlers also follow a similar trend in the 110-meter hurdles. These athletes have posted four of top seven times in the OVC.

This hurdling prowess doesn't stop

on the men's side. It continues on the women's side.

Senior Chandra Golden has been consistent from the day she stepped onto the blue track.

Junior Caitlin Finnegan is making the right strides. She set a personal best with a second-place finish in the 300-meter hurdles at the Big Blue Classic. She has the top mark (1 minute, 2.49 seconds) in the event in the OVC. Not far behind her is freshman Andrea Fabiano, whose time (1:02.87) ranks third in the OVC. And freshman Jill MacEachen is also making strides.

Finnegan started the race strong only finishing second to former Illinois All-American hurdler Deserea Brown.

"I gave it all in the beginning, and I knew the end was going to be hard," Finnegan said.

Golden said she started the race off right and was tired by the end of the race.

"That last hurdle is always the make-or-break of the race," she said. "I got over it and sprinted my butt home as hard as I could."

Finnegan said Brown out in front pushed her to a better time. Golden ranks second in the 100-meter hurdles in the OVC, Finnegan ranks fourth, Fabiano ranks seventh and MacEachen ranks eighth.

Eastern head track Tom Akers is pleased with the performances of the hurdlers this season.

"It's always nice have that depth," Akers said. "It's nice to have that dilemma."

Kevin Murphy can be reached at 581-7944 or kjmurphy@eiu.edu.

EASTERN SPORTS SCHEDULE

Baseball Saturday vs Morehead State 1 p.m. – Coaches Stadium	Softball Sunday vs Eastern Kentucky Noon – Williams Field	Men's Tennis Sunday vs Austin Peay Noon – Darling Courts	Softball Sunday vs. Eastern Kentucky Noon – Williams Field	Baseball Tuesday at Illinois 6 p.m. – Champaign, Ill.	For more please see eiupanthers.com
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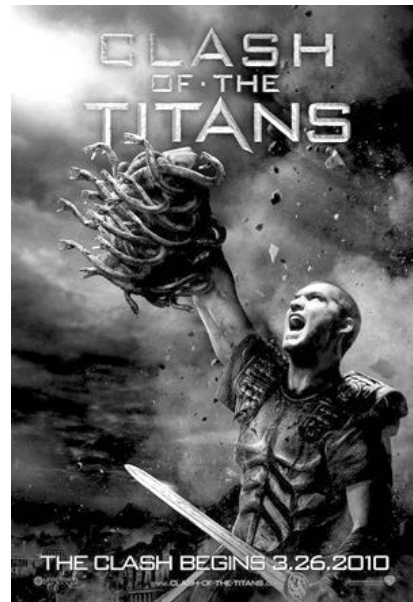


PHOTO COURTESY OF WARNER BROS. PICTURES

Rockin' out for a reason

LOCAL BANDS PLAY TO RAISE MONEY FOR RELAY FOR LIFE

By Colleen Kitka
Assistant Verge Editor

The 7th Street Underground will turn into a concert venue tonight at 5:30 as the Colleges Against Cancer group hosts its second Rock it for Relay concert.

The benefit concert will feature the three local bands Good Morning Midnight, Cured by Fire and Madison's Avenue, and one solo musician, Jenna Jackley.

Tickets are \$5 at the door and can be purchased starting at 5 p.m.

All proceeds go to the Colleges Against Cancer's Relay for Life team, and will ultimately be given to the American Cancer Society.

Kyle Swalls, guitarist and vocalist for Good Morning Midnight, has witnessed the devastation of cancer first hand. Swalls said his grandma is fighting against cancer.

"It's a constant struggle dealing with it," Swalls said. "A lot of time the chemo won't be as effective, and they will try a new method and stuff. And so just knowing the constant struggle makes me want to do something like this and raise money for an individual who is having the same, who is dealing with the same kind of suffering."

This band along with Cured by Fire is playing at Friends & Co. later in the evening. They were willing to book two gigs in one night to show their support.

"We feel that playing this gig will allow people to see that rock and roll and the whole style of it isn't just about being on your own and not really caring about anyone else," Logan Richardson, Madison's Avenue lead singer, said.



PHOTO COURTESY OF JENNA JACKLEY

Jenna Jackley is a Mattoon High School student and will be playing at the 7th Street Underground tonight at 5:30 p.m.



PHOTO COURTESY OF GOOD MORNING MIDNIGHT

Good Morning Midnight band members Elgin Combs (guitarist), Michael "Woody" Woodring (drummer), Kyle Swalls (vocalist and guitarist) and Chad Barton (bass guitarist and vocalist) volunteered to play tonight at the Rock it for Relay event to help raise money for the American Cancer Society's Relay for Life.

venue lead singer, said.

"We really do care about the issue of breast cancer and cancer in general," Richardson continued. "Because some people

close to us have had it and, luckily, they have recovered from it."

Many of the bands playing are new to Eastern's campus. Richardson said performing at the concert would be an opportunity to expose students to a different kind of local music.

Good Morning Midnight is an indie and alternative rock band. Beginning nearly a year ago and stationed in Marshall, the group is fresh to the Charleston music scene, but has played in the 7th Street Underground before for a canned food drive.

Cured by Fire is a Charleston metal band. Megan Givens, the concert coordinator said the group sounds similar to Metallica or Godsmack and does a good job of getting a crowd going. Their influences come from those bands and others like Guns N' Roses, Motley Crue and Black Sabbath.

Jenna Jackley is a Mattoon High School student who plays the guitar and sings.

"She is just memorizing to watch," Megan Givens said. "She is in high school, so she is still very young, but the caliber of voice she has is just amazing."

Madison's Avenue is another young alternative rock band from Charleston that has been putting out their own music for eight months. The group has played all over Charleston, in Havana and in Centralia, but tonight will be one of their first times playing on campus.

Givens, a junior elementary education major, said all the bands are hard working and were booked because they came recommended by other artists.

The Colleges Against Cancer has raised more than \$5,000 through their fall breast cancer T-shirt sales and other fundraisers. They have pledged to raise \$8,000, and across campus different groups have pledged to raise \$70,000 for the American Cancer Society.

Last year, the concert drew a small crowd, but Givens is hoping for more public support.

"What ever little amount can put towards the American Cancer Society will help in some way," Givens said.

Colleen Kitka can be reached at 581-7942 or crkitka@eiu.edu.

No cure in sight for Hollywood

Laziness is a disease that we all fall ill of at some point in our lives. For some, this sickness lasts merely hours, and for others it is a plague that can run rampant throughout their lives.

Call me Dr. York, because I feel that Hollywood should be diagnosed with one of the worst cases of laziness since President George W. Bush was elected to a second term.

Millions, no billions, wait... trillions of dollars pour into the movie industry every year through various box-office sales, advertisements (or product placements) and DVD sales. Yet, recently Hollywood has done their audiences a terrible injustice after a slough of remakes drowns the market of possible movies to watch weekly.

Looking at this year alone, I can come up with at least five titles off the top of my head that have been released or are currently in production: "Clash of the Titans," "A Nightmare on Elm Street," "Tron" (possibly a sequel), "Red Dawn," and "The Karate Kid."

This is not to project whether the movies will be good, bad or better than the originals, and instead, I want to ask why.

Some things are just better if they are left alone. At a certain point it demeans the origi-



Brad York

nals by producing a remake. Remakes basically tell the viewer that the movies they used to love need to be fixed so they can love them all over.

Of course, the argument boils down to the Benjamins. Movie industry executives become lazy and find it to be easier to make money off thoughts that have already been developed in the past. Yes, they have twists and differences, but the plot and characters are nearly the same.

We the viewers could also be blamed for this atrocity. We see the trailers and hear the hype surrounding these colossal films and want to watch them merely to judge them compared to their original counter parts.

Perhaps the most disgusting part about the remake is the films that are chosen to be remakes. Very rarely does a film get remade that flew under the radar or did poorly at the box-office. Instead, the films chosen were monster hits or cult classics that are revered

and idolized by many other films.

"Death at a Funeral," starring Chris Rock, Martin Lawrence and Danny Glover, is one title that does not exactly fit the mold of the rest. Recently my roommate expressed a fondness to this movie after he viewed the trailer on iTunes. Many viewers, my roommate included, are unaware that this exact same plot and jokes, as far as I could see, were used for a 2007 movie of the same title featuring an all-British cast.

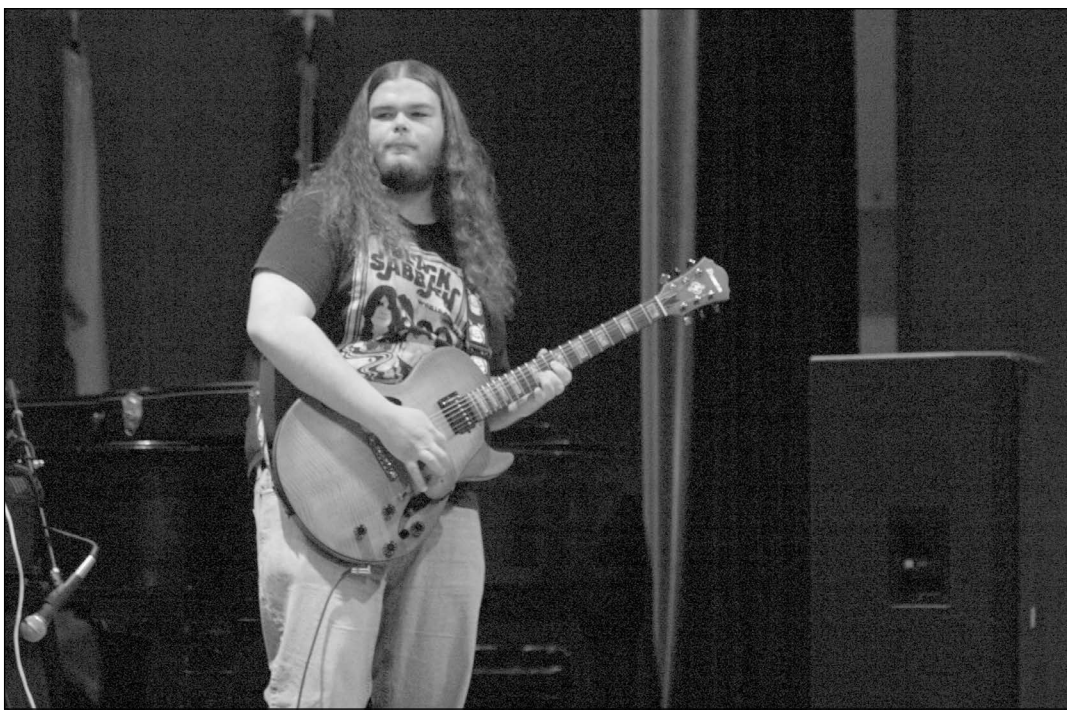
I was enlightened by the 2007 independent version of the movie when it released to DVD. The remake leaves me questioning just how far will the movie industry go to make a buck.

I once assumed that movies should be given at least a decade to resonate with the population. But "Death at a Funeral," let us just say it makes a butt out of you and me. Will we soon see the remake of "The Hurt Locker," "Avatar" or "Up?"

It is my hope that Hollywood finds the cure for laziness. Some remakes are enjoyable but unnecessary. As movie ticket prices continually rise, it begs the question of "just what are we paying for?"

Movie executives need to listen to their mothers more, because I learned very early on that if something isn't broke, then don't fix it.

Shredding 7th Street



BRAD YORK | ON THE VERGE

Chris Gibbons, lead guitarist for the band Madison's Avenue, shreds a chord as his band plays at Thursday evenings Battle of the Bands in the Grand Ballroom of the Martin Luther King Jr. University Union.

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Grad student paves the way

ALUMNA CREATES HIGHWAY SCULPTURE IN INDIANAPOLIS

By Michael Cortez
Staff Reporter

Kathryn Armstrong gave highway drivers something colorful to use as an artistic landmark.

Armstrong's piece, "going home," displays 34 brightly colored forms at the I-70/Holt Road Exit in Indianapolis, IN. The purpose of the forms is to naturally interact with the green space on both sections of the interchange.

Armstrong, a student at the Herron School of Art and Design, said she had planned to use things that she used in her previous works: colors and multiple forms.

"I wanted to be able to create more than one piece so space can expand," Armstrong said. "I wanted to create some sort of landmark so that you would recognize where you are. I wanted the feeling to be nomadic."

"Going home" started off as a proposal sent in by Armstrong to the Public Art Commission during her enrollment at Herron, where she is now completing her MFA with a focus in sculpturing.

The commission chooses the location, but it was up to the selected student to make the art for it. When her proposal was chosen, the project was sponsored by the Keep Indianapolis Beautiful and Lilly Foundations.

When she finished making the sculptures, installation began in December and was completed in February with the help of Herron students and the local construction company.

In 2008, Armstrong received her MA from Eastern with an emphasis in painting and drawing. When she transferred to Herron, Armstrong's work started going into installation and 3D objects. Eventually, she became a sculpture, a title she doesn't embrace fully.

"I don't consider myself a sculptor," Armstrong said. "All of my work is interdisciplinary. I start with an idea and investigate material second. Sculpturing can be film, video, or anything. Those are the layers of what that work can be. It's all about expanding that material."

Sculpture professor Jeff Boshart said he was glad to see a student of Eastern earn the privilege of creating public art.

"It's one of those pieces that you drive by and say, 'that is unusual,'" Boshart said. "Because of that, they stand out so wonderfully. It stops you; not literally."

Micheal Cortez can be reached at 581-7942 or mjcortez@eiui.edu.



PHOTO COURTESY OF KATHRYN ARMSTRONG

Kathryn Armstrong, an Eastern alumna, created "going home," a collection of 34 brightly colored forms near the I-70/Holt Road Exit in Indianapolis. She said she wanted to create a landmark, yet still create a piece that maintained a feeling of being nomadic.

ARMSTRONG RETURNS TO CAMPUS FOR SUMMER SCULPTURE PROGRAM

Kathryn Armstrong, an Eastern alumna, will be coming back to Eastern to participate in the third Summer Sculpture Residency program. Armstrong's work has appeared along I-70/Holt Road Exit in Indianapolis.

Graduate level students are brought to Eastern to construct large scale sculptures that will be displayed in designated areas on campus. The students are housed in a free apartment for two weeks and have 24-hour access to the sculpture studio in the Doudna Fine Arts Center.

Each student is given \$1,500 to cover the cost of all materials, supplies and living expenses. The expenses are helped covered by residency, Department of Art and the Tarble Arts Center. The finished

sculpture will remain on campus for two years.

Students apply for residency by sending in a picture of a miniature model of the piece the student plans to build if accepted.

The judges are made up of sculpture professors from different universities, with Boshart being one of them. Armstrong, along with three other students, was selected.

Boshart will be there with the students during the summer but will not have a teacher-student relationship with them. Instead, he will be treating them as professionals with a two-week deadline they must meet.

"I help them by giving them supplies, facilities and instructions," Boshart said. "We try to give them some professional experience."

Graduate students will not be the only ones constructing sculptures for the campus this year. Retired Dean James K. Johnson for College of Arts and Humanities will be the guest sculptor for the residency. The program tries to have a guest sculpture every two years.

Boshart says the residency is part of the Art Department's goal of making Seventh Street more artistic. He wants to give people driving down the street something nice to look at.

For now, Boshart considers the residency a new and emerging art program.

"What we have here is very fortunate," Boshart says. "The program is a success if the art generates a great deal of discussion and controversy. We want people talking."

Madison's Avenue emerges as 'Battle' winners

By Brad York
Verge Editor

With the lights dimmed and the stage set, a battle was ready to ensue in the Grand Ballroom of the Martin Luther King Jr. University Union. This wasn't your run-of-the-mill battlefield, but the conditions were perfect for the University Board and *The Daily Eastern News* Battle of the Bands event.

Sweat and pride poured from the bands as they exchanged blows for the prize of a \$150 gift card to Guitar Center.

With the instruments tuned and the amps shuffled to the side the first group Verbal Epiphany took the stage.

Verbal Epiphany is the alias stage name for Jake Unterberger. Unterberger, a communication major, is a solo hip-hop performer who produces his own beats and rhymes.

Being the first act is always a stress-

ing place for any musician, but Unterberger handled the performance with veteran charm as he made his way through a set-list of original material and one spontaneous freestyle piece.

"At first I had to work to try to get the crowd into it, but I got some of the crowd into it," Unterberger said. "It was a good and diverse show."

Diverse is certainly one word to describe the audience, as well as the variety of performances heard throughout the night.

The event featured four local musical groups that included Verbal Epiphany as well as Madison's Avenue, So They Ran and The Staff Blues Band.

With the crowd full and the anticipation building, So They Ran took the stage.

So They Ran is a band comprised of Alex Castillo, guitarist and vocalist; Ethan Gross, bassist; and Eric Bartl, drummer.

Though the band struggled through a

slight tuning mishap they soldiered through their set of melodic guitar plucks fused with punk influenced rhythmic structures.

"Our lead singer kind of has a stage fright type thing, but I think all in all we pulled it out at the end," Bartl said.

The next band that ran the gauntlet on stage was Madison's Avenue. Logan Richardson, lead vocalist for the metal-based act, was sure to inform the crowd how much he appreciated them before the first instrument was played. This may have been a strategic move, but after all, this is a battle.

The final act was the most known performer of the event and needed no introduction as the seven-piece group The Staff Blues Band came into the spotlight.

The Staff Blues Band has won this battle in the past and returned to defend their honor as one of Charleston's top acts to book.

After a stellar performance that included

brass instruments and a keyboard, The Staff Blues Band casually bowed and thanked the remaining attendees for their support.

As the night ended Lauren Phillips, the UB coordinator for the event, gathered the bands once more in front of the battlefield.

With no delay she read the results, "Madison's Avenue won."

"I think there was about 50 to 80 people here, which is always good," Phillips said. "It may look like there isn't a lot of people, but that is because it is just so open. It was cool 'cause the crowd gathered around here (as she points) and they were dancing and stuff. It was kind of difficult pulling it all together, but just this year 'cause of a little confusion. But it went over smoothly and it was cool."

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‘Clash’ defines the word tragedy

By David Thill
Opinion Editor

When Hollywood attempts a remake of any film, there are always the pressures of at least meeting, if not surpassing, the success — both financially and artistically — of the original.

If the original is a classic, so perfect in its original nature, that no remake is really needed, or even wanted, such as “The Manchurian Candidate,” these expectations can weigh so heavily it would seem like the filmmaker has almost no chance of meeting the hype.

However, when the original is a “cult classic” with only a marginal fan following and, in the case of the original “Clash of the Titans” (MGM 1981), laughable special effects, it would seem almost impossible not to surpass the original.

The new, updated version of “Clash of the Titans” has been awaited with so much hype, one might think it was thought of by Warner Bros. as the greatest film the studio has ever put out.

The trailers have let us all know for months, with its epic music and flashy, action-packed clips, that this film is meant to be an epic, grandiose ride through ancient Greek lore.

In reality, though, the trailer and its epic music are far more epic and dramatic than the film could ever be.

From the moment it fades in from black, the film takes off running, in the wrong direction.

Before the viewer even has a chance to become emotionally invested in Sam Worthington’s character, Perseus, his family is accidentally killed by Hades.

The character finds himself in the city of Argos, being attacked for being the son of Zeus, a fact that has been totally unknown to him until the most inconvenient of times.

The basis of the film is that humans have grown tired of the gods failing to gift them with endless happiness and well-being and so they have decided to turn their collective backs on their deities.

Zeus, feeling ever so slighted, decides to teach the silly humans a lesson. And who better for the king of all gods to turn to than his brother Hades, who decides he will release his most heinous of pets, the Kraken, on the city of Argos in 10 days.

Thus, the stage is set. Perseus and his band of blasphemers set out to find a way to stop the destruction of a city, along the way running into the requisite amount of creatures — giants, gorgons, giant scorpions, etc. — and all the while, slowly stumbling across gifts from Zeus intended for his son.

The real problem with “Clash of the Titans” is the feeling the viewer can never shake that everyone in the film, god and

mortal alike, are the whiniest characters this side of Veruca Salt.

From Zeus being offended by the humans he created to Perseus, who is being asked to be a hero, the main characters we are supposed to root for are far too annoying for us to care about.

The film begins so quickly we don’t get the chance to care about Perseus before he is already getting on our nerves.

Sam Worthington’s delivery of what should be epic lines is flat, not helped by performances by Ralph Fiennes, as Hades, and Liam Nielsen, as Zeus, that are so wooden they would make Keanu Reeves look like an Oscar-caliber actor.

The dialogue is just short of “We are now going to go over there to do this. Yes, let us do this.”

What’s worse is the utter lack of suspense. Even during furious action the viewer is still somehow left knowing what is about to happen so often one leaves the theater feeling like a psychic.

The special effects budget was clearly devoted entirely to the Kraken as Medusa and the giant scorpions look simply laughable.

In the end, there is nothing titanic about “Clash...” and one is really just left feeling like they could have watched the original and laughed at it without feeling bad. And at least they wouldn’t have spent \$7.50 to see it.

Rating: D+

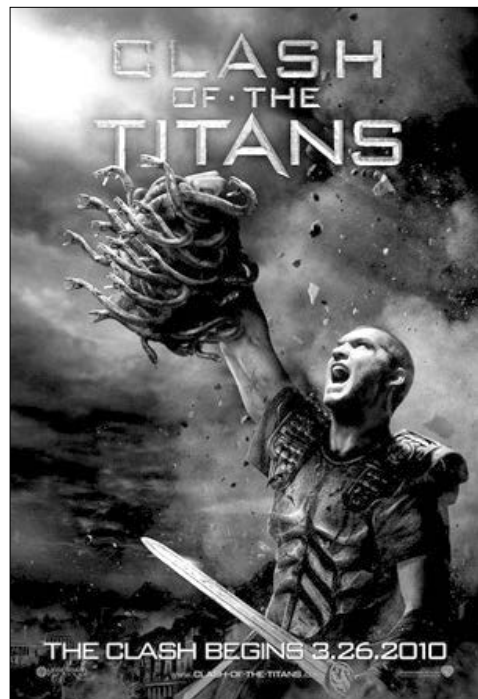


PHOTO COURTESY OF WARNER BROS. PICTURES

“Clash of the Titans” is a remake that should have remained unmade and truly gives new meaning to the term “Greek tragedy.”

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Queens Club breaks onto music scene with a giant debut album

Rating: B+



PHOTO COURTESY OF TOOTH AND NAIL RECORDS

By Adam Mohebbi
Staff Reporter

Summer is almost here, and if you’re like me, you’re looking for a new CD to be your anthem for the hot months.

Last year, that role was filled nicely by Cage the Elephant’s eponymous debut, so maybe it’s not surprising that another debut album just dropped that manages to prove itself as a contender for the title of summer CD king.

“Young Giant” by Queens Club, is reminiscent of the nachos you microwave using everything out of your fridge while starving at 3 a.m. They’re both composed of a bunch of stuff that you never would have figured would work together, but they work out beautifully and are both completely satisfying.

The band, formed from ex-members of The Chariot in Kansas City, rocks a sound that seems to pull influences from all over while still being special.

Just off-hand, a bit of Franz Ferdinand can be heard in the rhythm, a bit of the previously mentioned Cage the Elephant influences some of the vocal distortion, some Cold War Kids-style recording craziness is present, and a Queens of the Stone Age flavor is occasionally felt in the more crunchy bass lines.

“Young Giant” starts out strong with “Are We? Will We?” and finishes even stronger with “Danger Kids.”

These tracks both jump out and practically demand the listener to rock along with them. Seriously, try listening to them without moving your head and you’ll probably have an aneurysm.

Speaking of rocking, remember that summer talk? Well I can guarantee you no other track in the Alt-Rock genre will get the girls and guys up and dancing at your next bonfire party like “Lydia”.

The pounding drums, along with a guitar interplay, that can be best described as a boogie rhythm making love with a frolicking lead riff, make the listener want to shake their moneymaker hard enough so the residents of the town in “Footloose” would want to shoot them on sight.

Of course, the album is not without problems. For a band that does so well at making its own sound carry through its influences, the vocals on some of the slower, more emotional tracks sound like they came from the playbook of cliché singer tricks. Descending emphasis, stutter auto-tuning and exaggerated exhales all rear their ugly heads.

“Dust” is the worst perpetrator of this. At the first, casual listen it almost sounded like a young Bono had taken over lead vocals.

I’m not trying to spread any U2 hate here, but after a vicious, drum-driven Alt-Rock intro, the last thing I expected was traditionally-styled vocals.

Despite the flaws, “Young Giant” is a tremendous pick next time you hit up the record store.

Honestly, put aside the maliciously droning pop for a while and tread on some new musical waters. Not only will you like what you find, but you’ll also gain some delicious indie cred to lord over your friends.

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