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Daily Eastern News: April 09, 2014

Eastern Illinois University

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IN-STATE RIVALRY

The Eastern softball team takes on Southern Illinois-Carbondale in a matchup of in-state foes.

Page 7

FACING SURGERY

Red-shirt senior Jade Riedbold faces chronic back surgery on April 15. The school and OVC record-breaker hopes to be back pole vaulting for the next outdoor season.

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THE DAILY EASTERN NEWS

Wednesday, April 9, 2014

“TELL THE TRUTH AND DON’T BE AFRAID”

VOL. 98 | NO. 133



SUBMITTED PHOTO

Members of the Student Action Team represent Eastern in Springfield. Members will be working with students and Illinois’ legislators on a number of goals related to Eastern.

Student Action Team to lobby

By **Bob Galuski**
Managing Editor | @BobGaluski

Members of the Student Action Team will return to Springfield Wednesday to lobby for the new biological sciences building and the continued support of MAP grants. The Student Action Team, which is comprised of members from Student Senate as well as others, went to Springfield in October to lobby. In terms of the new biological sciences building, the members want to improve on the current building, which was built in 1963. “As time progressed, EIU professors in the biological sciences department began placing greater emphasis on research-based work,” the

proposal states. “The building needs to adapt to the ever-changing structural and technological advancements that were necessary for the department.” Members of the Student Action Team will be departing for Eastern at 6:20 a.m. Wednesday. They will break up into their different groups to lobby for the biological sciences building, as well as thank the representatives for their continued support of the MAP grants. When the members of the Student Action Team go to lobby, they will be divided into groups and visiting senators and representatives first in order to give their position on why Eastern needs a new biolog-

ical sciences building, as well thanking them for their continued support with MAP grants. After which, they will go to the other offices to also give their position. The Student Action Team went to Springfield in October to lobby for the new biological sciences building. The same day the Student Action Team went to Springfield to lobby at the Illinois Capitol, a group demonstrating against the Religious Freedom and Marriage Fairness Act were also present.

Bob Galuski can be reached at 581-2812 or dennewsdesk@gmail.com.

Court date set for murder suspect

By **Dominic Renzetti**
Editor-in-chief | @domrenzetti

The Charleston man accused in the murder of Gina Giberson is set to appear in court Monday. Larry A. Steeples, 52, is facing first-degree murder charges. Steeples last address on record is 207 Jackson Ave., Charleston. Police responded to Giberson’s home, 207 E. Vine Ave., Charleston, at about 5:40 a.m. Monday where they located and arrested Steeples. Giberson was pronounced dead at Sarah Bush Lincoln Health Center. An autopsy reported showed she died from multiple gunshot wounds.

Steeple was convicted in 2006 for an armed violence offense for which he served prison time. He also pleaded guilty to a charge in February that accused him of hitting Giberson. He was also arrested last month after being accused of hitting her again. Giberson and Steeples were involved in another incident in November, where police say she backed her truck into Steeples during an argument, causing him to fall to the ground. He refused medical treatment.

Dominic Renzetti can be reached at 581-2812 or dcrenzetti@eiu.edu.

Unofficial student election results to be released

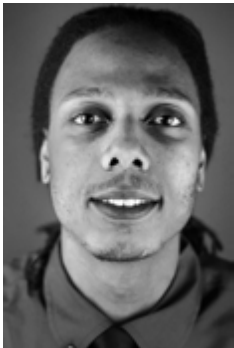
By **Jarad Jarmon**
Associate News Editor | @JJarmonReporter

The unofficial student government election results will be announced at the Student Senate meeting at 7 p.m. Wednesday in the Arcola-Tuscola Room in the Martin Luther King Jr. University Union. The online polls are closed. The ballots have been cast and soon the leaders for next school year’s student government decided. Students had the ability to vote on the senate members, and the executive board positions, which included the student body president, the executive vice president, the student vice president for student affairs and student vice president for academic affairs. Student also had the ability to vote on whether they agreed or disagreed with the constitutional revision. Student Senate Speaker Brandon Goodman and Lauren Price, the vice chairwoman for the Student Action Team, ran for the executive vice president position, the only contested position in the election. Reggie Thedford, the chairman for the student affairs committee, ran for student body president. Shirmeen Ahmad ran for the student vice president for academic affairs position. Yazmin Rodriguez ran for the student vice president for student affairs position. Even though these positions were unopposed, students still had the ability to vote “no confidence.” If the students voted “no confidence,” a referendum would

then be made for another emergency election. The results to be announced are not set in stone though. Students are given one week to file any grievances they may have for any of the candidates in the Student Activities Center located in the Union or online. A by-law change will also be tabled at the meeting that would require the academic affairs committee to have a forum allowing faculty to be educated on things related to technology that might improve ones teaching skills such as improving presentation making skills.



REGGIE THEDFORD



BRANDON GOODMAN




LAUREN PRICE


Jarad Jarmon can be reached at 581-2812 or jsjarmon@eiu.edu

Local weather

TODAY

THURSDAY





Sunny
High: 61°
Low: 44°

Sunny
High: 73°
Low: 46°

For more weather visit castle.eiu.edu/weather.

THE DAILY EASTERN NEWS

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

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

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The Daily Eastern News is committed to accuracy in its coverage of the news. Any factual error the staff finds, or is made aware of by its readers, will be corrected as promptly as possible. Please report any factual error you find to Editor-in-Chief Dominic Renzetti at 581-2812.

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Visiting professor to speak about ‘realism against planning’ at lecture

Staff Report

A professor from the University of Chicago with research focusing on state and social citizenship in the modern United States will be presenting his program Wednesday.

James Sparrow, a history professor at the University of Chicago, will be the guest speaker for the 10th Annual Barry D. Riccio Lecture series.

The lecture will be at 7 p.m. Wednesday in the Lecture Hall of the Doudna Fine Arts Center.

The lecture is titled, “Atomic Liberty: ‘Realism’ Against Planning in the American Century.” Admission for all is free.

Sparrow’s interests stem from national political culture and its formation within specific social, cultural and institutional contexts.

Sparrow is also the author of two books. The first, “Warfare State,” is a history of the social politics of the national state as its foundations shifted from welfare to warfare dur-

ing World War II, said Dan Crews, the director of patron services, in a press release.

“Its central concern is to examine the ways in which different groups of citizens encountered the burgeoning warfare state and in the process accepted, rejected or otherwise contested the legitimacy of expanding federal authority in everyday life,” he said in the release.

Sparrow’s second project, the book “The New Leviathan,” examines changing notions and practices of sovereignty during the United States’ rise to globalism, Crews said.

“The New Leviathan” blends political and intellectual history with social and cultural methodology, while tracing the shifting intersections of international and national, global and local levels of power. This is to explain the modalities of rule at home and abroad that resulted from a world politics that was divided by nuclear contention.

The Barry D. Riccio lecture series began 10 years ago, and is in honor



SUBMITTED PHOTO

of Barry Riccio, a history professor, who died in 2001 from cancer.

After his death the Barry D. Riccio History Fund was established in his honor.

The fund helps sponsors the lecture series, which focuses on history of ideas. The lecture series began in 2003.

The staff of The Daily Eastern News can be reached at 581-2812 or dennewsdesk@gmail.com.

Garden display to highlight heritage month

By Dion McNeal

Assistant Photo Editor | @DEN_News

Peace of mind, tranquility of self and balance to body and soul sounds like a trip to paradise for a college student's lifestyle.

This bit of paradise is possible for anyone and is free to attend, but is limited to 30 participants.

The Japanese Gardens will be displayed today from noon to 1:30 p.m. and is located in the Charleston Carnegie Public Library Rotary

Room B.

The Japanese Gardens was created by Doug and Joann Meyer after they traveled with a group from Japan House at the University of Illinois- Urbana Champaign in April 2010.

They toured 35 Japanese gardens within ten days and were inspired by the visual experience to create their very own idea of a Japanese garden.

There will be three different types of Japanese gardens displayed:

the residential garden, the stroll/pond garden, and the Zen rock/dry garden.

The Meyers will be presenting the gardens to participants, giving them the same experience they witnessed, with each garden emphasizing strong visuals from the 13th century until the 20th century.

The lifelong learning visual will gauge the audience in an experience that will focus on the Japanese garden as an art form: its divine/profane beauty, the key elements that

form garden structure, and the primary principles of Japanese gardening.

Taking a stroll in can provide peace at mind and a temporary trip from a busy lifestyle or just sight-seeing, but for any reason tranquility awaits any Japanese garden explorer, according to the press release.

Dion McNeal can be reached at 581-2812 or damcneal@eiu.edu.

CORRECTION

In the Tuesday’s issue of *The Daily Eastern News* in the “Police called to Klehm after Tugs gunshots” article, Sigma Alpha Epsilon’s competitor in Monday’s Tugs was incorrect. Sigma Alpha Epsilon actually defeated Sigma Pi. *The News* regrets the error.

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Headlines and hot shots



KATIE SMITH | THE DAILY EASTERN NEWS

Paul “Whitey” Kapsalis talks to students about his book, “To Chase a Dream,” Tuesday in the Phipps Lecture Hall of the Physical Science building. Kapsalis wrote the book with his cousin and Pulitzer-prize winning journalist, Ted Gregory, who is also an Eastern alumnus and graduated in 1981. Since then, the former *Daily Eastern News* editor has been employed by the *Chicago Tribune*. Kapsalis and Gregory spoke to students about Kapsalis’ experience becoming the captain of his Division-I soccer team at Indiana University.

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Quote of the Day

“I found the paradox, that if you love until it hurts, there can be no more hurt, only love.”
- Mother Teresa

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STAFF EDITORIAL

Athletics has merit in Eastern’s university mission statment

One of the issues that’s been brought up regarding how the university is going to make \$8 million worth of cuts is potentially a cut to the athletic budget.

One of these proposed reccomendations includes decreasing the athletics budget by 10-20 percent.

According to Ann Brownson, who participated in the faculty senate forum on April 1, in the April 2 edition of The Daily Eastern News, cutting 10 percent of athletics would account for about \$189,000.

In March, members of CUPB took a closer look at the university mission statement.

Grant Sterling, a philosophy professor, said athletics were not as crucial to the mission statement as academics, as President Bill Perry said the council should be looking for programs and things that do not fit in with the mission statement.

An expert from the university’s mission statement reads as follows: “Students learn the methods and results of free and rigorous

inquiry in the arts, humanities, sciences, and professions, guided by a faculty known for its excellence in teaching, research, creative activity, and service.”

This leads to the question of do athletics belong, as stated in the mission statement? Where do they fit in?

The answer isn’t a simple one.

On one side, athletics could be seen as something that takes away from the student’s educational experience, comes with some sense of entitlement, and of course, costs money.

On the other hand, some argue that athletics do have a lot to offer to students and the university.

Athletics provide leadership development for students, adds school spirit, a sense of pride and loyalty to the university, offer recruitment, provide an outlet for the university to connect with the surrounding community, enhance alumni involvement, and offer a sense of branding for the university as well.

That being said, athletics do have an important part on Eastern’s campus.

As of right now, it doesn’t sound likely that athletics is going to be cut for good, so there isn’t any reason to worry there, but it’s still tough to tell what exactly 10-20 percent could entail.

When the CUPB makes their reccomendations as to what should be cut, they need to take a close look at athletics, which is a big part of the university.

This isn’t to say that academics aren’t a big part, in fact, they’re the biggest part, but that doesn’t mean everything else, athletics included can be put on the backburner.

Athletics is an important part of the university, and it does find ways into the university’s mission statment.

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

Don’t just say you had fun, actually do it

As we inch closer to summer, the lineups for the big music festivals begin to hit the Internet, giving you plenty of time to plan how you’re going to spend your money over the next three months.

Music festivals are great. They’re a good time, but I can’t help but hate myself for going. There’s nothing like spending \$4 for a bottle of water on the hottest afternoon of the year while you watch a band that was popular 10 years ago get up there and act like they’ve still got it. The \$4 water is a steep price to pay for nostalgia and a heat stroke.

The worst part about music festivals, though, is people who just go to go. I can’t help but be a little suspicious of someone who buys a three-day pass to a show where the acts haven’t even been announced yet. That’s a pretty big risk to take. Sure, the lineup might turn out to be alright, but if it isn’t, what are you going to do?

Oh, that’s, right. You probably don’t care



Dominic Renzetti

about who you’re going to see, you just care about going. You care about making that Facebook status the night before about how you can’t wait to go to Whatever Festival tomorrow. You care about putting all those pictures up on Instagram of you and your friends at the show with your back to the stage.

I get it. It’s a party. I’ve been there too. But how much fun can you really be having if you’re on your phone the entire time? I saw someone put up some photos on Face-

book during spring break at Cancun and it was a shot of everyone on the beach in front of a stage with a DJ and pretty much everyone had their face buried down in their phone. So much fun, right?

Sometimes I think our generation is a little full of ourselves. We take pictures at places not to remember where we were, but as a means to subtly brag to people that we went somewhere.

I’m not saying you can’t have fun this summer because by all means, you should. But you should have fun and do things because you enjoy them, not because you feel like you have to.

So, yes, listen to music, but no, don’t go if you really don’t want to be there. And don’t buy \$4 water.

Dominic Renzetti is a senior family and consumer sciences major. He can be reached at 581-2812 or DENopinions@gmail.com.

In pursuit of victory



Members of Alpha Phi took home the trivia trophy for sororities Tuesday in the 7th Street Underground with a score of 4,500 points. Lambda Chi Alpha hit the buzzer on the head with a score of 5,000 points, winning the fraternity trophy. Sororities and fraternities faced-off against each other during Trivia Night, with the game was structured like a game of Jeopardy. Each fraternity and sororitiy had a team of four and had to send two members in another room to answer 5 questions in a category. The categories included Greek history, Olympics, Greek gods, Greek movies and geography.

DION MCNEAL | DAILY EASTERN NEWS

Streaming service to replace movie channel

By Jarad Jarmon
Associate News Editor | @JJarmonReporter

Residence hall residents will have access to a Netflix-like movie streaming service next semester to replace the Channel 17 movie service that was implemented in 2000.

As students move into their residence halls in August they will have access to 32 movies on demand that have been hand picked by a committee of students who will be chosen over the summer. These movies will have recently been taken out of theaters including “The Amazing Spider-Man 2” and “Divergent.”

Every month following 16 movies will be added to the list totaling to 96 titles by the end of the semester when the number of movies will reset to 32 for the next semester.

Residents will access this on-demand service online on the Resident Select website. This address will be IP range specific meaning residents will only be able to access the website within a residence hall IP address.

Mark Hudson, the director of Housing and Dining Services, said the service would not be accessed through the Internet, which will negate use of bandwidth. It is an Intranet service meaning the movies are coming off servers within the campus.

Hudson said the Housing staff has been looking at this new option for a while, but did not choose to use this until it equaled the current movie channel service.

Both services now cost \$10 per resident per year, which was the reason they looked to switch to the online option.

The price had already been built in to the room and board prices and no additional cost will be added to the residence.

He said the only hang up when deciding if they were to switch to the streaming service was if people would miss the scheduled movie times.

“The pretty easy outcome there was ‘no,’” Hudson said. “If they want to watch it at 7 they will go there and click it and watch it at 7.”

Jarad Jarmon can be reached at 581-2812 or jjjarmon@eiu.edu

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Baseball team to host D-III opponent

By Aldo Soto
Assistant Sports Editor | @AldoSoto21

Illinois College's campus is stationed in Jacksonville, about a two-hour drive west of Eastern.

Since 2009, the Eastern baseball team has hosted the Blueboys at Coaches Stadium and every time the Panthers have left with a win.

On Wednesday, Illinois College will make the two-hour commute for the sixth consecutive year, trying to avoid its sixth straight loss to the Panthers.

In the previous five meetings, Illinois College has been shutout twice, while being outscored 55-9.

Last season, the Blueboys scored first and had a 1-0 lead heading into the bottom of third inning, but after five walks, a sacrifice-fly and a two-run triple hit by John Devito, Eastern once again took control of the game and won 8-5.

It was the Panthers' sixth straight win, heading into a three-game series on the road to Tennessee Tech. The Panthers were swept by the Golden Eagles.


Before the 8-5 win against Illinois College last season, Eastern swept Murray State at home, improving its Ohio Valley Conference record to 3-8. That record fell to 3-11 after being swept by Tennessee Tech, pitting the Panthers at the bottom of the standings, where they could not recover to make the postseason tournament.

This season, Eastern is 4-8 in OVC play and after playing Illinois College Wednesday, the Panthers will play Tennessee Tech, but this time they

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will be at home.

Eastern will be looking for the win Wednesday and hopefully the opposite result from last year against the Golden Eagles starting Friday.

The Blueboys are 13-8 this season and are 2-2 in the Midwest Conference as the Division III program has a 5-4 record on the road this season.

Illinois College has not determined a starting pitcher yet, but Eastern will have junior Andrew Grahn take the mound for his first start of the season.

The 6-foot, 4-inch right-hander has only appeared in one game this season, coming on the road in Arkansas, where he recorded an out and allowed one run before being lifted.

Grahn has started 17 games during his first two seasons with Eastern, compiling 66.2 innings in 23 total appearances during his freshman and sophomore seasons.

Grahn is scheduled to make the first pitch at 3 p.m. Wednesday at Coaches Stadium.

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be reached at 581-2812
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» SCHMITZ CONTINUED FROM PAGE 8

Eastern was less than 10 games into the 1996 season, when it played Indiana State on the road.

Schmitz said, Zink got a hit and because of the turf at Indiana State he got turf toe. Greg Seiders went in to pinch run for Zink and came around to score, but not before injuring his shoulder.

"He slid in head first and separates his shoulder," Schmitz said. "So, I lose my first-string and second-string second baseman."

With no other options for a second baseman, Schmitz looked around in his dugout and then asked Marzec if

he had ever played second base. The answer was no, but Schmitz sent out the freshman on to the field anyway.

Marzec never lost the job from that day on.

Schmitz knew his second season was the start of something special. It would just take a couple of years to see how special Eastern would become.

"This was the team that became the great team," Schmitz said.

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FILE PHOTO | DAILY EASTERN NEWS
Morgan Biel, senior outfielder, sprints from second to third against Heartland Community College last year.

Panthers square off with Salukis

By Kaz Darzinskis
Staff Reporter | @DEN_Sports

The Eastern softball team looks to build off its 3-1 performance during the weekend in conference double-headers, as the Panthers head south down I-57 for a matchup with in-state rival Southern Illinois-Carbondale Wednesday afternoon.

The Panthers are currently 26-11, with a 7-4 Ohio Valley Conference record, while the Salukis are 17-17 overall, with a 5-6 mark in the Missouri Valley Conference.

The Panthers enjoyed consistent pitching during the weekend, as seniors Stephanie Maday and Hanna Mennenga combined to average 10 strikeouts per outing in Eastern's four games. Maday also pitched her second no-hitter of her career in Sundays win over Morehead State.

While the pitching staff has shown more consistency of late for Eastern, the offensive group is beginning to show signs of continuity.

Seniors Brooke Owens, Carly Wilfert and Reynae Hutchinson have been playing well of late, as Owens is a top-five conference hitter this season.

Hannah Cole has also played extremely well this season, providing solid middle of the order presence, as she has hit .358 with four home runs and 25 RBIs this season.

Rounding out Eastern's offense Bailey O'Dell and Jennette Isaac have provided consistency from the eighth spot and leadoff spots respectively. Isaac, batting .356, is currently riding a 17-game hit streak, which is tops in the OVC, while O'Dell has hovered around .300 this season.

Versatility is another attribute Eastern has displayed, whether playing different positions, or pinch-hitting and pinch-running, players have been stepping up as of late.

Two-sport athlete Hutchinson, who played volleyball in the fall, has excelled whether playing in left field, or at first base. Likewise, Owens has played multiple positions, as recently she has caught and played first base for the Panthers.

While both Hutchinson and Owens bring a different dynamic to the team defensively, they have also had success at the plate this season. Hutchinson is batting .327 with 26 RBIs, good for second on the pan-

thers, while she also has four home runs and has converted 10-of-12 stolen base attempts.

Owens is currently hitting .353 with a share of the team lead in home runs with five and has 20 RBIs good for third on the team. Owens has been an offensive generator, she not only leads the team in runs scored this season with 26, she also leads the Panthers in hits with 41 and doubles with 10.

Against the Salukis, the Panthers will look to limit infielder Jayna Spivey, who is batting .370 with three home runs and 30 RBIs.

For the Salukis, Katie Bertelsen has started the most games to date with 23 appearances this season and 19 starts. Bertelsen has a 9-6 record, with a 3.58 ERA.

Opponents are batting .291 against Bertelsen, coupled with the fact that the Salukis have committed 38 errors in only 34 games.

Game time is scheduled for 4 p.m. Wednesday in Carbondale.

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» BURKE CONTINUED FROM PAGE 8

Burke's last major hire was in January, when Kim Dameron became Eastern's football coach.

When she hired Dameron, Burke said she envisioned him staying at Eastern far longer than Dino Babers, who left after two seasons. Dameron signed a five-year contract, but Burke will not get to see a single season of her handpicked choice.

"I was sad because she was the one who hired me No. 1 and I was really looking forward to being around her and with her for a long period of time," Dameron said.

Despite the disappointment of Burke's eventual parting, Eastern men's basketball coach Jay Spoonhour was not surprised.

"You know when everyone speaks highly of a person, someone who's as well respected by everybody as she was, opportunities are going to come," Spoonhour said. "I was not surprised because it was going to happen."

Spoonhour's first reaction was denial, not wanting Burke to leave, who he said is one of the most sincere people he has worked with.

"At first I thought, 'oh, no. Don't leave,'" Spoonhour said. "It took me a minute and half until I got around to being happy for her, but I really am happy for her."

Going forward, Eastern coaches said the future brings a lot of not knowing what is next.

Akers was an assistant coach at Eastern from 1983-90 and then returned in 1995. Since then he has worked with three full-time athletic directors and two interim athletic directors.

"You have to wonder who our next leader will be and how they will handle things and our department," Akers said. "Being in a state of limbo can be a very trying time."

Schmitz, who was hired in the fall of 1994, said as a coach you do not

know what to expect from a new athletic director.

"I've been through many ADs at different schools and as a coach you're just trying to be open to finding who they will bring in," Schmitz said. "You don't know what agenda that they have. You just don't know."

Spoonhour said he is sure whom ever the next athletic director is will be the right choice.

"The people who hired (Burke) are still intact and they did a great job getting her," he said. "I'm 100 percent confident they'll do the same with the new hire."

Burke begins her term at Tulane on April 28.

"Tulane is getting a really good person," Spoonhour said. "They don't how good she is, but they'll find out."

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FILE PHOTO | THE DAILY EASTERN NEWS

Red-shirt senior pole-vaulter Jade Reibold starts her run towards the bar in the Lantz Fieldhouse on February 23, 2013. Reibold broke her own Ohio Valley Conference record as well as the Eastern record at 14-feet last year.

Riebold faces surgery for injury

By Kaylie Homann
Staff Reporter | @KaylieHomann

Eastern pole vaulter Jade Reibold was forced to watch her teammates from the sidelines this season, despite finishing No. 2 in the country the year before.

The red-shirt senior was not able to compete this season because of a chronic back injury.

"I've only been to one meet [this season]," Reibold said. "It was hard watching them, but I'll be back and jumping soon."

Reibold broke the Ohio Valley Conference record and Eastern's school record at Indoor Nationals in 2013 with a jump of 14-feet, 7.25-inches.

Reibold's record was a fourth of an inch higher than the qualifying height to enter women's pole vault

in the 2012 Summer Olympics.

Reibold did not compete this year because of a back injury she has been dealing with since she started gymnastics at three years old.

She struggles with herniated disks, went through a back surgery in 2010 and faces her next surgery on April 14th.

Since this is a chronic injury, if the surgeons were to fix it permanently, she would not be able to pole vault because of the metal they would put in her back.

"I have faith it will be better with this surgery," Reibold said. "It's more invasive than the first, and it's good they're not making me get a fusion. They let you have more options."

Although Reibold's injury has prevented her from vaulting this

season, she is still trying to compete next year by applying for another medical red-shirt.

But getting approved for another red-shirt could be difficult since Reibold was already red-shirted. If she were, she would move onto her first year of graduate school to work toward her academics.

Reibold's pole vault coach Kyle Ellis has optimistic views on her not only receiving another red-shirt, but also as she prepares for the surgery.

Ellis said that many basketball and football players are often approved for knee injuries, "so I don't see why she wouldn't [be approved]," Ellis said. "She's going to work hard and come back faster than the regular person. She has plenty of time if she gets a medical redshirt for the outdoor season."

If Reibold was not approved for

another red-shirt, Ellis said he predicts that she would jump right into the professional ranks.

Reibold may have a chance at coming back, but was missed by the Panthers on the field this season.

"My other girls stepped up," Ellis said. "She was definitely missed. She would win most meets, and the girls looked up to her. She is definitely a leader in the group."

As for the future, Reibold plans to go to the Olympic trials in late June of 2016.

She qualified for the Olympics last year, but was scratched because she could not check in by the deadline because of the late notification, and her plane got delayed.

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Coaches reflect on Burke's departure

By Aldo Soto & Anthony Catezone
Assistant Sports Editor & Sports Editor | @AldoSoto21 & @AnthonyCatz

Eastern Athletic Director Barbara Burke has less than a week before she gives up her title and takes a couple of weeks off on a vacation before heading to Tulane to be its Deputy Director of Athletics/Chief Operating Officer.

The official announcement came on March 27, when Burke said she would begin working at Tulane in late April.

Before the news came out, Burke had a meeting that included several Eastern coaches.

There were some who could not make the staff meeting, including Eastern's Director of Track & Field and Cross Country, Tom Akers.

Akers was preparing the Panthers' outdoor track and field teams for their season-opening meet in Carbondale. With a busy day at practice, Akers missed the meeting, where Burke first announced to her staff she would be leaving.

"I was very surprised to hear the news," Akers said. "It's a very crucial time for our department with possible budget cuts coming during a time of already strained finances."

One of Burke's last hires was softball coach Angie Nicholson.

In July of 2013, Nicholson was brought on board, replacing Kim Schuette as Eastern's softball coach. Nicholson was in attendance when Burke broke the news.

"I can tell you that I was upset for sure," she said. "I believe she had Eastern moving in the right direction and I hope the next person can come in and see the progress and find ways to continue that."

Eastern baseball coach Jim Schmitz is in his 20th year with the Panthers. He, like Akers could not make it to the meeting, but was also surprised once he found out that Eastern would be searching for a new athletic director.

"We're really going to miss her, as a coach continuity is what you want," he said.

Burke was first hired by Eastern in June 2008.

Former Eastern swimming coach Elliott McGill has been a part of the community since 2004, when he became a student-athlete, joining the swim team. After graduating and spending some time help former swim coach Matt Bos with the teams, McGill was hired as the head coach in 2011.

Similar to what Nicholson said, McGill said Burke was moving Eastern in the right direction.

"I've been apart of EIU since 2004 as a student-athlete and now as a coach – I've seen what it was like before Barbara," McGill said. "She did an incredible job these past six years to build the department up from where it was at."

But McGill will not be at Eastern to see who the successor to Burke will be, as he took the Senior/Age Group coaching position for the Nitro Swimming Club in Austin, Texas, resigning his Eastern position Thursday.

Baseball coach reflects on past seasons

By Aldo Soto
Assistant Sports Editor | @AldoSoto21

Editor's note: This is the second installment in a series looking back at Eastern baseball coach Jim Schmitz's 20 years coaching the Panthers.

In his second season as Eastern's baseball coach, Jim Schmitz led the Panthers to their second appearance in the Mid-Continent tournament under his reign.

Eastern finished with a 25-22 overall record, but went 15-3 in conference play, leading to a trip down South to Troy, Ala., for the conference tournament.

While Schmitz and the rest of the Eastern baseball team made a nine and a half hour drive to Alabama,

his parents also joined the trek and drove from Cincinnati to see their son coach.

But after losing to Pace University and Troy State in one day, the Panthers were eliminated, ushered out of the tournament in less time than it took to get to it.

That trip to Troy was Schmitz's parent's last.

"They said they'll never do it again," Schmitz said. "So, they drove about 13 hours just for one day."

The season was over and the team arrived back to Charleston, bringing with it some hotel souvenirs.

After the team bus emptied, the bus driver pulled Schmitz aside.

"He tells me come here and I said what," Schmitz said. "He said, 'I mean there's like 25 pillows here.'"

It turned out every member of the team decided to take a pillow from the Holiday Inn with them back to Eastern.

Schmitz said he either had to return the stolen items or pay for them, but will always remember that instance when he found out.

"It's really hard when you lose on the road and the season is over," he said. "You have kids who are seniors and probably shouldn't be doing things, but it's over, what are you going to do. Suspend them?"

Although the season ended abruptly, Schmitz was seeing some of his changes work in terms of a new hitting approach he brought to Eastern.

In 1996, he moved centerfielder Steve Dunlap to shortstop and pro-

ceeded to hit .414.

Schmitz also got to see his first recruiting class, which would eventually lead Eastern to 70 wins between 1998 and 1999 and an Ohio Valley Conference championship.

"You had Sean Lyons a freshman, (Matt) Marzec is in the hall of fame, you have Mark Thomse and those three guys are the main hitters with Josh Zink in that 98' team," Schmitz said. "These guys were all freshmen, which is the amazing thing."

Marzec is the all-time leader in total bases (411) for Eastern and second all-time in career home runs with 39, but the only reason he even got to play as a freshman was because of a series of injuries.