

1-23-2004

## Daily Eastern News: January 23, 2004

Eastern Illinois University

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

VOLUME 87, NUMBER 84  
THEDAILYEASTERNNEWS.COM



# THE DAILY EASTERN NEWS

January 23, 2004 ♦ FRIDAY

Mmmmmm...  
Chili jam

Six bands will perform in  
Charleston for health care.

Page 1B VERGE



DAILY EASTERN NEWS PHOTO BY STEPHEN HAAS

## Representin'

U.S. Rep. Tim Johnson, R-Urbana, speaks with University President Lou Hencken Thursday afternoon in the Java Bean and Bakery of the Martin Luther King, Jr. University Union. "We do this regularly," Johnson said. "To visit folks in the community and to find out about Eastern and its needs." Hencken said Johnson has helped (Eastern) open doors in Washington.

## Breaking ground for better water

### Work on treatment plant well underway

By Jessica Youngs  
CITY EDITOR

The quest for crystal clear, great-tasting water moved one step closer Dec. 8, when the city of Charleston broke ground on a new water treatment plant.

The plant, scheduled to be completed within a year and a half, is a major project for the city's Public Works Department in accordance with its current 5-year plan.

Department director Curt Buescher said a new plant was scheduled into the 2003-2004 plan

because the old plant was very aged and outdated. The new plant will use up-to-date technology to purify city water, while additionally incorporating ozone treatment during the treatment process, he said.

The decision to build a new treatment plant at the old plant site on the east end of McKinley Avenue was proposed at the annual city retreat attended by department directors along with the city council, city manager and mayor.

SEE WATER ♦ Page 7A

## ENTERTAINMENT

# Not just for children anymore Cartoon producers are finding a new, older audience

By Adam Testa  
STAFF WRITER

Who says cartoons are just for kids?

Jim Babcock, director of public relations for Cartoon Network, said cartoons have actually been targeting an adult audience for a long time. He said "Looney Toons" was created with a general audience of adults and children in mind. Shows like "The Flintstones" soon followed the same suit.

Babcock said from the day Cartoon Network launched, its directors knew they had a significant amount of adult viewers and wanted to accommodate them.

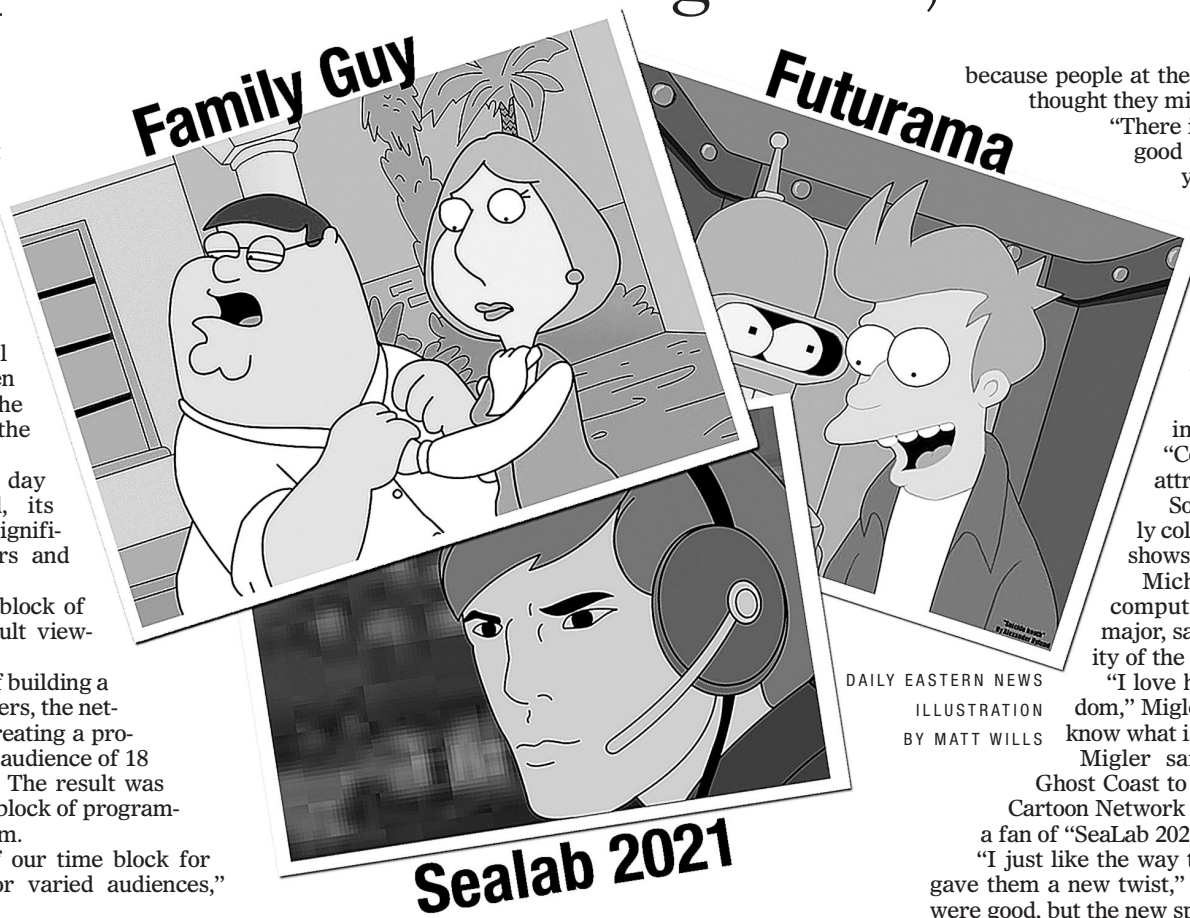
"We wanted to build some block of our programming for our adult viewers," Babcock said.

After seven or eight years of building a significant base of young viewers, the network turned its attention to creating a programming block aimed for an audience of 18 to 34-year-olds, Babcock said. The result was the creation of the three-hour block of programming now known as Adult Swim.

"We carve out a portion of our time block for shows for adults and not for varied audiences," Babcock said.

Babcock said the most popular shows from the Adult Swim block are a mixture of Cartoon Network original programming and shows that originated on other networks.

"Aqua Teen Hunger Force," "SeaLab 2021" and "Harvey Birdman: Attorney at Law," are all original



because people at the network had seen them and thought they might attract more viewers.

"There is a history that if you have a good show with good writing that you will attract a good viewing audience," Babcock said.

The network also decided to include Japanese animation, better known as anime, on its Adult Swim programming block.

Several anime shows, including "InuYasha," "Cowboy Bebop" and "Big O," attract large viewing audiences.

So what keeps adults, especially college students, watching these shows?

Michael Migler, a sophomore computer information systems major, said he likes the unpredictability of the shows.

"I love how the shows can be so random," Migler said. "And you never truly know what is going to happen next."

Migler said he has watched "Space Ghost Coast to Coast" since its inception on Cartoon Network in 1994, and he also has been a fan of "SeaLab 2021" for a long time.

"I just like the way that they took old shows and gave them a new twist," Migler said. "The old shows were good, but the new spins are just awesome."

In addition to the increasing interest in adult-oriented cartoons, people also are turning to another kind of cartoon: the retro cartoon, or cartoons from their childhood and the years beyond.

DAILY EASTERN NEWS  
ILLUSTRATION  
BY MATT WILLS

SEE CARTOONS ♦ Page 6A

programming and are among the highest rated, he said.

"Futurama" and "Family Guy," both of which originated on the FOX network, have become two of the top-rated Cartoon Network programs. Babcock said the network decided to purchase the rights to these shows

Today

Partly cloudy



35° 30°  
HIGH LOW

Saturday

Partly cloudy



40° 37°  
HIGH LOW

Sunday

Rain/Snow



41° 32°  
HIGH LOW

Monday

Showers



45° 24°  
HIGH LOW

Tuesday

Snow showers



38° 19°  
HIGH LOW

Wednesday

Partly cloudy



30° 20°  
HIGH LOW

Thursday

Snow shower



32° 21°  
HIGH LOW

## New finance classes approved

By Jennifer Peryam  
STAFF WRITER

The Council for Academic Affairs approved new and revised finance and accounting courses as well as the Career and Organizational Studies Program revisions effective for Fall 2004.

The council approved FIN 3300, Fundamentals of Financial and Tax Planning; 4220, Applied Securities Analysis, and; FIN 4300, Retirement and Estate Planning to prepare students to take the Certified Financial Planning examination.

"The CFP is required for all accounting students and these classes will allow the finance major revision to occur," said Jane Wayland, associate chair of the school of business.

Fundamentals of Financial and Tax Planning is an introductory course to financial and tax planning processes. Students must take Business Financial Management, BUS 3710, before enrolling in FIN 3300.

Fundamentals of Financial and Tax Planning is an integration of investment and portfolio management descriptions, according to the catalog description. Students will give oral classroom and written reports and conduct a major research project.

"FIN 4220 allows instructors to make decisions on how to conduct the class and the class uses real money to perform security analysis tasks," Wayland said.

The prerequisites of this course are FIN 3720, Investments and FIN 3730, Financial Markets: Commodities, Derivatives and Securities. Instructors evaluate student performance through students meeting each course's learning objectives. FIN 4300 also was approved.

New and revised accounting courses also were approved. Accounting Information Systems, ACC 3900, will study accounting



Jane Wayland, associate chair of the Lumpkin School of Business, writes down notes as Larry Helsel, a member of the Council for Academic Affairs, Thursday afternoon in room 4440 of Booth Library.

DAILY EASTERN NEWS PHOTO BY COLIN MCAULIFFE

systems concepts, design and information needs.

"ACC 3900 will allow students to understand the role of accounting during the industrial age," Wayland said.

Students are advised to take ACC 3250 and ACC 3900 as well. This class will replace ACC 3100, Accounting Information Systems. The course will not be offered until spring 2004, Wayland said.

Productive Work Teams, COS 4880, will emphasize what it takes to work as a team by being a member of class teams and studying teams.

"This class is to allow students to understand ways to understand synergy within these teams, which can apply in other interpersonal instances," said Thomas Hawkins, assistant professor of the school of technology.

Accelerated Learning and Training, COS 4890, is a research-based class applying accelerated learning courses to accelerate learning and training.

Career and Organization Studies Program revision was also passed.

"The proposal is to waive the foreign language requirement for the adult students in our program because it is difficult for them to meet this requirement," said Deborah Woodley, professor of the school of technology.

Eastern does not accept the 1000-2000 level foreign language courses taken from adult community college transfer students.

"The rationale in not requiring these adults to make this foreign language requirement apply to their curriculum because it is difficult for them to learn and was not part of the curriculum back in the

1970s," Woodley said.

Council members agreed this revision was similar to the Board of Trustees revision approved last year. The BOT was an alternative adult education program that was approved. The alternative allows adult students to be waived from foreign language requirements.

"Our students at Eastern are required to meet core requirements and go through a rigorous program," said Deb Reid, assistant history department professor.

Some council members were concerned other departments would eventually come to the council asking for foreign language waivers. Council members came to agree this program is a non-traditional program for career development.

"These students are working adults who work full-time," Woodley said.

## Brrr ... a weekend for movies and popcorn

What's up Eastern? It has gotten pretty cold out the past couple of days and with that wind whipping at my face, I have wanted to just stay in bed all day. Now that the weekend is approaching, I'll have the opportunity to do that or take advantage of any other indoor activities.

◆ The movies "Butterfly Effect" with Amy Smart and Ashton Kutcher and "Win a Date with Tad Hamilton" with Kate Bosworth, Topher Grace and Josh Duhamel premiere today. Check out some other events happening this weekend.

◆ For those 21 and over with no plans yet, The Rural Kings are playing at Friends and Company tonight. Country livin' has never been so good.

◆ Tonight from 9:30 p.m.-12:30 a.m., University Board Special Events will host Cosmic Bowling in the Martin Luther King Jr. University Union's bowling alley. Graduate Student Margie Tucker said prizes include dvd's, cd's, Wal-Mart gift cards and other prizes. There also is free shoe rental.

◆ Want to do some dancing this weekend? The Black Student Union is sponsoring the first dance of the semester.

"This dance is just to kick off the new semester," said Taisha Mikell, graduate advisor of the Student Life Office.

D.J. Tony Muse will supply the music. "He has been at Eastern before and he did a good job," Mikell said.



**WHAT'S HAPPENIN'**  
Brittany Robson  
ACTIVITIES EDITOR

Admission is \$3 before 11 p.m. and \$4 thereafter.

Mikell said university police will be present and everyone who enters will have to go through a metal detector.

"It's just a precautionary thing," Mikell said. "Some other incidences have happened at other schools and we just want to make sure nothing happens here."

◆ Looking for a good cheap movie to watch? University Board presents "Matchstick Men" at 5 and 8 p.m. Saturday in Buzzard Auditorium.

◆ Sunday from 3-7 p.m. The Campaign for Better Health Care, a not-for-profit charitable organization will be holding a fundraiser at Roc's Blackfront. Roc's is located at 410 Sixth Street north of The Square. "Chili Jam" is an event offering all-you-can-eat chili with \$10 donations and \$5 for kids. There will be a raffle, silent auction and bake sale.

◆ Starting Sunday through March 10, the African American Studies Program and the Tarble Arts Center will present a photographic exhibition focusing on the history of African Americans in Coles County. Display cases are on the ground floor in Old Main. For more information, contact Dr. Onaiwu W. Ogbomo.

### CORRECTIONS

A story in Thursday's edition of *The Daily Eastern News* reported the Alumni Association's work with tele-marketing firm Ruffalo Cody. It should have reported the Office of Alumni Services' involvement. The Alumni Association is not involved.

The column in the same issue misspelled psychology instructor Marjorie Hanft-Martone's name. The quote by Hanft-Martone should have read "desirable work" instead of "desirable worth." Also, both graduate and undergraduate students are placed in internships working with or observing individuals with serious mental disorders.

In Thursday's *Health and Fitness Guide*, Traci Frieling was given the title of dietician. She is a nutrition education coordinator.

People looking for help to secure their computers from the Microsoft e-mail hoax should contact the help desk at 581-HELP.

### SUGGESTIONS

If you have any suggestions or ideas for articles you would like to see in *The News*, feel free to contact us at 581-2812 or [jpchambers@eiu.edu](mailto:jpchambers@eiu.edu)

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DAILY EASTERN NEWS PHOTO BY STEPHEN HAAS

The doors to the University Ballroom in the Martin Luther King, Jr. University Union taped and roped off earlier this week because of construction. Work is being done to completely renovate the ballroom, which will finish at the end of April.

## Ballroom out of service until April

By Evan Hill  
CAMPUS EDITOR

The Martin Luther King Jr. University Union University Ballroom will be receiving a makeover during the next several months.

Jim Nantz, business manager for Eastern's Office of Facilities Planning and Management, said the renovations

have only recently begun and are expected to conclude in April of this year.

The cost of the renovation is estimated at \$237,580, Nantz said. The funding will come from student fees just as any other Union projects have in the past.

The renovations to the ballroom include many aesthetic improvements.

Nantz said the renovation project includes: a new ceiling, new drapes for all windows, new entrance doors, new lighting, new wall treatment on the north wall and cleaning for all air conditioning duct work.

Nantz said so far the only renovations include the old ceiling being removed and the area above it being cleaned.

C A A

## Overview of budget to be presented

By Kevin Sampier  
ADMINISTRATION EDITOR

The Council on University Planning and Budget will get an update on Eastern's budget Friday from Director of Budgets Jim Shonkwiler.

The presentation will cover the budgets for fiscal years 2004-2006 and information on Eastern's planning cycle.

"It's basically just giving people an update of where we are in that process," Shonkwiler said of the presentation.

"The state economy hasn't rebounded as expected," an issue that will also be discussed, he said.

Shonkwiler said the Illinois Board of Higher Education last year asked Eastern not to spend two percent of its budget because of the state's economic condition.

*"It's basically just giving people an update of where we are in that process."*

—Jim Shonkwiler, director of budgets

The IBHE has sent Eastern a "discussion budget" that outlines some proposed funds for the 2005 fiscal year. Shonkwiler said Eastern has the opportunity to lobby for more funds if necessary.

"These are talking papers more than anything," he said.

The council also will hear a presentation from Jill Nilsen, vice president for external relations, on the Legislative

Action Team.

The team will talk about an annual trip to Springfield and share information with legislators about Eastern, Nilsen said.

"During the course of the day, we set up posters in the halls of the capitol," Nilsen said. "The (Eastern) jazz band plays over the lunch hour and we visit legislators in their office."

The trip will be held Feb. 19, she said.

The council also will hear a presentation from Gail Richard, chair of communication disorders and sciences.

Council member Chris McCormick said Richard will discuss a report on the Athletic Task Force.

The Council on University Planning and Budget will meet at 3 p.m. Friday in the Arcola/Tuscola Room of the Martin Luther King Jr. University Union.

# Students urged to hit the polls

By Blake Boldt  
STAFF WRITER

With the election season nearing, Eastern students are being motivated to make their presence known in the political world.

State, city and campus leaders are all urging young people to vote. The consensus among these leaders is that voting is a vital action demonstrating a concern for the community.

Richard A. Wandling, political science professor, said education is an important factor in the voter turnout.

It is not enough just to help students register, they must also be familiarized with the process, Wandling said.

"Students do have a stake in political systems, local, state and federal," he added.

He said this year's registration drive is essential to influencing students to become engaged in the political landscape.

The registration drive will take place during the next three weeks across campus.

Registration forms will be passed out and young voters will be encouraged to vote in the upcoming elections. Students are asked to bring their driver's license or a state ID when registering.

The leader of this project is Student Executive Vice President Bill Davidson. He said any number of causes can stir the thoughts of this generation.

The key is to not only get the students registered, but to convince them to vote and become interested in issues that are potentially important to them, Davidson said.

He said the current tuition issue is one bound to interest students, but they must be informed on other issues affecting them in the future.

"We also have plans for this project at University of Illinois, Western Illinois University, Illinois State University and other state universities," Davidson said.

He said registering students is one thing, but for students to be effective they must visit polling stations.

Illinois Senator Dale Righter is another proponent of persuading students to become active in politics.

"The 18 to 24-year-old age group has the lowest percentage of any other age group," Righter said.

He said it is easier to access information today than at any other time.

He said this should impact the voter turnout because students have a greater chance to be informed on politicians and issues.

He also believes the younger generation has more at stake in regard to new laws than any other group.

Beth Cotter, a freshman elementary education major, has voted in the past and plans to vote again. Her feelings on voting, however, are mixed.

"I like telling people that I voted, but I don't think that my votes matter much," Cotter said.

Another freshman elementary education major, Susan Stamm, has never voted before but plans to vote in the next election.

"I haven't really done any research on the candidates and should be more aware of different views," Stamm said.

The overall message being sent by politicians and other public figures is that knowledge of the issues will lead to a better government.

"(The students) have an inherent right to take part in the formation of the government," Righter said.

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### EDITORIAL

# Keep attendance on the rise

Fact: Eastern has a 5,300 seat arena.

Fact: Since being a Division I basketball school in 1981 it has never been filled to capacity.

Since 1994, average attendance for men's basketball games in Lantz Arena has been 2,068, less than half of the arena's capacity.

It's true that attendance in recent years has begun to pick up again with the emergence of former talent Kyle Hill and Henry Domercant, but the fear is the gate number will be low for the final five home games for the 2003-2004 season.

It's true that selling Charleston along with mid-major Eastern to big name schools with tradition-filled programs is unlikely but not impossible.

The one Big Ten school willing to come to Lantz Arena is

Wisconsin and the Badgers drew a crowd of 4,793, 90 percent of the arena's capacity.

In the last three years, the only occasion more than 5,000 have witnessed a Panther basketball game is at the annual Austin Peay matchup.

Lantz Arena has the potential of being one of the loudest arenas, if not in the OVC, but of any mid-major in the country. How can we prove this? Every year, Eastern is flooded with fans and Lantz is standing room only for the Illinois State High School Super-Sectional Basketball final.

Dave Kidwell, assistant athletic director and sports information director, has instituted a revival of "The Blue Crew," but the Recognized Student Organization has low attendance at most games.

At Gonzaga University the 15th-ranked Bulldogs draw capacity of 4,000 people for over two years at their arena.

The Butler Bulldogs have built a tradition behind the legendary Hinkel Fieldhouse (yes, the same building in "Hoosiers"). The 11,053-seat building is one of those places college basketball players say they have to go before they die.

Lantz Arena could be that place and Eastern could be a team like that but it all starts with having a capacity to make home games the most dangerous environment for a visiting team to visit.

But when a team's losing, it needs fan support the most. Show school spirit and let Lantz live up to its potential.

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

### At issue

Attendance for basketball games at Lantz Arena is not always what it should be.

### Our stance

Lantz has potential to be one of the loudest arenas in the OVC or even of any mid-major in the country.

### OPINION

# Media censoring commercials



Colin McAuliffe

Photo editor and guest columnist for *The Daily Eastern News*

McAuliffe also is a senior history major

He can be reached at [colinsarcasm@hotmail.com](mailto:colinsarcasm@hotmail.com)

For the past 20 years an unprecedented situation has developed with grave implications for freedom and democracy: the emergence of a global communications cartel.

Our television, newspapers, magazines, video, photographic images that tell humanity's story are controlled by an ever shrinking number of transitional corporations.

Giants among giants, megacorps like AOL Time Warner, Disney, News Corporations, Viacom, Sony Bertelsmann and General Electric, now control over half of all the news and entertainment flows around the planet.

Information, the lifeblood of democracy, is systematically commercialized, trivialized, homogenized, politicized.

We are running on systematically distorted information. The dream is turning into a nightmare.

In September 2003, Adbusters, a mental environment journal, entered into serious negotiations with Fox Broadcast Corporation to buy 15, 30 and 60 seconds of airtime, a freedom that any burger, beer, shampoo, or SUV company can do in America, the land of the free.

The plan for the commercials was their "Buy Nothing Day" campaign which occurs every year the day after Thanksgiving, or the busiest shopping day of the year. Adbusters was denied at Fox.

"You might understand, for a broadcast TV network things like boycotting television and anti-consumerism might not go over very well with our other advertisers," said Tim Souris of the broadcast standards department.

Adbusters were rejected everywhere they tried to buy airtime,

*"In a totalitarian system, you are not allowed to talk back to the government; in the capitalist system, you can not talk back to the sponsor."*

NBC, CBS, MTV, CBS in Canada, RTL in Germany, TV5 in France. "It really wouldn't be in our interest to do that," said Chris Hitchens, Oracle Airtime Sales in South Africa.

In a totalitarian system, you are not allowed to talk back to the government; in the capitalist system, you can not talk back to the sponsor.

Some of you may remember hearing about a Web site, MoveOn.org, that wanted to have a videos created that depicted President Bush and his policies.

Michael Stipe, Moby, Jack Black, Michael Moore, Russell Simmons and many more selected a video as the winner to be a commercial and played during the Super Bowl, when an estimated 100 million viewers will tune in.

With advertisements for beer, credit cards and Viagra, viewers unfortunately will not be able to view the winner. Last Thursday, CBS rejected MoveOn.org's hopes to buy airtime for the commercial during the Super Bowl.

The commercial was moving, powerful and to the point. It showed children, no more than 7 or 8 years old, working in factories, in grocery stores and as garbage collectors.

Then, the commercial asked "Guess who's going to pay off President Bush's \$1 trillion

deficit?"

That's correct it will be children of the next generation and some of our children. CBS rejected the commercial saying that it would violate the network's policy against accepting advocacy advertising.

However, the White House paid between \$1.5 and \$3 million to show a few commercials on their National Drug Control Policy.

Insert sarcastic laughter here for Bush's drug control policy. No, really it's a good one.

The White House ads will be similar to previous ads CBS does not seem to think cross the advocacy line.

Timothy Kerr of MediaChannel.Org reported "CBS would not reveal the content of the upcoming ads; previous White House Super Bowl spots drew a controversial link between casual drug use and the financing of global terrorists."

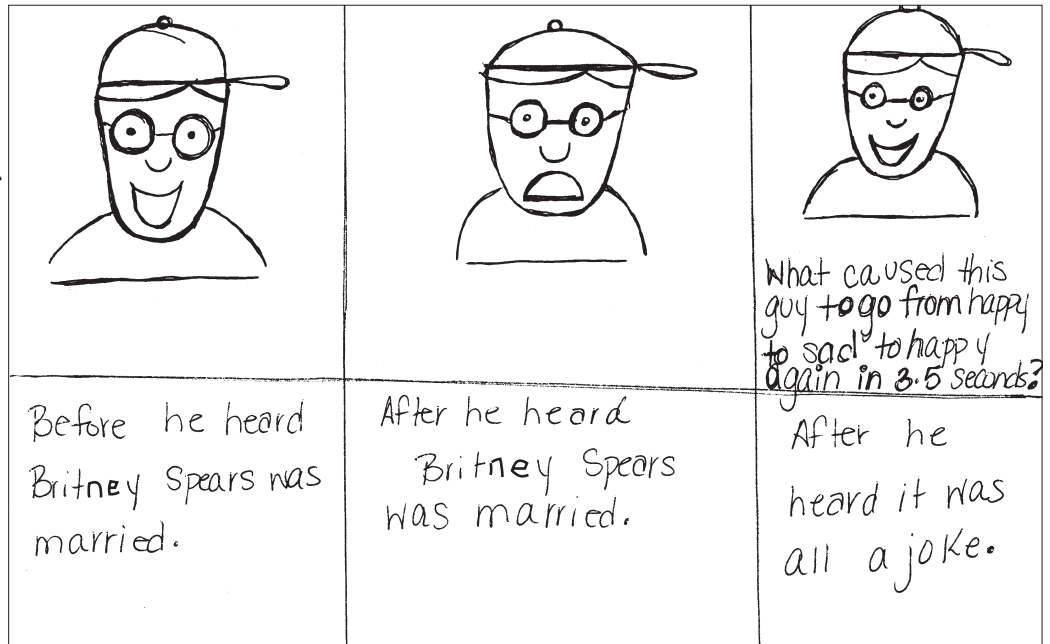
LA Weekly media critic Judith Miller said "their message plays well into Bush's anti-terror campaign because it keeps ordinary citizens under siege and the war on terror central in their minds."

Martin Franks, the executive vice president of CBS, would not comment to Media Channel about previous White House Super Bowl ads that showed similarities between the war on drugs and the war on terror.

So as you watch your bikini and beer commercials and tasty food commercials just remember that you have been censored from commercials CBS does not want you to see.

It makes you think what else does CBS not want me to know about? What other commercials are they refusing to show on the air? A bigger question would be what are they censoring out of their news?

Cartoon by Rita Reinhardt



### YOUR TURN: LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

# Apply the celebrated dream

After attending the Martin Luther King Jr. remembrance celebration I think how far have we really come? I thought that as a black woman on a college campus that, yes, we had come along way because I know that if I had been alive 40 years ago, I would not have been permitted to attend college.

Unfortunately, last week I was smacked into a reality that, no, we have not yet overcome! A bi-racial female student was verbally belittled and degraded by her white roommate.

The woman, being of Lithuanian and Nigerian descent, knows nothing but embracing and celebrating diversity.

Last week she was given a

reality check she'll live with for the rest of her life. After having numerous problems with her roommate's racial slurs not only to her but from others living in her hall, her roommate took this act of hate over the top. Right before her roommate moved her final bit of furniture out of the room, she wrote on the walls racially negative things about black people and other derogatories. Should this be tolerated? Absolutely not! This is 2004, yet the same things that our parents and grandparents marched for is still happening. If we are silent and nothing is done, our children will have to endure the same. I ask you, when will this cycle be broken? As Eastern attempts to become more diverse we

need to concentrate on strengthening the community that already exists here! As students attending the same school, we are all a community, and as such without communication we can go nowhere. We have to show our community that we do not tolerate one of its members to be treated like this because what affects one affects all. If we don't attempt to do anything about what happened and then educate those who wronged the woman, then we are ignoring all the things that Dr. King

and others like him died for. I think that as members of the Eastern community we need to take action against what happened to the woman because it will continue to happen if the situation, isn't handled the right way. Who will be next, maybe you? If we are not going to do anything about this situation let's not even acknowledge Dr. King's birthday because we're definitely not living the "dream" he gave his life for.

Kristin Morrow  
*sophomore biology major*

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR: The Daily Eastern News accepts letters to the editor addressing local, state, national and international issues. They should be less than 250 words and include the authors' name, telephone number and address. Students should indicate their year in school and major. Faculty, administration and staff should indicate their position and department. Letters whose authors cannot be verified will not be printed. Depending on space constraints, we may edit letters, so keep it concise. Letters can be sent to *The Daily Eastern News* at 1811 Buzzard Hall, Charleston IL 61920; faxed to 217-581-2923; or e-mailed to [jpchambers@eiu.edu](mailto:jpchambers@eiu.edu).

APPORTIONMENT BOARD

# Senate receives money for secretary's salary

By Brian O'Malley  
STUDENT GOVERNMENT EDITOR

The Apportionment Board allocated \$400 with an 8-0 vote to pay the Student Senate secretary \$100 a month for the rest of the semester.

Christine Ruhaak is the current secretary and is now the first Student Senate secretary to be paid at Eastern.

"The secretary should be compensated for her work," said Student Senate Speaker George Lesica. "It's hard to find a person who is not only qualified, but also understands the issues and has enough patience to do the job."

Lesica said the secretary's job is to record minutes for the weekly senate meetings and record attendance.

"The secretary needs to be someone who is willing to sit there and look at a piece of paper for two hours and take notes," Lesica said.

Lesica was a secretary for the senate for four semesters after failing to make an official senate seat.

"I started out as a secretary for senate," Lesica said. "The work is extra unglamorous and, quite frankly, boring."

Lesica said the money came out of an awards and bonds account and moved to payroll. The awards and bonds account still has money inside for other reasons.

Lesica said the secretary is not a senate seat, but it is a job and the person in the position should be paid.

"It's harder to put on your

*"The work is extra unglamorous and, quite frankly, boring."*

—George Lesica, Student Senate Speaker

resume. I was a secretary for Student Senate," Lesica said. "It's not an honorary thing, it's a job."

Larry Ward, student vice president for financial affairs and AB chair, said the secretary will be paid for a trial period to see if the system works.

"We'll see how it works," Ward said. "She should get paid for her work."

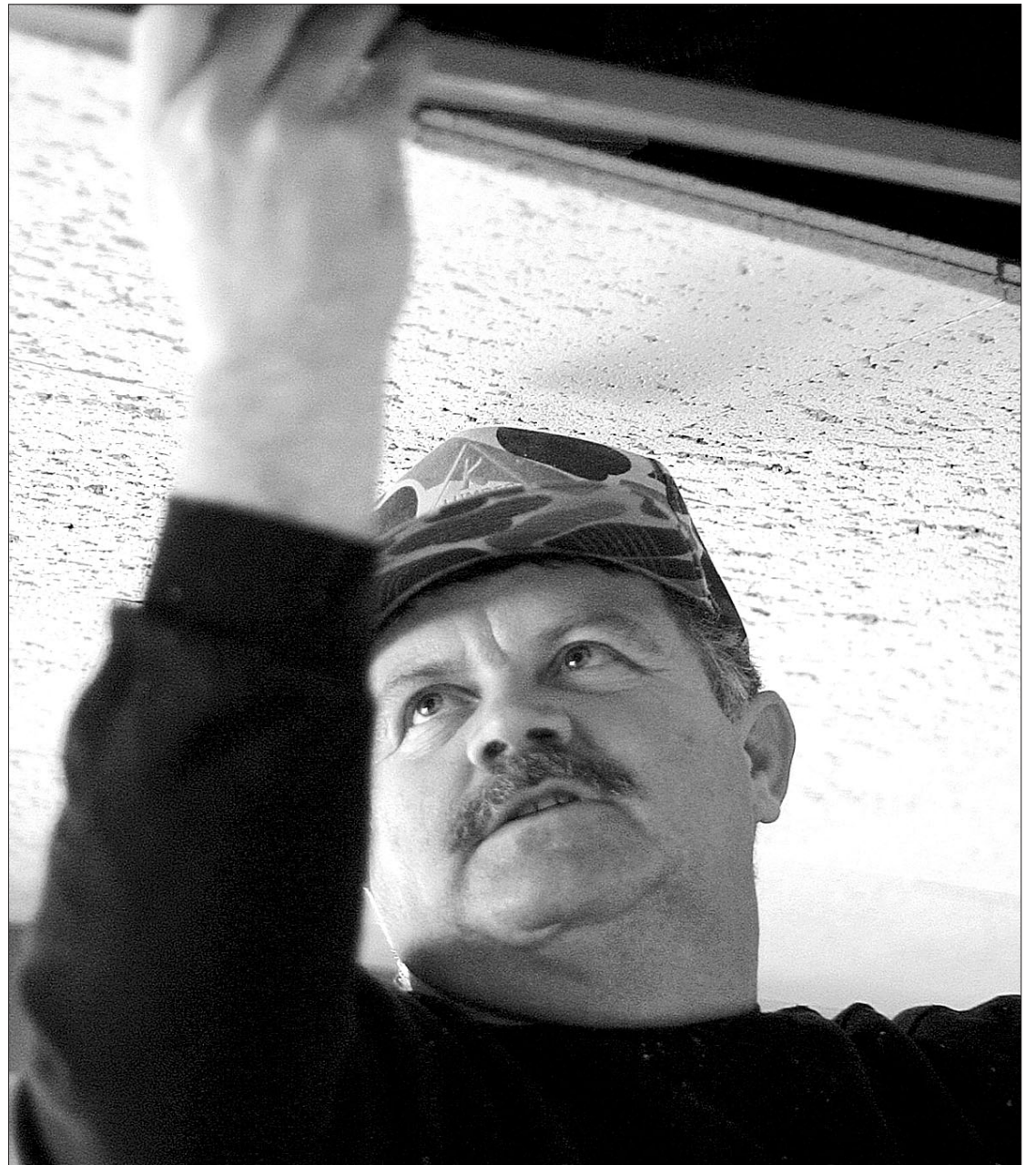
Lesica said additional duties will be given to the secretary now that she is getting paid.

"She'll assume other duties and responsibilities as seen by (me)," Lesica said.

Ruhaak has only been secretary since the senate's meeting on Jan. 14 and won't be paid until the next pay period.

"She's been doing a fine job for not being paid," Lesica said.

The Apportionment Board meets at 7 p.m. on Thursday in the Arcola/Tuscola Room of the Martin Luther King Jr. University Union.



DAILY EASTERN NEWS PHOTO BY STEPHEN HAAS


## Wired



Dave Peterson, a carpenter for the university, removes ceiling tiles from the first floor of the Martin Luther King, Jr. University Union Thursday afternoon. Peterson and other workers were installing hardware and connections for wireless internet points above the ceiling tiles.

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**ASSEMBLY HALL**

## RESIDENCE HALL ASSOCIATION

# Spots still available for Atlanta trip

By Brian O'Malley  
STUDENT GOVERNMENT EDITOR

An executive from the Student Senate spoke to the Residence Hall Association Thursday about the application process for the trip to Atlanta from Feb. 12-15.

Lisa Flam, student vice president for student affairs, said the trip will spread more diversity throughout campus.

"It's going to be an awesome trip," Flam said.

Applications are available at the Student Life Office in the Martin Luther King Jr. University Union and any student can apply to go, Flam said.

"Unfortunately not everyone who applies will be able to go," Flam said. "We're looking for a diverse group to represent Eastern."

Monique Cook-Bey, assistant director of student life, said the application process has been extended from Friday to Tuesday.

"I want to make sure we reach out to every student," Cook-Bey said.

There are 40 seats for students and each student is only responsible for a hotel room and meals. More information on costs is on the application, Flam said.

"The students who go will be able to truly share their experience when they get back," Flam said.

Becca Finks, chair for the RHA parking committee, also spoke to RHA and said many students expressed concerns with freshmen parking at a recent meeting, but not enough to suggest change in parking policies.

"Some people said that parking is a perk for being an upperclassman," Finks said. "Other people said that walking is faster than finding a spot anyway."

RHA President Nachel Glynn said all residence hall councils will discuss the parking situations before a possible suggestion is made to the administration about parking changes.

RHA discussed the change of the five-meal plan to a seven-meal plan.

"It's because there are seven days in the week," Glynn said.

RHA members decided before a suggestion should be made to make the changes, they would have to review the costs.

"We have to find out if a seven-meal plan would be cost effective for the students," Glynn said.

Other business included:

—the RHA approving a \$10 donation to Camp New Hope in Mattoon.

—the announcement of the Student Leadership Council meeting on Feb. 5.

—the handing out of applications for students to help with the Panther Ambassador Club.

The Residence Hall Association meets at 5 p.m. on Thursday in the basement of Andrews Hall.



DAILY EASTERN NEWS PHOTO BY JOSH REELEY

## Hanging out

John Bailey, a university carpenter, hangs a banner along the walkway between Coleman and Lumpkin halls Thursday afternoon. The banner was being put up to advertise the Spring Career Day/Job Fair on Feb. 11.

## Cartoons:

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Babcock said retro cartoons are "a comfort food."

"It's like going to a fancy restaurant and ordering macaroni and cheese," Babcock said.

Babcock said the preservation of retro cartoons also is helped by people creating newer versions of classic shows with better animation, sound and continuing story lines. Some of the shows include the new version of "Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles" and "Transformers Armada."

Migler said the people use retro cartoons as a way to return to the past and to their youth.

"People use those cartoons

as a way to stay in touch with their inner child," Migler said. "Also, more modern cartoons shows are nowhere near as awesome as the old ones."

Babcock also said "people like to go back to the things they thought were cool."

Four years ago, Cartoon Network started a subsidiary network called Boomerang, which is dedicated to showing the older, retro cartoons.

"As Cartoon Network matured and began to create our own shows," Babcock said. "We had less room for the classics that we had launched our network with. It was a process of our growth."

Babcock said retro cartoons will likely always be around because "good cartoons will stand the test of time."

# Making a run for the border

## Deadline approaching for Foreign Language Department trip

By Matt Rennels  
STAFF WRITER

Time is running out to sign up for the Foreign Language Department's trip to Mexico. The deadline is Monday, Jan. 26.

The department has been organizing the annual trip for 26 years, and this will be the second year Spanish professor Carlos Amaya has taken part.

"I hope the students have a wonderful time learning about Mexico's culture and history," Amaya said.

He said the department is limiting the trip to 12 students.

The trip counts as two credit hours toward graduation, and the course title is FLG 2500 - Introduction to Hispanic Culture. According to an informational flier regarding the trip, the course requires students to complete a project reflecting planning and academic preparation concerning the topic they had chosen for the project.

In addition, intensive investigation into culture and history occurs while in New Mexico. The results of students' work will be submitted and academically evaluated.

"Our purpose is to expose students to history and culture with Mexico," Amaya said. "Those who can speak Spanish can practice Spanish."

Several regions of Mexico will be studied including Cozumel, Palenque, Chetumal, Palenque and others. Several archeological centers will be visited along with museums, churches and open-air markets.

Amaya said the temperature in the arid locations will be around 90 degrees Fahrenheit.

"It will be a nice change from Charleston," he said. Another change from Charleston is the group's opportunity to visit the jungle. The Mayan ruins are where most of the trip will be spent.

The flight will leave O'Hare Airport in Chicago March 11, the Thursday before Spring Break, and 10 days will be spent in Mexico before arriving back in Chicago March 21, just before classes resume.

The price of the trip will be approximately \$1,300, a price that includes airfare and other transportation, hotel, guide fees and entrances to archaeological zones.

In comparison, a trip to Cancun including food and drinks will range from \$315 at a Holiday Inn to \$1281 at the First American Coral, not including airfare.

*"Our purpose is to expose students to history and culture with Mexico."*

—Carlos Amaya,  
Spanish professor

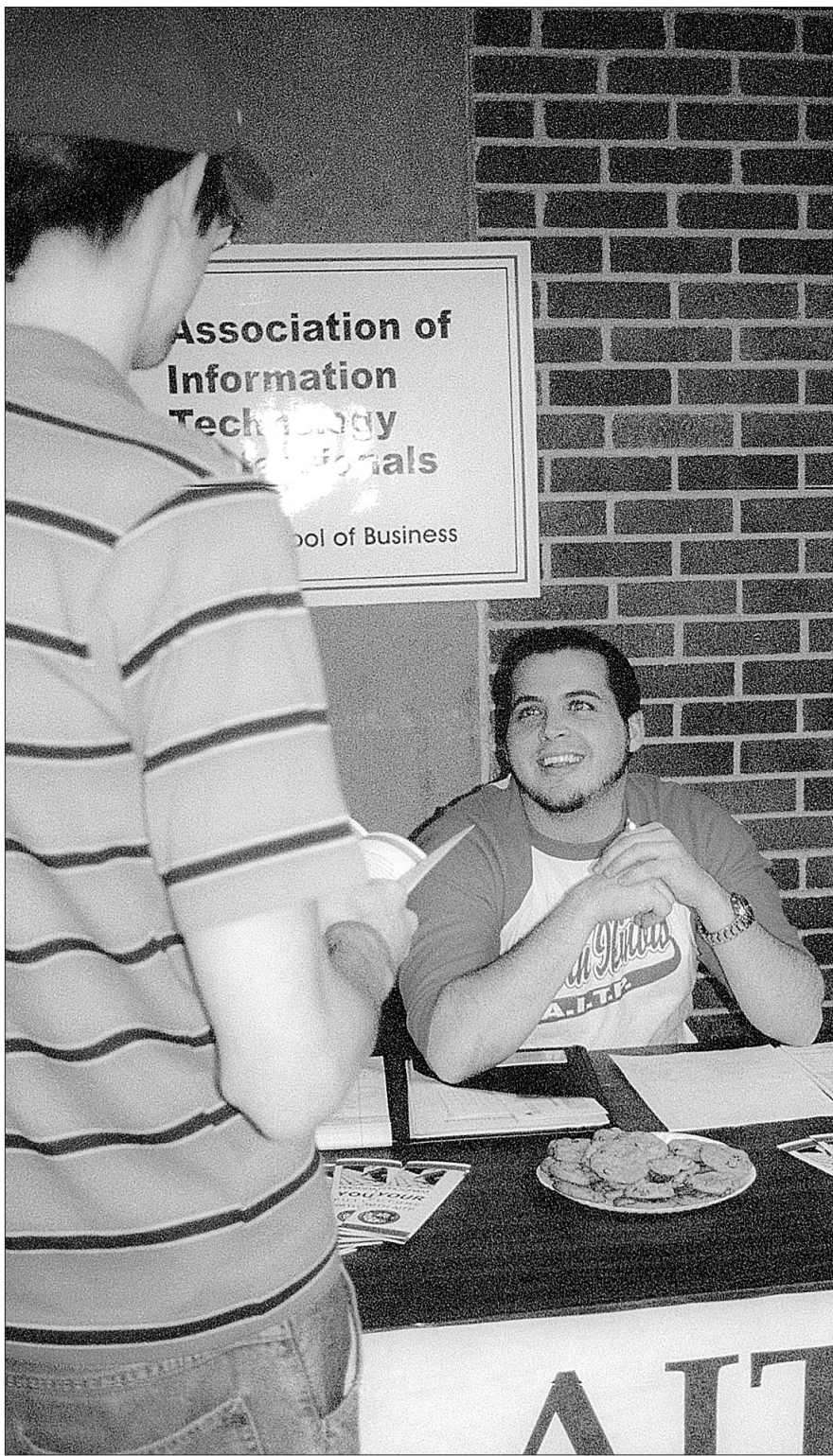
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DAILY EASTERN NEWS PHOTO BY JOSH REELEY

## Want a cookie?

Doug Bristow (right), a senior computer information systems major and president of the Association of Information Technology Professionals, talks with Mike Abernathy, a junior graphic design major, Thursday night outside of Carman Dining Center during a new member drive.



DAILY EASTERN NEWS PHOTO BY STEPHEN HAAS

Construction is underway on the new water treatment plant on McKinley Avenue in Charleston. Forms have been set up for cement workers to start pouring the foundation for the underground holding tank that will be below the new facility.

## Water: Public works department unveils five-year plan

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1A

“Essentially, the annual retreat is the city staff putting together proposals for the city council,” said Dean Barber, former public works department director.

At the retreat, Buescher said the departments gave presentations concerning the progress in the current year and goals for the future.

Large, colorful maps of the city were a main part of the presentation given by the Public Works Department. The five maps—one for each year of the plan—are color coordinated and show the projected plants for various areas under the department’s jurisdiction. They can be seen in City Hall’s council chambers.

For example, the map showing the projects planned for 2004-2005 show a pink highlight on Edgar Drive from Ninth to 18th streets showing projected sidewalk creation, while a purple line along Davis Drive denotes storm sewer creation.

“The maps are used as a go-by,” Buescher said.

Buescher, who recently succeeded Barber, said one of his first projects with the plan will not be completing projects. Instead, it will be deciding in what order to complete them.

“The actual prioritizing of all the projects will be done by myself and the members out on the field,” Buescher said.

Buescher said the items not completed during the 2003-2004 year will remain in the plan at the top of the priorities for the coming year.

Although the department starts with ambi-

tious plans, the priorities might be rearranged because of unforeseeable conditions, Barber said.

Buescher cited several examples that could affect the arrangement, such as a grant coming through that only could be used on The Square during a certain time period or emergency action needing to be taken.

Some projects, such as sidewalks, are going to be first on the list because they are most doable. In addition, vehicular and pedestrian traffic volumes also will be considered, Buescher said.

Some of the sidewalks scheduled to receive work during the next year include those along Edgar Drive, Monroe Avenue, Buchanan Avenue and Second Street.

“It doesn’t take a lot of deciding effort to put a lot of plans together for the sidewalks,” Buescher said. “If we have the time, personnel and money, we could jump into (the projects) and do them quickly.”

In addition to the \$9.1 million water treatment plant, one of the larger projects the Public Works Department will be working on next year is incorporating Geographic Information System (GIS) into the department’s computers.

“At my old department (the Illinois Department of Transportation), we’ve been using GIS for several years,” Buescher said.

He said using a GIS will allow the city to see the streets, utilities and other items on a layered grid.

In coordination with the new water treatment plant, the department also will be working on creating a smaller version of the plant, or pilot, that will be an exact replica of the plant, except on a miniature scale.

“We are building the pilot to make sure we’ll be able to operate a similar plant only on a smaller scale,” Buescher said. “We want to make sure the water being produced by that plant is adequate.”

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Sunday Morning Worship in Buzzard Auditorium on Jan. 25th, 9:30am prayer in foyer, 10am fellowship and doughnuts, 10:30am worship service in Auditorium.

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Payment: \_\_\_\_\_  
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Dates to run: \_\_\_\_\_  
Ad to read: \_\_\_\_\_

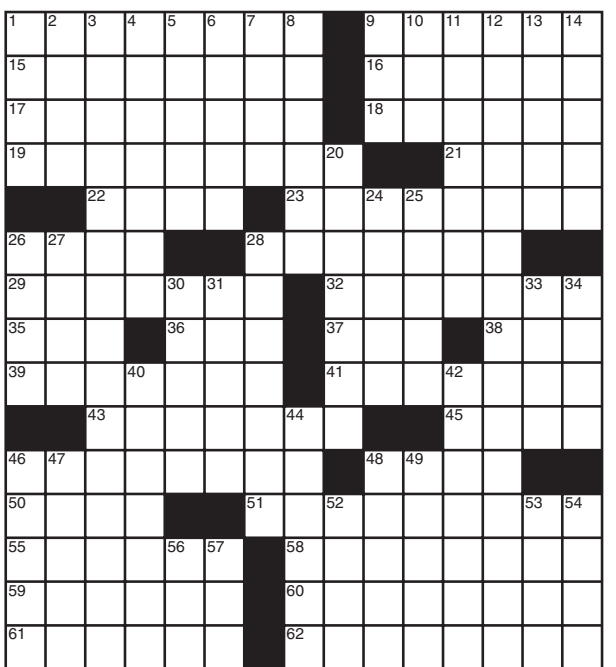
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## The New York Times Crossword

Edited by Will Shortz

No. 1212

- ACROSS**
- 1 Trip break
  - 9 Naughty, but not too
  - 15 Valentine inscription
  - 16 Just so
  - 17 Like some forces
  - 18 Fundamental beliefs
  - 19 Places where suckers are lined up
  - 21 Fictional cabbie of old radio
  - 22 Race's end
  - 23 Heat shield locale
  - 26 When repeated, a dolphin
  - 28 "Walk right in!"
  - 29 Tongs, e.g.
  - 32 Like left-overs
  - 35 Municipal facility: Abbr.
  - 36 Year Helsinki was founded
  - 37 Needle hole
  - 38 "Some \_\_\_ meat and canna eat": Burns
  - 39 Preserves fruit
  - 41 High degree
  - 43 Possible answer to "Where are you?"
  - 45 Kiln
  - 46 Underbodice
  - 48 Anima doctor
- DOWN**
- 50 "Potent Potables for 400, \_\_\_"
  - 51 "Amare" might be conjugated on it
  - 55 Improve a plant
  - 58 Investigates
  - 59 Double decker?
  - 60 Bring about
  - 61 Just
  - 62 Not worry
  - 1 Skirt feature
  - 2 Tenor
  - 3 It may go from 0 to 500
  - 4 Relate
  - 5 Available
  - 6 Say-so
  - 7 Footnote ender: Abbr.
  - 8 Soften
  - 9 Telecom giant, once
  - 10 Stooge with a bowl cut
  - 11 Ultimate solution
  - 12 One may be moved
  - 13 "Dragonwyck" writer Anya



Puzzle by Manny Nosowsky

### ANSWER TO TODAY'S PUZZLE



- 14 Author influenced by 48-Across
- 20 "My mistake ... big deal!"
- 24 "Crime and Punishment" heroine
- 25 People in masks wave them
- 26 Gunk
- 27 Aleutian island
- 28 Sibling's threat
- 30 Plant fungi
- 31 Bitterroot Mountains locale
- 33 Word with rabbit or all
- 34 Leaves home?
- 40 Rosinante's rider
- 42 Life insurance form
- 44 Newspaper circulation unit
- 46 Bank
- 47 Coeur d' \_\_\_\_\_
- 48 "Bringing Up Father" father
- 49 Not hard enough
- 52 Sticking point
- 53 Holy ones: Abbr.
- 54 Conservative
- 56 Mouse catcher
- 57 Myrna of "The Thin Man"

NATIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

# Bush praises special college courses

TROY, N.Y. (AP) — Simeon Cloutier could not afford university tuition to study computer forensics, so he is working his way through community college, learning the fast-evolving field in classes closely tailored to what employers need.

Community colleges, the highly adaptable but often-overlooked element of higher education, gained a big supporter this week when President Bush identified them as a key to the nation's prosperity in his State of the Union address.

Many two-year colleges are offering specialized courses in fast-changing areas of technology and business such as computer forensics, which can be used in detective work to restore erased hard drives or find the source of viruses and computer worms released by terrorists.

"The key is to train people for the work which actually exists," Bush said Wednesday at Owens Community College in Perrysburg Township, Ohio. "No better place to do that than in a community college."

Cloutier, who attends Hudson Valley Community College in upstate New York, agrees with Bush.

# Chinese New Year brings hope

BEIJING (AP) — The Year of the Monkey arrived Thursday, casting an eerie holiday calm over China's capital as hundreds of millions of people hunkered down in their hometowns and hoped for promised prosperity — and a season free of two fearsome diseases the government is racing to contain.

Authorities announced stepped-up holiday efforts against SARS and bird flu, tightening checks on air, bus and train passengers and enforcing a crackdown at border posts with Vietnam to prevent suspicious fowl from entering.

"The country," said the official Xinhua News Agency, "is mobilized."

The torch-passing from sheep to monkey under the Chinese astrological calendar was seen as an auspicious event, not only in traditional culture but in modern financial practicality. It coincides with an announcement that the economy grew 9.1 percent last year, and a hopeful tone prevailed.

"The golden monkey presents us with fortune; our sacred provinces welcome spring," said the Beijing Youth Daily, one of the few of the capital city's dozens of newspapers that published abbreviated editions on the Lunar New Year's first morning.

From Beijing to Singapore, businesses and government offices closed for Spring Festival. Indonesia marked the Chinese New Year as a public holiday for only the second time. Tightly controlled Singapore permitted the cacophony of firecrackers at street level for the first time in more than 30 years.

"A new buoyancy is evident everywhere. May this buoyant quality remain with us throughout the new year," Hong Kong Chief Executive Tung Chee-hwa said, welcoming the return of good times after last year's SARS epidemic and economic problems.

In Thailand, members of the country's large ethnic Chinese minority made offerings of food on temple altars, substituting pizza for the usually popular chicken because of avian flu unease.

In Taiwan, President Chen Shui-bian distributed traditional red "hongbao" money envelopes in his hometown. To avoid accusations of vote-buying before a March election, Chen's envelopes contained only 30 cents — far less than the \$6 he handed out last year.

The departure of millions of people from Beijing for the holiday left usually traffic-choked streets quiet at rush hour and littered with spent scarlet firecrackers. On the ring roads that encircle the capital — one of the world's most clogged

cities — cars were moving smoothly.

Even 24-hour stores were shuttered, and traditional morning exercisers were absent from parks. The skyline's ubiquitous cranes, symbols of the frantic building boom, were still.

Fireworks resonated through the night, and Roman candles cascaded over the Foreign Ministry and the Workers Stadium despite a city ban.

Shanghai uncorked an all-night fireworks barrage, with firecracker bundles detonated in the street inside buckets that amplified the sound.

"No one can sleep, not even with ear plugs in," said convenience store clerk Liu Yuhua.

Firecrackers are considered a deterrent to evil spirits and a delightfully noisy way to celebrate, and they have been a staple of Lunar New Year celebrations in China for centuries.

President Hu Jintao was shown Thursday afternoon making traditional "jiaozi" dumplings with Chinese citizens in what is becoming an annual rite: the government broadcaster showing senior leaders sitting down with everyday people against wintry backdrops.

"It's important not to overstuff the insides," said Hu, using chopsticks to poke seasoned pork into dumpling skins in the northern town of Zhangjiakou.

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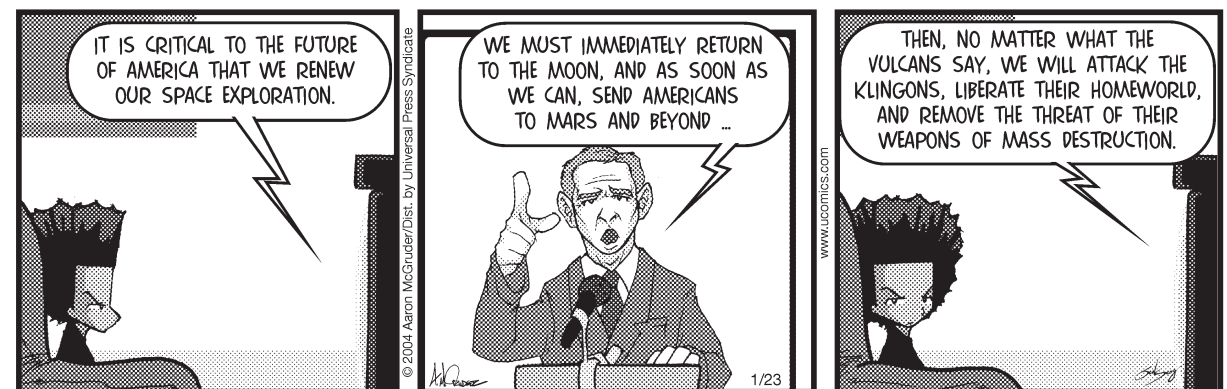
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# Swim teams embark on crusade into season stretch

◆ *Men's and women's squads take on the Valparaiso Crusaders in Indiana*

By Michael Gilbert  
ASSOCIATE SPORTS EDITOR

Entering the final stretch of the season, the Eastern men's and women's swim teams will travel to Indiana to take on the Valparaiso Crusaders this weekend.

On the men's side, Eastern should be able to walk out of the Valparaiso Athletics-Recreation Center victorious according to Panthers head coach Ray Padovan.

"We match up with the men pretty well," Padovan said. "We had (Valpo) at the Panther Invitational back in October and defeated them there. If you look at it on paper we should win."

At the Panther Invitational, the men quickly disposed of the Crusaders by more than 200 total team points (649-411). Valpo placed second at the six-team meet ahead of schools Indiana University-Purdue University at Indianapolis, Butler, Millikin and Lincoln College.

The men are currently on a five meet winning streak and haven't tasted defeat since a 143-100 loss against Illinois-Chicago on Oct. 24. Leading the charge in a majority



DAILY EASTERN NEWS PHOTO BY STEPHEN HAAS

Senior swimmer Jordan Sherbrooke swims in the 1000 freestyle event Friday night in Lantz Nautatorium.

of those meets has been senior Rich Wahlgren. The freestyler leads all Panther swimmers with 15 individual wins including the 200-yard free seven times this season.

Right behind Wahlgren is Tom Watson. The junior picked up a win in the 500-yard free last week against Millikin and now has 12 wins on the year. Most of Watson's damage has come in the 500-yard free, which he has won eight times, and the 1000-yard free where he has been victorious on four different occasions.

Recently, the Panthers have received much-needed help in the

breaststroke from freshman Tyson Beaman. The Texan picked up his first collegiate win in the 100-yard breaststroke on Nov. 20, 2003, and followed up that win with another just one meet later against Butler. While Beaman was not victorious against Millikin last week Padovan was impressed with the way the freshman has been swimming

"He's coming along really well," Padovan said. "He fills a big role for us in the breaststroke and has had some really nice times in the 200-yard heats. He likes the shorter events better, but (teammate) Chad Croucher has really been

pushing him (timewise) lately."

The women's match up could sway either way as both teams have very similar records. Valpo will enter the swim with a 2-5 dual meet record, while Eastern has won two consecutive meets and brings a 3-5 record into this weekend's action.

"The competition is really much closer in the women's meet than the men's," Padovan said. "I feel we're much more in control of the men's meet than the women's."

The Panthers will bring confidence into the meet after defeating Butler in December and

Millikin just this past week. Padovan believes the women are swimming as successfully now as they have throughout the entire season and are on the top of their game.

"Actually, they have been swimming real well," Padovan said. "When I'm coaching the meets I don't get to see the (swimmer's) times as much as I know who won or lost. Looking back we have had some solid times and we are definitely making progress."

One of those swimmers "making progress" is sophomore Jenny Curry. After struggling at the beginning of the season, Curry won two events against Butler (50 and 100-free) and also was the victor in the 50-free against St. Louis three meets ago.

With the men's five consecutive dual meet victories and the women's two straight, Padovan said the team is shaping up well for the season-ending Midwest Classic Championship in late February.

"Right now we look pretty good," Padovan said. "At this point in the season, we've done enough work that we can rest for about two weeks before (the "Classics"). The only thing we're worried about right now is sickness, but so far we're healthy."

The meet with Valpo will begin at 1:00 p.m. Saturday.

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DAILY EASTERN NEWS PHOTO BY STEPHEN HAAS

Eastern Indoor Track and Field will host 17 teams at the EIU Mega Meet this weekend.

TRACK AND FIELD

# Panthers roll out mat for top competitors

By Dan Ronick  
STAFF WRITER

Eastern Indoor Track and Field will get a chance to compete against top competition at this weekend's EIU Mega Meet.

The Panthers will host 17 teams from around the Midwest at 9 a.m. Saturday at Lantz Arena. The competition will include in-state rivals Western Illinois University, Southern Illinois at Edwardsville and Illinois Chicago, as well as the Indiana Invaders, a club team including athletes training for the Olympic Games.

Other teams competing include Bradley, Butler, Dayton, University of Indianapolis, Miami of Ohio, SIUE, UIC, U of Missouri at Raleigh, WIU, Indianapolis Invaders, Florissant Valley Community College, Nazarene, Rend Lake, Louis, McHendrey, Lindenwood and Danville Area Community College.

Both men's head coach Tom Akers and women's head coach Mary Wallace hope to use the meet as an early season opportunity to evaluate where their team is.

"I just hope to be competitive

and it's a wonderful opportunity to get out there and perform," Wallace said.

Akers also wants to see how his young team will stand up in competition.

"We're a young team and we're going to get a chance to see who's ready to play and who wants to watch," Akers said. "I also hope to see some upperclassmen and lead by example."

The men's team started off well at the Indiana State Dual, Akers said, but after the Christmas break it could take a couple of weeks to get back into things.

"I'm hoping we'll start gelling together as a team and battle with some great competitors.

This is only the second indoor track meet of the year and each of the coaches said they have been training hard and are waiting to taper for peak performances at the conference championships at the end of February.

With so many competitors and teams it's hard to predict who will come out in front, Wallace said.

"There's not really one team we're looking out for," Wallace said. "But in the whole field there should be some great performances.

Hohenadel:

## Al Davis thought Payton would come into the Raiders, not change a thing, and go into the 2004 season with the same old team

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 12A

This means Payton wanted to get rid of older guys like Jerry Rice, Tim Brown and Rich Gannon in favor of younger players.

This is where Al Davis and Payton weren't quite on the same wave length. Al Davis, for reasons unknown, thought maybe Payton would come into the Raiders, not change a thing, and go into the 2004 season with the same OLD team.

I want to stress the word OLD. Jerry Rice is an ageless wonder and can still play ball; but not at the level he once could. I honestly think he isn't one of the top ten best receivers in the NFL right now. He might not even be top 20, and it's sad.

Payton's thoughts of rebuilding seem logical to me. The Raiders were in the 2002 Super Bowl and were expected to do quite a bit better than 4-12 this past season. It even seems to me the Raiders organization thought rebuilding was inevitable as they fired coach Bill Callahan immediately after the 2003 season.

The fact is Payton wanted to start the rebuilding process and Davis didn't want to let go of his boys. Now the Raiders still don't have a head coach, and Payton is back with the Dallas Cowboys. Life goes on except for the Raiders, as the search continues.

Streak:

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 12A

The 2-3 zone and 1-2-2 zones were particularly effective because the Panthers forced Austin Peay to shoot from the outside, and the Governors overall have only shot 30 percent over the course of the game from the outside.

"We prepared well all week to play the zone because we knew they don't shoot very well from the outside," Samuels said. "We knew we didn't have to panic early when they shot well from the outside to start the game. After that it did have an effect on how they played."

After the 12-point start in the first couple minutes of the first half, the Governors finished the first half with only 23 points, and trailed Eastern by one point.

The situation got even better for Eastern at the start of the second half, as the Panthers were able to make a run and at one point went up on Austin Peay by eight points.

But after the run and after guards Jake Sinclair and Emanuel Dildy cooled off, the Governors were able to go on a 14-2 run that put Eastern out of the game.

The Austin Peay effort was focused on the play of inside players Josh Lewis and Adrien Henning.

Lewis especially had an impact on the game because of how well he played on both ends of the court.

Sparking the run, Lewis blocked a shot on a Cortez Forte layup attempt that led to a breakaway dunk for Anthony Davis.

*"If we are going to make a move in conference, we are going to have to be successful as soon as we can."*

-Rick Samuels, head coach

The very next play Davis put momentum even more in the Governors' favor when he stole the ball, made the layup and also made the foul shot after he was fouled in the process by junior guard Derik Hollyfield.

Those two buckets from Davis reduced the Panther's lead to only one point, and was the beginning of the Governor's run that basically ended the game.

"Right now we just don't have enough consistent scorers," Samuels said. "Dildy and Gomes both played well tonight, but after Josh gets tired we don't have somebody to step up."

The lack of a consistent play has been the case so far this season as the Panthers have won only one conference game in five attempts.

"Right now is a critical time for us," Samuels said. "If we are going to make a move in conference, we are going to have to be successful as soon as we can."

Never:

## The Lady Gobs had not lost at Dunn Center since end of 2002 season

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 12A

The Panthers were eight of nine from the charity stripe most of the conversions by true freshman Megan Scaggs down the stretch. Scaggs ended with nine points, five rebounds and three steals.

"Megan (Scaggs) is so mentally tough," Wunder said. "She thinks about winning and will do what it takes for team to win."

The foul shooting along with only three second half turnovers carried the Panthers to Eastern head coach Wunder was not prepared to declare Thursday night as a turnaround point for her team but at nearly .500 in conference, the Panthers are right back in the OVC pack.

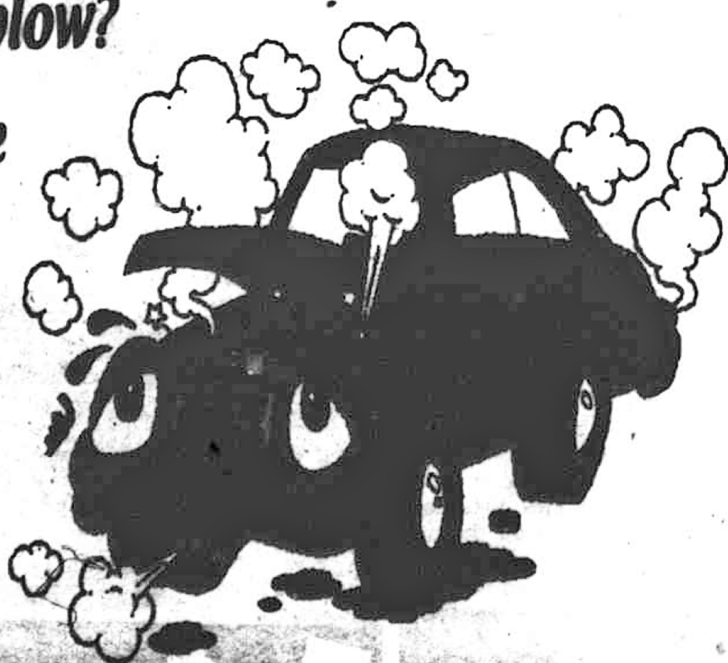
"It's a little early to stay that," Wunder said. "This is certainly a confidence builder for this team and who knows what could happen for here on?"

Eastern will attempt to stay undefeated in conference as the team travels to Cookeville, Tenn. Saturday evening.

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Thank you to the Old Executive Board for a job well done

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## Panther sports calendar

SATURDAY	EIU Mega Meet	TBA	Lantz
	Swimming at Valparaiso	1:00 p.m.	
	W Basketball at Tenn. Tech	5:30 p.m.	
	M Basketball at Tenn. Tech	7:30 p.m.	

## WOMEN'S BASKETBALL

EASTERN 72, AUSTIN PEAY 71

# Panthers never say never

◆ Women ended Austin Peay's 26-game Ohio Valley Conference winning streak

By Matthew Stevens  
SPORTS EDITOR

In what could be considered the biggest upset at Eastern during the Linda Wunder era, the Panthers get a victory against a perennial conference foe.

Wunder, Eastern's head coach, had never beaten the Lady Govs while at Eastern but came in wanting to get a win for her seniors.

"I don't need to tell you that I'm a little excited about this one," Wunder said. "I'm proud of my team. They never quit, never gave up and kept their composure throughout."

Eastern stopped Austin Peay's 26-game Ohio Valley Conference winning streak with a 72-71 victory Thursday.

The Lady Govs (10-6, 4-1) hadn't lost at the Dunn Center since the end of the 2002 season.

"One of the best wins we've ever had," Wunder said. "If you take into account we did it, we played fantastic."

Senior center Pam O'Connor led the Panthers with 20 points in the contest in a highly contested battle with Austin Peay low post threat Gerlonda Hardin. The Panther front line was a big reason Eastern out rebounded the Lady Govs 46-40. Hardin finished the evening with 21 points and 13 rebounds but got crucial fouls in the second half which left her vulnerable on defense.

Freshman point guard Megan Casad had a career-high 13 points and eight rebounds. More importantly, the Bloomington, Ind. native played 35 minutes and committed only one turnover.

The Panthers (5-11, 2-3) stayed close the entire game not getting down by double figures in the second half. Eastern went on a 15-7 run to take a two-point lead.

Ironically, it was a player who had resided in Wunder's doghouse during the conference season. Sophomore Megan Sparks had been taken out of the starting lineup for the last couple of contest but came off the bench to inspire the Panthers late in this win.

Sparks led a two-on-one fast break giving Eastern its second lead of the contest at 66-64. The Mattoon, Ill. native summed up the courage to hit the crucial shot of the game when she hit a three-pointer with 33 seconds left to give Eastern the lead for good.

"Megan did a really good job on both ends of the floor," Wunder said. "She certainly wasn't afraid to step up and take that three."

After coming off a 30-point victory at home against Tennessee State, Wunder felt her crew was more focused against the Lady Govs.

"We seemed to have a different mind set tonight like no matter what happened we knew we could win," Wunder said.



DAILY EASTERN NEWS PHOTO BY STEPHEN HAAS

Eastern sophomore guard Megan Sparks scored 11 points off the bench, including a game winning three pointer with 33 seconds left to lift the Panthers to a 72-71 win Thursday.

SEE NEVER ◆ Page 11A

## MEN'S BASKETBALL

EASTERN 57, AUSTIN PEAY 64

# Men continue losing streak

By Aaron Seidlitz  
SPORTS REPORTER

The Panthers four game road trip began Thursday night at Austin Peay, and Eastern came out on the losing end for the fourth straight game in Ohio Valley Conference play.

In a game Eastern head coach Rick Samuels thought would be a refreshed and more effective effort from his squad, the OVC leading Governors pulled away from the Panthers in the final minutes of the second half.

The final 20 minutes, which proved to be when the Panthers stumbled once again, was dominated by Austin Peay who outscored Eastern 41-33 led to a 64-57 win.

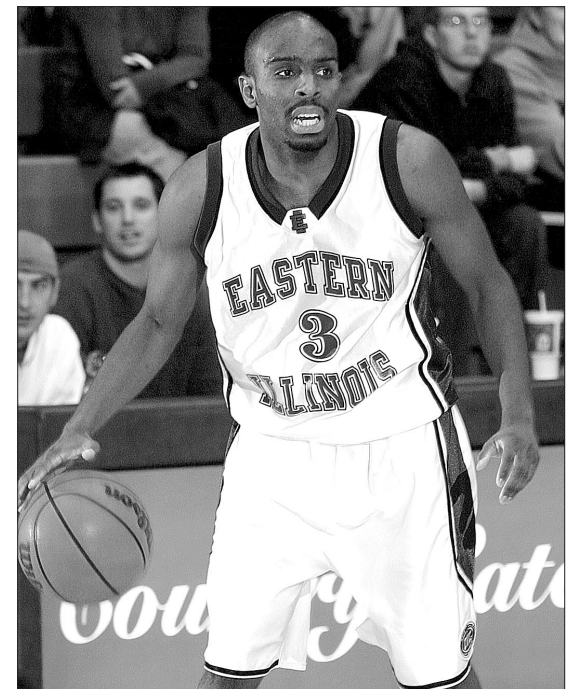
Once again the Panthers led at halftime

24-23, but Eastern could not hold onto the lead as Austin Peay managed to shoot well when it mattered the most.

The Governors started off the game hot and after hitting their first five shots from the field, Austin Peay held a 12-3 lead. They also shot well in the final 10 minutes of the game after going through a long drought that allowed Eastern to build up a lead.

After the Governors started the game off well, Eastern continued to shift between two different types of zone and man-to-man on the defensive side of the ball.

SEE STREAK ◆ Page 11A



DAILY EASTERN NEWS PHOTO BY STEPHEN HAAS

Junior guard Emanuel Dildy scored 11 points on 4-7 shooting in Eastern's 64-57 loss Thursday.



## BALL FOUR

John Hohenadel  
SPORTS REPORTER

## Follow the Payton trail to coaching

In the last couple days Eastern alum, Sean Payton, went from Dallas Cowboys assistant head coach/quarterback coach to allegedly being offered the head coach position of the Oakland Raiders back to being the assistant head coach/quarterback coach of the Cowboys.

Let's iron all this out and put it to rest once and for all.

In order to get to the bottom of all this I feel it necessary to give a quick overview of the last two days.

### Tuesday

According to *The Dallas Morning News* and ESPN, Dallas Cowboys assistant head coach Sean Payton has agreed in principle to become the head coach of the Oakland Raiders Tuesday.

Payton is expected to sign a four-year deal worth between \$1.3 to \$1.5 million a year.

The Raiders are not confirming the hire but have scheduled a press conference Thursday where it's expected they will name its head coach.

It seemed as though Payton was set to become the youngest head coach in the NFL. However football is a game of inches and I guess that applies even to the hiring of new coaches. For the Oakland head coaching job was inches from Payton's grasp when it all fell apart.

### Wednesday

Sources have confirmed Payton has declined the job offer from the Raiders and will return to his position with the Dallas Cowboys as assistant head coach/quarterback coach along with a contract extension and a pay raise.

"I don't know where this got started," Davis said in a press conference Wednesday.

"There will be a time period before a coach will be hired."

The Raiders' public relations department confirmed no press conference is scheduled for Thursday.

Today's news on the Payton situation may come as a surprise.

Sources have confirmed Davis did offer Payton the reported four-year \$1.3 to \$1.5 million deal.

The deal was offered but then un-offered for what reason you ask?

The same source who confirmed the deal was offered also stated the reason the deal was not accepted by Payton. The reason was Payton and Davis didn't see eye to eye on some personnel issues.

The source said Payton wanted to begin the rebuilding process of the Raiders after their dismal 4-12 2003 season which included blowing up the current team.

SEE HOHENADEL ◆ Page 11A

# Venues

**REVIEW THIS**  
 WWE's "Originals"  
 can't get much  
 worse

Proving once and for all that no  
 wrestler has any business quitting his  
 or her respective day job.  
 Page 8B

Grade: D

## THE Campaign FOR Better Health Care

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◆ Six local bands and artists set to play at the first ever "Chili Jam," to be held at Roc's on the Charleston Square Sunday.

See story, Page 2B



**ADVICE COLUMN...**

Dan and Holly answer the never ending question, "To be, or not to be ... greek?"

◆  
 Page 2B

**FEATURE**

St. Louis rockers sullen and local punks Saltwater Vampires return to Charleston Saturday.

◆  
 Page 5B

**DVD REVIEWS**

New Line Cinema's "Freddy Vs. Jason" polishes up a sub-par horror romp with loads of extras.

◆  
 Page 8B

**CONCERT CALENDAR**

The Rural Kings, Saltwater Vampires, Twista and more in upcoming shows.

◆  
 Page 8B

ADVICE COLUMN

# To greek or not to greek?



**Dan Valenziano**  
Verge editor

He also is a junior journalism major.

He can be reached at 581-2812 or staple82dan@hotmail.com

Dear *Verge*:

I am a sophomore who is curious about whether or not Greek life is right for me. My parents pressure me to join a sorority because they want me to "get the most out of college," and I have a small group of friends. I overheard that some sororities are having informal rush right now, but all my friends are very political, artistic people who detest greeks. I didn't go through fall rush because it was too much pressure, and my friends would antagonize me. How do I find out for myself if I'm really meant to be a "sorority girl," without alienating my non-Greek friends or compromising myself?

Sincerely,  
Independent in Limbo

**He said:**

Just because you want to check out Greek life doesn't mean you want to replace your old friends with new ones. If you have a small, tight group of friends, very little will come between you. I've been a member of Sigma Phi Epsilon for two years now, and I still have a lot of friends who aren't in the Greek community. If your friends are truly friends, they won't be bothered that you want to try something that might broaden your horizons.

Maybe it'll end up that you don't like the Greek life, and maybe you will. But either way, your friends will still be your friends.

I will tell you this - being Greek has been a great experience for me. I've met some of the most fun and interesting people I've know because I joined a fraternity. I've made bonds and friendships that I'm sure will continue all my life. Some people scoff at the Greek system, but it does a lot for this campus, this community and those involved.

If you're at all curious, I think you should definitely rush. College is all about trying new things. If you don't like it, fine. But if you do, I'm sure your friends will understand. Just make sure you don't make the mistake of forgetting those who have always been there for you.

**She said:**  
First of all, don't let your parents pressure

you socially. You are in college now, and even though they mean well, they have no business trying to pick your friends. You can still get the most out of college without going Greek.

On the other hand, your political, artistic friends are entitled to their opinions about Greeks and non-Greeks. Your friends may have had bad experiences with Greeks or may judge them on face value.

There are many Recognized Student Organizations to choose from if you want to get the most out of college. Art groups, political groups, sports groups, music groups, film clubs - the possibilities are endless. You could even start your own group if you can't find one that fits or if you decide Greek life isn't for you.

If you are interested in sororities, though, you should check it out. You'll never know unless you get information.

I have had a great time in college without joining a sorority. I have made terrific friends and learned a lot about people through RSOs. But I have also made friends from all walks of life, including Greeks and non-Greeks. True friends appreciate you for being unique, not because you follow their guidelines for life.

The best way to have a productive college experience is to try new things and don't let your friends and family hamper your interests. It won't really matter what your parents or friends thought after you have completed college. What will matter is how you spent your time. You can do what others think you should do, or do what you really want to do.

### An advice column success story

Dear *Verge*,

That you so much for the advice! I asked one of our mutual friends to talk to him and feel the situation out. About two hours later, he called me asking if I wanted to go grab something to eat and watch a movie. I think your advice was FANTASTIC and I love how I get a girl's perspective along with a guy's advice. Point blank, YOU GUYS ROCK! Thanks again!

-On Top of the World (formerly known as "Hiding Under a Rock")



**Holly Henschen**  
Associate *Verge* editor

She also is a senior political science and journalism major.



PREDICTIONS

PHOTO ILLUSTRATION BY DAN VALENZIANO

The all-knowing magic eight ball.

## Magic 8 ball predictions: 2004 sex symbols edition

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| <p><b>1. 2004 sex symbol:</b> NBC Late Night host Conan O'Brian<br/><b>Magic 8-Ball says:</b> Outlook Good</p>            | <p><b>5. 2004 sex symbol:</b> Martha Stewart<br/><b>Magic 8-Ball says:</b> Don't Count on It</p>   |
| <p><b>2. 2004 sex symbol:</b> Comedy Central's "The Daily Show" host Jon Stewart<br/><b>Magic 8-Ball says:</b> Yes</p>    | <p><b>6. 2004 sex symbol:</b> the Rev. Al Sharpton (when asked later)<br/><b>Magic 8 Ball says:</b> It is Certain</p>                              |
| <p><b>3. 2004 sex symbol:</b> National Security Advisor Condoleeza Rice<br/><b>Magic 8-ball says:</b> Ask Again Later</p> | <p><b>7. 2004 sex symbol:</b> US National Security Advisor Condoleeza Rice (when asked later)<br/><b>Magic 8 Ball says:</b> You May Rely on It</p> |
| <p><b>4. 2004 sex symbol:</b> the Rev. Al Sharpton<br/><b>Magic 8-Ball says:</b> Reply Hazy -Try Again</p>                | <p><b>8. 2004 sex symbol:</b> Avril Lavigne<br/><b>Magic 8 Ball says:</b> Who in the Hell is That?</p>   |

## UB's got movies

By Dan Valenziano  
VERGE EDITOR

Psst ... there's free movies to be seen on campus. Almost every Saturday, the University Board shows free films in Buzzard Hall.

Margie Tucker, graduate assistant for the UB in charge of movies, said the UB gets its films from a company called Swank Motion Pictures Inc., most of which are on VHS tapes.

Tucker said the UB prefers using VHS rather than film form because there is less of a chance that something will go wrong.

"Pretty much, we've realized that certain companies use film," she said.

Tucker said the UB will show 13 movies over the course of the semester, including those already shown.

Each movie costs about \$650, Tucker said, including shipping charges.

"The costs are pretty much the same," she said. "We order the movies at the same time so we get pretty much a block price."

Tucker said the movie coordinator and committee "try to pick (movies) that are going to be the biggest hits."

She said about 100 students attend the shows, which occur at 5 p.m. and 8 p.m. in the Buzzard Hall Auditorium.

The position of UB movie coordinator has recently been vacated.

"This is the first week we've been without a coordinator," she said.

### Upcoming UB movies

- ♦ Jan. 24 - "Matchstick Men"
- ♦ Jan. 31 - "SWAT"
- ♦ Feb. 9 - "Under the Tuscan Sun"
- ♦ Feb. 21 - "Harlem Nights"

Although applications for the position are not yet available, Tucker said they will be very soon.

"We'll probably start interviewing in a couple weeks," she said. "We try to get it done as soon as possible."

Tucker said the UB wants someone who "has a lot of knowledge of movies."

The coordinator would be required to be at the movie showings from about 4 p.m. to 10 p.m. on the Saturdays they are shown.

"They have to attend UB meetings on Tuesday night," Tucker said, "and meetings with their graduate adviser."

When applications for the position become available, they can be picked up in the Student Activities Center, located on the second floor of the Martin Luther King Jr. University Union.

Tucker said the UB movie committee isn't in need of more members but it is "always open to more people if they'd like to join."

For more information call the Student Life Office at 581-3117.

## Does your life blow?

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# Got chili ... and music? Now you do

By Dan Valenziano  
VERGE EDITOR

Grab a spoon and dig into some Chili Jam. The event, to be held at Roc's Sunday, will feature all-you-can-eat chili and performances by Motherlode, Steve Allen's Miscellaneous Jubilee Jam Band, The Rural Kings, Reverend Robert, Wollen-Danners and John Elder.

Patrons will be charged \$10 for adults and \$5 for children. All proceeds from the event will benefit the East Central Illinois Committee, a local healthcare consumer group. The ECIC, which is part of the Campaign for Better Health Care, meets monthly in Charleston and strives to identify and address the specific health care needs of the community.

A raffle, silent auction and a bake sale at the event will also raise money for the cause.

Mike Knoop, owner of Roc's, said he decided to have the event because he knew everybody involved and agreed with the cause.

"Everybody deserves health care," he said.

However, the event wasn't actually Knoop's idea.

He said Becky Spoon, a member of the ECIC, came up with the idea to hold the event.

Spoon said her group is campaigning for the passage of the Health Care Justice Act. According to the CBHC Web site, the

*"What we have are runaway (health insurance) costs with absolutely nothing stopping them. The insurance industry has managed to make universal health care into this big boogie man that scares everybody."*

—Becky Spoon, member of the East Central Illinois Committee

Health Care justice act is a "process plan to achieve universal health care."

"It is not one specific plan to achieve universal health care. The effective date for implementation of this Act will be July 1st, 2004. It requires the creation of a Health Care Task Force within 30 days of its enactment to oversee the gathering of public input and recommendations for a universal access health care plan. The Act does not mandate one plan over another plan, but develops a process to assess which plan or plans would work for the State of Illinois. The plan or plans debated and implemented may deal with those currently uninsured

and/or other Illinois populations. The Task Force will operate under the Illinois Department of Public Health. On or before July 1, 2007 the State of Illinois shall implement a plan to provide access to health care."

Spoon explained her organization's reason for supporting the act.

"What we have are runaway (health insurance) costs with absolutely nothing stopping them," she said. "The insurance industry has managed to make universal health care into this big boogie man that scares everybody."

Spoon said there is enough money at the state level to provide universal healthcare.

"It's not the money, it's the political will that we lack," said Spoon.

A similar plan passed the Illinois State House of Representatives and missed passing in the Illinois State Senate by one vote last year.

"The system we have is unaffordable and unsustainable," Spoon said. "Medical bills are the primary cause of bankruptcy in Illinois."

Spoon said the money received from the Chili Jam will be used for mailings to inform the public on state healthcare issues.

Knoop said he is hopeful that attendance will be high.

"I think there'll be quite a lot of people here," he said. "There's really not much else to do on a Sunday and we'll have a real wide variety of music. Come on out and support

## More on the Web

Campaign for Better Health Care:  
[www.cbhconline.org](http://www.cbhconline.org)

health care."

Wendy Meyer, rhythm guitarist for Motherlode, said she was happy to be playing at the event.

"Absolutely, we support (the CBHC)," she said.

"Of course we would like healthcare to be affordable to everybody. We all have family members or friends who don't have health care because it's unaffordable."

Meyer said she had another reason to be excited about the show.

"I'm very excited about it due to the cause and also, I miss hearing (band mate Gaye Harrison) play violin," she said.

Harrison was recently involved in an accident which led to the partial amputation of one of her fingers.

Because of Harrison's injury, Meyer said the band hasn't played much lately.

Knoop said this may not be the only Chili Jam at Roc's.

"We'll see how it goes and we'll see how organization holds up," Knoop said. "Healthcare is a very serious thing."

Roc's is located at 410 Sixth St., on the square in Charleston.



Band members of The Rural Kings



Band members of Motherlode

**UNIVERSITY ADMISSION TO TEACHER EDUCATION MEETING**

Students must attend a meeting to formally apply for University to Teacher Education and to initiate the selection process. Students who have not previously applied must attend a meeting. The following meetings are available Spring 2004 semester to initiate the selection process:

Monday, January 26, 2004	5 - 5:50 p.m.	1501 Buzzard Hall
Monday, February 23, 2004	6 - 6:50 p.m.	1501 Buzzard Hall
Tuesday, March 23, 2004	1 - 1:50 p.m.	1501 Buzzard Hall
Tuesday, April 6, 2004	6 - 6:50 p.m.	1501 Buzzard Hall
Monday, April 19, 2004	2 - 2:50 p.m.	1501 Buzzard Hall

*Registration is not required*

The next opportunity to initiate the selection process and apply for University Admission to Teacher Education will be during the Summer Semester, 2004.

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# School of Rock

♦Charleston band *The Rural Kings* is composed of two Eastern professors, a graduate student and two alums.

By Holly Henschen  
ASSOCIATE VERGE EDITOR  
PHOTOS BY DAN VALENZIANO

Imagine your professor playing in a band. Now imagine being in a band with your professor. For five members of extended Eastern community, this stretch of the imagination is reality.

Charleston's mix of college town and farming community has given birth to *The Rural Kings*, a self-described roadhouse rock group composed of two Eastern professors, a graduate student, an alum who teaches at Lakeland Community College and an ex-student who graduated last semester.

The lifestyles of *The Rural Kings* may not be identical or even similar, but the age difference in the band is not apparent in their self-described "roadhouse rock" sound.

"I don't feel it (the age difference) a bit," Bob Zordani said about the band's generation gap.

"Fortunately, Bob and I are so immature, we fit in," Marty Scott said.

Guitarist and Eastern English professor Scott described the band: "Bob (harmonica and vocals) and I are poets and essayists and professors, Jeff (Aranowski, guitar) is a teacher (at Lakeland and Parkland Community Colleges) and a political scientist, Kevin (Farrell, bass) is working on his psychology Masters.

"And Scotty (Ducar, drums), well, Scotty, he has a degree in sociology."

The *Rural Kings* practice in Zordani's "Jesus Room" in his house on 10th street. The room is festooned wall-to-wall with crucifixes, statues and dramatic Christian art. The worn off-white walls sharply contrast the shiny black and silver of amplifiers, quarter-inch cables and microphone stands.

The *Rural Kings*' age differences do show, though, in their musical influences. Ducar, the youngest member at 22, claims allegiance to Black Flag, while 45-year-old Scott said Neil Young and old blues contributed to his style. Between those two extremes are Black Sabbath, credited by Farrell; Allman Brothers, Aranowski's pick; and more old blues influences from Zordani.

"It's blues-fazed rock-n-roll with a touch of country and a



Lead guitarist Jeff Aranowski plays a solo as bassist Kevin Farrell lays down the bass line.

touch of folk," Zordani said of the band's music.

As for their namesake retail outlet, *The Rural Kings* are proud supporters. Scott said he shops for home improvement supplies there.

"I love that place!" Zordani said. "I bought a riding lawnmower there and a Rototiller."

The manager of a nearby *Rural King* enjoys the band and

even provided the group with *Rural King* hats, Zordani said.

The band formation began when Scott and Zordani played acoustic shows last spring. Over the summer, Zordani invited everyone else to play, he said. *The Rural Kings* were familiar with each other as Charleston residents.

But the members are no strangers to Charleston musical groups.

Zordani was in *Uncle Filthy* and the *Cub Scouts* (he was the uncle) and the *Charleston Sound Machine*. Farrell was in *Baked Alaska* and *Broken Handle* with Aranowski, who also was in *Dead Sea Squirrels*. Ducar drummed for instrumental surf band *Hit Gone Bad*.

The easy cohesion of such varying campus members can mostly be traced to the university.

Zordani taught Ducar in English 1001 and 1002.

"He was a great student first semester. Second semester he slacked like a pig and I gave him a C," Zordani said.

But musicians seem to gravitate toward one another.

"It just came up in class. Music always comes up," Zordani said.

Ducar remembers writing that he played drums in a compare and contrast paper for Zordani's class.

"We just became friends from his first semester freshman year," Zordani said.

The *Rural Kings*' songs mix elements of their life experiences with leanings toward their aforementioned musical influences.

"Marty's prolific. He either brings in old songs or writes new ones," said Zordani.

"Some of our standout songs I write with Jeff, or with Kevin, too," Scott said.

He has mixed content from the Bible as Literature class he teaches into a song called "Bible Belt."

"It's about the violence organized religion can do to people's souls and the violence substance addictions can do as well (sex, drugs and rock and roll)," Marty said. "So there's no resolution in the song except disappointment."

The *Rural Kings* also fuse a church hymn with a traditional folk tune. As Scott sings the well-known "Amazing Grace," the band plays "House of the Rising Sun."

Currently, Zordani said, they stick to playing in Charleston but plan to play in Tuscola and Champaign.

The *Rural Kings* have performed at *The Uptowner* and *Friends and Co*.

In addition to playing at Campaign for Better Health Care Chili Jam at Top of the Roc Sunday, they headline Friday at *Friends with The Rumble Shack Orchestra*.



The *Rural Kings*, (counterclockwise from right) Marty Scott, Scotty Ducar and Jeff Aranowski, practice in harmonica player Bob Zordani's "Jesus Room."



Bob Zordani (harmonica, vocals) signs backup for lead singer and fellow English professor Marty Scott.

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SAT SUN MAT 1:00

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7:00, 10:00 SAT SUN MAT 1:15

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7:15, 9:30 SAT SUN MAT 2:00

**COLD MOUNTAIN (R)** DAILY 8:00

**LOVE ACTUALLY (R)** DAILY 6:50, 9:45

**TEACHER'S PET** (PG) DAILY 5:00  
SAT SUN MAT 2:15

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SAT SUN MAT 2:45

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# Sullen, Saltwater Vampires return to Charleston

By Ben Erwin  
STAFF WRITER

Saturday marks a homecoming of sorts for a beloved local act as well as the return of one of St. Louis' prominent rock acts, as Friends & Co. welcomes veterans Sullen alongside area favorites Saltwater Vampires.

Comprised of guitarists/vocalists Justin Slazinik and Shanna Kiels, along with drummer Scott Freman, Sullen has slogged its way through clubs around the country for years. But the band was first noticed regionally after a chance meeting at one of its first St. Louis shows.

The seemingly innocuous gig at the now defunct St. Louis venue The Karma served to jump-started the group's career.

"We had been calling all clubs and we begged for them to put us on," Kiel said. "It was cool to see people lined up around the block just to see a show." It was here Sullen befriended Chicago's Local H, and the Zion natives quickly took a shining to the trio.

The group was so impressed with Sullen, a stint as an opening act quickly followed for the St. Louis natives. It was during this period Sullen was attracting the buzz that would lead to an eventual signing with Chicago indie powerhouse Thick Records.

"I still don't know how they



PHOTO COURTESY OF SALTWATERVAMPIRES.COM

Cumberland County natives Saltwater Vampires will open for Sullen Saturday night at Friends & Co.

(Thick) heard of us. Touring with Local H got our name out there, and Scott (Lucas, lead singer of Local H) was helping us, and labels started courting us a little," Kiels said.

It was during these meetings, however, the band realized being "wined and dined" by bigger labels simply wasn't fitting. Only after meeting in the offices of Thick Records in Chicago did Kiels say she felt right about a label.

"I guess we were just more com-

fortable talking over a can of beer than being taken out for sushi in L.A.," she laughed.

Sullen's debut for Thick, "Paint the Moon," was met with positive reviews and the band continued touring throughout the Midwest and around the country. Since the release of "Moon," the group has consistently toured, though Kiel said the group has been busy recording demos and preparing for another Thick release.

The show's openers, Cumberland County natives

Saltwater Vampires, finally return to Charleston after months of touring.

The group – comprised of Travis Shoot on guitar and vocals, Lance Shoots on bass and vocals and Chris James on drums – began more than two years ago as a backlash to a local scene the group's members thought was too bland.

"None of us really liked the music that anyone else was playing," Shoot said previously. "I started writing. And then, basically, I had four songs and Chris had

one, so we decided to play those and learn a few covers."

The band then spread its name by opening for the likes of The Arrivals, The Tossers, Ohio River Rats and a slew of more established groups. Saltwater Vampires also have received a myriad of positive press from "MAXIMUM-ROCKANDROLL" and "Impact Press" among others.

The band has built its impressive reputation on the strength of frenetic live shows and won over a small legion of fans locally by tirelessly touring.

Saltwater Vampires may have been away from Charleston for some time, but it appears little has changed for the rockers.

"We're still the champions of the Midwest. We're still poor. We're still drunk," the group's Web site proudly proclaims.

Kiel, likewise, is optimistic for Sullen's return. "We did well enough last time to come back and any return show is a good one."

As for the show itself, Kiel only confirmed the entropic nature of any good rock show.

"I think we are a car crash on stage," she said. "Some people love it and some people hate it, but they'll love to watch it. We just love playing and it gets better every time."

The car crash begins at 10 p.m. with a \$3 cover.

## Fire bad! Pilot order good!

(AP) –He's alive!

Martin Scorsese and author Dean Koontz are teaming up with helmer Marcus Nispel and producer Tony Krantz to resurrect Dr. Frankenstein and his monster as a weekly series for USA Network.

Cabler has greenlit production on an update of the Mary Shelley classic with a contemporary twist, ordering a two-hour pilot and four scripts of the project. USA won't formally greenlight production on the four episodes until after filming of the pilot starts, though all involved are proceeding as if "Frankenstein" will launch as an event series, most likely this fall.

Scorsese, Koontz and Krantz ("24," "Felicity") will exec produce "Frankenstein," to be helmed by Nispel, who directed the recent remake of "Texas Chainsaw Massacre." While Krantz's Flame Television is based at Warner Bros. TV, studio won't be producing this project. Conversations with several other potential studios are already under way.

In a rare move, Koontz actually wrote the pilot on spec before pitching it to nets. He and Krantz both wanted to maintain as much independence during the development process as possible.

Scorsese, who's been looking to get more involved in TV, then came on board. "Frankenstein" is

expected to be the producer/helmer's first on-air foray into scripted series television; he produced a nonfiction PBS miniseries on the blues last fall.

Casting will start next week for a mid-April production start date.

"It's amazing to have this creative team in the same room, let alone working for us on a project of this scope," said USA exec VP of programming Jeff Wachtel. "I have always loved the idea of rethinking classic stories as contemporary 'urban myths' and we are thrilled that Frankenstein will come to life in the hands of these gifted artists."

The series picks up in present-day Seattle, where doctor Victor Frankenstein and his creature reside, having survived the past two centuries through the doctor's genetic tinkering. Their story is augmented with that of a female cop and her partner who, through a seemingly standard homicide investigation, unravel the myth of Frankenstein.

Skein will have close-ended elements thanks to the cop franchise, which envisions the original Frankenstein monster teaming up with the cops to battle both Dr. Frankenstein and his small army of genetic freaks. Krantz said Victor Frankenstein will be "as interesting a villain as there is on television." (VARIETY)

## Hidden musical tracks no longer a novelty

While browsing through CDs last week, I noticed Simple Plan's "No Pads, No Helmets ... Just Balls." I wasn't interested in it at all; it just happened to fall before Slayer in the alphabetized selection. Nonetheless, a bright yellow sticker on the Simple Plan CD announced "Surprise Hidden Track!"

Now what is that? How can a track be a surprise or hidden if you are expecting it because a promotional sticker markets it on the cover?

I remember the first time I heard a *real* hidden track. It was 1993. I was 11 years old and sleeping over at my friend Carrie's house. After the usual teenage slumber party of painting our nails, watching movies and reading YM magazine, we popped in a CD and talked until we exhaustedly fell asleep.

But what we awoke to was the most grating, abrasive marvelous noise I had ever heard. Unintelligible screaming and guitar distortion from hell that broke to a drugged-out sounding melody and nasal crooning forced me to jolt out of my sleeping bag and made Carrie run to flip on the light switch.

We were listening to Nirvana's 1992 major-label debut, the now historic "Nevermind." The song was "Endless, Nameless." There may have been hidden tracks before it, but until that night I had never heard one. And I think it changed my life.

I searched for a hidden track on every CD I bought for years after that. In 1992 I found one on Nine Inch Nails' "Broken" – a cover of Adam and the Ants' "(You're So) Physical," as well as another on Green Day's 1994 "Dookie. In the same year, Stone Temple Pilots' "Purple" had a great ditty rounding out its twelve gracious melodies.

Tool has had some great hidden tracks with questionable meanings throughout the years. The last track on 1992's "Opiate" details an encounter with a friend who embarks on a new chemical adventure. The hidden song on 1994's "Undertow" may be mocking vege-



### NEWSERTAINMENT

By Holly Henschen  
ASSOCIATE VERGE EDITOR

tarianism, as Maynard James Keenan testifies that he talks to carrots who are frightened of death.

"Tomorrow is harvest day," they told him, "But for them, it is the Holocaust." But he obviously doesn't pity them too much, as he follows that speech by repeating "This ... is ... necessary." Tool's box set "Salival" contains a hidden track, which I found to be one of their best songs. I first thought it was called "Maynard's Dead," though I decline to name it. You'll have to check it out to see what I mean.

Another great hidden track is on Deftones on "Around the Fur" called "Damone."

Many bands jumped on the hidden bandwagon. Counting Crows, Everclear, Alanis Morissette, hed P.E., Incubus and countless others have albums with hidden tracks. Some bands even chose to extend the final track, only to showcase their reverb, distortion, mistakes or answering machine messages. What a waste. It almost seems mandatory these days to drag out your last song 5, 10 or even 20 minutes.

Most recently, Pearl Jam's "Lost Dogs" rarities and B-sides disc two saves a song called "4/20/02" for very last. It's about the death of Alice in Chains vocalist Layne Staley. Pearl Jam may have staggered this one to keep the memory of their friend from being exploited.

These days, most hidden tracks are marketable and expected, not like the buried treasure they used to be.

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# 'Butterfly Effect' overly gruesome

By CHRISTY LEMIRE

(AP) —Very few movies have made me want to get up from my seat and leave the theater. "The Butterfly Effect" is one of them.

And it's not even Ashton Kutcher's fault, though he's an easy target — the "Dude, Where's My Car?" dude asking to be taken seriously in a dramatic role.

Besides serving as one of the film's executive producers, he plays bearded, flannel-clad college student Evan Treborn, who goes back in time by reading his old journals in hopes of reversing his wretched childhood.

What Evan finds there is gratuitously disgusting: memories of molestation and brutal animal abuse, among the traumatic events that seem shocking for shock's sake. And because he returns to his past repeatedly, we're forced to watch all this over and over, with slightly varying results each time.

I kept hoping this would turn out to be one of Kutcher's elaborate "Punk'd" pranks — that the cameramen would pop out from behind the scenes, laughing, and that this attempt at drama/sci-fi/whatever would all be a joke on us.

It wasn't, but that reminds me — for fans of the MTV series, espe-

**"The Butterfly Effect"**  
Eric Bress and J. Mackye Gruber,  
directors

cially younger fans who deify Kutcher, "The Butterfly Effect" is probably inappropriate. It's certainly inappropriate for fans of film.

Kutcher himself isn't bad. Sporadically, the co-star of the Fox sitcom "That '70s Show" even shows glimmers of his trademark goofy enthusiasm — like when one of Evan's tinkering with time turns him into a frat boy, and he takes a sort of wild-eyed glee in hazing the pledges.

The title of the film, co-written and co-directed by Eric Bress and J. Mackye Gruber, comes from the chaos theory — that a butterfly could flap its wings in Brazil and cause a tornado in Texas.

Evan seems to have a similar effect when he reads the horrific details in his old diaries, which he kept to jog his memory after suffering chronic blackouts. His words jumble and jump off the page, then everything around him gets loud and chaotic, and poof!

He's back seven years ago, or 13 years ago.

He tries to save his longtime girlfriend, Kayleigh (Amy Smart), from her eventual suicide, his beleaguered mother (Melora Walters) from cancer and a childhood friend (Elden Henson) from a life of depression. Usually, though, his attempts at retroactive redemption lead to someone else's misfortune.

It's standard time-travel stuff — imagine "Time Bandits," without the dwarves or the twisted sense of humor (or the talent, come to think of it).

The film's philosophical and psychological twists won't leave much of a lasting effect.

What stuck with me was the scruffy of Evan's childhood dog, a scruffy white terrier, being placed in a burlap sack, tied up with rope, doused with lighter fluid, then set on fire. The whole sequence is totally unnecessary.

It's enough to make me want to flap my wings and go back in time before I saw "The Butterfly Effect."

"The Butterfly Effect," a New Line Cinema release, is rated R for violence, sexual content, language and brief drug use.

# 'Traffic' miniseries traces human side of global drug trafficking

NEW YORK (AP) — "Traffic" is proving to be one of the most durable entertainment formulas of our time.

In the beginning there was "Traffik," the 1989 British TV drama which tracked the passage of heroin and the lives it ruined along the way, from Pakistan's poppy fields to Britain's ruling classes. Then came 2000's "Traffic," Steven Soderbergh's big-screen version, which transplanted the action to the United States and Mexico and collected four Oscars.

Now cable's USA Network offers yet another update, a miniseries also called "Traffic," which takes us to post-9/11 Afghanistan and Seattle and adds new levels of human wickedness — terrorism and trafficking in illegal immigrants.

Despite being a retread of a retread, it works pretty well.

Like its predecessors, the version airing in two-hour chapters Monday through Wednesday (9 p.m. EST) depends on its ability to weave together disparate lives and cultures: the lawlessness of Afghanistan and the comforts of suburban Seattle; the glistening Seattle skyline and its drug-addled derelicts; a bankrupt garment factory and a moneymaking immigrant-smuggling business; a Chechen immigrant cab driver building his own American dream; a teen romance with the girl next door.

All are tied together by drugs, the traffic in immigrants, and worse.

Story line 1: Mike McKay (Elias Koteas) is a DEA field agent. He's

working to dismantle drug operations in Afghanistan while his wife Carole (Mary McCormack) and teenage son Tyler are settling into a new home.

Story line 2: Adam Kadyrov (Cliff Curtis) plies the streets of Seattle in his battered cab. He's anxiously waiting for his wife and daughter to arrive in a containerload of immigrants.

Story line 3: Ivy League business graduate Ben Edmonds (Balthazar Getty looking rather like Charlie Sheen in "Wall Street") is getting desperate for the good life. But his big real estate venture and his father's garment business are sliding into bankruptcy.

Bodies start surfacing in Puget Sound with bullet wounds in their necks — Kadyrov's wife and child are among them. The DEA's McKay embarks on mysterious business of his own, raising suspicions back at headquarters that he has "jumped the rails." And Edmonds succumbs to his greed and becomes ensnared in the immigrant business.

Now, here's the problem: how many times can you recycle the same themes (that drugs kill the innocent, that we are all vulnerable, and that the war on drugs — surprise, surprise — is futile)? These ideas felt new when "Traffik" first aired. Two versions later, they might be considered a bit stale, yet they're still powerful enough to keep the viewer on edge.

What made the original "Traffik" so convincing was its cast of largely unknown actors, most notably Jamal Shah in his towering portrayal of an honest Pakistani peasant whose dignity and family are disintegrating. The star-studded Soderbergh version couldn't possibly match its authentic feel. In this regard, at least, the new "Traffic" does better.

Koteas as loose-cannon McKay and Martin Donovan as his by-the-book partner breathe crackling life into an otherwise off-the-shelf cop pairing. Getty as the young hustler, McCormack as the stressed-out DEA wife and Nelson Lee as the sinister immigrant smuggler are persuasive. Justin Chatwin and Jennifer Rae Westley make a watchable, poignant teen couple.

Although the edifice of interwoven story lines seems to weaken somewhat near the end, the two central mysteries — McKay's one-man mission and those bodies in Puget Sound — sustain themselves to a satisfying resolution.

And be warned: The violence and corpses are graphic.

The previous versions of this story were brave enough not to preach or contrive happy endings. They left us in no doubt that all the bad things that have happened will happen again, and that the best we can hope for is to slow their advance. To its credit, the "Traffic" premiering this week also refuses to force-feed us with easy answers.

# Lonesome stranger scripts lead Writers Guild nominees

LOS ANGELES (AP) — Five movies about culture clashes and strangers in strange lands collected nominations Thursday for best original movie script from the Writers Guild of America.

Among the contenders for best original screenplay were "Bend It Like Beckham," about the daughter of a traditionalist Indian Sikh family in England who dreams of playing soccer; "Lost in Translation," with Bill Murray and Scarlett Johansson as lonely Americans in a Tokyo hotel; and "Dirty Pretty Things," about a Nigerian immigrant who uncovers grim dealings in London's underbelly.

The other nominees were "The Station Agent," about an embittered dwarf who makes friends despite trying to isolate himself, and "In America," director Jim Sheridan's semi-autobiographical tale of an Irish immigrant family struggling to survive in New York.

Sheridan collaborated on the screenplay with daughters Naomi, now 30, and Kirsten, 27.

"What father wouldn't be happy to be up there with his daughters?" he said Thursday. "This gets me so many brownie points with the family that it scares me."

He said he let his daughters do their own drafts of the script, "basically because I knew when the vanity and egocentricity of doing your own story is difficult. ... It was humbling. I would urge any parent to get their children to write a script about them."

In the category for best adapted screenplay, the true-life racehorse drama "Seabiscuit" and the J.R.R. Tolkien fantasy "The Lord of the Rings: The Return of the King" were picked to compete against "American Splendor," about comic book writer Harvey Pekar, and the novels-turned-movies "Cold Mountain" and "Mystic River."

"Seabiscuit" director Gary Ross, who adapted the screenplay from author Laura Hillenbrand's best-selling book, said he was grateful that other writers recognized his efforts to add a dramatic "spine" to the real-life story.

"It was such a famous and popular piece of history that it felt like a real challenge to make this a personal movie, which is the only way to move people," he said. "For me, it was about the interdependence of three people (jockey Red Pollard, trainer Tom Smith and owner Charles Howard) and how they pulled each other out of the depths of despair and crisis."

Television drama nominees included two episodes of "Law & Order: SVU," along with installments of "The West Wing," the original "Law & Order," "24" and the pilot episode of "The O.C."

Comedy show contenders were "Frasier," "Sex and the City" and two episodes of "Malcolm in the Middle," while "Late Night with Conan O'Brien," "Mad TV," "Real Time with Bill Maher" and the "Penn & Teller" urban-legend debunking show made up the nominees for best variety series writing.

Three episodes of "The Simpsons" dominated the animation script category, accompanied by "King of the Hill," "The Adventures of Jimmy Neutron, Boy Genius" and "Futurama."

# Plotting the details: Academy prepares for 'nominations eve'

BEVERLY HILLS, Calif. (AP) — 5:38:30 a.m. — that's the moment Hollywood hype turns hyperactive.

It's the precise time Tuesday morning when the 76th annual Academy Award nominations will be announced to the world, creating a frenzy among all who make movies, make money from movies or make time to see movies.

Almost a week before the clamor, a small army of behind-the-scenes men and women met in a shadowy theater on the third floor of the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences headquarters to plot the details of "nominations eve."

As the contenders are announced, big-time actors will eye the live television broadcast, hungry to hear their own names.

Then squads of publicists, managers, agents and stylists will scramble to get the nominees: a) attention, b) better scripts, c) bigger money and d) new outfits flashy enough to make People magazine, yet subdued enough to dodge snarking from E! carpet maven Joan Rivers.

Back at the studios, marketing executives will relaunch months-old movies with ad campaigns touting their nominations in a bid to spin hot Oscar buzz into cold box-office cash.

And it all starts at the Academy. On Wednesday afternoon, about 40 staffers gathered for a read-through that outlined where employees should be and what they'll be doing prior to the nominations.

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# Agent-turned-producer Ray Stark dead at 88

By the Associated Press

Ray Stark, one of the most forceful producers of the modern era, and an eminence grise behind the scenes of Hollywood for the better part of the last four decades, died early Saturday after a long illness. He was 88.

Stark was in some ways the archetypal showman of the era after the collapse of the "factory system" and one of the key purveyors of filmed entertainment from the late 1950s through the 1990s. His skills as a producer earned him the Irving Thalberg Award from the Academy of Motion Picture Arts & Sciences.

He helped turn actors like Julia Roberts ("Steel Magnolias") and Barbra Streisand ("Funny Girl") into stars and had a gift for making slick, well-crafted Hollywood films, ranging from "California Suite" to "Annie" to "The Goodbye Girl." Often, these films were directed by veterans like John Huston, Sydney Pollack and Herbert Ross -- the filmmakers of whom Stark was most fond.

But Stark was also a political player with an enormous relish for behind-the-scenes maneuvering, which once led a colleague to compare him with the great French political figure Cardinal Richelieu.

In a rare profile of Stark, Aljean Harmitz of the New York Times wrote: "His wit is legendary, and even his enemies describe him as 'brilliant' and 'charming,' but the word most often attached to his name is 'Byzantine.'"

Nowhere was this clearer than in the machinations surrounding the rise and fall of two Columbia Pictures chieftains, David Begelman and David Puttnam.

After Begelman -- a charming former agent who had become head of Columbia -- embezzled money from the studio in which Stark was a major shareholder, Stark tried to take over the studio, then conspired to oust a whole series of executives who weren't in favor with him, from Alan Hirschfeld to Norman Levy to Peter Guber. One executive spoke of the "shadow government" Stark ran at Columbia at the time.

Stark was also deeply involved in the histrionics surrounding Puttnam's brief regime more than a decade later. The producer of films like "Midnight Express" and "Chariots of Fire," Puttnam had been brought in by Columbia par-

ent Coca-Cola to transform the studio. He was an odd choice: a Hollywood outsider who had been a vociferous critic of the American film industry while in his native Great Britain.

As soon as he came to Hollywood, Puttnam found himself both courted and manipulated by Stark. When he refused to kowtow to Stark, according to biographer Andrew Yule, Puttnam quickly found Stark working against him with the Coca-Cola board. After a series of boxoffice failures, Puttnam was forced to resign.

Stark's behavior could run the gamut from flamboyant generosity to aggrieved carping. On one occasion, he took out full-page ads in both The Hollywood Reporter and Daily Variety lambasting the press for publishing unspecified innuendos -- an interesting move for a one-time newsman who entered the studio world as a publicist.

Another time, he hired a former Village Voice columnist to develop a slash-and-burn movie about film critics after many of them had slaughtered his pet project "Annie."

But he could also be a man of enormous charm and considerateness, showering gifts on acquaintances and friends alike. Well after one of his favorite directors had died, he continued to help the man's widow, spontaneously sending her an answering machine on one occasion when he discovered that she had no telephone service of her own.

Stark's interests ranged beyond Hollywood to an impressive art collection that included works by Henry Moore, Giacometti and Magritte, which he would frequently show visitors to his lavish Holmby Hills, Calif., home, once owned by Humphrey Bogart. Several of his paintings have been bequeathed to the Los Angeles County Museum of Art, of which he was a trustee.

He also invested in prizewinning horses, many of them named after his films or acquaintances. Thus "The World of Suzie Wong" was not only the name of the first picture Stark produced, but a cherished filly; and Margaret Booth, the film editor, became Margaret Booth, a favorite horse. Stark even took his passion for horses to the movies, with two horse-themed features, "Casey's

Shadow" and "Sylvester." He was named breeder of the year two years running in 1982 and 1983 by the California Thoroughbred Breeders Assn.

Stark was in some ways a mass of contradictions: a registered Democrat who befriended both blacklisted directors like Martin Ritt and Ronald and Nancy Reagan; a showman who seemed the very epitome of old-school Hollywood, who could nonetheless make such cutting-edge television product as HBO's "Barbarians at the Gate"; and an immensely loyal friend who could still be ruthless when dealing with anyone he considered an enemy.

His was a charmed life, but not without its difficulties. The 1970 suicide of his only son, Peter, at the age of 25, was devastating to Stark, who responded with characteristic generosity in funding the USC's Peter Stark Producers Program. And the 1992 loss of Stark's wife of 53 years, Frances Arnstein, daughter of the vaudeville comedian Fanny Brice, was also a terrible blow.

Born in 1917, Raymond Otto Stark went to Rutgers University, dropping out to study law at New York University while working a late shift as a copy boy with the New York Journal-American.

He abandoned both journalism and the law when he moved to Hollywood in 1938, initially taking a job as a florist at the Forest Lawn cemetery, then serving in the Warner Bros. publicity department and as West Coast editor for Fawcett Publications.

In 1940, Stark shifted gears to become an agent with the Irving Salkow Agency. Over the years, he would go from one agency to another, gathering clout and clients. In 1946, he formed the Levee-Stark Agency. Three years later, he joined Famous Artists Agency, where he remained until he became a movie executive in 1957.

While an agent, Stark represented or worked closely with such major names as Lana Turner, Ava Gardner, Marilyn Monroe, William Holden, Richard Burton, Kirk Douglas and others -- several of whom would star in his future film productions.

He also represented such top-notch writers as Raymond Chandler and Ben Hecht.

After failing to persuade Famous Artists' Charlie Feldman

to merge with another agency owned by Ted Ashley, Stark partnered with Eliot Hyman to create Seven Arts Prods. In 1961, Stark produced his first independent feature, "The World of Suzie Wong." He supervised more than 50 feature films, such as "West Side Story," "Anatomy of a Murder," "The Misfits," "The Roman Spring of Mrs. Stone," "Lolita," "Two for the Seesaw" and "Seven Days in May," while producing two films directed by John Huston: "Night of the Iguana" (1964), which starred Richard Burton, Ava Gardner and Deborah Kerr, and "Reflections in a Golden Eye" (1967), which starred Marlon Brando and Elizabeth Taylor.

It was the beginning of a four-decade career that would see him receive accolades like the Thalberg Award, the Producers Guild's David O. Selznick Award and several Golden Globes, though he was always thwarted in his desire to win a best picture Oscar.

Along the way, he made such well-known films "Summer Wishes, Winter Dreams," "Smoky and the Bandit," "The Toy," "Blue Thunder," "The Electric Horseman," "Revenge," "Steel Magnolias," "Peggy Sue Got Married," "Nothing in Common" and "Random Hearts."

He made eight pictures with Herbert Ross, five with Sydney Pollack and made multiple movies with actors like Jackie Gleason, Sean Connery, Robert Redford, Walter Matthau, Richard Dreyfuss and Jane Fonda.

Not all of these relationships were straightforward. James Bridges, the director of "The China Syndrome," said his two experiences with Stark were "crazed," while Harmitz reported that both Redford and Pollack "insisted on contracts that would keep him from taking away their creative control" on "The Electric Horseman." "Both felt so battered after 'The Way We Were' that they never wanted to work for him again," Harmitz wrote.

And yet, like so many others, they did. As one of them said, he simply had the best material and a wonderful way of getting it to the screen.

Perhaps Stark's two most important relationships were with playwright Neil Simon and Streisand.

Stark made 11 movies with Simon, among them "California Suite," "The Sunshine Boys," "The

Goodbye Girl," "The Cheap Detective," "Chapter Two," "Murder by Death" and "Biloxi Blues."

He first came across Streisand when he was making the stage musical "Funny Girl." The production was a labor of love for Stark, since it told the life story of his mother-in-law, Brice. But Stark couldn't seem to cast the main part. Reigning divas Carol Channing and Carol Burnett did not seem quite right; Anne Bancroft and Judy Garland had turned the part down; and Edie Gorme only wanted to star if her husband, Steve Lawrence, was in the cast.

In despair, Stark went out one evening to the Bon Soir club in New York and there saw Streisand. While Stark's wife, Fran, initially rebelled against the Streisand casting, what followed was two months on the road as the neophyte actress worked with directors Bob Fosse and Garson Kanin, before Jerome Robbins took over and the play became a Broadway smash. When Streisand played the role in the Columbia film (against the studio's wishes, needless to say), she not only won a best actress Oscar, she also got her producer a nomination for best picture.

Streisand subsequently worked with Stark on "The Owl and the Pussycat," "The Way We Were," "For Pete's Sake" and "Funny Lady."

Toward the end of his life, Stark had become somewhat less active, hindered by poor health and had teamed with other producers, including Dan Melnick and his son-in-law, John Morrissey. But the success of "Barbarians" and the star wattage involved in "Random Hearts," along with his involvement in Columbia's "Houdini," proved that he could remain a force right to the end.

Stark was both loved and reviled, admired and feared. But perhaps those are the qualities that make a great producer. He was part of a breed that seized the opportunity to put their stamp on the filmmaking world after titans like Louis B. Mayer and Sam Goldwyn had disappeared from the scene. And he did so not briefly but with a longevity and consistent success that remain almost unparalleled in modern Hollywood.



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# Horror titans cover tepid script with DVD extras

By Ben Erwin  
STAFF WRITER

Following over two decades of terror and covering nearly 20 films, Freddy Krueger and Jason Voorhees – the men collectively responsible for terrorizing Elm Street and Camp Crystal Lake respectively – finally received the opportunity to face off in a final, monolithic battle in “Freddy Vs. Jason.”

Made for a scant \$30 million, New Line Cinema's horror gamble paid off, as the film not only turned a bigger profit than any film in either franchise, but breathed new life into the ailing slasher genre. New Line's double-disc gives fans of “Friday the 13th” and “A Nightmare on Elm Street” series a beautiful presentation of a somewhat disappointing film.

The story here is relatively unimportant. It's the two icons who count in this film. After years in a purgatory, Krueger (Robert Englund) resurrects Voorhees (Ken Kirzinger) via a nightmare to rekindle memory of Krueger's former Elm Street carnage. When Voorhees refuses to return to Crystal Lake, however, the scene is set for one of the biggest standoffs in cinema history.

Any remaining plot points or character traits beyond this point are inconsequential or simply cliché. There's a requisite female heroine, a “nerd” who dies a hero, a few wry Krueger one-liners and a liberal dose of drunken, carousing teenagers marked for death. It's formulaic but effective.

Despite a lackluster script and broadly stroked characters, the film makes many subtle nods back to both franchises while creating a unique mythology encompassing both horror characters' legends. The plot leaves something to be desired, but references to the past like Krueger morphing through boiler metal, the use of hypnosis and the style of deaths proves New Line's heart was ultimately in the right place.

The DVD set offers insightful, entertaining commentary, 19 deleted scenes and a slew of featurettes offering a peek into how and why the film was made. New Line is known for elaborate DVD packages and “Freddy Vs. Jason” is among the best of them.

Horror is typically the proverbial redheaded stepchild of cinema, but this film is given the royal treatment with Dolby 5.1 surround sound, anamorphic widescreen format and beautiful color saturation.

All of the extras are fascinating or entertaining, and the set was obviously created with hardcore fans in mind but is pieced together simply enough for horror neophytes as well. The mythology and history of both films are treated with reverence as well as healthy sense of humor, while enveloping the viewing in a fanciful yet gory universe.

Horror fans have been salivating for this film since 1984 and the subsequent DVD is appropriately lush and sure to sate them. Soaked in blood and dripping with mythology, “Freddy Vs. Jason” finally honors horror fans with a DVD befitting their devotion and love of the genre.



“Freddy Vs. Jason”  
Director Ronny Yu  
Grade: B

“Originals” awful in every possible way

By Ben Erwin  
STAFF WRITER

World Wrestling Entertainment releases like 2001's “Forcible Entry” may have reached the top of the charts courtesy of tunes from the likes of Creed, Limp Bizkit and Motorhead, the company's latest release. The aptly titled

“WWE: Originals,” fares far worse as wrestlers provide “vocals” on 17 tracks that can only be described as mixed, at best.

I'm a fan of “sports entertainment” and deep down I wanted to find some nugget of worth on this album. But it simply makes any listener long for the days of celebrity singers like Don Johnson, Eddie Murphy, Rick Springfield or damn near anyone else. This proves once and for all no wrestler should ever quit his or her day job.

Comprised of 17 tracks, “Originals” spans the gamut of pathetically poor rapping, mediocre blue-eyed soul, a little tepid rock and a few tracks that have no business seeing the light of day. If the primary lesson of “Originals” is to not quit one's day job, the second lesson is that thick-necked honkeys have absolutely no business rapping. EVER.

The hip hop tracks like The Dudley Boyz's “We've Had Enough,” Booker T's “Can You Dig It?” and John Cena's “Basic Thugonomics” are all laughable to pointless at best. More rocking tunes fare a little better. Lita sounds as though she's channeling the spirit of Liz Phair on “When I Get You Alone.” “Stone Cold” Steve Austin's interludes may be silly, but they're not nearly as cringe-inducing as the rest of the record.

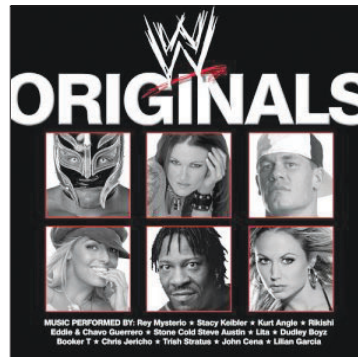
It's no surprise Chris Jericho actually gives the best and most convincing performance on the metallic “Don't You Wish You Were Me?” on which he simply gives the same performance he's given on the album's of his real band, Fozzy.

The performances may be sub-par, but the production, as it is on most of WWE's theme music and entrance themes, is excellent. The guitar riffs may be trite, the basslines may be a little tepid and the beats are cookie cutter, but some of the music still sounds much better than a lot of pop records currently being made.

WWE has tried this sort of pitch before and it didn't work then. It should be no surprise even to wrestling fans that it wouldn't work this time. If nothing else, “Originals” proves that even wrestlers don't take themselves

too seriously.

“Originals” can't be taken as anything more than it is: a marketing ploy to cash in on wrestling fans via marginal performances that are much sillier than they are stellar.



“WWE: Originals”  
Various Artists  
Grade: D

Zebrahead returns with mediocre, uninspired cookie cutter rock

By Ben Erwin  
STAFF WRITER

Somewhere there's a music executive at Sony maniacally stamping out tepid rap-rock with a giant steel cookie cutter fitted with the requisite backwards white baseball cap, lame Chinese symbol tattoos, prefaded jeans and surly middle-class attitude. That man desperately needs to be stopped.

Zebrahead's latest, “MFZB,” is just another in a long line of thoroughly mediocre, unimpressive drivel churned out by greedy record executives far too lazy to seek out new and viable musical talent. Sure, on the surface Zebrahead has all the prerequisites of stardom—good job mastering drop-D tuning, a couple basic pentatonic scales and whiteboy angst Zebrahead – but “MFZB” only drops into pitfalls of trite lyrics, uninspired hooks and a little too much fratboy bravado.

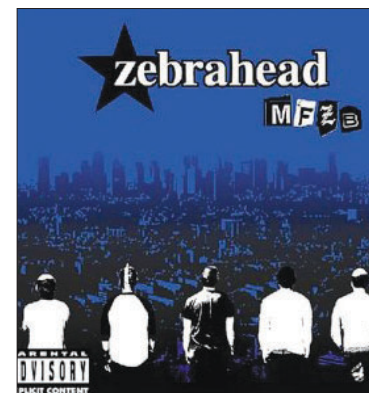
Rocking numbers like “Into You,” “Falling Apart” and “Type A” are all formed around catchy guitar lines, but any musical profi-

ciency is ultimately obfuscated by lame retreats from every SoCal punk band or D.C. emo outfit. Even softer numbers that show a little promise, like “Blur” and “Dear You (Far Away),” still sound like Incubus B-sides.

Derivative isn't a bad term, but when nothing about a band distinguishes it from contemporaries or even influences, a clear problem arises. Lead singer Ali Tabatabaee sounds like a mix of Brandon Boyd and almost every pseudo-punk this side of Pennywise and Bad Religion. Again, not that it's the worst thing in the world, but Zebrahead holds few distinguishing characteristics.

“MFZB” rises above its own self-imposed mediocrity on melody laced tracks like the harmony heavy “Hello Today” and the head-bobbing “Over the Edge,” but this does little to save a thoroughly bland album. Nothing on “MFZB” sets Zebrahead apart from the endless slew of hybrid bands being signed to labels every month hoping to make a quick buck on being no better than thoroughly mediocre and utterly unimpressive.

And it's not as though Zebrahead isn't trying its damndest. Rating this band is a lot like scolding a puppy who accidentally peed on a prized rug; it's not as if he meant to make a bothersome mess, he just didn't know any better. Zebrahead shows a morsel of promise, but it's ultimately obscured by badly placed clichés.



“MFZB”  
Zebrahead  
Grade: C

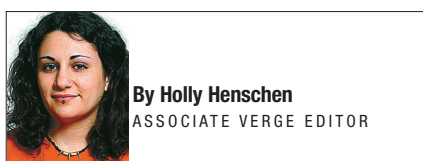
## Ridding rooms of unwanted mates

It's the middle of the school year, and your roommates may have shown themselves to be quite different from the cool people you signed a lease with. Roommates that eat your food, drink your booze, don't pay their share of the bills, never leave, have late night parties on the eve of your big exam or just plain aggravate you (italics)cannot(italics) be tolerated. To ensure yourself a better spring semester, follow these guidelines and you will be annoying-roommate-free in no time.

Disclaimer: As a firm believer in karma, I recommend these suggestions only be followed if absolutely necessary, when your roommate's behavior has warranted such action. These activities are sure to annoy your roommate, which may make him or her more unbearable if they don't move out. Also, you may be stuck with extra bills or the responsibility of finding a new roommate when your plan succeeds.

◆Every time you see your roommate, ask for a handout. Nothing gets under someone's skin like a total mooch. When “Could I get a ride?” and “Can I bum a smoke?” gets repetitive, try bizarre requests like, “Can I use your toothbrush? I lost mine,” or “I'm out of underwear, do you have an extra pair I can borrow? I'll wash them before I give them back, I promise.” Note: if they are actually dumb enough to let you borrow them, don't wash the underwear before you return them.

◆Call your roomie's significant other or crush and ask for your roommate when you are sure he or she is in class or at work. Leave this message: “Health Service called and your STD test results



By Holly Henschen  
ASSOCIATE VERGE EDITOR

are in. You're supposed to call there or go in (italics)immediately(italics).” This will raise questions about your roommate's fidelity and hygiene, regardless of whether they can explain it to the third party. Should your roommate accuse you of sabotage, act innocent. Say, “It must have been some kind of mix-up. I'm just trying to look out for (italics)you(italics), man.”

◆Construct a makeshift shrine to Satan in the living room coincidentally before your roommate's parents visit. When they arrive, they will demand an explanation. Nonchalantly attribute your allegiance to the Dark Lord as a new avenue in your quest for self-discovery. Tell them you've also been doing extensive research on human sacrifice. Mom and Dad won't want their precious baby subject to such madness, and may insist the roommate move out immediately.

◆Call the Department of Homeland Security. Report your roommate has been engaging in suspicious terrorist activity. Construct an elaborate story involving his constant reading of “The Anarchist's Cookbook” and wondering aloud what George W. Bush would look like in a turban. (This is illegal and for entertainment purposes only.)

◆Begin a practice of jaunting around the house/apartment/dorm room in the buff. This is especially effective if the

roommate has company. Even if you have a perfect physique, unabashed public nudity invades the comfort zones of most anyone. When your roommate protests, claim nudity is an aspect of your newfound religion. Call your roommate a Communist for trying to infringe upon you constitutional rights as an American.

◆Hit on your roommate. Remark how drafty the place has been lately and extend an offer for him or her to crawl into bed with you if it gets too cold tonight. Note: if this one backfires, you could be in real trouble.

◆Take all the food items in the kitchen and arrange them in stacks on the counter tops. When your roommate asks what's going on, proudly proclaim, “I'm Pharaoh of the Food Pyramids!” Then hum “Walk Like an Egyptian” by The Bangles for a week or so whenever you cross paths.

◆If the roommate leaves for a weekend, rearrange the furniture in his or her room. When your roommate returns, a very surprised reaction will ensure your claim of innocence. Tell your roommate that you met someone at a party over the weekend who used to live in your place last year, and he had suspicions that it was haunted. Ask if he or she has ever seen the movie “Poltergeist.”

If this doesn't force your roommate to move out, it will make him think he's going mad and/or force him to doubt his own sanity. In any case, he should want to spend less time in your house.

If your roommate starts doing crazy things like this to you, maybe you should move out.

### CONCERT CALENDAR

January 23  
◆ Reverend Robert  
8 p.m. Jackson Ave. Coffee

◆ Rural Kings with The Rumbleshack Orchestra  
Friends & Co.  
\$3

◆ X-Krush  
Canopy Club 9 p.m. \$5 cover

◆ Superdiamond w/ member's only, Chicago House of Blues  
9 p.m. \$18.50

◆ Burn Rome Burn  
Metro 9 p.m. \$8

January 24  
◆ Sullen and Saltwater Vampires Friends & Co.  
\$3

◆ Rushlow Canopy Club  
\$15

January 26  
◆ Twista House of Blues  
10 p.m. \$20

◆ The Appleseed Cast, Cougars, Chin Up Chin Up Metro 9 p.m. \$10

◆ The Junior Varsity, Glasseater Metro, 6:30 p.m. \$7

January 27  
◆ Life st Sea Metro, \$2 8:30 p.m.

