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Eastern Illinois University

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the **DAILY EASTERN NEWS**

MONDAY
3.19.07

Eastern Illinois University, Charleston

Volume | 93 Issue | 44

UNIVERSITY | PROFILE

Perry values strong teams

First presidential candidate to interview

By **Ashley Rueff**
Senior University Reporter

Bill Perry spent five hours exploring his possible future home when visiting Eastern during his off-campus interview with the Presidential Search Advisory Committee in late February.

Perry, the vice provost of Texas A&M University, has since been named one of three finalists in Eastern's search for its next president. He will return to Eastern's campus today. It will be the community's turn to interview him during open forum sessions.

Perry said he's looking forward to the opportunity to meet more of the community and to give campus a chance to meet him as well.

"It seems like Eastern wants to be the best of its type, and that's very attractive," Perry said. "It's a very strong university."

Perry has been at Texas A&M since 1971 when he was hired as an assistant mathematics professor. He was not looking to leave his current position, but decided to look into the opportunity when Elaine Hairston, the search consultant hired by Eastern to assist in the search, contacted him about the position.

"I had a good feeling about the opportunity, and at that point I sent in my materials," Perry said.

He was born in Trenton, Mo., and grew up in Kansas City, Mo. He attended Park College in Parkville, Mo., as an undergraduate and later attended the University of Illinois in Urbana-Champaign as a graduate student.

He began his professional career as a teaching assistant in graduate school and discovered that higher education was his calling.

"I wanted to teach at the college level, and I wanted to teach where people valued relationships," Perry said.

And that's how he ended up at Texas A&M. Those relationships are still important to Perry, and he thinks Eastern has an atmosphere of closeness and personal interaction as well.

» SEE PERRY, PAGE 5

CAMPUS | LECTURE



The Spadys could save your life

After their 19-year-old daughter's death, this couple went on a mission to educate college students about the dangers of alcohol poisoning

By **Stacy Smith**
Greek Life Reporter

Samantha Spady was president of her class and on the honor roll in high school.

She was the homecoming queen and the captain of the cheerleading team.

After graduation, she went to Colorado State University with the hopes of owning a car dealership and moving west.

But she never got the chance.

Her dreams ended after a long night of binge drinking.

Spady was found dead in the guest room of the CSU Sigma Pi fraternity house Sept. 5, 2004. She was 19 years old.

One of the fraternity members found her unconscious while giving a tour of the house. She was thought to have been dead for 12 hours.

An educational program will be held in Buzzard Auditorium today from 7-9 p.m. sponsored by Sigma Pi.

The program will show "Death by Alcohol – The Sam Spady Story."

A member of the Health

PATTY SPADY | MOTHER WHOSE DAUGHTER DIED AFTER BINGE DRINKING

"I'm not trying to kill your college experience. I just want you to survive it."

ALCOHOL SAFETY LECTURE

» **What:** "Death by Alcohol – The Sam Spady Story," an educational program sponsored by Sigma Pi.

» **When:** 7-9 p.m. today

» **Where:** Buzzard Hall Auditorium

Education Resource Center will talk about alcohol awareness.

Mike McKenna said he thinks the program will be influential and help educate students.

"She was just like one of us," said McKenna, president of Sigma Pi. "She got good grades and partied on the weekend, which ended up bad."

According to the National Institute of Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism, 1,400 college students between the ages of 18 and 24 die each year from alcohol-linked occurrences.

"Liquor is different today," said Barry Bortnick, filmmaker of "Death

by Alcohol – the Sam Spady Story." "There's a different flavor of it; it tastes like soda. Kids feel like they're bulletproof to that."

Spady's parents sent her away to college with confidence she would make educated choices, but they didn't realize the environment in which she was caught up.

Their mission is to educate parents and students of the dangers of alcohol, risks of large consumption and signs and symptoms of alcohol poisoning.

Samantha's parents have created awareness cards to help educate students about what to do in situations when someone has had high alcohol consumption.

For example, the first thing to do is call 911 if someone cannot be woken by yelling or pinching.

A sign that someone might have alcohol poisoning is if they have cold, clammy or discolored skin.

Patty Spady, Samantha's mother, said knowing more about alcohol could help other students avoid Samantha's fate.

"I'm not trying to kill your college experience," she said. "I just want you to survive it."



Samantha Spady

UNIVERSITY | PRESIDENTIAL SEARCH

A step closer to filling Lou's shoes

Candidate interviews scheduled this week

**Editor's note: This is an updated version of a story that ran March 9.*

By **Ashley Rueff**
Senior University Reporter

Eastern's next president will come from the University of Wisconsin at Green Bay, Texas A & M University or from right here at Eastern.

The names of the three final candidates in the presidential search were released through a university-wide e-mail March 8 that introduced the candidates and explained their on-campus visits for this week.

William Perry, the current vice provost at Texas A & M University; Blair Lord, Eastern's provost and vice president for academic affairs; and Sue Kiefer Hammersmith, provost and vice chancellor for academic affairs at the University of Wisconsin at Green Bay will be visiting.

Hammersmith is also one of three

CANDIDATES FOR EASTERN'S NEXT PRESIDENT		
		
<p>William Perry – Vice provost at Texas A&M University – Enrollment: 42,374 – On-campus interview: today (Open sessions in the 1895 Room, MLK Jr. University Union)</p>	<p>Blair Lord – Provost and vice president for academic affairs at Eastern – Enrollment: 11,336 – On-campus interview: Wednesday</p>	<p>Sue Kiefer Hammersmith – Provost and vice chancellor for academic affairs at University of Wisconsin-Green Bay – Enrollment: 5,312 – On-campus interview: Friday</p>

finalists in an ongoing presidential search at Edinboro University of Pennsylvania.

Brian Pitzer, Edinboro's director of Public Relations, said the university expects to name its next president by April 11.

Eastern's on-campus visits

will allow students, faculty, staff, administrators and the community to meet and interview the three candidates during open sessions throughout the week.

The campus community will be able to fill out evaluation forms with their opinions of the candidates for

consideration by the Presidential Search Advisory Committee and the Board of Trustees.

"The committee will be getting the feedback, summarizing that and then making a presentation to the Board about how they went about selecting these finalists and the results of their visits on campus," said Robert Webb, chair of the search committee and vice chair of the Board of Trustees. "Everyone will see them somewhat differently, I suppose, but we are confident that they will all make a good impression on the university campus and in the public."

Eastern's President Lou Hencken will have breakfast with each candidate and guide them on a tour through the Doudna Fine Arts Center.

"It looks to me like there's three excellent candidates," Hencken said.

One of the three finalists will take over for him when his contract expires June 30.

The Board of Trustees plans to name Eastern's next president in late March or early April.

College Press Act passes state Senate unanimously

Newly passed bill gives legal recourse to student journalists and advisers

By Sarah Whitney
Senior Reporter

JAMES TIDWELL | JOURNALISM PROFESSOR

“There’s been several instances over the past couple years where community colleges have been having problems with censorship – after an adviser retired, or an adviser’s contract wasn’t renewed.”

The Illinois Senate strengthened the Illinois college press last week.

It passed the College Campus Press Act that makes prior review illegal and outlines legal recourse for student journalists who feel university administrators have violated their first amendment rights.

The bill also provides recourse for advisers who may have lost their jobs for refusing to censor a student newspaper.

Interpretation of court cases guides how much freedom university newspapers and other student media. Interpretation can be varied.

“A statute makes it a lot easier to enforce the law,” said James Tidwell, a journalism law professor and author of “A Reporter’s Guide to Illinois Media Law.”

The statute, should it become law, will not affect policy that governs the relationship between Eastern’s student media and the administration, but it could affect the community colleges that 1,043 Eastern students transferred from.

“It codifies what we’ve been doing at Eastern for a long time,” Tidwell said. “It’s not going to affect Eastern.”

Tidwell expects the bill to have more of an impact with the community colleges.

“There’s been several instances over the past couple years where community colleges have been having problems with censorship – after an adviser retired, or an adviser’s contract wasn’t renewed,” he said.

The bill could have helped Eastern alumnus Dann Gire and former adviser of *The Harbinger* at William Rainey Harper College in Palatine.

Gire’s contract was not renewed in 2006 and the paper shut down after printing a story the administration did not like, and was not promoting Harper College, as reported in the *Daily Herald*.

In fall 2005, the paper ran a story on a student suicide, which happened in the bathroom next to *The Harbinger’s* office. Gire said the story was written responsibly and also included a sidebar detailing the warning signs of suicide and included support information.

The administration was not happy when Gire refused to police the paper’s content, and the next semester the administration presented him and the student editor

with revised publication guidelines. Gire sent the list to lawyers at Student Press Law Center who found several points that “clearly violated case laws established by the Supreme Court,” Gire said.

Gire revised the guidelines so they were legal, but still kept the spirit of what the administration wanted.

However, the only response he received was: are the original guidelines signed and if so, that they are enforced.

Sen. Susan Garret, D-Highwood, heard Gire’s story and asked him to testify to Senate Higher Education Committee about the importance of the College Campus Press Act.

He was unable to make it, but sent an e-mail testimony.

He will also speak about his experience at the Illinois Community College Journalism Association conference later this year.

The bill was introduced in the Senate earlier this year in response to a trend of conflict between college papers and university administration, Garret said.

There was beginning to be a pattern where we were hearing from college papers and student journalists about opposing views about articles in their papers from university administration, she said.

Garret said the bill also addresses the case of *Hosty v. Carter*, which originated in January 2001 with a lawsuit brought against a dean at Governors State University by student journalists who claimed the college overstepped its bounds when the dean demanded prior review of the campus newspaper, *The Innovator*.

“It made perfect sense to address the issue and get it straightened out,” Garret said. The Seventh U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals ruled in favor of the administration, and in its decision, the court stated that the case of *Hazelwood School District v. Kuhlmeier*, which had only been applied to high schools until then, could be applied to colleges as well.

“Doing the research, we came to understand that was a

real infringement of freedom of speech (and) as a legislator, it’s my job to ensure that we uphold the Constitution on every level,” Garrett said.

While the College Campus Press Act is important, the bill will have less of an impact at GSU, said editor in chief Robert Wolff.

“In a large part because the new administration – the people I deal with have been really good in being hands off and respecting the freedom of press,” he said.

After the ruling, *The Innovator*, now *The Phoenix*, had to change its name.

“It (*Hosty v. Carter*) basically gutted the paper,” Wolff said. “The effects were that corrosive.”

Wolff became editor in June 2006 and has worked since then to undo what he called the “inertia of history.”

“*Hosty v. Carter* really gave the university a black eye in terms of freedom of speech,” Wolff said.

Krista Burrell, counselor/coordinator of student life at Lake Land College, said the effect of the bill will depend on the college itself.

She has advised Lake Land’s student newspaper, *The Navigator*, for the past five years.

“I have a very supportive administration,” she said.

“They really understand first amendment rights. Some people have taken *Hosty v. Carter* as an invitation to force advisers to do prior review. I haven’t had that experience at all. It really makes a difference when your college respects and understands student press law.”

The bill now heads to the House where Rep. Naomi Jakobsson, D-Champaign, is its chief sponsor. “I’m doing this because I work with students all the time,” she said. “I talk to students who are journalists, and this bill provides that all campus media produced primarily by students out of state-sponsored institutions of higher learning is a public forum for expression by those students.”

Should the House pass the bill, it will go into effect immediately.

Governor sends letters clarifying tax

The Associated Press

SPRINGFIELD—Hundreds of thousands of small businesses across Illinois received letters from Gov. Rod Blagojevich this week addressing what he called misinformation about his proposed \$6 billion business tax. But business leaders say the governor’s letters are misleading. The letters say

businesses with less than \$1 million in revenue are “exempt from the revised tax structure. This means that 75 percent of all businesses in Illinois will see no or little change in their taxes.” Blagojevich claims in the letters that “loud voices in Springfield” are wrongfully saying that his “plan is bad for business and that your taxes will go up.”

In his annual State of the State

address and budget proposal last week, the Chicago Democrat called for a \$1.5 billion increase to education funding and a new health program extending health insurance to everyone in the state.

Blagojevich said he would pay for it with \$7 billion in new taxes, including a \$6 billion “gross receipts tax” on most kinds of business transactions.

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Eastern to install sprinklers

By Ashley Rueff
Senior University Reporter

The Board of Trustees approved two purchase items totaling \$1,998,369 at the March 9 meeting before spring break.

The larger purchase item of \$1.5 million was approved for fire sprinkler systems and installation in Andrews and Lawson halls.

"This is part of our plan to put sprinklers in all the university resident halls," said President Lou Hencken.

Sprinklers are already installed in Carman and Pemberton halls and Greek and University courts. Hencken said the sprinklers will be installed in Andrews this summer and in Lawson during summer 2008.

The lowest bids came from Automatic Fire Sprinkler in Normal and Anderson Electric in Mattoon. Both companies have previously done work for Eastern.

"We're very fortunate that the companies that we've worked with are the lowest bids," Hencken said. "We were very pleased with the work that they've done."

The other purchase item was a \$465,850 design contract with Moorhead-Gruber Architects of Champaign to design renovations of the bathrooms and installation of kitchenettes in Douglas Hall.

Hencken said Douglas Hall will be the first of the residence halls to have renovated bathrooms in the university's plan to update the halls. The contract will be paid for with the increase in room and board fees, Hencken said. He expects the plans to be finished by March 2008.

After about 10 minutes in open session, Leo Welch, chair of the Board of Trustees, called for an executive session for the board to discuss personnel issues and an acquisition of land.

weatheroutlook

TODAY

57° | 34°

thunderstorms



TUESDAY

52° | 44°

sunny



WEDNESDAY

67° | 56°

showers



THURSDAY

68° | 54°

isolated thunderstorms



FRIDAY

63° | 48°

scattered thunderstorms



AMIR PRELLBERG | THE DAILY EASTERN NEWS

Dan Lavelle, a sophomore journalism major, carries his belongings Sunday afternoon into Taylor Hall following spring break.

CAMPUS | HEALTH

HPV vaccine still available

Health Service to give second round of shots

By Michelle Simek
Health and Science Reporter

Katie Trainor is one woman at Eastern who is attempting to save her life.

Trainor, a freshman communication disorders and sciences major, received the first round of the human papillomavirus vaccination during winter break.

She was scheduled to have the second round during spring break.

HPV is a sexually transmitted disease that can lead to terminal illnesses.

High-risk strands of the virus can sometimes lead to abnormalities in the cervix, which can turn into cervical cancer with time.

HPV has more than 100 strands. But three rounds of the vaccination can help prevent at least a few strands.

"It only protects against four strands, two low risk and two high risk," said Christa Smith, sexual health educator for the Health Education Resource Center.

Low-risk strands can cause genital warts, which might be an indicator that a person has the virus.

The Illinois Department of Public Health reported that most people will have a strand of HPV during their lifetime, but these infections are low-risk and will go away on their own without causing cancer.

Even if women have had HPV before, the vaccine can still protect against future strands, said Dr. Sheila Baker, director of Health Service.

Although the vaccine is helpful, it cannot prevent against the virus 100 percent.

"It is definitely life-saving," Smith said. "HPV is the most common STD."

While condoms do protect against other STDs, they only slightly protect against HPV because certain areas of the genitals are still susceptible to contact with

STD remains a mystery to many despite prevalence

The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Dr. Elizabeth Poynor encounters anxious young women who come to her New York City office with an HPV diagnosis nearly every working day.

The human papillomavirus is the most prevalent sexually transmitted disease — so common that researchers estimate most people will have some form of it in their lifetime. Young adults are especially at risk because they tend to be the most sexually active group.

And yet Poynor finds that most of her young patients — even if they've heard of a new vaccine aimed at preventing the worst kinds of HPV — know little about the virus and the harm it can do.

Many women find themselves scrambling to understand HPV after a routine Pap smear determines they have it. And that, Poynor and others say, creates angst that could be avoided with more education.

"This is a very common problem, period," Poynor, a gynecological oncologist in private practice, says of HPV. "That's the first thing I try to tell my patients to put their minds at ease and to potentially take away some of the stigma that a sexually transmitted disease might carry."

The reasons HPV is so little known are many. Poynor thinks higher-profile STDs, such as HIV and herpes, have overshadowed it. Others note that, when marketing its vaccine, pharmaceutical company Merck Co. has chosen to focus on the potential for cervical cancer rather than the virus itself, which also can cause genital warts.

And then there's the gender divide. Both men and women can have high-risk HPV and low-risk types. But, doctors say, high-risk strains pose more problems for women, potentially leading not only to cervical cancer but also to infertility. Frequently, men are seen as the silent carriers who can unknowingly spread HPV to their sexual partners.

And even when people know they have HPV, they often think condoms offer 100-percent protection when research has shown that they don't. While some women who have HPV think it's too late for them to be vaccinated against HPV, some doctors say it would still be worth it, since it shields against the worst four types of HPV. Federal officials recently recommended that girls as young as age 9 receive the HPV vaccine.

an infected person.

"There is no such thing as 'safe sex,'" Smith said. "There is only safer sex because no protection is guaranteed."

Males can carry the disease and not have any symptoms, which is what makes the disease so easy to transmit, she said.

The only way to test for HPV is to have a Pap smear to check for abnormalities, Baker said.

The HPV vaccine, which is given in a series of three shots, is something every woman from 9 through 26 years of age should have, she said.

Health Service offers the shot at \$120 to \$130 per shot. But some insurance companies will cover some or even all of the vaccine's cost.

Many students who are interested in the vaccine can talk to their health care providers and insurance companies and see if any discounts are available.

"My mom is a nurse and recommended I get it," Trainor said. "My insurance covered the cost completely."

Students can call Health Service to inquire about the vaccination at 581-3013.

CAMPUS

MONDAY
3.19.07

campusbriefs

No memorization needed for open casting call at the CAT

The Charleston Alley Theatre, 718 Monroe Ave., is looking for people to participate in a staged reading of "Sonnets: Sequence."

Tony Cox is the director of the performance, which is scheduled for April 13-16. Those interested should contact Cox at 345-1110 or the theater at 345-2287.

The first meeting is scheduled for March 29 at the theater. There will be no memorization and little rehearsal required for the performance.

For more information, visit www.charlestonalleytheatre.com.

— Marco Santana, Campus Editor

Lecture immigrant and minority women in America

Shirley Geok-Lin Lim, an English professor at the University of California, Santa Barbara, will be on campus today for a lecture on immigrant and minority women in the United States and cultural differences.

Lim is the author of many poems and short stories and is working on a study of gender and nation in Asian-American cultures. Lim is also interested in ethnic and feminist and creative writing and cultural productions.

The lecture is at 7 p.m. in the Buzzard Auditorium.

— Beth Hackett, Activities Reporter

Eastern alum to show off her work at Tarble

Eastern alumna Anne Hughes is displaying her work of pastels and shadow boxes at the Brainard Gallery of the Tarble Arts Center.

The exhibit, titled "Anne Hughes: Inscrutable Life," began March 10 and will continue to run until April 7, 2007.

The exhibits and reception are free and open to the public. Gallery hours are 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Tuesday through Friday, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday and 1 to 4 p.m. Sunday. For more information, go to www.eiu.edu/~tarble or call 581-2787.

— Marco Santana, Campus Editor

Forum on international women leaders to be held Wednesday

International Programs and Women's Studies is sponsoring a forum to be presented by Assege HaileMariam, the psychology and faculty senate chair.

The forum is called "Lessons Learned from Great Women Leaders."

The event is a part of Eastern's Women's History Month celebration.

It will take place at 2:30 p.m. Wednesday in the Charleston-Mattoon Room of the Martin Luther King Jr. University Union.

— Marco Santana, Campus Editor

COMMENTS | CORRECTIONS | EVENTS

To report any errors, local events or general suggestions for future editions please contact our news editor, **Cathy Bayer**, via:
Phone | **581-7942**,
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VIEWS

MONDAY
3.19.07

COLUMNIST | JACOB FOSTER

'300' inaccurately recounts history

Last weekend, the movie "300," based on Frank Miller's graphic novel of the same name, opened in theatres across the United States. So many Americans thought it worthy of their eight to 10 dollars that the movie made over 70 million dollars for the weekend. On the other side of the world, over 70 million Iranians shook their fists in outrage at the inaccurate portrayals of their Persian ancestors.

One article by Azadeh Moaveni on Time.com gives a personal account of the Iranian reaction to this movie. Moaveni says while standing in line waiting for a snack, "[she] felt the entire queue...shake with fury." She also notes the frighteningly common sentiment that "the movie was secretly funded by the U.S. government to prepare Americans for going to war against Iran."

An article on MSNBC's Web site notes "the movie comes at a time of increased tensions between the United States and Iran." It also quoted from an Iranian newspaper that said that the film's depiction of the Persians was "a new effort to slander the Iranian people and civilization."

I was one of the many who went to see the film the night it opened, and my first reaction when I heard about the Iranian reaction was incredulity.

When I stepped into that theatre, I wasn't looking for any kind of thoughtful message. I wasn't expecting to witness characters and situations so thoroughly compelling and mind blowing that I would change my outlook on life. I was expecting tons of killer CGI combined with fight scenes that had nothing to do with a hoplite shield wall and everything to do with stretching the bounds of motion picture badassitude. And that is what I got.

I mean, the movie is based on a graphic novel — a glorified comic strip — with all the usual trappings. It's chalk full of the unreal: 10 foot tall, sissified emperors, executioners with blades for arms, slobbering troll-like soldiers, special forces with demonic faces...wait a second. Sissy emperor. Soldiers in various but equally repulsive forms. All Persians. Huh. And that's where the denial stops, folks.

Sure, the idea that the movie was controlled by the U.S. government comes off as paranoid and a little naïve of the film-making process, but the rest of their quibble is spot on.

"300" was rife with xenophobia. Everything that was "bad" in that movie was in some way touched by the Persians. Even the Greek elements of badness, the Efors and Theron, the rapist senator, were in some way working with the Persians and against the hero, Leonidas, who for some odd reason was a champion of personal freedoms (yay, anachronism!).

Unfortunately for Frank Miller, the solution to this big mess is exactly what his rapist senator was espousing — talk — the only way Iranians can be made to understand that the majority of Americans don't even connect Persia with Iran, and also the only way that Americans can learn enough about Iranians to prevent further hateful, fearful depictions.



Jacob Foster

Jacob Foster is a junior English major. He can be reached at jake413414@yahoo.com

ourview

Ameren under investigation

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On Jan. 1 a 10-year freeze on electric prices expired. Ameren Corp, which is based out of St. Louis and serves 1.2 million customers in southern and central Illinois, is the major power supplier in Illinois.

The rate freeze was part of a deregulation plan. Illinois officials had hoped it would encourage more power companies to enter the market and drive down prices.

More companies did not enter the market, and when the rate freeze ended, electric prices rose, with some customers claiming their bills doubled or tripled.

Last week, Ameren's credit ranking was lowered to "junk" status by Moody's Investor Services.

Ameren is threatening to lay off workers, reduce maintenance and halt an effort to help customers hit by huge rate increases. And now the company wants public sympathy.

It's not going to happen.

True, junk status can increase the company's cost of borrowing money and reduce their access to loans.

Ameren officials stated that the lowered credit ranking was going to result in an "unfortunate economic reality that no one could afford."

What about the unfortunate economic reality facing thousands of Ameren customers who are paying double or triple for electricity since the rate freeze expired? It's hard to feel sorry for a company that received a \$96.7 million rate increase last

year or who handed out \$762,000 worth of cash bonuses to its top five executives last year and whose CEO Gary Rainwater received a base salary of \$900,000 in 2006.

In the past few weeks Ameren has offered a \$20 million relief package to customers, but now Ameren officials are saying that the relief package is dead. This leaves thousands of Illinois citizens who were hoping for reduced rates with no other choice than to pay electric bills that are as much as 170 percent higher than they were in December.

Ameren officials are casting blame on the fact that the Illinois legislature has been making an effort to freeze electric rates, making Ameren a credit risk for investors.

Gov. Rod Blagojevich has argued that Ameren can absorb a rate rollback without suffering a financial catastrophe.

Last week the Illinois House voted to roll back the rate increase and freeze rates at lower levels for at least three years. However, the measure will face opposition in the

senate because President Emil Jones remains opposed to it.

Illinois Attorney General Lisa Madigan has announced plans to investigate the marketing and advertising practices of Ameren.

Madigan is examining whether or not Ameren promoted its all-electric discount program to customers even when it knew the discount would be eliminated at the same time the massive rate hikes would go into effect.

Madigan alleged that there is evidence of bid-fixing, collusion and other "Enron-like" schemes behind the state's rising electric rates and she formally asked a federal regulatory agency to reverse those rates and investigate Ameren.

Madigan said that there is evidence that last year's power auction involving Ameren and ComEd may have been fixed in order to ensure that specific wholesale suppliers received the most lucrative parts of that business.

Madigan's office is also looking into whether Ameren affected the tone or timing of the report in an effort to "blunt the rate freeze" in the legislature.

Ameren and their parent company, of course, deny any wrongdoing.

Illinois legislators should be commended for trying to protect the rights of their constituents and assuring that the power companies in Illinois are conducting business in a legal and ethical way.

The editorial is the majority opinion of The Daily Eastern News editorial board. Reach the Opinions editor at DENopinions@gmail.com.

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FEATURED BLOGGER

"Ireland's High Court struck down a 19th century law against begging this past week, which ruled in favor of a beggar who had argued that his arrest violated a right to free speech."



KEVIN KENEALY

COLUMNIST | NORA MABERRY

Binge drinking childish and unsafe

College students drink.

Despite how colleges and universities might try to spin the data, college students drink a lot.

The National Center on Addiction and Substance Abuse at Columbia University released a report on Thursday stating that substance abuse on college campuses is because of culture.

Any college student would probably find this to be true. The culture of a college campus is alcohol soaked.

Beer breakfasts, parties, tailgating, drinking games, bar crawls, the list could go on.

College students seem to think that a part of their collegiate careers is supposed to be drinking with their peers — even if this drinking negates their actual responsibilities as students or productive members of the campus community.

According to the Center for Science in the Public Interest, frequent binge drinkers were 21 times more likely to have: missed class, engaged in unplanned sexual activity, fallen behind in school work, had unsafe sex, damaged property, gotten into trouble with campus police or been hurt or injured.

The report references the culture of excess that surrounds a college campus.

In simple terms, college kids are drinking to get drunk.

In an AP article, Joseph Califano, chairman and president of the center said

the percentage of kids who drink and binge drink is essentially the same between 1993 and 2005, but the intensity of the drinking has changed.

"There is an intensity to the consumption we see here that we don't see in the general population," said Califano. "Students are drinking to become intoxicated as fast as they possibly can."

We've all heard it.

Some of us might have even done it.

"I'm going to get so drunk tonight."

Why? And, more importantly, why don't more of us realize it might be a problem?

According to the report, more than 2.5 million students admit to binge drinking at least once a month.

The center calculated that 23 percent of college students meet the medical criteria for substance abuse. The report also states that college students drink more than their high school peers who do not go to college.

Is it because of the college culture or the free flowing alcohol?

Probably both.

The report called for universities to do more to discourage drinking and educate students about being responsible drinkers.

Eastern's Alcohol and Other Drug Coalition is trying to educate students about the dangers of excessive drinking.

The coalition wants to decrease alcohol and other drug-induced irresponsible behaviors. Eastern's counseling center offers

counseling for minor alcohol and other drug issues. The Health Education Resource Center has a variety of programs to educate the university about the dangers of alcohol use. Eastern Vice President for Student Affairs Dan Nadler was instrumental in the creation of Alcohol.edu. The program is an online course aimed at reducing the negative results connected with excessive alcohol use in Eastern students.

While Eastern is doing a lot to educate its students about the dangers of excessive drinking, students need to be adults and drink responsibly.

It doesn't take a rocket scientist to know a beer breakfast is not a good idea or three hours of drinking games is probably a bad idea.

Eastern students should not be proud of how many beers they consumed over the weekend.

Instead, Eastern students should be the responsible adults they claim to be and know their limits while consuming alcohol.



Nora Maberry

Nora Maberry is an English graduate student. She can be reached at DENeic@gmail.com

Doctors: Alcohol ads during March Madness are unhealthy

The Associated Press

RICHARD YOAST | AMERICAN MEDICAL ASSOCIATION, CHICAGO

CHICAGO — Full-page ads in college newspapers Friday call on university leaders, athletic conferences and the NCAA to “stop the madness” by banning alcohol marketing from college sports.

The ads, tied to March Madness and sponsored by the American Medical Association, were scheduled to run in college papers in six cities, in advance of the NCAA men’s basketball tournament.

The low-budget campaign placed \$17,000 worth of ads in the Chronicle of Higher Education and student newspapers at Georgia Tech, University of Iowa, University of Wisconsin, Indiana University, University of Mississippi and DePaul University.

“The truly insane thing about March basketball is all the money universities get from alcohol advertising,” the ad reads.

An illustration shows cheering sports fans holding signs reading: “STOP THE MADNESS.”

The ad claims that the alcohol industry spent more than \$52 mil-

“Almost every college president would agree that heavy drinking is their major student health problem.”

lion to advertise its products during televised college sports in a recent year.

Spokesman Bob Williams said the NCAA limits alcohol ads to one minute per hour of broadcast, won’t allow ads for hard liquor and encourages “responsibility themes and messages” in the ads.

The beer industry maintains the NCAA tournament draws a largely adult TV audience, citing Nielsen Media Research figures showing that 89 percent of viewers of last year’s tournament were adults, with a median age of 48.

“Sports fans tend to be beer drinkers and therefore we’re going to try to advertise to that audience,” said Jeff Becker, president of the Beer Institute, a trade association.

Becker said the industry contributes money to campus pro-

grams that fight underage drinking and banning beer ads from games would do nothing to solve that problem.

College policies vary. Chicago’s DePaul University accepts no money from alcohol manufacturers and gets no money from beer sales at Allstate Arena, where the Blue Demons play, said university spokesman John Holden.

Allstate Arena is not on the DePaul campus.

The University of Wisconsin receives \$425,000 per year from Anheuser-Busch and Miller Brewing Co. in exchange for alcohol advertising in game programs, regional sports broadcasts and interview programs with its coaches, said Casey Nagy, executive assistant to UW-Madison Chancellor John Wiley.

“Wisconsin has a heritage associated with beer drinking,” Nagy said. “We haven’t had a lot of community sentiment that we should discontinue the alcohol partnerships we have.”

Wisconsin, however, took part in the decision to prohibit beer and alcohol ads from the Big Ten Channel, a new national sports TV network, Nagy said. “It’s a step,” he said.

The American Medical Association’s fight against alcohol ads during NCAA games isn’t new.

In 2002, the doctors’ group criticized ads funded by Anheuser-Busch featuring college team mascots, and in 2005, the group sent a letter to NCAA Division I board members requesting a ban on alcohol print and broadcast ads linked to sports events.

The AMA maintains that alcohol ads undermine efforts to prevent campus binge drinking and alcohol-related deaths, accidents and sexual assaults, said Richard Yoast, director of the Office of Alcohol and Other Drug Abuse for the American Medical Association in Chicago.

“Almost every college president would agree that heavy drinking is their major student health problem,” Yoast said.

Yoast applauded schools that have written sports broadcast contracts to exclude alcohol advertising. “The whole thing revolves around money,” Yoast said.

Yoast acknowledged an error in the AMA’s ad. The ad claims that alcohol industry spending of \$52 million on college sports advertising in 2003 was “more than twice the amount spent on non-college programming.”

Yoast said the ad should read, “more than twice the percentage spent on non-college programming.”

He said the mistake was inadvertent and “doesn’t change the problem.”

» Perry

FROM PAGE 1

“That’s very much like it is down here, and that impressed me,” Perry said. “There was a lot of energy on (Eastern’s) campus.”

Joel Wixson, the student advocate for student services at Texas A&M, has seen Perry’s emphasis for interaction for the past two years while serving on a building committee chaired by Perry.

“There’s a difference between an open door and active involvement,” Wixson said. “He will pursue people to be involved.”

Wixson said Perry seeks the opinion of students to make a university decision with one example being the expansion of a student walkway across campus.

“He actively pursued people to give their feedback,” Wixson said. “Dr. Perry is definitely a believer in shared governance. He does not believe the university should be run from the president’s office down.”

Wixson has seen Perry active in student government by speaking during meetings and leading open forums on specific topics.

“He knows that students as future leaders need to be given all the information to make the best decisions, so he’s going to do that whenever possible,” Wixson said. “He’s not one to hold back anything.”

Douglas Slack, speaker of the faculty

ON-CAMPUS INTERVIEW SCHEDULE

- » 7:30 a.m.: Breakfast with Eastern President Lou Hencken
- » 8:30 a.m.: Deans, directors and chairs
- » 9:30 a.m.: Faculty open session*
- » 10:30 a.m.: Staff open session*
- » 11:30 a.m.: President’s direct reports meeting
- » 12:30 p.m.: Lunch with vice presidents
- » 2 p.m.: Student open session*
- » 3 p.m.: Faculty open session*
- » 4 p.m.: Campus, community open session*
- » 5 p.m.: Meeting with search committee

* All open sessions will be held in the 1895 Room of the Martin Luther King Jr. University Union. The sessions are open to everyone and are not restricted to the specific groups identified.

senate at Texas A&M, said Perry has also been active in faculty senate and is well respected by the faculty.

“He’s one of the most well-respected administrators on our campus,” Slack said. “He’s a sincere man and he listens; he takes input.”

Slack said Perry has tackled some of the hardest tasks at Texas A&M, including a building program that controls renovations,

utilization and construction of the buildings on the university’s 2,500-acre-campus.

“When you start talking about space and buildings, (people) get really tense, and he’s been able to manage that process in a way to allow input. And in the same way, he’s made major decisions to advance the strategic plan of the university,” Slack said. “He manages that committee in a really positive way.”

Another major part of Texas A&M that Perry has his hand in is the management of the library. David Prior, executive vice president and provost at Texas A&M, asked Perry to be the vice provost about five years ago and said managing the library is one example where Perry has improved the university.

“At a time when library costs are going through the roof, our library is advancing in the rankings,” Prior said. “We have a very efficient library but also one that is growing in national stature and Bill Perry has had a big part of that.”

Perry said he spent some time browsing Eastern’s library when he was last on campus. “It’s a beautiful library,” he said.

He was looking forward to touring another renovated building at Eastern when he returned to campus this week, the Doudna Fine Arts Center.

“I think it’s going to be a spectacular facility,” Perry said. “I think it’s going to be a real magnet for the arts.”

He and his wife, Linda, are both involved

with the Opera and Performing Arts Society at Texas A&M. The society allows people from both the community and the university to work together to bring traveling productions to the area.

“We’re able to do some really neat things to find productions for the community and for the students,” Perry said. “I love working with the students on it because they learn a lot about leadership and public service. The arts are a very important part of the enrichment of all of our lives.”

Linda Perry also made the trip to visit Eastern with her husband for today’s on-campus visit. She is an accounting professor at Texas A&M. They have been married for nearly 40 years and have a son who is a senior at Texas A&M and a daughter who is an attorney in Dallas.

Perry said his wife would make the move with him if he is named Eastern’s next president.

“We both love what we’re doing, but we both see this as an opportunity for me to take the skills that I’ve developed over a career and support Eastern Illinois’ goals, to be part of the team there,” Perry said. “I think personal relationships are the basis for strong teams, and you do need strong teams to move the university forward.”

“I just believe the skills I have, the experience I have, look like a good match for the direction Eastern wants to go.”

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AMAZING GRACE (PG) 3:50 6:30 9:10

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statebriefs

The Associated Press

Illinois community college travel spending rules vary

» ARLINGTON HEIGHTS—Six board members from the College of Lake County in Grayslake spent \$3,325 on food and room service while attending a three-day conference last year in Washington D.C.

Two trustees from Des Plaines-based Oakton Community College at the same seminar spent \$134 on food and drinks.

Spending rules vary wildly for elected trustees at Illinois' community colleges, from stringent \$30-per-day allowances to no rules at all, the newspaper reported in its Sunday editions. That's in contrast to travel guidelines at public universities, which allow a maximum of \$28 per day for out-of-town expenses.

Slaughterhouse to close on Chicago's South Side

» CHICAGO—Traffic came to a standstill as cowboys on horseback herded livestock through the streets.

Generations of workers walked to jobs at dozens of slaughterhouses and packing plants concentrated in an area that, at about 500 acres, was the largest meatpacking district in the world.

But more than 100 years after Upton Sinclair delivered a scathing critique of Chicago's slaughterhouse industry in his 1906 novel "The Jungle," the city's last major slaughterhouse, Chiappetti Veal and Lamb, is looking for a new home.

When it finds one, it could mark the final chapter in the South Side Bridgeport neighborhood's storied history.

Peaceful protest



RAFAEL SUANES | MCT

Juan Torres, from Chicago, holds up a picture of his son that was killed in Iraq, during an anti-war march from Washington DC to the Pentagon in Arlington, Va on Saturday.

Attorney General seeks probe

The Associated Press

SPRINGFIELD—Attorney General Lisa Madigan alleged Thursday that corporate manipulation caused the huge jump in electric rates that Illinois consumers are facing, and she asked federal regulators to suspend the rates and investigate.

Electric rates have soared since January, when a 10-year freeze on prices expired. The new prices were set through a "reverse auction" that was meant to keep rates as low as possible.

But Madigan says the auction yielded prices far higher than the actual cost of producing electricity. That's because some 15 power companies manipulated the process, she claimed in a complaint to the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission.

Exelon Corp., the parent of power company ComEd, immediately denied the allegations.

"The charges are false. The Illinois auction has been deemed

fair and reasonable by all regulatory agencies," Exelon spokeswoman Kathleen Cantillon said in a statement.

Ameren Corp. said it would not respond until it had a chance to review Madigan's complaint.

The federal commission said it would review Madigan's complaint and any responses from the power companies before deciding whether to proceed.

Last year, the Illinois Commerce Commission oversaw a reverse auction, where power suppliers offered the lowest prices at which they would sell electricity to Ameren and ComEd, which then sell the electricity to consumers.

The auction produced unexpectedly high increases over previous rates 22 percent higher on average for ComEd customers and 55 percent higher for some Ameren customers.

For some individual customers, the real increases turned out to be even more.

Madigan argued the huge

increases must be a result of corporate misconduct. She said the average prices offered by wholesalers, which include the parent companies of ComEd and Ameren, are twice the actual costs of producing the electricity.

One such arrangement amounts to "a massive transfer of money from ComEd's captive customers to the stockholders of Exelon Corporation," her complaint said.

The version of Madigan's complaint that was released to the public had large sections of confidential information blacked out.

The complaint offers several scenarios for how companies might have manipulated the process.

For instance, Madigan speculates that existing contracts might have had secret provisions that forced some bidders to drop out of the auction, reducing competition.

Or companies might have persuaded bidders to drop out by promising to buy their electricity at favorable rates.

Racial slur directed at hotel staff

The Associated Press

PEORIA—A racial slur written on a Peoria hotel mirror was likely directed at a staff member and not at guests staying there for the boys state basketball tournament, the hotel's management said.

"I really believe this was written by someone else before these ladies checked into the hotel and was directed at our staff," said Joel Green, director of sales and marketing for the Hotel Pere Marquette.

Ruth Wilson, whose son played for Chicago's North Lawndale College Prep during the Class A tournament, said she saw the writing on a bathroom mirror after a shower around 2 a.m. on March 10.

The derogatory phrase contained the word "Negroes."

The words were invisible when the mirror was dry, but visible once steam filled the room.

"I was really tired and I couldn't believe what I saw," Wilson said following the incident. "I tried to rub it off but it wouldn't go away."

Of the eight Class A tournament participants staying that weekend at the hotel, the team from North Lawndale was the only one made up entirely of black players.

The hotel moved Wilson and her roommate, Felicia Howard, the mother of another player, into an adjacent room and gave them a \$25 discount on their \$91 room rate.

"(Howard) wanted compensation," Green said. "She was very animated."

Vonachen Services, which provides the hotel with its housekeepers, conducted an internal investigation of all employees who had access to the room, said spokeswoman Vicky Leinweber.

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Leahy intends to move forward with subpoenas

The Associated Press

WASHINGTON—The Senate Judiciary Committee chairman said Sunday he intends to subpoena White House officials involved in ousting federal prosecutors and is dismissing anything short of their testimony in public.

The Bush White House was expected to announce early this week whether it will let political strategist Karl Rove, former White House counsel Harriet Miers and other officials testify or will seek to assert executive privilege in preventing their appearance.

The chairman, Sen. Patrick Leahy, D-Vt., last week delayed a vote on the subpoenas until Thursday as the president's counsel, Fred Fielding, sought to negotiate terms.

But on Sunday, Leahy said he had not met Fielding nor was he particularly open to any compromises, such as a private briefing by the administration officials.

"I want testimony under oath. I am sick and tired of getting half-truths on this," Leahy said.

"I do not believe in this, we'll have a private briefing for you where we'll tell you everything, and they don't."

Pennsylvania Sen. Arlen Specter, the top Republican on the committee, said he had a long talk with Fielding on Friday and was reserving judgment. Specter said he would like to see Rove and Miers' open testimony because there were numerous precedents for it.

"I want to see exactly what the White House response is," Specter said.

"Maybe the White House will come back and say, 'We'll permit them to be interviewed and we'll give them all the records.'"

White House spokeswoman Emily Lawrimore declined to comment Sunday as to whether Rove and Miers would testify. Fielding was taking additional time to review the matter "given the importance of the issues under consideration and the presidential principles involved," she said.

At issue is the firing of eight U.S. attorneys, dismissals that Democrats say were politically motivated.

Looking at the past



R. JEENA JACOB | MCT

Macenzie Simmons, 6, left, looks at family photographs with her aunt Tammie, on February 13, 2007 at their home in Grand Prairie, TX. Macenzie now lives with her aunt and grandparents after her mother Lacie died in December 2006 from a staph infection acquired after back surgery.

NATION | GOVERNMENT

White House veto threats proliferate

The Associated Press

WASHINGTON—The president with the fewest vetoes in more than a century, George W. Bush is poised to make up for lost time as congressional Democrats move legislation the White House says is unacceptable.

In the past week alone the White House threatened to veto House bills dealing with presidential records and protection for whistleblowers, and a defeated Senate bill that would have set a deadline for withdrawal from Iraq.

The White House also warned that a war-spending bill the House will take up this coming week would face a veto because it contains Iraq withdrawal language.

Since Democrats took over Congress in January the White House has put out 22 position papers on major bills before Congress; of these, nine contain veto threats aimed at the bills or provisions in them.

In all of 2006, when Republicans ran Capitol Hill, the White House issued 61 such policy statements, with only seven veto threats. Several

were reminders not to exceed or tamper with spending ceilings; two were aimed at spending bills that had wording, later removed, that would have eased U.S. penalties against Cuba.

In July, Bush issued the only veto of his presidency, killing a bill on the use of federal money for stem cell research.

The veto stuck when the House failed to get the two-thirds majority needed to override it.

That is the cleanest record since the veto-less presidency of James A. Garfield.

He was shot four months after he took office in 1881 and died several months later.

By comparison, Bill Clinton vetoed 37 bills over two terms, George H.W. Bush 44 in his four-year term and Ronald Reagan 78 in his two terms.

George W. Bush's low numbers reflect his cooperative relationship with the Republicans who ran Congress during most of his first six years. Democrats see it somewhat differently.

"My view is that the country paid a huge price for a Congress

that acted like it was not an equal branch of government," said Rep. Rahm Emanuel, D-Ill., chairman of the Democratic Caucus. "They acted like Play-Doh in his hands."

Under Democrats, "you're going to get veto threats," he said. "It's a change in culture, it's a change in attitude."

Ed Patru, spokesman for the House Republican Conference, said he rejected "the premise that Republicans were anything less than independent."

He cited House GOP opposition to Bush's proposals on overhauling immigration.

Patru said Democrats were responsible for the rise in veto threats because of their own internal differences and their moving ahead on what he called bad policy, such as the proposals to pull out of Iraq. "Ultimately they are advancing bad legislation," he said.

It remains to be seen how many veto opportunities the president will actually have.

House bills passed under a veto cloud may die in the Senate, where minority Republicans can exercise filibuster powers.

nationbriefs

The Associated Press

Major recall of pet food has animal owners frantic

» UNION, N.J. — Silviene Grzybowski became worried when her local pet store pulled the food she normally feeds her cat and posted an announcement saying it, and many other popular pet foods, had been recalled. Her cat, Smokey, hadn't been eating for days.

"The vet told us to buy her her favorite food, but I'm going to call the vet right now," Grzybowski said.

Menu Foods, the Ontario, Canada-based company that produced the pet food, said Saturday it was recalling dog food sold throughout North America under 48 brands and cat food sold under 40 brands including Iams, Nutro and Eukanuba. The food was distributed by major retailers such as Wal-Mart, Kroger and Safeway.

An unknown number of cats and dogs had suffered kidney failure and about 10 died after eating the affected pet food, the company said.

Jury selection set to begin Monday for murder trial

» LOS ANGELES—For decades, famed music producer Phil Spector was a recluse, hiding in his hilltop suburban castle. It took the gunshot death there of a glamorous actress who starred in a cult movie to force him out into the Hollywood spotlight.

"I think I killed somebody," Spector was quoted as saying by his chauffeur, Adriano De Souza. The chauffeur also told a grand jury that Spector had emerged from his mansion holding a gun, with blood on his hands.

De Souza said he asked what happened and Spector responded: "I don't know."

On Monday, the search begins for jurors to decide if the 66-year-old Spector is guilty of murdering Lana Clarkson on Feb. 3, 2003, after taking her home with him from the House of Blues on the Sunset Strip.



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TENNIS | SPRING BREAK TRIP

Alabama trip proves unsuccessful

Panther teams drop four matches in Ohio Valley Conference

By Brandy Provaznik
Staff Reporter

Eastern didn't have the weather to worry about on Thursday against Samford because the match was moved indoors because of rain.

The men (7-3, 1-2 Ohio Valley Conference) fell 7-0 to the Bulldogs, who are undefeated in conference play.

No. 1 and 2 singles went into three sets but senior



Natalie Martin

Chuck Levaque and sophomore Vuk Milicevic couldn't pull out a win, losing 6-3 and 7-5 in the tiebreaker sets.

After gaining the doubles point the women (6-6, 1-2) still lost 4-3 to Samford but Blackburn was impressed with how they matched up to the defending conference champions.

"Winning the doubles point against them showed a lot of progress from our doubles teams and to be only one match short to the conference favorites is definitely an accomplishment," said head coach John Blackburn.

The men lost 6-1 Wednesday to Jacksonville State with sophomore Jordan Nestrud at No. 6 singles with the only win of the day.

Levaque took his match into a third set but lost 10-4, ending his undefeated

streak.

"It's hard to say what the problem was," Levaque said. "We just have to give credit to JSU for playing tough tennis and defending their home court."

The women also lost to Jacksonville starting the match off without the doubles victory.

Senior Madina Mambetova said she had a hard time adjusting to the weather because it was the first time Eastern played outside on the road.

"You have to account for the wind, and the sun and JSU has a lot of experience practicing outside with the weather being nicer there than it is here in Charleston," Mambetova said.

The Panthers started their spring break with both teams beating Morehead State 5-2 in their home and conference opener, March 10.

The men managed to rally back after losing the doubles point to the Eagles early on.

No. 1, 2 and 6 singles all went into three sets and Eastern managed to come out on top each time.

"They showed a lot of resilience coming back out of the hole left by the doubles point," Blackburn said. "Those were some tough, tight matches and they fought hard and came back."

The women won the doubles point right away and won at No. 1, 2, 3 and 5 singles.

"The intensity of the entire match was unbelievable from both teams," said freshman Hayley Homburg.

Homburg said the Morehead's men's team was so loud that it helped to pump everyone up for the match.

MEN'S GOLF | KAUAI COLLEGIATE CUP

Imburgia wins tourney title

Senior men's golfer Anthony Imburgia won the Kauai Collegiate in Princeville, Hawaii, on Saturday.

Imburgia shot rounds of 71-67-70 to finish 8-under par and win the individual tournament.

Junior Mike Imburgia, Anthony's younger brother, posted a ninth-place finish with a total of 217 strokes, finishing 1-over par.

Oklahoma Christian's Rhein Gibson and Fernando Gonzales each shot 5-under par for the tournament to

finish in a tie for second.

The Panthers finished tied for fourth out of nine teams in the team standings.

Eastern had a team total of 885 strokes that tied with host Western Kentucky.

Oklahoma Christian, the No. 1 team in the NAIA, won the team title with a score of 853.

Ohio University finished second with an 867 and British Columbia University finished third in team

KAUAI COLLEGIATE RESULTS

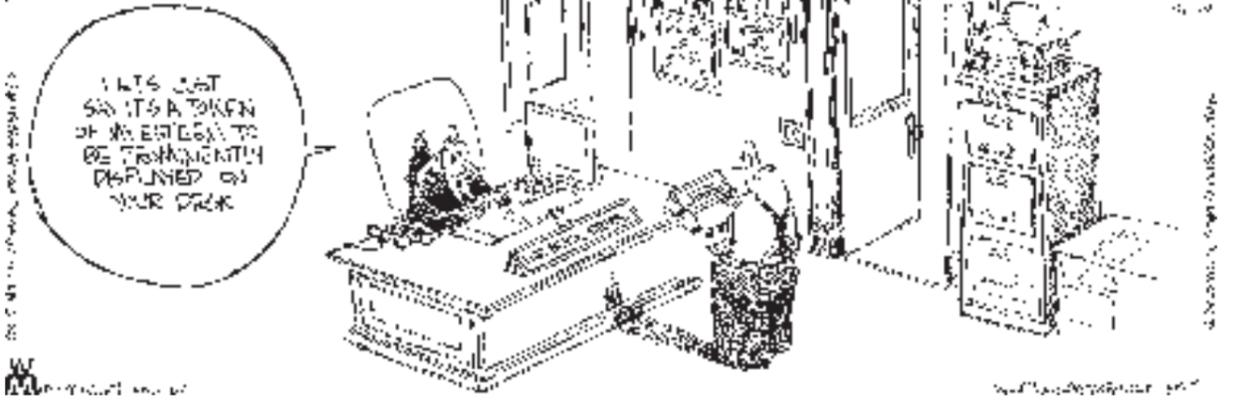
» **First place: Senior Anthony Imburgia, 217 strokes**

» **Team results:** First: Oklahoma Christian, 853; Second: Ohio, 867, Third: British Columbia, 867 Fourth: Western Kentucky and Eastern Illinois, 885.

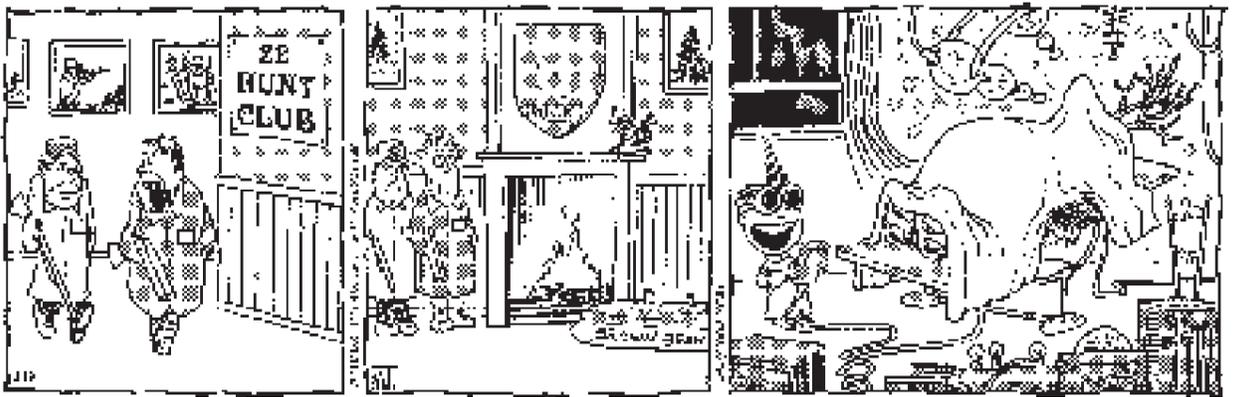
standings with a score of 884.

-Associate Sports Editor Kevin Murphy

NON SEQUITUR | WILEY MILLER



LIO | MARK TATULLI

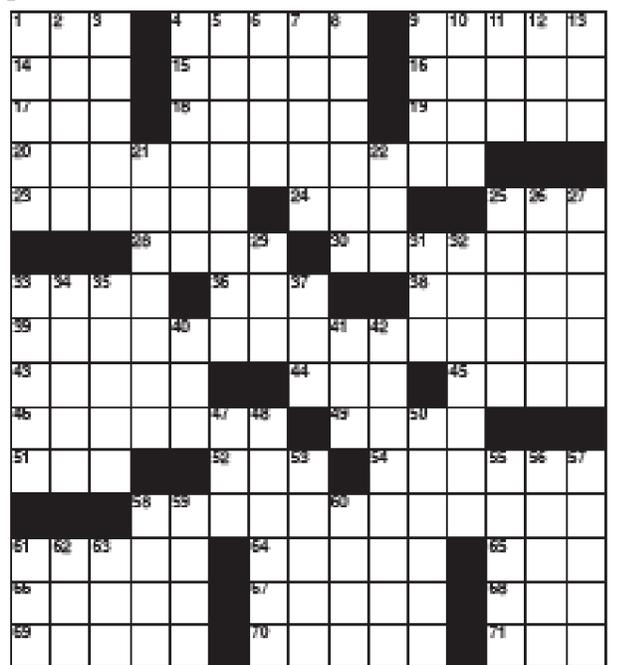


The New York Times Crossword

Edited by Will Shortz

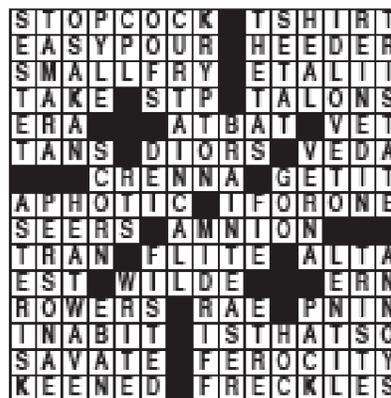
No. 0205

- ACROSS**
- 1 1960's-70's draft org.
 - 4 Parrot feature
 - 8 Where hair roots grow
 - 14 Photo
 - 15 Shiges Oda and Colias
 - 18 Causing gasburps
 - 17 Excitement
 - 18 Pulitzer-winning biography of a Civil War general
 - 19 Take in or let out
 - 20 Modern fashion-conscious guys
 - 23 Didn't participate in
 - 24 Circular staples
 - 25 Appropriate
 - 26 Use a carbide sick
 - 29 Reception amenity
 - 32 Clubs of hearts
 - 33 Coastal point
 - 36 Shinkane
 - 39 Unlikely showing of a multiple
 - 43 Garm cell
 - 44 Day-_____ paint
 - 45 "_____ of the O'Learyville"
 - 48 Item on a general's hip
 - 49 Bangkok native
 - 51 Perry Como's "_____ impossible"
 - 52 Hecker collector
 - 54 List of a meeting
 - 56 Yanks vs. Mets matchup, e.g.
 - 61 Olympic oval
 - 64 "You _____ right?"
 - 65 _____ Lily and Company
 - 68 Delight
 - 67 Suddenly cut out, as an eagle
 - 69 Regus
 - 68 Nintendo products
 - 70 Sprayed, as a sidewalk
 - 71 It's place
- DOWN**
- 1 Seeds unwanted e-mails
 - 2 Most-played half of a 40
 - 3 Writer of "Today"
 - 4 Bamboozle beginning
 - 5 1973 Newman/Fleedford movie
 - 6 Arroyo
 - 7 Billy Joel's musical daughter
 - 8 Poets with intellectual
 - 9 Circus performer with a ball
 - 10 Disney collectibles
 - 11 Paintings
 - 12 Fall a polygraph
 - 13 The "r" in rpm.
 - 21 Usis
 - 22 Dangerous Nissan
 - 25 Holmes of 1920's-70's radicalism
 - 28 Buckets
 - 27 Miles transports
 - 28 Karl Chapak classic
 - 29 LAX parking
 - 32 Cooler



Prepared by Jay K. Francis

ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE



- 33 Some Japanese cuisine
- 34 Prepared to transport
- 35 Fan mail recipients
- 37 Moxies
- 40 No longer working: Abba
- 41 Final: Abba
- 42 Easy, as a loan
- 47 Revolve
- 48 Clean again
- 50 Ancient
- 52 Keep an _____ the ground
- 55 Nephew's sister
- 58 Holdup
- 57 In reserve
- 59 Fill up
- 60 Hawaiian slang, informally
- 61 "Pro" voics
- 61 Best bust purchase
- 62 Like
- 63 Thanksgiving side dish

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3/19

Sudoku By Michael Mopham



Level 1 2 3 4

Complete the grid so each row, column and 3-by-3 box (in bold borders) contains every digit 1 to 9. For strategies on how to solve Sudoku, visit www.sudoku.org.uk

Solution to Saturday's puzzle

9	1	8	6	5	2	7	4	8
6	7	4	8	3	9	1	2	5
2	8	5	4	1	7	9	6	3
3	4	7	9	2	5	8	1	6
8	5	2	1	7	6	3	9	4
1	6	9	3	8	4	2	5	7
5	2	1	7	6	3	4	8	9
4	3	8	5	9	1	8	7	2
7	9	8	2	4	8	5	3	1

NCAA MEN'S BASKETBALL TOURNAMENT | ROUNDUP

Runnin' Rebel rally lifts team to Sweet 16

UNLV upsets No. 2 seed Wisconsin in Chicago

The Associated Press

•Midwest Regional
UNLV 74
Wisconsin 68

CHICAGO — Kevin Kruger connected on three straight 3-pointers late in the second half and the Runnin' Rebels rallied to beat second-seeded Wisconsin.

The Badgers became the highest-seeded team to lose in the tournament, so far.

Seventh-seeded UNLV led by 12 at halftime, but Wisconsin rallied with 11 straight points.

A 16-2 run gave the Badgers a five-point lead.

After Kruger's three 3-pointers, he was fouled on another long-range attempt and made all three free throws to make it 64-56 with a little more than three minutes left.

Florida 74
Purdue 67

NEW ORLEANS — Al Horford and Corey Brewer each scored 17 points and the defending national champions withstood a game effort by the Boilermakers on Sunday.

Horford had three big buckets in the final minutes, and Brewer made six consecutive free throws to seal Florida's 14th straight postseason win.

The Gators advanced to play fifth-seeded Butler in the Sweet 16 Friday in St. Louis.

Oregon 75
Winthrop 61

SPOKANE, Wash. — Aaron Brooks scored 22 points and third-seeded Oregon eliminated the last remaining double-digit seed from the NCAA tournament.

The Ducks will now play UNLV in the Sweet 16.

•West Regional
Southern Illinois 63
Virginia Tech 48

COLUMBUS, Ohio — Southern Illinois got three big 3-pointers from Jamaal Tatum and pulled away from Virginia Tech. Tatum, the Missouri Valley Conference player of the year, scored 21 points. The fourth-seeded Salukis have won 15 of 16.

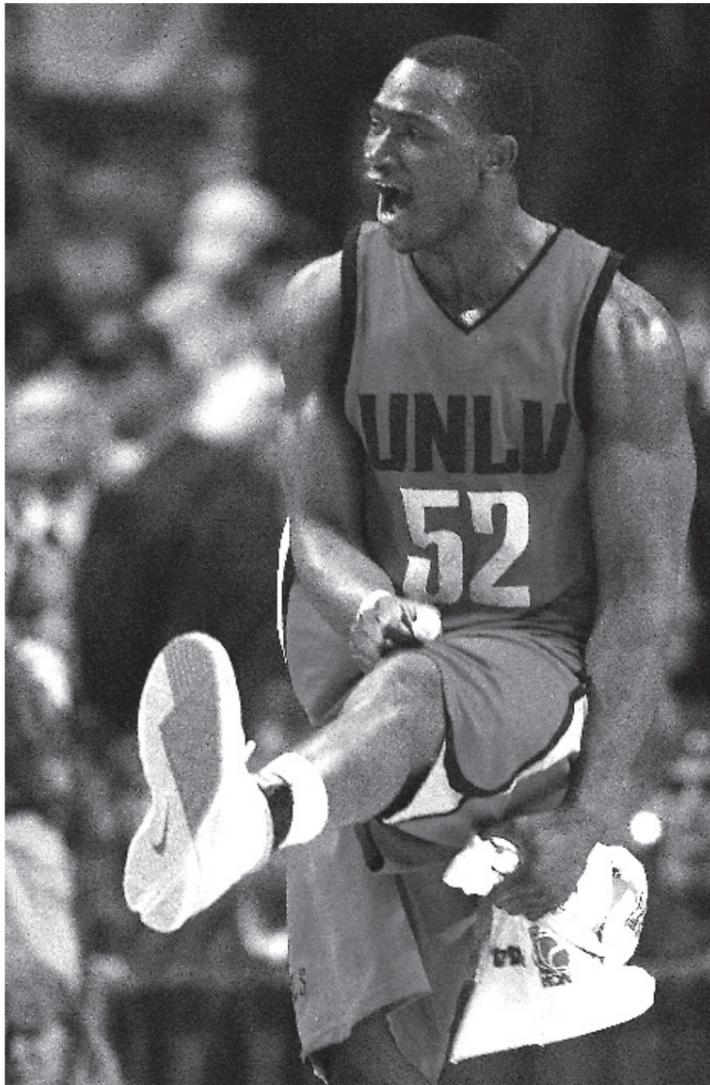
They advance to meet Kansas on Thursday night in San Jose, Calif.

Kansas 88
Kentucky 76

CHICAGO — Julian Wright scored 15 of his 21 points in the second half, Brandon Rush added 19 and top-seeded Kansas romped past Kentucky.

Mario Chalmers added 16 for the Jayhawks, who shot 57 percent to win their 13th in a row.

•South Regional
Tennessee 77
Virginia 74



NUCCIO DINUZZO | MCT

UNLV'S Gaston Essengue celebrates after his team beat Wisconsin, 74-68, in the second round of the NCAA Tournament at the United Center in Chicago. The Rebels, a No. 7 seed, will play Oregon in the Sweet 16.

COLUMBUS, Ohio — JaJuan Smith scored 16 points and led a second-half comeback, Chris Lofton scored 20 points and the Volunteers held off Virginia.

Fifth-seeded Tennessee reached the round of 16 for the first time since 2000.

Tennessee will play No. 1 Ohio State on Thursday in San Antonio.

Memphis 78
Nevada 62

NEW ORLEANS — Chris Douglas-Roberts scored 16 points before leaving with a sprained ankle and his high-flying, versatile teammates took over from there in

their win against Nevada.

Memphis will take the nation's longest winning streak to San Antonio for a showdown Thursday against third-seeded Texas A&M.

•East Regional
USC 87
Texas 68

SPOKANE, Wash. — Southern California got 22 points from junior Nick Young in a runaway win against Texas and its star freshman Kevin Durant. Many times when Durant got the ball, the offense ground to a halt for the Longhorns, who fell behind by 17 early in the second half and never made a serious run.

WRESTLING | CHAMPIONSHIPS

Senior's collegiate career ends

By Kevin Murphy
Associate Sports Editor

Senior Kenny Robertson ended his collegiate career at the NCAA Wrestling Championships Friday in Auburn Hills, Mich.

Danny Burk of Northern Illinois defeated Robertson, 6-4, in overtime in the Friday morning consolation bracket in the 174-pound weight class, ending Robertson's four-year career at Eastern.

Robur won the overtime match when he was able to get two points when he reversed Robertson for the win.

Robertson won his opening-round match at the championships, 8-5, against No. 12 Mike Letts of Maryland. Robertson then defeated Kurt Brenner of West Virginia, 8-2, and advanced to face No. 5 seed Eric Luedke of Iowa.

Luedke narrowly defeated Robertson, 3-1, sending him into the consolation rounds.

Robertson scored the first point of the match when he escaped in the second period.

Robertson's lead did not hold in the third period. Luedke escaped and one minute remained in the third period. Luedke scored a takedown with less than 45 seconds. Luedke eventually took third place at the NCAA Championships.

The other Panther to travel to Michigan was junior Greg Perz. Perz did not win a match, losing his first two matches and being eliminated from the championships.

Perz (26-10) lost in the opening consolation round 8-3 to Philip Keddy of Iowa.

No. 8 seed Joseph Rovelli of Hofstra defeated Perz, 9-1 in Perz's next match, ending the junior season for the Crystal Lake native.

Eastern Illinois finished 54th in the team standings with two points.

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Golden Eagles rally for late win

Panthers swept in opening weekend of conference play

By Matt Daniels
Sports Editor

Tennessee Tech pitcher Bonnie Bynum was nearly unhittable Saturday against Eastern.

The hard-throwing right-hander and last year's Ohio Valley Conference Female Athlete of the Year held the Panthers to three hits en route to the Golden Eagles 7-0 win in the first game of Saturday's doubleheader.

She wasn't unhittable Sunday and the Panthers scored seven runs off the conference's best pitcher.

However, they weren't enough for Eastern to win.

The Golden Eagles scored seven runs in the bottom of the sixth, overcoming a 6-4 deficit to lead 11-6 heading into the seventh.

The Panthers scored once in the seventh off Bynum, but the senior settled down and held on for Tech to earn an 11-7 win.

"They just erupted for base hit after base hit," said Eastern head coach Kim Schuette. "Their bats got hot. We couldn't stop the bleeding quick enough."

Eastern's offense produced first, jumping out to a 3-0 lead after the second inning.

Senior designated hitter Katy Steele hit a home run and the Panthers capitalized on two errors by Tech.

The 3-0 lead didn't last long for Eastern.

Tech answered with four runs in the third inning, and chased Panther starter Karyn Mackie from the pitcher's circle.

Tech answered with four runs in the third inning, and chased Panther starter Karyn Mackie from the pitcher's circle.

The Panthers then scored three runs in the fifth inning, giving Eastern a 6-4 lead.

Eastern can thank sophomore second baseman Sarah Coppert for the lead.

The Maple Park native, who finished 3-for-4 with three RBIs, fell



JAY GRABIEC | THE DAILY EASTERN NEWS

Sophomore Angela Danca tags Eastern freshman outfielder Megan Nelson during practice on March 6 at O'Brien Stadium. Spring break did not produce the results Eastern wanted, with the Panthers going 2-8 during the break.

EASTERN'S RESULTS DURING SPRING BREAK

Date	Opponent	Score
*March 9	Cal Poly	L 9-3
*March 9	San Jose State	L 5-0
*March 10	California	L 5-3
*March 10	UC Riverside	W 5-4
*March 11	UC Davis	L 2-0
Wednesday	St. Mary's (Cal.)	W 3-1
Saturday	Tennessee Tech	L 7-0
Saturday	Tennessee Tech	L 4-1

* Denotes games that were a part of the National Invitational Tournament in San Jose, Calif.

behind in the count before pulling the ball into the left-center field gap for her sixth double of the year.

"She put two strikes right past me so I was getting pretty angry," Coppert said of Bynum's pitching.

The double scored Steele and Sandyn Short to give Eastern the

two-run lead.

"She was clutch today," Robison said of Coppert. "She really came through today."

The lead didn't last long, with Tech's designated hitter Kristyn Castonzo connecting for a two-run home run off Robison in the

bottom of the sixth inning to tie the game at 6.

After Tech's Beth Boden singled and then Katie Speiser reached on a fielder's choice, Tech second baseman Krystina Dobbs doubled to right-center, scoring Boden and Speiser.

"You try and make good pitches on them," Robison said. "I was just trying to throw so they could hit ground balls. They're just really good hitters."

Tech added three more runs against Robison and Eastern before Maegan Golloway came on to get the final out of the inning.

Robison faced seven batters in the inning.

"Ashley does a good job keeping the ball down," Schuette said. "It's kind of, yeah, maybe I should have taken her out sooner but I felt that she had done well keeping to that point."

The Golden Eagles won Saturday's second game, 4-1, and

Tennessee Tech 11, Eastern 7

Inning by Inning	R	H	E
EIU	0	3	0
TTU	0	0	4

WP: Bynum, Bonnie (14-6) LP: Robison, Ashley (1-3)

E - Nolle, Allyson - EIU; Bynum, Boden, Beth - TTU. DP - EIU 1. LOB - EIU 6; TTU 6. 2B - Mackie, Robyn, Short, Sandyn (2), Coppert, Sarah - EIU; Boden, Dobbs, Krystina - TTU. 3B: Bynum HR: Steele, Katie - EIU; Dobbs, Castonzo, Krystyn - TTU. HBP - Robison. -EIU; Sutherland, Katie - TTU

Key Inning: Bottom of the Sixth Eastern's Ashley Robison faced seven batters in Tennessee Tech lineup. The Golden Eagles accounted for five hits and seven runs in this inning.

handed Eastern its eighth loss in the last 10 games with Sunday's win.

Schuette said the team had several discussions before Sunday's game concerning their hitting.

"The girls just got the bat off the shoulder and swung today," Schuette said.

"You can never get a hit unless you swing the bat. We were not aggressive at all (Saturday). Today, we brought out a different fire," said Schuette.

Bullpen blows leads in close games in southern trip

Eastern loses four games by one run on spring break trip

By Joe Waltasti
Sports Reporter



Mark Chagnon Eastern Senior outfielder

Close games were the story of spring break for the Panthers, but the endings were hardly storybook.

Eastern was swept by The Citadel in a three game series to end its annual spring break road trip.

Head coach Jim Schmitz's team lost 19-14 in the first game of the series on Friday and then lost two consecutive 5-4 games, in which the Panthers' bullpen blew leads.

Junior left hander Mike Manns started Sunday's game and was "very effective," Schmitz said.

"He was exceptional, very encouraging to see that. He really pitched well against Charleston Southern and we're trying to get him into the swing of things."

Manns left the game after five innings of work, surrendering only two earned runs and striking out six Bulldog batters.

Senior right hander Mike Budde came in to relieve Manns in the sixth inning with a runner on third and got the Panthers out of the jam.

But the most consistent pitcher on the Panthers' staff could not seem to find the strike zone.

Schmitz said Budde was "kind of wild" and the Lockport native hit the first batter he saw in the seventh and walked another en route to surrendering one run which cut the Panthers' lead to just one run.

Senior closer Chris Vaculik entered the game in the eighth

inning but after the leadoff man singled, The Citadel worked him into scoring position with a sacrifice bunt and another single before a double down the line scored both base runners and The Citadel took a 5-4 lead.

The defeat gave Eastern six losses in eight spring break games after the Panthers lost two of three games to Belmont in Nashville, Tenn.. They lost their first game in South Carolina against Charleston Southern.

Eastern did upset No. 30 ranked College of Charleston, 7-5, on Thursday led by two RBIs from both centerfielder Casey Spears and first baseman Erik Huber.

But inconsistency, especially from the bullpen, prevented the Panthers from capitalizing on more opportunities to win the close games.

"We're not putting the whole game together," Schmitz said. "Four games were winnable that we lost.

We're past the point of saying it's early."

Schmitz said one area did impress him - Eastern's hitting.

Four Eastern hitters improved their averages to above .300 during break.

Huber leads the team in home runs (3) RBIs (13) and a slugging percentage of .653 - the only Panther with a mark higher than .500.

"About the only thing we did good this whole weekend was we swung the bat well," Schmitz said. "Guys are starting to feel more comfortable at the plate. But this isn't a swim meet or a track meet, talking about how certain guys did good. This isn't an individual game."

Schmitz and the Panthers will need to put the losses behind them with Ohio Valley Conference play starting Saturday with a three-game home stand against Tennessee Tech. The Golden Eagles currently

Citadel 5, Eastern 4

Inning by Inning	R	H	E
EIU	0	0	1
Citadel	0	0	2

WP: McGuiness, Chris (1-0) LP: Vaculik, Chris (0-4)

E - Derbak, Richie - EIU (4). DP - EIU 1; CIT 1. LOB - EIU 7; CIT 11. 2B - Chagnon, Mark - EIU (3); Peppenhorst, Kory - EIU (3); Altman, Bryan - CIT (3); Brown, Zach - CIT (5); Fallow, Sid - CIT (5). HBP - Brown. SH - Couch, Graham - CIT (1). SF - Meade, Sonny - CIT (2); Smith, Chance - CIT (1).

Key Inning: Bottom of the Eighth Bulldog right fielder Sonny Meade hit the sacrifice fly that allowed the Citadel freshman Kyle Jordan to score with the bases loaded.

have the best record (12-7) of any OVC team while Eastern's 4-10 record puts them second to last.

Eastern was picked by *Baseball America* to finish first in the OVC and Schmitz still thinks his team can win the conference - he knows the talent is there.

"We're not asking more from these guys than they are capable of," Schmitz said. "They're just not getting it done."

sportschedule

MEN'S TENNIS

TUESDAY vs. Saint Louis | 3 p.m.
Darling Courts

WOMEN'S TENNIS

TUESDAY vs. Saint Louis | 3 p.m.
Darling Courts

BASEBALL

WEDNESDAY vs. Chicago State | 2 p.m.
Coaches Stadium

SOFTBALL

WEDNESDAY vs. Indiana State | 2 p.m.
Coaches Stadium

BASEBALL

SATURDAY vs. Tennessee Tech (2) | Noon.
Coaches Stadium

SOFTBALL

SATURDAY at Samford (2) | 1 p.m.
Birmingham, Ala.

MEN'S TENNIS

SATURDAY at Tennessee-Martin | 2 p.m.
Martin, Tenn.

WOMEN'S TENNIS

SATURDAY at Tennessee-Martin | 2 p.m.
Martin, Tenn.

triplethreat



A week of relaxation, fun in the sun and NCAA Tournament brackets getting busted all happened during Eastern's spring break.

However, for Eastern's spring sports, the athletes didn't get a break from their schedules.

With teams scattered all across the country — softball head coach Kim Schuette (above) in San Jose, Calif., and Cookeville, Tenn., and baseball and both tennis squads traveling south — Eastern's spring athletes were busy during the break.

Here are the top three individual Eastern performances from spring break.

1. Denee' Menzione — Softball's third baseman did her best power-hitter impersonation, hitting four home runs during the team's trip to California. The freshman from Darien has made it clear she is the replacement for Rachel Karos at the hot corner. However, her power numbers didn't translate into wins for Eastern. The Panthers compiled a 2-8 record during the break.

2. Natalie Martin — The sophomore from Canada, along with junior Sandra Sasidharan, are currently 12-0 in singles for the women's tennis team. Martin, who did not play last year, is making up for it this season, with her stellar play at No. 2 singles. Martin won her two singles matches last week, and also won both her No. 1 doubles matches with partner Hayley Homburg.

3. Richie Derbak — Eastern's starting second baseman is also making his mark on the mound for Panther baseball. The freshman from Lebanon is second on the team in hitting (.333) and has eight RBIs. He came up big in Eastern's 7-5 win against the College of Charleston, recording an RBI and picking up his first career win. On the mound, Derbak is 1-0 with a 2.25 ERA and one save.

— Matt Daniels

Samford set to leave

By Matt Daniels
Sports Editor

Samford will leave the Ohio Valley Conference after the 2007-08 school year to join the Southern Conference, effective July 1, 2008.

The private school from Birmingham, Ala., and member of the OVC since 2003, announced the decision Thursday.

The move will leave the OVC with 10 member schools after the 2007-08 school year.

The Bulldogs will join the 86-year-old conference that also has four other private schools. Samford was the only private school in the OVC.

"I am disappointed that Samford University has made this decision," said OVC Commissioner Jon Steinbrecher in a statement on Thursday. "I am resolute in my belief that Samford could achieve any of its goals — athletically or institutionally — as a member of the Ohio Valley Conference. However, I understand the institution's desire to be associated with other private institutions."

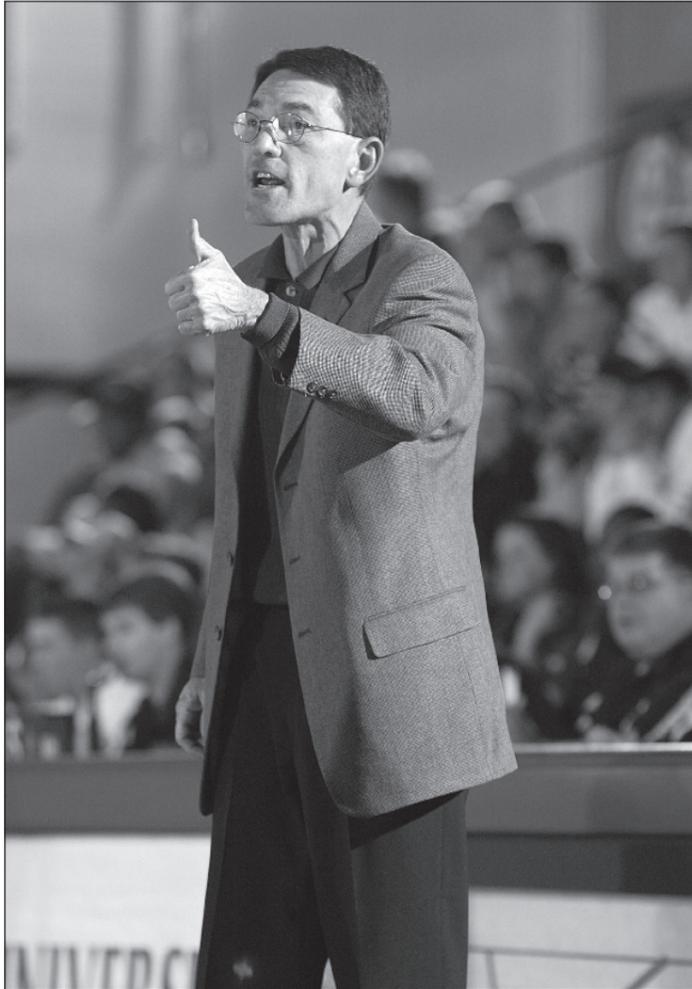
Steinbrecher also said the conference isn't urgently seeking another school to join.

A potential school the conference could consider is Southern Illinois at Edwardsville.

SIUE is undergoing the reclassification process from Division II to Division I. The Cougars will compete as the Division I level beginning in the 2008-09 school year, but will not be eligible for NCAA Championship competition until the 2012-2013 school year, according to SIUE's Athletic Task Force Report. The Cougars aren't in a Division I conference yet and need to be in one to make the move to Division I.

Eastern women's basketball head coach Brady Sallee said Sunday the announcement didn't come as a surprise to him.

He also said having 10 teams



COURTESY OF SAMFORD SPORTS INFORMATION

Samford men's basketball coach Jimmy Tillette (above) won't be coaching against Ohio Valley Conference teams after the 2007-08 season. The private school from Birmingham, Ala., is moving to the Southern Conference and starts play there the year after.

is ideal for the conference in a basketball sense.

"I think it's perfect the way it is with 10 (teams)," he said. "We can play a true round-robin (schedule) with basketball. It'll be a schedule that will make a lot more sense."

The league has a 20-game conference schedule for men's and women's basketball. If the league decides to stay with 10 schools after Samford leaves, teams will play an 18-game conference schedule.

The Southern Conference will have 12 member schools in five states (Alabama, Georgia, North

Carolina, South Carolina and Tennessee).

"We wish (Samford) well in their new endeavors in the Southern Conference and will miss them as members of the OVC," said Rich McDuffie, Eastern's Director of Athletics in a statement released Thursday.

The OVC offers 17 sports and Samford competes in 15.

Eastern head softball coach Kim Schuette said she was unaware Samford might leave the OVC.

The OVC currently has 10 softball teams, with Murray State not fielding a program. Once

MATT DANIELS | OUT OF BOUNDS

Departure of the Samford Bulldogs? Not a shocker

Samford isn't in the NCAA Tournament.

But on the first day of the men's basketball tournament, the 4,000-student private school from Birmingham, Ala., created its own kind of stir.

The Bulldogs, members of the Ohio Valley Conference since 2003, have decided to leave the OVC to join the Southern Conference, effective July 1, 2008.

The move will leave the OVC with 10 members, all public schools. The move isn't necessarily shocking, with talk about Samford joining the SoCon, which will now have 12 schools in a five-state region (North Carolina, Georgia, Tennessee, South Carolina and now Alabama), in late January and early February.

The Bulldogs go from being the only private school in the OVC to one of five private schools in the 86-year old conference.

Is it a better move for Samford, though? The question is debatable.

The competition Samford will experience in the conference is about even with what the Bulldogs have in the OVC. Davidson is coming off a 29-5 year in men's basketball, that included a first-round NCAA Tournament loss to

Maryland, and Appalachian State has won two I-AA national football titles in a row.

The tradition of the conference is superior to that of the 59-year-old OVC, with charter members including six schools that are now in the Southeastern Conference, and seven that are members of the Atlantic Coast Conference.

Samford had success not only in the OVC, but also nationally. In the four years it has been a member of the league, the Bulldogs have had 11 teams win conference titles, nine coaches named Coach of the Year and eight athletes earning Player of the Year or Athlete of the Year. Not too shabby.

Samford has presented a formidable challenge for Eastern sports also. The Bulldogs and Panthers have the best rivalry in the conference in women's soccer, playing each other for the conference championships three of the last four years. Eastern won the first two title games, but Samford made up for the Panthers' 2004 tournament win on the Bulldogs own field by defeating Eastern in the 2005 OVC championship game at Lakeside Field. The Bulldogs went on that year to also win a first-round game in the

NCAA Tournament.

In men's basketball, Samford has been near the top of the league since joining it, confusing and befuddling opponents with head coach Jimmy Tillette's Princeton-style offense. Last season, Samford was one half away from beating Murray State for the league title and an NCAA berth, but the Racers came back in the second half to earn the win. The Bulldogs also had an Honorable Mention All-American in J. Robert Merritt, also the 2006 OVC Player of the Year, last season.

Eastern hasn't beaten Samford in four tries with second-year head coach Mike Miller, and his predecessor, Rick Samuels, beat the Bulldogs once in two tries. For the Panther women's basketball team, they haven't encountered much success against the Bulldogs either, losing both games to them this year. Eastern football beat the Bulldogs 24-13 this year, and has won three of its four conference games against Samford.

One benefit for Eastern in this is the cut down in travel. No longer will the athletic department have to worry about arranging flights to Birmingham, or coaches having to be on a bus for nine hours to

HOW CONFERENCES SHAPE IN 2008

» Ohio Valley Conference

School, Location, Year Joined
Austin Peay; Clarksville, Tenn.; 1963.

» Eastern Illinois; Charleston; 1996.

Eastern Kentucky; Richmond, Ky.; 1948.
Jacksonville State; Jacksonville, Ala.; 2003.

Morehead State; Morehead, Ky.; 1948.

Murray State; Murray, Ky.; 1948.

Southeast Missouri; Cape Girardeau, Mo.; 1991.

Tennessee State; Nashville, Tenn.; 1987.

Tennessee Tech; Cookeville, Tenn.; 1948.

Tennessee-Martin; Martin, Tenn.; 1992.

» Southern Conference

School, Location, Year Joined

Appalachian State; Boone, N.C.; 1971.

College of Charleston; Charleston, S.C.; 1998.

Chattanooga; Chattanooga, Tenn.; 1976.

The Citadel; Charleston, S.C.; 1936.

Davidson; Davidson, N.C.; 1936-88; 91

Elon; Elon, N.C.; 2003.

Furman; Greenville, S.C.; 1936.

Georgia Southern; Statesboro, Ga.; 1991.

North Carolina-Greensboro; Greensboro, N.C.; 1997.

Samford; Birmingham, Ala.; 2008

Western Carolina; Cullowhee, N.C.; 1996

Wofford; Spartanburg, S.C.; 1997

Samford leaves, the conference will have nine teams playing softball.

Schuette said Samford is a solid program and will be hard to replace, but she will not miss making the nine-hour bus trip down to Birmingham. The league will have 10 member schools for football next season, as Austin Peay reinstated scholarship football for the 2007 season.

When Samford leaves after next season, the conference will return to nine schools.

get there. Yes, the OVC still has a school in Alabama (Jacksonville State), but Eastern teams will only have to make one trip to one location in Alabama.

But the conference will miss having Samford in the league. The Bulldogs provided quality competition in every single one of their 15 sports for not only Eastern, but also the rest of the conference. To the good people at Samford and the people I've had the pleasure of meeting, including Tillette, women's basketball head coach Mike Morris, softball head coach Beanie Ketcham and Joey Mullins and Zach Schrieber, members of Samford's Sports Information Department, I wish you well on this new endeavor for Samford.

And a message to the OVC if it wants to replace Samford with another school: good luck finding a school comparable to Samford.



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