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The DAILY EASTERN NEWS

EASTERN ILLINOIS UNIVERSITY, CHARLESTON

WEDNESDAY | 3.19.08

VOL. 95 | ISSUE 46

LOCAL | WEATHER

Rain awakens flood fears

Expecting three inches, the city prepared for sudden rivers

By **Nora Maberry**
News Editor

Coles County was under a flood watch until 7 a.m. today.

The National Weather Service in Lincoln issued the watch Monday after a strong storm system moved in and dropped heavy rains on the area.

The area has had two inches of rain this month as of Tuesday morning, said Eastern instructor and climatologist Cameron Craig. Craig predicted up to three inches of rainfall by today.

The average rainfall for March is 3.49 inches. The wettest March on record was in 1945 when Charleston received 10.63 inches, Craig said.

The National Weather Service predicted flooding in the area because the ground is saturated from previous rainfalls and melting snow.

The amount of precipitation is primarily caused by the track a low-pressure system takes and the amount of moisture that flows from the Gulf of Mexico, Craig said. Three significant storm tracks can influence the amount of precipitation for the area. The first track originates in Alberta, Canada and is called the Alberta Clipper.

"This track typically develops quickly due to the lack of moisture available and has less precipitation," Craig said.

The second track is called the Colorado Low and contains a moderate amount of moisture. The third storm track – and the one causing this week's precipitation – is known as the Inside Leader, Craig said.

"This track usually develops in the Four Corners region of the West and migrates along the Gulf of Mexico," he said. "It develops slowly due to the significant amount of moisture available and usually increases the amount of precipitation for a particular area."

The Charleston Public Works Department is prepared for the heavy precipitation.

The department inspected and cleaned inlets and culverts known to cause flooding during heavy rain, said Curt Buescher, director of public works. The department also inspected all pump stations and plant processes to assure it could handle heavy rain flows.

Areas that flood in Charleston are typically caused by drainage system blocks, Buescher said.



JOHN BAILEY | THE DAILY EASTERN NEWS
Dominique Perkins, a senior middle-level education major, walks through a puddle Tuesday afternoon on the east side of Buzzard Hall.

» SEE FLOOD, PAGE 5

CAMPUS | TECHNOLOGY

Cheaper, better, faster

How Eastern has given students control of their education

By **Barbara Harrington**
University Reporter

Eastern students used to have to register for classes over the phone.

Since students began this self-registration process in the mid-'80s, Bill Witsman said much has changed.

The university is now nearing the completion of its Enterprise Information System Enhancement (EISE) project, which includes Banner – the new system students use to register for courses, and a Degree Auditing System (DARS).

Students began using Banner to look up courses and register in March 2007.

Christie Roszkowski, council on academic affairs chair, said she thinks Banner is easy for students to navigate.

"I haven't heard any complaints from my students," Roszkowski said. "It's rather beneficial for them because it's so user-friendly."

Before Eastern implemented Banner, the university had been using an IBM mainframe since the 1960s.

"Typically, it is a large computer that is good at doing computing for general business," said Witsman, EISE project director. "General mainframes are not used for playing games; they're for your business operations."

Banner is run on a series of Intel-based servers, or several powerful computers that are "tied together," Witsman said.

The mainframe was fast, had a lot of disk storage and could process information quickly.

» SEE BANNER, PAGE 5

NATION | POLITICS

Obama fights pastor's sermons

Associated Press

PHILADELPHIA — Barack Obama confronted the nation's racial divide head-on Tuesday, tackling both black grievance and white resentment in a bold effort to quiet a campaign uproar over race and his former pastor's incendiary statements.

Standing before a row of eight American flags near the building where the Declaration of Independence was adopted, Obama urged the nation to break "a racial stalemate we've been stuck in for years." "The anger is real," he said. "It is powerful, and to simply wish it away, to condemn it without understanding its roots, only serves to widen the chasm of misunderstanding that exists between the races."

The speech, at the National Constitution Center, was by far the most prominent airing of racial issues in Obama's 13-month campaign to become the nation's first black president. It was prompted by the wider notice his former pastor's racial statements have been receiving in the past week or so.



TOM GARLISH | MCT
Democratic presidential candidate Barack Obama waves at the conclusion of his speech on race and politics at the National Constitution Center Tuesday in Philadelphia, Penn.

» SEE OBAMA, PAGE 5

CITY | COURTS

Reeder pleads not guilty

By **Nora Maberry**
News Editor

Bodie Reeder, 21, pleaded not guilty on Tuesday to charges of driving under the influence. Reeder requested a jury trial.

Associate Judge Brien O'Brien set a status hearing for 9 a.m. April 29.

Reeder was arrested at 2:17 a.m. on Jan. 11 at Ninth Street and Woodlawn Drive on the charge of driving under the influence.

Driving under the influence of alcohol is a Class A misdemeanor and is punishable by serving time



Bodie Reeder

in a county jail for less than a year. A fine of \$2,500 or an amount specified in the offense, whichever is greater, can be levied.

Reeder started the final nine football games for the Panthers this season.



He passed for 1,726 yards and 10 touchdowns this past season as a sophomore.

The Ivesdale native led the Panthers to an 8-4 record, a second-place finish in the Ohio Valley Conference and a third straight trip to the Football Championship Subdivision playoffs this year.

The charges against Reeder will not affect his scholarship from Eastern, and it will not affect his eligibility on the Eastern football team.

Nora Maberry can be reached at nemaberry@eiu.edu or 581-7942.

EIU WEATHER

<p>WEDNESDAY</p> <p>37° 32°</p> <p>Rain</p> <p>NNW10-15 mph</p>	<p>THURSDAY</p> <p>48° 41°</p> 	<p>WEATHER BRIEF</p> <p>Rain will continue to fall in the area today, but expect it to stop by the late PM hours. Colder temperatures return with a daytime high in the high 30s. The overnight low will be in the low 30s.</p>
<p>FRIDAY</p> <p>55° 31°</p> 	<p>For current conditions visit EIU WeatherCenter at www.eiu.edu/~weather</p>	

ENTERTAINMENT | A DAILY LOOK

Jackie Chan, Jet Li to collaborate again in film

The Associated Press

HONG KONG — Jackie Chan and Jet Li say they had so much fun making their first movie together they are planning a second one.

Kung fu cinema's two biggest stars expressed admiration for each other at a Hong Kong news conference Tuesday to promote their first collaboration, the \$75 million Hollywood production, "The Forbidden Kingdom."

Chan said "The Forbidden Kingdom" is not the movie he wanted to make his first collaboration with Li, but he signed on when the project came along because "if I had kept waiting, who knows how long I would have had to wait."

Chan and Li said they want to shoot another movie together based on a script they started working on 15 years ago, but both stars refused to give details. Both actors were lukewarm in earlier comments about

the "The Forbidden Kingdom" will be released in the U.S. on April 18.

'English Patient' director Minghella dies at 54

LONDON — Anthony Minghella, a screenwriter, opera director and the Oscar-winning filmmaker of "The English Patient," died of a hemorrhage Tuesday at age 54.

Spokesman Jonathan Rutter said Minghella died early Tuesday at London's Charing Cross Hospital. Rutter said Minghella underwent surgery last week for a growth in his neck. He said the operation "seemed to have gone well. At 5 a.m. today he had a fatal hemorrhage."

Minghella was in Botswana recently filming an adaptation of Alexander McCall Smith's novel "The No. 1 Ladies' Detective Agency." The project was the latest of Minghella's literary adaptations, which also included the U.S. Civil War saga "Cold Mountain" and the World

War II-era story "The English Patient," which came out in 1996 and earned the Academy Award for best picture, with Minghella winning an Oscar for best director.

Science fiction writer Clarke dies at age 90

COLOMBO, Sri Lanka — Arthur C. Clarke, a visionary science fiction writer who won worldwide acclaim with more than 100 books on space, science and the future, died Wednesday in his adopted home of Sri Lanka. He was 90.

Clarke, who had battled debilitating post-polio syndrome since the 1960s and sometimes used a wheelchair, died at 1:30 a.m. after suffering breathing problems, said aide Rohan De Silva. From 1950, Clarke began a prolific output of both fiction and non-fiction, sometimes publishing three books in a year. He published his best-selling "3001: The Final Odyssey" when he was 79.

PHOTO OF THE DAY

A conductor's stare



JOHN BAILEY | THE DAILY EASTERN NEWS
Robert Katkov-Trevino, conductor of the Millennium Chamber Players, looks over at his violinist while conducting the ensemble during the world premiere of the musical piece "Reinvention 1" on Tuesday night at the Tarble Arts Center.

WHAT THE... | WEIRD, UNEXPECTED, BIZARRE NEWS

Naked man accused of causing damage to hotel, store

The Associated Press

LANCASTER, Pa. — A hotel and grocery store are assessing the damage after a naked man ran amok and allegedly did thousands of dollars' worth of damage.

West Lampeter Township police said they were dispatched to the Willow Valley Resort, and later Darrenkamp's Market, on Friday amid reports of a nude man on a rampage.

Some office space at the resort was trashed, and a forklift was driven into an interior wall, also damaging an overhead sewer pipe, authorities said.

Police said the suspect, whom they identified as Nicholas Hadzick, 28, of Freeland, then crossed the street and entered Darrenkamp's in the Willow Valley Shopping Center, causing more destruction.

Joe Darrenkamp, company president, said Hadzick threw chairs and tossed a 300-pound pizza oven to the floor, as well as three scales, valued at about \$7,000 each. Also damaged was a \$90,000 meat-wrapping machine, several soda coolers and the windshield of a delivery truck. The incident was captured on the market's surveillance cameras, Darrenkamp said. He estimated the cost of the damage at about \$40,000.

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COMMENTS / TIPS
 Contact any of the above staff members you believe your information is relevant to at their provided e-mail address.
 You may also call 581-7942 or visit the student publications newsroom at 1811 Buzzard Hall.

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• **Calendar** - Dennews.com's weekly calendar lists events in the Charleston/Mattoon area. Visitors can also add their own events to the calendar, informing the community of what is going on in the area.



CAMPUS | PERFORMANCE

WHODUNNIT?

Student Government's murder mystery event 'Maybury DOA' has students and faculty wondering

By Ashley Mefford
Senior Campus Reporter

Erin Morettes and Amanda Raz have known each other since high school.

Raz, a senior special education major and art major, wanted Morettes to come with her to "Maybury DOA," a murder-mystery event, sponsored by Student Government Tuesday night in the Grand Ballroom of the Martin Luther King Jr. University Union.

"I thought it would be a really neat experience, and I wanted to bring Erin," Raz said.

The event was a part of Student Government's student-teacher interaction program.

Students were required to bring a faculty member with them.

The Champaign Urbana Theatre Company hosted the murder-mystery event.

The plot of the performance was the citizens of Maybury were at a dinner to acknowledge Sam Goldwin, who was making a documentary.

But the events during the dinner did not go as planned.

Randy Taylor, a character played by Les Schulte, had been having an affair.

Soon after, Les Schulte's Randy character died. Then Sam, played by Rita Schulte, died.

Students and faculty members



ERIN MATHENY | THE DAILY EASTERN NEWS

Maybury Sheriff Randy Taylor, played by Les Schulte, tells filmmaker Samanta Goldwyn, played by Rita Schulte, to stop filming him for her documentary at Tuesday's murder mystery dinner.

had to try to figure out who murdered the characters.

The members of the theater company mingled with the audience, letting them ask questions regarding the murder.

The students and faculty were to look at the evidence, both physical and verbal, to help solve the murder.

Throughout the night, members of the theater company were placing clues on the tables where the audience members were sitting.

Theater members also left notes, helping to identify the murderer.

They then voted on whom they named the murderer.

After the investigation, it was found out that Ernest committed the murder. Doug Rokke played the villain.

Freshman Weston Steinberg brought mathematics professor Andrew White.

Steinberg had taken White's University Foundations class and is now

enrolled in a math class with him.

"I nominated Weston to be an Emerging Leader, which is a group on campus for students who show potential," White said.

Raz said she liked the fact that the murder-mystery actors came and talked to the audience members.

"There was never a dull moment," Raz said.

Ashley Mefford can be reached at 581-7942 or at almefford@eiu.edu.

CAMPUS | STUDENT GOVERNMENT

Marketing director vote set for tonight

Compensation for Scott Murray will be debated

By Rick Kambic
Student Government Reporter

The hiring of a Student Government marketing director will be voted on at tonight's Student Senate meeting.

Scott Murray, a junior rhetoric major, would be paid \$10 per hour for up to \$500 per semester and would design fliers for Student Government events.

Student Senate Speaker Megan Ogulnick wrote the bill and has had Murray designing fliers for several weeks, free of charge.

Ogulnick said he usually charges clients \$15 or \$20 per hour as a web designer, but he is reducing his price for the student organization.

Student Senator Adam Martinelli was one of many who was concerned about the need for a marketing director at the March 5 meeting.

Good art students who want professional exposure could make the fliers free of charge, Martinelli said.

The idea of giving marketing responsibility to senate members was also discussed. However, a lack of senate member involvement has been a topic of discussion recently.

If a senate member does the



FILE PHOTO | THE DAILY EASTERN NEWS

Alison Kostelich, Student Government representative for vice president of academic affairs, speaks about the advertisements for upcoming events for the student body at a past meeting. Tonight's meeting will focus on the hiring and compensation for marketing director Scott Murray.

advertising and is not paid, he or she may not produce as high-quality work as a paid non-member, said Student Executive Vice President Levi Bulgar.

Student government representatives are elected for their ideas and communication skills, not for computer-based skills, senate member

Ryan Kerch said.

But several senate members asked why Murray has been willing to work for free now.

Ogulnick responded that the senate needs to pay Murray for the work he has already done.

Alison Kostelich, student vice president for academic affairs, point-

ed out a flaw in paying Murray \$10 an hour now in compensation and then possibly paying him \$7.50 next year after a decision is made.

The \$500 per semester has been incorporated into the fiscal year 2009 budget that was presented to the Apportionment Board.

If the resolution fails, the budget proposal may need adjusted, Ogulnick said.

Another vote will determine whether 12 computers in the Student Activity Center get replaced at a cost of \$13,000.

Bulgar's budget proposal was approved by the Apportionment Board but has been met with steep opposition from fellow senate members because of the high cost.

Senate member Chris Kromphardt asked Bulgar during the March 5 meeting to return with an explanation of the possible recycling plan. The university cycles computers throughout the campus to replace older computers before new machines are purchased.

If the resolution passes, Bulgar plans to have new rules written to regulate the content usage to prevent virus exposure.

Senate member Eric Hiltner also expressed concerns about whether the new computers are needed because of the limited usage.

Rick Kambic can be reached at 581-7942 or at rkwambic@eiu.edu.

CAMPUS BRIEFS

Celebrate Mister

Rogers: Wear a sweater

WEIU-TV and Hit-Mix 88.9 want students to celebrate what would have been Mister Roger's 80th birthday by wearing a sweater March 20.

On March 20, WEIU-TV/Radio will give trolley rides from its studio to downtown Charleston in the Lincoln Springs Resort Trolley. Students need to bring a non-perishable food item to the studio to receive a ride.

The rides will be from noon to 5 p.m. All food collected will benefit the Charleston Food Pantry.

Hit-Mix 88.9 started giving out prizes March 17 for the celebration during "Won't You be my Neighbor?" Days.

Food donations will also be accepted until May 21.

Contact Jana Johnson at 581-9348 for more information.

Last day to audition for May production

Auditions for Mary Zimmerman's "Metamorphoses" will be held 7-9 p.m. today at the Charleston Alley Theatre on Monroe Avenue.

Five male and five female roles are available. Those wanting to audition should be ready to present a one-minute monologue or do a reading from the script and should wear comfortable clothing and shoes. They should also bring a copy of their personal schedule through May and bring a head shot if possible.

Jeri Hughes is directing. Planned performances are slated to be May 9-12 and May 16-19.

Contact the Charleston Alley Theatre at 345-2287 for more information.

Design a T-shirt for Red Cross fundraiser

Eastern's Office of Orientation and the Coles/Cumberland County American Red Cross are sponsoring the Eastern Run for a Reason: Run Red. The run will benefit the local disaster relief fund. The run/walk will be held Sept. 27.

The Office of Orientation and the Coles/Cumberland County American Red Cross are sponsoring a T-shirt design contest. The winning design will be placed on event materials and the designer will win a \$50 gift card from Wal-Mart.

The design must include original art and be a maximum of two colors. The design must incorporate Eastern and the Red Cross and needs to be race related.

Submissions are due to the Office of Orientation by Friday. Designers should include their name, e-mail address and phone number with entries.

Call 581-6435 for more information.

—Compiled by Associate News Editor Stephen Di Benedetto

COMMENTS, CORRECTIONS OR EVENTS

To report any errors, local events or general suggestions for future editions, please contact our Editor in Chief, Matt Daniels, via:

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Other views on news

'OBAMA-MANIA' THEORY

West Virginia U. — There is nothing more magnetic than a man who makes promises.

He is fluent in the charm that could only be taught within political science and the wisdom that progresses with age.

According to *Rolling Stone*, he harbors, "natural grace, eloquence, wit and intelligence" that rival JFK.

According to *GQ* "he chats knowledgeably and jokes" while sporting "a black suit, white shirt and shimmering silver tie." He is, of course, the Democratic senator from Illinois, Barack Obama.

Recently, I feel as though I am bombarded with imagery and print glorifying Obama because the elections are near.

The fact that I would be exposed to such articles is inevitable.

The foreign ideas, to me, are the many comments — around campus and within the media — that describe Obama as a heartthrob of sorts.

I witnessed an interview on MTV recently that gave young men and women a chance to ask the senator questions.

There were quite a few intellectually relevant inquiries and a single memorable one regarding whom Obama would want to play him in a movie.

The Senator smiled and answered coyly with "Denzel Washington."

I can appreciate Obama's ability to be personable enough to answer questions that are not completely dry or serious — I am sure many young people appreciate this as well.

With his obvious charm, sense of style, ability to fix anything and apparent rejection of fighting dirty, Obama seems to own the hearts of many women across the nation.

What was recently dubbed "Obama-mania" seems to be sweeping the nation.

After being exposed to an influx of media celebrating Obama's good qualities, I can see why many men and women support him as a candidate, but as far as making Obama out to be in a league with Hollywood hunks, that is up for debate.

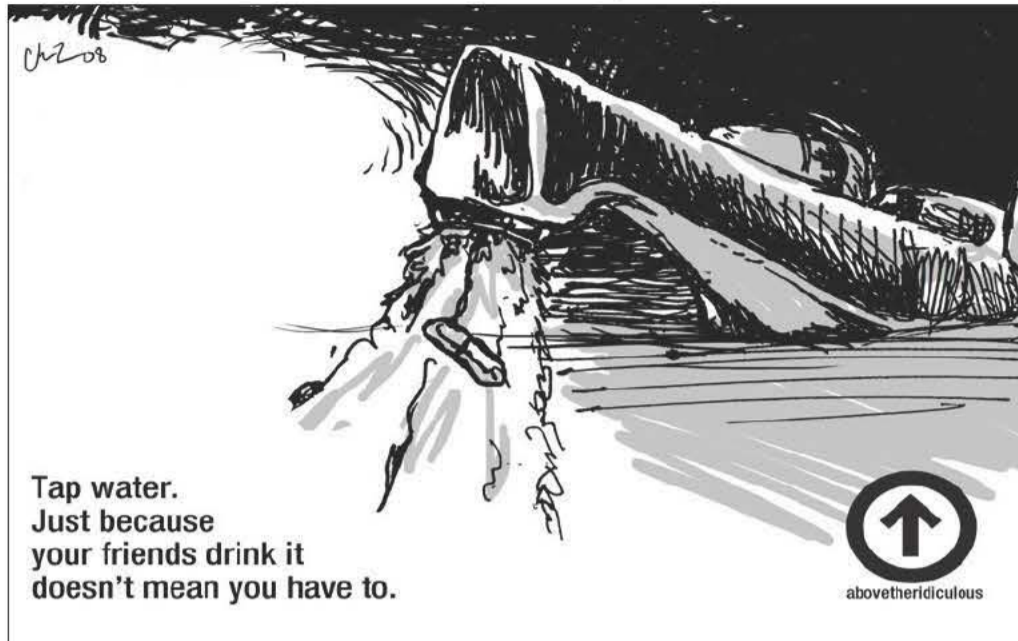
Stephanie Liden
Daily Athenaeum

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Letters to the editor can be submitted at any time on any topic to the Opinions Editor to be published in *The Daily Eastern News*.

The DEN's policy is to run all letters that are not libelous or potentially harmful. They must be less than 250 words. Letters to the editor can be brought in with identification to *The DEN* at 1811 Buzzard Hall or submitted electronically from the author's EIU e-mail address to DENopinions@gmail.com.

Drawn from the news | Chris Lee



Tap water.
Just because
your friends drink it
doesn't mean you have to.

STAFF EDITORIAL

Make yourself comfortable

It's an issue most people are uncomfortable with.

They are uncomfortable looking at it.

They are uncomfortable talking about it.

They are uncomfortable dealing with it.

That "it" is their own body.

Whether a man doesn't have a perfect, chiseled set of abs, or a woman doesn't have the perfect-looking legs, college students in today's society are often finding flaws with their own bodies.

And that needs to end.

It is important to take care of your body.

We are not denying that fact.

Lack of physical activity is one of the top killers in this country.

A government study presented in the *Journal of American Medical Association* in 2004 showed that in 2000, physical inactivity resulted in 400,000 deaths.

Exercise is needed. But do so in proportion.

Don't destroy your entire life because of your distorted body image.

Keep your body image in perspective for what it really is and not your warped sense of it.

Dr. Susan Bordo addressed the body image topic Tuesday night on campus in a lecture titled "Not just 'A White Girl's Thing': The Changing Face of Food and Body Image Problems."

Bordo, an English and gender studies professor at the University of Kentucky and author of several books relating to body image, said a woman's vision is retrained now, thanks in part to the media.

Letter to the editor

Stopping the meth epidemic

The Coles County Meth Awareness Coalition has been busy planning and partnering with agencies in the surrounding area.

Coming up March 27, the coalition will be hosting a Leadership Summit at the Martin Luther King Jr. University Union Grand Ballroom from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m., with a wide variety of speakers.

The agenda comprises of local and state representatives discussing meth trends as well as other drug-related trends in the area.

At one point during the day, we will also discuss the mess that meth leaves behind in housing. The keynote speaker this year is a representative from the newly launched Illinois Meth Project.

This is a large-scale, statewide prevention campaign in the Springfield, Champaign and Decatur market areas, which include Coles County.

The Illinois Meth Project is a researched-based prevention program focused around the slogan, "Not Even Once."

The project revolves around an aggressive saturation-level media campaign, including television, radio, print and billboard advertisements.

The Coles County Meth Awareness Coalition meets the first Tuesday of each month at the Sar-

OUR VIEW

• **Situation:** In celebrating Women's History and Awareness Month, a guest speaker asked students to take a close look at body image.

• **Stance:** Too many college students have a distorted view of body image. We should learn to be healthy and happy in our own bodies.

The average woman is 5 feet, 4 inches tall and weighs 143 pounds, Bordo said. The average model does not meet these measurements at all, and comes in at 5-10 and 107 pounds, Bordo said.

Women, put down the magazine covers flaunting the likes of Nicole Richie or Paris Hilton, who have not set the best precedent for taking care of our bodies.

Whether it be in a size 2, a size 8 or a size 12, be happy in your own body.

Stop cutting out the pictures of super models and taping them to your wall.

No matter how much you try to look like Heidi Klum or Gisele Bundchen, chances are you won't.

Men, stop spending hours doing crunches in the gym, obsessing about whether you can have a six-pack or huge arms worthy of a professional football player.

Stop striving to be on the cover of "Muscle & Fitness" magazine.

No matter how much you want to look like Terrell Owens or David Beckham, chances are you won't.

Just be happy with yourself.

ah Bush Lincoln Health Education Center.

Our April meeting will feature Vivian Walker from Central Illinois Alcoholism and Drug Council discussing "Meth from Mexico."

We will also assemble the second round of Kids in Crisis Carepacks, which are given to the Department of Children and Family Services, local law enforcement and the East Central Illinois Task Force when removing children from homes because of drug related problems.

The public is invited to attend our monthly educational meetings; we appreciate your support and hope to bring insight on what is occurring in Coles County.

Many of us have seen the destructive and ravaging effects of this highly addictive drug and know how difficult it is to stop use once someone starts. We each have the responsibility to stop this epidemic in our community.

According to the Illinois Meth Project findings, teens do not think about the risks of using meth before they start. Additionally, some teens imagine that the drug could benefit them.

The Meth Project advertisements are graphic and are proven to have an effect on children's attitudes toward meth. These ads show the real risks associated with meth and how it affects the individual and their family and friends.

To learn more about our Leadership Summit or to find out more about the Illinois Meth Project, visit our Web site at www.colescountymeth.org.

Ke'an Rogers
Board president of Coles County Meth
Awareness Coalition



SARAH BRESNAHAN

Following
through on
tough times

Currently, my thought bubble looks like a Jackson Pollock painting.

It's hard for me to know where to begin because so many things are tied to others, and writing it down just doesn't seem to do it justice.

For the last few weeks, Folger's coffee singles and encouraging words from close friends are what keep me going.

This has been the hardest semester I've ever had.

Dealing with scholastic pressures on top of job pressures on top of social pressures can make a person go insane.

It's been very difficult for me to find time to even sleep, let alone breathe easy.

Why is it that once the middle years of college hit, everything goes awry?

Classes go from breezy to almost unmanageable, boyfriends become "that guy I'm kind of seeing," and friends who you saw every day are now so buried in their own issues that when you run into them on the sidewalk, you barely recognize each other.

It makes me wonder if I was ever properly prepared for this. Did I miss the memo regarding the day they were passing out Life Manuals?

What makes it worse is to see how other people are handling the same situations.

Either they breeze through them like they aren't affected, or they are just as strung out as you are, if not worse.

Right now I'm listening to "Walk Away" by Ben Harper.

"They say time will make this all go away, but it's time that's taken my 'tomorrows' and turned them into 'yesterdays'. And it's so hard to do, but so easy to say. Sometimes, sometimes, you just have to walk away."

I've considered it, you know, walking away.

But then I think about all of the other things I've quit in my life because they were too hard at the time.

I've dropped classes, stopped music lessons, changed my major, etc.

When do we stop quitting and start committing to the task? Do we wait until we've dug ourselves in too deep to escape?

You can't think of these stressful times as hurdles to just bear and cross and hope that they finished soon.

These are the learning experiences that make our lives memorable.

As usual, I'm ending this with a challenge.

I dare you to see something through this week.

Whether it is asking that person out who you've been eyeing all semester, finishing that project that was due last week, or even just going to class — do it.

You might be surprised at the outcome.

Sarah Bresnahan is a junior journalism major. She can be reached at 581-7942 or at DENopinions@gmail.com.

EDITORIAL POLICY

The editorial is the majority opinion of the DEN editorial board. Reach the opinions editor at:
DENopinions@gmail.com

» **Banner**

FROM PAGE 1

Unfortunately, only a few people knew how to work with the mainframe if the system has a problem.

Witsman said this was one of the reasons the university decided to upgrade to a new system.

"Now we have not only a company that can help us, but hundreds of other universities that we can contact to say 'How are you doing this? How do you handle this at your university?'" Witsman said.

The switch to Banner means not only an increase in resources when the university encounters problems, but also a decrease in costs.

Witsman said because of the new system, the university will spend less money on hardware and software than it did when it was using the mainframe.

However, the university is not done using the mainframe yet. Some of the old data on the system, such as payroll information, still has to be moved onto Banner.

CHRISTIE ROZLOWSKI | CHAIR OF THE COUNCIL ON ACADEMIC AFFAIRS

"Hundreds of schools use Banner. It's the best thing that's out there, it may not be perfect, but it is the best thing out there."

"Once that's done, we basically pull the plug on the thing," Witsman said.

Since Banner's implementation, Witsman said the new system has been able to "mold to the university's needs."

Five main modules are within the system: human resources, advancement, student, finance and financial aid. The implementation of the program began with finance, which became fully active in 2006.

At this time, departments and administrators were able to begin using Banner for budgeting and purchasing.

Before the first Banner payrolls in January 2007, Witsman said the university had several consulting sessions with the software company.

The group worked with the company to figure out how to get the software to work with the way Eastern processes payroll.

Witsman said programmers were eventually able to set the system up so it operated on the university's pay cycle. A test run was then conducted to ensure the proper deductions were taken out of people's paychecks. By the end of 2007, time cards were replaced with automated time reporting.

Witsman said the three-year process of switching from the mainframe to Banner has affected everyone on campus.

Registrar Sue Harvey said Banner has made it easier for different areas of the university to work together. "Banner is a more integrated system

so offices can now more easily share information," Harvey said.

The new system has also eliminated tasks that once had to be performed manually, such as checking that students' meet prerequisite requirements, Harvey added.

While there have been some minor problems with the system along the way, Roszkowski said the switch from the mainframe to Banner has put Eastern on "the same page" with other universities.

"Hundreds of schools use Banner," she said. "It's the best thing that's out there, it may not be perfect, but it is the best thing out there."

Barbara Harrington can be reached at 581-7942 or at bharrington@eiu.edu.

» **Obama**

FROM PAGE 1

He said he recognized his race has been a major issue in a campaign that has taken a "particularly divisive turn."

Many people have been turning to the Internet to view statements by his longtime pastor, the Rev. Jeremiah Wright, who suggested in one sermon that the United States brought the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks on itself, and in another, said blacks should damn America for continuing to mistreat them.

Obama rejected Wright's divisive statements but still embraced the man who brought him to Christianity, officiated at his wedding, baptized his two daughters and inspired the title of his book "The Audacity of Hope."

"I can no more disown him than I can disown the black community," Obama said. "I can no more disown him than I can my white grand-

mother - a woman who helped raise me, a woman who sacrificed again and again for me, a woman who loves me as much as she loves anything in this world, but a woman who once confessed her fear of black men who passed by her on the street, and who on more than one occasion has uttered racial or ethnic stereotypes that made me cringe."

Obama's father is a black man from Kenya who left the family when he was 2. He was raised by his white mother and her parents in Hawaii.

Wright's controversial statements have gotten new life as his church's most prominent member became the front-runner for the Democratic presidential nomination.

A CBS News poll taken Sunday and Monday indicated most voters had heard at least something about Wright's comments, and about a third said they made them feel more negative.

Obama at first tried to avoid the controversy. Then he responded Friday in a blog entry on the Huffing-

ton Post in which he said he was not in church to hear those comments and condemned them. That only increased news coverage, and Obama's advisers said he came to them Saturday saying he wanted to deliver a major speech to address the controversy and broader problems of race in the country.

Hillary Rodham Clinton, Obama's chief Democratic rival, said she was glad Obama had given the speech.

"Issues of race and gender in America have been complicated throughout our history, and they are complicated in this primary campaign," said Clinton, also campaigning in Philadelphia.

"There have been detours and pitfalls along the way, but we should remember that this is a historic moment for the Democratic Party and for our country. We will be nominating the first African-American or woman for the presidency of the United States, and that is something that all Americans can and should celebrate."

Obama's speech also drew praise from one of his former Democratic presidential rivals who has not endorsed him or Clinton. Delaware Sen. Joe Biden called it powerful, truthful and "one of most important speeches we've heard in a long time."

"He told the story of America - both the good and the bad - and I believe his speech will come to represent an important step forward in race relations in our country," Biden said.

Obama advisers said he wrote the deeply personal speech himself. They said it was delivered in Philadelphia because of the city's historical significance, not because it is the most populous black city in Pennsylvania, site of the next primary vote on April 22.

Obama said he came to Wright's church, Trinity United Church of Christ in Chicago, nearly 20 years ago because he was inspired by the pastor's message of hope and his inspiration to rebuild the black community.

» **Flood**

FROM PAGE 1

If an area does flood, public works tries to determine if the cause, such as a plugged culvert, can be fixed.

"The only other thing we can do is to delineate the flooded areas with proper traffic control to make the public aware of the conditions," Buescher said.

The last report of flooding on Eastern's campus was April 6, 2006, when four inches of rain fell in Charleston. McKinney Hall experienced basement flooding, caused by water running down an outside wall into the basement.

Installing new drain tile solved the flooding problem, said Mark Hudson, director of Eastern Housing and Dining Services.

Installing new drainage tiles also solved a flooding problem in University Court, Hudson said.

When there is a significant amount of rainfall expected, Facilities Planning and Management will do drain checks to try and prevent flooding, Hudson said.

"Getting up to four inches of rain in a 24-hour period is pretty unpredictable," Hudson said. "But we're hopeful that we will have things covered."

If a residence hall does experience flooding, Building Service Workers are usually the first to respond.

The University Police Department would be called in the event of a flooding, said Police Chief Adam Due.

"We would no doubt be called and respond, but Facilities Planning and Management would handle flooding," Due said.

The weather for the rest of March is predicted to be warm with normal precipitation.

"Currently, a strong La Nina episode is taking place in the equatorial Pacific. The influence of this episode on our region is likely to provide above-normal precipitation amounts for the month of March," Craig said. "In addition, above-normal temperatures are expected."

Nora Maberry can be reached at 581-7942 or at nemaberry@eiu.edu.

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LOCAL | CITY COUNCIL

Council approves Fourth Street bid

Reconstruction of area planned for May

By Matt Hopf
City Editor

The Charleston City Council accepted a \$1.45 million bid from Feutz Construction of Paris to widen and resurface Fourth Street between Polk and Madison avenues at Tuesday night's meeting.

Construction for the project will start in May and be substantially completed in December, with minor work to be done in spring. The street will be widened by two and a half feet. Construction will include sidewalk replacement and sewer work.

"It's a project we've been planning for years," said Mayor John Inyart.

About 80 percent of the funds for the project will come from the Fed-

eral Highway Administration after the city partnered with the Illinois Department of Transportation in a Local Agency Agreement Federal Partnership. The city will pay for the rest through Motor Fuel Tax Funds.

The council also placed the budget for the coming fiscal year on file.

Inyart said the budget would be on file for about a month, which would give the council time to review it.

City Manager Scott Smith thanked all the directors and City Comptroller Heather Kuykendall for their work and said the budget was finished ahead of schedule.

Smith said the proposed budget is \$27,438,437. The coming fiscal year starts May 1 and ends April 30, 2009. A vote on the budget is set for the April 15 city council meeting.

In other business, the city



MITCH SURPRENANT | THE DAILY EASTERN NEWS

Council member Larry Rennels gathers his thoughts during Tuesday's brief city council meeting at City Hall.

renewed its contract with Excel Carpet Care of Charleston for janitorial service in City Hall, the Police Department, the Police Department

Training facility and the Lincoln Douglas Debate Museum.

The city will pay \$2,605 per month and 45 cents per square foot for floor stripping and waxing as needed, and 23 cents per square foot for carpet cleaning as needed.

A contract with Mickey's Linen of Champaign for \$322 per month to supply the Public Works Department with uniforms, coveralls, shop towels and floor mats was approved.

The council also approved to ban parking on Woodfall Drive from Hawthorne Drive to 890 feet east of Hawthorne Drive.

Stan Adkins, Bob Wagoner and Wes Whiteside were also reappointed to the Charleston Tree Commission.

Matt Hopf can be reached at 581-7945 or at mthopf@eiu.edu.

CAMPUS | FACULTY SENATE

Writing Across the Curriculum report introduces goals

Members at meeting also concerned with diversity requirement

By Brittini Garcia
Faculty Senate Reporter

Debra Reid prepared a report from the Writing Across the Curriculum committee and presented it to Faculty Senate at Tuesday's meeting.

Reid, a WAC representative, said the purpose of the WAC proposal is to implement a program that suits the needs of students and faculty.

"I want to clarify WAC is not a purpose to assessment on how it occurs in the classroom," Reid said.

What WAC wants is to be distant from assessment, she said.

WAC plans to return to its academic focus and leave assessment to the Committee for the Assessment of Student Learning.

Daiva Markelis, current WAC chair, and Tim Taylor, incoming



BRYCE PEAKE | THE DAILY EASTERN NEWS

Members of Eastern's Faculty Senate discuss the progress of the Council on Academic Affairs during their meeting Tuesday afternoon.

WAC chair, are working on a three-year plan for sustained programming and sustained funding.

Programs will include speakers, workshops, and writing seminars.

The plan encourages partnering with faculty development to ensure access to WAC offerings. WAC is also attempting to be proactive in making student resources available.

"This is a cross-college and department writing opportunity as a university-wide goal," Reid said.

Reid said WAC also encourages the university to continue EIU Reads, a book program for incoming freshmen. Faculty, staff and administrators then lead book discussion groups.

Reid made it clear to the senate that WAC supports making awards for effective writing more visible.

Christie Roszkowski, chair of Council on Academic Affairs, also approached the senate to give a CAA update. The first topic discussed was

curriculum integration.

"I think we are in the same categories as other school," Roszkowski said. "We are moving forward, but we need to do more."

Roszkowski researched different schools to get a sense of curriculum issues they face. She said more multicultural students are making up the student body at Eastern more than before.

"Curriculum integration is how to connect different people to get

together and work," said senate member Bud Fischer.

One concern Fischer brought to the table was with selling the meaning of general education to students.

"We aren't behind everyone," Fischer said. "We need to put out what gen ed does and how it will benefit us."

Also at the meeting, Student Body President Cole Rogers presented a proposal to change curriculum to further cultural diversity requirements. Students are required to have three credit hours toward a cultural diversity class.

Rogers wants to change it to six credit hours. Rogers said this allows Eastern to take a leadership role, fulfill the university's mission and change society.

"I think this is a need for this," Rogers said. "It exposes different cultures and views."

Brittini Garcia can be reached at 581-7942 or at bmgarcia@eiu.edu.

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STATE BRIEFS

U of I to become home of new research center

URBANA — A new partnership between Microsoft Corporation and Intel Incorporated as well as the University of Illinois will help consumer products use the same technology that drives high-speed supercomputers.

The U of I will become home to one of two new research centers.

The \$18 million Universal Parallel Computing Research Center will involve 22 faculty members from the school's computer science and computer engineering departments.

CVS Caremark agrees to settle fraud claims

CHICAGO — CVS Caremark Corp. agreed to pay almost \$37 million to nearly two dozen states and the federal government to settle claims that the nation's largest pharmacy chain billed Medicaid programs for a more expensive form of an antacid.

Attorneys said the nation's largest pharmacy chain gave Medicaid patients capsules of Ranitidine, a generic version of the heartburn medication Zantac, instead of less expensive tablets.

Authorities said the switch is illegal and allowed the company to charge more.

WORLD | TIBET

Violence exposes divisions in exiles

Dalai Lama says he will step down if it gets out of control

DHARMSALA, India — Tibetan exiles saw a chance to put China on the spot ahead of the Beijing Olympics — but never expected their protests to spread to Tibet and turn violent.

Now the Dalai Lama is threatening to quit if his people don't return to peaceful resistance.

It's a warning he has used before — telling Tibetans to return to peaceful protests during 1989 unrest — but this time it comes amid deep divisions within the Tibetan community between those who back his pacifist approach and an angry young generation that demands action.

While the situation inside Tibet remains unclear, much of the violence last week appears to have been committed by Tibetans against Han Chinese — a fact that troubles the 72-year-old Dalai Lama, who has long called for Tibetans to have significant autonomy within China.

"Whether we like it or not, we have to live together side-by-side," the Dalai Lama told reporters Tuesday in the northern Indian hill town of Dharmasala, seat of the Tibetan government-in-exile. "We must oppose Chinese policy but not the

Chinese. Not on a racist basis."

Though fearful of a Chinese crackdown — he compared the plight of Tibetans to that of "a young deer in a tiger's hands" — the Dalai Lama insisted he could not abide violence by his own people. Peaceful protest is the only way, he said.

He said that if the situation gets out of control, his "only option is to completely resign."

An aide later clarified that the Dalai Lama meant he would step down as the political leader of the exile government — not as the supreme religious leader of Tibetan Buddhists.

Regardless, his call for Tibetans to work with the Chinese stands in stark contrast to the "Free Tibet" chants of thousands of Tibetan youths, Buddhist monks and nuns who have marched the steep paths of Dharmasala in recent days, angry faces painted with Tibetan flags and chests smeared with blood-red paint.

They want action not diplomacy, independence not autonomy.

"There is growing frustration among the younger generations. They have been talking for 20 years, and nothing came out of it," said Tsewang Rigzin, head of the Tibetan Youth Congress.

He urged "the protesters in Tibet to continue in their protests until China gets out of Tibet."

While hesitant to directly criticize the Dalai Lama — who is deeply revered by Tibetans — and careful not to endorse violence, the younger activists warn that patience with his approach is running thin.

"I certainly hope the middle way approach will be reviewed. The Tibetan nation and Tibetan culture are on the verge of extinction," Rigzin said.

Another activist, Tenzin Choe-don, a 28-year-old student, said: "It is time for a change in Tibet and the Tibetan movement."

The activists argue that the Dalai Lama is squandering a golden opportunity by not opposing China hosting the Olympics.

"We have to seize the opportunity of the Olympics," Rigzin said. "We have to shift the spotlight while the whole world is watching to show the true color of China."

The Youth Congress and other exile groups began a Dharmasala-to-Tibet walk on March 10 — just before Beijing was to kick off its Olympic celebrations with a torch run through Tibet. It was also the anniversary of a failed 1959 uprising in Tibet that forced the Dalai Lama to flee to India.

When Indian authorities stopped the first march just days after it began, the exiles embarked on a second attempt.

NATION BRIEFS

Wall Street darts higher after rate cut from Fed

NEW YORK — Wall Street stormed higher Tuesday as investors were also galvanized by the Federal Reserve's decision to cut interest rates by three-quarters of a percentage point.

The Dow Jones industrial average soared 420 points, its biggest one-day point gain in more than five years.

The central bank's benchmark fed funds rate is now at 2.25 percent — its lowest level since December 2004.

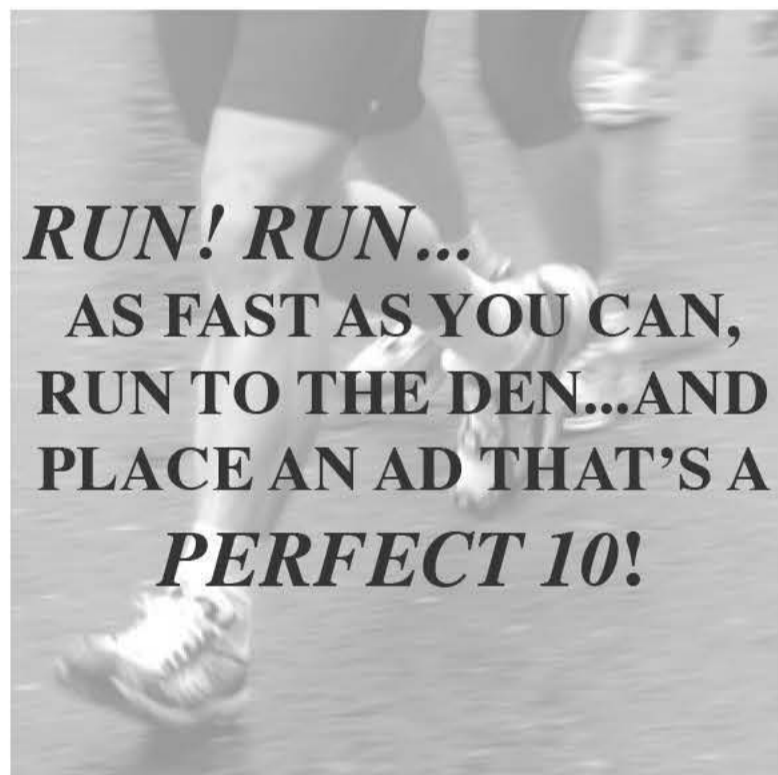
NY governor admits affairs with women

ALBANY, N.Y. — The state's new governor revealed Tuesday that he had affairs with several women, including a state employee.

The confession came a day after he took over for former Gov. Eliot Spitzer, who was driven from office amid a prostitution scandal.

Gov. David Paterson said the affairs happened during a rough patch in his marriage, and that the employee did not work for him.

He said he did not advance her career, and that no campaign or state money was spent on the affairs.



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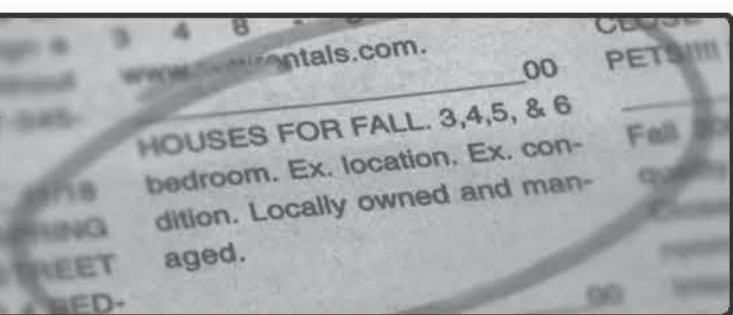
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Summer/Fall 2008--new 1 bedroom apt, 3 blks from campus, 1306 Arthur Ave. Stove, refrig, microwave, dishwasher, W/D, Trash pd. \$495 call 348-7746 www.CharlestonLApts.com

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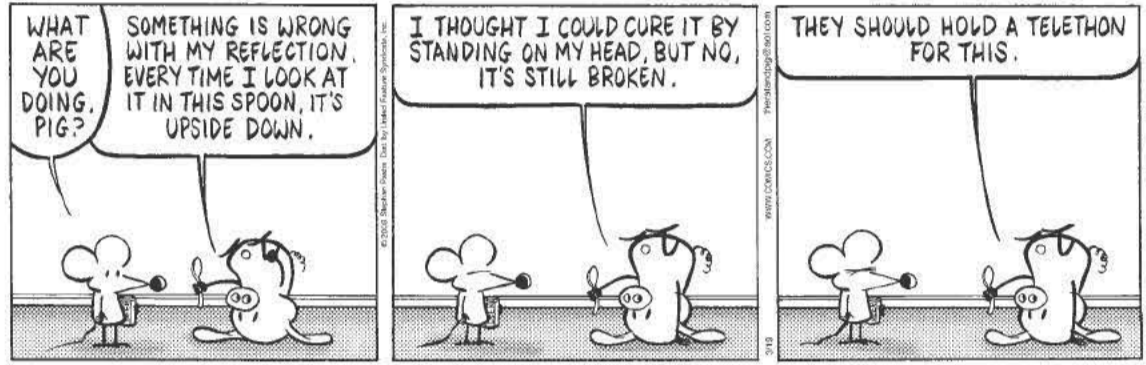
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campus clips

WEIU-TV and HIT MIX 88.9 are celebrating Won't You Wear a Sweater on Thursday, March 20th in honor of what would have been Mr. Rogers 80th birthday. It is in part of Won't You Be My Neighbor Days, celebrated March 17th-21st, with prizes being given away all week. So wear a sweater Thursday, and donate a non-perishable food item to their studios on the 20th to receive a free trolley ride to Downtown Charleston from 12-5 p.m., courtesy of Lincoln Springs Resort Trolley. All food collected will benefit the Charleston Food Pantry. For more information, visit www.weiu.net, www.weihitmix.net, or call Jana Johnson at 581-9348. It truly is...a beautiful day in the WEIU neighborhood!

PEARLS BEFORE SWINE | BY STEPHAN PASTIS



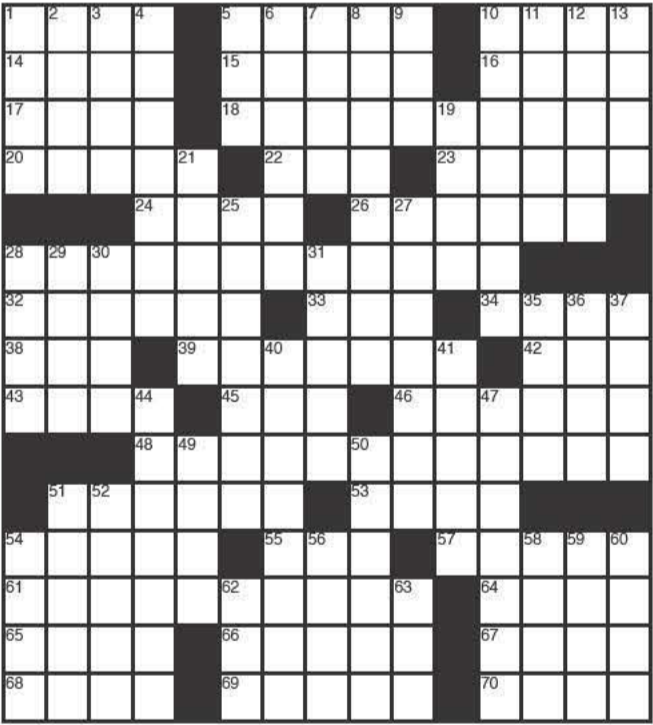
GET FUZZY | BY DARBY CONLEY



The New York Times Crossword

Edited by Will Shortz No. 0206

- ACROSS**
- 1 Tub toy
 - 5 Olympics sportscaster Jim
 - 10 Toaster waffle
 - 14 Facetious "I see"
 - 15 Detective Vance
 - 16 Show approval, in a way
 - 17 Salon sound
 - 18 Exec with no ideas?
 - 20 Sentimental sort
 - 22 Like Beethoven's Symphony No. 8
 - 23 Stiff collars
 - 24 Next in line
 - 26 Vast amounts
 - 28 Headhunter posess?
 - 32 Blue blood, for short
 - 33 It begins with "http"
 - 34 Cry of surprise
 - 38 Sweetie
 - 39 Flies off the handle
 - 42 Flapper wrapper
 - 43 Flexible, electrically
 - 45 Hi-___
 - 46 Workers with white hats
 - 48 First rule of lion taming?
 - 51 Starbucks size
 - 53 Tram loads
- DOWN**
- 1 Part of a jazz combo
 - 2 Shout of dismay
 - 3 "You wish!"
 - 4 Hotdogger's dare
 - 5 Speedometer meas.
 - 6 Groups on risers
 - 7 Ceramist's need
 - 8 One's hands and knees
 - 9 "___-hool"
 - 10 Cloud-nine state
 - 11 Quark-binding particle
 - 12 Market upticks
 - 13 Withdraws, with "out"



PUZZLE BY LARRY SHEARER

ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE



- 19 Dandelion, e.g.
- 21 Streisand title role
- 25 "Whoops!"
- 27 .45 or .22
- 28 "Very funny!"
- 29 Camaro ___-Z
- 30 Brie coat
- 31 Adventurous expedition
- 35 "Oh, sure!"
- 36 Cruise stopover
- 37 "Child's play!"
- 40 Hopsotch site
- 41 Sulu player on "Star Trek"
- 44 Headed up
- 47 Dismissal, slangily
- 49 Professor 'iggins
- 50 "No fooling!"
- 51 Angry look
- 52 Bluffer's ploy, maybe
- 54 "Mask" star, 1985
- 56 Suffix with Saturn
- 58 1953 Leslie Caron film
- 59 Word of woe
- 60 "Toads cause warts," e.g.
- 62 Atlanta Braves' longtime network
- 63 Compass dir.

For answers, ca 1-900-285-5656, \$1.49 a minute; or, w th a cred t card, 1-800-814-5554. Annu a subscr pt ons are ava ab e for the best of Sunday crosswords from the ast 50 years: 1-888-7-ACROSS. On ne subscr pt ons: Today's puzz e and more than 2,000 past puzz es, nyt mes.com/crosswords (\$39.95 a year). Share tps: nyt mes.com/puzz eforum. Crosswords for young so vers: nyt mes.com/earn ng/xwords.

NATIONAL SPORTS ROUNDUP

Mountaineers topple Eagles in play-in game

The Associated Press

Men's College Basketball

DAYTON, Ohio — The Mountaineers finally got The Win.

Jeremy Goode scored 21 points Tuesday night, and Mount St. Mary's got its first NCAA tournament victory, beating Coppin State 69-60 in an opening-round game with two teams that know a lot about losing.

The Mountaineers (19-14) won their last five games to shed their losing record and make the tournament, then got the one victory that's always been well out of reach.

No time to savor this one. Tournament reality hits on Friday, when the Mount plays top-seeded North Carolina in Raleigh — virtually the Tar Heels' backyard.

MLB Cubs 6, Royals 5

MESA, Ariz. — Jason Marquis made it known early in spring training he wants no part of the bullpen this season. Or the Chicago Cubs, if

they assign him there.

The right-hander bolstered his case for a spot in the rotation with another sound start Tuesday, allowing one run and five hits over five-plus innings in the Cubs' victory over the Kansas City Royals.

"I'm prepared to be a starter for the Chicago Cubs," Marquis said. "That's first and foremost. Any other situation that takes me in a different direction, I'll address it when the time comes."

Padres 5, White Sox 0

TUCSON, Ariz. — Wilfredo Ledezma is making a strong pitch for a spot in the San Diego Padres' rotation.

Ledezma allowed two hits in four innings, and the Padres concluded a three-day trip to Tucson with a victory against the Chicago White Sox on Tuesday.

Tony Clark and Michael Barrett delivered RBI doubles during a three-run first, and Paul McNulty led off the sixth with a homer off

Chicago starter John Danks.

Crede's future unknown

TUCSON, Ariz. — Joe Crede couldn't sleep. He couldn't pick up his two young daughters. And he couldn't stand for more than a few minutes if he was talking to someone without taking a seat.

His back was a mess. He's feeling better now after season-ending surgery last June, but the third baseman's future is up in the air. Crede has an expiring contract, and the Chicago White Sox have a promising replacement in Josh Fields.

"I'd obviously want to stay here," Crede said. "This is the organization that gave me the opportunity to realize my childhood dreams."

Rasmus to start at Triple-A

JUPITER, Fla. — Colby Rasmus showed the St. Louis Cardinals he's ready, whenever they're ready for him.

The jewel of the organization's

farm system will begin the season as the starting center fielder at Triple-A Memphis after being reassigned to the minor league camp on Monday. Manager Tony La Russa gave the 21-year-old Rasmus and the other handful of prospects whose dreams were deferred a day off Tuesday to adjust to the new reality.

Rasmus is considered the heir apparent to Jim Edmonds in center field since he was taken in the first round of the 2005 draft out of high school.

Yankees honor VT victims

Before putting on their pinstripes Tuesday, the New York Yankees arrived at Virginia Tech in suits and sunglasses. First stop, the moving memorial to victims of last year's campus massacre.

"It's part of the reason that we're here," Derek Jeter said. "People always ask, well, what can you do? How does this help? I really don't know. If it just makes people smile or enjoy themselves for the three

hours that we're here, it's all worthwhile."

The Yankees brought Alex Rodriguez, Jason Giambi and other stars to Blacksburg, Va., for an exhibition game against college kids that was more about healing than baseball.

NHL Blues 4, Canadiens 3, SO

MONTREAL — Brad Boyes scored his 38th goal in the game and was the only player to score in the shootout and the St. Louis Blues ended a 10-game road losing streak with a win against the Montreal Canadiens on Tuesday night.

Manny Legace stopped Saku Koivu, Andrei Kostitsyn and Alex Kovalev in the shootout as St. Louis got its first road win in more than a month.

It was the Blues' longest road losing streak in franchise history.

Boyes, who scored his team-high 38th goal in the second period, put a backhand past Jaroslav Halak on St. Louis' second attempt.

» Cusack

FROM PAGE 12

Whether you have interest for a particular school or not, I beg you to tune into CBS at some time during the day and watch the best basketball of the year. Conference games are fun, but they don't match the intensity of March Madness. And forget about the National Basketball Association.

Amateur athletes with nothing more than passion, desire and a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity give everything they have for an opportunity to represent their schools on a national stage during March Madness.

Sure, players from North Carolina, Duke and UCLA are used to playing in big arenas on national television. But for the Austin Peay's, the Siena's and the Mississippi Valley State's of the world, this is probably their only chance to display their skills in front of a national audience.

Because of this once-in-a-lifetime opportunity, the stakes are higher. Play becomes more intense, and the passion of the players is visible

as soon as the ball leaves the referee's fingers on the tip.

In days where college sports have been flooded by corporate sponsorships, hampered by the next highly touted freshman to turn pro and run through the mud by allegedly shady recruiting practices — ahem, Kelvin Sampson — the NCAA Tournament allows us to forget those blemishes for three weeks and enjoy the brilliance of college basketball.

The opening round is a time when the Bryce Drew's and Christian Laettner's of the world's mediocre NBA careers are dwarfed by a moment when they put their team on their shoulders and come through in the clutch.

If you enjoy high drama, buzzer-beaters and David taking down Goliath, then March Madness is right up your alley.

So watch in delight as the non-power conferences knock down the big dogs, one-star recruits outplay future lottery picks and remember that the drama and passion of these athletes is why we watch sports.

Dan Cusack can be reached at 581-7944 or dscusack@eiu.edu.

» Tennis

FROM PAGE 12

"Our main goal was to be really positive mentally," Sasidharan said. "I think we displayed our best."

The duo of junior Natalie Martin and freshman Hayley Homburg set the pace of the match by defeating juniors Zi Wang and Kim Lennartsson 8-4 at No. 1 doubles.

At No. 2 doubles, Sasidharan and freshman Cara Huck swept sophomore Amanda Griffin and freshman Kate Kennedy 8-0.

Western's No. 3 doubles of Ashley Clark and Yana Meinart won 8-2 against freshman Abby Allgire and sophomore Carrie Larson.

In singles play, Sasidharan defeated Griffin 6-3, 6-2 at No. 1 singles. At No. 2 singles, Martin defeated Lennartsson 6-2, 6-1.

At No. 3 singles Homburg defeated Clark 6-1, 7-5.

In No. 4 singles, Allgire defeated Kennedy 6-4, 6-2, and Huck beat Meinart 6-2, 6-0 in No. 5 singles.

Not having competed in doubles play, senior Stephanie Harmazy had to wait several hours to play her No.

STEPHANIE HARMAZY | SENIOR ON IMPORTANCE OF MATCH

"Going into (Ohio Valley Conference play) with everyone playing extremely well gives us a big confidence boost."

WOMEN'S TENNIS

Tuesday in Galesburg

Eastern 7, Western Illinois 0

Records: Eastern (7-2); Western Illinois (2-6)

Singles

1. Sasidharan (EIU) def. Griffin (WIU) 6-3, 6-2.
2. Martin (EIU) def. Lennartsson (WIU) 6-2, 6-1.
3. Homburg (EIU) def. Clark (WIU) 6-1, 7-5.
4. Allgire (EIU) def. Kennedy (WIU) 6-4, 6-2.

6 singles match.

Harmazy finished off the team victory with a 6-1, 6-0 win against Western's sophomore Courtney Brooks.

Harmazy said she didn't mind the delay and that getting the win was important to the team's mentality entering this weekend.

"Going into (Ohio Valley Conference play) with everyone playing extremely well gives us a big confi-

5. Huck (EIU) def. Meinart (WIU) 6-2, 6-0.
 6. Harmazy (EIU) def. Brooks (WIU) 6-1, 6-0.
- Doubles**
1. Martin/Homburg (EIU) def. Wang/Lennartsson (WIU) 8-4.
 2. Sasidharan/Huck (EIU) def. Griffin/Kennedy (WIU) 8-0.
 3. Clark/Meinart (WIU) def. Allgire/Larson (EIU) 8-2.

RECENT RESULTS

- March 6, at Bradley, W 4-3
- March 12, at Mississippi State, L 7-0
- March 18, at W. Illinois, W 7-0

dence boost," Harmazy said.

JC Clark can be reached at 581-7944 or jrclark2@eiu.edu.

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MEN'S AND WOMEN'S GOLF | NOTEBOOK

Panthers deal with poor spring weather

By Dan Cusack
Sports Reporter

MIKE IMBURGUA | SENIOR ON
PLAYING GOLF INDOORS

The Eastern men's and women's golf teams have had more to battle than just their opponents so far this season.

The Panthers have been forced to practice indoors, or not at all, before a number of their tournaments because of inclement weather.

The men's team had not played a single round since the start of winter before its first tournament at the North Texas State Invitational in Puerto Vallarta, Mexico on Feb. 17-18.

"It's really hard when you haven't played in a while," said Eastern head coach Mike Moncel. "When we went to Mexico, we had to go out there and play through it on a very difficult course."

But the Panthers still find ways to practice while the weather wreaks havoc outside.

The team works on its short game in Lantz Fieldhouse, but senior Mike Imburgua said it's not the same as being outside.

"Being inside helps a lot with your short game," Imburgua said. "It

"Being inside helps a lot with your short game. It helps to add confidence to your short game, but it is much better when you can get outside."

helps to add confidence to your short game, but it is much better when you can get outside."

The team still practices outdoors, even in poor weather. Imburgua said they had practiced in hail and rain this week.

Teams show improvement

Moncel said both teams had improved with each tournament they have played so far this season.

RECENT RESULTS

Men's Results: Butler North-South Invitational (March 10-11)

Team	Score
1. Florida Gulf Coast	568
2. Jacksonville	583
3. Bethune-Cookman	593
4. E. Illinois	595
5. Appalachian State	597
6. Florida Atlantic	600
7. Evansville	609
8. Florida A&M	617
9. Indiana-Purdue-Fort Wayne	618
10. Butler	629
11. Hampton	660

Women's Results: NIU Invitational (March 7-8)

Team	Score
1. Florida Gulf Coast	633
2. Lynn University	633
3. Drake	654

4. St. John's	656
4. North Dakota State	656
6. Georgetown	657
6. Northern Illinois	657
8. E. Illinois	664
9. High Point	682
10. Florida Tech	708

Women's Results: Butler North-South Invitational (March 10-11)

Team	Score
1. Evansville	621
2. Jackson State	625
3. Bethune-Cookman	631
4. Tennessee Tech	638
5. Detroit Mercy	642
6. E. Illinois	644
6. Appalachian State	644
8. Indianapolis	649
9. Butler	654
10. Indiana-Purdue-Fort Wayne	682
11. Flagler College	696
12. Hampton	743

The women's team has been led by junior Carrie Riordan.

"Riordan has been our best player so far this season," Moncel said. "She has been the top finisher for us in every event so far this season."

Riordan finished seventh (12-over-par) in the Butler Invitational at

the Jacksonville Beach Golf Course in Jacksonville, Fla., March 10-11.

Riordan placed 18th at the Northern Illinois Invitational (18-over-par) at the Spring Lake Resort in Sebring, Fla.

Moncel said he could not point out a single player on the men's team

because a different player has had the lowest score for them in every tournament this season.

"We have had a different leader in every single tournament," Moncel said. "I think we have a lot of guys that are capable of stepping up."

Senior Matt Imburgua was the top finisher for the Panthers at the Butler Invitational, shooting a five-over-par and finishing in a tie for 15th place of 60 golfers.

Mike Imburgua was the best finisher for Eastern at the North Texas State Invitational with a three-round score of 12-over-par.

Seniors seek to win tourney

Mike Imburgua goal for the Panthers this year is simple.

"Win a tournament. We have a solid golf team," he said. "We just have to put it all together at the same time."

"This is my final golf term, and four out of our seven players are seniors. We just want to put it all together and win a tournament."

Dan Cusack can be reached at 581-7944 or at dscusack@eiu.edu.

PANTHER BRIEFS

Baseball game postponed until April

Eastern's baseball game against Monmouth College on Tuesday was rescheduled because of rain throughout the day.

The game was supposed to be played at 2 p.m. at Coaches Stadium, but it was rescheduled for 3 p.m. on April 1 at Coaches Stadium.

Eastern's home opener against Olivet Nazarene on March 4 was also canceled because of weather conditions.

Softball game rescheduled for late April in Indiana

The Eastern softball team was scheduled to play Ball State at 4 p.m. on Tuesday in Muncie, Ind., but the doubleheader was canceled because of poor weather conditions.

Eastern head coach Kim Schuette said she tried to reschedule the doubleheader against the Cardinals for today at Williams Field, but the two games will be played at Ball State starting at 2 p.m. on April 22.

The Panthers open the home portion of Ohio Valley Conference play against Austin Peay with a 4 p.m. doubleheader on Friday at Williams Field.

This is the fifth time Eastern has had to adjust its schedule because of inclement weather.

Eastern's doubleheader against Indiana-Purdue-Indianapolis, origi-

nally scheduled at 4 p.m. on March 5 at Williams Field, was rescheduled for 4 p.m. on March 31 because of freezing rain and snow.

Eastern's games against Wright State and Marshall at the Tennessee-Chattanooga Frost Classic were canceled because of rain.

Eastern's game against Central Arkansas at the Tulsa Festival was also canceled because of inclement weather.

Former Eastern assistant football coach hired

Former Eastern offensive line coach Bill Legg accepted the position of offensive coordinator at Florida International on March 11.

Legg was the offensive line coach at Eastern from 1989-93.

He was most recently the co-offensive coordinator and offensive line coach at Purdue.

Legg was with the Boilermakers for five seasons. Legg previously coached at Marshall, West Virginia, Virginia Military Institute and West Virginia Tech.



Bill Legg
A former Eastern assistant was hired at Florida International last week.

Eastern men's soccer signs two more

Two high school teammates have signed to play for the Eastern men's soccer team next season.

According to the *Kane County Chronicle*, St. Charles North's Mike Picinich and Austin Andrekus signed last week to play with the Panthers.

Picinich and Andrekus had previously committed to play at Western Kentucky, but the Hilltoppers soccer program was cut.

The pair then accepted an offer to play at Eastern. Andrekus and Picinich will join former teammate and Panthers' freshman Mitch Welsh at Eastern.

Welsch used a red-shirt year this past season.

St. Charles North boy's soccer coach Eric Willson is also an Eastern alum.

Picinich scored nine goals and tallied 19 assists to give him 38 assists for his career, the most in St. Charles North history.

The North Stars (17-5-2) won four straight regional crowns during Picinich and Andrekus' careers.

The Panthers made the Missouri Valley Conference Tournament semifinals for the second year in a row during the 2007 season.

Eastern won the Bradley Classic and UMKC Invitational team titles

and finished 12-6-3 and 2-3-1 in the MVC.

Eastern has posted consecutive 10-win seasons for the first time since 1988-89 after the posted 11 wins last season.

Andrekus and Picinich are the third and fourth recruits to sign with the Panthers for next season.

Ian McCausland, the son of former Eastern wrestling coach Ralph McCausland, will join Andrekus and Picinich.

McCausland was an Illinois High School Soccer Coaches Association All-State selection and finished fifth on Charleston High School's career list with 50 goals, including 24 this past season to go with 10 assists.

He led his team in both categories, as the Trojans finished 13-7-3 in 2007.

McCausland was a midfielder for Charleston.

Quincy Notre Dame senior Grey Genenbacher will also play with Eastern men's soccer next season.

Genenbacher finished his senior season with 18 goals and was an All-State Selection the past two seasons.

-Compiled by Associate Sports Editor Kevin Murphy

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

» Laird

FROM PAGE 12

"It is hard because Ray has to split up the time between the swimmers and divers, but that just shows how hard (Laird) works," Ethington said.

Ethington said Laird's success is good for the program.

"It's a big deal (for us)," Ethington said. "Not a whole lot of people made (the zone championships). When we were in Division II, we made the NCAA competitions. But now that we're Division I, we don't make a bunch of stuff like that."

Laird said he was proud of his performance during his final season and Padovan's last season as head coach.

"I was on fire," Laird said. "I had a great performance, and I was pretty proud of it. I'm glad that I left a mark at Eastern. I am proud for Ray Padovan's last year. He got his entire men's diving squad to the zone diving competitions."

Ross Meister can be reached at 581-7944 or at rwmeister@eiu.edu.

LAIRD'S 2008 FIRST PLACE FINISHES

- Jan. 11 vs. Millikin
- 1-meter dive (296.60 points)
- 3-meter dive (315.15 points)
- Jan. 26 vs. IUPUI
- 1-meter dive (288.45 points)
- Feb. 2 vs. Saint Louis
- 1-meter dive (304.80 points)
- 3-meter dive (300.75 points)

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at Florida |
8 tonight on ESPN2

TRIPLE THREAT



Thad Matta

Ohio State head men's basketball coach Thad Matta (above) and his Buckeyes (20-13) beat North Carolina-Asheville 84-66 on Tuesday in the National Invitational Tournament. The Buckeyes did not make the NCAA Tournament after they were the runner-ups to Florida last season in the tournament. They will play the winner of the California-New Mexico game.

Here are three other teams that will compete for the NIT Tournament Title.

1. Florida — The national champions for the past two years could earn a third-straight postseason crown. The Gators (21-11) finished .500 in the Southeastern Conference after losing several starters to the NBA and relying on several freshmen this season.

2. Arizona State — The Sun Devils (19-12) competed in one of the toughest conferences in the country. The Pac-10 Conference earned six bids into the NCAA Tournament. The Sun Devils finished 9-9 in the league but also defeated NCAA-bound No. 3 seed Xavier, No. 9 seed Oregon, No. 10 seed Arizona twice, No. 3 seed Stanford in overtime and No. 6 seed Southern California.

3. Syracuse — The Orange have talented freshmen who propelled Syracuse to a ninth-place finish in the Big East and an upset of NCAA Tournament No. 2 seed Georgetown. Syracuse (20-13) won the majority of its games without junior guard Eric Devendorf, out with an injury.

-Kevin Murphy



DAN CUSACK

Madness begins tomorrow

Thursday is the best day of the year.

Forget Christmas and forget New Year's.

And don't even think about your birthday.

None of them compare to the opening round of the NCAA Tournament.

Thursday, or Tuesday if you count the play-in game between Coppin State and Mount Saint Mary's, marks the beginning of a three-week trek college basketball enthusiasts live for.

>> SEE CUSACK, PAGE 10

MEN'S SWIMMING AND DIVING | ZONE CHAMPIONSHIPS

Laird dives into history at NCAA meet

Senior caps career with performance at premier meet

By Ross Meister
Staff Reporter

Senior diver Joe Laird was the lone Eastern representative at the 2008 NCAA Zone C Diving Championships on March 7-9 at Ohio State.

Laird participated in the preliminary event for the 3-meter dive but was unable to advance to the finals with a score of 236.50. He finished 32nd. Laird also placed 34th in the 1-meter diving competition.

"Laird dove all the way through the season this past year," said Eastern head coach Ray Padovan. "He kept going after the conference meet. It was an extension to him, but it was a good thing for him."

Laird had a successful 2008 season in the 1-meter and 3-meter dives, with season-best scores of 304.80 against Saint Louis on Feb. 2 and 315.15 against Millikin on Jan. 11.

"We knew going in it was a nice thing for him since he made it to zones, which was something he wanted to do the last four years he was here," Padovan said.

Laird said he knew going into the zone championships was going to be difficult because there were top divers from bigger schools to compete against.

"I knew going in for the Summit League divers it was going to be tough because of the Big Ten schools, and for me not getting points for just being there," Laird said. "Luckily, I didn't fail at any dives or hit the boards. We had three or four hit the boards, and I didn't fail any dives. I hit the dives that I could. I kept my head in the game and performed well."

Laird did his diving at Eastern



JOHN BAILEY | THE DAILY EASTERN NEWS

Senior diver Joe Laird was the only Eastern representative at the 2008 NCAA Zone C Diving Championships on March 7-9 at Ohio State. Laird finished 34th in the 1-meter diving competition.

without a diving coach — a rarity in the Summit League. Padovan supervised both swimmers and divers at Eastern. Most other Summit League

schools have several assistants or a diving coach.

"He's a great competitor and he's a hard worker, just like anyone else

in any other sport would be," said junior Joe Ethington.

>> SEE LAIRD, PAGE 11

WOMEN'S TENNIS | EASTERN 7, WESTERN ILLINOIS 0

Panthers win indoor match on the road

Team prepares for conference season

By JC Clark
Staff Reporter

The Eastern women's tennis team won its last non-conference match until April 2 with a dominating 7-0 win against Western Illinois on Tuesday night.

The Panthers (7-2) will play their first Ohio Valley Conference match of the season against Tennessee-Martin at 1 p.m. on Friday.

The loss drops WIU to 2-6 on the season. Eastern won every singles match in straight sets.

Eastern head coach John Blackburn said the win has the team entering conference play on a high note.

"I thought this was one of our best days of the season," Blackburn said. "I think everybody has a lot of confidence after today."

Eastern's victory came after a long day of tennis.

Because of Tuesday afternoon's rainstorm, the match had to be played indoors at Lakeview Tennis Center in Galesburg. Because the teams only had four courts on which



JOHN BAILEY | THE DAILY EASTERN NEWS

Sophomore Carrie Larson returns a serve during Monday night's tennis practice in Lantz Fieldhouse. The women defeated Western Illinois 7-0 on Tuesday night in Galesburg. The team was slated to play outdoors but had to move indoors because of rain.

to play — as opposed to the usual six — the match was not completed until nearly 8 p.m., almost five hours after it started.

Not having six courts to play on nearly doubles the length of time

needed to finish singles matches.

Eastern won the doubles point by taking the No. 1 and No. 2 doubles matches. After winning the first three singles matches, the Panthers had earned the team victory, with

three singles contests left to play.

Eastern senior Sandra Sasidharan said focus was the greatest contributing factor to the women's victory.

>> SEE TENNIS, PAGE 10

EASTERN SPORTS SCHEDULE

BASEBALL Friday vs. Morehead State (DH) Noon — Coaches Stadium	MEN'S AND WOMEN'S TENNIS Friday vs. Tennessee-Martin 1 p.m. — Darling Courts	SOFTBALL Friday vs. Austin Peay (DH) 4 p.m. — Williams Field	BASEBALL Saturday vs. Morehead State 1 p.m. — Coaches Stadium	SOFTBALL Saturday vs. Austin Peay 1 p.m. — Williams Field
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