

8-31-2011

Daily Eastern News: August 31, 2011

Eastern Illinois University

Follow this and additional works at: http://thekeep.eiu.edu/den_2011_aug

Recommended Citation

Eastern Illinois University, "Daily Eastern News: August 31, 2011" (2011). *August*. 8.
http://thekeep.eiu.edu/den_2011_aug/8

This Article is brought to you for free and open access by the 2011 at The Keep. It has been accepted for inclusion in August by an authorized administrator of The Keep. For more information, please contact tabruns@eiu.edu.



Longboards invade campus

Page 3



California freshman welcomed to team

Page 8

STUDENT GOVERNMENT

Student government works on new goals

By Rachel Rodgers
Administration Editor

The new student government members set their new goals and works in progress to strengthen their positions this semester.

Student Senate Speaker Zach Samples, a sophomore history major with teacher certification, said his first goal is to rebuild their accountability and to make student government their first priority before other campus involvement.

"We need to focus on being a voice for the students because we are the direct link between the student body and the administration, and we need to regain that focus," Samples said.

He said he has a goal to strengthen and fortify his position by building on what has worked in the past and implementing a new system.

"One of my main goals of this semester is to create a template for the Student Senate speaker so we can remain consistent and focused on the student body," Samples said. "Every speaker has come to student government with a new set of ideas so my goal is to create a system that works that can be used in future semesters in years to come."

Samples said another goal is to expand the committees in the student government.

"I want to make committees like Registered Student Organizations so any student will be able to be a part of it," Samples said. "By increasing the membership, we can make more direct connections with students and share the workload to plan better events."

Samples also mentioned his goal to re-establish a mentorship program for new Student Senate members.

"Different (student senate) speakers have implemented the mentorship program in the past and it showed progress, but no one has consistently followed up with it," Samples said.

He said he wants the members of committees to be required to meet with new Student Senate members once a week to serve as a mentor to answer questions because it is easier for one person to take care of two or three people instead of trying to handle all of the new members at once.

Samples said this semester will consist of trial and error, but he hopes to make some changes more permanent in future semesters.

"What I want to do in the long run is to have a series of new by-laws so we can be bound to more responsibilities so we can beef up our accountability and consistency to strengthen student government," Samples said. "Every semester we say that we want to improve

Student Senate meeting today

By Rachel Rodgers
Administration Editor

The first Student Senate meeting of the semester will be an introduction to how the tone and expectations will be set this semester, said Mary Lane, the student vice president for business affairs.

The meeting is at 7 p.m. today in the Arcola/Tuscola Room in the Martin Luther King Jr. University Union.

Student Senate Speaker Zach Samples said since they do not have a full senate because they are missing 10 Student Senate members, there will not be any proposals to go over during the meeting.

"There will be some appointments made to different university committees, but that will be the extent of business during the meeting," Samples said. "The rest of the meeting will be used mainly to allow applying senators to

observe how our meetings work."

Samples said there will also be reports describing the purpose of each Student Senate committee.

Aseret Gonzalez, the student vice president for academic affairs, said they will be laying out what is expected to go on in student government for the rest of the semester.

"I am looking forward to see how senators develop their skills in the student government and what their fresh ideas are," Gonzalez said.

Lane said she expects the meeting to be relatively short but it will be an opportunity to start shaping everyone's goals.

"I am determined that, even though we will face obstacles, we will start off the year right," Lane said.

Rachel Rodgers can be reached at 581-2812 or rjrogers@eiu.edu.

the student body's confidence in us, but then we don't follow through because we tend to look for the quick fix to problems."

Aseret Gonzalez, the student vice president for academic affairs and a senior sociology major, said she also has new goals in the works.

She said one of the goals she has for the semester is "Dinner with the Deans."

"It is going to be more of an informal dinner where students could share their initiatives with the academic deans," Gonzalez said. "I also want to continue 'Pizza with the Prez' for the fall and spring semesters."

Gonzalez said she is currently working on a "Panther Ed" program where students can teach others about different desires they are knowledgeable about.

It would entail students who have studied abroad teaching a culture class to those interested, Gonzalez said.

Gonzalez said she is also looking for two students to join her in becoming student representatives at the Faculty Senate and the Council of Academic Affairs.

"I'm looking for people who are dependable and care about these academic issues who are also able to provide constructive criticism to the faculty," Gonzalez said. "They also need to be able to have good networking skills and be able

to find out what their peers think about issues."

Jarrod Scherle, the student executive vice president and a graduate student, said he has two official goals for this semester.

He said his first goal is to implement a voter registration drive.

"Even though this year is not a huge election year, next year will be, and I am sure there will be freshman who have not registered to vote in Coles County," Scherle said.

He said his other priority to work on this semester is planning a lobby trip to Springfield for the Illinois Board of Higher Education-Student Action Team members.

Mary Lane, the student vice president for business affairs and a junior elementary education major, said she is planning to sponsor a financial aid forum next semester.

She said she also wants to create a website informing students about where their student activity fee goes.

"I am also looking for four students to serve on the Apportionment Board who are willing to ask the hard questions and who have a strong enough stomach to help make budget cuts where need be," Lane said.

Rachel Rodgers can be reached at 581-2812 or rjrogers@eiu.edu.

OLD MAIN TREE



KAROLINA STRACK | THE DAILY EASTERN NEWS

Matthew Barnes, junior sports management major, sits underneath a more than 200 year-old bur oak tree on the East side of Old Main on Tuesday afternoon. The oak tree has come under attention lately because it has been exhibiting signs of sickness with half of its leaves having turned a brown color; university grounds officials are working on resolving the problem.

Icon of campus under the weather

By Elizabeth Edwards
News Editor

A more than 200-year-old piece of the Eastern community is showing signs of sickness.

A bur oak tree, east of Old Main, is now under the close inspection of the Eastern grounds officials.

Dave Crockett, the associate director of maintenance and operations of Facilities Planning and Management, said half of the tree's green leaves have been turning brown since this summer. The tree is damaged but the grounds officials are not exactly sure what is wrong with it, he said.

"It is hard to diagnosis," Crockett said. "You can't take its blood pressure."

He said the tree was struck by lightning about eight to 10 years ago, which could have damaged the tree's roots. It takes a while for its roots to show any damage from a lightning strike, he said.

A certified tree arborist has been supplying the tree with root stipulating treatments

"It is hard to diagnosis. You can't take its blood pressure."

Dave Crockett, the associate director of maintenance and operations of Facilities Planning and Management

to repair any damage to the roots, he said.

Grounds workers have already pruned the tree of any excess branches, he said. One of the limbs on the tree was also removed. The limb will be sent to a laboratory to be tested for any tree diseases. Though, Crockett said he does not believe the tree is exhibiting any signs of typical diseases for bur oak trees.

ICON, page 5

WEBCT

Eastern to sever ties with WebCT

By Nike Ogunbodede
Campus Editor

After more than a decade, Eastern will be severing its ties with WebCT in January 2013, when its contract with the software company expires.

John Henderson, the assistant vice president for academic affairs, said when WebCT was bought by Blackboard Inc. a few years prior, the changes made to the program were too significant.

Henderson said he expects to hear from other companies that will want Eastern to use their system.

"There are probably 10 to 12 companies that I figure are going to respond, given our parameters and features that our faculty committee specified after a lot of hard work," Henderson said.

Melissa Johnson, a freshman special education major, said she would rather not have to deal with technology at all. "Things can get lost and systems crash; I like the old-school books and worksheets," Johnson said.

But it is unfortunate because students are just figuring out how to use the system, Johnson said.

WEBCT, page 5

EIU weather

TODAY

THURSDAY



Partly Cloudy
High: 90°
Low: 68°



Partly Cloudy
High: 96°
Low: 71°

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

ONLINE

Blog: Celebrity Smack talk with Alex



Last spring's celebrity smack talk blog returns with many things to talk about.

Alex talks about Kim Kardashian's marriage, Beyonce's baby, "Lost" star Matthew Fox's run in with the law, and Glamour.com's "What Your Jeans Say About You" article.

IN THURSDAY'S EDITION

Take The Field football gameday magazine

The first issue of *The Daily Eastern News'* football gameday magazine will be released Thursday.

Inside will be features on football head coach Bob Spoo, the recruiting battle between Illinois State and Eastern, a history of the two teams' rivalry, and a breakdown of players to watch on each team.

THE DAILY EASTERN NEWS

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

Contact

If you have corrections or tips, please call:

217-581-7942

or fax us at:

217-581-2923

Printed

by Eastern Illinois University on soy ink and recycled paper.



Attention postmaster

Send address changes to:
The Daily Eastern News
1802 Buzzard Hall,
Eastern Illinois University
Charleston, IL 61920

Editorial Board

Editor in Chief	Alex McNamee DENeic@gmail.com
Managing Editor	Shelley Holmgren DENmanaging@gmail.com
News Editor	Elizabeth Edwards DENnewsdesk@gmail.com
Associate News Editor	Samantha Bilharz DENnewsdesk@gmail.com
Opinions Editor	Dave Balsaon DENopinions@gmail.com
Online Editor	Chris O'Driscoll DENnews.com@gmail.com

News Staff

Activities Editor	Sam McDaniel
Administration Editor	Rachel Rodgers
Campus Editor	Nike Ogunbodede
City Editor	Sara Hall
Photo Editor	Kim Foster
Sports Editor	Dominic Renzetti
Verge Editor	Seth Schroeder
Assistant Photo Editor	Karolina Strack
Assistant Online Editor	Marcus Smith

Advertising Staff

Advertising Manager	AnnaMarie Sprague
Promotions Manager	Allison Twaits
Ad Design Manager	Shannon Ready

Faculty Advisers

Editorial Adviser	Lola Burnham
Photo Adviser	Brian Poulter
DENNews.com Adviser	Bryan Murley
Publisher	John Ryan
Business Manager	Betsy Jewell
Press Supervisor	Tom Roberts

Production Staff

Night Chief	Alex McNamee
Lead Designer/Online Production	Ashley Holstrom
Copy Editors/Designers/Online Production	Courtney Runyon

About

The Daily Eastern News is produced by the students of Eastern Illinois University. It is published daily Monday through Friday, in Charleston, Ill., during fall and spring semesters and twice weekly during the summer term except during university vacations or examinations. One copy per day is free to students and faculty. Additional copies can be obtained for 50 cents each in the Student Publications Office in Buzzard Hall. The Daily Eastern News is a member of The Associated Press, which is entitled to exclusive use of all articles appearing in this publication.

Comments / Tips

Contact any of the above staff members if you believe your information is relevant.

Corrections

The Daily Eastern News is committed to accuracy in its coverage of the news. Any factual error the staff finds, or is made aware of by its readers, will be corrected as promptly as possible. Please report any factual error you find by e-mail, phone, campus mail or in person.

ADMINISTRATION

Faculty Senate discusses possible electronic signage

By Emily Provanca
Staff Reporter

At the first Faculty Senate meeting, Tuesday, members discussed the possibility of Eastern displaying electronic boards throughout campus.

Dan Nadler, vice president of student affairs, introduced the possibility of having electric signage (electronic bulletin boards) across campus starting in November.

Nadler explained that the boards would be a great way to get important messages to people, university wide.

"Students say there is nothing on campus to do," Nadler said, "These boards could display messages of events happening across campus."

Nadler said Eastern has been talking about the possibility of getting these boards for about five years.

Nadler said two boards would be placed in the north part of campus, two in the south part of campus, one by Lantz Arena, one by Greek Court, and one by the Martin Luther King Jr. University Union.

Each of the boards would be a 47-inch diagonal screen, and each will be mounted on a structure that will make it anywhere from 6 feet high to 6 feet 4 inches high.

"The boards will be tall enough

to be noticed, but not enough to where they will block anyone's view," Nadler said.

During the meeting, Andrew White, assistant professor for the department of mathematics and computer science asked, "How much control will we have over the sponsor ads going on the boards?"

"For the ads to be placed on the boards we have to approve of them, so no tobacco, alcohol or firearms ads and things like those," Nadler said.

The boards would display the school messages and sponsor ads on all screens simultaneously.

White also asked what the construction would be like and if it would interrupt the university's daily activities.

"The construction to complete would have little interruption," Nadler said. "They have small machinery they could bring in to complete the construction."

Nadler said since the boards are also one-sided, this would be a good way to put a nice map of the campus on one side or posters for other events happening on campus.

Aseret Gonzalez, a senior sociology major and the student vice president for academic affairs in the student government, said she thinks the students would like the boards around campus, and they would be beneficial to the

Evolution of a touchdown dance



KIMBERLY FOSTER | THE DAILY EASTERN NEWS

Wide receiver Chris Wright does a dance while waiting for a play to run Tuesday during football practice at O'Brien Stadium. The Panthers will open the regular season at home Thursday in a game against ISU at 6:30 p.m.

campus.

Blair Lord, provost and vice president for academic affairs, gave the provost report at the meeting.

"There will be activities for the week of Sept. 11 through 19 to help connect 9/11 and Constitution Day," Lord said.

Lord also said the week is extended to Sept. 19 because Samir Shakir Mahmood Sumaid'ie, ambassador of Iraq to the United States, will be on campus.

Emily Provanca can be reached at 581-2812 or eaprovanca@eiu.edu.

STATE

Transportation returning to normal

By The Associated Press

NEW YORK — There wasn't a spare seat to be found on planes or buses Tuesday as travelers stranded by Hurricane Irene finally headed home. The nation's transportation system was nearly back to normal, giving hope to vacationers looking for a trouble-free Labor Day getaway.

While planes and buses were operating on near-normal schedules, throughout the day Amtrak remained paralyzed between New

York and Philadelphia. Late in the day, railroad officials announced that flooding had receded, repairs were made and service would resume Wednesday morning.

That was little solace to those who missed out on vacations, canceled business meetings or searched for days to find any way home.

"I have work waiting for me, so I'm losing time and money," said Washington attorney Betty Sinowitz, who was stuck at New York's Penn Station after her train was canceled.

Fliers fared much better. Only a handful of flights were canceled Tuesday compared with more than 1,700 on Monday, according to flight tracking service FlightAware. A total of 14,000 flights were scrapped in the days before, during and after the storm.

Most airlines said that the backlog of stranded passengers would be cleared by the end of Tuesday.

But the frayed nerves were still evident — and they extended be-

yond stranded travelers.

At least one airline said it could have moved more passengers to their destinations on-time if not for New York airport officials' decision to shut down at noon on Saturday.

That "threw a huge monkey wrench into our planning," said David Holtz, managing director for operations at Delta. The airline had planned to keep flying through Saturday evening.

Delta canceled additional flights to adjust.

581.2816
daily eastern news advertising

a full staff of ad reps and designers are ready and willing to serve your every need

TAN EXPRESS

FREE Reg. Tan - Tues. the 30th & Wed. the 31st

Get your tan on specials:
Reg. month unlimited or
12 Reg. sessions \$29.00
3 months reg. unlimited \$69.00
25% off ALL bottles of lotion

630 West Lincoln Ave. - Visit us on facebook

FREE CRISIS-INTERVENTION TRAINING

Sexual Assault Counseling & Information Service

seeks caring volunteers to work with victims of sexual assault

Training begins September 10

Call office 348-5033, 8 am - 5 pm, M - F

Or e-mail sacis@consolidated.net

CAMPUS

Longboards invade campus

By Danny Trevor
Staff Reporter

A new trend is easily noticeable on campus. Eastern has been experiencing a rise in the amount of longboards.

Jordan Nichols, a sophomore kinesiology major, said he chose to ride a longboard instead of the more common bike because he thinks it is a faster mode of transportation.

"People see it as being easier than a bike, because you can just take the board with you, and don't need to worry about it being stolen," Nichols said. "It's just a faster way to get to places you need to be."

Longboarding allows the rider to go long distances without a lot of work and it makes it entertaining, he said.

"TV, video games, the Internet, it all gets old and boring after a while," Nichols said. "Going out and cruising down streets on a longboard doesn't."

Don Romero, a senior sociology major, is originally from California and said he first discovered longboarding when he visited Venice Beach.

"I saw that there was a skateboard that was strictly for cruising, not a lot of work but can go for a long distance," Romero said. "So I bought one for the intentions of going far and fast."

Morgan Skalla, a junior recreation administration major, is currently a longboarder, who is sponsored by Loaded Longboards.

Skalla worked at the A2B Boardshop during the summer and said it was fairly easy to get the job.

With so many people taking an interest in longboarding, this sport is not going to die down anytime soon, Skalla said.

"I tried it and loved it and since then, a lot of my friends have joined in, too," Skalla said. "I know that the University of Illinois has a longboard club, and I would like to see one started at Eastern, too."

Eastern has a large enough longboarding population and could definitely have its own club, Skalla said.

"I think it's mostly with word of mouth that has caused this rise in popularity," she said.

Paul Michalowski and Michael Ashida, the founders of the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign's



NIKE OGUNBODEDE | THE DAILY EASTERN NEWS

Tony Ciancanelli, a senior physical education major, uses a longboard to travel down 7th St. on Tuesday. There has been an increase in the use of alternative transportation by students, including longboarding, skateboarding and bicycling on campus.

"I think it's mostly with word of mouth that has caused this rise in popularity."

Morgan Skalla, a junior recreation administration major

Longboarding Club, were able to boost the club's membership from 70 students to 230 in Sept. 2010, according to *The Daily Illini*.

Longboarding is just about having fun, Skalla said.

"I love it mostly because of the peo-

ple I meet, because we all shared the same interest," Skalla said.

Danny Trevor can be reached at 591-2812 or dptrevor@eiu.edu.

CITY

L.A. Tan coming to Charleston

By Sara Hall
City Editor

Soon Eastern students will have a new bronzing option as the popular tanning company, L.A. Tan, expands to Charleston.

Although the chain has not set a date for opening, students and local businesses are already abuzz with opinions of the Midwestern tanning chain.

Mallory Pacini, a sophomore elementary education major, said she thinks L.A. Tan will thrive in Charleston because many Eastern students are from the Chicagoland area, where the L.A. Tan chain is more widespread.

"L.A. Tan is what's common around the Northwest suburbs," she said. "It has more familiarity, so people will want to go there."

Erik Walkup, a junior finance major, said he thinks L.A. Tan's reputation will give them an advantage over the local competition.

"If I was going somewhere, I would go to someplace well-known," he said.

Walkup said although he is not currently tanning at a tanning salon, he generally tends to tan two times per week during the winter months. He said when he starts tanning again, he will choose a salon based on which one offers the best prices.

"I'll go with the most inexpensive way to go," he said. "Cost is the number one factor for college students."

Jordan Romeo, a junior special education major, said because L.A. Tan is a chain tanning salon, she feels they may be more expensive than local salons.

However, she said if L.A. Tan offered special rates and packages to combat the competition, they may be able to thrive.

Bonnie Bell, owner of Trim, Tone 'n Tan, said she thinks if L.A. Tan were to thrive, they would need to keep up with the competition because of the poor economy.

"College students don't have as much money as they used to, and parents aren't giving as much cash as

before either," she said. "Tanning is more of a luxury, and luxury items are more of the first thing to go."

Bell said she is confident her businesses will be able to stand their ground against the new competition.

"As long as we do what we're doing, I don't think it will affect us that much," she said.

Bell said she thinks her salon will be able to combat L.A. Tan's potential competition because of the low rates they have always provided customers.

"We run every day specials, but not just because of L.A. Tan," she said.

Natalie Kowalczyk, a cosmetologist at Razor Edge Salon, said their salon will not be threatened because they discontinued offering tanning services eight months ago, but she thinks L.A. Tan's brand name will allow them to flourish, possibly picking up former Razor Edge tanning customers.

Kowalczyk said she thinks L.A. Tan's location, located next to Jimmy John's, will be especially important during the winter months when students are less likely to walk long distances.

"It will be convenient for students," she said. "Tan Express is up farther downtown than them."

Pacini, a previous customer of Tan Express, said while her living location is equal distance from most tanning salons in Charleston, L.A. Tan's short distance from Eastern's campus may be the deciding factor for other students when choosing a tanning salon.

"For me, it's the same distance, but it depends on if someone has a car," she said.

Romeo said she chooses her tanning salons based on convenience, and she said she might consider switching to L.A. Tan once they open because they are more accessible for her.

Walkup said he thinks location will be key factor for students in choosing a tanning salon.

"They'll be able to snag customers if it's a convenient location," he said.

Sara Hall can be reached at 581-2812 or smhall3@eiu.edu.

PUSH YOUR WAY THROUGH THE COMPETITION!

ADVERTISE IN THE DEN!
581-2816

i Spy

YOUR AD

In our paper!
Call today - 581-2816

Come in for a great home cooked meal at an affordable price!

10% off all dine-in or carry out orders for students.

Proud sponsors of **EIU ATHLETICS**

Daily lunch & dinner specials

FREE DELIVERY

217-345-2BBQ
300 W. Lincoln Ave.
www.smokeyhousebbq.com
OPEN LATE

STAFF EDITORIAL

Head coach, band director still nameless for next year

R. Alan Sullivan uprooted his life and family from his home in Nevada to come to Charleston to be the new director of bands at Eastern, but who is really in charge? Sullivan has not yet been named the official band director; he's only the interim director.

Sullivan has made the commitment to Eastern, but why can't Eastern make the commitment to him by giving him the official title, not just interim? Sullivan's willingness to make a jump from an eight-year tenure as the associate director of bands at the University of Nevada-Reno to Eastern to be an interim director shows his dedication to his work.

Sullivan had said that his band is ready for the first football game against Illinois State on Thursday, yet Eastern's football team has a similar issue regarding its leader.

Head football coach Bob Spoo announced his retirement last November after 25 seasons at the position. Speculations have been made as to who Spoo's successor will be, such as defensive coordinator Roc Bellantoni or offensive coordinator Roy Wittke, both men who have experience with the football program.

With the first game of the 2011 football season one day away, the Panthers still have no clear leader for the future beyond this season. Eastern needs a direction to go with the football team, one that failed to meet expectations last season.

Naming a head coach will show prospective recruits that the team has confidence and knows what it's doing and the direction it wants to go. Prospective recruits, whether they be from Florida or Illinois, would most likely be unwilling to commit to a team without a definite head coach.

By at least naming a head coach this season would allow the football team to begin building off its successes and learning from its failures.

If the new coach is to be hired from outside the program, he could start getting acquainted with the team, campus and surrounding community. If the new head coach is to be hired from within the team, that person would be able to closely watch Spoo and get a feel for the way things work, as well as start to establish their own minor leadership role in preparation for next season.

The sooner Eastern makes a commitment to a leader, the sooner they will become more successful in their endeavors on the football field, whether in the marching band halftime show or during the game itself.

COLUMN

Deepak Chopra pushes quantum quackery

This summer, I had the privilege of interviewing world-renowned scientists at the The Amazing Meeting in Las Vegas. I've followed the work of these people for years, so I was not surprised to hear this shared sentiment from so many of them: Deepak Chopra is full of crap.

Chopra is a sage of the New Age crowd, who insist on believing anything having to do with "vibrations."

Chopra has made millions upon millions of dollars twisting science to mislead people about the nature of reality. He has written dozens of self-help books that are full of fluffy, meaningless claims about consciousness, ego and the universe.

The problem with Chopra is that he isn't simply pushing vague spiritual nonsense. He is telling his followers that quantum physics has proven that people can change the world around them just by imagining it differently.

Here's an utterly asinine line from a YouTube interview:

"Consciousness is a common ground of existence that ultimately differentiates into space-time, energy, information and matter."

Don't waste too much time rereading that bit. It is every bit as hollow as it first appears.

Chopra is one of many hucksters who con people into believing that reality depends upon our perceiving it and, therefore, if we try to imagine the world differently, we actually change its physical composition. In 2006, a book called "The Secret" climbed to the top of the New York Times bestseller list pushing the same deluded dogma.

Among the scientists I talked to was Lawrence Krauss, theoretical physicist, best-selling author and Foundation Professor of the School of Earth and Space Exploration at Arizona State University.

Krauss knows a lot about quantum physics. Besides making major contributions to the field, he recently wrote the book on the guy who wrote the book on quantum physics, Richard Feynman.

"I think it's easier for Deepak Chopra to misrepresent quantum mechanics because we don't do a good job of teaching it to the public," Krauss said. "Quantum mechanics is one of the most abused ideas in the world because all of these people—New Age people, Deepak Chopra and others—try to use it for their own agenda. And people say, 'Wow, I know quantum mechanics is crazy and this is crazy too, so maybe quantum mechanics explains it.' Quantum mechanics has been used because of its craziness to justify all sorts of other craziness."

Feynman once famously said, "I think I can safely say that nobody understands quantum mechanics." It is, well...weird stuff.

Said Krauss: "An electron can be spinning



Dave Balson

many different ways at the same time and be in many different places at the same time and interfere with itself. That is just the weirdest thing, right? It's weird."

But the idea that our imagination changes the physical world comes less from strange science than poor wording. The distortion often starts with a misrepresentation of what's called the "observer effect."

It's not all that difficult to understand: If one is trying to measure the location of a particle, one must make it interact with another particle. We see the world around us by bouncing light off of it (photons are the basic unit of light and billions are bouncing off the page you are reading; the black text absorbs more light, the white page reflects more, and receptors in your eyes detect the difference). We can't see an individual photon with our eyes because it is too small, so we have to bounce another photon off of it to know where it is and that changes the trajectory of the photon.

But once folks like Chopra heard the words "observer effect," they stopped talking science and started talking woo-woo. They tell their trusting readers that quantum physics proves that we change particles just by observing them, which is still kind of true. The con comes in the convoluted conclusion. They use the word "observe" in its non-scientific definition of noticing or perceiving something with our eyes or minds.

But we don't observe the world—much less imagine it—in the same way scientists observe photons. I ask every physicist and physics major I meet if Chopra's observer effect makes any sense to them and always get some version of, "No. That's ridiculous. Nothing in physics suggests that our thoughts change external reality."

Krauss' response was no different: "Quantum mechanics doesn't justify the claim that thinking about the world suddenly changes external reality."

The distortion of science for financial gain is nothing new. Quack doctors have a long and profitable history in this country selling useless, sometimes dangerous, tinctures while claiming their cure-all is the result of groundbreaking scientific developments.

But the claims made by most modern-day quacks don't carry much weight outside the

fringe community. (Though you can walk into a Whole Foods anywhere in this country and find an aisle devoted to homeopathic remedies—another New Age medical con based around an affinity for "vibrations"—full of rich dupes ready to shell out \$20 for tiny bottles of water.)

Chopra, on the other hand, spreads bad science all over the mainstream media. He has been featured on Oprah Winfrey's show, writes for the *Huffington Post* and is a frequent guest on MSNBC.

Selling a lot of books does not indicate scientific understanding, but it is enough to get major talk shows to promote your bologna. Here's Chopra on Larry King explaining how physics proves the existence of an afterlife:

"Well, birth and death are space-time events in the continuum of life. So the opposite of life is not death. The opposite of death is birth. And the opposite of birth is death. And life is the continuum of birth and death, which goes on and on."

Indeed. I got a chance to talk to James "The Amazing" Randi, founder of the James Randi Educational Foundation, the organizing force behind The Amazing Meeting. Randi has spent more time debunking quackery than perhaps any person in history, which is why his description of Chopra is especially telling.

"Deepak Chopra is the biggest official quack the U.S. has ever turned out," he said.

I always wonder whether purveyors of nonsense know they are selling snake oil, or if they truly believe what they are saying.

I think Chopra is fully aware of the con job he's running. After all, it is one thing to believe whatever woo-woo comes your way, it is quite another to craft it yourself and become a millionaire in the process.

One way I know Chopra is wrong about the power of imagination to change external reality is that I've often imagined him admitting to being a charlatan.

Until Chopra fulfills my catch-22 fantasy, keep a skeptical eye out for anyone who wants to sell you comforting explanations of theoretical physics.

"Quantum vibrations, now that sounds powerful," Randi said. "They have no idea what they're talking about. If you gave them a basket full of vibrations, they wouldn't know what they look like or what to do with them. They don't know the definition, they just like to use the term."

Dave Balson is a senior journalism major. He can be reached at 581-7942 or DENopinions@gmail.com.

FROM THE EASEL



SHELLEY HOLMGREN | THE DAILY EASTERN NEWS

The DAILY EASTERN NEWS

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

EDITORIAL BOARD

Editor in Chief: **Alex McNamee** News Editor: **Elizabeth Edwards**

Managing Editor: **Shelley Holmgren** Associate News Editor: **Samantha Bilharz**

Online Editor: **Chris O'Driscoll** Opinions Editor: **Dave Balson**

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

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. Letters may also be submitted electronically from the author's EIU e-mail address to DENopinions@gmail.com.

SIX PACK SERIES

Students to learn about alcohol use

Six Pack series presents new topic

By Samantha McDaniel
Activities Editor

For the next six weeks, students can learn the effects of alcohol by attending educational workshops hosted by the Health Education Resource Center.

The workshops, called the Six Pack series, will start at 7 p.m. today in Room 1255 in Coleman Hall.

Shawna Waller, the Substance Abuse Education Coordinator for the HERC, said the series provides knowledge that students may or may not know regarding alcohol and its effects on the body.

There will be new topics each week, so there is something of interest for everyone, she said.

"Each week is a different topic that is relevant to our campus' population," Waller said. "It provides knowledge, information and education everywhere from alcohol to the dangers of alcohol."

The series is for students to offer them the opportunity to get all the information needed to protect themselves from the dangers of al-

cohol, she said.

The program has a new topic this year, she said.

The first session will be called "Alcohol Expectancies." Students will talk about what they expect to get from consuming alcohol, she said.

"It's a presentation designed to let students view alcohol and its expectancies in a different light," Waller said.

The center will invite an officer from the Charleston Police Department to speak to students about what he has seen involving underage drinking at two of the Six Pack events, she said.

The Six Pack series has received a lot of good feedback, Waller said.

"Overall, I feel like we have a very good turnout for the Six Pack events," she said.

The program also includes Alcohol and the Media, Alcohol and the Law, Part One; Alcohol and the Law, Part Two; Sex & Booze and finishing the series with Six Pack to Beer Gut, according to the HERC website.

"Our entire population can benefit from this program," Waller said. "There is something that every student can learn."

All of the classes will be at 7 p.m. on Wednesdays in Room

"Each week is a different topic that is relevant to our campus' population. It provides knowledge, information and education everywhere from alcohol to the dangers of alcohol."

Shawna Waller, the Substance Abuse Education Coordinator for the HERC

1255 in Coleman Hall. Specific dates are available at the HERC website.

Samantha McDaniel can be reached at 581-2812 or slmcdaniel@eiu.edu.

ICON, from page 1

Crockett said the grounds workers have been watching the tree closely.

"The tree has been around since Old Main was built," Crockett said. "I would say it is an icon of Eastern."

Gordon Tucker, professor of biological sciences and herbarium curator, said in email that when Old Main was built, a lower branch of the tree was removed to make way for stone blocks to be brought into the building site.

The growth rings on that limb were counted and the tree was said to be about 100 years old then, he said.

"So the tree is definitely more than 200 years old, but there is no way to tell exactly how old," he said.

Justin Perry, superintendent of grounds, said he estimates the tree to be about 250 to 300 years old.

Courtney Snyder, a freshman biological sciences major, said she had never noticed the tree by Old Main before.

After looking at the tree, Sny-

"So the tree is definitely more than 200 years old, but there is no way to tell exactly how old."

Gordon Tucker, professor of biological sciences

der said the tree is pretty interesting and unique.

In the next two or three weeks, grounds officials plan to conduct more pruning of the tree.

"We are doing everything we can to take care of it," Crockett said.

Elizabeth Edwards can be reached at 581-2812 or dennewsdesk@gmail.com.

WEBCT, from page 1

Kaylee Rogers, a freshman undecided major, said she is excited at the prospect of getting a new system.

"(WebCT) shuts down a lot and I couldn't even log in on anything," Rogers said.

Hopefully the new system will run smoother, she said.

Jeremy Kappel, a senior English major, said he really liked using

WebCT in his major classes.

"WebCT is really helpful and at least in English, they would post reading assignments and texts," Kappel said. "It helped me understand a lot more."

Nike Ogunbodede can be reached at 581-2812 or ovogunbodede@eiu.edu.

AD Lickin' Good



Run an Ad at the DEN
(217) 581-2816

With the warmer weather outside....



HEAT UP
Your business by advertising in the DEN!



581.2816

IF ONE SANDWICH IS ALL YOU NEED, WE DELIVER WITH LIGHTNING SPEED!

MICHELLE C. - HEBRON, OH



JIMMYJOHNS.COM

**315 LINCOLN AVE.
217.345.1075**

the verge
look for it every friday in the DEN



easter's arts & entertainment magazine

AMERICA'S FAVORITE SANDWICH DELIVERY GUYS!
©2011 JIMMY JOHN'S FRANCHISE, LLC. ALL RIGHTS RESERVED.

Announcements

Charleston Elks banquet and function facilities available. 217-345-2646.

For sale

Build muscle, lose weight, or just get fit, with the Body by Vi Challenge. \$49. www.Dtrip.BodybyVi.com 217-253-8922

Help wanted

Silk Screen Printing Position-local company is experiencing tremendous growth and is accepting application for a 1st class dependable operator. Applicant must be experienced with multiple color screen printing on a manual or automatic press. Qualifications: energetic, customer focused, experienced, organized, and have an eye for detail. Offering full or part time employment. All inquires will be kept confidential. Call today 217-273-3952

Bartending! \$250/day potential, no experience necessary. Training courses available. 800-965-6520 ex. 239.

Sublessors

Female Sub-leaser needed for 3 bedroom apartment. Millennium on 4th. Newly renovated apartment. Free sauna, hot tub, pool, exercise, & tanning. \$400/Month plus utilities. Great room-mates!!! Close to campus. Sublet my apartment & I'll pay 1st months rent! Call for more info 708-277-7098 or email lmksl@sbcglobal.net

For rent

3 bedroom, 2 bath house, 2 car garage, basement, W/D. 1 block North of Lantz gym. For more information please call 348-5992 or 549-6090. Available immediately.

4-6 bedroom available immediately. Trash & yard service included. No pets. (217)345-5037. www.chucktownrentals.com.

Immediate and January leases available at Park Place and Royal Heights Apartments! Call 217-348-1479 to get yours NOW!

2 Bedroom, 1 1/2 Bath. D/W, W/D, brand new carpet, walk-in closets. Available immediately. www.littekenrentals.com 217-276-6867

New 3 BR 2 1/2 Bath townhouse with garage. \$725/month. 276-4509

Driftwood Apts. 2 BR W/D, D/W, Stove, & refrigerator. Privacy deck. Very nice. On E Street across from fairgrounds. 276-4509

Very nice 2 bedroom house, close to campus. \$640 per month 345-3232

CLOSE TO CAMPUS 4 B.R. C/A. W/D. TRASH PAID, 345-7244 OR 649-0651. \$250 per person.

Awesome 2 bedroom apartment, close to campus. 50' plasma TV included \$340 per person, please call or text 217-273-2048

3 BR APT. 820 LINCOLN 1 BLOCK FROM OLD MAIN, CATHEDRAL CEILING, STOVE, FRIG, MICRO, DISHWASHER. WATER/TRASH PD. PH. 348-7746

For rent

3 BEDROOM APARTMENT. LARGE ROOMS, 3 BLOCKS FROM CAMPUS. NEWLY REMODELED. 345-1266

2 bedroom apartments, 3 bedroom house, 4 bedroom duplex, W/D. June, July, Aug availability. Water/trash included www.littekenrentals.com 217-276-6867

Female housemates needed, 1808 9th St. adjacent to campus. Private rooms. Furnished house, all utilities included. 549-3273

Fall 11. 2 BR, extra large, close to campus, nice, quiet house. A/C, W/D, water & trash included. No pets. \$275/pp, \$550/mo. 217-259-9772

NEWER THREE BEDROOM HOUSE. \$300 PER PERSON. AVAILABLE FALL 2011. CALL TOM @ 708-772-3711 FOR INFO.

EXTRA NICE-1 BEDROOM APTS-close to EIU. Locally owned and managed. \$325-550/mo includes Wireless internet, trash pickup and off street parking. No pets. 345-7286 www.jwilliamsrentals.com

EXTRA NICE-2 BEDROOM APTS-close to EIU. \$250-350 per month per person for 2. Most include wireless internet,

For rent

trash pickup, and parking. All electric and air conditioned. Locally owned and managed. No pets 345-7286. www.jwilliamsrentals.com.

Very nice 3 bedroom 2 bath apt. behind McHugh's furnished with dishwasher and 3 washer/dryer units on site. for more information call 217-493-7559 or www.myeiuhome.com

4 Bedroom house. 2 blocks from campus. Study Area in each bedroom. Living room and bonus room. Washer/Dryer. 1811 11th Street. 217-821-1970

4, 5 or 6 bedroom house, close to campus. 345-6533

4 BR, 2 Bath DUPLEX. Stove, refrigerator, microwave, dishwasher, washer/dryer. Trash pd. 1520 9th st. Ph 348-7746 www.CharlestonILApts.com

2 BR APTS. Stove, refrigerator, microwave. Trash pd. 2001 S. 12th & 1305 18th St. Ph 348-7746 www.CharlestonILApts.com

Now renting for Fall 2011. Rent now & get 2 months free! 4 bedroom house. Walking distance to campus. Call 345-2467

5 BR house, large living room, 2 1/2

For rent

bath, laundry room, fully furnished, large backyard. North of Greek Court on 11th St. \$295. Grant View Apartments. 217-345-3353

FOR FALL 2011: VERY NICE 2, 3 BEDROOM HOUSES, TOWNHOUSES, AND APARTMENTS. ALL EXCELLENT LOCATIONS. FOR MORE INFORMATION CALL US AT 217-493-7559 or www.myeiuhome.com

OLDE TOWNE APARTMENTS: 1, 2, & 3

For rent

BEDROOMS. CLOSE TO CAMPUS. 4 LOCATIONS TO CHOOSE FROM. 345-6533

FALL 11-12: 1, 2 & 3 BR. APTS. WATER & TRASH INCLUDED. PLENTY OF OFF-STREET PARKING. BUCHANAN ST. APTS. CALL 345-1266.

Youngstown Apts 345-2363. SAVE SAVE SAVE. 3 Brs or a 4 Br for a 2 person rate. New furniture & carpet. youngstownapts@consolidated.net

Plain & Simple: Affordable rents, Available Now
 1BR apt for 1 from \$335 incl. Internet
 2BR apt prood for 1 or 2 incl. cable & Internet

Wood Rentals
 Jim Wood, Realtor
 1512 A Street, P.O. Box 377
 Charleston, IL 61920
 217 345-4489 - Fax 345-4472

Most apts. include cable & Internet

 www.woodrentals.com

ADS ARE FOREVER

 Run an ad in the DEN
 (217) 581-2816

NO ADVERTISE IN THE DEN

The Answer is in the Stars!
DEN Advertising 581-2816

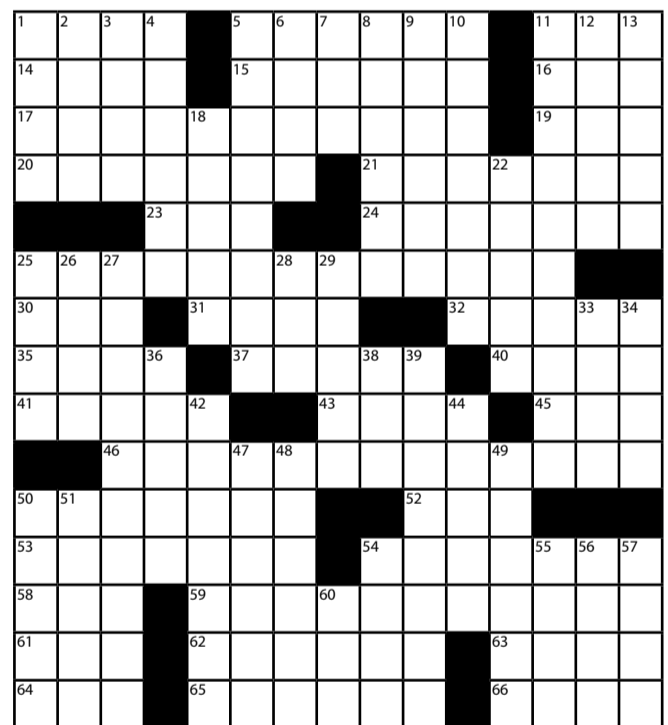
...bottom of the 9th...
 ...tied game...
 ...bases loaded...
 ...fast ball,
 down the middle...
 ...looks like it could be...
HOMERUN!!!
 Experience the feeling!
 Advertise in the DEN! Call 581-2816

The New York Times

Edited by Will Shortz

No. 0727

- ACROSS**
- 1 Univ. with the cheer "Roll Tide!"
 - 5 Indiana Jones accouterment
 - 11 Rachael on the Food Network
 - 14 "Ars Amatoria" poet
 - 15 Draws out
 - 16 Like
 - 17 Groom?
 - 19 Rocky peak
 - 20 "___ is nothing but perception": Plato
 - 21 Will-o'-the-wisp feature
 - 23 "Captain! The engines canna take ___ more!" (line from Scotty on "Star Trek")
 - 24 Installs new thatch on, maybe
 - 25 Verbal exchange about a harsh review?
 - 30 Bottle marked "XXX" in the comics
 - 31 Separation
 - 32 Homes for some colonies
 - 35 Water-resistant wood
 - 37 Seasonal songs ... or a hint to 17-, 25-, 46- and 59-Across
 - 40 City at the confluence of the Ouse and Foss
 - 41 Skinny sort
 - 43 Muckraker Jacob
 - 45 One-eighty
 - 46 Demand during a roadside negotiation?
 - 50 "Fa-a-ncy!"
- DOWN**
- 1 Things to draw
 - 2 French word whose opposite is 66-Across
 - 3 Certain skirt
 - 4 Number next to a +
 - 5 Encloses
 - 6 Nose (out)
 - 7 French nobleman
 - 8 Autumn colors
 - 9 Old Spanish silver coins
 - 10 Trademark forfeited by Bayer under the Treaty of Versailles
 - 11 Distributes stingily
 - 12 Detached
 - 13 Paul Bunyan tales, e.g.
- 52 "My gal" of song
- 53 Eerie 1976 movie with an Oscar-winning score
- 54 Biblical name meaning "father of many"
- 58 "I tawt I taw a putty ___"
- 59 Stylish Lionel?
- 61 Leandro's love, in a Handel cantata
- 62 Visigoth king who sacked Rome
- 63 "Runaround Sue" singer, 1961
- 64 Grandmaster Flash's music
- 65 Pursue again, as an elected position
- 66 French word whose opposite is 2-Down



PUZZLE BY BILL THOMPSON

- 18 Where Francis Scott Key saw bombs bursting
- 22 "Here, piggies!"
- 25 Super Bowl XXXVI champs, to fans
- 26 Actor Guinness
- 27 In second place, say
- 28 Overseer of corp. accts.
- 29 Gestation locations
- 33 Wynken, Blynken and Nod, e.g.
- 34 Slant
- 36 Mexican artist Frida
- 38 Architect Maya
- 39 Relaxes, in a way
- 42 The problem with these clue?
- 44 Emmy-winning Lewis
- 47 Flamenco cheer
- 48 Stand-up comic Sykes and others
- 49 Safari antelopes
- 50 Boon's "Animal House" buddy
- 51 Maureen of "Miracle on 34th Street"
- 54 Singer India. ___
- 55 First Chinese dynasty
- 56 Very long time
- 57 The Dolomites, e.g.: Abbr.
- 60 Uno + due

ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE

```

J A M B P O N T E M U S T
O M A R O D O R S S T E W
S P E E D L I M I T N O V A
M A K E A B E T P E N
F A D E R D E E R X I N G
O P E N E N D A M A S S
R E C D I E T S O D A
E X I T K E I T H S T O P
E V E P L U M B E P A
S T A R E B Y A H A I R
H O S P I T A L B A K E R
O R T L O N E S T A R
A Q U A M E N E W O R K I N G
L U T E E A T A T E Z R A
S E E R I R O N S D E A D
    
```

For answers, call 1-900-285-5656, \$1.49 a minute; or, with a credit card, 1-800-814-5554. Annual subscriptions are available for the best of Sunday crosswords from the last 50 years: 1-888-7-ACROSS. AT&T users: Text NYTX to 386 to download puzzles, or visit nytimes.com/mobilexword for more information. Online subscriptions: Today's puzzle and more than 2,000 past puzzles, nytimes.com/crosswords (\$39.95 a year). Share tips: nytimes.com/wordplay. Crosswords for young solvers: nytimes.com/learning/xwords.

RUNNING CLUB

Club strides for success

By Olivia Sloss
Staff Reporter

Students interested in running can join Eastern's running club, El Striders.

El Striders is the first running club on campus, started last year by Nathan Johnson, senior graphic design major, Tyler Whitfield, senior kinesiology major with teacher certification and coach John McInerney, former Eastern All-American runner and former assistant coach for the Eastern Track and Field and cross country team.

El Striders was initially started as a way of getting runners together to work out. It started primarily as a distance running group and is used by some of the runners as a stepping-stone for trying out for the Eastern track and field team.

The club meets at 6:30 p.m. Wednesdays in Lantz Fieldhouse. They divide into groups to do the

"To me, personally, the running club was a type of community that gave a lot of support when I was competing in the EIU home meets."

Nathan Johnson, a senior kinesiology major

workout. Their members typically include high school students, faculty, community members, post-collegiate and collegiate runners. There is no membership fee to join the Striders. Last year, the Striders had T-shirts designed by an Eastern faculty member and also had singlets designed for the club.

This year with Johnson as president, and with both Whitfield and Martino as co-president, El Striders are looking to start more recruitment on campus by putting posters in Lantz, residence halls and on

Facebook.

"To me, personally, the running club was a type of community that gave a lot of support when I was competing in the EIU home meets," Johnson said.

El Striders meet 9 a.m. on Sundays at Fox Ridge Park and are currently trying to get members to meet on Thursdays at 7 p.m. in the Fieldhouse.

Olivia Sloss can be reached at 581-7944 or oesloss@eiu.edu

BASEBALL

Players make top list

Staff Report

Two members of the Eastern baseball team were included in the Valley League Top 35 Prospects by Perfect Game USA after their performances in the off season this summer.

Sophomore pitcher Troy Barton is the No. 24 recruit on the list, who played for the Covington Lumberjacks this summer. Barton finished with a 2-2 record and a 2.40 ERA. He led the Lumberjacks in strikeouts with 44 in a total of 45 innings

played. Barton made five starts in his 22 appearances as a Panther last season, finishing the year with 42 strikeouts.

Sophomore infielder Ryan Dineen is ranked No. 30 on the list after also playing for the Lumberjacks this summer. Dineen had the team's best batting average at .350, while racking up 63 hits and 41 runs.

The two helped the Lumberjacks reach an overall record of 27-25, as well as a win in the Valley Baseball League championship.

MEN'S SOCCER

Soccer makes regional

By Dominic Renzetti
Sports Editor

The first rankings of the National Soccer Coaches Association of America (NSCAA) Midwest region have Eastern ranked in the top 10 teams. After the Panthers defeated Big Ten conference opponent Northwestern by a final score of 2-1 in overtime, the Panthers find themselves ranked among the regions best. Eastern is ranked eighth, with many other teams in the Midwest also ranked nationally.

Creighton is the region's top team, posting a 1-0-0 record after the team's 1-0 win over Denver. The University of Kentucky is ranked second after beating both Michigan and Dayton to hold a record of 2-0-0. Creighton also entered the season as the 10 ranked team in the national preseason poll. South-

ern Illinois University- Edwardsville is ranked third after a 2-1 victory over Tulsa, with the University of Alabama-Birmingham ranked No. 4. Drake and Bradley are ranked No. 5 and No. 6 with 1-0-0 and 2-0-0 records, respectively. Southern Methodist University comes in at No. 7, despite losing their opening match to William and Mary. Eastern comes in at No. 8, followed by Tulsa, another team who lost their opening match. Memphis rounds out the top ten after their 4-1 win over Lipscomb.

The Panthers will play Bradley and Central Arkansas this weekend, both on the road. Both Bradley and Central Arkansas are undefeated on the year.

Dominic Renzetti can be reached at 581-7944 or dcrenzetti@eiu.edu

COMICS

PEARLS BEFORE SWINE BY STEPHAN PASTIS



GET FUZZY BY DARBY CONLEY



YOUNG, from page 8

Hutchinson was medically cleared Monday to return to practice and she could very well be in the lineup this weekend in Louisville, Ky. The seniors the Panthers lost included several major team leaders, and those roles will simply need to be filled by other players, not all of whom will be upperclassmen.

Kirby's big play in her first weekend was a prime example of the stepping-up, take-charge leadership this entire team is looking for, and it will need to continue coming from either Kirby or other underclassmen if the Panthers are to continue their early success.

Another key to Eastern's future success that was not present throughout the weekend is a lower kill rate on swings. Too many Panther errors were

made and that jet their attack percentage down below where they would like it. Kirby, while leading the team in kills, had nearly as many attack errors, which kept her attack percentage down below .100.

Volleyball is a sport where hitters must be aggressive, no doubt, and while it sounds cliché, the Panthers need to be more disciplined with their aggressive attacks.

That, coupled with young leadership, should carry this year's team to the promised land of the Ohio Valley Conference tournament at season's end.

Brad Kupiec can be reached at 581-7944 or bmkupiec@eiu.edu

 Tweet
Tweet

Follow the Daily Eastern News twitter!

dennews



Special Olympics Family Festival

****Volunteers Needed****

We need volunteers to be a "Friend for a Day" at Lake Land College from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Saturday, September 17, 2011

Volunteer registration forms are available in 1212 Buzzard hall

'TIS THE SEASON

Volunteer Meeting:
Thursday, September 8, 2011,
6 p.m. in the Buzzard Auditorium.

Hosted by



ALL ACCESS

California freshman welcomed to team

By Brad Kupiec
Staff Reporter

This year the Eastern volleyball team has freshman outside hitter Katie Kirby coming to them all the way from LaVerne, Calif.

Kirby says she is excited to be here and contribute to the team, which she did by earning All-Tournament honors at the Indiana State Quality Inn/ASICS Classic this past weekend.

Kirby said while it has been an adjustment moving halfway across the country, she is just taking everything in stride.

"It's been an experience," said Kirby. "It's been a big change but I'm happy here and I like it."

When asked how she managed being 2,000 miles away from home, Kirby said depending on how the volleyball season turns out, she may not be able to get home before Christmas.

"I miss my family and I miss my friends," Kirby said. "But I'm not super homesick or anything; it doesn't really faze me."

Kirby said she chose Eastern because of the friendly atmosphere around the team and campus.

"I got a full ride (scholarship)," Kirby said, "And when I came for my visit (the returning members of the team) made me feel really welcome. The coaches really welcomed me, and I love the campus. The people here are great."

While Charleston's population is 21,710 compared to LaVerne's

"It's been a big change, but I'm happy here and I like it."

Katie Kirby, freshman outside hitter

33,871, Kirby said she is enjoying the Midwest so far while adjusting to the biggest town within a 45-minute drive being Champaign instead of Pasadena.

"There's not all that much out here, but people here are nice," Kirby said.

Being a freshman, Kirby is not only adjusting to a new town, but also to the college experience, living on campus, having a roommate and getting adjusted.

When asked how she was dealing with that transition, Kirby said she was worried about getting lost during the first days of class, but she made it through just fine.

"It's different," Kirby said. "The first day of class I was terrified I was going to get lost, but I managed."

Even though Kirby is far from home, she is ready for whatever the season will throw (or bump, set and spike) her way.

Brad Kupiec can be reached at 581-7944 or bmkupiec@eiu.edu.



KIMBERLY FOSTER | THE DAILY EASTERN NEWS

Outside hitter Katie Kirby, a freshman undecided major, prepares to serve the ball Tuesday during practice in Lantz Arena. Kirby, who came to Eastern from La Verne, Calif., earned all-tournament honors over the weekend at the Indiana State Quality Inn/ASICS Classic in Terre Haute, Ind.

VIEWS



Brad Kupiec

Young talent will carry team

Eastern's volleyball team is relatively young. That much is numerically true, after the team lost five seniors from last year and have brought in four new freshmen.

The team has been infused with some young blood on the front lines. With only two seniors on the team, starting setter Chrisie Albers and starting libero Brittany Wallace, the team will need younger players to step up as leaders on the court and off if they are going to succeed in 2011.

The Panthers have gotten this sort of contribution in just their first weekend of non-conference action, as freshman outside hitter, Katie Kirby stepped up to lead the team with 31 kills en route to being named All-Tournament in the Indiana State Quality Inn/ASICS Classic in Terre Haute. Despite being over 2,000 miles from home and playing in her first collegiate matches, Kirby was able to step up statistically to lead Eastern to a pair of wins in its first four matches.

This is exactly what this year's team is going to need more of if they are to have a good year. Some other Panther underclassmen whom will look to prove themselves as leaders include sophomore outside hitter Reynae Hutchinson, who started last year, but missed last weekend due to illness.

YOUNG, page 7

CROSS COUNTRY

Panthers left out of Midwest rankings

By Dominic Renzetti
Sports Editor

The Eastern men's and women's cross country teams enter both of their seasons unranked in the United States Track and Field and Cross Country Coaches Association of America Midwest pre-season polls.

Neither Eastern nor any other Ohio Valley Conference men's team cracked the top 15 rankings. The Big Ten and the Big 12 conferences lead the way with four teams represented each. The No. 1 team in the Midwest, Oklahoma State, finished last season in the No. 2 spot, while preseason No. 2 team, Oklahoma, was the No. 1 team at the end of last season.

The only OVC men's team to appear ranked in any region was Eastern Kentucky, who is ranked fourth in the Southeast Region. Eastern Kentucky finished the 2010 season in the No. 7 spot in the Southeast, moving into the top five this year. The Colonels were the preseason OVC No. 1 team in the men's division, with the Panthers coming behind them in second.

The women's Midwest division features no teams from the OVC, while the Big Ten and Big 12 conferences are tied for the most representatives, this time with five teams each. The Big 12 holds the top two spots, with Iowa State and Oklahoma State, respectively. Iowa State and Oklahoma State finished first and second in the

Midwest region at the end of last season.

There are no OVC women's teams ranked in any other conferences, even the OVC's No. 1 ranked Eastern Kentucky women's team.

The Eastern men's and women's teams will compete Sept. 9 at home for the EIU Walt Crawford Open.

Around the OVC

Eastern Kentucky's men's team has entered the national rankings for the first time in school history, appear No. 28 in the USTF-CCCAA national rankings.

Southeast Missouri will open both the men's and women's season on Saturday at the Washington University Early Bird.

Jacksonville State will open its season at the Struts XC Season Opener on Sept. 2. Jacksonville State will host the event, which will be the first of two cross country events hosted by the Gamecocks.

Murray State will begin its season on Sept. 3 at the Memphis Twilight Classic.

Eastern Kentucky will host Marshall on Sept. 2 for the EKV vs. Marshall Relays.

Morehead State's men's and women's teams will begin their season at the Dayton Flyer 5K held in Kettering, Ohio.

Dominic Renzetti can be reached at 581-7944 or dcrenzetti@eiu.edu.



DANNY DAMIANI | THE DAILY EASTERN NEWS

Bryce Basting (left), a freshman cross-country runner, edges out Andy Derks, a 2003 Eastern cross-country alumnus, for second place with a time of 15:46.36 during the Peace to Meece 5K Run on Panther Trail Saturday.