

12-11-2009

## Daily Eastern News: December 11, 2009

Eastern Illinois University

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## Getting into spirit of holiday season

Verge, 1B



## Track season begins with today’s meet

Page 12

### UNIVERSITY

# Retirement leads to something new

## Perry hopes to fill VPUA position soon

By Sarah Ruholl  
Administration Editor

Eastern will soon have a new vice president for university advancement to replace Jill Nilsen upon her retirement on Dec. 31.

“I would like to have someone on board in January,” said President Bill Perry. “That’s going to depend upon the person’s obligations in his or her current position.”

Perry met with the search committee last Thursday to discuss the four candidates who interviewed on campus.

“They discussed with me all the feedback from the campus, their estimations of the strengths of the candidates,” Perry said. “I’ll take that under advisement and make my decision and begin negotiations.”

After negotiations, Perry will hire James Salmo, Pamela Christman, Keith Carver or Robert Martin on a temporary basis until the Board of Trustees approves a full-time hire.

“I can make the commitment on a one-year contract,” Perry said. “For a longer, it requires approval from the board, but I will be consulting with the board informally, individual by individual about my selection. My intention will be to bring this to the board in the January meeting. In the meantime, I can move forward in making the commitment.”

The decision will be based on feedback from the interviews and the search committee’s recommendations.

“During the open sessions, people had the opportunity to make their comments to the search committee, and the committee pulled all that together and took it into account as well,” Perry said. “The hiring of a vice president at a university is a very consultative process. We’ve gone through that process and now we’re nearing the conclusion of it.”

*Sarah Ruholl can be reached at 581-7942 or seruholl2@eiu.edu.*

## Nilsen to make retirement ‘meaningful’



CHELSEA GRADY | THE DAILY EASTERN NEWS

Dr. Jill Nilsen, vice president of external relations will retire on Dec. 31 after a long career at Eastern.

## Vice president says goodbye after more than 33 years

By Sarah Ruholl  
Administration Editor

Jill Nilsen wants her life to be as meaningful as she can make it.

“There was a poem I heard at commencement last spring called

‘The Dash,’ and ‘The Dash’ talks about how on your tombstone there’s the day you’re born and the day you die and in between is a dash,” Nilsen said. “The dash is your life, and you need to make your dash as meaningful as possible, so I’m going to be looking at ways that I can make that dash as meaningful as I can.”

During her more than 33 years at Eastern, Nilsen has done many meaningful things for Eastern. Nilsen will retire from her position as vice president for external

relations Dec. 31.

Nilsen worked as a professor, and later department chair, of communications disorders’ sciences, associate dean of the graduate school and special assistant to the president before becoming an acting vice president in 1998.

Each area she worked in evolved under her guidance.

“I was department chair for speech pathology and audiology, and it became communications disorders sciences during that time,” Nilsen said. “The de-

partment looked carefully at department name trends across the country and the changing nature of the profession and we felt that communications disorders sciences was more reflective of the discipline, and so we started the process of changing the name.”

As associate dean in the graduate school, Nilsen helped establish the Graduate Student Advisory Council.

“GSAC was developed so the graduate students on campus

NILSEN, page 5

### UNIVERSITY

# CUPB furthers discussion of furloughs

By Emily Zulz  
News Editor

The Council on University Planning and Budget has received 65 comments regarding the draft furlough policy through its Web site and many more comments from council members, said CUPB chair Karen Drage.

The council will address these comments and concerns of the campus community at its 3 p.m. meeting today in the Effingham Room of the Martin Luther King Jr. University Union.

President Bill Perry submitted a draft furlough policy to the CUPB for its consideration at its Nov. 13 meeting, and asked for CUPB in-

put to the draft no later than its regularly scheduled meeting today.

“The president charged CUPB with collecting the comments from the campus community,” Drage said. “CUPB is not charged with developing the policy nor does CUPB endorse the furlough policy. Our bylaws state that the council advises the president on matters of policy and budget.”

Following today’s meeting, Drage said CUPB would release all the comments on its Web site.

“The Council has stated time and time again that there is no hidden agenda or underlying motive in the collection of the comments,” she said. “The president has asked CUPB to collect comments on the

draft furlough policy. He set no limits on how we were to proceed.”

Drage said the CUPB executive committee assembled the Monday following its Nov. 13 meeting. The committee discussed how to proceed with the collection of the comments without causing any anxiety among the campus community, she said.

“The Council members were asked to take a leadership role in conveying the message to their constituents that the collection of comments on the draft furlough policy did not indicate that a furlough would be imminent,” Drage said.

The council has collected comments through various forms including on the CUPB Web site,

through informational sessions and other avenues to collect anonymous comments.

Throughout the entire process, CUPB has made the efforts to be as transparent as possible to dispel any suggestion of conspiracy with any person or entity.

“This has been a team effort,” Drage said. “Council members are elected to their positions by the constituents they represent. Therefore, there is absolutely no reason to believe that we have had anything but the best interest of the campus community in mind during this process.”

*Emily Zulz can be reached at 581-7942 or eazulz@eiu.edu.*

### CAMPUS

# Dean search continues with Irwin

By Bob Bajek  
Associate News Editor

Bonnie Irwin, the lone internal candidate for the dean of the College of Arts and Humanities, was interviewed by liberal arts faculty Thursday afternoon in Room 4440 of Booth Library.

Irwin, the dean for the Honors College since 2004, said even though she is happy working in the Honors College, she wants a different challenge.

“I’m getting to the place where it may be better to have someone else come in and take (the

IRWIN, page 6



WEATHER TODAY



Mostly Sunny

**HIGH**  
**35°**

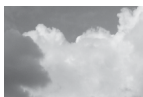
**LOW**  
**23°**

Warmer conditions today with winds out of the Southwest 10-15 mph. The warming trend continues through the weekend. However, there's a slight chance for a few light showers Saturday night after midnight. Temperatures will be around 40 degrees on Sunday and Monday.

WEATHER TOMORROW



**Saturday**  
**Mostly Sunny**  
**High:** 39°  
**Low:** 31°



**Sunday**  
**Mostly Cloudy**  
**High:** 41°  
**Low:** 33°

For more weather information: [www.eiu.edu/~weather](http://www.eiu.edu/~weather)

CAMPUS BRIEFS

Union Bookstore sale continues until Dec. 19

The Bookstore's fall semester clearance sale continues until Dec. 19. If ordering gifts, be sure to order by Dec. 18 to guarantee arrival by Dec. 25.

CORRECTIONS

In Thursday's edition of *The Daily Eastern News*, the outcome of the vote regarding revisions to the Student Body Constitution was inaccurate. The referendum passed by 557 votes out of a total of 668. Therefore, the number of students who voted "yes" secured more than the required 2/3 majority to ratify revisions to the Constitution.

Though 837 ballots were cast in total during the elections, only 668 ballots included votes pertaining to the constitutional revisions. Those who submitted the remaining 169 ballots did not exercise an opinion on the matter and so were not counted in the total vote regarding the revisions.

The outcome was determined based on the total votes cast in the matter, not on the total votes cast in the election.

In Thursday's edition of *The DEN*, Alexander Boyd's name was misspelled.

In Thursday's edition of *The DEN*, the number of terms Michael Whildin has served on the Senate was wrong. This was his third semester on the Student Senate.

*The DEN* regrets these errors.

THE DAILY  
EASTERN NEWS

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

Contact

If you have corrections or tips, please call:

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About

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

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Please report any factual error you find by e-mail, phone, campus mail or in person.  
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DENnews.com photo blog  
Lighting up the holiday season



ALYCIA ROCKEY | THE DAILY EASTERN NEWS

Coles County Courthouse in the sqauare is lit up for the holiday season. To see other seasonal decorations in Chareston go to DENnews.com.

Booth gets into the spirit of the season

Booth Library is showcasing four exhibits this, each of which is made up of symbols of four different winter holidays. The Symbols of Christmas and the Eid-ul-Ahda- Histories and Origins exhibits are on display in the Marvin Foyer. The Hanukkah and Kwanzaa exhibits are on display in the reference hall.

Find out more in staff reporter Jordan Boner's article about the exhibits at DENnews.com.

Awarding creative student work

Staff reporter Brittany Mackowiak reports on Booth Library's new Awards for Excellence in Student Research and Creativity. The program is offering awards to students with creative and original pieces of work.

The program is designed to recognize excellence in student work and is open to all majors and both undergraduate and graduate students. More at DENnews.com.

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Everyday Special- See Monday's Ad



CITY

Fast food chain  
to fill Golden  
Gyros location

Representatives  
hope to finalize  
deal soon

By Stephen Di Benedetto  
City Editor

Representatives of the former Golden Gyros restaurant are in negotiations with a fast food chain that is similar to Wendy's, according to Jay Sikorski, a commercial broker for Caldwell Banker.

Sikorski said the group hoped to finalize a deal before the end of the year, adding Caldwell Banker hopes to have more direction on negotiations by the end of the month.

"I'm hoping to get that wrapped up soon," Sikorski said.

The former Golden Gyros building is located just west of the McDonald's along Lincoln Avenue.

Sikorski said negotiations have been slower than anticipated, citing acquiring additional money as one of the rea-

"I'm hoping  
to get that  
wrapped up  
soon."

Jay Sikorski,  
commercial broker

sons.

The vacant building has been on the market for a little more than a year.

Sikorski said activity in the market was slow until about three months ago.

"It's been challenging," he said.

Sikorski said the university creates a demand for fast food in the area because students want quick, inexpensive food.

During the past year, Charleston has seen a combination of businesses leave and develop in the area.

Boxa, which specialized in sand-



ERIC HILTNER | THE DAILY EASTERN NEWS

Caldwell Bankers is in negotiations with a fast food franchise to be opened in the vacant Golden Gyros, 300 Lincoln Ave. Brokers hope to have more information by the end of the month and a deal before the end of the year.

wiches and pizza, closed.

Papa Murphy's and Villa's Pizzeria also closed its respective restaurants in Charleston during the end of the summer.

However, L.A. Tan has announced

plans to develop a tanning salon and organic juice bar at the vacant Harrison's Cycling and Fitness Building, 303 Lincoln Ave.

Kahuna's Grill, located across the street from Jimmy John's, opened for

business during the end of summer.

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CAMPUS

Personal choices inspire campus to donate

Eastern a top winner  
in the Donate  
Life Challenge

By James Roedl  
Staff Reporter

Eastern won the 2009 Donate Life Illinois Campus Challenge by registering 205 organ donors.

Cameron Chana died in a tragic bus accident last summer, two weeks after he graduated from Eastern. His organs saved the lives of recipients who had no other option, but to receive a transplant. While the campus challenge tries to register potential donors who have not considered donation before, Chana took the time to become a donor well before he died. His story helped inspire students, Jordan Cox, junior communication studies major, to win the Donate Life Illinois Campus Challenge.

"So many students at Eastern became so passionate about organ donation after hearing about Cameron

Chana's story, and I felt that an organ donation registration drive would be a great way to get students involved for a great cause," said Cox, who helped register donors.

Cox said she loved the idea of an organ donor drive knowing how much it can help others.

"Organ donation is something that can affect anyone's life in a split second so to see so many different people from all different cultures and communities to come out and support this great cause made it all worth it," Cox said.

Carissa Coon, a senior accounting major, organized Eastern's campus challenge.

"I didn't expect the response that I did receive," she said. "I was overwhelmed and amazed by how much support not only the campaign received, but how much personal support I received as well."

When the challenge started, Coon's brother had been on the transplant list for six weeks waiting for a heart and kidney.

"I knew that the people that I registered wouldn't help my brother direct-

"Listen to  
Macie's story,  
just take a look  
at her, and then  
their decision is  
their own."

Michelle Schnepper,  
Eastern alumna

ly, but I hope that one day that person can help someone else," Coon said. "I just didn't want anyone else or their family to experience and deal with what mine had to go through."

Coon said many people know some one who has been affected by organ donation. "In a way it affects everyone since we all have the option to become donors," she said. "One donor can help save or enhance the lives of up to 25 people, so why would you not want to help?"

According to the United Network for Organ Sharing, 105,255 people

in America are waiting for organs as of Thursday morning. Between January and September, 21,422 transplants took place, and there were 10,916 donors. Michelle Schnepper, an Eastern alumna who graduated from the family consumer sciences program in 2002, personally knows about the need for transplants. Schnepper had a normal pregnancy, but her daughter Macie was born prematurely. Her daughter had come home with a clean bill of health, but went into cardiac arrest at three months old. Schnepper and her husband brought Macie home, but felt some thing was not right. They took her to a hospital in St. Louis where she underwent cardiac arrest again. At 5 a.m., Schnepper was told that her daughter would receive a new heart. By 7:30 the next morning, Macie had a new heart and was doing well. The heart had come from a child called Destiny. The child's mother chose not to identify herself, but asked for updates on Macie.

Schnepper is happy to send photos, and updates every six months.

Macie will stay away from malls, and stores for now to avoid getting

Floragraph scheduled

Bob and Lori Chana, Cameron Chana's parents, will take part in a floragraph decoration Saturday at the National Kidney Foundation in Chicago.

Eventually Cameron Chana's floragraph, a portrait made of flowers, will be part of the Donate Life float in the 2010 Rose Parade in Pasadena, Calif.

sick, but she will live a normal life. Schnepper says there no activity restrictions and Macie will be able participate in sports and anything else she wants to.

While Coon said some people did not want to register to become donors, Schnepper feels she has a reason everyone should consider it.

"Listen to Macie's story, just take a look at her, and then their decision is their own," Schnepper said.

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Health Service



VIEWS



Sam Sottosanto

Learning to appreciate different mediums

I have been waiting so long for the weekend to get here. Several months, in fact. Why am I so excited?

Because “The Lovely Bones” starts playing in theatres this weekend.

I’ve been waiting to see this movie since I finished reading the book by Alice Sebold last October.

For those of you who don’t know me, I’m a big book reader. I could sit there reading book after book without stopping.

On that same note, I love movies. I would be perfectly fine watching three different movies in a row.

So, whenever I read a book and find out that it’s being turned into the movie, I get super stoked — one story combined in two of my favorite things!

I was the same way when I read “My Sister’s Keeper” by Jodi Picoult — I couldn’t wait for the movie to come out.

Same way with “The Time Traveler’s Wife.”

The movie followed the book pretty well. It missed a few things that the book had, but it had all the monumental moments in it, and now I am counting down the days until it comes out on DVD (Feb. 9, for those of you who loved the movie as much as I did).

“My Sister’s Keeper” was a great book, too. I laughed, I cried. And the movie totally ruined the storyline by changing the rather shocking ending from the book.

There was a *reason* Picoult put that kind of an ending there in the first place!

Now that “The Lovely Bones” is coming out, I am not sure what the director, Peter Jackson, has in store for it. But I can tell you right now, after watching the preview and reading the synopsis, I don’t think it’s going to end like the book.

The last few chapters of “The Lovely Bones” take place ten years in the future. And there has been no indication that they are even going to get past a few years in the future for the movie.

But that’s just my guess — I’ll find out Saturday when I see it.

Even though watching a movie and finding it didn’t turn out like the book disappoints me, I have learned this past semester to have a certain appreciation for the differences in movies.

It’s because I’m taking a Film and Literature class this semester, where we do exactly that — read books and watch movies.

Though I may not like them, I have appreciation and can understand why storyline’s are changed.

Through taking Film and Literature class this semester, I have been learning a lot about differences between books and movies and why it is important that the two are not the same.

I’ve learned that movies based on books should be treated almost like a separate entity. You shouldn’t base your views on the movie solely because you liked the book better.

However, as you probably could tell, I have fallen victim to that vice already with what I thought of “My Sister’s Keeper.”

But you know what? I’m going to go into theatres this weekend with open eyes. I’m going to try and separate myself as far away from the book and try and criticize “The Lovely Bones” on its own merit.

Sam Sottosanto is a junior journalism major and can be reached at 581-7942 or DENopinions@gmail.com.

THE DAILY EASTERN NEWS  
“Tell the truth and don’t be afraid”

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

With Nilsen’s retirement, Eastern loses much more than administrator

After 35 years at Eastern, it’s time to reluctantly say goodbye to Jill Nilsen.

Nilsen will spend her New Year’s Day as an accomplished retiree from Eastern.

The current vice president for external relations began her career here in 1974, monitoring student teaching and clinicals.

With hard work and dedication, she quickly moved up the ladder. In 1984, she became department chair for the then-titled speech pathology and audiology department. During her term, she helped transition the name to the current communications disorders and sciences.

She filled the assistant dean of the Graduate School position in 1990. Then, in 1994, she was promoted to special assistant to university President Dave Jorns.

Nilsen moved to acting vice president for external relations in 1998 before taking the permanent position in 2001 under President Lou Hencken.

During her time at Eastern, she helped develop the Graduate Student Advisory Council. She also helped in the development and transition into the Board of Trustees after the Board of Governors was abolished.

As vice president for external relations, not only has Nilsen taken on marketing, communication, alumni relations, radio and TV responsibilities, she also expanded philanthropy.

Nilsen’s energy and dedication have contributed to the university’s varied successes.

She vehemently promoted the Renewable Energy Center since its conception. She lobbied in Springfield in April to obtain state-allocated funds for the energy center, after lack of funding put the project on hold.

She has kept up a constant dialogue with the Charleston community, serving as the liaison between the city and the university. She helped set up numerous meetings

“(Nilsen) set the gold standard for hard work and dedication, always doing so with a bright smile on her face.”

to get residents’ input and listen to their concerns.

More recently, she has played an integral role in gaining alumni donations for various campus departments.

Under her direction, the Alumni Association set up a Facebook page to attract more donations. The page currently has more than 5,100 fans.

According to an article in the Oct. 7 edition of *The Daily Eastern News*, fiscal year 2009 saw about 5,388 donate to the university, which was up from 5,266 in 2008.

Nilsen’s roots at Eastern run deep.

She has not only served as administrator for many years, but also graduated from Eastern, receiving both her bachelor’s and master’s degree in speech pathology and audiology; her doctorate in speech and hearing science from the University of Illinois in Urbana-Champaign.

Beyond her university involvement, Nilsen has been an active community member, serving on the Charleston Chamber of Commerce, Strategic Planning Committee, the Unified Development Committee, as well as numerous other county committees.

She has served on the Charleston Excellence in Education Board, the Coalition Against Domestic Violence Board, the SACIS Board, the Sarah Bush Lincoln Health Center Board, and church and school groups.

Her involvement in the community doesn’t stop at retirement. Nilsen plans to stick around town after, showing her commitment and adoration for the community.

With her retirement looming, the university has big shoes to fill in her empty position. We hope Eastern makes the right decision and remembers all that Nilsen has accomplished. She set the gold standard for hard work and dedication, always doing so with a bright smile on her face.

Jill Nilsen, your hard work will not be forgotten. Eastern will miss you.

FROM THE EASEL

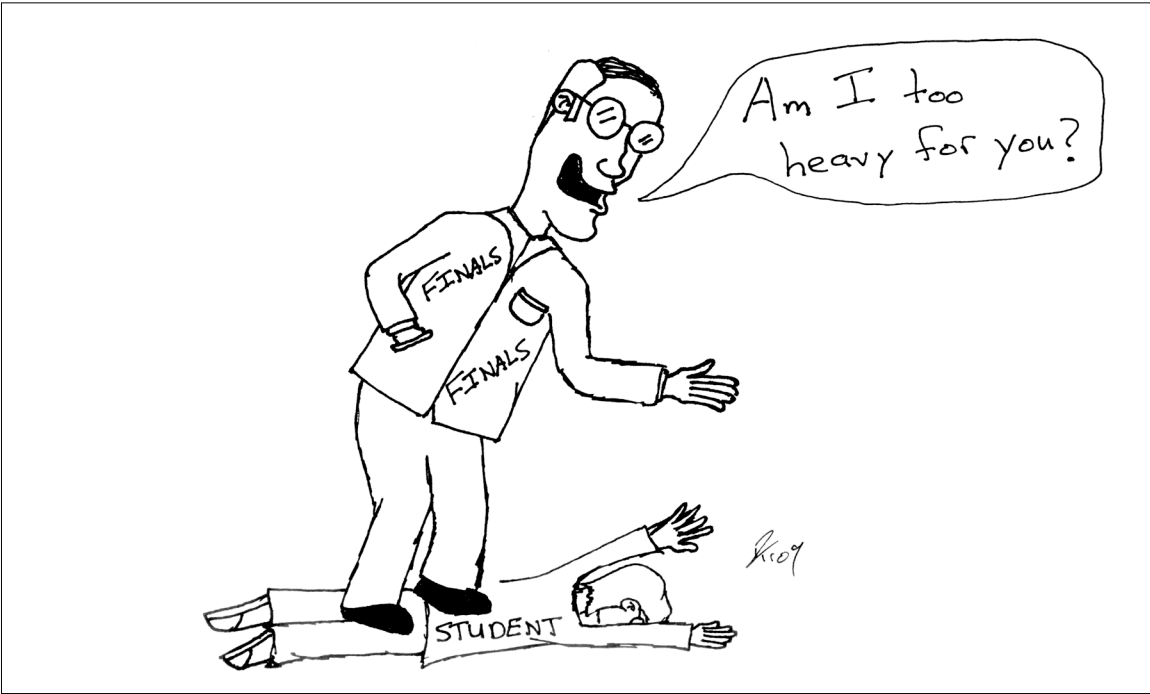


ILLUSTRATION BY DAVID THILL | THE DAILY EASTERN NEWS

BEST COMMENTS FROM THE WEB

Column: My own personal Hell week  
Article posted on 12/9/09

“You knew this one would be rough the day syllabi were passed out (i.e. in August).”

Bill Hearst, 12/10/09

Column: Message to known hypocrites  
Article posted on 12/10/09

“Religion, politics, and sex were all topics my parents told me to avoid when talking to friends and family. I wasn’t taught to be stubborn, but rather to avoid giving others the opportunity to be.”

quite true, 12/10/09

NILSEN, from page 1

would have a voice in the Student Government. GSAC still exists today,” Nilsen said. “They have a voice on Student Government. They represent the graduate student interests for the university.”

Her favorite part of the position was the broader scope of the university that she was exposed to.

“The thing I loved about working in the graduate school was, after having worked in one academic department, in the graduate school I worked in all academic departments that had graduate programs,” Nilsen said. “When you’re in your own academic department, you tend to only focus on your own curriculum issues and your own students. In the graduate school I got to know a lot more people.”

In 1994, then-president David Jorns asked her to work as a special assistant to the president. As special assistant, she worked mostly with board and governmental relations, and in planning and institutional studies.

In 1995, Eastern switched from a Board of Governors to a Board of Trustees system, which Nilsen helped coordinate.

“Jorns asked if I would begin working with our board, and that’s how board relations became part of my responsibilities,” she said.

When she moved to the vice president position, Nilsen carried many of her responsibilities with her, and more responsibilities continued to be added.

“Other things started coming in because it kind of fit under external relations; university marketing and communication, philanthropy, alumni relations and then radio/TV, WEIU, became part of my responsibilities,” she said.

With all she has done for Eastern, it may be hard to imagine that she originally only planned to stay for a year.

“I’d worked in the Chicago suburban schools as a speech pathologist, and I thought I would just go back there and go back to being a speech pathologist,” Nilsen said. “I never saw myself staying at Eastern for over 33 years.”

It wasn’t just the university that kept her here, though.

“One of the factors that changed was that during that first year here I met a professor in zoology who has now been my husband for 31 years,” Nilsen said. “I met and married my husband, Hank. About the same time that we met, I was asked if I would continue here and I made the decision to stay.”

A look at other December retirees

Along with Jill Nilsen’s retirement Dec. 31, the university is set to lose several more faces before the spring semester starts. *The Daily Eastern News* staff spoke with a few of the faculty and staff members that will leave Eastern by the end of the month to hear their future plans and why they will be missed.

Leonard E. Storm

College of Sciences — Physics Department

By Jason Hardimon  
Staff Reporter

Leonard E. Storm, chair and professor of physics, grew up in Windsor, Ill.

He enjoyed high school physics, and did well enough to earn a scholarship to Eastern, he said.

“I like knowing how things work,”

Storm said, “and I like the problem solving aspect too.”

Storm earned his bachelor’s degree from Eastern, and attended graduate school at the University of Illinois.

He joined Eastern’s faculty in 1971 after two years of teaching high school in Forreston, Ill., located just west of Rockford.

“Everyone in the physics depart-

ment is very friendly; we all help each other out. It’s a nice environment.”

Storm plans to spend some time on the road after he retires.

“My wife and I like to travel,” Storm said. “We have daughters in Pennsylvania and Florida, so I imagine that we’ll be going to see them.”

In his spare time Storm likes to

be outdoors; gardening, landscaping and canoeing are a few of his hobbies. In fact, Storm has paddled down several rivers throughout the Midwest.

He also likes photography.

“I recently took it up,” Storm said. “One of my daughters enjoys photography, so we like to go out together and take pictures.”

Christine McCormick

College of Sciences — Psychology Department

By Emily Steele  
Student Government Editor

Christine McCormick is packing up her office and leaving Eastern, after a little more than a quarter of a century in the psychology department.

After graduating from the University of Minnesota with a Ph.D. in 1977, McCormick began teaching

courses such child psychology.

“I really enjoyed the classes I’ve taught and you know, of course I will miss teaching,” McCormick said in a phone interview.

She plans to continue her primary research on emergent and early literacy, which led to her development of early literacy materials for the classroom and a series of “little books” for children between the ages

of three and six.

While she plans to catch up on her reading and spend time with family, she also wants to volunteer and tutor local children.

“I’d like to work with young children again,” McCormick’s said.

She and her husband Frank McCormick, a retired Eastern English professor, will be staying in the area, but she says they have plans to travel

and visit family on the east coast.

During her time here, McCormick was served as chair of the Council on University Planning and Budget and was awarded the psychology honors society, Psi Chi Outstanding Faculty of the Year for 2008-2009.

“I feel really fortunate to have been able to work at EIU,” McCormick said. “It has been an excellent place for my career.”

David Radavich

College of Arts and Humanities — English Department

By Tyler Angelo  
Editor in chief

David Radavich, an English professor at Eastern for more than 25 years, is all set to move to Charlotte, N.C., once he retires at this semester’s completion.

Radavich and his wife have already purchased a home in Charlotte and are making the move to be closer

to relatives, which includes their grandchildren.

“It feels like the time for a new phase,” he said. “I’ve had a great time I have to say.”

At Eastern, Radavich taught classes on poetry writing, play writing, creative writing and western literature.

He said he has always loved the fresh ideas his students brought to

class.

“I love the freshness of young people — the energy, the fresh ideas, the creativity,” he said.

Aside from writing books and poetry, he’s also written plays, the most recent of which opened Oct. 16 at the Charleston Alley Theatre, titled “Human Rock.”

While spending time with his family and committing time to so-

cial service work, Radavich plans on acting and working at a theater in Charlotte.

He’s also been working on a new play, which he hopes to finish after his retirement.

A teacher for more than 35 years, Radavich’s career started out in Germany, Iowa State University and the University of Kansas before choosing Charleston.



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## IRWIN, from page 1



CHELSEA GRADY | THE DAILY EASTERN NEWS

Dean for the College of Arts and Humanities candidate Dr. Bonnie Irwin speaks during Thursday's open session meeting in Booth Library.

Honors) College yet further then it has gone," Irwin said. "I feel like I contributed a lot to the unit and made a lot of productive changes. So I feel like I could leave that unit in good hands as I move on to other challenges. For me personally, I have to feel challenged and I have to feel like I make a difference."

An English professor, Irwin said she would feel at home at the college and she is eager to work on faculty issues, which she said is more difficult than student issues.

"I look forward to working with faculty again, to being more engaged in my academic home — the humanities — and being able to advocate for humanities and fine arts," she said.

English professor Chris Hanlon asked Irwin what she would do as dean to help further faculty development.

Irwin said that in the last decade, she helped bring faculty development back because only a training program existed called the "Seven Habits of Highly Effective People."

As a past Faculty Senate chair, Irwin said she helped conduct a survey about what the faculty's needs and aspirations were.

"I think it is time that we have (a survey) again because the Office for Faculty Development on campus is charged with developing the faculty as a whole, and I think perhaps that is seen as more important than developing individual faculty," Irwin said.

Irwin said she wants to have individual development as well since some arts and humanities professors come in without teaching experience.

This change, she said, can come about through the college lobbying the university as a group.

Alison Mormino, EIU Foundation's director of philanthropy, asked Irwin how she would plan to fund for external resources and how comfortable she was with asking donors for money.

Irwin said she started working more closely with the foundations office when she was at the Honors College and feels prepared.

"The most important role of the dean is to collect the stories of the great accomplishments of the students and faculty and communicate that in a compelling way to donors," Irwin said.

Klevor Abo, instructor of African-American studies, was interested in Irwin possibly having African-American studies and maybe other minority programs to become departments.

The Interdisciplinary Center for Global Diversity, Irwin said, was a way of preserving the fields. She said there is a vicious cycle that the viability of emerging programs depends on the number of students in it. Without funding, it is hard to recruit students.

She said a department helped nurture programs like African-American Studies, but feels the program is not getting support. She hopes the ICGD will help the program grow.

"Turning them into full fledged departments may not happen on this campus," she said. Klevor said Irwin answered the question well because Springfield needs to show support in funding.

"Transforming a program into a department is not simply a question to be answered in Charleston, you have to go to Springfield and negotiate that," Abo said. "You have to justify why there is a department (for African-American

**"I look forward to working with faculty again, to being more engaged in my academic home — the humanities — and being able to advocate for humanities and fine arts."**

Bonnie Irwin,  
dean candidate

Studies) in Champaign, Macomb and some other places. Unless you can demonstrate that we have traveled this far and this is what we achieved, therefore, we need a department, you will not get anywhere in Springfield."

He said the arts and humanities are trying to do something about it and there are other ways like maintaining faculty retention with Joint Appointments.

Elizabeth Dunn of Bemidji State University in Bemidji, Minn., will be the next candidate to interview. She will be on campus Monday.

Bob Bajek can be reached at 581-7942 or at [rtbajek@eiu.edu](mailto:rtbajek@eiu.edu).

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EASTERN ILLINOIS UNIVERSITY



CITY

# Planner: Census numbers require student cooperation

Charleston to benefit with official count

By Stephen Di Benedetto  
City Editor

Most people prefer to reflect as a decade comes to an end.

As 2010 approaches, Charleston city government wants to look toward the future, and city officials will need help from Eastern students to do so.

City Planner Steve Pamperin said the U.S. Census Bureau would mail census forms in March to residents across the United States. The official count begins in April. Every resident roughly represents \$300 in revenue. For a city that is predicting deficits during the next five years, an accurate population could have extra importance.

"This is our one chance in 10 years to get our numbers right," Pamperin said.

He said Charleston historically experiences 3-percent growth in a 10-year span, which would put the 2010 numbers just under 22,000. Pamperin said Eastern's enrollment has increased

**"This is our one chance in 10 years to get our numbers right."**

Steve Pamperin,  
city planner

by 2,000 since the last census. In 2008, the city conducted a search, and modified and changed 2,000 additional addresses, with the census bureau approving the majority of the changes.

"(With) all of these things together, our hope is we'll be around that 22,000 number," Pamperin said.

Students are technically a resident of Charleston because they live in the town more than half of the year. Pamperin said students need to make sure to count every roommate in the apartment or house when filling out the census form.

"Don't throw it away," he said. "Fill it out. Fill it out for all your roommates and get that information back to Census."

Pamperin said an accurate population count is critical because state shared revenue, such as the Motor Fuel Tax, is based off official population.

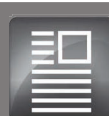
Many of those revenues, like the Motor Fuel fund, go to road, sidewalk and other infrastructure projects that every resident uses, Pamperin said.

He said the city began giving information to students through the Good Neighbor Program in August. He said information about it would also be attached to water bills. He said the city plans to distribute flyers about the census around campus, along with working with local landlords to have them stress the importance of being counted. Pamperin said the city would have limited contact with the census bureau during the actual count, adding they will have a chance to ask for recounts, if it is necessary.

Affected shared revenues for all cities will begin in early 2011.

"The census does directly affect them — whether they know it or not," Pamperin said.

Stephen Di Benedetto can be reached at 581-7942 or sdibenedetto@eiu.edu.



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Tis' the Season



AUDREY SAWYER | THE DAILY EASTERN NEWS

Alanna Scott, a freshman physical therapy major, makes a Christmas card for cancer survivors at the Relay For Life kick-off rally on Thursday night at the Martin Luther King Jr. University Union bowling alley. Find out more at DENnews.com

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The Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of Eastern Illinois will hold its annual holiday Potluck party at 12:00 noon Sunday December 13, at 1518 Monroe Street in Charleston. All welcome. For more information about Unitarian Universalism, go to [www.uua.org](http://www.uua.org).

12/11

For sale

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Front Desk help needed for Spring Semester 2010 at Student Publications. Apply in person at 1802 Buzzard Hall.

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12/14

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12/11

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1/13

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1/22

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The New York Times Crossword

Edited by Will Shortz

No. 1106

- ACROSS
- 1 Far Eastern pilgrimage destination
- 10 Page with convictions
- 14 Dull type
- 15 Campus V.I.P.
- 16 Leader of the pack
- 17 Clearly riveted
- 18 "One \_\_\_\_!"
- 19 "The Ballad of \_\_\_\_," 1967 comedy western
- 20 Made time
- 21 Suspension
- 22 Relatively stable
- 23 Solstice celebrators
- 26 Set up
- 28 \_\_\_\_ Bernina (highest peak in the Eastern Alps)
- 30 Dull shade
- 31 Then
- 33 Some audiophiles' collections
- 36 Subject of the 2005 biography "iCon"
- 37 Spotted
- 38 Kafka's "\_\_\_\_ Hungerkünstler"
- 39 City in San Joaquin County

- DOWN
- 40 Gruff
- 42 They may be glowing
- 44 William McKinley's Ohio birthplace
- 46 Hamburger's acknowledgment
- 47 Availability sign
- 48 Occasional medicine dropper?: Abbr.
- 51 Not so welcoming
- 52 John Hurt played Caligula in it
- 54 They had C-shaped sound holes
- 55 Avalanche, e.g.
- 56 Best in shows
- 57 Where some buffalo roam

DOWN

- 1 They're officially honored on the third Friday in Sept.
- 2 Regard impolitely
- 3 Sexist, say
- 4 Stylized drama
- 5 A tall Roman column is named after him
- 6 Celebrated

ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE

C	R	I		C	A	J	O	L	E	D		M	E	G	
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56						57							

PUZZLE BY DOUG PETERSON

- 7 Dr. J's alma mater
- 8 "The English Patient" Oscar winner
- 9 Comment when following someone
- 10 Source of ballpark pitches?
- 11 They go around on reservations
- 12 It often has controls
- 13 Like some changed locks
- 15 Citadel feature
- 21 Pope who met with Galileo
- 22 "The Future Lies Ahead" comedian, 1958
- 23 By its nature
- 24 Wood distillation product
- 25 Its bulb is small
- 27 G.P.S. output: Abbr.
- 29 Vivacious
- 31 Baseball nickname that's a portmanteau
- 32 Fibula neighbor
- 34 They're concerned with checks and balances
- 35 Sight-seers at the Prado?
- 40 Split
- 41 Trip part
- 43 Kipling's "great gray Lone Wolf"
- 45 More terrific, to a hip-hopper
- 46 One may be given a 10
- 47 Nervous reactions
- 48 Cabinet member?
- 49 Shared air
- 50 Wine spot
- 53 Frank

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TRIP, from page 12

Perhaps the highlight of the first half for both squads was the win against Saint Louis on Nov. 20.

The Panthers broke a winless streak against SLU as Eastern had not defeated the Billikens since their 2001 campaign, not to mention it was the Eastern women's first win of the season.

"The first win was awesome," senior freestyle swimmer Lauren Zillmer. "We were just excited to go out there and race."

Second-half preview

The Panthers start the second half of their season with a trip to Fort Lauderdale, Fla., during winter break,

the swim team will engage in the Bob Mowerson Meet on Jan. 5.

"We're taking a trip to Florida over break to train. After that, we have a lot of dual meets and it will be exciting to win," Mathieu said.

After the Florida trip, both squads will have an exciting ride during the rest of the season while facing some tough opponents including Western Illinois, Valparaiso and some re-matches against Ball State and Saint Louis. The Panthers will also compete against Millikin after the first semester.

Kevin Maras can be reached at 581-7944 or kjmaras@eiu.edu.



ERIC HILTNER | THE DAILY EASTERN NEWS

Freshman Mike Lacine participates in the 100-yard backstroke during the meet against Evansville on Oct. 24 at Ray Padovan Pool.

STARTING, from page 12

"It lets us know where we are at this time of the season and it is right before Christmas break," Smith said. "After that we don't have a meet for another month, so this gives us a chance to get our feet back and get us back into that competitive gear."

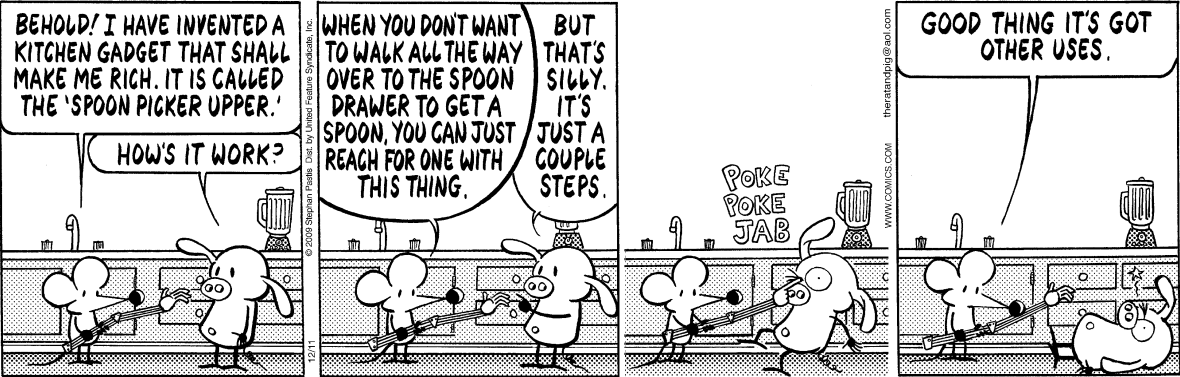
Smith said the time off between meets has its goods and its bads.

"Fortunately, it allows us to get a meet in, then with the layoff you get a little thirsty so then coming back in January you are ready," he said.

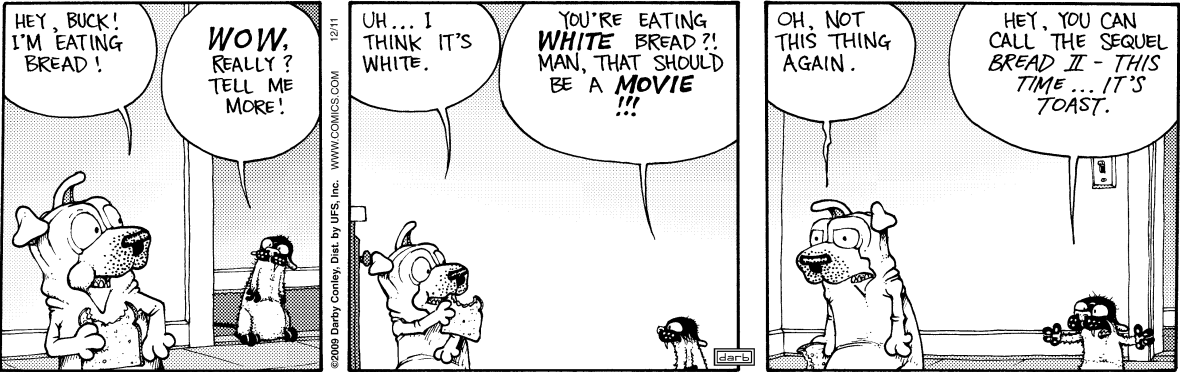
Dan Cusack can be reached at 581-7944 or dscusack@eiu.edu.

COMICS

PEARLS BEFORE SWINE BY STEPHAN PASTIS



GET FUZZY BY DARBY CONLEY



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MEN'S BASKETBALL AT WESTERN ILLINOIS, SATURDAY, 7 P.M.



ERIC HILTNER | THE DAILY EASTERN NEWS

Eastern sophomore guard Jeremy Granger passes the ball during the game against Western Michigan Wednesday night at Lantz Arena. The men's basketball team is playing Western Illinois at 7 p.m. Saturday in Macomb.

# Rebound game set for Panthers at in-state rivals

Leathernecks only have one win vs. Division I school

## Staff Report

The Eastern men's basketball team travels across the state to Macomb at 7 p.m. Saturday as they take on in-state rival Western Illinois in Macomb.

The Leathernecks are 4-5 on the season, but only one of those wins came against a Division I school.

The lone Division I victory came against Central Arkansas, with their other victories coming against Truman State, Culver-Stockton College and Greenville College.

Western has played some stiff competition early in the season, losing back-to-back games against BCS schools Arizona State and Kansas State to open the season.

The Leathernecks have two play-

ers averaging double figures scoring on the season, led by sophomore guard Ceola Clark, who averages 12.8 points per game.

Junior guard Matt Lander averages 11.9 points per game and has a team-high 37 assists on the season.

The Leathernecks are nearly identical in the scoring column as their opponents, averaging 60.7 points per game while their opponents are averaging 60.9 points per game against them.

The Panthers (4-4) are coming off a 69-57 loss to Western Michigan Wednesday in Lantz Arena.

Saturday's game is the second of a five game, non-conference stretch for the Panthers before returning to Ohio Valley Conference play Jan. 2.

After Saturday's game the Panthers travel to Nashville, Tenn., for a rematch with Belmont.

The Panthers lost to the Bruins 95-62 Nov. 28 in Lantz Arena.

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WOMEN'S BASKETBALL VS. INDIANA STATE, SATURDAY, 4 P.M.

# Panthers defense attempts to eclipse ISU's Luna

## EIU to limit talented 3-point senior guard

By Alex McNamee  
Staff Reporter

In Wednesday's game against Western Michigan, Eastern controlled the Broncos' leading scorer, Miami Giden, holding her to nine points.

At 4 p.m. Saturday in Lantz Arena, the Panthers (5-4) will face another player with the scoring prowess of Giden, and sophomore guard Pilar Walker's plan is to stop her.

"Indiana State's best player is (senior guard) Kelsey Luna, and we want to be able to contain her and play straight up defense against her," Walker said.

Eastern head coach Brady Sallee said Luna is going to be a tough match-up for Eastern's defense. The fact that she can shoot the ball well from beyond the arc is going to be a tough aspect of her game to stop, he said.

"Anyone who shoots the ball that well is going to be hard to play against," Sallee said. "We're going to have to take her off of the three-point line and that's tougher to do because of the space that's involved in defend-



ERIC HILTNER | THE DAILY EASTERN NEWS

Eastern senior forward Maggie Kloak moves around her opponent to drive the ball to the basket during the game against Western Michigan Wednesday night at Lantz Arena. Kloak and the Panthers 5-4 this season.

ing out there."

Luna is shooting 41.7 percent from three-point land this season for the Sycamores (7-1); however, she gets a lot of easy points when she's at the free throw line, as she's shooting 97.4 percent from the line.

"We can't let her bolster her average with free points," Sallee said. "She's going to make some shots,

she's going to hit some threes, and we can't think that we are going to shut her out, but we have to keep her in the teens."

Another player Sallee is impressed with is sophomore center Shannon Thomas, the Sycamores' second leading scorer and leading shot blocker.

"Thomas has gotten quite a bit better than she was last year. I've

been very impressed with her progress," Sallee said. "She's playing very aggressively down on the low block, and with her size, we'll be challenged a bit."

Walker said she agrees that Thomas will be a challenge, but said the success in the game all comes down to executing the Panthers' game plan.

"We just need to run our offense.

I don't think anyone can stop our offense," Walker said. "We don't care what they know about us, we're still going to run our offense and still going to get in the post and do what we have to do."

Sallee said he doesn't look too far into the fact that Thomas can block shots because the times she misses a block, she's putting herself out of position to get a possible rebound.

"I think at the end of the game, it's going to even out with those she doesn't get and those she does," Sallee said.

Sallee said Indiana State plays a good match-up zone on defense and has an offense featuring players who can hit shots from two or three different positions.

In order to be successful, Sallee said the team has to give even more effort than they gave in the win against Western Michigan on Wednesday.

"The level of talent we are going up against is a lot better and we're going to have to step up to the plate," Sallee said. "The fact that the two schools are 40 minutes away means that there's going to be some added intensity, and we have to step up to that and meet that challenge."

Alex McNamee can be reached at 581-7944 or [admcmnamee@eiu.edu](mailto:admcmnamee@eiu.edu).

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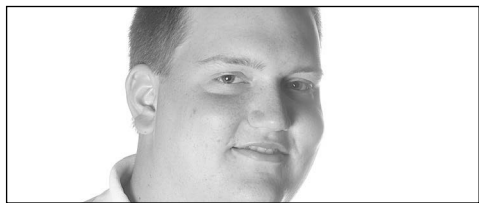
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VIEWS



Collin Whitchurch

# Martin loss hurts more than expected

At 4-4, the Eastern men's basketball seems right on track of where it was projected at the beginning of the season.

The Panthers have beaten the teams they were expected to beat, and lost to the teams that appeared better than them.

Still, a .500 record is an accomplishment considering they have yet to play a game with last year's leading scorer, senior guard Romain Martin, who has been out since having his left knee scoped on Nov. 18.

Martin has been the steady hand of the Panthers for the past three seasons, leading the team in scoring each season while moving up to 24th on the all-time scoring list.

He was named a preseason All-Ohio Valley Conference performer and was listed as one of the 50 best shooters in the country by Fox Sports.

And while the Panthers have held firm without their star, the lack of his presence has hurt at times, most noticeably during Wednesday's 69-58 loss to Western Michigan.

The Panthers were torched time and time against by Broncos' star guard David Kool, and could not answer him on either end of the court.

The zone defense was ineffective against the Mid-American Conference's preseason Player of the Year, and the inability to match him when Eastern was on offense is what ultimately cost the team the game.

Kool was unable to run wild, unopposed on the other end of the court, and Martin would have been the one to do that.

Without him in the lineup, the Panthers struggled.

The initial diagnosis on Martin was that he would miss 4-to-6 weeks, and if that is, in fact, on schedule, he would be expected back right after New Years, and just in time for the brunt of conference play.

There is little question that having Martin undergo the procedure was the smart move.

Having him held out of the non-conference games matters little in the bigger picture of winning the OVC, and having him fresh and healthy once OVC play gets in full swing is what is important.

While him being out might hurt in games such as Wednesday's loss, he will help the team in a number of ways upon his return.

He will take some of the scoring burden off junior guard Tyler Laser, some of the ball-handling responsibility off senior guard T.J. Marion and sophomore guard Jeremy Granger, and will help the team depth-wise, keeping the bench more fresh.

If the Panthers can withstand the storm while Martin sits, his injury could prove a blessing if he has fresh legs come March.

Collin Whitchurch can be reached at 581-7944 or cfwhitchurch@eiu.edu.

TRACK AND FIELD SEASON PREVIEW



ERIC HILTNER | THE DAILY EASTERN NEWS

Assistant head coach Jessica Sommerfeld gives freshman Justin Roberts advice while practicing the shot put in Lantz Fieldhouse on Tuesday afternoon. Both the Eastern men's and women's track and field teams won the Ohio Valley Conference Indoor Championships last season.

# Starting mark

## Early Bird Invite opens up season

By Dan Cusack  
Assistant Sports Editor

The men's and women's indoor track teams won the Ohio Valley Championships last season, and if the returning roster is any indication, a repeat may be in store.

"I think we definitely can win it again this year," junior sprinter Marcus Williams said. "I don't want to sound cocky, but unless things go wrong, like injuries, we should win again this season."

Both teams' seasons start today with the Early Bird Invite at 4 p.m. at Lantz Fieldhouse.

The men return nine individual OVC champions from the last in-

## "I am tired of running against my teammates - I want to run against other people."

Marcus Williams, junior sprinter

door season and a number of athletes who finished in the top three.

Red-shirt sophomore Zye Boey won two individual titles last season including the 200-meter dash and he was also a member of the 1,600-meter relay.

Boey qualified for nationals in the 200-meter dash and his time of 10.20 in the 100-meter dash ranked 79th in the world. He also ran a 6.66 in the 60-meter dash, which was 35th in the United States and 73rd in the world.

The Panthers also return junior pole vaulter Joe Noonan who won the event last season as well as sophomore hurdler Tyler Carter who won the 60-meter hurdles.

Williams said this season is different from last season because the team has more depth.

"Training has been going good and the freshmen have stepped up so far," Williams said. "We are looking good."

Junior hurdler Preston Smith said that times in the Turkey Trials were

good, and the team should be even better than they were last season.

The women's team won the Ohio Valley Conference in a different way. The team only won a handful of individual events, but the team placed in the top three in almost every event.

Senior hurdler Chandra Golden placed second in two events, including the 60-meter dash and 60-meter hurdles last season.

Senior thrower Kandace Arnold is poised to have another big season as she won the shot put with a throw of 46 feet, 10 inches.

"I think we are tired of practicing," Williams said. "I am tired of running against my teammates - I want to run against other people."

Smith said the meet right before break is beneficial to the team.

STARTING, page 9

SWIMMING NOTEBOOK

# Fort Lauderdale trip designates halfway point

By Kevin Maras  
Staff Reporter

With the fall semester coming to a close, the men's and women's swimming seasons have reached about the halfway point.

Midway through the season, the men's squad is sitting at a 2-2 record, while the women's squad is 1-3 on the year.

After dual losses at Ball State, in which the Cardinals defeated both

squads, the Eastern swimmers must now regroup, train and prepare for the upcoming second part of the season.

"We've got a lot of heavy training coming up," junior freestyle swimmer Tim Mathieu said.

The second half of the season includes a trip to Florida for the Bob Mowerson Sprint meet in Fort Lauderdale, Fla., and other big contests against schools such as Western Illinois and Valparaiso.

## The first half

The Panthers came into this season with a good recruiting class for both the men and the women.

The Eastern men's swimming program picked up an honor from collegeswimming.com, as the first recruiting class of Eastern head coach Matt Bos earned recognition by the online organization.

Eastern was listed as one of 22 top collegiate squads with 're-

cruiting classes of note', marking the first-time the Panthers have earned such a designation in program history.

The men's team came out of the gates strong this season with a 153-109 win against Evansville at Ray Padovan Pool.

Even with a slight setback versus Illinois-Chicago, the Eastern men and women both swam well, recording 41 top-three finishes.

TRIP, page 9

EASTERN SPORTS SCHEDULE

M&W indoor track  
Today - EIU Early Bird Meet  
4 p.m. - Lantz Fieldhouse

Women's basketball  
Saturday vs. Indiana State  
4 p.m. - Lantz Arena

Men's basketball  
Saturday at Western Illinois  
7 p.m. - Macomb

Men's basketball  
Dec. 19 at Belmont  
7 p.m. - Nashville, Tenn.

Women's basketball  
Dec. 20 at Illinois-Chicago  
3 p.m. - Chicago

For more please see eiupanthers.com

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7 p.m. on ESPN

NHL  
Edmonton at St. Louis  
6:30 p.m. on FSN Midwest

NBA  
Orlando at Phoenix  
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# IT'S THE THOUGHT THAT COUNTS

## GETTING CREATIVE FOR CHRISTMAS SAVES THE BIG BUCKS FOR BROKE STUDENTS

By Smantha Wilmes  
Staff Reporter

In elementary school, cotton ball's glued to Popsicle sticks were made into snowmen and gold painted macaroni were made into picture frames.

These were some of the popular gifts kids made to give to their parents for the holiday season.

Some may not have guessed that this trend would come full circle when coming into college, this time around though may be a little more upgraded.

College students are giving homemade gifts to friends and family, just as it was done in childhood.

The gift making allows college students to put their crafty talents to good use and it can also teach them how to stretch a dollar.

Brittany Host, a sophomore nursing major, is one of the college students on Eastern's campus that takes part in this trend.

Host said her go-to homemade gifts are shadow boxes. Shadow boxes are boxes that have a glass picture frame as the cover.

"I decorate them with pictures, paper, and stickers-just cute stuff," Host said. "I started making them in high school."

In magazines such as Martha Stewart's Living magazine, along with others, give plenty of home-made gift ideas that can be easy on the wallet and time.

A popular gift idea presented on Stewart's Web site involved jar gifts. In the jars someone can pour ingredients for a recipe, such as cookies, all into one jar and then decorate the jar and have the directions for the recipe for a tag on the jar.



CHELSEA GRADY | THE DAILY EASTERN NEWS

As college drains the pockets of students, Christmas looks bleak for many. By going home-made students can save money and give a gift from the heart. The window paintings on Charleston's Square resemble the hand-made crafts.

The same is commonly done with baskets as well. They generally have a theme to all the items in the basket.

Christine O'Boyle, a junior environmental biology major, said she makes homemade gifts for her friends as well.

"I paint wooden frames that I buy for about a dollar from Michael's or any craft store and then paint the frame," O'Boyle said. "I also put in a picture and write a quote on the frame."

O'Boyle said she got the idea when her sister's friend gave her sister a decorated picture frame for her high school graduation.

From familycrafts.about.com, a gift idea listed, for someone who likes holiday decorations, is a ribbon wreath. This gift only needs a handful of items, including a Styrofoam wreath, ribbon, straight pins and scissors.

Notmadeofmoney.com lists 50 gift ideas that are cheap. One gift idea is fleece knotted blankets.

The directions instruct on having two pieces of fleece laid on top of each other, cutting one inch wide strips that are four

inches deep all the way around. Then once the cutting is done, the strips are knotted together to secure the blanket into one.

Amy Handzik, sophomore, speech pathology major, said her boyfriend made her a fleece tie blanket last year for Christmas.

One yard of fleece can range in price depending on where you shop, and how much of it that you want to use.

Other homemade gift ideas were found on familycrafts.about.com, a gift idea could be a printable calendar which someone can decorate themselves and print directly from the website.

The homemade gifts range in a variety of what types of people a gift is being made for, and it also offers money savvy ideas while leaving many options to choose from that are acceptable, even if it has been a decade since you last gave someone a homemade gift.

Some gifts may not be as creative as others, but they do allow students to save some cash.

Samatha Wilmes can be reached  
581-7942 or sewilmes@eiu.edu

## HOMEMADE GIFT IDEAS

No Sew Fleece Blankets: grab a few yards from a fabric store and cut strips along the edges. Tie together and the blanket is complete.

Homemade Spa Kit: Using online directions for making bath salts and lotions, this is an inexpensive gift that gives the look like it cost big bucks.

Puffy Paint Decorated Tees: grab plain tees from Wal-mart and puffy paint in any color and decorate with a favorite inside joke for a best friend.

For more ideas go to  
notmadeofmoney.com.

## WHAT'S INSIDE

Favorite holiday traditions of the Verge staff  
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"Fiddler on the Roof," first musical in Dvorak  
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Guide to holiday events to attend over the break

page 4B



VIEW

# Returning to New Year’s tradition

By Heather Derby  
Staff Reporter

The holidays are a time for cheer, love and celebration. I do love celebrating Christmas with my family, but there is one holiday where a tradition has really developed with a close friend of mine.

This holiday is New Year’s Eve. On New Year’s Eve, many flock to bars, clubs or parties to drink the night away and socialize. I really don’t follow that plan too much. Instead, I spend New Year’s with one of my best friend’s, Kelli.

Kelli and I met in high school and we have been celebrating New Year’s with each other ever since. It became our thing. We really do not see each other too much during Thanksgiving or Christmas, so New Year’s became a time for us to spend together.

On New Year’s Eve, we usually start the evening off by exchanging the presents we bought each other for Christmas. After we feast on Chinese food from Chi Tung (it’s probably the best Chinese food found on the south side of Chicago), we usually throw on a few movies or play a few games to help pass the time.

Our New Year’s tradition wouldn’t be complete without Dick Clark.

Yes, we always tune in to Dick Clark’s Rockin’ New Year and watch the ball drop in New York City. After we see New York celebrate the New Year, we channel surf for every local Chicago station that is having a countdown.

Usually, they have decent bands play on these shows, like the Goo Goo Dolls. While we anxiously wait to ring in the new year, we discuss our resolutions

and prepare for a toast.

Five, four, three, two, one.. Happy New Year!

We toast and celebrate the rest of the night.

I know my night does not sound like the most exciting night ever, but I’m always happy with the turn of events.

I get to celebrate the New Year with one of my best friends. What’s not fun about that?

I’m sure as we get older things might change, but for now I’m going to enjoy our times together.

I think my little tradition is proof that if you’re with the right people, you do not need anything extravagant to happen. Good food, good conversations and good people is what truly makes a good time.

Heather Derby can be reached at 581-7942 or hderby@eiu.edu.

## Verge: Best things about the holidays

Food! Definitely the best part of the holidays because we all know that I cannot even cook mac’n cheese.

— Krystal Moya

As conceited as it sounds, I love the holidays because my birthday is Dec. 29.

I have never had to go to school which means it is perfect time for laziness, and it also means I can spend the time with friends that are also out of school.

— Brad York

I love being able to see all my friends and family over the almost month-long break.

— Megan Westemeier

Around the two to three weeks prior to Christmas Day, I usually make my list, check it more than twice, and I have been nice, so, I usually get what I ask for, most of the time. I like this surprise because the anticipation builds, like a promo to a large pay-per-view match.

— Jose Gonzalez

Christmas morning my parents always wrapped the doorway to our living room where our Christmas tree is.

My two sisters and I, who are all in our 20s currently, still run through the paper ev-

ery year even though it results in some serious bruises.

— Samantha Wilmes

My favorite part about the holidays is the stockings because it brings everyone together around the fire.

It’s like the perfect holiday moment, being with your family and seeing what little things they put in your stocking when they thought of you.

These gifts are my favorite because they’re like the 10 best things on that impulse counter at Wal-Mart that you always wanted but never splurged on.

—Megan Tkacy

I love it when it snows. Especially going outside and building snow forts. Of course snow ball fights ensue. It can’t be beat.

— Neil Schneider

My favorite thing about the holidays is “It’s a Wonderful life.” The movie has a great message and makes me all warm and fuzzy inside.

— Heather Derby

It’s my complete guilty pleasure to listen to crappy Christmas songs when no one else is around.

— Kristin Menas



\*cover illustration by Krystal Moya

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Performance of a lifetime in movie of lost love

Associated Press

“A Single Man” easily could have been one of those style-over-substance visual dazzlers, coming as it does from Tom Ford, the fashion designer who revived the house of Gucci.

Yet with Colin Firth delivering a career performance that’s pure elegance and heartache and Julianne Moore providing graceful support, “A Single Man” works as engaging drama as well as the sumptuous collection of images you’d expect from first-time director Ford.

Adapted by Ford and co-writer David Searce from a Christopher Isherwood novel, “A Single Man” gorgeously recreates 1960s design and decor, the production values so showy they could have overwhelmed this quiet story of a gay academic lamenting the death of his longtime lover.

On-screen, virtually the entire film, often alone with only the bottomless grief on his face driving the scene, Firth is riveting, the vibrant charm of his work in “Bridget Jones’s Diary” and other frothy romances easily co-existing with his character’s melancholy.

It’s a tragic but simple story, Firth’s George Falconer, a British professor of English at a Los Angeles campus, going about what he intends to be the last day of his life, with the peril of the Cuban missile crisis playing out in the background.

Through flashbacks, we relive tender moments of his home life with Jim (Matthew Goode) and the awful day when George got word that his companion had died in a car wreck.

As George passionately lectures students, has a close encounter of potential romance with a stranger and shares witty phone chatter over preparations for an evening with dear friend Charley (Moore), it becomes clear that he plans to kill himself at day’s end, no longer able to go on without Jim.

The drama is heightened by repeated encounters with a bright-eyed student (Nicholas Hoult, Hugh Grant’s child co-star in “About a Boy,” all grown up now and delivering an earnest performance as an admirer, perhaps stalker, of George).

Firth and Moore capture a great sense of familiarity and fraternity in George and Charley’s friendship — the sort of relationship that can erupt from boozy good humor to fierce reproach and back again without any permanent damage.

But George’s intent to end his own life winds up undermining the film’s finale, bringing rather coarse, even bludgeoning irony to the man’s fate.

It’s a dissatisfying conclusion to an otherwise involving day in the life played to perfection by Firth.

“A Single Man,” a Weinstein Co. release, is rated R for some disturbing images and nudity/sexual content. Three stars out of four.

Movies to get you in the spirit

By Neil Schneider  
Staff Reporter

As the chill of winter sets in on the Midwest, it is quickly becoming that time of year where students and faculty both begin to shun the outdoors in favor of staying in their homes. Unfortunately, staying inside all winter can eventually become very boring, but don’t worry, below is a list of holiday movies and specials that are sure to keep you occupied and out of the cold.

Tim Burton’s The Nightmare Before Christmas

Starting as a poem in the early-1980s, “The Nightmare Before Christmas” combines spooky storytelling with stop motion photography.

Directed by Henry Selick and produced/co-written by Tim Burton, “The Nightmare Before Christmas” tells the story of Jack Skellington, as he tries to recreate the holiday of Christmas for his home, “Halloween Town.

As Jack attempts to accept the duties of Christmas, the evil Oogie Boogie takes the opportunity to try to and ruin Christmas by kidnapping Santa Claus.

Jack is then compelled to save Santa Claus, as well as restoring order to a Christmas gone wrong.

Will Jack save Christmas? You’ll just have to wait and see, as the film is available on both DVD and Blu-Ray.

A Christmas Story

Based on short stories and semi-fictional anecdotes, author Jean Sheperd was able to create a world that most young boy’s can identify with, in the telling of “A Christmas Story.”

Directed by Bob Clark, this 1983 classic tells the story of Ralphie Parker and his quest to obtain “an official Red Ryder carbine-action 200-shot range model air rifle with a compass in the stock, and this thing, which tells time.” As Ralphie tries to think of subtle ways to get his gun, he



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ultimately comes to the conclusion that he must directly ask Santa Clause for the gun. This movie is for the entire family and is available on DVD, as well as being aired on TBS for their annual 24-hours of “A Christmas Story.”

Dr. Seuss’ How The Grinch Stole Christmas!

Based on the Dr. Seuss book of the same title, “How The Grinch Stole Christmas!” is an American animated television special, which was directed by Chuck Jones.

The plot of the movie is based around The Grinch, voiced by Boris Karloff, and his attempt to stop Christmas from coming to the town of Whoville.

“How The Grinch Stole Christmas!” is a timeless classic, originally aired in 1966, that is available on both DVD and Blu-Ray.

National Lampoon’s Christmas Vacation

For Clark Griswold, played by Chevy Chase, the Christmas season is a time for family to come together and join in various activities like cutting down the family Christmas tree and hanging up 25,000 Christmas lights.

But as family members begin to arrive at the Griswold house-



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hold, Clark becomes increasingly worried that things are not going his way.

As Clark waits for his Christmas bonus, hilarity ensues as his Christmas tree burns down and Clark’s cousin kidnaps his boss Eddy.

Prepare for hilarious antics, as the Griswold family entertains you on both DVD and Blu-Ray.

Bad Santa

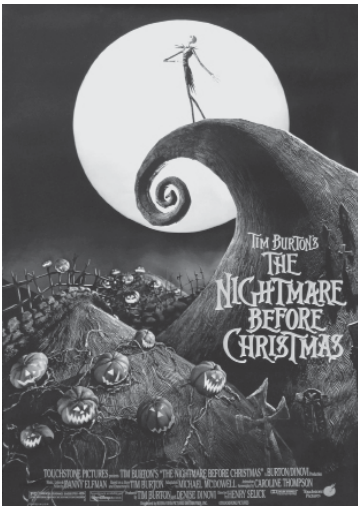
For those holiday viewers who are looking for something naughty and nice, look no further than “Bad Santa.”

Starring Billy Bob Thornton as the main character Willie Stokes, “Bad Santa” tells the story of a boozehound, Stokes, and his dwarf friend Marcus, played by Tony Cox, as they try to set up their next holiday mall heist.

On the night of the big heist, Stokes finds himself in the middle of a moral dilemma, which will require him to decide between his life of drinking and cheap women and the opportunity to clean up his act and take care of a young-boy, whom Stokes has been living with in his grandmother’s home.

“Bad Santa” is available on both DVD and Blu-Ray.

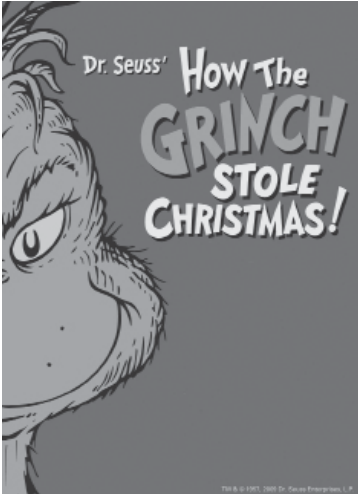
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WARNER BROS. AND TURNER PROMOTIONAL POSTER



UNIVERSAL STUDIOS PROMOTIONAL POSTER

Auditions, guest directors called for ‘Fiddler’

By Brad York  
Assistant Verge Editor

Dvorak Concert Hall in the Doudna Fine Arts Center will be opening the doors for its first musical performance.

John Oertling, chair for the department of theatre arts, believes it is only fitting to perform the classic “Fiddler on the Roof.”

“We have sought to perform ‘Fiddler [on the Roof]’ for a long time now,” Oertling said. “The faculty selected this play because first, it is such a well known play and second, because we felt it was fitting because this is the first time Dvorak [Concert Hall] has had the

opportunity to put on a musical.”

Casting for the play began Monday and callbacks were Thursday. Oertling expects to cast 20 to 25 actors for the production.

“Jean Wolski and I will be doing all the casting for this production,” Oertling said. “We are doing the castings because we know all [the actors] so well.”

“Fiddler on the Roof” will be performed at 7 p.m. on March 5, 6, 8 and 9. On March 7 the play will begin at 2 p.m.

“We are holding auditions early so the cast has a chance to learn the music over the break,” Oertling said.

The guest director for the pro-

duction will be Traylen Doler. Doler is one of six directors to apply for this position in this play. Doler is based out of New York City, but he has worked as artistic director at The Little Theatre on the Square in Sullivan in the past.

“We are very lucky to get him,” Oertling said. “One reason we got him is because I think he is trying to set up home in Sullivan. Working with us gives him a chance to get more acquainted with his future home.”

This is the second time the theatre department has reached out past the local community for a director this year.

The first of which was Bill Kin-

caid, professor of theatre and head of acting at Western Illinois University, as guest director for “The Tempest.”

“Hiring guest directors gives the students different views on the craft,” Oertling said. “It gives the students a wider view and a chance to work with professionals. This then gives the students more potential success whenever they leave Eastern. We are hoping ‘[Fiddler on the Roof]’ raises the bar for us. It did with ‘The Tempest’ and we hope it does the same with ‘Fiddler [on the Roof].’”

Brad York can be reached at 581-7942 or bayork@eiu.edu



Heading

BACK

to the

big city



KRYSTAL MOYA | ON THE VERGE

Wacker Boulevard as it stretches across the Chicago River with the gleaming rays of the sun reflectng off the skyscraper filled background.

By Krystal Moya and Brad York  
Verge Editor and Assistant Verge Editor

In this month long break Eastern gives, taking advantage of being close to the cities is a must. Whether you are closer to Chicago or St. Louis, there are plenty of ways to spend the holidays singing “Deck the Halls” while walking through high rises and experiencing the culture of these metropolises.

Winter Wonderland

in the Windy City

**What:** Christkindlmarket– the annual German culture market.  
**When:** Until Dec. 24 from 11 a.m. to 8 p.m. Sunday through Thursday and 11 a.m. until 9 p.m.  
**Where:** Daley Plaza between Washington, Clark and Dearborn Streets  
**Why:** The chance to experience German culture, food and art all in one spot in the center of Downtown Chicago.  
**Cost:** Free to experience, but food and souvenirs will require money.

**What:** Iceskating in Millenium Park  
**When:** Until March 14 from 10 a.m. to 9 p.m. Sunday, 12 p.m. to 8 p.m. Monday, 12 p.m. to 8 p.m. Tuesday through Thursday, 12 p.m. to 10 p.m. Friday and 10 a.m. to 10 p.m. Saturday.  
**Where:** McCormick Ice Rink in Millenium Park on Michigan Avenue between Washington and Madison Streets.  
**Why:** The scenery of the park and

the “Bean” looming just overhead provides a surreal look at the city while gliding across the ice.  
**Cost:** Free if you own your own skates, \$10 for a rental. Be prepared to wait in line.

**Other FREE holiday events:**  
Zoolights at Lincoln Park Zoo, Chicago Botanic Garden’s Wonderland Express, Caroling at Cloud Gate and the City Hall Holiday Concert Series. For more information go to [www.chicagotraveler.com/chicago-holiday-events.htm](http://www.chicagotraveler.com/chicago-holiday-events.htm) and click on the links you like.

**Other holiday inspired events with admission:**  
Theatre productions of “A Christmas Carol” and “Miracle on 34th Street.” Google Drury Lane Children’s Theatre, Porchlight Musical Theatre, Second City and the Symphony Center for show times and pricing.

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Sticking Around

Charleston

**For those hanging around Charleston for the winter break, there are quite a few holiday experiences to be had.**  
**What:** Christmas on the Square.  
**When:** Until Dec. 25.  
**Where:** Around the Coles County Courthouse.  
**Why:** Christmas themed window scenes and holiday specials from the local shops around the Square provide a fun night out in the cold.  
Cost: Free unless you shop.  
**What:** “Harlequin and the Green Christmas Dress.” Play by J.M.

Hughes  
**When:** Dec. 13 at 2 p.m.  
**Where:** Charleston Alley Theatre at 718 Monroe Ave.  
**Why:** The last showing of a comedic Christmas play that will make your belly shake like a bowl of jelly.  
Cost: General Admission is \$10.  
**What:** Winter hike in Lake Charleston park.  
**When:** Anytime before dusk.  
**Where:** Lake Charleston off IL-130.  
**Why:** The winter snow settling on a frozen lake is the most romantic holiday scene.  
**Cost:** Free.

Get Away

to the Gateway City

**What:** Tour of the Mosaic Museum in the Cathedral Basilica.  
**When:** All week, all year except for Saturdays. Monday through Friday from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. and a 1 p.m. tour after mass on Sunday.  
**Where:** The corners of Lindell Boulevard and Newstead Avenue.  
**Why:** To get in touch with the spiritual side of this holiday season.  
**Cost:** \$1 per person for a tour, all proceeds go into church donations.  
**What:** Ice Skating at Steinberg Ice Skating Rink.  
**When:** Monday through Thursday, 10 a.m. to 9 p.m. Friday and Saturday, 10 a.m. to Midnight. Open Christmas from 10 a.m. to Midnight.

**Where:** 400 Jefferson Dr., St. Louis, MO 63110 on the Eastside of Forest Park.  
**Why:** Forest Park is always decorated with holiday glee. The rink itself features fake snow that sets the mood for the holidays, as well as setting a romantic tone for that special someone.  
**Cost:** \$6.50 for adults, children 12 and under is \$5.50. Skate rental is \$3.  
**Other FREE holiday events:**  
Way of Lights at Our Lady of the Snows Shrine in Belleville, Ill.

**Other holiday inspired events with admission:**  
Wild Lights at the St. Louis Zoo, Winter Wonderland at Tilles Park