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April 2011

4-13-2011

Daily Eastern News: April 13, 2011

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Eastern Illinois University, "Daily Eastern News: April 13, 2011" (2011). April. 9. $http://thekeep.eiu.edu/den_2011_apr/9$

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EASTERN NEWS

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Relay for Life gives hope

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Panthers send Illini home

Page 8



Check out DENnews.com for info on a freestyle drumming contest hosted by Red Bull and a look at the College of Sciences Graduate Showcase.

HEALTH CARE

Concerns raised about new plan

Health care plan change could save money, at a cost

By Shelley Holmgren Administration Editor

Members of Eastern's faculty and staff are reacting to the recent decision by the Illinois Department of Healthcare and Family Services to replace Health Alliance and Humana as the prominent health care providers for an estimated 99,474 state employees.

Linda Coleman, an English professor, said she has used Health Alliance for 20 years and has been

very pleased with their service. She originally used PersonalCare, but decided to go with Health Alliance based on their affiliation with the Carle Clinic in Mattoon and other area towns as well as with Carle Foundation Hospital in Ur-

"I really don't have a problem with the state trying to get a reasonable price, but it has to be about quality," Coleman said. "If it leads to meaningful negotiation, the process might have a positive outcome, but if it goes through as it is now without any changes, I can only see a negative effect."

A press release sent out April 6 from the Illinois Department of Healthcare and Family Services said the new plans available July 1 include: Blue Cross Blue Shield Health Maintenance Organization Illinois, BCBS Blue Advantage, Health Link Open Access Plan and PersonalCare Open Access Plan.

Julie Hamos, director of Illinois Department of Healthcare and Family Services, stated, "providing high quality health care is our highest priority. Through these plans, we are also able to realize significant savings for taxpayers and improve our state's fiscal health."

However, several faculty members, including Bailey Young, a history professor, have expressed concerns that the proposed plans service mostly the Chicagoland area.

Young said he is "outraged" with

the recent decision. Like Coleman, Young also used PersonalCare for a period of time before changing to Health Alliance.

"When I had surgery a couple of years ago, (Health Alliance) took really good care of me," Young said. He later continued, "I have a concern it will disrupt the continuity of care for many people."

Young has also written a letter to Gov. Pat Quinn stating his con-

"Health Alliance has consistently provided excellent quality care for me personally (this includes prostate surgery in 2008) and for my family, as well as for many people I know in Coles County," Young said in his letter.

PLAN, page 5

By Elizabeth Edwards City Editor

Tax Day is the national day where individuals must return their federal and state income taxes to the federal government; on Friday, students and faculty gave their perspective on taxation in the U.S. before Tax Day.

Workshops

importance

of taxation

to explain

Jeffrey Ashley, head of the department of political science, said taxes are important because things are not free.

"Tuition for Eastern students would be a lot higher if we did not pay taxes, for example,"

Eastern students pay subsidized tuition because of taxes, he said

Ashley said taxes help pay for many functions of the government that citizens use and need.

"Taxes help pay for roads, parks, environment protection and health care for people that need it," Ashley said.

When a student turns on the faucet and they get clean water or when a student reads a nutritional label, it is all because of taxes, Ashley said.

"Everyone likes to keep their money, though items we take for granted are paid for from taxes," Ashley said.

Erica Spencer, a senior art major, said she does not mind paying taxes because they force people to help the government.

I think stuff would not get paid for if we did

not have taxes," Spencer said.

Gerald Presley, a senior biology major, said taxes are important overall, but he thinks a lot more items, such as some military spending, are unnecessary. He said currently the military spending takes about half of the current federal budget.

We need military spending, but we could reduce our military presence in Japan and Germany," Presley said.

Bailey Fouliard, a freshman family and consumer sciences major, said she does not mind paying for some taxes, but she does not believe everything should be taxed.

The government should use tax money for the most important necessities and not over tax individuals because the economy is hurting, Fouliard said.

Minh Bui, an international student from Vietnam who graduated in December with a bachelor's degree in finance, compared the taxation in the U.S. and Vietnam.

"We don't have to pay many taxes in Vietnam," Bui said.

Bui said she could see evidence of the benefits of U.S. taxation because the facilities in America are a lot nicer than the ones in Vietnam.

"Taxes are necessary," Bui said.

She said she participated in taxation workshops, offered by the International Student Scholars, which helped her know how to fill out her tax forms in the U.S.

The taxation workshops offered in March helped answer questions dealing with taxes that international students might have, said Bria Phillips, a graduate assistant.

They basically do workshops on how to file taxes, because international students might not know how," Phillips said.

> Elizabeth Edwards can be reached at 581-7942 or eaedwards@eiu:edu.

ELECTIONS

Candidates stress student involvement

By Kacie Berry Staff Reporter

The student government executive branch candidates debated among each other in front of an audience estimated at about 30 students.

The debate took place in the Martin Luther King Jr. University Union University Ballroom.

The three Student Senate members currently running for student body president are

Tommy Nierman, a junior business management major, Alex Boyd, a sophomore political science major, and Ed Hotwagner, a senior math education major.

Matt Boyd, a senior elementary education major, said the debate was informative for him. He said he is confident in the candidates running, and hopes they will continue to get students involved in the student government.

"There weren't any new students involved in this," Matt Boyd said. "It seems like that's the goal, but when's it gonna happen?"

several questions and the recurring topic was general student involvement in regards to the student gov-

"Some of my goals for presidency are to put stronger emphasis on new student leadership to help incoming students get involved early on," Nierman said.

A major part of reaching students is going on campus and asking questions, Nierman said

There are many people out here who don't know that we have student government, and those that do don't know what we do as a student government," Alex Boyd said.

The student body president cannot do everything alone-it is a team effort, Horwagner said.

While I do have a love for this school and a love for athletics and for school spirit and being at games, one person isn't enough," Hotwagner said. "You're going to need to collaborate with other groups and other people to make things happen."

Student Body President Mi-The audience members asked chelle Murphy said all of the can-



DANNY DAMIANI | THE DAILY EASTERN NEWS

Ed Hotwagner, a senior math major, speaks during the student body president debate Tuesday in the Martin Luther King Jr. University Union's University Ballroom. Hotwagner debated against Tommy Nierman, a junior management major, and Alex Boyd, a sophomore political science major, for the position of student body president.

didates did well during the debate, despite some not having much public speaking experience.

"I know that it's hard to answer questions on the spot, so I give them credit for being able to do

that," Murphy said.

Bobbie Mitchell, the director of the election commission, said he is happy to see new faces running for

DEBATE, page 5

Former political reporter to speak at Tarble

By Shelley Holmgren Administration Editor

A former political reporter is preparing to share his insight with the Eastern community on the tangled path state and national politics took in the past year.

David Yepsen, who worked for The Des Moines Register for 34 years, will discuss these political implications Thursday night as a part of the ongoing Edgar Lecture Series on campus.

Yepsen's presentation is set to begin at 7 p.m. in the Tarble Arts Center Atrium.

During his career with The Des Moines Register, Yepsen

served as the paper's chief political writer, political editor and political columnist. Every presidential year since 1975, Yepsen became one of the most important journalists in the country reporting from the center of the political storm.

Yepsen became a statehouse reporter for The Register in 1977 and became chief political reporter six years later. In 1994 he was named political editor and in 2000 became The Register's full-time political columnist. Yepsen also blogged about politics for The Register and appeared as a regular panelist on Iowa Public Television's weekly "Iowa Press" news interview program for over 30 years.

However, Yepsen retired from journalism in 2009 when he became the director of the Paul Simon Public Policy Institute at Southern Illinois University, Car-

As director of the Paul Simon Public Policy Institute, Yepsen focuses on integrity and ethics in government. The center also spends a lot of time focusing on expanding public opinion polling to develop a database for public attitudes, he added. During his presentation, lo-

wa-native Yepsen wants to take a broader approach to politics. REPORTER, page 5



David Yepsen, a political columnist for the Des Moines Register and director of the Paul Simon Public Policy Institute at Southern Illinois University, will give a lecture at 7 p.m. Thursday at Tarble Arts Center.

U weather

THURSDAY



Clear Skies High: 66 Low: 47



Mostly Sunny High: 68 Low: 51

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The Daily Eastern News is produced by the students of Eastern Illinois University, It is published daily Monday through Friday, in Charleston, III, 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 obtain for 50 cents each in the Student Publications Office in Buzzard Half. The Daily Eastern News is a member of The Associated Press, which is entitled to exclusive use of all articles appearing in this publication.

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lieve your information is relevant.

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EVACUATION



SETH SCHROEDER THE DAILY EASTERN NEWS

At 7:30 p.m. Tuesday, Andrews Hall was evacuated due to a water leak that shorted-out the fire detector in the basement. Workers immediately started repairing the leak.

Andrews Hall evacuated due to leak

By Kayleigh Zyskowski **News Editor**

Andrews Hall was evacuated Tuesday when the fire alarm was set off after a water leak shortedout the smoke detector.

At about 7:30 p.m. the Charleston Fire Department was called to the scene after the alarm was activated.

"There was a leak from the floor above that shorted-out the detector head," said Capt. Blake Graven from the fire department.

Elizabeth Slater, a desk assistant at Andrews Hall, said the sink in the women's bathroom in the southeast corner of the lobby

"A resident thought there was someone in the bathroom, but they realized the water was just on and was leaking onto the floor,

Elizabeth Slater, sophomore communication studies major

was left running. This caused water to leak into the basement and onto the fire alarm.

"A resident thought there was someone in the bathroom, but they realized the water was just on and was leaking onto the floor," said Slater, a sophomore

communication studies major. By 7:45 p.m., the residents were allowed back into the build-

Virginia Trigg, a sub-foreman in Andrews Hall, was on a lunch break when the leak was found.

We checked the sink for a

clog, but we feel the facet was just left on, maybe even all afternoon," Trigg said. At 8 p.m., the Building Service

Workers were soaking up the water in the lobby and in the basement with mops and shop-vacs.

There was a lot of water, and a few (ceiling) tiles were destroyed," Trigg said.

> Kayleigh Zyskowski can be reached at 581-2812 or kzyskowski@eiu.edu.

ONLINE



Blog: Job market

We're nearing the end of the spring semester. Are you ready for the summer? Are you graduating and haven't found a job yet? Online News Director Barbara Harrington shares her experience scouring the job market in the latest blog at DENnews.com.



Video: Kickball

Intramural sports continue, and today we bring you excerpts from intramural kickball. See the latest video at DENnews.com.

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Martin Luther King, Jr. University Union

EIU History Lesson

April 13

2007

Local singer Jackie Lawson released her first album titled, "Crazy Blonde."

1994

Local bars debated about whether or not the city council's decision to higher the bar age would negatively affect their businesses.

1988

Residents of Lawson Hall were surprised when they found their cars sunken into mud in the parking lot outside of the residential hall. Construction was the cause of the mud.

CHARITY EVENT

Relay For Life strengthens hope 3 professors receive

By Jennifer Brown Staff Reporter

Six years ago, the word cancer took on a new meaning for Kathleen O'Rourke, a professor of family and consumer sciences.

O'Rourke said she has participated in seven Relay For Life events and she plans on delivering an encouraging message this weekend to keep fighting against cancer.

"It was the beginning of a new chapter in my life," O'Rourke said. "Despite the major challenges of facing cancer, I gained a deeper appreciation for my life and my family and my friends, who were with me every step of the way."

Eastern is hosting Relay For Life from 6 p.m. Friday to 6 a.m. Satur-

Throughout the past seven Relay For Life events, O'Rourke has raised almost \$20,000 for the American Cancer Society.

"Fundraising for Relay For Life allows the American Cancer Society to provide more educational and support programs for those facing cancer," she

O'Rourke said she will deliver a message of hope and cancer awareness at Friday's Relay For Life at Eastern.

"The message will include celebrating those who are fighting and winning their battles against cancers," O'Rourke said. "It (will also) include the importance of raising awareness about cancer."

O'Rourke said she became involved in Relay For Life to help give back to her community, cancer survivors and their loved ones.

"Cancer forces you to realize the fragility of our lives and I am very thankful to live a cancer-free life," O'Rourke said. "I had tremendous support network while facing cancer and every individual deserves the

O'Rourke said she is inspired by the Eastern students who get involved to help fight against cancer by participating in Relay For Life.

"I am tremendously proud of the students involved in Colleges Against Cancer and those who join Relay For Life teams," O'Rourke said.



FILE PHOTO | THE DAILY EASTERN NEWS

Dianna Nelson of Laurence, Kan. walks the survivors lap of the Relay For Life event April 18, 2010. Nelson is an 8 year survivor of breast cancer.

"I am reminded of the courage of cancer survivors and the bond that is shared among cancer survivors."

Kathleen O'Rourke, a professor of family and consumer sciences and cancer survivor

Amanda Woolard, a sexual health education coordinator, said each year Eastern plans a Relay For Life to get the students on campus involved and raise money for a worthy cause.

The survivors are the most impactful part of Relay," Woolard said. "It is motivating to raise as much money as possible to make a difference in so many lives."

Woolard and the Health Education Resource Center are coordinating the Relay For Life event that will be on the Panther Trail.

Colleges Against Cancer has been involved in the planning of Relay For Life throughout the year, of which O'Rourke is a faculty adviser.

This year, there are 43 teams, with campus-supported teams from Pemberton and Taylor halls. Other teams consist of registered student organizations and Greek chapters.

Colleen O'Sullivan, the Colleg-

es Against Cancer president, is one of the coordinators for this year's Relay For Life event.

"It's a great way to meet people, hang out with friends and do something different on a Friday night at EIU," O'Sullivan said. "There's fun activities throughout the night, prizes and silent/live auction baskets."

O'Rourke said she is looking forward to the Survivor Lap at the Relay For Life event and the powerful experience it gives cancer survivors.

"I am reminded of the courage of cancer survivors and the bond that is shared among cancer survivors," O'Rourke said. "As we walk the lap, I look at the faces of those cheering for us on the sidelines and I feel a great sense of appreciation for their sup-

Jennifer Brown can be reached at 581-2812 or jebrown2@eiu.edu. DISTINGUISHED FACULTY

student-given awards

20 applications sorted, 3 chosen

By Nike Ogunbodede Student Government Editor

Three Eastern professors received the Student's Distinguished Professor Award Tuesday after a student selection committee sorted through 20 ap-

Jennifer Prillaman, the student vice president for academic affairs, was in charge of the award's ceremony and the selection process and said she was glad that 28 people were in attendance.

"All of the professors are here, all of the nominators are here and most of student government is here even though they have their debate tonight," Prillaman said.

Vicki Hampton, a business professor, was nominated for the Distinguished Academic Subject Award by Aaron Wiessing, a former student of

Wiessing, a junior management information systems major, said he was an accounting major until he took Hampton's visual basic class.

"She doesn't answer questions in class but rather turns the questions back on you to answer," Wiessing said. "She genuinely cares about her students in an extreme magnitude."

She does not teach her students to memorize but instead wants them to apply the information to everyday life, Wiessing said.

Antonio Woods, a freshman communication studies major, nominated his African American studies professor, Sumalayo Jackson, for the Distinguished Service Award.

Jackson said she was honored to receive such an award.

"I didn't think students cared enough to nominate teachers for awards like this," Jackson said. "I know I didn't think about it when I was in school."

Woods said Jackson inspired him

to declare an African American stud-

"During classes she always related her historical lessons with things that many college students face today," Woods said. "Professor Jackson always says that in order to achieve anything you have to achieve it with the vehicle of education."

Jacquelyn Frank, a family consumer and sciences professor, won the Distinguished Academic Support Award for her work with student nominator Isaac Sandidge.

Sandidge nominated Frank for an award last year, but she did not receive an award.

"I'm persistent," Sandidge said.

Sandidge received his undergraduate degree in psychology from Eastern and said he has never met a teacher like Frank before.

"Her passion for her own research and her ability to integrate recent developments in the field to her classroom is unrivaled," Sand-

Sandidge, a first year gerontology graduate student, served as Frank's teacher's assistant and had also taken several of Frank's classes.

Frank has been conducting integrative learning research, a concept President Perry speaks of, in the Wabash Valley Correctional Facility in Indiana, Sandidge said.

Within the class, we all conducted a joint service learning project that involved creating a life review for an elder veteran while the prisoners created a quilt honoring their service," Sand-

Students were thrilled, Sandidge

"The project was so successful we were invited to give a presentation at the 2010 Annual Governor's Conference on Aging in Chicago," Sandidge said. "I've been exposed to more opportunities than I ever could have imagined."

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



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www.eiu.edu/summer

STAFF EDITORIAL

Relay for Life lets students fight cancer, honor victims

It is 3 a.m. on a pitch-black night with a chilly breeze. Most of Charleston is sound asleep, except on Eastern's campus, where a group of students burn the midnight oil to spread some light on a dark

On the track, a group of bleary-eyed individuals fight the exhaustion and keep

The stands are still filled with sleepy fans who are trying to cheer on the participants as best they can.

The walkers still have an hour to go before one of their teammates will relieve them for a few hours, but most of the teammates never sleep because of the adrenaline and excitement this event-this important cause-brings them all.

The relay can last from 12 hours to more than 24 hours, but the team doesn't care and doesn't stop; all that matters is completing the goal.

They march on because they can. They are young and healthy, and will give every last drop of sweat to raise awareness for those too sick to do the same. They Relay for Life and fight against cancer.

Relay for Life started in 1985 as a small event and has gradually grown into a worldwide movement to end cancer.

Each year, more than 3.5 million people participate in Relay For Life in the United States, as well as people in 20 other coun-

The Eastern, and Charleston, community are proud to be part of that 3.5 mil-

A common misconception about our college generation is that we are lazy and do not care about anything besides what is going on in our little bubble.

This Friday, Eastern students participating in Relay For Life will prove that wrong.

There are students who do care and want to make a difference. Relay For Life gives students the opportunity to perform a realistic task that helps a large group of people and a great cause.

Students who participate dedicate 12 hours of their time to celebrate those who have fought cancer and survived, and to fight back against cancer.

The event not only shows that people are willing to give up their time to

help a cause, but it also raises money for the American Cancer Society to help with research and to help support families with cancer treatments.

Cancer affects all of us; whether it threatens our loved ones or threatens our future. Kudos to those who participate and fight against cancer.

The DAILY **EASTERN NEWS**

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

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COLUMN

Know your rights as intern this summer

The time has come. The great summer internship search is underway. Students have packed up their credentials into a one-page essay and shined their shoes for interviews.

Career Services has sent out emails and hosted events and one-on-one sessions with students to help them find meaningful work

Once they find their perfect internship, students sacrifice their paying jobs of cleaning bathrooms and making greasy food (hopefully not in that order) for an unpaid internship, with the hope that they will learn something and, fingers crossed, get their foot in the door for a future job.

While students may take all the right steps in getting their dream internship, there may be a problem with the workload expectation.

There is a fine line between the work of an intern and the work of a full-time employee. Many students go into their internship experience expecting to get coffee for the boss or file papers, and some do, but others may end up with the workload of a full-time employee and none of the benefits.



Emily Steele

Especially with the recent layoffs, the prospect of a young, eager student willing to do anything for a chance to prove themselves may be too much of a temptation for employers struggling to make ends meet.

While young adults looking for any sort of work in their field are willing to overlook this, the Department of Labor is not.

The Department of Labor established six criteria under the Fair Labor Standards Act to test if a student can work as an unpaid

1. The internship, even though it involves work for the company, must be similar to training that would be given in an educational environment.

2. The intern benefits from the experi-

3. The intern does not displace regular employees, but works under close supervision of the staff.

4. The intern's activities have no immediate benefits for the employer and on occasion may actually impede operations.

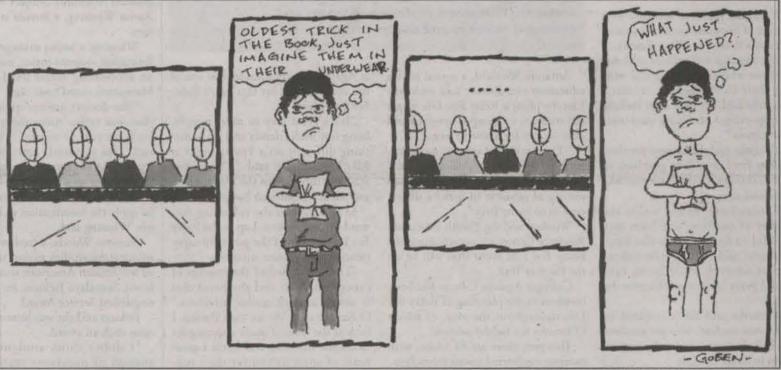
5. The intern is not entitled to a job at the end of the internship.

6. Both the employer and intern understand that the intern will not be paid for time spent in the internship.

The more similar an internship experience is to an educational environment, the more likely the internship is seen as an extension of the educational experience, according to the Department of Labor's website. Basically, the more an internship is like training, the less likely it is that the employer will get sued and the intern will lose his or her summer work.

> Emily Steele is a junior journalism major. She can be reached at 581-2812 or DENopinions@gmail.com.

FROM THE EASEL



GARRETT GOBEN | THE DAILY EASTERN NEWS

COLUMN

Legal system should work with residents

So, here we are in Coles County. Coles is what most would refer to as an economically poor county.

Crime seems rare here, yet the newspapers are loaded every day with different incidents. The courthouse sees a continuous flow of men, women, juveniles and college students alike trying to survive one more day, trying to stretch a penny one more

And yet, it doesn't seem that the Coles County "system of law" understands the cycle of recidivism it perpetuates by its handling of the law.

Lets take a look at two possible scenarios: The first, a 19-year-old gets pulled over with an open case of beer in his car. The driver is clearly not intoxicated and passes a BAC test with no alcohol whatsoever in his body. He is simply transporting it, whether it's for someone else or for personal consumption at home in a safe location. Either way, the driver is obviously not of age to be transporting alcohol.

The officer takes the person into custody, issues a citation or two and makes him bond out. He then must go to court where he loses his license for a significant amount of time, making life extremely difficult in



Julian Russell

multiple aspects. He must pay extremely high fines and will most likely have to get expensive alcohol treatment and expensive insurance before driving again.

Also, he is placed on some sort of probation or supervision, which means a jaywalking ticket could sink his agreement. A few grand and a year's worth of hell later, the person gains no respect for the law, is still dealing with the ravages of not having a license for work or school, and has nearly gone bankrupt for really doing nothing more than being a safe 19-year-old.

Scenario two: Same circumstances apply. A 19-year-old is pulled over carrying an open case of beer. No alcohol in his system. The officer, instead of arresting the subject, decides to take the alcohol. The officer tells the driver, "Use your head and

don't do it again, because sooner or later you will catch up to an officer who isn't

The officer perhaps gives the driver a brief lecture about the many things that could happen IF driving while intoxicated or convicted for driving with alcohol and being underage. The officer, knowing that many people of that age consume alcohol, advises that, if he is going to drink, he should keep it at home.

The driver now not only learns a valuable lesson, but also gains a new-found respect for the law and officers of the law. The driver also doesn't have to be caught up in the cycle where he is left with no money, a gross inability to get to and from work, and the potential to get in much more severe trouble for violating his probation with something minor.

In scenario two, everyone wins. The question now is which is more valuable to our county legal system: educating residents and preventing unnecessary crime, or

Julian Russell is a senior communications studies major. He can be reached at 581-2812 or DENopinions@gmail.com.

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

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

PLAN, from page 1

This approval for Health Alliance has also been reflected in Consumer Reports. The National Committee for Quality Assurance, a nonprofit organization that offers reviews and accreditation for health insurance programs, gave Health Alliance five out of five stars in all five performance ratings and gave it an "excellent" accreditation status.

The Illinois Department of Healthcare and Family Services stated Illinois will save approximately \$102 million per year from the new health care contracts.

However, Health Alliance representatives are questioning the validity of

"We are concerned about their claims," said Jocelyn Browning, communications manager for Health Alliance. "We don't think they have the correct numbers. We are working to try to show what they are claiming is unfounded."

Richard Wandling, a political science professor, said he has concerns with this decision considering he and his household have used Health Alliance as their insurance provider since 1987.

"It affects me very directly," Wandling said. "I am very concerned about what our future is in terms of healthcare coverage. However, I have some degree of optimism that this is not a final decision and, of course, that is going to depend on the political process."

As a matter of fact, Health Alliance is taking action to ensure this is not a final decision.

Browning said the company has filed an intent to protest the decision.

On Monday, Health Alliance met with the Illinois Commission on Government Forecasting and Accountability, a committee focused on providing legislature with research and information regarding state and national economies, revenue projections and operations of Illinois government. However, Browning said the committee will not be able to vote on the matter for two weeks.

Although nothing has been decided yet, Browning said the benefit choice period, currently set to run from May 1 through May 31, may be extended. While the Health Alliance protests are pending, the state cannot award the new contracts to Blue Cross Blue Shield.

Although many faculty and staff members are concerned, John Allison, an English professor and president of Eastern's chapter of University Professionals of Illinois, believes some state employees think the new plans could

Some think the state, single-payer system could be less expensive, Allison told The Daily Eastern News on

Shelley Holmgren can be reached at 581-7942 or meholmgren@eiu.edu.

REPORTER, from page 1

"I want to focus on both national and state politics and how I see the lay of the land on some of the things that have happened this spring in Washington," Yepsen said. "I'll also be looking forward to 2012 because much of what is going on is shaped a lot by what political voters will want

Yepsen said he looks forward to the input from audience members, especially from Eastern students. Another part of Yepsen's role as director of the Paul Simon Public Policy Institute is to encourage students to become involved in politics. He added one of the reasons he got out of journalism and took this job is because he wanted to help young Americans.

"I can't think of a generation in America that has more at stake than the young generation today," he said. "(The country) is in the middle of fighting three wars and the national debt is going to be placed on today's generation and their children."

During his visit to Eastern, Yepsen will also have the opportunity to interact with classes and have an informal political discussion with students.

He added it is important for students to take notice of the political climate because in the future, they will have to face Illinois' financial burdens.

This may include paying more in taxes and receiving fewer benefits.

"There is going to be a lower standard of living if we're not careful," Yepsen said. "And I think young Americans realize this and ought to pay attention because they have so much that is at stake."

Shelley Holmgren can be reached at 581-7942 or meholmgren@eiu.edu.

DEBATE, from page 1

He said historically students who have run for executive branch positions are involved in the Greek community or the student government, but this year there is a more diversified group running.

"I really think we have some qualified people, and the biggest thing, I think, is that most of the candidates are very honest in the fact that they do want to change some things," Mitchell said. "I just hope that actually happens this time

Murphy said she said she wished more students had attended the debate. She also said she wanted students to vote for a person who best represents the individual.

"If there's somebody that your views align with better, that's who you need to get behind," Murphy said. "It's not about who's the coolest or who your friend is. It's a huge job and you've got to take it seriously and speak for you. Be educated."

Mitchell, a senior communication studies major, also said he would like for students who did not go to the debate to try to stay informed and get involved.

"I think that a lot of times people get too distracted with what Greek house (the candidates) come out of or if they're an independent or running with a party," Mitchell said. "I think a mixed bag of all the ideas is probably ideal to a good student government."

The candidates for the student executive vice president, student vice president for student affairs, student vice president for business affairs and student vice president for academic affairs were also given time to speak during the election.

Student government elections will take place online, beginning Monday; election results will be announced during the Student Senate's April 20 meeting at 7 p.m. Wednesday in the Arcola-Tuscola Room in the Martin King Jr. University Union.

> Kacie Berry can be reached at 581-2812 or klshreve@eiu.edu.

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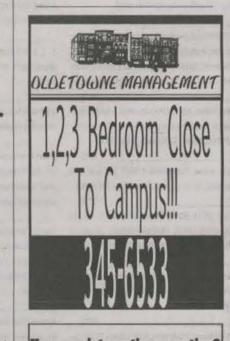
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14 Crowning points 16 Theater section

17 On cloud nine 19 Burl of stage and song

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52 Letter before Peter in an old phonetic alphabet

53 Photo mishap

54 Island whose name is another word in this puzzle spelled

backward 55 What people often do for pictures

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39 Hall-of-Fame

40 Rousing

ATHLETIC DEPARTMENT | AWARDS

Student-athletes honored for academic success

By Dominic Renzetti Associate Sports Editor

The Scholar Athlete awards banquet honored 175 student athletes for their work in the classroom last night, presented by the Panther Club.

The Merit Award was given to 68 student athletes from a variety of sports. The Merit Award is given to those who hold a GPA of 3.00 to 3.49. The Eastern Award, given to 48 student athletes, was for those with a GPA of 3.50 to 3.74. The University Award for maintaing a GPA of 3.75 to 4.00 was given out to 41 students.

The Presidential Award was given to 13 seniors graduating with a cumulative GPA of 3.75 and above. The 13 students earning the award was the highest number of students to ever receive the award.

Senior Jimmy Potempa, a member

of the football team, was one of the Presidential Award winners, Potempa said the award was a result of the hard work he's put in over the years.

'It means a lot," Potempa said. "It's a lot of hard work, you know, with football and school. I took 18 credits last semester, so it's like all of my work paying off."

Awards were also given to each men's and women's team with the highest average GPA. The men's golf team won with an average GPA of 3.49, while the women's cross country team had the highest women's team GPA and highest average GPA of all teams with 3.57.

Head cross country coach Erin Howarth said putting academics first was very important for the

We just encourage them to make sure they were going to class, and if it ever conflicts with a practice or if they're studying for a test, just let me know," Howarth said.

Howarth said she stresses being a student first to the team, since that is what they are in school for.

Other awards given out were the Lair Fund Award, given to football player Keithan Hendrick, swimmer Chancour Koop and softball player Amber May. Cross country and track runner Megan Gingerich was named OVC Scholar Athlete Award, which is the highest individual honor one can receive in the Ohio Valley Conference. Gingerich had a cumulative GPA of 3.88. Eastern student-athletes also received a total of 28 OVC Medals of Honor. The 28 awards were the most ever received by the uni-

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



KIMBERLY FOSTER | THE DAILY EASTERN NEWS

Softball players Amber May and Kiley Holtz accept a team award Tuesday from Robert Augustine, dean of the Eastern graduate school, at the Student Athlete Awards Banquet in the Grand Ballroom of the Martin Luther King Jr. University Union.

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PANTHERS, from page 8

Schmitz said his team knew coming in that Illinois was a team that ran and did the little things, and that it factored into the game-plan.

We told (the team), it's little things that Illinois does," Schmitz said. "They steal bases, they do things and obviously throwing the runner out at third was huge in that situation."

The Panthers then sparked a one-out rally in the bottom half of the frame to score four runs on an RBI-double by red-shirt junior first baseman T.J. Mc-Manus and a three-run homer by redshirt junior Ben Thoma to put the Panthers up 4-1, a score that would stand for the rest of the game.

Thoma said he thought Illinois would pitch around him with runners at second and third and one out.

"It was a low-scoring game to that point," Thoma said. "It was a full count, low and inside fastball, he gave me a pitch to hit and I took advantage."

Schmitz said while junior Zach Borenstein and red-shirt junior T.J. Mc-Manus had doubles in the sixth inning rally, senior shortstop Cam Strang's two-strike single was also key to continuing the inning and the rally.

Those are the things that are going to win these games," Schmitz said. "That's what we told the guys (in the) middle of the game. You've got to do

those things and not be macho and just swing. The little base hit in the four hole by Cam is probably going to get overlooked for Borno's and Mc-Manus's (double) and Thoma's home run but we've got to do the little things to get guys on."

The Panthers' next action will be a non-conference match-up Wednesday against Illinois College in Coaches' Stadium at 3 p.m. Eastern will then host OVC foe Tennessee Tech, with games on Saturday and Sunday beginning at 1 p.m. in Coaches' Stadium.

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

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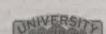






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Panthers tear apart Illini, send 'em home

By Brad Kupiec Staff Reporter

The college baseball battle for 1-57 was renewed Tuesday as the Panthers took on the Fighting Illini in Peterson Park in Mattoon, beating Illinois by a

Freshman right-hander Joe Greenfield got the start for the Panthers, going five innings and earning a no-decision, allowing one run on four hits with no walks or strikeouts.

Head coach Jim Schmitz said he was pleased with the way Greenfield pitched in his second collegiate start.

'Pitching is it," Schmitz said. "Joe Greenfield, for a freshman, to come in with how he pitched against Indiana State (last Wednesday). We actually had a couple boo-boos behind him that (Illinois) didn't take advan-

The game started off quietly, as the only score in the first five innings was provided by a second inning Illini

Senior right-hander Brent McNeil got the win, coming in during the sixth inning and not allowing a run while stranding one inherited base runner. McNeil struck out seven and walked one in his four innings of hit-

The sixth inning saw freshman catcher Jacob Reese throw out a potential base-stealer at third base with one out in the top half.

PANTHERS, page 9



AUDREY SAWYER | THE DAILY EASTERN NEWS

T.J. McManus, red-shirt junior first baseman, catches a throw to get Justin Parr of the University of Illinois-Champaign out Tuesday evening at Grimes Field in Mattoon. The Panthers beat the Illini 4-1.



DANNY DAMIANI I THE DAILY EASTERN NEWS

Melise Brown, sophomore outfielder, heads to home plate after rounding third base during Eastern's game against Southern Illinois University-Edwardsville, Thursday at Williams Field. Brown scored the only run during the game, allowing Eastern to win 1-0.

SOFTBALL | PREVIEW

4 wins in the bag for Eastern

Panthers hope to continue OVC success, look to win By Rob Mortell **Sports Editor**

Eastern's softball team will attempt to extend its four-game winning streak with a double-header against Ohio Valley Conference rival Southeast Missouri.

Last time the rivals faced off, Eastern won 2-0, thanks to a two-run home run by junior catcher Hailee Hanna. Senior pitcher Amber May picked up the win for the Panthers, striking out seven batters and leaving 10 base runners stranded.

The Panthers are 9-1 in doubleheaders this season. Hanna said the key to success in a double-header is to play hard, keep the game simple and take each game inning by inning.

May is coming off an impressive week going 4-0 and earning a special mention for NFCA National Player of the Week. May and freshman pitcher Stephanie Maday have helped Eastern post the nations best ERA at 1.16.

The Panthers have done well in terms of giving up runs this season by being armed with a top ten defense "SEMO is a good team, but in reality it is just another name on a jersey. As a team, we go out with the same game plan for every game and that is to win. Plain and simple."

Hailee Hanna, junior catcher

in the nation. Eastern is currently ranked No. 10 in the nation in fielding percentage at .976.

May said the team has worked hard to be such a force defensively.

"I think the biggest reason we are so consistent though is because our defense is making tremendous plays along with the routine plays to keep runners from scoring," May said.

SEMO comes into the game with a 17-21 record overall and an 11-7 record in the OVC. The Redhawks come to Williams Field on a threegame winning streak. The Panthers have a 4-1 record at home this season.

"It's going to take great offense, defense and pitching to stop them," May said. "It's going to take the entire team."

SEMO is led in hitting by Carmen Fowler who is hitting .402 with 28 RBI's, while their pitching staff is led by Alora Marble who has posted a 7-6

record with a 4.08 ERA. Sophomore outfielder Melise Brown leads Eastern in hitting with a .420 average with five home runs and 20 RBI's. She is also ranked No. 48 in the nation in hitting.

"For the double-header coming up I think all we have to do is play our game and they'll have to try and keep up," Brown said.

Maday and May are ranked No. 13 and 14 in the nation respectively for ERA this season. The first game of the double-header is scheduled for 4 p.m. as the Panthers look for their 28th win of the season.

"SEMO is a good team, but in reality it is just another name on a jersey," Hanna said "As a team we go out with the same game plan for every game and that is to win. Plain and simple."

Rob Mortell can be reached at 581-7944 or at ramortell@eiu.edu.

EASTERN SPORTS SCHEDULE

Wednesday vs. Illinois Chicago. 3 p.m. - Coaches' Stadium

Wednesday vs. Southeast Missouri 4 p.m. - Williams Field

Softball

Saturday vs. Tennessee-Martin 1 p.m. - Williams Field

Baseball

Saturday vs. Tennessee Tech 1 p.m. - Coaches' Stadium

For more please see elupanthers.

com

NATIONAL SPORTS

MLB Philidelphia at Nationals 6 p.m. on ESPN2

MLB

Cubs at Astros 7 p.m. on WGN

NBA Hornets at Mavericks 7 p.m. on ESPN

NBA Nets at Bulls 7 p.m. on CSN

NBA Grizzlies at Clippers 9:30 p.m. on ESPN