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THE DAILY EASTERN NEWS

February 17, 2003 ♦ **MONDAY**

A Panther split

The Eastern basketball team loses to Murray State Friday then beats Tennessee-Martin on some late free throws.

Page 12 SPORTS



A bone-chilling weekend

♦ *Low temperatures create icy, slushy mess*

By Carly Mullady
CITY EDITOR

This year's Valentine's Day made the term 'cold hands, warm heart' a reality.

Damp, cold weather swept through the Midwest, bringing an icy chill to Charleston last weekend.

Dallas Price, local weather observer and former Eastern geology professor, said the area received a messy amount of cold precipitation.

"There was only one inch of snow," he said. "But if all of the precipitation we received were snow, it would add up to five or six inches."

Temperatures in the 20s prevented melting of precipitation, causing a buildup of snow and ice on roads and sidewalks.

"The temperatures have been so cold, (but) that doesn't help get rid of this messy stuff," Price said.

He said there is a chance of warmer temperatures late today and into Tuesday, which may help with the ice and snow problem.

"Since Jan. 15, there have only been two days without snow on the ground," Price said. He expects the trend to continue, with more precipitation coming later in the week.

The National Weather Service forecast this week shows a high of 32 degrees and low of 20 degrees Monday. Tuesday's temperatures should reach the mid-40s. Precipitation is forecast to begin late Tuesday or early Wednesday and temperatures should range in the 40s throughout the week.

Charleston has received five inches of snow so far this February, which is one inch more than the typical amount. Price said the snow will continue to surpass the normal amount throughout the rest of the month.



COLIN MCAULIFFE/PHOTO EDITOR

Two students walk past the Martin Luther King Jr. University Union Sunday afternoon. The temperature over the weekend was in the low 20s. The forecast calls for this week's highs to be 32 and lows to be 20.

Proposed contract may mean staff raises

By John Chambers
ADMINISTRATION EDITOR

Increased compensation will not be a reality this year, but could be in the remaining three years of the proposed faculty contract.

Compensation was one issue of the tentative agreement union members heard Thursday. Faculty will have a chance to ratify the contract this week.

Negotiating teams for Eastern's chapter of the University Professionals of Illinois and administration agreed on a contract Feb. 6.

All union members will receive information on the contract, if they attended Thursday's meeting or not, and a mail-in ballot to vote on the contract. Completed ballots need to be mailed in by next Monday, said UPI president David Radavich.

Radavich said meetings have been held to keep finalizing contract language.

"This is it. This is the result," he said.

Both sides identified issues of workload, faculty

A done deal?

Here are some details of the proposed four-year faculty contract

♦ A 1.5 percent salary increase if there is no state rescission by mid-May. A 1 percent increase if it is less than \$500,000.

♦ A 2, 2.5 or 3 percent increase in the second, third and fourth years of the contract.

♦ No less than 50 percent of net fees and royalty given to any inventor.

SEE RAISES ♦ Page 6

Prosecution: Mertz is an 'evil, evil person'

♦ *Altercation with neighbor happened three months before murder*

By Amber Williams
SENIOR WRITER

Three months before he murdered Shannon McNamara, Anthony Mertz was arrested on charges of aggravated assault and battery for an altercation with a woman in his apartment building, Charleston Police Officer John Blevins testified in Mertz's sentencing hearing Friday.

On April 12, 2001, Blevins said he was dispatched to Mertz's apartment building at 1128 Fourth St. and heard a woman screaming "help me" as he arrived.

When Blevins entered the building, he saw tenant Ann Joyner and her boyfriend Brian Catt in a struggle on the stairwell.

Joyner told Blevins she and her boyfriend had been talking to Mertz in the common area of the building when Mertz began flirting with her. When Joyner and Catt then decided to go to her apartment, Mertz became angry and pushed Joyner down on the concrete.

After pushing Joyner down again, Mertz pulled out a knife and used it to threaten Joyner and Catt, Blevins said.

Mertz, 26, is convicted of first-degree murder, home invasion and aggravated criminal sexual assault in the June 12, 2001 murder of Shannon McNamara. The trial is now in the sentencing phase, following the jury affirming that Mertz was eligible for the death penalty.

To determine Mertz was eligible for the death penalty, the jury had to conclude Mertz was 18 years old at the time of the murder, and committed first-degree murder while committing another aggravating factor.

If the jury cannot decide unanimously that Mertz should receive the death penalty, then Judge Dale Cini will administer a sentence.

The prosecution entered into evidence photos of abrasions on Joyner's face, knuckles and hip from being pushed down, as well as the knife that was seized from Mertz. Also entered into evidence were photos of the common area of Mertz's building and the empty alcohol bottles Mertz had been drinking before the altercation.

Mertz carried into the courtroom a recent issue of *Time* magazine with a cover story about DNA and appeared less confident than he had last week.

During opening statements for the sentencing, prosecuting attorney Ed Parkinson told the jury to

expect testimony from witnesses who will prove that Mertz is an "evil, evil person" who cannot be rehabilitated.

The prosecution intends to show Mertz sees women as "objects of his prey," who he has consistently intimidated and attacked.

"This is a candidate for the death penalty if there ever was one," Parkinson said.

Parkinson described the murder of McNamara as a brutal, heinous crime, the details of which the jury may never be able to block out of their minds.

The defense reserved their opening statements until they begin to call their witnesses.

Roger Hudson, a building service worker for Lantz Arena, testified that when Mertz came to work the day before McNamara's murder, he looked tired and said he was worn out because he had gone to Terre Haute, Ind., the day before for the Timothy McVeigh execution.

Mertz described the scene at the execution to Hudson as a "circus." Mertz ended the conversation about the McVeigh execution by saying, "We the people, of the people, killing our own people," Hudson said.

Hudson also testified he knew

Capital punishment sentencing similar to first stage of trial

By Carly Mullady
CITY EDITOR

Capital punishment sentencing can be similar to the guilt-determining part of a trial, said a Northwestern University professor.

Cathryn Crawford, an assistant clinical professor at Northwestern University Law School said if a defendant is found guilty of a death-penalty-worthy crime, with no lesser charges, he or she begins sentencing.

Once the sentencing portion of trial commences, a defendant's eligibility for the death penalty is judged.

The defendant can choose to waive a jury trial and have only the judge determine sentencing, Crawford said. Otherwise, the same jury that decided the defendant's guilt will also decide his or her future.

"During sentencing the jury must decide if someone is eligible for the death penalty," Crawford said.

In this eligibility phase, the jury decides if the defendant fits within the requirements for receiving a death sentence.

"There are 20-some ways or offenses for which you can be sentenced to death," Crawford said.

From any of those statutory requirements, the prosecution must present a case establishing that the defendant's crime meets the outline for a death-penalty-worthy case.

Proof that the defendant's crime fits within the statutory requirements for a death penalty case must be presented.

Next, the prosecution argues its case by presenting evidence of all things aside from conviction that make this person seem worthy of death, Crawford said.

"Prosecutors must portray defendants as so worthless of human beings that they do not even deserve life imprisonment," Crawford said.

After the prosecution presents

SEE MERTZ ♦ Page 6

SEE SENTENCING ♦ Page 6



Chili supper provides mardi gras madness

By Megan Cranmer
STAFF WRITER

Parents and students enjoyed a night of mardi gras madness Saturday at Jefferson school with a chili supper.

Along the fifth grade wing of Jefferson school, games such as ring toss and mask making were played. The gym was turned into a miniature carnival with obstacle courses and a bungee run, while the library supported a scholastic book fair. The major event making the whole night a tradition, is the chili supper.

Alan and Pam Bumpus have been the backbone of the chili supper for the past 15 years. They have made the chili every year with the donated ingredients from the parents of the students.

"My dad was a navy cook," said Pam Bumpus as she stirred her chili. Pam's father taught her

how to make it in bulk.

Alan, a cook, said the night was fun for everyone involved.

"Our daughter is here, and actually her daughter is here too," Alan said. This night has been a community favorite for a long time.

In addition to the school making money, Kathy Armstrong, the food coordinator, said: "It's more of a social event than a fund raiser."

Kathy, along with five others, are part of the Jefferson parent teacher association committee. Food and prizes for the mardi gras and chili supper were donated and the parents volunteering their time to help out.

It was a night of the community getting together to make memories and show the kids a good time, Armstrong said.

It's also a time for the students to gather and enjoy their school.

Journalism class stirs more discussion

By Kevin Sampier
ADMINISTRATION REPORTER

The disagreement between the journalism department and the School of Technology continued during the Council on Academic Affairs meeting Thursday.

Introduction to Visual Communication for Journalists, JOURNAL 2950, was approved Feb. 6 and added to the journalism department's curriculum.

However, opponents from the School of Technology, assistant technology professor Phil Age and department chair Mahyar Izadi, came to Thursday's meeting to get the CAA to reconsider.

Age said his concern, and the concern of other technology professors is the journalism class duplicates INT 1363, Graphic Communications Technology.

"This is a major content overlap," Age said. "I'm representing other faculty members in the technology department. It's not just me."

The CAA voted to postpone the approval of the class until the two departments meet and present a document listing the their disagreements and signatures to the council.

"The journalism department's position is there is no duplication in course content," said Les Hyder, journalism department chair. "The course we present is specifically designed to meet the needs for journalism majors. The technology class has a more generic focus."

Revisions were made to the proposed journalism class and presented at the Feb. 6 meeting, which included a prerequisite of only allowing journalism majors and minors to take the class.

The reason, according to journalism professor Brian Poulter, was to assure the class was not intended to take students away from class INT 1363.

Age said that was a concern for him before the revision was made.

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COLIN MCAULIFFE/PHOTO EDITOR

Book it

Lindsey Dunton, a freshman undeclared major, sits as she looks for books for a paper Sunday evening in Booth Library.

How to solve a major dilemma

By Jennifer Chiariello
ACTIVITIES EDITOR

A panel of 12-14 students will each discuss their majors Monday at a workshop for students who have not yet picked a major.

The workshop provides information about a variety of majors to students with an undeclared major or students who have selected a major but wish to change to a different major.

Don Dawson, advisor for the gateway program, Jennifer Lewis and Esther Witsman of the academic advising center organized the event.

The academic advising center holds this workshop once every semester for about the past four

years, Witsman said.

"Students can see what different majors are about.

"The panel will talk about how they came to decide on that major and will talk about types of courses they take and how that's helping them to meet their career goals," Witsman said.

The panel was selected by the three advisors organizing the event, Witsman said. The advisors spoke with chairs from each department to see who would be a good candidate to represent their major.

The academic advising center will also have handouts on different majors available at the workshop.

The academic advising center is

If you go...

- ◆ What: Workshop for undeclared students
- ◆ When: 6 p.m.
- ◆ Where: Charleston/Mattoon Room of MLK Jr. University Union

expecting 25-75 students to attend, Witsman said.

Last fall about 75 people attended the workshop, which is the highest number attendance to the workshop has ever been.

The workshop is open to all students and will take place at 6 p.m. Monday in the Charleston/Mattoon Room of the Martin Luther King Jr. University Union.

Homemade food warms students' souls Sunday

◆ *Throngs of students gathered for the annual Sigma Gamma Rho Soul Food Dinner*

By Ann Vongsaphay
STAFF WRITER

Students gathered Sunday in the African-American Culture Center for some home-cooked soul food.

The annual Sigma Gamma Rho Soul Food Dinner took place Sunday as part of African-American Heritage Month.

The event started in 1993 as a community service project.

"This is an event for the campus and community," Shonda Clancy, Sigma Gamma Rho president, said.

Normally, the sorority holds dinners as fundraisers, but this one was free.

Although it is free every year, donations are usually requested. The sorority usually gives the donations to Habitat for Humanity or other charities.

"Donations usually depends on the students."

I wish more students would donate," said Taisha Mikell, graduate adviser for Sigma

"I like that everyone here gets along. There are good vibes and good atmosphere."

—Lauren Wright

Gamma Rho. "The dinner comes out of the students' own pockets."

This year's menu consisted of chicken, green beans, macaroni and cheese, sweet potatoes, corn, corn bread and deserts.

"My favorite part is the food, I liked all the food," said Raynard Nicholson, a senior computer management major.

About 50 people attended the event.

"I like that everyone here gets along. There are good vibes and good atmosphere," said Lauren Wright, sophomore psychology major.

She said she heard about it through other people and posters around campus.

"I just come to socialize and have a good time," said Phillip Thompson, a senior sociology major.



COLIN MCAULIFFE/PHOTO EDITOR

Shonda Clancy, a senior biological sciences major, scoops sherbet ice cream into fruit punch Sunday evening at the Soul Food Dinner at the African-American Culture Center.

Students express array of emotions over Mertz verdict

◆ *Last week's guilty verdict in Mertz trial produces mixed reactions from students*

By Tim Martin
CAMPUS EDITOR

Some students say Anthony B. Mertz, the former Eastern student found guilty for the murder of Eastern student Shannon McNamara, should face the death penalty.

"Absolutely he should get the death penalty," Chris Grimm, a junior psychology major, said. "It's an eye for an eye, a tooth for a tooth."

"There have been too many people on death row for too many years, and I don't think that is the way we should go. They took a life, and they shouldn't have any life for them either."

Colette Arnold, a sophomore undeclared major, also thinks Mertz should pay the ultimate price.

"Do unto others as they do to you," she said. "He just deserves what's coming toward him."

Other students take a stiff stand on the decision of Mertz's fate.

"If he killed her, he deserves

the same," said junior marketing major Lisa Bateman.

"And I think he did it, and I don't think we should rehabilitate him just because he killed somebody."

Nay Wright, a sophomore marketing major, also said Mertz should be given the death penalty instead of being rehabilitated.

"Who knows what could happen if we only sent him to jail?" he said. "He could get out or get parole. If I do something bad to a woman, I am going to be penalized, even if I don't want it to happen."

Mertz was found guilty of first-degree murder, home invasion and aggravated criminal sexual assault Wednesday; and the general consensus of students agree with the jury's verdict.

"I would have been shocked if the verdict would have been 'not guilty,'" Marissa Justiniano, a sophomore special education major, said.

Grimm, 49, and the mother of a 20-year-old daughter, said she was disturbed by the vulgarity of Mertz's actions from reading about them in *The Daily Eastern News* and watching coverage on television.

"I was shocked at what (Mertz) did to her," she said. "I

"I would have been shocked if the verdict would have been 'not guilty.'"

—Marissa Justiniano

can't envision all the terror she went through. If that was my daughter it would make me sick - I'd be emotionally and physically ill."

Although many students expressed desire for the death penalty, not all agreed with the action.

"I don't much believe in the death penalty - why take someone else's life?" said Doug Walk, a freshman business major who recently left the military to come to Eastern and had not followed the Mertz trial in-depth.

Marques Sewell, a junior computer information systems major, also believes Mertz should not die for his crime.

"Taking his life won't do anything," he said.

Wright was on campus when the incident happened.

"Everybody was talking about it, but I was sort of obliv-

QUOTE THIS

Do you think Mertz should get the death penalty?



Lauren Hruby
Freshman
journalism major
"I'm against death penalties, so I'm against it."



Jim Sherlick
Sophomore
business finance major
"I think he should get the death penalty."



Zach Fairfield
Freshman
undecided major
"What he did is terrible. This is the type of crime that would warrant the death penalty."



Dom Donoghue
Graduate student
"I think it's a good thing (if) he gets the death penalty."

ious to it," he said.

If there is a general consensus on the incident, it is the perception of Mertz.

"I think he is a cold killer," Bateman said.

"He's a murderer," Grimm said without hesitation.

McNamara's legacy will live on with students.

"I think even though I didn't know her, and most people did-

n't, she still touched people," Bateman said. "She touched me."

But Arnold said she could see this happening again.

"It could happen again, we don't know everyone here," she said.

"Even if something dramatic never happened before this, you can't guarantee it won't happen ever again."



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EDITORIAL

Eastern should be proud

More demanding classes, the increased amount of free time and the lack of class attendance are thorns in the side of freshmen students.

According to fall semester 2002 figures, the average Eastern students' grade point averages ranked near the bottom of the barrel in comparison with the other state schools, including Western Illinois University, Southern Illinois University, Northern Illinois University and Illinois State University.

The average freshman cumulative GPA, according to fall figures, for Eastern's freshmen students was 2.36.

The only other state school with a lower average was Northern, where the average freshman cumulative GPA was 2.2.

Eastern's freshman students' cumulative GPA average in the fall of 2001 was a 2.38, which exemplifies the dip in the average was minimal from last fall, but demonstrates newly enrolled college students are continuing to have problems keeping up their GPA amidst the challenges that come with attending college.

"There is no mom or dad to wake (freshmen) up and tell them to go to class — class attendance is their No. 1 killer," said Debbie Barker, an academic adviser at Eastern. "They just don't realize how much free time they actually have and don't know what to do with all that extra time."

Although average freshmen cumulative GPAs for fall semester 2002 rank low in comparison to other state schools, Eastern's juniors' and seniors' average cumulative GPAs lead the pack of other state schools and demonstrate as students gain college experience, their study skills increase, and they become better adjusted to college workloads.

The average cumulative GPA for Eastern juniors was 3.07 while seniors averaged a 3.29 cumulative GPA. The average GPAs for juniors and seniors at the other various state schools fell substantially behind Eastern.

This demonstrates freshmen averages may not exactly stack up to the pack of other freshmen at state schools, but to have juniors and seniors at Eastern leading the other state schools with the highest GPA averages should make faculty and administrators proud.

Any institution that can boast leading state GPA averages, even if they are not at every grade level, should be applauded.

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

At issue
The fall 2002 average GPA figures for Illinois state schools

Our stance
Although Eastern freshmen rank low, the average GPA of juniors and seniors is impressive.

OPINION

A juggling act with time



Michelle Jones
Editor in chief and bi-weekly columnist for *The Daily Eastern News*

Jones also is a senior English and journalism major.

She can be reached at 581-2812 or majones@eiu.edu

I cannot juggle. Not that I've seriously tried to learn, but I've watched a friend's brother, a couple of individuals at a show at Great America and a few other "professionals," and I've tried tossing a couple of tennis balls around with no success.

I may not be able to toss around clubs or rings of fire, but I can perform a juggling act of another kind — juggling time.

I can juggle all of my daily tasks, homework, activities and time with friends with the best of 'em. Everything I do is important to me, and I want to do my best, so I juggle multiple tasks at once.

College is not just all about classes and homework, but I can't commit my time to only one outside group, too, so I'm constantly splitting up my time among different groups.

Since friendships are one of the most important things to me, I'm also not about to let my time be completely consumed with all of my responsibilities, especially seeing this is my last semester as a college student.

I work best under pressure, and when I get really busy, I begin to run on adrenaline. I'm an individual who needs lots of sleep, but I surprised myself at how well I still functioned the past couple of weeks with getting only 4 1/2 or six hours of sleep most nights.

Sometimes I'll forget I agreed to go to that luncheon for Student

"People also have to learn to juggle being busy with not being busy."

Publications or that I told a friend we should be able to hang out on a night I end up staying later than expected at work. Still, most of the time, I think I handle everything pretty well.

However, along the way of juggling all of the things I "have to do," I don't leave time for "nothing."

I realized last week the emphasis society puts on elements of our time people call doing "nothing." Unless someone is being productive or going out somewhere, it's likely they will, or someone else will, classify what they are doing as "nothing." Is there a way to really do nothing? Just sitting is in fact doing something. And sometimes doing "nothing" is important.

One of the biggest juggling acts in life is juggling time, but it's not always easy to keep in balance. People also have to learn to juggle being busy with not being busy.

I justified watching two hours of TV once as doing homework. I want to be a writer, and maybe one day I'll want to write for TV. Just like you have to read to write books, I decided you have to watch TV to write for TV. Really, I just needed

some kind of down time, and I'm so used to doing everything with a purpose, I had to create one just to relax.

I'm not saying everyone should watch TV or play video games for three hours a day every day. For me at least, that concept is a waste of time. I would much rather be extremely busy than extremely bored, which I'm sure would happen if I allowed myself to do too much of "nothing."

At the same time, we can't be constantly busy. We need to breathe and take a time out.

This concept is not new, but it might be one people need a reminder about.

We all have daily tasks like "go[ing] to the bank and the hardware store," as Toby Keith sings about in his song "My List."

He sings, "I cross 'em off as I get 'em done, but when the sun is set, there's still more than a few things left I haven't got to yet. Go for a walk, say a little prayer, take a deep breath of mountain air, put on my gloves and play some catch; it's time that I make time for that [...] start living, that's the next thing on my list."

We all need to concentrate on the "important things," which includes, among doing homework, striving for a job, being an active member of a campus organization and friends, doing "nothing," a healthy balance of juggling both being busy and not being busy.

Cartoon by Ryan Vila



YOUR TURN: LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Support troops, don't discourage them

I am disgusted by the continual anti-war sentiments I see in *The Daily Eastern News*. After reading "Take an anti-war stance," published in the Feb. 10 edition of the DEN, I decided I had had enough.

The columnist stated, "A couple of months ago, I was alarmed to find out several people I knew would be strapping boots and artillery on themselves and be shipped to Iraq by their respective military organizations." I spent the last five years on active duty in the United States Marine Corps, and I have never seen anyone strap on artillery.

I do not think people realize the draft ended when the Vietnam War did. If someone's friend is in the military, no matter what branch they serve, they choose to be there. Perhaps it is out of patriotism or because they

wanted the thousands of dollars in educational benefits. Regardless of the matter, they choose to be there. How can they be shocked when Uncle Sam suddenly calls them up to go do their jobs?

Perhaps we should all support our troops and send them letters of encouragement while they are protecting the freedom so few of us are willing to fight for.

Sgt. Scott McNary
Charleston resident

Friend chose freely to fight for country

In the column "Take an anti-war stance," published in the Feb. 10 edition of *The Daily Eastern News*, the columnist said her friend was called up for active duty and had to leave during the semester.

The columnist should have said her friend swore on oath to protect this country against all enemies foreign and domestic. Her friend took this oath freely and without any mental reservation thereby subjecting her to any and all military action whether she likes it or not. Do not condemn this war because you will be telling more than a 100,000 Marines, Navy, Army, Air Force, National Guard and Coastguardsmen what they are there for is wrong.

We only are following the orders given to us by our superiors (the President and his chain of command) and it is

our duty to execute these orders to our utmost ability. I know it is sad friends and loved ones have to be sent overseas, but protesting will not stop what is happening.

Instead, why don't we rally around the men and women in the armed services and give them our total support. We are all Americans whether we are in the military or not, but just remember, it is the men and women in the military who give you the right to protest, burn the flag, practice different religions and give you the privilege of democracy.

Lt. Peter Bergstrom
Eastern alumni

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR: The Daily Eastern News accepts letters to the editor addressing local, state, national and international issues. They should be less than 250 words and include the authors' name, telephone number and address. Students should indicate their year in school and major. Faculty, administration and staff should indicate their position and department. Letters whose authors cannot be verified will not be printed. Depending on space constraints, we may edit letters, so keep it concise. Letters can be sent to *The Daily Eastern News* at 1811 Buzzard Hall, Charleston IL 61920; faxed to 217-581-2923; or e-mailed to majones@eiu.edu

Staff eagerly awaits service

By Chris Luther
STAFF WRITER

Eastern faculty and staff eagerly await the opening of the new Human Services Building June 16.

Health services, career services, the communications department and the counseling center will all relocate into the new building.

Most of the staff members at career services, currently located at the student service building, are excited to make the transition.

"I can't wait to move into the new facility," Diane Smith, a secretary for career services, said. "We currently have a pretty tight working space; the new building should give us a little more room to work with."

The health service department looks forward to moving into the new building because there will be more rooms to handle more students.

The new human service building, which will be more technologically advanced than the current facilities, will hold all files electronically.

It provides a change from the current file cabinet system.

"It's great that the information is on computers," said Director of Student Services Linda Moore. "It

gives us even more room because we don't need file cabinets everywhere."

Moore also said the change in location will alter general perception.

"This building says that Eastern is ready for the 21st century," Moore said. "The new building will impress people who come to Eastern."

The human services building will also help students and staff for potential interviews with employers by offering more space for interviews.

The human service facility currently has two interview rooms; the new building plans to include eight interview rooms.

"When the economy was strong several years ago, once there were fifteen interviewers at Eastern," said Moore. "People were scrambling everywhere trying to make room for interviews."

Although the new building has much to offer for employees, they will also be scrambling during the move.

"I'm really excited to make the transition, but it's a pain to move all your things," said Debbie Endsley, a secretary in the career service office. "It can be physically draining to move, especially when the move is coming at the end of a semester."

RHA approves two nonsmoking floors in Stevenson Hall Thursday

◆ *The two additional floors make five total floors in Stevenson now smoke free for students*

By Lea Erwin
STAFF WRITER

The Residence Hall Association agreed Thursday to change two floors in Stevenson Hall to nonsmoking starting the fall 2003 semester.

Three floors, the seventh, eighth and ninth, will remain smoking floors. The Taylor Hall south tower will also reduce the number of smoking floors next year by two floors.

Mark Hudson, director of University Housing and Dining services said there are more smoking rooms available than smokers.

According to Hudson, there are reportedly 215 designated smoking rooms and only 35 actually in use.

RHA president Stina Heldmann said,

"We are behind their decision" to pass the proposal for the non-smoking floors for next year.

It still has to go through a recommendation from Hudson.

"But the change will be made," Heldmann said.

Hudson said that in a survey taken first semester, students in Stevenson Hall agreed more smoking floors are a waste of space and money for housing.

Upcoming elections were also discussed at the meeting.

Eleven positions will be open next year, as most of the executive board will graduate.

The RHA also had an agreement for the new RHA logo.

They also discussed giving donations to three fundraisers: Up Til Dawn, Habitat for Humanity and Camp New Hope.

The next RHA meeting will be at 5 p.m. Thursday in Pemberton Hall.

Food drive draws few people

By Brad Tammaro
STAFF WRITER

The University Professionals of Illinois and the Mideastern Illinois Labor Council distributed food to an unusually low number of families at a food bank last Thursday.

Associate sociology professor Diane Schaefer said the low turnout was due to minimal advertising throughout the community.

"The ad didn't get into the *Times-Courier*," Schaefer said. "Not many families knew about it."

The low turnout meant a surplus of food at the end of the day. Schaefer said the extra food was passed out to different agencies such as St.Charles Church and the Sexual Assault Counseling and Information Service.

"We picked up crackers and little boxes of cereal," Karen Armstrong, a member of SACIS, said. "They will be used as snacks at our support groups."

Schaefer invited students in her sociology class to help distribute food. She wanted them to see the "inequality in society between the

'haves' and 'have nots.'"

"Students cannot only read about it in a textbook; they can be out in the community and see how the community deals with it," she said.

The food bank was organized in memory of Rich Dulka, who died in 2001. Dulka was the original founder of the council.

"This is the way he wanted to be remembered," MILC member Bill Hollada said. "We will probably have another food bank in April."

The UPI and the council hold six to seven food banks in a year, he said.

Thursday's food bank was the third held in Dulka's memory, Schaefer said.

The drive distributed food, shampoo and cleaning products it receives as donations or surplus from several companies throughout the state. Anywhere from one to 10 tons of food and supplies is distributed at each event, he said.

The food banks are open to struggling families throughout the community. However, certain federal income guidelines must be met for families to receive help, Hollada said.

"Families range in age from their 20s to their 80s. We have helped thousands of people who are struggling," Hollada said.

Student Senate looking for input on how to beautify campus

By Avian Carrasquillo
STUDENT GOVERNMENT EDITOR

The Student Senate's University Development and Recycling Committee is trying to improve campus recycling and get input from students on beautifying the campus.

Ryan Herdes, committee chair, said the committee is trying to establish a more efficient recycling program that will work to beautify the campus.

"We're looking into more cigarette disposal in smoking areas," Herdes said. "We looked at the layout of the campus, and we want to get benches with backs. We need more figures on that, but we think it would work into beautifying the campus. It would provide for a good study area when the weather gets warmer."

Herdes said the committee also surveyed residence halls and classrooms to gauge recycling needs.

"There's a need for more recycling bins in residence halls and classrooms. We need to get

"We're looking into more cigarette disposal programs."

—Ryan Herdes

the figures to see how many bins there are, how many are needed, and how much it will cost," Herdes said. In order to hear what the students want, Herdes said that the committee would like to set up suggestion boxes in high-traffic areas around campus. Herdes also is working with the University Police Department to push bicycle registration.

"There's been a big problem with theft and damage," Herdes said. "What I've been told is that if a bicycle is recovered and is not registered, the UPD cannot turn it over; it goes into impound. If a bicycle is registered and is later stolen, it can be linked back to the owner. Bicycle registration is free," Herdes said.



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Sentencing:

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

a defendant's crime as worthy of death, the defense begins mitigation by presenting evidence against the death penalty.

"At this point, there is no residual doubt, so the defense cannot argue the defendant's guilt," Crawford said. Therefore, the defense's strategy is to show that life imprisonment, rather than death, is sufficient punishment.

Crawford said the defense presents character witnesses, people who knew the defendant, to shine a more positive light on the defendant.

"They want to show that the type of person is not defined by the act they are convicted of, share possible childhood events that could contribute to their behavior, and present the positive aspects of who the person is now," Crawford said.

Many criminals have psychological problems sparked from a troubled youth, Crawford said. While a past of abuse and mental health issues does not excuse violent criminal behavior, it may offer an explanation for the poor behavior.

Crawford said a remarkable amount of criminals have suffered head injuries in their past or have gone through serious emotional trauma, factors that could lead to abnormal behavior or violence.

"This is not to justify what someone did," Crawford said. "But it does limit jurors' judging based on their own background."

The defense may also have witnesses testify about who the person is now, with hopes of humanizing the defendant.

Family members, friends, employers, coworkers and neighbors who might display the defendant as a hard worker or a necessary part of their family life would help lead the defendant away from the label as a criminal and toward a real person.

These same people might offer testimony explaining tragic or violent past events that could have prevented the defendant from behaving properly.

"The defense would put as much evidence on to show who this person is, to see how he or she could get in such a desperate situation as to commit a crime," Crawford said.

Once both sides present their case, it is up to the jury (or the judge should the defendant waive a jury verdict) to decide if the defendant deserves death.

A capital punishment case's jury has been "death qualified" prior to selection, Crawford said. The chosen jury consists only of members who voiced a willingness to sentence a criminal to death if guilty.

Last week, Anthony B. Mertz was found guilty on all counts of aggravated criminal sexual assault, first-degree murder and home invasion charges. He was declared eligible for the death penalty during Friday's sentencing hearings. Attorneys will continue presenting their cases Tuesday.

Mertz:

Probation terms were violated with handgun ownership

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Mertz bought a 9 millimeter handgun from another building service worker while working as a similar position at Lantz Arena.

The prosecution made a judicial notice that Mertz was still on probation for a battery charge in 2000 and was not allowed to own a firearm or dangerous weapon.

The prosecution also called Mertz's former supervisor at Lantz Arena, Bobby Livingston, to testify about Mertz's thoughts about the U.S. government.

During conversations they had while working, Mertz told Livingston he was sympathetic to the victims of Waco and Ruby Ridge, situations in which the government intervened with citizens who rebelled against the workings of society.

Livingston also found the gun

Mertz hid in the ceiling tile of the Building Service Worker equipment room the day of the murder, after a co-worker told him she had seen Mertz standing on the sink in the equipment room doing something up high.

The other student workers in Lantz Arena would tell Livingston they were afraid of Mertz, but Livingston said he did not know why.

As an employee, Livingston said he never had any problems with Mertz.

"Anthony Mertz is the best student worker I ever had," Livingston said.

Cathy Boyer testified for a second time that while living in the same apartment building as Mertz she awakened one night to find Mertz sitting in her living room watching television although he was not an invited guest.

Boyer also said Mertz opened her security door for her with a knife when she lent her keys to a friend who was visiting her.

The Coles County Courthouse is closed on Monday for President's Day, but the sentencing hearing will resume at 9 a.m. Tuesday in Courtroom 1.

Raises:

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

and staff compensation and distance education as primary issues during the 11 months of negotiations.

The tentative agreement primarily includes provisions for Unit B or non-tenured faculty, intellectual property rights, compensation, including supplemental, merit pay, distance education, workload, faulty evaluation methods, sabbatical issues and benefits.

The issues

No salary increase was offered this year in the four-year contract, but a one-time bonus equal to a 1.5 percent salary increase will be offered if there is no state rescission by mid-May. The bonus will be equal to 1 percent if the rescission is less than \$500,000.

However, in the second, third and fourth years of the contract salaries will be raised 2, 2.5 or 3 percent above state appropriations, according to the tentative contract agreement.

The contract gives Unit B faculty, including Academic Support Professionals, more money for salaries, said UPI chief negotiator Charles Delman.

It also adds "superior ranking and reconsideration requests in

(the) evaluation process.

Before the current tentative agreement, there were no specific university guidelines for how income can be distributed for patent ownership between the university and faculty.

Eastern's Board of Trustees' policy dictates the "appropriate share" be given to the "inventor or discoverer."

The tentative agreement specifies no less than 50 percent of the net fees and royalty be given to the inventor.

Delman said the administration partly focused on summer school costs during negotiations.

"From the beginning of negotiations, cutting summer school costs was key to administration," he said.

The agreement says compensation will be remain at about 33 percent per credit unit of what would be their monthly salary.

For summer salaries to increase, cuts would have to be made in other areas of the university budget, said Bob Wayland, director of employee and labor relations.

"It was not specifically that we wanted to cut summer school costs," he said. "If (the UPI) wanted an increase this year it was going to have to come from other costs."

The agreement also specifies \$80,000 will be given to summer research awards, Delman said.

Before the proposed contract, the administration was pushing for merit pay to be given out at the discretion of department chairs, the UPI said.

The agreement now only says Unit B faculty merit pay is increased to \$35 per month.

Distance education has never appeared on the contract before, and faculty members still do not have the option of turning down teaching a distance learning course, Delman said.

"Unfortunately, we were not able to get the administration to agree that distance education is voluntary," Delman said. "For them, it was really an authority issue."

Wayland agreed expectations have not changed.

"We've said all along this is no different than teaching courses on campus. Administration has the right to assign courses to qualified faculty members," Wayland said. "We consider it a management right."

While a lot of courses cannot practically be taught through a distance environment, there are now about 35 distance learning courses, he said.

Workload for full-time faculty will remain at 18 to 24 credit units per academic year workload.

Unit B faculty with 18 or more credit units and with six or fewer for one semester, can still be con-

sidered part-time for that semester, according to the agreement.

Probationary faculty, those who have not reached tenure, cannot teach more than 21 credit units each academic year.

"In making these workload adjustments, we felt we should lead with our non-tenured faculty," Delman said.

Another issue in negotiations was the possibility of tenure faculty to undergo an evaluation by the department chair every three years.

Right now, faculty are encouraged to submit a self-evaluation to the chair for review every year.

The proposed agreement only cites provisions for probationary faculty to "restore the third-year evaluation as required instead of optional."

The mandatory evaluation for the tenure-track faculty was dropped a few years ago, Wayland said.

"They have to show progress as far as research, teaching and service," he said.

Tenure-track faculty undergo a six-year probational period before they can be granted tenure.

A benefit under the settlement removed the top on non-compensable employee sick leave days.

It's over

The contract received applause at the UPI meeting Thursday.

"The surprise to me was how excellent this contract seems to be," said journalism professor Mary Wohlrabe.

Wohlrabe said the contract renewed her faith in the university's administration.

"This contract says to me the administration does value teaching," she said.

"I'm back believing faculty are valued."

The contract does not signify a gain or loss by either side involved in negotiations, Wayland said.

"I don't really see any gains or losses by either party. We were finally able to peacefully resolve all of our issues," he said. "We have a contract that's in effect at least for another 3 1/2 years. It did restore some labor peace to the campus."

Public higher education has faced "turmoil" this year, Radavich said in press release Friday.

He said he hopes the agreement can bring, "some stability so our universities can continue to prepare students to become knowledgeable and productive citizens and leaders of the future."

If faculty ratify the tentative agreement, the BOT must approve the contract.

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Coroner's jury rules that body-slam death was accident

LACON (AP) — A Marshall County coroner's jury has ruled that the body-slaming death of a man after a fight on New Year's Eve was accidental.

"I've wrestled with my brother all my life. I'd body-slam him, he'd body-slam me," juror Craig Kingen of Lacon said after the coroner's jury inquest. "We never knew anything like this could happen."

Ryan Majercin suffered sudden heart stoppage after he was slammed to the floor twice by his roommate, Joseph Stombaugh, a Marshall County jury was told Friday during a coroner's inquest. The incident occurred in the rural Wenona rental home the two shared with another man.

Stombaugh, 21, faces criminal charges in Majercin's death.

A Marshall County grand jury

added a murder charge last month against Stombaugh, who had been accused of involuntary manslaughter. Stombaugh is accused of killing Majercin, 21, by throwing him to the floor "twice in succession" after a birthday celebration at an area strip club.

Stombaugh's attorney, Kevin Sullivan, sounded hopeful after the coroner's jury's decision.

"I would think the prosecution would want to rethink whether they want to try this case as first-degree murder."

But while the jury ruled that Majercin's death was accidental, Marshall County State's Attorney Donald Knuckey said he doesn't believe the finding will effect his prosecution of Stombaugh.



Knuckey explained that the coroner's jury might not have had all the information and probably did not interpret what information it did have in the way a trial jury would in deciding guilt or innocence.

"The standards for criminal law are different from those for coroner's juries," Knuckey said.

Stombaugh remains in the Marshall County Jail while awaiting a trial set for late April.

Moseley-Braun visits state before getting into major race

MANCHESTER, N.H. (AP) — Former Illinois Sen. Carol Moseley-Braun brought her fledgling presidential campaign to New Hampshire on Sunday and was greeted by a small group of voters that wanted to show support for any woman running for major office.

"I was here to support the courage it takes for a woman to come out and run for a major office," said state Sen. Sylvia Larsen, a Concord Democrat who supports U.S. Sen. John Kerry, D-Massachusetts. "It's important for someone to come out and break those glass ceilings."

Larsen was among about 15 people — and a like number of media — who heard Moseley-Braun speak for about 40 minutes, mostly about the need for women to be involved in politics.

"I am here to say we want them to take the 'men-only' sign off the White House door," she said. "I hope to inspire this generation to put a woman in our nation's highest office, but it will take a lot of effort to change the climate of opinion and make it so."

Moseley-Braun, 55, made her first political visit to the state with the earliest presidential primary after visiting Saturday in Iowa, the state with the earliest presidential caucuses.

On Monday, she planned to be in South Carolina, another early primary state, before going to Washington to announce formation of an exploratory committee to seek the Democratic nomination.

"I have the energy, the experience and the vision to take our country to our next level," she said.

"I've run for major office before, but I'm a budget deficit hawk and a peace dove, so the question is whether the community at large is interested in that combination."

In Iowa, she said if the American people don't respond to her message, she probably would quit the race next fall and support the Democratic nominee.

Bob Hammon, and his wife, Paige, turned out with their three young daughters to hear Moseley-Braun at a downtown hotel.

"I want my daughters to see two

things in their lives: One is a woman president and the other is for the Red Sox to win the World Series," Hammon quipped before turning more serious.

"I like the fact that there is a woman in the race, and I like her experience in dealing with the federal budget and fiscal responsibility," he said.

But like the others in attendance, he said he had not decided who he would support in the primary. It was too early to decide, he said.

Kris Moody, who runs the New Hampshire chapter of the National Organization for Woman, called it exciting to see Moseley-Braun in the race.

"We need to see more women out there taking big chances. There should be women running in every race," she said.

NOW endorsed Moseley-Braun in all her past races in Illinois, where she was a state legislator for 10 years before becoming the first black woman to win a Senate seat in 1992. She lost a bid for reelection in 1998, but was named ambassador to New Zealand.

Weather keeps governor out of Tamaroa over weekend

TAMAROA (AP) — Inclement weather kept Gov. Rod Blagojevich from journeying to southern Illinois on Sunday to meet with residents displaced by a train derailment last week, his spokeswoman said.

Cheryle Jackson said they

don't know yet when the trip to Tamaroa will be rescheduled.

A winter storm warning was in effect Sunday for most of southern Illinois because of snow and sleet, according to the National Weather Service.

A Canadian National-Illinois Central freight train derailed Feb. 9 while passing through Tamaroa, spilling hazardous and flammable chemicals. Residents were allowed to return to their homes at intervals during the week.

Spoils system lives on in Illinois despite Supreme Court rulings

CHICAGO (AP) — Illinois wasn't the birthplace of political patronage, but it was supposed to be its final resting place.

Over the past 30 years, the state where politicians turned the practice into an art form prompted three of four major U.S. Supreme Court decisions that severely limit using party loyalty as a litmus test for government jobs and contracts.

Yet an ongoing federal trial involving former Gov. George Ryan's campaign operation indicates that the spoils system continues to thrive in Illinois.

"I don't believe that patronage has ever died," said Harvey

Grossman, a Chicago lawyer who argued one of the Supreme Court cases. "Politics has such a tainted reputation in this state that people just believe that it's part and parcel of the process."

Last month, federal prosecutors released a 555-page list that Ryan's chief of staff, Scott Fawell, kept during the 1990s to record alleged favors including state jobs, raises, promotions and contracts.

It is unclear whether the 10,000 favors described on the list violate the court's patronage rulings. In the decades since the first of the decisions, few lawyers have taken on

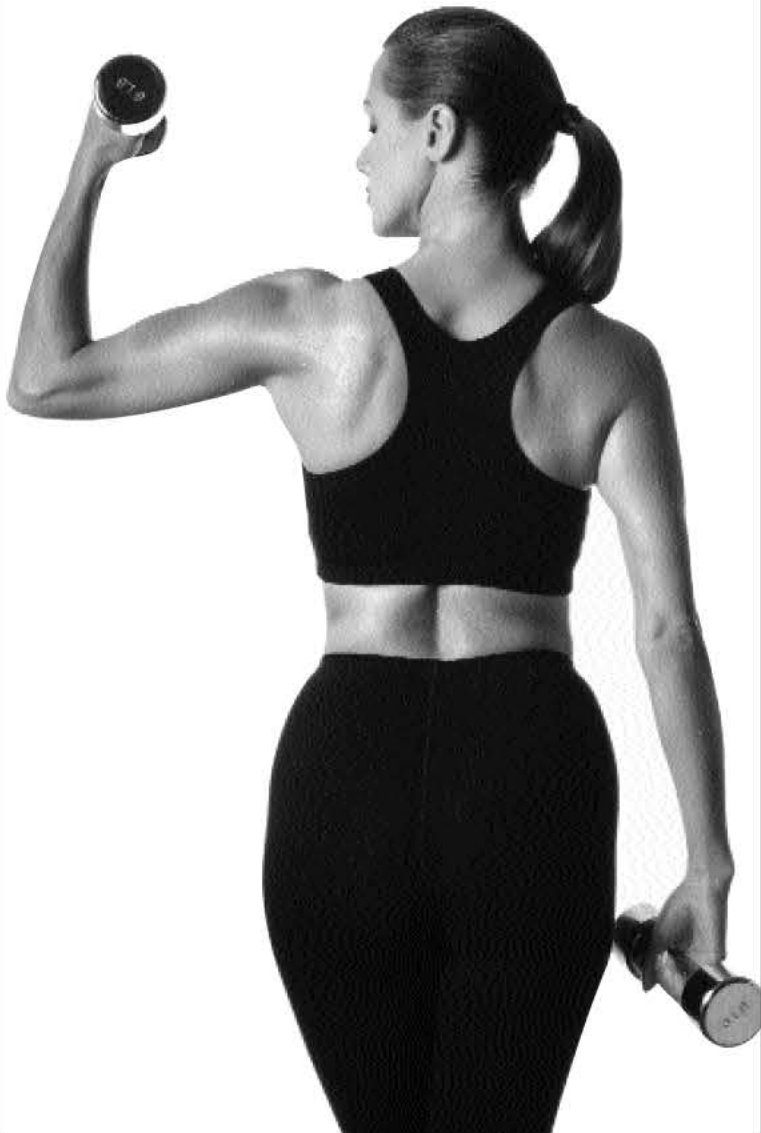
patronage cases — the only real mechanism for enforcement.

Yet the list offers a rare peek at the extent of political horse trading in the state. Congressmen, Republican officials and media heavyweights are listed as seeking favors as small as a vanity license plate. Lawyers for Fawell, who is on trial for racketeering, argue he did nothing out of the ordinary for Illinois politics. Prosecutors say he crossed the line by diverting state workers and equipment for political use. Ryan has not been charged.

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42Future attorney's hurdle: Abbr.

43Appropriate

46U.S. or Can. money

47Like an oboe's sound

48Indication of opportunity

53Plant life

54Quark's place

55Place to retire

58Jazz's Fitzgerald

59See 17-Across

62Like some dorms

63Patronized, as a restaurant

64Starting from

65It ebbs and flows

66Tiny poker stake

67Having an angle

DOWN

1Turkish title

2Does and bucks

3Object of loathing

4Debussy's "La ___

5True's partner

6Painter Matisse

7Rock's ___ John

8Stadium sound

9Watch closely

10Blouse accompanier

11Show, as plans

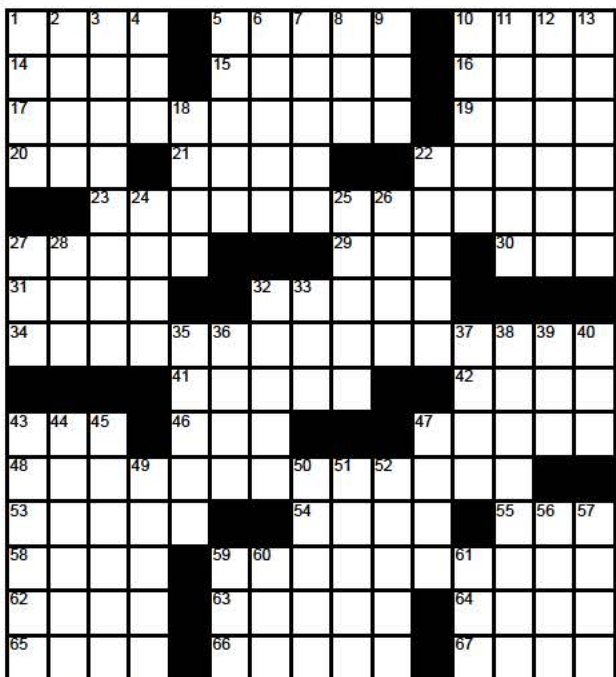
12With precision

13Tamed

18Gets some color, as they say

ANSWER TO TODAY'S PUZZLE

INERBANNED EDITION
JOSAVIAVEA DEOD
EAVLHGIAYLT
BEDWOLVATRAOTFL
ROODEHINILOOF
ADEERETODTAP
IVSTESION
SDNOTCEHINIDVEH
AVASSIWESE
EATRNOSSEAVE
TTEHINIONVH
LIERBOROEVJRV
NVAIL EHNILRVEH
ENNKAVTERENEG
ENNSEREHLWADV



Puzzle by Sarah Keller

22Gem mineral

24Like the Sahara

25"... off the wizard"

261950's Communist-hunting grp.

27Cigarette's end

28Two-finger sign

32Leaning

33Sounds from a librarian

35Delhi's land

36It follows 11

37Butter alter-native

38Computer company's customers

39Father

40Where hogs wallow

43Have an influence on

44Hoi ___

45Drove (along)

47Frolic

49Give and take?

50Broadway actress Uta

51Wharton's "___ Frome"

52Daft

56Supply-and-demand subj.

57Skillful

59Perform like Salt-N-Pepa

60Suffix with Manhattan

61Place for beakers

Churches, airports close as snowstorm stretches across states

One of the East's worst storms of the season blew heavy snow along the Ohio Valley and into the mid-Atlantic states Sunday, shutting down two major airports and canceling church services. More than 3 feet of snow was possible in the mountains and other areas had floods and mudslides.

At least five deaths had been blamed on the weather since snow burst across the Plains on Friday and Saturday.

"This is looking like the largest storm this year, and it may be one of the top five in our recorded history," said Lora Rakowski of Maryland's Highway Administration. "You name a place,

they've got snow — and a lot of it."

The snow was part of a huge storm system that also produced thunderstorms in the South, including an early morning tornado that damaged a house in northern Florida.

In Tennessee, where more than 7 inches of rain fell earlier, a mudslide early Sunday destroyed an apartment building outside Knoxville, chasing out several dozen tenants. One man was hospitalized in serious condition, the Knox County sheriff's office said.

West Virginia Gov. Bob Wise declared a state of emergency as his state had 20 inches of snow in the north, floods that blocked roads

in the south and ice elsewhere. Some 27,000 customers were without power. Williamson closed its flood wall as the Tug Fork River rose toward a crest of up to 3 feet above flood stage.

Radar showed snow falling Sunday from Missouri to New Jersey, and flakes fell at a rate of up to 4 inches an hour in parts of Maryland. Forecasts ranged from a foot of snow by late Monday in Rhode Island and Massachusetts to 20 inches in New Jersey and 2 feet in Maryland and northern Virginia.

The National Weather Service forecast up to 3 feet of snow in West Virginia's most mountainous counties.

Greg Hannigan of Hagerstown, Md., trekked through the snow to church Sunday and found he was the only one there. "When Catholics don't show up for church, you know it's a bad storm," he said.

The Washington area's Baltimore-Washington International and Reagan National airports closed until further notice. Dulles International Airport had just one runway open during the afternoon. About three-quarters of flights at Philadelphia International Airport were canceled, spokesman Mark Pesce said.

Amtrak suspended service between Washington and Richmond, Va., said spokesman Dan Stessel.

Monuments and museums in



Washington were closed, and President Bush's usual helicopter ride to the White House from Camp David was replaced by a 2 1/2-hour drive on snow-covered roads.

New Jersey Gov. James McGreevey declared a state of emergency, giving state police authority to close highways, but spokesman Micah Rasmussen said there were no immediate closures.

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BASEBALL

Panthers drop two games at Arkansas

By Matt Meinheit
SPORTS EDITOR

The weather might have saved Eastern from taking its third loss of the season Sunday.

After losing back-to-back games to Arkansas, the Panthers' third game of the season was canceled after Fayetteville, Ark. was hit with a snowstorm.

The Razorbacks (3-0) crushed the Panthers Saturday in a 17-3 decision.

After Eastern scored three runs to open the game, Arkansas unloaded on Eastern starting pitcher junior right-hander Andy Kuntz. The Razorbacks turned Kuntz 35 pitches into nine runs (eight earned) off five hits and a pair of walks.

Freshman right-hander Mike Budde got the Panthers first out of the first inning, but after he allowed an inherited runner to score and let two more Razorbacks round the

bases.

Budde fared relatively well in the next three innings, giving up three more runs (two earned). He finished the game with five runs allowed off four hits.

Eastern head coach Jim Schmitz gave the ball to another freshman, Mike Bouchez, to start the fifth inning. The Razorbacks knocked in two more runs during Bouchez's first inning of work, but Bouchez recovered to pitch back-to-back scoreless innings.

Trailing by 13 going into the bottom of the eighth, Schmitz opted to put his starting third baseman, senior Aaron Shelbourne, on the mound.

Shelbourne threw 32 pitches in one inning of work allowing one earned run off two hits and pair of walks. But he did manage to record all of the outs by himself, recording three strikeouts in the frame.

At the plate, Eastern collected

eight hits and four walks, but could not score after the first inning.

Eastern head coach Jim Schmitz said he wanted to give several people chances to play.

"Early on, you want to give everyone a chance," Schmitz said.

In the opening frame, junior shortstop Kyle Haines singled with one out and senior designated hitter Bret Pignatiello followed with his first homerun of the year. Last year, Pignatiello led the team in home-runs with 14.

Two batters later, Shelbourne hit a solo shot to give the Panthers their third and final run of the game.

The day before, Eastern dropped its season opener 5-1.

Eastern lead for two and a half innings after senior right fielder Kirk Walters hit a solo homerun to lead off the second inning.

"On Friday, I was happy with the way the bats came out; they were very aggressive," Schmitz.

Starting pitcher senior right-hander Damon White yielded two hits in three innings of shutout work.

Sophomore Jason Pinnell struggled after replacing White in the fourth by allowing a pair of Razorback runs.

Pinnell kept Arkansas scoreless for his last two innings of work before freshman southpaw Kirk Miller relieved him to start the seventh inning. Miller allowed three earned runs off a pair of hits and three walks.

Haines, a junior college transfer, provided Eastern with half of the team's hits in his first game as a Panther with a pair of singles.

"There are some good things there," Schmitz said. "It's just that one inning was a disaster."

Eastern travels to Birmingham, Ala. next week to play a three games. The Panthers face Alabama-Birmingham Feb. 28, Kentucky March 1 and Marshall March 2.

Matchup breakdown



1, 3
Eastern
Illinois
(0-2)

5, 17
Tennessee-
Martin
(3-0)

FRIDAY	123	456	789	-	R	H	E
EASTERN:	010	000	000	-	1	4	0
ARKANSAS:	000	200	30X	-	5	9	0

PITCHERS:		IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO
Eastern:							
D. White		3.0	2	0	0	0	1
J. Pinnell		3.0	4	2	2	1	2
K. Miller		1.0	2	3	3	3	1
N. Stone		1.0	1	0	0	1	0
Arkansas:		IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO
C. Brannon		4.0	2	1	1	1	3
C. Boyce		3.0	1	0	0	1	4
C. Hall		2.0	1	0	0	1	1

Win - Boyce (1-0). Loss - Pinnell (0-1). Save - None. WP - Miller. HBP - White; Pinnell; Boyce; Stone. BK - Boyce. Inherited runners/scored; None.

SATURDAY	123	456	789	-	R	H	E
EASTERN:	300	000	000	-	3	8	4
ARKANSAS:	(11)12	020	01X	-	17	15	3

PITCHERS:		IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO
Eastern:							
A. Kuntz		0.1	5	9	8	2	0
M. Budde		3.2	4	5	4	4	0
M. Bouchez		3.0	4	2	2	2	4
A. Shelbourne		1.0	2	1	1	2	5
Arkansas:		IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO
S. Roehl		3.0	3	3	3	1	3
K. Pomeroy		3.0	2	0	0	2	5
J. Merryman		1.0	2	0	0	0	0
J. Findley		1.0	1	0	0	0	3
R. Fox		1.0	0	0	0	1	2

Win - Pomeroy (1-0). Loss - Kuntz (0-1). Save - None. WP - Shelbourne 2(2); Budde (1). HBP - Roehl 2; Kuntz; Budde. Inherited runners/scored; Budde 1/1.

Late:

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 12

Senior guard Craig Lewis had a near double-double with 12 points, eight assists and six rebounds.

The Skyhawks also had their scoring spread through their lineup with four players reaching double figures. Forward J.C. Howe went on a second-half tear to finish the night with 21 points on 10-of-15 shooting to lead Martin.

Eastern shot 54.7 percent from the field compared to Martin's 48.6. The Panthers were hot from behind the three-point line by shooting 57.9 percent.

The Panthers were stricken by the injury bug again when Gomes suffered a dislocated finger to his non-shooting hand with 11 minutes remaining in the second half. X-rays will be taken to make sure there is no more damage to the finger.

The Panthers come back to Lantz Thursday to what could be the last career games for Eastern's five seniors including the Panthers' all-time leading scorer Domercant.

Eastern still has hopes of securing the fourth spot in the conference, but will need to finish the season strong and get help from other teams.

"There's some hope now," Samuels said. "Obviously we feel good with this win and are going to go home with some confidence."

Matchup breakdown



85
Eastern
Illinois
(12-13, 7-6)

84
Tennessee-
Martin
(13-11, 6-7)

	FG/FGA	POINTS
EASTERN: 51-34 - 85		
H. Domercant	7-12	24
J. Reynolds	5-9	15
C. Lewis	5-11	12
J. Gomes	4-7	11
J. Mackinson	4-7	10
TENNESSEE-MARTIN: 42-42 - 84		
J. Howe	10-15	21
J. Walker	7-12	20
J. Kelly	6-12	14
E. Bullock	5-13	13
O. Egbe	4-15	9

Meinheit:

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 12

far behind with a 10-2 record and SEMO is in third at 9-3.

This leaves one spot left for a home tournament game and four teams with a chance to claim it. Eastern is among those four teams, but does not have great odds of winning it.

The 5-18, 4-8 Panthers will have to win three of their last four games and Morehead and Tennessee-Martin would have to lose all four of their remaining games for Eastern to overtake them.

The good news for the Panthers is they have an excellent chance to win three games. They play the worst two teams in the conference, Murray 1-10 and Tennessee State 2-10. The Panthers also play Tech, who they are tied with in the conference standings and Eastern beat earlier this season. The only game Eastern is at a decisive disadvantage in is when they play Austin Peay Thursday, but at least they will have home court advantage.

March Madness is quickly approaching and Charleston might get to experience some of it first hand if the scores end up in the Panthers favor in the next couple of weeks.

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TRACK

Track teams enjoy strong individual showings at SIU

By Michael Gilbert
STAFF WRITER

The Eastern men's and women's indoor track and field teams traveled to Carbondale, Ill., this weekend to compete with 20 other schools in the USA Track and Field Open.

The USA Track and Field Open, which was held on the campus of Southern Illinois University, is not a team scored event, but the Panthers did have impressive individual performances by both the men and the women.

The men didn't have any individual winners, but several runners finished near the top of the leader board in many events.

In the 800-meter run the Panthers had five finishers in the top 15. Leading the charge was junior Jermaine Jones. The Belleville native finished fifth with a time of 1:58.15, which was fewer than four seconds off the winning time of 1:54.63.

Jones narrowly finished ahead of teammate Spencer Smith. Smith, a senior from Canton, Ohio finished seventh at 1:58.26. Freshman Zach Fairfield (1:58.86) had a strong showing finishing ninth. Freshman Brad Runnion (1:59.32) and junior Kevin Atkins (2:01.54) finished in the top 15 at 11th and 13th respectively.

Sophomore Roger Driver continued his impressive performances by finishing 10th in the 200-meter run. Driver finished with a time of 22.81, just seven-hundredths of a second off Southern Illinois' Marin Primo's winning time.

Driver has been a surprise star for the Panthers this season. He has been asked to bring intensity and become a leader to fill the void left by two-time Ohio Valley Conference Athlete of the Year Jarrod Macklin who has been out of action due to an injury.

According to head coach Tom

"(Driver) has been a spark for us this year."

—Tom Akers

Akers, Driver has exceeded the goals set by the coaching staff this year.

"(Driver) has been a spark for us this year," he said. "I heard about the intense competitiveness that he had in high school and thought he could be an immediate impact player for us."

Driver, along with Jones, Smith and Nick Scafiezzo finished in third place in the 4x400-meter relay with a time of 3:21.14. The Panthers just beat out the host Salukis who finished fourth in the event.

Also in the mix for the 55-meter dash title was senior sprinter James Benson. His time of 6.58 was good enough for eighth-place. Benson is no stranger to winning; he has the third best time in Panther history in the 60-meter run and the eighth fastest in the 100-meter.

On the women's side, Angie Simone was the lone Panther first-place finisher on the day. The sophomore distance runner won the 5,000-meter run in a time of 18:04.38. Simone's time was more than 20 seconds ahead of the second-place finisher, Jackie Wachsman of Vanderbilt.

In the 3,000-meter run, the Panthers received a nice showing from freshman Jessica Peach. Peach finished eighth on the run, but had the best finish by a freshman.

Both the men and women will be in action this Friday as the Panthers host the Friday Night Special in Lantz Fieldhouse. The meet will begin at 2:30 p.m.

Missed:

Skyhawks hit 18-of-20 from the free throw line

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 12

turnover and causing Eastern to foul her when she went up for a lay-up.

Watson made the lay-up and the free throw to add to the Skyhawk lead of 51-48.

Eastern was able to come back and lead by one with 2:19 left in the game making the score 54-53.

Watson made another free throw to win back the lead and the Skyhawks didn't lose the lead for the rest of the game.

"We didn't finish them off when we had the chance," Wunder said.

One of the problems plaguing the Panthers was their multitude of fouls. The personal fouls against Eastern made a difference in how the game played out

for the Panthers. Starters junior forward Lauren Dally and senior center Brooke Gossett were whistled for four fouls each.

As a whole, the Panthers racked up a total of 17 fouls for the game. The Skyhawks took advantage of the plethora of fouls by converting on 18 of their 20 free throw attempts. They made 16-of-16 foul shots in the second half.

Eastern's leading scorers were freshmen guard Megan Sparks and Dally. Sparks finished the game with 12 points and Dally ended the game with 11 points.

"It is another lesson on how to win on the road," Wunder said.

Matchup breakdown



58 Eastern Illinois (5-18, 4-8) at 62 Tennessee-Martin (9-14, 6-6)

	FG/FGA	POINTS
EASTERN: 25-33 - 58		
M. Sparks	5-11	12
L. Dailey	5-11	11
K. Bloemer	2-6	8
A. Kearney	2-4	7
Two players tied with 6		
TENNESSEE - MARTIN: 21-41 - 62		
J. Young	8-12	23
A. Watson	5-14	20
T. Thomas	3-6	8
D. Page	3-5	7
Two player tied with 2		

Waltrip takes Daytona 500

DAYTONA BEACH, Fla. (AP) - Michael Waltrip is the new master of Daytona. He doesn't win anywhere else.

It's a burden well worth bearing - being the best driver in NASCAR's biggest race, at stock-car racing's most famous track.

Under dark clouds, Waltrip raced past leader Jimmie Johnson after a restart on lap 106 Sunday to win the rain-shortened Daytona 500 for the second time in three years.

Counting last year's Pepsi 400, he has three victories in the last five races at Daytona International Speedway. Those are the only ones in his 535 career starts.

"It's just amazing that we put that car in the front and then it started raining," Waltrip said. "Today, I really wanted some rain, and I got it."

Pre-race favorite Dale Earnhardt Jr., done in by a dead battery, helped his friend and teammate take the lead on the last green-flag lap.

"I had a plan," Waltrip said. "I knew what I had to do. I had to get behind Junior. I did that and I was able to squeeze out the win."

"The victory in July was the best thing in the world, but this is the Daytona 500."

Waltrip's first career Winston Cup victory came here in 2001, but his joy was wiped away by the fatal last-lap crash of Dale Earnhardt Sr., his boss and friend.

On Sunday, Waltrip followed Earnhardt Jr., who had been lapped, past Johnson in a tight two-car draft.

As the leaders neared the finish line, defending champion Ward Burton spun and slammed into the fourth-turn wall, bringing out the fifth caution flag of the day.

Moments later, rain fell for the second time, and cars were stopped on pit road to wait it out after completing 109 of 200 laps.

After a little more than an hour, NASCAR declared Waltrip the winner. As anticlimactic as the triumph might have been, his team celebrated in a garage 100 yards from Victory Lane.



Waltrip's wife, Buffy, and Earnhardt's widow, Teresa, hugged. Waltrip lifted the trophy high above his head as the crew sprayed beer and champagne all over him.

Waltrip has practically owned Daytona's famed 2 1/2-mile oval the past few seasons.

He finished second to Earnhardt Jr. in the 2001 Pepsi 400 and was fifth in last year's 500 after winning a qualifying race.

Three-time Winston Cup champion Darrell Waltrip's younger brother finally got to fully enjoy a victory in July, taking that year's Pepsi race.

At the 500, the tandem of Waltrip and Earnhardt Jr. dominated.

Junior, the heavy favorite after winning three preliminary races in eight days, led 22 laps and was still out front when he started having electrical problems. He finally slowed on lap 88 and drove slowly into the pits the next time around. He lost two laps - and his shot at victory.

Waltrip then became the man to beat. He wound up leading three times for a total of 68 laps, including the final four.

Kurt Busch finished second, followed by Johnson and Kevin Harvick. Mark Martin, last year's series runner-up, was fifth, with Robby Gordon sixth and defending Winston Cup champion Tony Stewart seventh.

Officials moved up the start of the race about 20 minutes to try to get it in before the rain.

Pole-winner Jeff Green was shuffled back to ninth

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SPORTS

Panther sports calendar

MONDAY	Women's Bball at Murray State	7 p.m.
THURSDAY	Women's Bball vs. Austin Peay	5:15 p.m. Lantz Arena
	Men's Bball vs. Austin Peay	7:10 p.m. Lantz Arena
FRIDAY	M/W Track Friday Night Special	Lantz Arena
SATURDAY	Wrestling at Purdue	1 p.m.

LONG SHOT



Matt Meinheit
SPORTS EDITOR

Closing in on March Madness

February 14 is a day most couples are thinking about romance and love, but at the same time, most college basketball teams are thinking about their position in the standings as March Madness approaches.

Eastern is no exception. Both men's and women's team are in the middle of the conference race. Going into Thursday and Saturday's Ohio Valley Conference games, both Panther squads had chances to move up in the standings.

But Murray State had other ideas for the men's team. Eastern came into the game sitting in fourth place, a half game ahead of the Racers. The Racers followed their come-from-behind win at Lantz Arena earlier this season with a blowout over the Panthers at home. The last time Eastern played at the Regional Special Events Center, the Racers obliterated the Panthers 103-56.

The Panthers were not blown out of the game by 47 points. Instead, they were handily defeated by 19. Either way, they still lost and fell in the standings.

A narrow defeat of the University of Tennessee-Martin kept the Panthers from falling even further in the standings. Senior guard Henry Domercant showed just how clutch he was by nailing down a free throw in the closing seconds of the game to give the Panthers a one-point 85-84 win.

The Panthers fell down a spot in the OVC rankings to fifth, but stand just half a game away from Murray and Tennessee Tech. Odds are Eastern could fall even further in the standings. Their next game is against second place Austin Peay, who has lost just two conference games this season and won two games this week to lock up a home game in the first round of the OVC Tournament.

But the Panthers will play the Governors in Lantz Arena, an advantage helping the Panthers defeat first place Morehead State last week.

Eastern's next game is a gimme. The Panthers will play a troubled Tennessee State team with only two wins in 23 games and a 0-12 OVC record.

Eastern's final standings will come down to the final game of the regular season when they face off with Tech at Cookeville, Tenn.

The status quo was maintained in OVC women's basketball this weekend. No one moved up or fell in the standings. Of the six women's games played in the OVC this weekend, only one road team won. Southeast Missouri defeated last place Murray State Saturday.

The women's race is a little less exciting than the men's. Preseason favorite Austin Peay is undefeated in conference play and sits atop the standings. Eastern Kentucky is not

MEN'S BASKETBALL

Late free throw saves Panthers

◆ Domercant hits free throw with 29 seconds remaining to seal victory

By Matt Williams
ASSOCIATE SPORTS EDITOR

Eastern got exactly what it needed Saturday at Tennessee-Martin – a close win on the road.

Senior guard Henry Domercant hit a free throw with 29 seconds remaining to secure an 85-84 victory over the Skyhawks (13-11, 6-7).

The Panthers (12-13, 7-6) brought the ball up the court with the score tied 84-84 when Domercant was fouled away from the ball by Skyhawk guard Earl Bullock. Domercant hit one of his two free throws for the winning basket.

Eastern head coach Rick Samuels was pleased to see his team step up offensively away from Lantz Arena.

"It was a great offensive game by us," Samuels said. "I thought we executed the ball well tonight and shot the ball as well as we have all season."

Things didn't start as well for the Panthers as they ended. Midway through the first half, the Skyhawks took advantage of an 11-1 run to build a 27-18 lead.

Eastern responded well to end the half and took a 51-42 lead into the locker room.

The Skyhawks spent the entire second half chipping away at the Panthers' lead until they finally tied it up at 74-74 with 5:42 left in the game. The game would be tied five more times before Domercant sank his free throw.

The Skyhawks had one more shot to retake the lead, but Domercant partially blocked Martin's Okechi Egbé's shot with three seconds remaining.

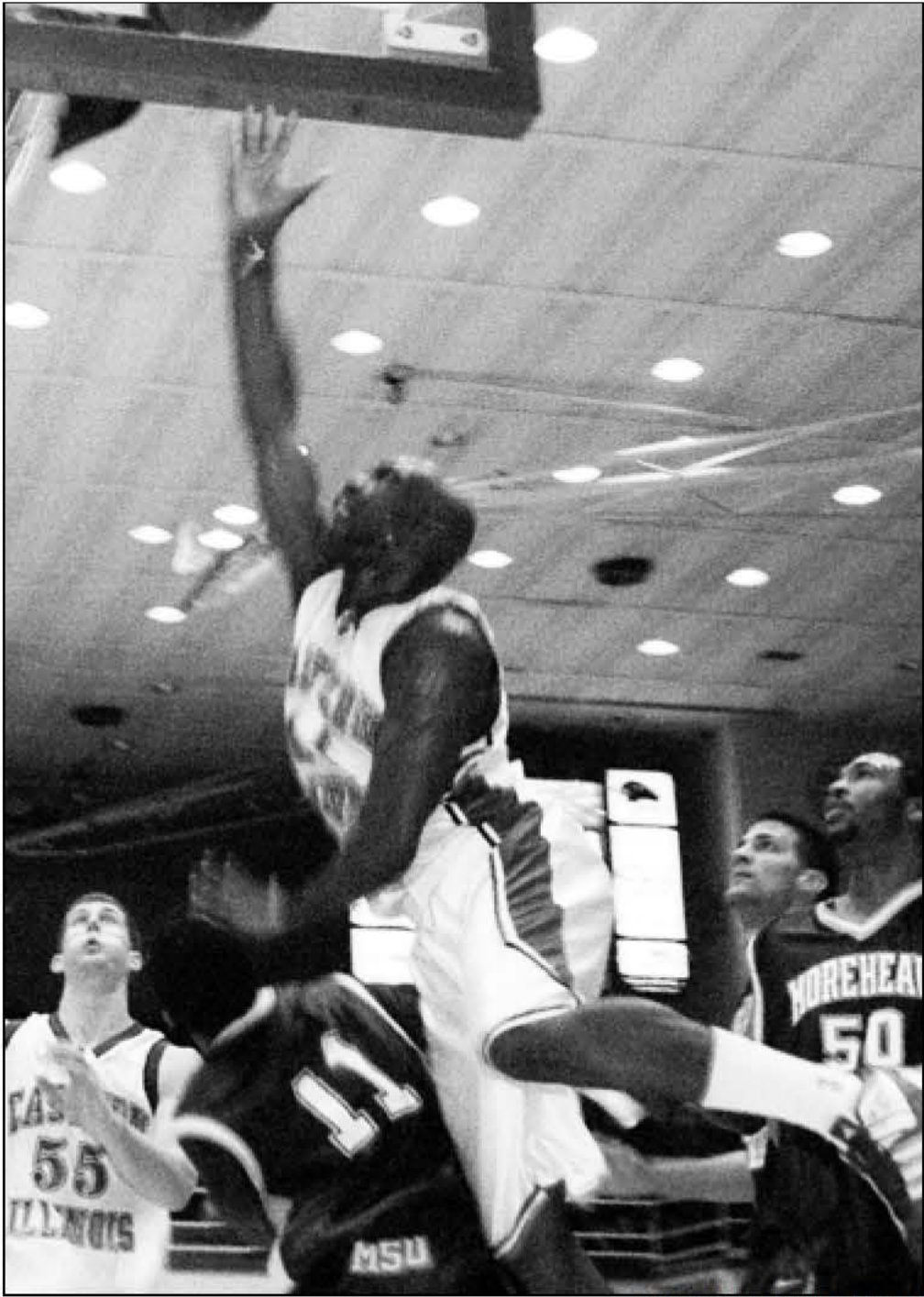
A solid team performance on the offensive end helped lead the way for Eastern. The Panthers finished five players in double digits with Domercant having a game-high 24 points on 7-of-12 shooting from the field.

"I think we could go right down the line here," Samuels said. "Henry had a great game with more than just shooting. (Junior center Jesse Mackinson) was solid, J.R. Reynolds hit some big shots for us and (freshman guard Josh Gomes) was off to a great start early."

Reynolds scored 15 points with 4-of-8 shooting from behind the three-point line while Gomes and Mackinson added 11 and 10 points respectively.

Tennessee-Martin
84

Eastern Panthers
85



COLIN MCAULIFFE/PHOTO EDITOR

Senior guard Henry Domercant flies over Morehead State defenders at Lantz Arena. Domercant had a game-high 24 points on 7-of-12 shooting against Tennessee-Martin on Saturday.

SEE LATE ◆ Page 10

WOMEN'S BASKETBALL

Eastern misses opportunity on road



COLIN MCAULIFFE/PHOTO EDITOR

Senior center Brooke Gossett attempts a layup in a recent home game at Lantz Arena. Gossett and the Panthers could not hang on late in the game as they fell to Tennessee-Martin.

◆ Panthers fail to hold on to second half lead in 62-58 loss to Skyhawks

By Jamie Hussey
STAFF WRITER

Eastern matched or bettered the University of Tennessee-Martin in every offensive category Saturday.

The problem was the Panthers (5-18, 4-8 in the Ohio Valley Conference) were unable to pull out a win against the Skyhawks despite their play in the game. The Skyhawks defeated the Panthers by four by a final score of 62-58.

"A missed opportunity best sums things up," Eastern head coach Linda Wunder said. "The last eight minutes we became tentative on offense and stopped pushing the ball."

The Panthers held the lead for most of the game until there was 4:48 left in the second half.

"(Tennessee-Martin) gained momentum, and the more momentum they got the harder they played and they took advantage of our miscues," Wunder said.

Tennessee-Martin was able to come back from an 11 point deficit in the beginning of the second half with help from junior center Julie Young. Young led the Skyhawks to a tie after making a pair of free throws.

Senior forward Amy Watson helped the Skyhawks regain the lead by scoring off a Panther

Tennessee-Martin
62

Eastern Panthers
58