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Daily Eastern News: April 13, 2007

Eastern Illinois University

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ELECTION | PLATFORMS

Only two positions debated

Kent Ohms and Levi Bulgar vie for student executive vice president

By Matt Hopf
Student Government Reporter

Candidates vying for positions presented their platforms to students Thursday night.

Only two actual debates took place at Thursday’s Student Government debates.

The first debate was between Levi Bulgar and Kent Ohms, the candidates for student executive vice president.

Ohms opened saying that he has the experience and the dedication to lead the Student Action Team and serve the students on the Board of Trustees. He also stressed that the student voice should be separate from the university.

Bulgar emphasized that he has the passion for the job and wants to make a real difference.

Registering students to vote in elections and bringing political candidates to debate on-campus is what Bulgar said he wants to accomplish, if elected.

Both candidates said increased funding from the state is necessary.

Ohms pointed out that the state is not fully funding state mandates.

The state veteran grants are under-funded and the state is offering little money to install sprinklers in the residence halls.

The only other position that was debated was student vice president for business affairs.

Candidates Leah Pietraszewski and Gabriela Garcia explained what they would bring to the position.

Garcia told the audience that she would make sure that the budget would be managed efficiently and effectively. She would also work to make the Student Government more diverse.

Pietraszewski said that she knows how to reach students and wants to show students where their money is going.

The debate between student vice president for student affairs candidates Rich Higginbotham and Crystal Perez was cancelled. Perez did not attend the debate.

Higginbotham said his goals were increasing participation of students for Panther Service Days and creating a freshmen council.

Cole Rogers, candidate for Student Body President, and Alison Kostelich, candidate for student vice president for academic affairs, also spoke.

» SEE TWO, PAGE 5

\$2.5 million donated for the arts

Jan Tarble donation to go toward New and Emerging Artists Program at Eastern

By Nora Maberry
Editor in Chief

The last time Jan Tarble donated money to Eastern it cost her \$14.95 to overnight the check to Eastern President Lou Hencken.

This time, Hencken flew to California to pick up a \$2.5 million check from Tarble.

“The last time she donated money we called her to thank her,” he said.

Tarble asked Hencken if he knew about the \$14.95 it cost her to send the money overnight.

“When I was there the last time I said, ‘you know now that you’re giving me this check, the whole reason I came out here was to save you the \$14.95,’” Hencken said.

The \$2.5 million donation will be used for Eastern’s New and Emerging Artists series, which will bring in artists in creative writing, theater, music and art. The series will include symposia on the creative process. The entire series will allow visiting artists to present master classes.

“We will be able to bring in people with the interest off of this money that we might not otherwise be able to afford, maybe an off-Broadway play,” Hencken said.

Hencken, Jim Johnson, the Dean of the College of Arts and Humanities, and Vaughn Jaenike, dean emeritus of the College of Fine Arts, all traveled to California to collect the check from Tarble.

Hencken said that in order to get bigger gifts from donors, he has to develop a relationship with the person.

“The first time I asked for money from Jan Tarble, it was probably my fourth or fifth time I had seen her,” Hencken said.

» SEE 2.5 MILLION, PAGE 5



KELLY MARIE CREMENT | THE DAILY EASTERN NEWS

Katie Shaughnessy, a junior theater arts major; Lizzie Powers, a sophomore theater arts major; Andrew Sutherland, a senior theater arts major and Brendan Hughes, a sophomore theater arts major, wave to the guests as they leave the Village Theater Wednesday afternoon. Sutherland plays the prince. The Theatre Department’s performance of “Frog Prince” opens tonight at 7 with another performance Saturday at 2 p.m. at the Village Theatre. This is the traditional story of an arrogant prince who is turned into a frog because of his attitude, then returned to his princely self by the kiss of a lovely girl. “This is a fairy tale, but it is suitable for all ages,” said John Oertling, chair of the theatre arts department. “It is a romance story that has a definite moral.”

Candidates answer citizen questions

City council contenders agree on Lake Tract properties, parking around the square

By Stephen Di Benedetto
Senior City Reporter

City Council candidate T.K. Slaughter sat with the other candidates at the City Council forum for the upcoming elections wearing a long sleeve polo shirt and blue jeans.

Candidates Larry Rennels and Jeff Lahr wore slacks, a shirt and a tie.

Rennels and Lahr are running for re-election and Slaughter is running for the first time.

“Most certainly it’s intimidating,” Slaughter said. “But not too intimidating.”

Slaughter, Rennels and Lahr participated in a forum at the Coles County Center of Health Services



JOHN BAILEY | THE DAILY EASTERN NEWS

City Council candidate T.K. Slaughter speaks about what he feels are issues that the City of Charleston needs to address and what he hopes to fix if elected as a city council member.

Thursday night. School board candidates also participated in their own forum afterwards.

Tim Newell is also running

Candidates made opening and closing statements.

“I feel like I can bring something positive to the council,” Slaughter said. “I think I can bring some leadership to the city employees and I think they need it as well.”

Slaughter addressed sidewalks and the number of jobs available to the citizens of Charleston as issues needing improvement.

Citizens wrote the questions that made up the question-answer segment, and the candidates answered approximately eight questions from the mediator.

Two of those questions dealt with the lack of parking around the square.

Rennels and Lahr agreed that parking around the square is a concern that needs to be addressed.

“I believe there is enough parking spots if you consider the outlying lots,” Rennels said. “The problem is people don’t want to walk.”

» SEE QUESTIONS, PAGE 5

Beauty of WebCT in eye of beholder

By **Graham Milldrum**
University Reporter

WebCT is a computer program designed to help professors remain in contact with their classes and update grade reports, but not all professors use the site.

Mike Hoadley, assistant vice president for academic affairs for technology, said that 157 faculty reported using WebCT in the fall semester, and 163 faculty used it in spring.

Eastern has approximately 600 faculty members on campus.

Hoadley said the numbers should be considered as estimates instead of hard, fast figures.

He considers WebCT a teaching tool that professors can choose to use, similar to digital cameras or overheads. He thinks faculty should use it if they think it can help them.

At the Oct. 31 Faculty Senate meeting, members of the Student Senate proposed that professors be required to post students' grades through WebCT or a similar secure program. Sean Anderson, student body president, and Dave Keyes, student vice president for academic affairs, made the proposal. They said that because of the system's security they feel there is no danger of grades being exposed. It would also be more convenient for students to check their grades, they said.

At the Jan. 9 Faculty Senate meeting it was reported that there

had been further discussion with the Student Senate to require faculty to keep their grades on WebCT, but no action was taken.

Any resolution would be a recommendation to the provost who would decide whether or not to act on it.

Hoadley said that it's not his job to force faculty to use the program, but he and his staff are ready and willing to help any faculty member interested in the program.

Bob Jorstad, a geology/geography professor, said, "The Internet should be free and not encumbered by stuff."

He went on to say that while the Internet does have a place, he has no use for it.

Gina Paladino, a graduate assistant, disagrees. She said it is a very useful tool for professors.

She said that whether or not professors use the program depends on how comfortable they are with technology.

History professor Robert Beck uses the program, but said he doesn't use it as much as he could.

He said it has a long set up time, which can be a barrier to using the system. When the system is running he considers it simple to manage and update.

He said it works out well for his classes, since he can put up materials for his courses that used to be held in reserve.

Currently, he doesn't fully use the discussion group options of

the program, which would allow contact between himself and his students outside of class.

He thinks it's easier than creating a Web site, since most of the work is already in place.

While Beck uses WebCT, other professors maintain their own Web sites.

Jim Davis, a geology/geography professor, has a site he edits through Microsoft Word and uploads.

He said it is ample for his purposes, although he doesn't have much of the functionality that WebCT provides, like discussion groups.

He provides past tests, the syllabus, study materials and similar documents through the site.

Because Web sites do not ensure security, students' grades are not posted on them. This means students either have to track their own grades or contact Davis directly.

Hoadley said that the campus will begin updating to WebCT Campus Edition 6 over the summer. Training begins this semester on the new options in this system.

The full transition will not be completed until January of 2008. Throughout the Fall 2007 semester faculty will be trained on the new system and shifted to the new system.

All of their current information will be shifted over to the system. Hoadley said the transition has been seamless in the testing they have done.

Research at Rutgers to monitor visas

(U-WIRE)

NEW BRUNSWICK, N.J. - The Department of Homeland Security coordinated by Rutgers University is funding research at four universities to develop computer technology able to rapidly sift through passports, visas, criminal records, financial transactions, foreign news and any other information obtained by various government agencies, according to a DHS senior research adviser of the program.

These University Affiliate Centers will also research computing methods that can interpret the massive amounts of data and extract suspicious people and plans based on anomalies and suspicious behavior patterns and algorithms, according to University professor Fred Roberts, director of the Rutgers UAC.

But electronic privacy experts like Jim Harper are worried these techniques will cause investigators to look at people who are innocent, law-abiding citizens and have them "be made subject to investigation based on inappropriate hunches."

"Just because a hunch is expressed as a math algorithm, that doesn't make it any more than a hunch," said Harper, director of information studies at The Cato Institute, a libertarian think tank. "In the U.S., when we have such a tradition of freedom, people acting 'abnormal' is not a basis for treating them as suspects."

FRED ROBERTS | DIRECTOR OF UAC

“There are many very important uses of data mining that can improve the lives and well being of all of us, and protect us from natural disasters, emergencies, disease, etc.”

Each data-mining technique can be used for many different homeland security purposes, said Christopher Kelly, spokesperson for DHS. Computing software could find a set of words or combination of words used in messages from known perpetrators of a particular attack, and find out if the pattern is apparent in other messages fed through the software.

The same technique can also be used to look through foreign press to look for areas the United States should be concerned about, according to the DHS researcher, who agreed to provide information in exchange for remaining anonymous.

The Center for Dynamic Data Analysis, the center of research at Rutgers University, opened Feb.26.

The scope of the project extends far beyond sifting through news stories and Web blogs, as originally reported in The Daily Targum, and each of the four UACs at Rutgers University, University of Southern California, University of Illinois, and University of Pittsburgh have

their own separate field of research.

For example, Roberts emphasized Rutgers University will not be working on "sentiment analysis," which is extracting and summarizing information about feelings and beliefs from free text. The center at the University of Pittsburgh emphasizes sentiment analysis research.

Roberts said the research at Rutgers will not use passports, visas or financial information, and researchers will use "make-believe data sets to practice methods." Roberts also emphasized each center's scope of research is expansive and should not be pigeonholed to one specific situation.

"There are many very important uses of data mining that can improve the lives and well being of all of us, and protect us from natural disasters, emergencies, disease, etc.," Roberts said. "Those other uses of data mining are of major importance to the research that is going on at Rutgers."

Rutgers will get \$1 million per year for three years.

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Contact any of the above staff members you believe your information is relevant to at their provided e-mail address.

You may also call 581-7942 or visit the student publications newsroom at 1811 Buzzard Hall.

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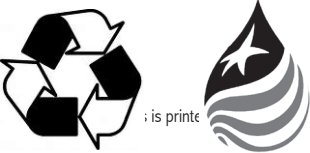
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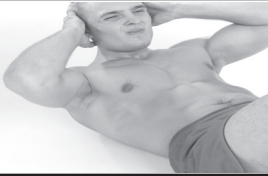
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Sunny



CAMPUS | RESIDENCE HALLS

RHA hears candidates' ideas

By Kevin Kenealy
Online Interactive Editor

Current Student Senate member Leah Pietraszewski and candidate for vice president for business affairs shared her idea of posting bulletin boards containing student fee information that would be visible in residence halls and the union.

She also plans to make student expenditures more transparent. "I'd also like to start a semesterly e-mail that would be sent out to tell you where your money is being spent," Pietraszewski said.

Just as Corryn Moorman, the marketing and advertising chair for Panther Service Day, was at the meeting advertising for help with Panther Service Day next Saturday, so was Student United Party member Rich Higginbotham – just in a different way.

Higginbotham stressed that students get more involved as a whole with the community-oriented day.

WHAT THE CANDIDATES WANT TO DO

» **Leah Pietraszewski – candidate for student vice president for business affairs:** make student expenditures transparent through posting student fees on billboards and e-mails

» **Rich Higginbotham – candidate for student vice president for student affairs:** emphasize community service with activities such as Panther Service Days.

» **Alison Kostelich - candidate for student vice president for academic affairs:** make Eastern more of a student-teacher friendly place; make a cultural awareness class a requirement for graduation.

» **Levi Bulgar– candidate for student executive vice president:** increase voter registration rate on campus and bring more political debates to Eastern.

» **Cole Rogers – candidate for student body president:** improve the campus enviroment; make Eastern a campus that would be memorable for alumni and get more students involved in campus issues.

He pointed out that while there are currently seven organizations that sponsor the day, there are more than 150 organizations on campus. He also expects between 600 and

700 people to attend the day versus the 200 to 300 that do now.

"I liked the fact that he's really trying to push it next year," Moorman said. "This year we didn't

really do it so much because people weren't really aware that we were doing anything. So I like how he's pushing it more."

Cole Rogers, candidate for student body president, was the last to speak from the party and mainly focused on improving the campus environment by adding events such as a bon fire in the South Quad to give students memories after they leave campus.

He also plans to make Eastern a more student-represented university. Jarrod Scherle, current secretary of RHA and future president-elect, said he liked Rogers' ideas about keeping Eastern's traditions and adding some new ones as well.

"I think we made great strides this year with the Blue Crew and sports and things like that," Rogers said. "I think it starts out great here, you know. Everyone goes to the football games and then nobody really goes to the basketball games, and so it's kind of, like, dead."

Student Government elections will be held Monday and Tuesday.

GREEK WEEK | AIRBAND

Contest strives to 'be all it can be'

National Pan-Hellenic Council to participate for the first time in 10 years

By Tearria Ruffin
Campus Reporter

Lambda Chi Alpha worked out a victory to Salt N' Peppas "Push It" and Olivia Newton John's "Let's Get Physical" in 2005.

Sigma Kappa Super Bowl shuffled their winning trophy last March.

This year's Airband competition will push Eastern's Greeks to the limits to strive to "Be All They Can Be."

"Each year, the first-place winners seem to change, so teams should strive to improve their own performance from year to year," said Ingrid McCallister, an Airband committee member and junior elementary education major and member of Delta Zeta.

Since Jan. 28, chapters have been working to prepare for this event three to five days a week.

"As Airband gets closer, the amount of time put forth definitely increases," said Paul Lucas, an Airband committee member and junior business education major. Lucas is also a member of Sigma Nu.

Airband begins Saturday and is a time when all chapters participate and encourage each other as well as others, McCallister said.

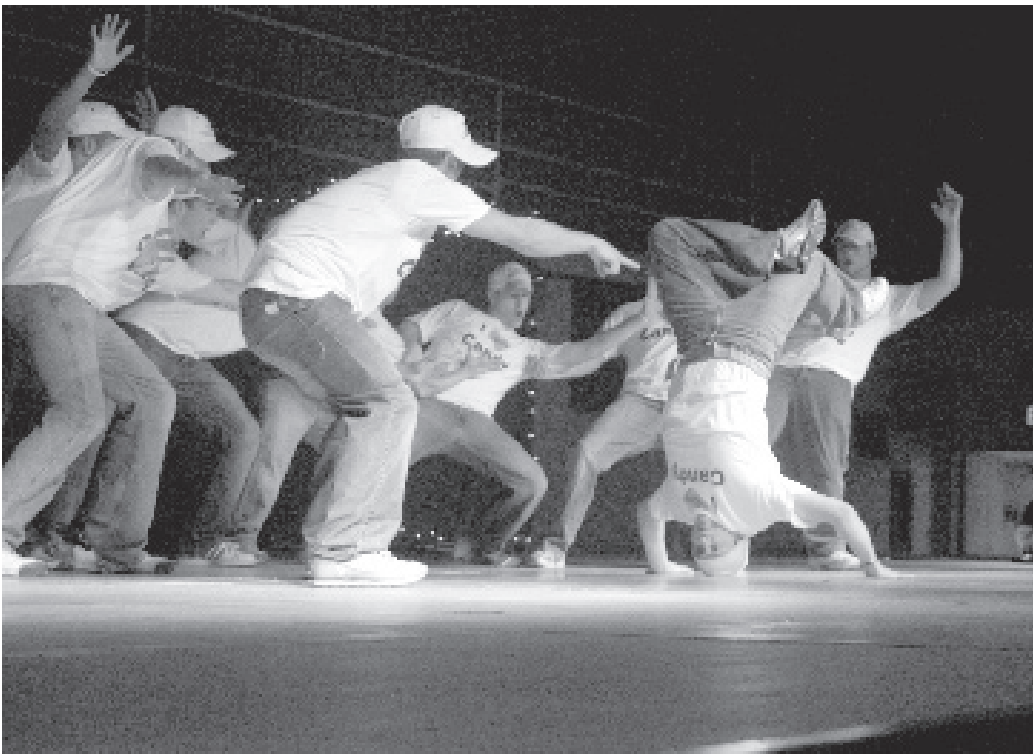
"Like Greek Sing and Tugs, Airband gives each chapter an opportunity to show everyone else what they can do with hard work and effort," Lucas said. "When chapters take time to put together an awesome show with Airband or any event, the level of respect among the chapters is very evident."

Each fraternity and sorority chooses a theme and reflects different styles and personalities.

The songs vary and can include genres such as country, techno, oldies or rock. This year, members of the National Pan-Hellenic Council are expected to participate in the competition.

"We are very excited to have a team from NPHC performing," McCallister said.

Chiquitta Allen, a senior management major, said it has been more than 10 years since NPHC participated in Interfraternity



FILE PHOTO

Members of Sigma Pi Fraternity show off their dance moves during Eastern's Greek Week event Airband dancing to the theme of "Candy" at Lantz Arena last year.

INGRID MCCALLISTER | COMMITTEE MEMBER

"Each year, the first-place winners seem to change, so teams should strive to improve on their own performance from year to year."

Council and Panhellenic Council activities.

"We're trying to bridge the gap and unity among the Greeks on Eastern's campus," Allen said.

Lucas said NPHC will have men and women dancing to songs from the 1990s by artists like Vanilla Ice and Sisqo.

"They have been putting a lot of effort into promoting their organizations over the course of the year," Lucas said. Airband is an event where people definitely want to participate.

Allen said that NPHC would be participating in more IFC and Panhellenic events next year, such as Homecoming.

"As Greeks, we should all be doing stuff together," Allen said.

Airband and coronation is Saturday in Lantz Arena from 7 to 10 p.m. Lucas said that everyone from Greek Life has been working hard and wants the support of not only Greeks students but the rest of Eastern's population.

"Like any event, when you put effort into something, you want to be recognized for it, and everyone has that chance in Greek Week," Lucas said.

"Every year, chapters work extremely hard for everything that goes on in that one week out of the year, and they deserve support from everyone for that dedication."

CAMPUS

FRIDAY

4.13.07

campusbriefs

PRSSA to host "Krawlin for Kids" pizza crawl

» Eastern's Public Relations Student Society of America is hosting a pizza crawl for Charleston's Children's Advocacy Center.

In doing this event, PRSSA hopes to raise funds as well as awareness for the center. PRSSA members and participants will crawl to local pizza places such as Monical's, Domino's, Pizza Hut and Jerry's Pizza. The crawl will take place on Sunday from noon to 4 p.m., and will cost \$10, which pays for a T-shirt and pizza.

For any more information e-mail pizzacrawl@yahoo.com.

Story time in Booth Library to feature Asian Liturature

» On Saturday at 10 a.m., the Ballenger Teachers' Center in Booth Library will hold a story time session that will feature Asian literature.

"Ming-Lo Move the Mountain" and "All the Way to Lhasa" will be read in celebration of Asian Heritage Month. This event is free and open to everyone.

Greek Week Update

» Greek Week kicks off today with BINGO in the South Quad. The BINGO event in conjunction with Fun Games will run from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m., which will include a bags tournament and a chili cheese dog-eating contest.

Also, final weigh-ins for Big and Little Men's Tugs and Women's Tugs is on Saturday. The weigh-ins will go from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. in the Health Service Building.

-Lauren Krull,
Associate News Editor

Percussion concert tonight with guest from Serbia

» The Percussion Ensemble is having a concert tonight with special guest, marimba player Nebojsa Jovan Zivkovic, from Serbia.

"He has performed with numerous orchestras around the world and is constantly sought after as an educator and clinician," said Terence Mayhue, Percussion Ensemble Director.

The ensemble has several performances throughout the year.

"The best part of preparing for the concert has been perfecting the piece three of us will perform with the guest artist," said Ben Hall, senior music education major.

The concert will be tonight at 7:30 in the McAfee South Gym.

-Ashley Mefford, Senior Activities
Reporter

ourmistakes

» Cachet Morris' year was incorrect on Page 1 of Thursday's edition of the Daily Eastern News.

Morris is a junior English major.

The DEN regrets the errors.

COMMENTS | CORRECTIONS | EVENTS

To report any errors, local events or general suggestions for future editions please contact our news editor, **Cathy Bayer**, via:

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VIEWS

FRIDAY

4.13.07

COLUMNIST | MICHAEL PETERSON

Vote against the grain

Next week I am going to do something that I have never thought I'd ever do: I am going to vote for an "American Idol" contestant. Why? It's simple really; I hate "American Idol."

With an average of 32 million viewers each week, "Idol" is a major force in television. However, with the end of the sixth season nearing, there seems to be a thorn in the side of this cash machine, and his name is Sanjaya Malakar.

Sanjaya isn't the worst singer of all time, but he *definitely* should not have made it to the top 10. But, for some odd reason, he keeps slipping by each round. Sanjaya has somehow become somewhat of a teen idol to fans who usually place somewhere in the pre-teen girl demographic.

Also, there is this Web site known as votefortheworst.com, which is in the process of campaigning for Sanjaya by urging for people to vote for him since he is "the worst." Dave Della Terza, a 24-year old "Idol" fan, created the site during the show's third season. Della Terza doesn't hate "Idol," he enjoys spicing things up.

But, back to the point: Simon Cowell said in an interview with "Extra" that if Sanjaya wins this year, he will quit the show. I don't know about you, but that's more than enough incentive to get me voting. Think about it, a world without any Chris Daughtrys or Carrie Underwoods. It's almost too beautiful for me to comprehend.

I'll tell you why I hate American Idol so much: For one, the show gets its money and ratings from humiliating and mocking people. Even people who don't watch the show will occasionally watch the first episode of the season to watch Simon rip into contestants.

But here is my question: If the person is such a bad singer, then how did he or she even get to Simon, Randy Jackson and Paula Abdul? Before any contestant gets to the famous judges, they have to try out in groups of four before random producers. If the contestant makes it past the first round, they try out one by one in front of the show's executive producers. Then — and only then — do the contestants get to go in front of the three stooges.

It is obvious that the producers and executive producers are letting horrible singers slip by just so the judges can ridicule them. There are many times when great singers are turned down while bad singers are let through. The show isn't about talents, it's about entertainment. To read more about how "Idol" tampers with reality, read the "The Truth about American Idol Auditions" on votefortheworst.com.

Unfortunately, there are many who will not agree with me and will stick by the show no matter what. I, on the other hand, refuse to support a show that profits from the degradation of people. That's why next week I'm voting for Sanjaya. Will Sanjaya go all the way? Probably not. But I'm going to at least try. Just remember, a vote for Sanjaya is a vote against "Idol."



Michael Peterson

Michael Peterson is a junior journalism major. He can be reached at mtpeterson@eu.edu.

ourview

Banner needs work

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majority of students, there has still been a lot of confusion with the process.

Some of that confusion may have been avoided with better campaigning of the new system and more direction on how to use the new Banner system.

One of students' biggest complaints about the switch over was the loss of the paper for registration, which offered a listing of courses and professors with the proper course numbers.

Most students *The Daily Eastern News* spoke with agreed they would prefer to have hard copies of the registration process, although they said the new system could be convenient when working properly.

All students expressed some concerns with the new system.

Senior elementary major Erika Boettger said she was not a fan of the new system, but she did say it could deal with the fact that

she is used to the old system.

Her main complaints with the system came with her difficulty to operate the system.

"I had to have three people help me sign up for my classes because I had trouble finding the section numbers for the classes I needed to take," she said. "I even had professors trying to help me and even they weren't completely sure how to use the new system."

Boettger complained more though with the fact that she had to wait list all of her classes.

Though there have been a number of complaints, students are not entirely opposed to giving the new system a chance.

"I really liked that there wasn't a time constraint on when you could go on the system to register," Boettger said.

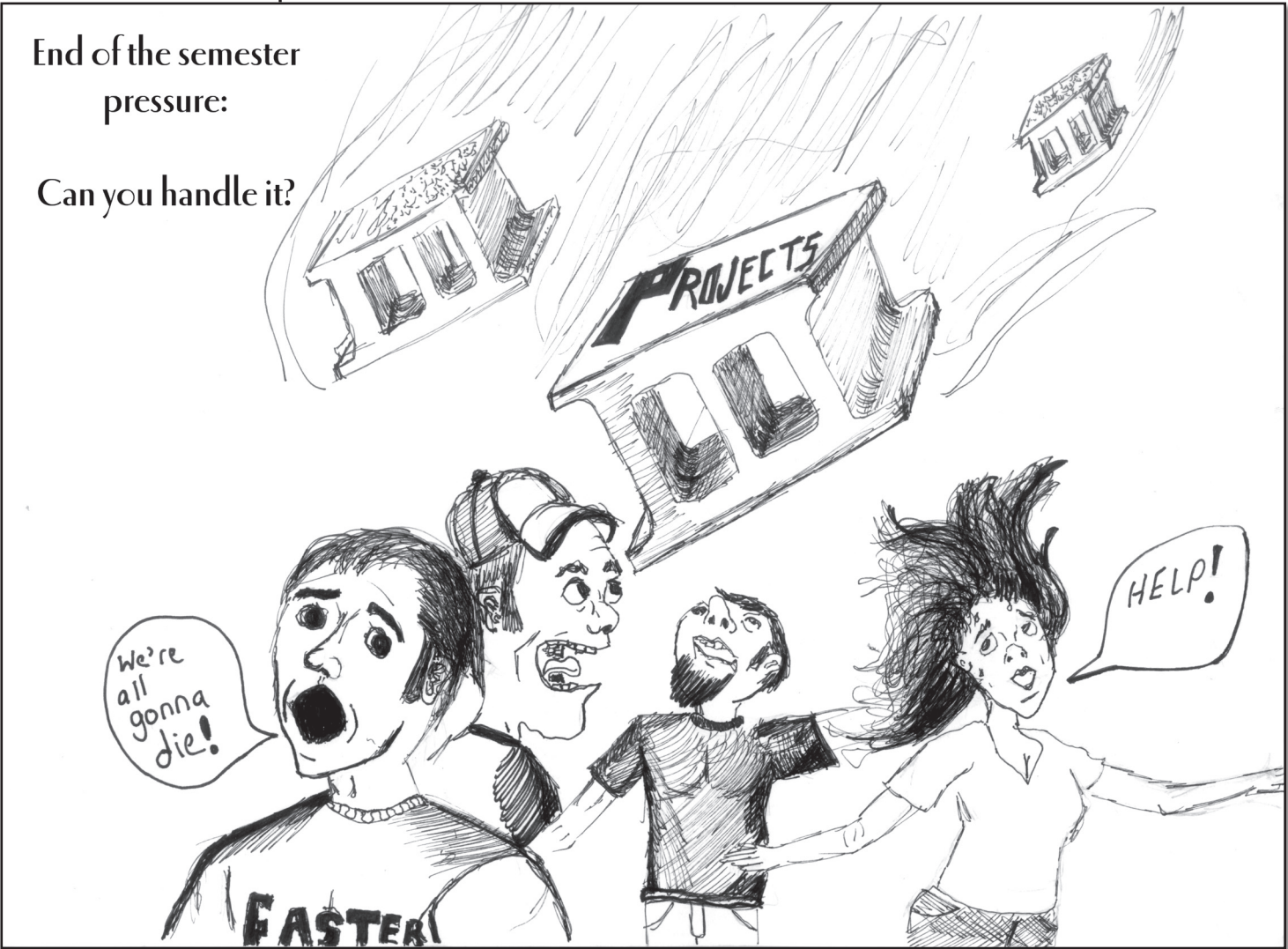
One perk of the new Banner system is that it does not kick people off if too many users are on, like the old system would regularly do.

It does not seem as though students want to go back entirely to the old system; however, we at *The DEN* feel there needs to be a better effort to help explain to students, professors and advisers how to successfully operate the new Banner system.

A simplification of the new Banner system could help students out a good deal.

The editorial is the majority opinion of The Daily Eastern News editorial board.
Reach the Opinions editor at DENopinions@gmail.com.

DRAWN FROM THE NEWS | RICH LAKEBERG



YOUR VIEWS | LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Athletics department has enough student fees

I was very surprised to read in the April 12 edition of *The Daily Eastern News* that the athletics department has requested a student fee increase over the next two years. This is beyond the increase that had already been agreed to three years ago, in what was characterized as a five-year plan.

During these past three years there has been a greater than 20 percent increase in student athletic fees.

Obviously, this is not enough to satisfy the athletics department. Approximately 20 percent of student fees are already earmarked for athletics (which includes both the athletics fee plus four-fifths of the grant-in-aid fee). This is not an insignificant

sum. Student fees, which are directed solely to athletics, already total well over \$3 million per year; each and every full-time undergraduate student is paying over \$330 per year to the athletics department in student fees.

Athletics is not under-funded by any stretch of the imagination. It seems that the athletics department considers student fees to be an almost bottomless pit of available funds.

Students are being fleeced by an athletics department that needs to be told "enough already!"

Jonathan Blitz | Chemistry professor

TO COMMENT.....

The Daily Eastern News welcomes responses to our original content. For consideration, e-mail letters to DENopinions@gmail.com.

All letters to the editor may be edited for accuracy, clarity and length. Letters 250 words or fewer have the best chance of being published.

Only letters that include a name, address and phone number that are verified by *The DEN* will be considered for print publication.

You may also choose to join in conversations taking place online by going to www.dennews.com.

» 2.5 million

FROM PAGE 1

The first donation Tarble gave Hencken was used for the Tarble Arts Foundation, so the university could bring works of art to the Tarble Arts Center.

This time, Hencken went to visit Tarble in April. She had

discussed giving \$2 million or \$2.5 million to the university.

On that visit, Hencken told her exactly what he wanted.

“I want \$2.5 million – that’s what we talked about,” Hencken said. “I was about to say, and we also talked about \$2 million, I wanted to be honest.”

But Tarble had already said she’d

write the check.

“We are very excited about the gift,” Johnson said. “The endowment will help support artists coming to campus and make it financially feasible for anyone to attend.”

The money will be aimed at bringing artists and will also focus on video, playwrights and touring

companies, he said.

Tarble believes the latest donation is a fitting way to honor her parents, who she believes would be enthusiastic about the new fine arts center.

“We were very fortunate to be able to do it,” Tarble said. “It’s a worthwhile project.”

The Tarble’s have donated more

than \$9 million to Eastern, making them the school’s largest donors

“She always gives credit to her mother and father,” Hencken said. “She always says they are the ones that made this money and we’ve all put it together in this foundation.”

Jan Tarble will receive an honorary degree from Eastern at May’s graduation.

» Questions

FROM PAGE 1

Lahr said he parks in the City Hall lot, not on the square, as a courtesy to citizens.

But he said the problem is county employees move their cars

one spot every two hours and the meter maid cannot keep track of how long a car has been parked in one spot.

Slaughter also addressed the parking issue, but focused more on the lack of retail stores around the square.

“You can’t buy much on the square anymore except for a tattoo

and a divorce,” Slaughter said.

The candidates also answered questions concerning businesses in Charleston, cooperating with neighboring cities and Lake Charleston.

“We don’t want it to become an unused resource,” Lahr said.

“I think there is opportunity there to expand and make it a

resource for the entire community,” said Lahr.

Slaughter said he can serve the people of Charleston well and bring values back to the City Council.

Polls for election open at 7 a.m. Tuesday. Anyone registered to vote in Coles County can turn in a ballot for the City Council and school board.

» Two

FROM PAGE 1

Rogers presented his ideas in creating campus traditions and increase scholarship and grant opportunities.

Elections are Monday and Tuesday and results will be announced at 7 p.m. Wednesday at the Student Senate meeting.



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DISTURBIA (PG 13) 4:10 6:40 9:15 SAT
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GRINDHOUSE (R) 5:10 9:10 SAT SUN MAT
1:10
THE REAPING (R) 4:30 7:10 9:50 SAT
SUN MAT 2:10
FIREHOUSE DOG (PG) 4:20 6:50 9:30
SAT SUN MAT 1:20
ARE WE DONE YET (PG) 5:00 7:20 9:40
SAT SUN MAT 2:30
MEET THE ROBINSONS (G) 4:00 6:30
9:00 SAT SUN MAT 1:30
BLADES OF GLORY (PG 13) 3:45 7:00
9:20 SAT SUN MAT 1:00
WILD HOGS (PG 13) 5:20 7:40 10:00 SAT
SUN MAT 2:20
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nationbriefs

CBS fires Don Imus over racial comments about Rutgers team

NEW YORK — Don Imus' racist remarks got him fired by CBS on Thursday. Imus was initially suspended for two weeks after he called the Rutgers women's basketball team "nappy-headed hos" on the air last week. But outrage kept growing and advertisers kept bolting from his CBS radio show and its MSNBC simulcast, which was canceled Wednesday. Imus, 66, had a long history of inflammatory remarks. He was fired in the middle of a two-day radio fundraiser for children's charities.

Girls Gone Wild founder Joe Francis hit with new charges

PANAMA CITY, Fla. — The millionaire founder of the Girls Gone Wild video empire was charged Thursday with bribing a jail guard for a bottle of water and having prescription sleeping pills in his cell, authorities said. When he learned of the new charges, Joe Francis waived his right to a bond hearing for the contempt of court charge that had led to his being jailed. Francis cried as his mother blew him a kiss while he was led from a federal court room back to his cell. Francis offered a jail guard \$100 for a bottled water Wednesday evening, court records said. When the guard refused, Francis showed him \$500, investigators said. Inmates are not allowed to have cash in the jail. When supervisors searched Francis' cell, they found 16 prescription pills, including the sleeping medication Lunesta.

CDC Says some Gonorrhea Is Drug-Resistant

ATLANTA — The sexually transmitted disease gonorrhea is now among the "superbugs" resistant to common antibiotics, leading U.S. health officials to recommend wider use of a different class of drugs to avert a public health crisis. The resistant form accounts for more than one in every four gonorrhea cases among heterosexual men in Philadelphia and nearly that many in San Francisco, according to a survey that led to Thursday's recommendation by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.



JEFF SINER | CHARLOTTE OBSERVER/MCT

Durham District Attorney Mike Nifong walks to his seat at North Carolina Central University to participate in a forum concerning the sexual assault of an exotic dancer by members of the Duke lacrosse team on April 11, 2006, in Durham, North Carolina. The NC Attorney General Roy Cooper exonerated the three former Duke lacrosse players David Evans, Collin Finnerty and Reade Seligmann in the sex assault and kidnapping case.

District Attorney apologizes to Duke lacrosse players

Associated Press
DURHAM, N.C. - The local prosecutor who charged three Duke lacrosse players with raping a stripper apologized to the athletes Thursday and said the North Carolina attorney general's decision to drop the case was right. "To the extent that I made judgments that ultimately proved to be incorrect, I apologize to the three students that were wrongly accused," Durham County District Attorney Mike Nifong said. On Wednesday, Attorney General Roy Cooper not only dropped all remaining charges against the players Reade Seligmann, Collin Finnerty and David Evans, but pronounced them innocent and said they were the victims of Nifong's "tragic rush to accuse." Cooper branded Nifong a "rogue" prosecutor who was guilty of "overreaching." "I have every confidence that the decision to dismiss all the charges

was the correct decision based on that evidence," Nifong said. In what appeared to be a plea to the athletes not to take any further action, such as a lawsuit, he said: "It is my sincere desire that the actions of Attorney General Cooper will serve to remedy any remaining injury that has resulted from these cases." Nifong refused to answer any questions after handing the statement to an Associated Press reporter outside his office in Durham. Seligmann's attorney, Jim Cooney, responded bitterly to the apology. "You can accept an apology from someone who knows all the facts and simply makes an error," Cooney said. "If a person refuses to know all the facts and then makes a judgment, that's far worse _ particularly when that judgment destroys lives." Nifong stressed that it was own decision to remove himself from the case that gave Cooper's office the opportunity to review the evidence against the athletes. "If I did not want to subject ... my own performance to such scrutiny _ if, in other words, I had anything to hide _ I could have simply dismissed the cases myself," he said. "The fact that I instead chose to seek that review should, in and of itself, call into question the characterizations of this prosecution as 'rogue' and 'unchecked.'" Finnerty's father, Kevin Finnerty, said Nifong's "attempt at an apology" was "disingenuous and insincere." "It falls well short of whatever it might take to even remotely repair the damage he has inflicted on so many people," Finnerty said. When asked if he accepted the apology, Finnerty said: "I do not. Too little, too late."

Writers honor a hero to the baby boomer generation

The Associated Press.

NEW YORK - Like his friend Joseph Heller, Kurt Vonnegut was a hero to baby boomers - though he was raised in an earlier time. The president he mourned was Franklin Delano Roosevelt, not John F. Kennedy. His war was World War II, not Vietnam. Nearly 40 when the 1960s began, Vonnegut was less a peer of the young rebels who loved such novels as "Cat's Cradle" and "Slaughterhouse-Five," than a wise, eccentric and cranky uncle, scorning the world's madness but rarely failing to get some laughs or challenge some minds. Vonnegut, who died Wednesday at 84, didn't need Vietnam to figure out that the system didn't work, that the 1950s were a lie and that you shouldn't believe what grown-ups tell you. His absurdist humor, the survival tactic of a former prisoner of war whose mother had committed suicide, proved as useful and as up-to-date to the postwar generation as a Bob Dylan song. Novelist Rick Moody, not even born when Vonnegut started publishing, recalled reading his books "several times" and wondered if "I could have gotten through my middle teens without him." "I liked him for world-weary gentleness, warmth, and comedy. And he was pretty darned imaginative, too, which is never a fault in my world," said the 45-year-old Moody, best known for "The Ice Storm," a satire set in the 1970s. "He was the kind of writer who made people _ young people, especially _ want to write," added Jonathan Safran Foer, the 30-year-old author of "Everything is Illuminated." "He wrote the kinds of books you pass around."

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» Soccer

FROM PAGE 12

“Vince came to me before the game and said to me, ‘I had a dream last night and God told me that I would score a goal today,’” Hyndman said. “He didn’t play much, but how was I supposed to go against that? So 20 minutes in, he scores a rocket goal.”

DiBella’s goal might have been fate, but the Panthers game against SDSU was not destined to happen.

A bit of revenge by San Francisco gave Eastern a free pass when the Dons revealed a player on the SDSU team was playing while ineligible, a fact the San Francisco team knew all along and waited to use in the event that they lost.

San Francisco coaches hoped the information would overrule their loss to SDSU and advance them to play the Panthers. But the NCAA did not agree with their tactics and a bye was granted.

Even though the Panthers were ranked in the top 10 all season, they were deemed the underdog in the “David vs. Goliath” match-up against top seeded Connecticut.

Callipari said he also recalled the lead article in Sports Illustrated that week pitted UConn as America’s team against Eastern’s foreign heavy roster.

“We could have been considered international,” Hyndman said. “Our recruiting pipelines at the time were Canada

and Ghana. But really, only 30 to 40 percent of our team was international.”

With soccer powerhouses like St. Louis, Indiana and Notre Dame in the Midwest, Hyndman said it was tough to recruit American players.

Hyndman said Alabama A&M, who defeated Philadelphia Textile in the first round of the tournament, had a completely African starting line-up.

However, America’s team Connecticut, reigned supreme and defeated the Panthers 2-1 in the semifinals setting Eastern up for the 4-2 consolation victory and third place finish.

The silver anniversary

“It’s still a great memory in my mind,” Hyndman said. “Our soccer team always was a national contender in Division II but it was such a difficult challenge in Division I. But doggone it, we made it to the Final Four.”

Hyndman, a 10th degree black belt, will be back on campus to celebrate the 25th anniversary of the amazing season.

But that was hardly the only successful year for Hyndman.

Hyndman left Eastern after the 1983 season to take over at Southern Methodist University.

Still the head coach at SMU today, his Mustangs won the Conference USA championship in 2006 and advanced to the College Cup in 2005.

In 2002 the Mustangs undefeated season ended in the College Cup and the team finished the season with a 21-1 record.



EASTERN ILLINOIS SPORTS INFORMATION
Eastern’s Damien Kelly helps the Panthers make a run to the final four.

His .772 winning percentage is second amongst all active head coaches in Division I and he has never had a losing season in his

PANTHER COMMEMORATION

- »Eastern will honor the members of the third-place of the 1981 men’s soccer team.
- »Eastern will play Indianapolis on Saturday at 1 p.m. at Lakeside Field.

coaching career.
Earlier this year, Kelly was selected to the Eastern athletics hall of fame and Prempeh will receive the honor next year.

But this Saturday, the reunion game is in honor of Hyndman and all the members of the 1981 team.

Callipari, who is currently the head soccer coach at Wheaton-Warrenville South High School near Chicago and is organizing the event, said between 10 to 15 members of the team will be back on campus either Friday or Saturday morning.

Team members will be flying in from Brazil, New York, England, Texas and Colorado. After the team won the consolation game and the Panthers finished third in the nation, Callipari, then just a freshmen midfielder, recapped the season.

“We wanted to win third real bad for our seniors,” Callipari said. “And since we had a winning season, we felt it was only fitting that we went out winners. We are all happy with third place for Eastern.”

Calling the 1981 season “winning” was an understatement. More than 25 years later, the players on that team, while scattered around the world now, can look back and remember the greatest season in the history of Eastern athletics.

» Daniels

FROM PAGE 10

Besides, the game wasn’t supposed to start until 3 p.m., meaning Meggs told Schmitz ISU wasn’t coming three-and-a-half hours before the game.

Terre Haute isn’t three-and-a-half hours away from Charleston.

More like a mere 45 minutes away.

But, since the ISU athletic department apparently had the dual

role of being the chief meteorologist for the city of Charleston on Wednesday, to go along with making decisions for Eastern’s athletic department, it also can decide three-and-a-half hours ahead of game time that it can’t make a 45-minute trip to Charleston.

Meggs and Prettyman had no right to decide Indiana State wasn’t coming to play.

Schmitz and Eastern’s director of athletics Rich McDuffie had that right.

The sun was out and temperatures

were in the low 50s by the time the scheduled 3 p.m. game was supposed to begin.

The infield dirt was a little wet, but nothing that some rakes and bags of dry dirt couldn’t fix.

The outfield grass was damp and a bit muddy, but nothing that couldn’t be played in.

Schmitz said he plans to see if Wednesday’s game can be counted as a forfeit win for Eastern.

While the win won’t help Eastern’s chances of making the College World Series, or even

the Ohio Valley Conference Tournament, Schmitz is making the correct decision by seeing if he can get a win for his team.

Eastern’s Associate AD for Operations Mark Bonnstetter said Wednesday Eastern would go through the Ohio Valley Conference to see if the game could be counted as a win for the Panthers.

Props to Schmitz and Eastern’s athletic administration in trying to do the right thing.

To Indiana State baseball: here’s hoping a visiting team cancels a

game on you sometime this season.

And here’s hoping Eastern takes Indiana State off future baseball schedules for the classless behavior ISU showed on Wednesday.



Matt Daniels is a junior journalism major. He can be reached at mwdaniels@eiu.edu.

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BASEBALL | EASTERN 12, OLIVET NAZARANE 3

Battle of the Errors

Panthers out hit NAIA team en route to a non-conference win

By Scott Richey
Online News Editor

Near freezing temperatures at Coaches Stadium contributed to seven combined errors between Eastern and Olivet Nazarene.

Despite committing four errors, including two by senior shortstop Adam Varrassi, Eastern was able to hit its way past the NAIA school on its way to a 12-3 victory Thursday.

Eastern head coach Jim Schmitz said Varrassi's errors were something of an anomaly because he had been a consistent fielder throughout the season.

The two errors give Varrassi 13 for the year.

The first of Olivet's three errors came in the second inning and led to Eastern's first scoring run.

With one out, freshman second baseman Richie Derbak hit an opposite field bloop single to left field.

Varrassi ripped the second pitch offered by Olivet starter Ryan Forneris to left field for a single that advanced Derbak to second base.

Sophomore outfielder Brett Nommensen then loaded the bases with a bunt single down the third base line.

After Derbak was forced out at home for the second out on a fielder's choice, a ground ball hit by third baseman Jordan Kreke passed through Olivet third baseman Tim Allen's legs, scoring Varrassi.

SeniorleftfielderMarkChagnon's two-out single to center field scored Nommensen and rightfielder Casey Spears. Chagnon finished the game 2-for-4 with three RBIs.

Eastern took its 3-0 lead going into the third inning and never lost it.

Chagnon singled home another run in the fourth inning off Olivet reliever Kyle McDonald.

Eastern scored five more runs in the sixth inning on three hits, two walks, an error and a passed ball by Olivet catcher Chad Dilley.

Olivet head coach Elliot Johnson said the weather was a factor for

Thursday's game

Eastern 12, Olivet Nazarene 3

Inning by Inning		R	H	E
OLV	0 0 0 1 1 0 1 0 0	3	5	3
EIU	0 3 0 1 0 5 2 1 X	12	12	4

WP: Morrell, Brian (2-0) LP: Forneris, Ryan

E: Williams, Allen, Bergan -OLV; Kreke, Derbak, Varrassi 2 -EIU. 100: EIU 12; OLV 8. 2B: Alexander -OLV. HR: Parnley -OLV; Resko -EIU. HBP: Kreke -EIU. SH: Kreke -EIU. SF: Morefield -OLV; Kreke -EIU. SB: Kreke -EIU.

Key Inning: Bottom of the Sixth

The Panthers scored five runs in this inning to pull away from the Tigers. Freshman first baseman Alex Gee drove in the first two runs with a single up the middle. Sophomore centerfielder Brett Nommensen also drove in a run in the inning.

both teams.

"It was hard for pitchers and fielders to get a grip on the ball," Johnson said. "We made errors at the wrong time. Obviously we can't blame the loss on the weather. It affected both teams."

Freshmen Alex Gee and Curt Restko both contributed off the bench. Gee, playing first base, drove in his first two career RBIs with a single up the middle in the five-run sixth.

Restko got his first hit as a Panther with a solo home run in the seventh inning.

He was hitless in his first five at-bats this season.

"When you finally get a chance to play," Restko said, "you have to produce."

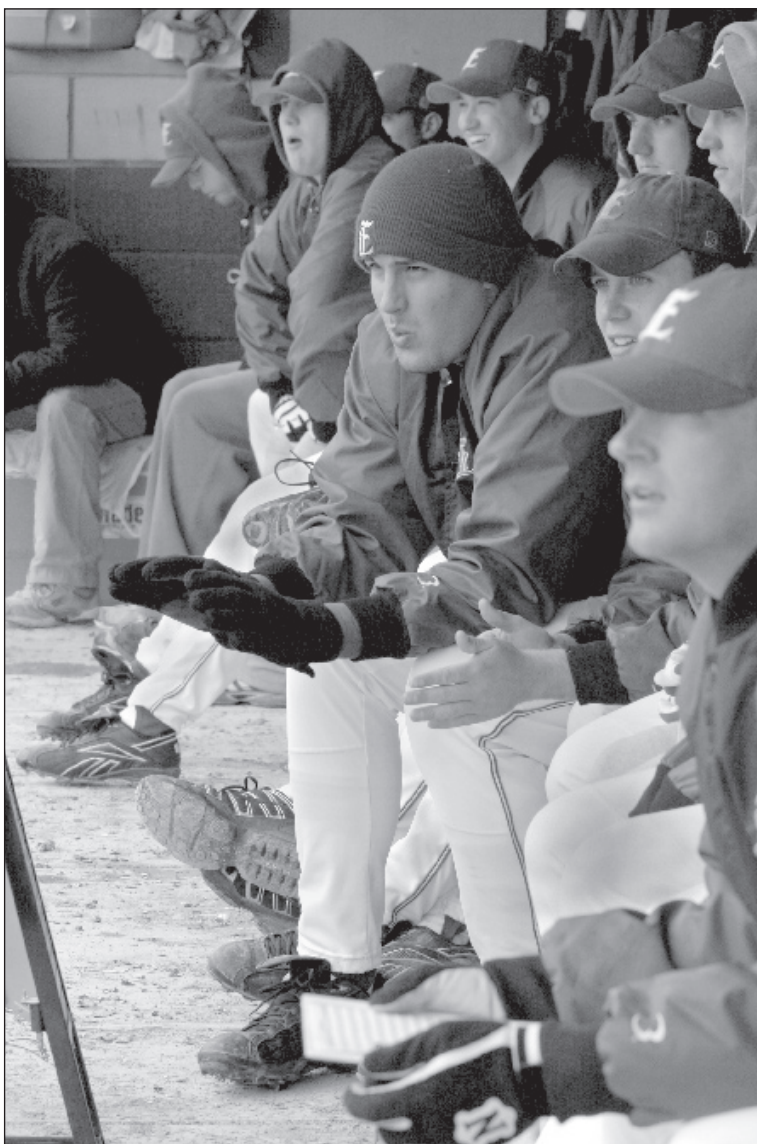
Restko has been in this situation before.

As a sophomore transfer at Tinley Park (Andrew) High School, Restko said his first hit was also a home run.

Eastern's leading hitter Erik Huber started Thursday's game after missing last weekend's two-game Ohio Valley Conference series against Murray State with a hamstring injury.

Schmitz said they wanted to test Huber's leg against Olivet instead of against OVC opponent Jacksonville State this weekend. Huber was able to get some fielding practice in, and Schmitz said Huber was also told to go easy running the bases. "He'll do the same thing if he plays this weekend," Schmitz said.

Huber went 0-for-2 before being replaced by Gee in the fifth inning. Huber's hitless day ended his 21-game hitting streak, the third longest active streak in the nation.



JOHN BAILEY | THE DAILY EASTERN NEWS

Senior catcher Jason Cobb tries to keep warm on the bench during Thursday afternoon's game against Olivet Nazarene.

matt daniels

OUT OF BOUNDS

A sick Sycamore decision

Canceling a baseball game because of bad weather is one thing.

Canceling a game like Indiana State did by not even showing up to play Eastern on Wednesday is something else.

Eastern head coach Jim Schmitz said he's never seen anything like the situation that developed Wednesday in his 23 years of coaching.

Indiana State head coach Lindsay Meggs called Schmitz around 11:30 a.m. to tell Eastern's head coach the Sycamores wouldn't be making the trip to

Charleston.

The reason: Meggs and ISU Athletic Director Ron Prettyman didn't want to drive 45 minutes over to Charleston to play a mid-week game scheduled at 3 p.m. because of potential bad weather, Schmitz said.

Excuse me?

Since when does a visiting team tell a home team a game at the home team's field can't be played?

They don't.

Yes, it had rained some Tuesday night and early Wednesday morning in Charleston.

In Terre Haute, Ind., it rained all of Tuesday night and early Wednesday morning.

But Terre Haute isn't Charleston.

Just because there may be crappy weather in Terre Haute doesn't necessarily mean there's crappy weather in Charleston.

» SEE DANIELS, PAGE 7

TRACK | NOTEBOOK

Vetter leaves for Illinois

By Kevin Murphy
Associate Sports Editor

Graduate assistant coach Eric Vetter is leaving Eastern.

Vetter will graduate this spring and head to Illinois to be the facilities director of the Armory, the indoor track and field facility for Illinois.

Vetter is coaching his first year of track and field at Eastern and also coached with head cross country coach Geoff Masanet this past season.

Vetter does a lot of work that's helpful to the team including driving to meets and also videotaping practices and meets.

Teams to split up this weekend

The Panthers will travel to different places to compete this weekend.

The majority of the women's and the men's track teams will travel to Macomb to compete in the Lee Calhoun Invitational at Western Illinois.

Certain individuals will travel to the Sea Ray Relays in Knoxville, Tenn., at Tennessee.

Senior Kyle Ellis will compete in the pole vault and senior thrower Austin Hogue will compete in the javelin. Senior Obe Eruteya will compete in the high jump and the triple jump, while junior Brad Butler will compete in the 10,000-meter race. Sophomore David Holm will compete in the 800-meter run.

This is the first year that Holm will complete the trifecta of sports of a distance runner (cross country, indoor track and outdoor track).

"His times are coming back around," said men's head coach Tom Akers.

On the women's side, senior Jillian Blondell will be competing in the 3,000-meter steeplechase.

The Sea Relays began Wednesday with the men's decathlon and the women's heptathlon.

Davidson wins first race

Senior middle distance runner Marlise Davidson won the 800-meter run at the Big Blue Classic.

It was the first win of her collegiate career in only her second collegiate race.

Davidson said it was nice to win and she said she let the lead runners control the pace.

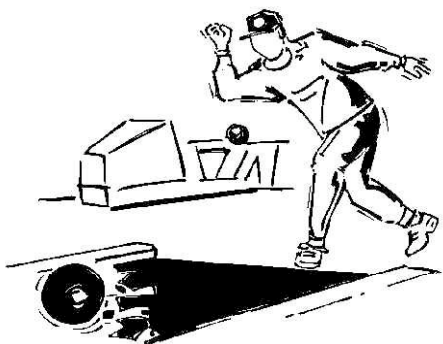
Davidson has the fifth best time in the OVC in the 800-meter race.

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ALL ACCESS WITH ...

KATIE IMBURGIA

Sophomore works on game with help from brothers

Katie is one of five siblings of an Imburgia golf-frenzied family. Four of the Imburgias currently play at Eastern and Katie says her and her brothers are more like great friends they're so close. In fact, Katie, who will be competing in the OVC Conference Championships in Paducah, Ky. Imburgia sat down with Online Interactive Editor Kevin Kenealy to discuss the game of golf and how she ripped her pants in Mexico.

WHAT'S IT LIKE HAVING THREE BROTHERS ON THE TEAM?

My brothers and I are all really close.

We live in Effingham on the golf course actually so we play in the summer all the time.

I also caddy for them in the summer tournaments too.

They're actually in a tournament in Nashville right now and I think I was on the phone with them probably like 10 times yesterday (Monday) asking how they were doing and everything.

One of them was playing really well and I was really excited and I think I just went to every class and was just telling everybody. And the other one wasn't playing so well and my heart was just breaking for him and I know how it is and we're all just so close.

It's just like playing with three great friends instead of three brothers.

WHAT IS LIKE TO GROW UP IN EFFINGHAM?

We actually moved there almost 10 years ago now and we told my dad, if we're going to move, we have to live on the golf course.

And we did, we found a house right on the course.

And Effingham is just a nice little town where you know a lot of the people and the course is nice and we don't have any trouble playing there, and we like it.

WHO IS THE BEST GOLFER OF ALL YOUR SIBLINGS?

It really differs. Right now, I would have to say Anthony. He won a tournament earlier this spring in Hawaii and he was winning earlier yesterday (Monday), but then he dropped back a few strokes. So he's playing



AMIR PRELLBERG | THE DAILY EASTERN NEWS

Sophomore women's golfer Katie Imburgia is one of four Imburgias that play golf. Imburgia practiced with her brothers and Eastern head coach Mike Moncel worked with the Imburgias when they were younger.

really well right now, but the other ones are close behind.

HOW ARE YOU PREPARING FOR THE OVC CHAMPIONSHIPS?

Oh, it's very exciting. I'm just working on the parts of my game that need help and trying to calm nerves and just getting ready for everything and it's a big tournament.

WHAT ARE THE PRACTICES LIKE FOR THE TOURNAMENT?

Well, our coach just has us working on chipping drills and some putting drills because that's the game that most girls struggle and it's what can really make you go low.

HAS GOLF ALWAYS BEEN AN IMPORTANT PART OF LIFE?

Yes. We actually grew up when we were younger in Watseka and they didn't actually have a course there, but there was one about 20 minutes away so we went there and did league and everything and then

“And Effingham is just a nice little town where you know a lot of the people and the course is nice and we don’t have trouble playing there, and we like it.”

when we went to Effingham we played every day.

WHY DID YOU DECIDE TO START PLAYING GOLF?

I really don't know. I think Anthony was the first one to pick it up and then the twins and then I also have an older sister and we all just kind of followed and then we all just played.

DOES YOUR SISTER STILL PLAY GOLF IN COLLEGE?

Yeah, well, she played in college but she's in dental school so (she) doesn't really have time to play anymore.

But she still likes it.

WHAT WOULD BE YOUR FAVORITE MOMENT OF ALL?

It would probably honestly be caddying for my brothers because I get more excited and more nervous for them than I do when I'm playing.

I usually caddy for Anthony and when he plays well, I just get really excited. And that's probably my greatest memory.

DOES YOUR BROTHER ANTHONY ASK YOU FOR ADVICE?

No, he tells me that my job is to carry the bag and to keep the

quickhits

KATIE IMBURGIA

On women's golf coverage...

»I don't know, um, I think if you want to follow women's golf it's not necessarily hard too. It's definitely easier to follow men's golf but I'm more intrigued by men's golf so I'm kind of impartial I guess.

On her favorite music...

»Probably country. I kind of like a lot of stuff, but right now. I'm into country.

On using one club...

»Probably my seven-iron. It's just the iron that I'm most comfortable with. I feel comfortable with my driver too, but I don't think I'd want to use that the whole round.

On playing her brothers...

»I don't think I've ever beaten them before. I've beaten them on a hole maybe, but I never get mad when they beat me.

towel wet.

He does ask me sometimes when he's debating and I just tell him just to go with his gut.

My real words are to just hit it.

You know, because he's good and he doesn't need my help.

WHAT'S YOUR MOST EMBARRASSING MOMENT?

This is kind of an embarrassing story.

We had a tournament in Mexico in February and it was a 36-hole day and I think I was still on my first 18.

I made this putt and I bent down to pick it up and my pants ripped.

And it was pretty hot out too so I had to wear my rain paints for the rest of the round.

WHAT HAPPENS WHEN YOUR TEAM GOES TO TOURNAMENTS?

At tournaments, when we go out to eat, random funny things happen every time.

We went to Florida over spring break and our hotel was right on the beach and so we walked to dinner on the beach and some of the girls were doing gymnastics and ended up hurting themselves.

DID YOU EVER NEED PERSONAL TRAINERS GROWING UP?

Actually the coach, Mike Moncel, was our trainer growing up too so.

He lives in Mattoon and works at a range there and I really don't know how we heard of him but Anthony started getting lessons from him, but just like he started playing golf, we all sort of followed.

HOW HAS COACH MONCEL HELPED YOU WITH YOUR GAME?

He's helped me become a better player, especially this year.

I took last year off and I actually transferred over to Eastern this year.

He's been working on my putting and chipping this year, so it's starting to turn around so.

sportschedule

TRACK AND FIELD

TODAY at Lee Calhoun Invite | All day Macomb

TENNIS

TODAY vs. Eastern Kentucky | 11 a.m. Darling Courts

SOFTBALL

SATURDAY vs. Tennessee-Martin | Doubleheader Noon Williams Field

MEN'S SOCCER

SATURDAY 1981 Alumni Game | Hyndman Day 1 p.m. Lakeside Field

TENNIS

SATURDAY vs. Murray State | 2 p.m. Darling Courts

BASEBALL

SATURDAY at Jacksonville State | 1 p.m. Doubleheader Jacksonville, Ala.

SOFTBALL

SUNDAY vs. Tennessee-Martin | Noon Williams Field

triplethreat



In 1981 Eastern Illinois soccer had its greatest season ever. Head coach Schellas Hyndman (above) led the Panthers to the final four and took home third place after beating Philadelphia Textile 4-2 in the consolation game.

Making it even more remarkable was that it was Eastern's first year ever competing in Division I. Their road to the final four pitted the Panthers against the top teams in the Midwest region before some controversy took them to the semifinals.

These are the games they played en route to the 1981 final four:

1. Southern Illinois- Edwardsville

—With the score at 1-0, the large Cougar crowd roared but those fans would be silenced quickly when All-American Agyeman Prempeh's header found its way into the back of the net. A goal by midfielder Graham Whitehead less than two minutes into overtime sealed the deal.

2. Saint Louis University

— The Panthers hosted the Billikens at Lakeside Field before 3,000 screaming Eastern fans. Those fans witnessed a tough game that featured 74 fouls (check from the story) combined between the two teams. Vincente DiBella told Hyndman the night before he had a dream where he scored a goal. His dream was prophetic as the midfielder's goal was the only score of the game and Eastern won 1-0.

3. San Diego State

— Eastern was supposed to travel to California to play the West regional champion, but SDSU was forced to forfeit when one of their players was deemed ineligible. SDSU beat San Francisco in penalty kicks the round before and San Fran coaches got even by leaking the information about the ineligible player to the NCAA in hopes they would get to advance and play the Panthers. The NCAA didn't appreciate their backdoor tactics and Eastern received a bye.

-Joe Waltasti

MEN'S SOCCER | 1981 REUNION



EASTERN ILLINOIS SPORTS INFORMATION

The 1981 men's soccer team celebrates its 25th anniversary Saturday at Lakeside Field. The current Panther squad hosst Indianapolis at 1 p.m.

A Season to Remember

1981 final four team to have reunion Saturday

By Joe Waltasti
Sports Reporter

"You may be No. 3 in Division I, but you are No. 1 in our book."

That sentiment was printed across two columns in the Dec. 8, 1981, edition of *The Daily Eastern News*, one day after the Eastern men's soccer team returned home from Palo Alto, Calif., after competing in the men's final four.

It was Eastern's first season in D-I but the team, led by head coach Schellas Hyndman, finished third in the nation with a 19-2-2 record.

Sophomore striker Damien Kelly racked up 21 goals, still the Eastern record for a single season. Kelly and mid-fielder Agyeman Prempeh gave the Panthers two first team All-Americans; the only school with two members on the '81 team and Hyndman was awarded coach of the year honors.

"It was the best team Eastern athletics has ever had," said current men's soccer head coach Adam Howarth.

Members of the 1981 team will be back in Charleston on Saturday to play a reunion game at Lakeside Field and relive the great moments from Eastern's only Division I final Four appearance for any sport.



EASTERN ILLINOIS SPORTS INFORMATION
Eastern's Albert Adade helped the Panthers make a run to the final four.

The miraculous season started at home against Illinois State on Sept. 16 at Lakeside Field and ended with a 4-2 victory against Philadelphia Textile in the consolation game of the final four at Stanford Stadium on Dec. 6.

In that three-month span the Panthers shut out 19 teams and played a handful of gut-wrenching games, perhaps none more so

than their opening round playoff game against Southern Illinois-Edwardsville.

Road to the Final Four

Down 1-0 with only minutes remaining and the game appearing out of reach, and the SIU-E fans were letting the "Cinderella" Panthers know all about it.

"The fans were beginning to chant 'swan song,'" said Guy Callipari, remembering the game 25 years later. "But then Prempeh elevates and knocks (the ball) into the top corner. We were elated."

Prempeh's goal forced the game into overtime, and with SIU-E missing a player after a red card late in the second half, the Panthers finally had the advantage.

Freshman midfielder Graham Whitehead quickly capitalized, scoring only two minutes into the extra period and sending Eastern to the second round of the Midwest regional.

"I told our players we had all overtime to score one goal against 10 players, and be patient," Hyndman told *The Daily Eastern News* in 1981 after the game. "I'll be darned if Graham didn't score right away."

The SIU-E victory set the Panthers up for a home game against St. Louis in the second round.

More than 3,000 fans showed up to watch the grinding 1-0 Eastern victory that included 74 total fouls.



EASTERN ILLINOIS SPORTS INFORMATION
Eastern's Agyeman Prempeh helped the Panthers make a run to the final four.

"We were like the Cinderella team," Hyndman said. "We had a lot of campus support. Everyone wanted to be a part of that special year."

Co-captain Vince DiBella's goal against St. Louis pushed Eastern into the third round against West region champion San Diego State, who defeated San Francisco in penalty kicks.

» SEE SOCCER, PAGE 7

TENNIS | WEEKEND MATCHES

Women's team look to improve conference seed

Men need a win this weekend to return to the conference tournament

By Brandy Provaznik
Staff Reporter

The women already know that no matter what happens this weekend, win or lose; they are in the Ohio Valley Conference tournament.

The men don't have that luxury, but sophomore Vuk Milicevic said the women making the tournament helps push the men to want to do the same.

"I wouldn't call it pressure," Milicevic said. "But it is more of a hunger to make the tournament too. The girls have given us a good

stepping stone and we will feed off that so we can hopefully go alongside them to Conference."

The Panthers will host the last of their two regular season OVC contests with Eastern Kentucky on Friday and Murray State on Saturday.

The women (11-7, 6-2 OVC) are currently in fourth place in the OVC and after this weekend could end up anywhere from second to sixth place.

EKU women's team is in fifth place, (11-10, 5-3). Murray is currently in second place (12-5, 7-1).

Since the top six teams make the conference, Eastern's women know they are in, but are aiming to place as high as they can in order to get a better

seed, said head coach John Blackburn.

The men (12-5, 4-3) are currently fifth in the conference and after this weekend could be anywhere from fourth to seventh place.

EKU is in third place (16-9, 6-2). Murray is in sixth place (4-11, 3-3).

Senior Chuck Levaque said they knew earlier in the season that they would most likely be fighting with ECU and Murray for third through sixth place based on the pasts of the two teams.

"We looked at the schedule and saw it came down to those two in the end and knew because of previous years that there would be a good chance they would be in middle of the conference," Levaque said.

» SEE TENNIS, PAGE 9

Local singer releases album

By **Brandon Campbell**
Verge Reporter

Jackie Lawson is a self-described wandering spirit. Though born in Texas, she considers herself a Charleston native.

Through her wide, welcoming smile, she described her eagerness to travel to Nashville, Tenn. in an effort to put finishing touches on her latest album,

“Crazy Blonde.”

“My dedication is definitely to my music, and I’ll go wherever it takes me,” Lawson said. “The studio (where we recorded) is the same studio where Kenny Rogers, Shania Twain and

Gretchen Wilson recorded.” “Crazy Blonde” was released March 9, and Lawson will be performing with Black and Blue at 5 p.m. Sunday at University Village, the apartment complex behind Wal-Mart.

Lawson’s love of travel is paled only in comparison to her eclectic love of music.

“I’ve always loved music,” she said. “I am always walking around singing, and of course, you couldn’t stop me if I was in the shower.”

As a child, Lawson was exposed to a wide variety of musical variety while growing up in Charleston. Lawson recalls her brothers listening to the Eagles and Pearl Jam, while her parents

BLACK AND BLUE CONCERT

» **Where:** University Village - Behind Wal-Mart

» **When:** Sunday at 5 p.m.

» **Details:** Free food and prizes will also be given away at the event featuring Jackie Lawson.

would play Patty Loveless and The Judds on vinyl.

“The first cassette I ever bought was Tom Petty,” Lawson said with a chuckle. “But then right next to that was Paula Abdul.”

Lawson and her band, Hillbilly Rockstars, have been playing together for nearly two years.

They have performed everywhere from small college bars to audiences of more than 8,000 people.

Before hooking up with the Hillbilly Rockstars, Lawson would perform solo, singing in country music competitions around the Midwest.

She joined up with the Hillbilly Rockstars when they were performing under the name Black and Blues.

The band was looking for a female singer, and Lawson was looking for a band to play her country songs.

The five musicians formed an agreement: Lawson would sing for the boys doing rock and country covers at bars and clubs under the modified name of Black and Blue.

In return, the boys from Black and Blue would back up Lawson as the Hillbilly Rockstars.

Tad Freezeland, lead guitarist for the Rockstars, said it is Lawson’s liveliness that encouraged him to work with her.

“She’s definitely energetic,” he said. “She has a commanding personality; she drives people to her which is definitely a good thing in any type of performance.”

Both Lawson and Freezeland described their band as being a family.

“We look after each other both on and off the stage, before and after shows,” Freezeland said.

Lawson described her band mates as brothers.

“We share the stage together; we’re tearing down equipment and we’re driving at three in the morning to get home,” she said. “We go through the crap together.

We know each other inside and out; we are family.”

Eventually, Lawson came into contact with her producer, Mike Jones, who saw her performing at a music contest in Paducah, Ky. Jones was impressed with her candid way of addressing the audience.

Lawson said before the show in Paducah she had intended to wear a nice blouse and black slacks on stage.

However, about twenty minutes before her performance, she tore her pants “in the worst place possible.”

Still dirty from camping before the show, Lawson’s grubby jeans were the only thing she had available to wear.

“As I am walking on stage, I noticed about 17 of the 20 contestants were girls wearing black slacks,” Lawson said.

“I just want ya’ll to know I don’t normally wear crummy jeans like this; it’s a special occasion,” Lawson coolly explained to the audience.

Lawson lost the contest but gained Jones’ attention.

“He said he was so struck by how comfortable I was talking to people from on stage and he still laughs at this story,” Lawson said.

Lawson said Jones is a patient producer, who gives her the creative freedom she wants, while still helping her through the ins and outs of the music business.

She also said he was an integral part of getting her album off the ground.

While Lawson may dream of one day gaining national exposure, she still recognizes her current fortunes.

“I think progress is success,” she said.

“The band is constantly growing, we’re getting booked more and more, we’re getting more shows and we’ve recorded a new CD and people are reacting very well to it. So that’s success.”

Looking back over the past two years of personal successes and an increase in local popularity, Lawson has begun to connect the dots.

“The whole thing has been an adventure,” Lawson said. “A lot of things I’ve found are a string of events, like a domino effect.”

Lawson has traveled a long way from singing in the shower.



www.jackie-lawson-music.com

PHOTO SUBMITTED BY JACKIE LAWSON

Jackie Lawson released her latest album ‘Crazy Blonde’ on March 9. Lawson has been playing with her band, Hillbilly Rockstars, for about two years.

Jammin’ at the rec center

University Board hosts Panther Stock, a music festival featuring four bands

By **Jason Duarte**
Verge Interactive Reporter

Students will have more to do this Friday the 13th than be superstitious.

Panther Stock, a free concert being sponsored by the University Board, will offer Eastern students an alternative to walking under ladders and crossing paths with black cats.



“We’re kind of doing a little spin-off of Woodstock,” said UB chair Melissa Schaefer. “We’re going to have four bands, and those bands include Friday Night Villain, The Fuz, Spare Parts and Mike and Joe.”

Andrew Hubbard, UB special events coordinator, played a role in choosing the bands to bring to Panther Stock.

“What we like to do is give local bands a chance to put their talent onstage,” he said. “We bring in bands like The Fuz, who are very popular in the central Illinois area,

and so what we like to do is give people the opportunity to see them in a concert venue outside.”

Panther Stock will be held in the Student Recreation Center from 2 to 6 p.m. and the event is free.

Brian Adams, The Fuz’s alternate guitarist/bassist and vocalist, is excited about playing Panther Stock.

“They sent us a message through MySpace asking us if we wanted to do it,” Adams said. “And we agreed. It should be fun.”

Adams is no stranger to sharing the stage with some of the other bands that will be performing. He played with Friday Night Villain at the Battle of the Bands at the Panther Paw last year, and he has heard of Spare Parts and Mike and Joe.

Since Panther Stock will run for four hours, The Fuz, as well as the other bands, will have a nice chunk

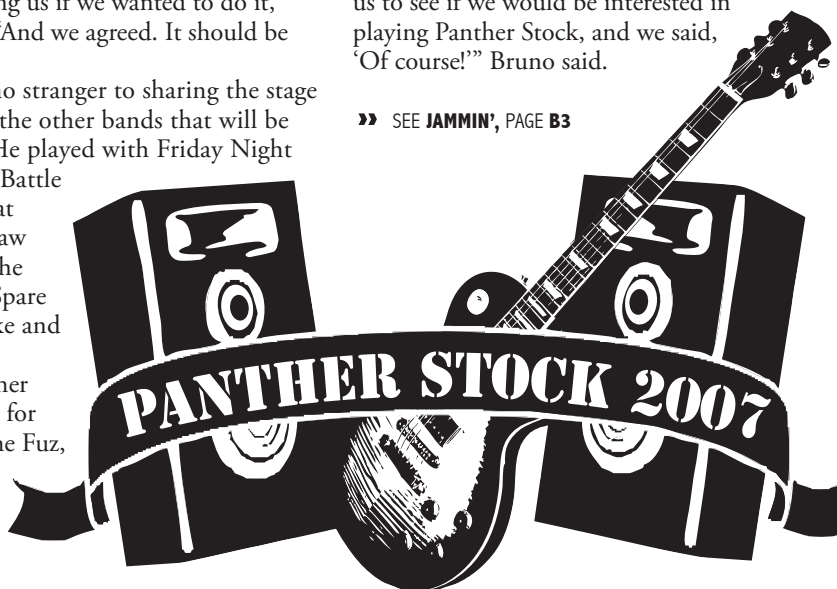
of time to fill. The Fuz’s set will be about an hour and half.

Mike Bruno, the drummer for Spare Parts, described his band as “funk/jazz with a lot of little other ingredients.”

Spare Parts is not new to Charleston and has played at a local bar.

“We played down at the Uptowner a couple times, and just through people coming to see us, the committee contacted us to see if we would be interested in playing Panther Stock, and we said, ‘Of course!’” Bruno said.

» SEE JAMMIN’, PAGE B3



Spring Fling gets a camo theme

By **Jason Duarte**
Verge Interactive Reporter

University Board is going commando.

While fraternities and sororities are running Greek Week with an Army theme, University Board is also for Spring Fling.

UB will host the large campus event, in the Student Recreation Center, from 2 to 6 p.m. today. For Spring Fling, UB teamed with a partner that knows Army business like no one else on campus.

“We’ve got co-sponsorship with Army ROTC National Guard,” said Melissa Schaefer, chair of the UB. “They’re providing food and we’re doing things like make-your-own dog tags.”

The ROTC is running the dog tag production activity that will provide students an opportunity to be creative.

“Students will be able to make their own dog tags with anything they want on them, so that should be fun,” said Andrew Hubbard, UB special events coordinator.

In addition to the make-your-own dog tags, the ROTC will also be providing more active events.

» SEE SPRING, PAGE B3

Three to perform comedic play

Charleston Community Theatre to present “Painting Churches” at Tarble Arts Center

By Brad York
Verge Reporter

Imagine moving out of the home where you grew up.

The vivid memories of both good and bad past times haunt you like surreal ghosts.



This is exactly what happens to an artistic woman in the play “Painting Churches.”

“Churches” is about a painter that

must help her elderly parents move from their home to a cottage.

“This is one hectic week of memories,” said director Ruth Straith.

Making matters worse, the daughter would like to paint her parents for an upcoming art show. The parents are very reluctant in the whole matter because they do not want their real sides or personalities to show.

Straith said the play is categorized as a comedy, but it has many serious dramatic moments.

“Churches” is made up of a three-member cast, common for a small town performance.

“I’m used to a small cast,” Straith said. “This is the third play that I have directed for Charleston Community Theatre, and all of them have been with a small cast.”

Having a small cast puts pressure on the actors because they have more lines to memorize.

“The practicing and production of the play also becomes more intimate with a smaller cast,” Straith said. “It is a lot more one on one.”

Straith knew she wanted to direct this play after Genie Lenihan, the president of CCT, showed her the script.

The Charleston Community Theatre started in 1963 because people thought the town of Charleston should have an outlet for theater. It began as a not-for-profit organization. It only gains enough money to pay for props and materials for the plays.

The theater puts on three plays a year usually; one play in the fall, one in the winter and one more in the spring.

Caroline Mills plays the mother in “Painting Churches.”

“I have 26 years of practicing for this role because my real daughter actually plays my daughter in the play,” Mills said.

This is one of many reasons why Mills decided to



JOHN BAILEY | ON THE VERGE

Dana Dunn and Caroline Mills act out scenes from the play “Painting Churches.” Although a comedy, the play has dramatic moments.

‘PAINTING CHURCHES’

»Where: Tarble Arts Center

»When: April 13 - 15 and 20 - 22, Friday and Saturdays at 7:30 p.m. and Sundays at 3 p.m.

»Cost: \$6 for students, \$10 for adults and \$8 for seniors

»Website: www.charlestoncommunitytheatre.org

work on this play.

She also credits the script as another main factor. This is not Mill’s first time working with Straith either.

She said they are good friends and she works for her whenever possible.

Since the character Mills plays is supposed to be from Boston, she relies on memories of past friends she has met to help mold her character.

Mills thoroughly enjoyed working with the actor that plays her husband.

“He has a certain sensitivity that lends itself to the character,” Mills said.

Mills’ favorite part of the production, however, was not whom she got to work with but what she got to wear.

“My favorite part was probably the flamboyant hats,” she said.

Mills remembers just how far the cast and crew have come since the day she was handed the script.

“It was the day after the big storm we had in February,” Mills said.

“Painting Churches” will be shown April 13, 14, 15, 20, 21 and 22. Friday and Saturday shows begin at 7:30 p.m. Sunday matinees start at 3:00 p.m.

Ticket prices are \$10 for adults, \$8 for seniors, and \$6 for students. Reservations can be made through the Tarble Arts Center at (217) 581-2787.



Jackie Lawson
Country Singer

playlist

The Verge: Why is Sugarland’s song “Something More” one of your favorites?

Lawson: I love Sugarland because the band writes its own music. Sugarland’s music has a great melody and changes; it is fun to sing to and has a fun sound.



vergestaff

Contact the On The Verge staff by e-mail at DENverge@gmail.com or visit us on the Web at www.pounceonline.com

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Although Justin Timberlake regrets making a McDonalds ad, the Verge does not regret any of the references made about the former N*SYNC member.

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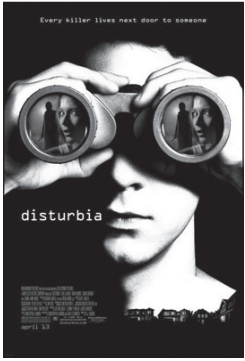
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trailertalk



Director: D.J. Caruso
Starring: Shia LaBeouf, Sarah Roemer
MPAA Rating: PG-13

Looks like LaBeouf finally broke away from the Disney Channel.

He stars in "Disturbia," a new movie about a young man who believes his neighbor is a serial killer.

Now, I know what you're thinking. "We all think our neighbor is a serial killer." Well, in this case, it seems like he's right.

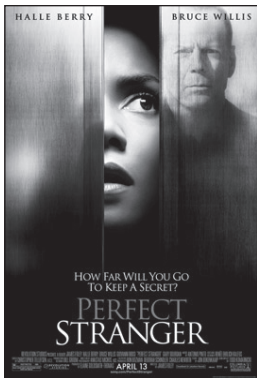
The acting seems high quality in this thriller, even if the story sounds lacking. This movie looks like it will keep viewers' attention.

Recommended to give a shot in theaters.



Director: Andy Cheng
Starring: Eddie Griffin, Nadia Bjorlin
MPAA Rating: PG-13

Fast cars. Hot women. Cash prizes.
Where's Paul Walker? How about Vin Diesel? Hell, I'll even settle for Tyrese.
All I ask is that you give this movie its appropriate title: "4 Fast 4 Furious."
This movie is nothing more than a half-ass rip-off of "The Fast and the Furious."
The preview also makes me furious wishing it did go faster so it would get over with already.
This movie just looks plain awful. There's not really anything else that needs to be said about it.
Not recommended for anyone.



Director: James Foley
Starring: Halle Berry, Bruce Willis
MPAA Rating: R

Berry and Willis star in this new thriller.
I can't really tell you what it's about because I really don't know.
Willis is apparently cheating on his wife, people are dying and Berry plays a journalist.
The last one might just be the most disturbing of them all. It almost makes me question my career path.
This movie appears to be a sleeper; not in the sense that it will be an unnoticed hit. In the sense that it will put everyone to sleep.

-By Verge Editor Adam Testa

» Jammin'

FROM PAGE B1

Spare Parts, like The Fuz, is originally a college band, originating at Southern Illinois University in 2000.
"We started as a house band at a bar. We were all in different bands at the time, so we called ourselves Spare Parts. The name gave itself to us," Bruno said. "We all left the bands we were in and kept going with this one, and it's been going real well since."
The funk/jazz group plays all original songs with the occasional cover thrown into the mix.
"We usually kind of figure (the set) out on the way to our gig or something. Sometimes you have to read the crowd and sometimes we'll change it up," Bruno said. "It all just depends on the gig. I think we're

only playing for an hour at Panther Stock, but we've had gigs where we've played for four hours."
After Panther Stock, Spare Parts will be hitting the road back to its current home base, Chicago, to play Saturday night.
Friday Night Villain is another Charleston-based band that will be playing Panther Stock.
Josh Easton, guitarist and vocalist for Friday Night Villain, heard The Fuz was playing Panther Stock, and as a fellow Charleston-based band, he brought up a link between the two bands.
"Our keyboardist and Brian Adams had a lot of classes together, so we're pretty familiar with The Fuz," Easton said.
Friday Night Villain has consistently been playing the Charleston area for the past couple of years.
"We play basements, garages, living rooms; all over," Easton said. "We've been

playing at Friends & Co. a lot. You can see us every other Friday, if not most Fridays."
Easton describes the band's music "like Andrew W.K. got in a fight with his computer, like Andrew W.K. with Nintendo sounds."
Travis Bayler, drummer for Friday Night Villain, gives a clearer understanding of the band's sound.
"It's upbeat; it's kind of hard," Bayler said. "We're trying to get catchy key lines, simple dancy beats and drum and bass lines. That's what we're going for; I don't know if we pull it off."
Friday Night Villain's set will last as long as the other bands on the bill.
"I think it'll be 45 minutes or so," Easton said.
"It's kind of short, but our songs are short because they're fast and they're stripped down and to the point. We'll knock off 13 songs, and it'll only be 45 minutes."

» Spring

FROM PAGE B1

The group will be bringing a rock-climbing wall to the event for students to attempt to climb. The ROTC will also be bringing a program called Virtual Soldier.
"It's like a laser tag construct with a screen, and the players get guns that have CO2 cartridges in them and you shoot at the targets on the screen," Hubbard said.

UB will also be hosting other games with giveaway prizes as part of Spring Fling.
"Of course, we're going to do the ever-so-popular bingo, where we're going to spend probably about \$1,000 on prizes because it's been so prominent," Hubbard said.
"People really like bingo, so we want to keep that tradition going."
One other activity for students will be the opportunity to create their own flying discs, which will be able to be used on Eastern's new disc golf course.

"You'll get a solid Frisbee base, and what happens is, while the Frisbee is spinning, you're dropping paint on it from above and then your Frisbee will have its own design," Hubbard said.
Spring Fling is being held in conjunction with Panther Stock, an all-day concert held in the Student Recreation Center.
"I try to make it fun while listening to the great sounds of the type of music that our artists come in and play," Hubbard said.
The event is free and open to all students. Food and giveaways will be provided.

Local Community Events Calendar

TODAY

To learn more about "Painting Churches," check out page B2.

Spring Fling

Time | 2 p.m.
Location | Student Recreation Center
More info | Spring Fling is a large campus event taking place today from 2 to 6 p.m.
The event is being cosponsored by University Board and the ROTC program.
The event will feature such activities as make-your-own dog tags and a rock-climbing wall.

For more information on Spring Fling, check out page B1.

Panther Stock

Time | 2 p.m.
Location | Student Recreation Center
More info | Panther Stock is a concurring event with Spring Fling. The four hour concert will feature four local bands, which are Friday Night Villain, the Fuz, Spare Parts and Mike and Joe.
The event is being sponsored by the University Board.
For more information on Panther Stock, check out page B1.

'Painting Churches'

Time | 7 p.m.
Location | Tarble Arts Center
More info | The Charleston Community Theatre will be opening its spring play, "Painting Churches," Friday.
The play is a comedy about the struggles of a woman moving out of her parent's home.
Admission to the play is \$10 for adults, \$8 for seniors and \$6 for students.

EIU Percussion Ensemble Performance

Time | 7:30 p.m.
Location | McAfee Gymnasium
More info | The EIU Percussion Ensemble will be performing tonight at 7:30 at McAfee Gymnasium.
The event is free and open to the public.

SATURDAY

'Tales Untold' Opening Reception

Time | 1 p.m.
Location | Tarble Arts Center
More info | The Tarble Arts Center will be hosting an opening reception for its new "Tales Untold: The Stories of Folk Art" exhibit.
Included in the exhibit are quilts, carvings, baskets, decoys, dolls, lace and needlework, models and other paintings and projects.
All of the pieces in the exhibit were made in east central and southeastern Illinois from the 1970s through the 1990s.

The exhibit was compiled, researched and prepared by the 2007 EIU Historical Administration graduate students.
The event will be on display at the Tarble Arts Center through July 29. The exhibit is free and open to the public.
For more information, contact Tarble at 581-2787.

SUNDAY

Jackie Lawson Concert

Time | 5 p.m.
Location | University Village - Behind Wal-Mart
More info | Jackie Lawson, a country music performer from Charleston. Lawson will be performing Sunday with Black and Blue, a country band.
The event is being held at the University Village housing complex,

located behind Wal-Mart. Free food will be provided at the event.
For more information on Lawson and her new CD release, check out page B1.

If you would like your events on our calendar, please e-mail them to denverge@gmail.com or call 217-581-2812.

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Living in an Amish paradise

By Kristina Peters
Associate Verge Editor

They do not use electricity. They do not use cars.

Instead, the Amish community uses generators and ride in buggies – complete with a horse.

Arthur is the fourth largest Amish settlement in North America. The first Amish family came to Arthur in 1865.

Theresa Binion, director of the Arthur Visitor Center, grew up in Arthur and most of her ancestors are Amish, including her parents.

“It’s a good heritage to have,” she said. “Their family and church life are intertwined and it’s hard to separate the two.”

Binion was raised Mennonite. The Amish religion is a branch of Mennonite, which is a branch of Christianity.

Arthur’s population is about 2,200, but that does not include the Amish. There are about 4,000 Amish that live in the surrounding area.

Whether driving through the country or walking through the small town, visitors to Arthur will likely see men in dark colored vests, collarless coats and homemade shirts. The women are seen in plain ankle length dresses, black stockings and flat shoes. The men wear beards if married. Women cover their heads with a white prayer cap.

“It’s extremely conservative,” Binion said of the attire.

The Amish’s lifestyle draw visitors to the town.

“A lot of people don’t understand why the Amish choose not to use certain technology,” said Amber Kauffman, director of Arcola’s Amish Interpretative



BRANDON CAMPBELL | ON THE VERGE

A young Amish boy rides his bicycle through the streets of Arthur on Tuesday afternoon. Arthur is the fourth largest Amish settlement in the United States.

Center.

The Amish do not see cars as a necessary item or telephones.

“The horse and buggy will get them where they need to go in their community,” Binion said,

adding if the Amish need to travel a long distance, they can hire someone to drive them.

Because horses are a means of travel, the Amish raise a lot of horses, among other animals, on

their farms and grow alfalfa hay to feed the animals.

As for phones, the Amish prefer to see who they are talking to.

Instead of picking up a phone to find out how someone is, the

Amish would rather take the trip to see the person, Binion said. They like the close interaction, Binion also added.

The reason for these differences in lifestyles is because the Amish want to separate themselves.

The premise of being Amish is to separate themselves from the rest of the world, Kauffman said. For example, electrical lines, which they do not have, would connect their houses to others.

Matt Schrock, an employee at the Arthur Amish Visitor Center, agrees that people come to Arthur to see the Amish.

Schrock grew up in Arthur and decided to move back home after attending college in Springfield, Mo.

“I like the fact that I can see the stars at night,” he said.

Schrock also said he feels safe walking around.

Arthur has a happy, small town atmosphere. As cars pass by a horse and buggy on the road, most of the time, the Amish inside the buggy will give a friendly wave and smile.

“They are just friendly people,” Binion said. “The town’s motto is ‘Where you’re a stranger only once,’ and that goes into the Amish community.”

Most of the Amish live on farms that are typically about 80 acres.

Kauffman said the Amish all farmed at one time, but now only one-fourth of them do now.

Wheat, corn and oats are among the items that some of the Amish still farm.

There is not enough land, though, for the Amish to use farm to support themselves.

“Our community is still adapting to that,” Kauffman said.

Serving up home cooking at Yoder’s

By Stacy Smith
Verge Reporter

Growing up in an Amish community taught Anna Herschberger a lot about herself.

She helped her mother cater a restaurant, Miller’s Home Cooking, out of their home.

She learned how to cook Amish-style food, like biscuits and gravy and mashed potatoes with gravy.

“My mom had a restaurant in her home, so that’s all I’ve ever known how to do,” she said.

Herschberger remembers helping her mother serve large groups of people that ate at their restaurant.

With the largest groups being up to 100 people, she remembers placing tables and chairs outside on the porch with her mother to accommodate their customers.

“Working with my mom has helped a lot,” Herschberger said. “I learned how to handle things when I’m under pressure.”

Although Herschberger keeps a close connection with her family, she decided the Amish community

was not the style of living she wanted because she wanted to grow up and raise a family in a more modern environment as a Methodist.

Herschberger was a waitress at Yoder’s for eight years before being asked to take ownership.

“I looked at it as a good opportunity,” she said. “I was always involved in restaurant work and enjoy doing it.”

Cindy Kauffman, an employee at Yoder’s, said she was disappointed to discover the owners were selling their business. That is until she realized Herschberger would take over.

“She expects you to work hard and do your job right,” Kauffman said.

Herschberger’s favorite part of her job is meeting new people everyday and learning how to do things she never thought she would have to do.

Herschberger fixed the computer printer when it was not working correctly, and she learned how to change the pilot light on the roaster.

“I feel like I learn something new every day dealing with the public,” she said. “I’m always faced



BRANDON CAMPBELL | ON THE VERGE

Daren Herschberger, son of Yoder’s Kitchen owner Anna Herschberger, has worked at the restaurant for six years and currently holds a manager position.

with lots of questions.”

Yoder’s offers a variety of homemade breads, cinnamon rolls and butters. The restaurant also has a 2,000 square foot gift shop.

“At a chain restaurant, people get the same thing at each place. Here, the food is not prepackaged; it’s rolled into our own stuff,” Kauffman said. “The quality is

there.”

“Many people come for the buffet because you get a variety of food,” Herschberger said.

Herschberger works closely with her 20-year-old son, Daren, who helps supervise Yoder’s with two other managers.

“Working with my son is great,” she said. “He’s really done well and

gets a lot of compliments from customers.”

Herschberger hopes her son will someday take over the restaurant.

“It’s such a big part of my life and it’s a neat place,” she said. “I would like to keep it in the family.”

Daren said his biggest strength for managing a restaurant is also his biggest weakness.

“I learned to have a lot of patience I didn’t realize I had,” he said. “When a customer is yelling at you about something, you can’t do anything about it but stay calm. Sometimes it can be really uncomfortable.”

Besides managing Yoder’s, Daren also attends Lake Land College and plans to transfer to Eastern next semester to earn a degree in business administration.

Although Daren could someday own Yoder’s, he has plans to open his own restaurant someday.

“If Yoder’s goes down, I’ll be able to have my education to back me up,” he said.

Of the restaurant’s 70 employees, approximately 30 are Amish.

“They work really well together and with other people,” Herschberger said.