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Daily Eastern News: March 21, 2007

Eastern Illinois University

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UNIVERSITY | PRESIDENTIAL CANDIDATES

Lord ready to change students’ lives

Vice president has on-campus interviews today for presidential position

By **Graham Milldrum**
University Reporter

Blair Lord knows he’s different than Eastern President Lou Hencken.

The presidential hopeful thinks he’s the man for the job.

“The way I might conduct myself would look a bit different,” Lord said when comparing himself to Hencken.

But his presidential plan doesn’t include any dramatic changes for Eastern.

Of the final three presidential candidates, Lord is the only one from Eastern.

Lord said one of his strengths is the fact he knows the university.

This means he can help Eastern “build on its strength and move to even higher levels of accomplishment without delay,” he said.

Lord came to the university as the provost and vice president for academic affairs in 2001, a position he has held ever since.

Lord graduated from the University of California at Davis with a degree in economics, and

» SEE **LORD**, PAGE 5



JAY GRABIEC | THE DAILY EASTERN NEWS

Blair Lord, provost and vice president for academic affairs, looks out the east door of Old Main. Lord is one of three candidates for the position of university president.

CAMPUS | CONCERT EXPENSES

Eastern releases contract

Staff Report

Eastern has released the complete contract it had with the Goo Goo Dolls for their March 4 performance at Lantz Arena.

A letter dated March 14 from President Lou Hencken to *The DEN* says the university contacted the Goo Goo Dolls’ agent who did not wish to pursue further legal action and consented to the release of the financial payment information.

The letter continues, that the Goo Goo Dolls’ agent believes the release of the financial payment information would put the university at a competitive disadvantage in booking acts in the future because other acts would take the release of financial data into consideration when determining whether or not to sign a contract to perform at the university, a concern Hencken shares.

The contract states Eastern paid \$55,000 to the Goo Goo Dolls, \$1,000 was paid to Augustana and \$5,600 was paid to the Agency Booking Commission.

The contract also states Eastern was to receive 20 percent gross profits after sales tax from any merchandise sold at the event. Eastern was to receive 10 percent of the profit from CDs/DVD sales at the concert,

The contract states that Lantz Arena has a gross potential that is not to exceed \$59,500.

The student ticket price was \$12 and general admission tickets cost \$17.

The Goo Goo Dolls were hired to perform for 60-75 minutes and did not receive any percentages, bonuses or overages due to Eastern’s flat fee guarantee.

The total expenses, paid by the UB, are estimated at \$73,715.79.

The previous contract that was released to *The Daily Eastern News* had several items blacked out, including the amount of money paid to the Goo Goo Dolls, the amount paid to opening act Augustana, merchandise profit splits and the price of tickets.

The DEN requested a copy of the concert budget and a copy of the contract with the Goo Goo Dolls from the University Board in February.

The university originally refused to release the information because of a request from the Goo Goo Dolls’ agent’s representation that the information was privileged and confidential and considered a trade secret, the disclosure of which may cause competitive harm.

The DEN filed an appeal of the denied Freedom of Information Act Request on March 9.

CITY | PERMITS

Keg sales ordinance available to public

By **Stephen Di Benedetto**
Senior City Reporter

A potential ordinance changing the process of keg sales is now available for public inspection.

The Charleston City Council unanimously voted to make this ordinance available to the public.

If passed, the ordinance will put the Charleston police in control of issuing keg permits.

“From a student perspective, the only thing that is going to change is students will have to go to the Police Department to get keg permits,” said Police Chief Paul Welch.

Students wishing to read the ordinance in full context can do so by visiting city hall in the square.

The ordinance will allow police to know who has rented kegs and where

» SEE **KEGS**, PAGE 5

CAMPUS | SMOKING BAN

Attempting to ‘clear the air’

Debate to argue both sides of smoke-free issue to be held today

By **Michelle Simek**
Health and Science Reporter

A debate will be held today at noon in the Martinsville Room of the Martin Luther King Jr. University Union to hopefully clear the air on the smoke-free campus issue.

Students are encouraged to attend so they can gain a better understanding of each side of the issue, said Chris Stanfield, Tobacco/Stress/Wellness education coordinator for the Health Education Resource Center and creator of the event.

Eric Davidson, head of HERC, and Stanfield will lead the debate on the smoke-free side while three members from student government will lead against the smoking ban on campus.

Tyson Holder, member of student government and a smoker himself, is against the smoking ban. Holder personally feels that forcing students who smoke to trek off-campus is both inconvenient and unfair.

“Many on-campus smokers



JAY GRABIEC | THE DAILY EASTERN NEWS

Brett Flanagan, a sophomore special education major, smokes a cigarette outside Lawson Hall on Tuesday. Flanagan thinks that smoking bans “suck” especially because she is from the Chicago area where smoking bans have been getting strict.

do not know the mandates or ordinances that the campus has integrated,” Holder said. “If rules were posted and cigarette receptacles were moved, smokers would realize that they are not supposed to be blocking entrance ways.”

Stanfield said he also wants to bring up the pros, cons, health risks, students rights and how the ban will and can affect future enrollment during the debate.

» SEE **SMOKING**, PAGE 5

Encouraging women to lead

Professor to give women empowering advice

By Beth Hackett
Senior Activities Reporter

Women outside of America have achieved high political power and have been doing so for some time. But Assege HaileMariam said she finds it surprising that the United States is not at the forefront of that development. It is common in the United States to believe that women and politics do not go together, but she wants to help women understand that it is possible and can be achieved, said HaileMariam. Anyone who is interested in leadership must first be prepared; this is true for women as well, said HaileMariam, of the psychology department and faculty senate chair. “Education and having a passion for what you want to get involved in are the obvious,” she said. “Critical skills for leadership, I believe, are effective, interpersonal and communication skills.” HaileMariam will lead the forum discussion, “Lessons Learned From

Great Women Leaders,” at 2:30 today in the Charleston/Mattoon Room of the Martin Luther King Jr. University Union. “We want to learn exactly how we can increase participation of women in politics,” said Penka Skachkova, of the women’s studies department. “It should be made interesting and exciting for women and girls to be a part of.” The fact that there is a public debate about whether or not the United States is ready for a woman president is disheartening, HaileMariam said. “Around the world, historically or currently, women have successfully led nations,” she said. Women such as President Tarja Halonen (Finland), Vice-President Annette Lü Hsiu-lien (Taiwan) and Prime Minister Golda Meir (Israel) have been powerful political figures for their countries. “This is a great achievement for the other countries, but very unfortunate for us because we are still behind in the accomplishments they are making,” Skachkova said. The U.S. House of Representatives holds 13 percent women and Congress contains 12

percent. Although it is a small statistic, Skachkova said people have to understand the adverseness of the number. In 1979, 3 percent of the U.S. Congress were women, so the number is increasing, but at a slow rate. Skachkova said this is why we need to learn how other countries succeed in electing women officials. HaileMariam will explore great women leaders and discuss how her leadership style has been shaped by women’s political participation in other countries, said Sue Songer of the international programs office. “Professor HaileMariam is a well-known personality on campus and is chair of the faculty senate, which is a powerful leadership role for a woman to hold,” Songer said. Skachkova said she is looking forward to the discussion. “She is an absolutely fascinating speaker and doesn’t leave anybody feeling indifferent,” she said. “Her way of expressing herself is very unique and emotional, as she relates all her information with her own personal experiences,” said Skachkova.

CAMPUS | APPORTIONMENT BOARD



FILE PHOTO | THE DAILY EASTERN NEWS

Members of the Apportionment Board listen to a presentation given at the last meeting before spring break in the Arcola-Tuscola Room on the third floor of the Martin Luther King Jr. University Union.

Attendance problems plague AB

By Zach Nugent
Apportionment Board Reporter

Attendance has been a problem with the Apportionment Board so far this semester and the repercussions will be felt at this week’s meeting. Thursday’s meeting will begin with a vote to remove Skyler King from AB. He has been absent from all meetings this semester. AB members have not been able to contact King for quite some time, said AB Chair Levi Bulgar. In addition to King, several other AB members have been absent from crucial meetings. This is the first year there has been such an issue with AB, Bulgar said. “If a person does not want to be on the board or has a conflict with time, I’m totally okay with it,” Bulgar said. “I just want to know.” During the last few meetings, Bulgar has stressed the importance of attendance to members. The bylaws state that each member may have one unexcused absence. Members can call in for excused absences.

LEVI BULGAR | AB CHAIR

“If a person does not want to be on the board or has a conflict with time, I'm totally okay with it. I just want to know.”

But the decision ultimately falls to the chair of the board on whether a member is missing too many meetings. Bulgar videotaped the last few meetings so absent members could keep up with the rest of AB. Part of the problem is that AB does not have set meetings. Eric Wilber, AB member, said the board meets when the chair decides it is necessary. If members do not receive notice from the chair, they miss out on the meetings. Bulgar said he has been lenient this year, and is willing to sit down with anyone who has a conflict with meeting times. “I would say that our current policy works for the most part, but if we continue to have a lot of

absences, then we can re-evaluate the policy,” Wilber said. Keith Darby, another AB member, agreed that the policy works. “I think that the policy is reasonable because there is lots of information that is presented at the meetings and sometimes we have to vote on a particular allocation,” he said. AB needs seven members to hold quorum, and in the past, it has had to cancel meetings because of the lack of attendance. If there are enough members for quorum on Thursday, AB will officially vote to remove King for AB, Bulgar said. It will also begin reviewing budgets for the 2007-2008 school year.

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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.

Corrections

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70° | 57°

Showers



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62° | 43°

Scattered T-storms



FRIDAY

63° | 50°

Scattered T-storms



RSOs hurting for cash

Faculty Senate discusses student fees

By Jess Kinsella
Faculty Senate Reporter

Eastern has an average of 150 registered student organizations, all of which fund themselves.

Eastern is one of the only universities that does not have some kind of RSO funding, explained Cole Rogers, student vice president of student affairs.

That is exactly why Rogers and Levi Bulgar, student vice president of business affairs, spoke to the Faculty Senate Tuesday.

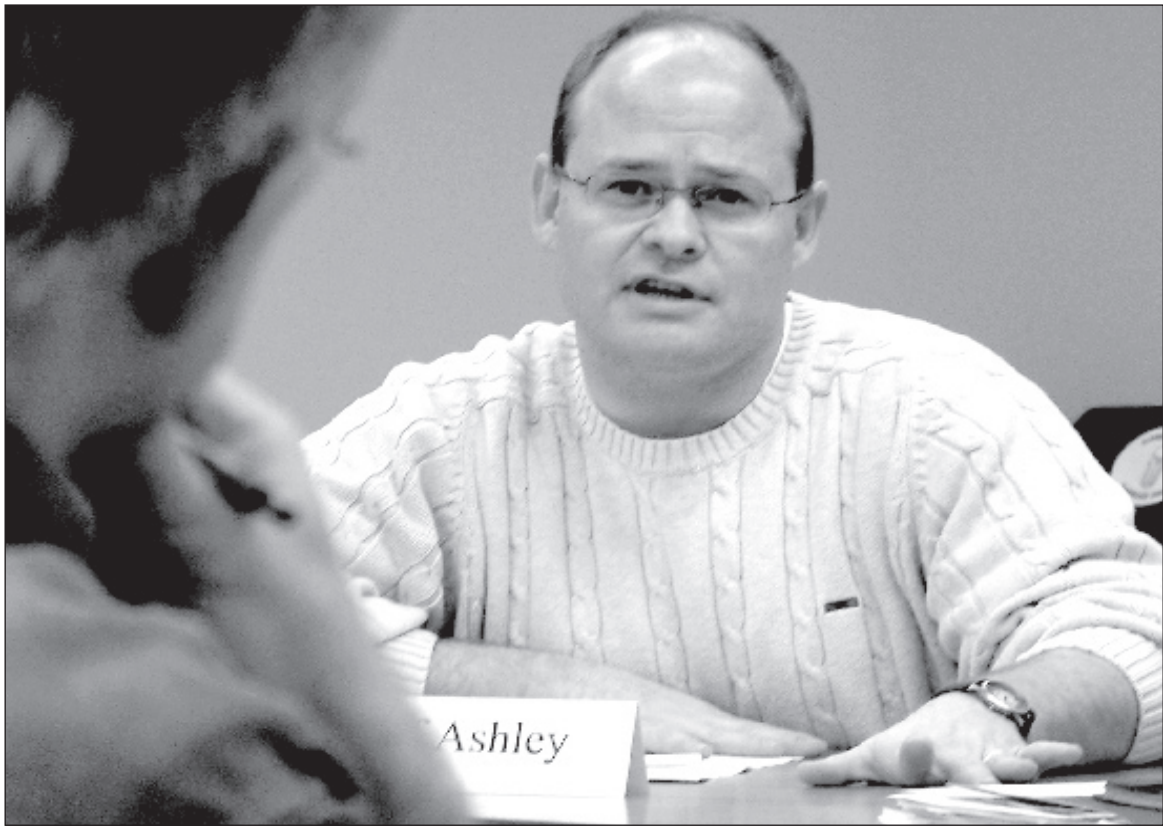
Rogers explained funding would come from student fees.

The increase could range from a minimum of \$5 to \$15, Rogers added.

Since last fall, Rogers and Bulgar teamed up to gather a task force that has been researching RSO funding. Rogers wanted to see how other schools are funded and the obstacles they face.

A questionnaire was sent out to a number of universities asking questions that would aid their research, he said.

Rogers also invited members from RSOs to attend five focus groups where members were encouraged to express their opinions on funding, and sent out



KRISTIN BORN | THE DAILY EASTERN NEWS

Jeff Ashley, political science professor and vice chairman of the Faculty Senate, discusses whether athletic money is untouchable or if appropriation money can be taken and placed in student research at a Faculty Senate meeting Tuesday in the Booth Library conference room. Eastern has the third highest percent of total funding coming from appropriations, said Ashley.

400 surveys to Eastern students.

Rogers said 88 percent of the students surveyed were in favor of spending some amount of student fee money toward RSO funding.

RSO funding would create a number of benefits for Eastern, Rogers said.

The money would help RSOs provide more events and activities on campus as well as more service opportunities, Rogers explained.

“This (service opportunity) would foster better relations with the community,” Rogers said.

If funding were to take place, RSOs may face a few problems.

Rogers explained that a few

universities who responded to the questionnaire said they dealt with students who were displeased with how the money was dispersed.

However, Rogers and his task force have researched many different systems to eliminate as much subjectivity as possible with the distribution of money, he said.

Rogers added that ultimately it would be up to the administration as to how the money would be allocated.

Faculty members appeared pleased with Roger’s idea for RSO funding.

“Full speed ahead,” said John Kilgore, English professor. “I think

you have a wonderful idea.”

The winner of the Distinguished Faculty Award was also announced at the meeting by Ann Brownson, librarian. Roger Beck, history professor, who started his career at Eastern in 1987, will receive the award. Beck has taught around the world at a secondary and collegiate level, Brownson said.

He has received his doctorate in the history of Africa, she added. Beck will receive a monetary award and his name will be on a plaque located in Booth Library.

The next senate meeting will be April 3 at 2 p.m. in Booth Library Conference Room 4440.

CAMPUS | FUND RAISER

Running for Glory

By Tearria Ruffin
Campus Reporter

Glorivette Alegria was like any other college student.

On March 16, 2006, she was enjoying her spring break at home in Aurora.

Tragically, that day would be the last time she would take her usual run. Alegria had collapsed on a treadmill and was later found by a family member. She was pronounced dead of liver and kidney failure the next day.

“You never know when a goodbye is going to mean something,” said Kristin Wilson, senior family consumer science major and sorority sister.

Alegria’s memory is honored in Run for Glory, a race to raise money for the Glorivette Alegria Scholarship fund. The first race will be Saturday.

Even a year after Alegria’s sudden death, shock and grief are still felt by the people that knew her.

Wilson and her fellow sorority sisters of Alpha Gamma Delta were preparing to leave for their trip in Puerto Vallarta, Mexico, on March 17, 2006.

A member of the Alpha Gams received a call that would change their lives forever. Their friend and



ERIC HILTNER | THE DAILY EASTERN NEWS

A mourner wipes her eye during the Glorivette Alegria memorial service at the Newman Catholic Church last year.

sorority sister, Alegria, had died.

“It was very difficult understanding why because she was so healthy,” Wilson said.

When Alegria rushed (tried out to join) the Alpha Gams in 2004, Wilson said that Alegria’s smile is what left an impression on her and she knew she would fit perfectly in their sorority.

“If you were ever having a bad day she would always bring you up,” Wilson said.

Alegria’s smile and charm is what attracted people to her. Angie Taylor, a senior communication

studies major and coordinator for Run for Glory, said that it was easy to judge her good character.

“If you just look at her pictures you kind of see her spirit,” Taylor said.

As a junior family consumer science major, Alegria worked in the campus pharmacy and Panther Catering. Taylor said it took a long time for people to accept Alegria’s death. Every time Taylor goes to the pharmacy she said that she still sees Alegria’s obituary posted on the wall.

“She was a legacy there,” Taylor

said. “People really loved her.”

Alegria’s legacy still touches the hearts of her close friends.

Jillian Blondell, senior physical education major, met Alegria four years ago while attending the College of Dupage in Glen Ellyn. Blondell said that Alegria was always there when she needed her.

“She was always a person to count on when I needed someone to talk to,” she said.

On March 16, Blondell was at the mall when her phone rang. Her father told her Alegria had collapsed and was in the hospital.

“I panicked and wanted to go home,” Blondell said.

The loving friend whom Blondell grew fond of lay helpless in a hospital bed. Throughout the night, Alegria’s blood pressure continued to drop. Blondell said that she had a feeling that her friend would die.

“There wasn’t much you could do,” Blonbell said.

That night Blondell told her friend her last goodbyes. On March 17, Alegria died. A year later, Blondell said that she learned to cherish the ones that she loves.

“Live every day to the fullest and let the person that you know and care about that you love them because you don’t know when they’ll be gone,” Blondell said.

CAMPUS

WEDNESDAY

3.21.07

campusbriefs

Senate to vote on travel expenses at weekly meeting

» The Student Senate will vote tonight on travel expenses for eight delegates attending the Illinois Board of Higher Education-Student Advisory Committee meeting at Elmhurst College.

A total of \$698.28 would be allocated for this weekend’s meeting.

In other business, delegates who attended the Conference on Student Government Associations at Texas A&M University will present on their experiences.

Each delegate will speak about the workshops they attended, said senate member Leah Pietraszewski.

Topics of workshops included budgeting, getting freshmen motivated and making a safe ride home on weekends.

The senate meets Wednesday at 7 p.m. in the Arcola-Tuscola Room in the Martin Luther King Jr. University Union.

-Matt Hopf, Student Government Reporter

English department presents poetry reading

» Tryfon Tolides will present a reading of his poetry at 4:30 p.m. Thursday in the Lumpkin Hall Auditorium.

Tolides’ work has appeared in several national publications, including Atlanta Review and Poetry Daily. He will be reading from his recent collection, “An Almost Pure Empty Walking.”

The reading will be presented by the English department and is celebrated in conjunction with Women’s History and Awareness Month. Tolides was born in Greece and attended the University of Maine. For more information, contact the English department at 581-2428.

-Marco Santana, Campus Editor

Volunteer forms for Specials Olympics due Friday

» Special Olympics is looking for volunteers for the April 27 games. Forms are due by Friday to Room 1212 in Buzzard Hall. The event will be at O’Brien Field.

The Special Olympics events are held year round to help people with intellectual disabilities participate in sports and activities. Volunteers are needed and appreciated. Forms can be picked up at the department of special education. For more information, call Margie Thennes 581-5315.

-Beth Hackett, Senior Activities Reporter

Correction

In Tuesday’s story about the football assistant coach search, the photo of candidate Jeff Hoover on Page 10 is incorrect. The photo that ran with Hoover’s name is the photo of Roy Istvan. Hoover’s photo is the one that ran under Istvan’s name.

The DEN regrets the error.

COMMENTS | CORRECTIONS | EVENTS

To report any errors, local events or general suggestions for future editions please contact our news editor, **Cathy Bayer**, via:
Phone | **581-7942**,
E-mail | **DENnewsdesk@gmail.com**
Office visit | **1811 Buzzard Hall**.

YOUR TURN | LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Eastern students are members of Charleston community

I read with great interest Michael Peterson's March 9 column about the limited range of music available on Hit Mix 88.9 FM, and was also interested to read the rather dismissive response by WEIU FM news director Jonathan Mattson on Wednesday.

As an Eastern faculty member who is also a member of the Charleston community, I can certainly say I am not being served by Hit Mix 88.9 FM, which seems to provide a similar content to commercial radio stations that already exist in Charleston. Given the lack of diversity on the FM dial in Charleston, it seems unusual that we would argue we are using a valuable resource, a broadcast license, to serve clients who are well served by existing stations. It is also disturbing that we would argue that a university could serve its community members by not exposing them to new music and a variety of musical genres.

While I realize a letter to the student paper will do little to change the current format, it should at least be realized that there are other people, in addition to Peterson, who don't believe WEIU Hit Mix is a valuable contribution to the campus or the surrounding community.

Instead of serving as a valuable educational asset to the Charleston community, we have a college radio station that is not run in the interests of the community interested in music for its own sake, a station that is not run in the interest of students, or even faculty. It is a shame, really, that in order to listen to classical music, we must suffer the interference common to WILL FM and AM, and for those students interested in learning about and hearing music relevant to their lives, they must turn to the internet. I'm not sure who made the decision to make this switch from a decent college radio station to the current format, but the new format certainly doesn't benefit all the members of the community, and we shouldn't pretend that it does.

Eric R. Hake | Associate economics 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.

ourview

AB should Kick King out

The Apportionment Board, among other things, decides where a large portion of our student fees go.

So, we would expect its members to be responsible adults – including eight students and three faculty members – dedicated to the student body.

AB members' dedication to the students should be shown everywhere from their votes to their attendance.

This semester there has been a problem with one member's attendance record.

Student Harold "Skyler" King has not graced us with his appearance at a single of the five meetings this semester.

This is simply irresponsible and unacceptable.

Members are allowed one unexcused absence according to the AB bylaws, and can call in for excused absences, which include personal issues and prior engagements such as conferences.

As if this policy is not already relaxed enough, AB chair Levi Bulgar said he has been lenient this year when handling absences.

For members that have missed meetings, Bulgar has gone out of his way not only to provide packets, but video footage of

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meetings this semester.

One concern members have expressed is that the AB does not have set meetings.

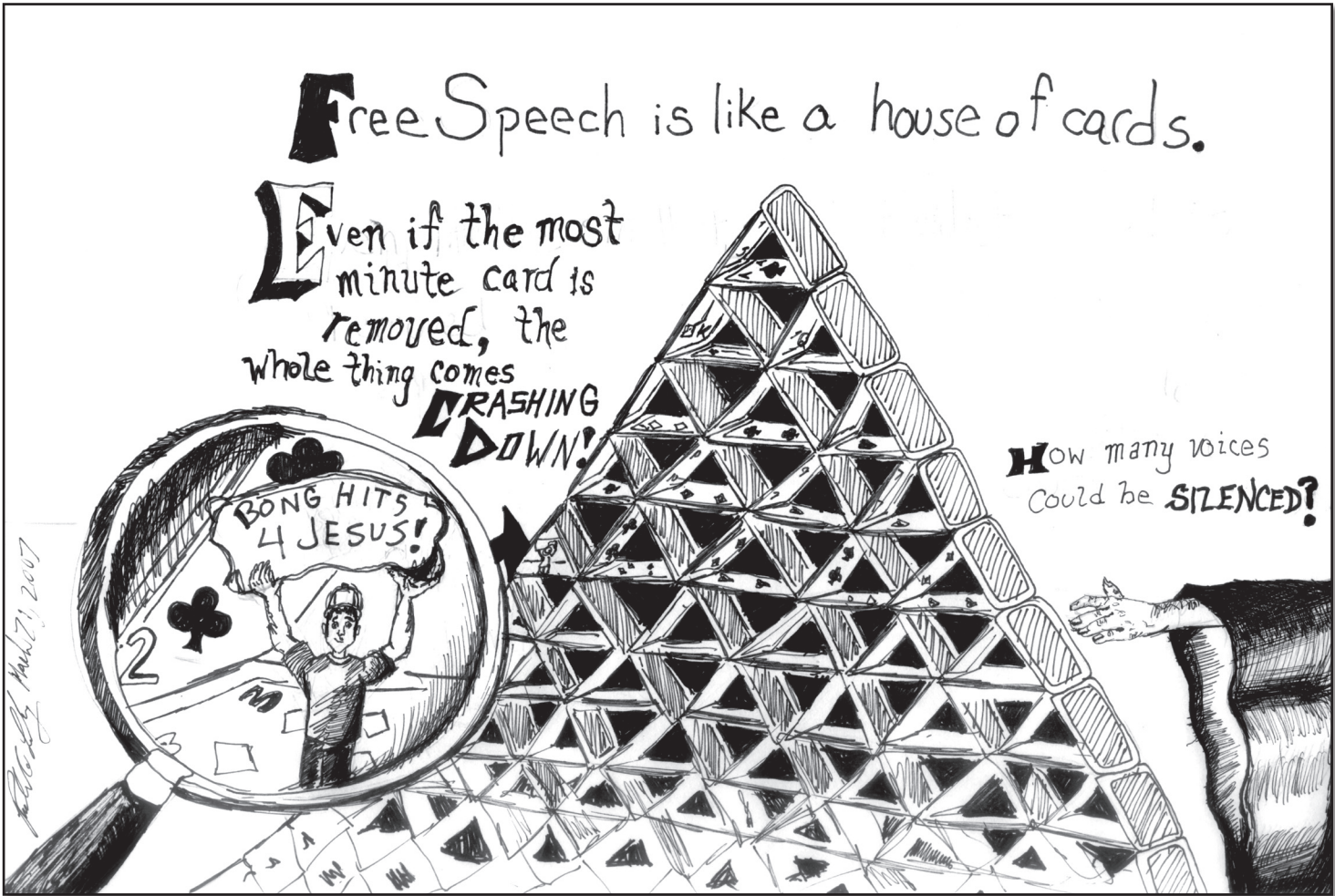
To avoid this problem, Bulgar said it might be better in the future to consider there will be a meeting every week unless the board decides otherwise.

However, all members know about meetings at least one week ahead of time and know they will always be at 7 p.m. on Thursdays. It is still possible for students to keep their schedules clear for a couple hours every Thursday night with one week's notice.

The rules are lenient enough right now that more than one or two unexcused absences should be seen as just that – inexcusable and intolerable.

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



COLUMNIST | MAURICE TRACY

The development that should and does push a fully grown physiologic human body does possess a nearly mature brain in upper childhood already filled with the learning from upper infant-childish society, as taught by those in lower adulthood. Lacking the knowledge that upper juveniles should already have to reflect back upon upper childhood experiences and the backward interpretation of those symptoms of which only a middle adult is capable of reinterpreting after the dialectic has been damaged by false self-reliance and the ensuing terror of ignorance recognized by the helpless victim. When no middle adult is present to fill the vacuum of social disruption created by other upper juveniles a so-called self-reliance begins to harden all the social issues at hand and the level of social violence starts to grow precipitously from there.

I must again help clarify the above by explaining what is obvious, that all life forms have and do transition through four stages of evolution of three each; lower, middle,

and upper. For humans, it's three of infancy, of childhood, of juvenilism and adulthood, plus the interplay of development and classic symptoms, sometimes existing as one of the three dialectic forces that exist outside the proclivity of an ever-present urge in an existential vacuum to solve maniacal contradictions in a desert environment through rapid calculations and predictable failure by such miscalculations and the knowable genealogy of the events and its results.

The dire results of humanity in having NO third stage practicing human adults condemns that species, and all others, to predictable extinction and suffering in the meanwhile, and what could have been is being wasted wantonly by obvious corruption of cyclic repetition thundering toward premature extinction by miscreant educators trapped and surrounded by their own symptoms of dirlection and subservience to paradigms either wholly misinterpreted, or married illegitimately and willingly to lower urges of denial, hemmed

in by cultural taboo and prejudice. As certain as anything can be, there are, and in great numbers, upper adults of advanced age who know and understand perfectly what this piece is trying to articulate and are withholding (especially the U.S.A.) the vital energy that will explode the myth of consumerism/privilege, and illuminate the only viable collective mind set, and open the path to constructive worker-socialist-communist continuity of non-sexist, racist or social inequality among humans, deflecting the certainty of homogenization and sectarian manipulation, insuring the survival of this terrestrial sphere.

Maurice Tracy

Maurice Tracy is an English graduate student. He can be reached at **maurice.tracy@gmail.com**

» Lord

FROM PAGE 1

His thesis dealt with medical insurance, a topic he would go on to teach at the University of Rhode Island University, where he worked for 25 years.

He took his first administrative step in 1981 when he became chair of the finance and insurance office.

“In higher education, we are about changing students’ lives,” Lord said. “I believe that’s why each of us follows this career. I found that my contributions to this mission were greater and more satisfying in my administrative positions.”

He served as vice provost for Academic Affairs at University of Rhode Island from 1991-2001 and continued to teach until he came to

BLAIR LORD | PROVOST AND VICE PRESIDENT OF ACADEMIC AFFAIRS

“In higher education, we are about changing students’ lives.”

Eastern.

His role at Eastern has provided many duties, including being the second-ranking member of the university, ensuring accreditation and managing the departmental budget for academic affairs and membership on the Committee for University Planning and Budget.

Lord works with the deans of colleges and chairs of the departments around the university. The deans meet with him personally, while the chairs meet with him in a Council of Chairs.

Peter Andrews, chair of the

computer science and mathematics department, said that Lord maintains a “very clear chain of command.” Andrews speaks to his dean, then his dean speaks to Lord.

Andrews says this arrangement works, and that if he has concerns, he feels they are dealt with appropriately.

Lord’s relationship with the office staff of Academic Affairs is much more personal.

Karen Johnson, administrative assistant, called Lord a fantastic boss. “We think very highly of him,” she said.

» Smoking

FROM PAGE 1

Although each side has their own opinions about the smoking policy at Eastern, this debate will serve as an educational experience.

“We hope things won’t get too heated,” Stanfield said.

Keith Kohanzo, retired director

of judicial affairs, agreed to preside over the debate.

“I have had a lot of experience and background dealing with these kinds of issues,” he said. “I am curious to hear the different viewpoints.”

Stanfield hopes that with the topics discussed students who are on the fence can make a decision or be a little closer to determining

what they feel is the right thing to do about the smoking policy.

The 45-minute debate will also offer time for students and audience members to ask questions to either side.

“The HERC wants to hear what students think about the possible ban,” Stanfield said. “We encourage everyone with an opinion to come and speak their mind.”

» Kegs

FROM PAGE 1

potential parties may be held, said Mayor John Inyart.

“What we really want is the permit information to be accurate,” he said.

Inyart said he thinks the public will become more involved in this process as it continues.

“I would anticipate additional dialogue on this matter,” he said.

Carl and Scott Wolffe, owners

of Gateway Liquors and East Side Package, were in attendance at the council meeting.

“I was unaware there was a problem until I read it in the paper this morning,” Carl Wolffe said.

The Wolfes plan to speak more with each council member and Inyart to learn more about the ordinance and the effects it will have on their businesses.

– Adam Testa contributed to this report



JOHN BAILEY | THE DAILY EASTERN NEWS

Mayor John Inyart reminds the public in attendance at Tuesday’s City Council meeting that Ordinance 10 in the agenda is not being voted on but merely being put up for inspection by the public. Ordinance 10 was concerning who will have the power to issue keg permits in Charleston.

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statebriefs

Rescuers find missing body

» CLINTON — Searchers located the body of a missing 8-year-old boy in the spillway below the Clinton Lake dam Tuesday morning, and were working to recover the body, authorities said.

Kalin L. Hunter of Normal disappeared Wednesday when his grandfather's 17-foot aluminum fishing boat apparently ran out of gas and was swept over the spillway.

The bodies of the boy's grandfather and uncle, Richard L. Hunter, 59, of Normal, and Jason C. Hunter, 29, were found Thursday. Jason Hunter was Richard Hunter's son.

On Monday, rescuers began using underwater cameras to locate the boy's body in the spillway, where the lake empties into Salt Creek, because the water was too rough for divers.

Authorities had been looking for the third-grader's body below the spillway and up to three-quarters of a mile down the stream.

Mob boss pleads not guilty

» CHICAGO — Reputed mob boss Joseph "Joey the Clown" Lombardo pleaded not guilty Tuesday to a charge that he went on the lam to avoid arrest.

Lombardo, 78, entered his plea on the obstruction-of-justice charge during a brief hearing in federal court. Earlier this month, a federal grand jury approved obstruction charges against Lombardo and Frank "The German" Schweis, after prosecutors alleged the two sought to avoid capture when they were named in the original Operation Family Secrets racketeering indictment.

A match made in heaven



CANDICE C. CUSIC | MCT

Mary Hughes, 68, and husband Millard, 81, pose inside their home in Homewood on March 8, 2007. The Hughes were married in 1965 before the landmark case of *Loving v. Virginia*, which declared bans against interracial marriage unconstitutional.

Tradition drives hiring process

Lawyer contends clients are scapegoats in statewide process

The Associated Press

SPRINGFIELD— The state's personnel agency gave special handling to applications from candidates with political clout but not because of any orders from an official accused of violating hiring procedures, a witness testified Tuesday.

Cynthia Dixon, a job-evaluation supervisor at the Department of Central Management Services, said the special treatment was not ordered by Dawn DeFraties, the department's former personnel director.

Dixon testified at a Civil Service Commission hearing for DeFraties and Michael Casey, DeFraties' former aide. The Blagojevich administration fired the pair last spring for allegedly fixing the hiring process from 2003 to 2005 to favor 2,000 politically connected applicants.

Dixon testified for the state that applications that came from DeFraties' office, instead of through the mail, were evaluated for training and experience and put immediately on a statewide database potentially giving those candidates a better shot at a state job.

Under cross-examination, Dixon said the process had been in place for years, even before DeFraties was in charge.

She agreed with a summary from defense attorney Carl Draper: "It had already been going on and you

and the graders knew to do it that way because you had been doing it for years."

Inferior applications always were returned to DeFraties' office with notes on the deficiencies, and Dixon said Casey instructed her to have graders more fully explain the shortcomings.

Draper contends his clients were following orders from Gov. Rod Blagojevich's office and are scapegoats to divert attention from a federal investigation into the governor's statewide hiring practices. A string of state witnesses has testified that nothing they did under DeFraties and Casey violated any laws or rules.

Thomas Bradley, a lawyer for Blagojevich, said the previous process took place before an ethics law was enacted after the Democrat took office.

Elementary Achievement tests flawed

Grades three through eight are affected

The Associated Press

CHICAGO — Elementary school students across Illinois are taking achievement tests this month that contain as many as 13 errors, officials from the Illinois State Board of Education said.

Many of the errors ranging from wrong directions on how to complete the exams to multiple-choice questions without a correct answer as an option were caught before the March 13 testing window opened.

School administrators were sent instructions on how to address the mistakes.

But other mistakes were discovered last week, Matt Vanover, a spokesman for the board of education, told the Chicago Sun-Times in a story published Tuesday.

He said several of the questions will be disregarded or fixed in the scoring process.

"Instructions to schools have been sent out on how to handle this situation," he said Tuesday. "No students' scores will be impacted because of this."

The errors on the math and reading tests affect grades three through eight.

For example, students are directed to answer a question on the wrong page and a sixth-grade math question calls for answers in centimeters, but all multiple choice answers are in inches.

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Second term blues strike Bush

WASHINGTON—With every unfolding crisis, President Bush is finding fewer allies in his corner. Republicans are ever more nervous about the Iraq war, Attorney General Alberto Gonzales’ problems, FBI abuses of the Patriot Act and the botched treatment of war wounded at the Walter Reed Army Medical Center.

Even the Republicans still standing with the president on Iraq are having a hard time supporting him on domestic measures, reluctant to take stands that could be used against them politically. In fact, supporting the president on Iraq may be making it easier for them to oppose him on other measures unpopular with their constituents.

“I think Republicans are in a very awkward position of having to defend a number of indefensible acts. It’s causing them to move into the every-man-for-himself mode,” said GOP strategist Scott Reed.

These have not been good days for the administration. The Senate voted 94-2 on Tuesday to end Gonzales’ authority to fill U.S. attorney vacancies without Senate confirmation. The House is to vote later this week on a war spending bill that would effectively withdraw U.S. combat troops by fall 2008. Competing threats of presidential vetoes and congressional subpoenas fill the air.

More and more, there’s less Bush can do to reward Republicans for backing him or punish those who don’t.

“Support for President Bush becomes less important the closer we get to the election,” said Republican consultant Rich Galen. “I’m not sure he’ll be totally irrelevant, but certainly there will be more time, attention and money spent on propping up and-or defending the emerging front-runner, and then the party nominee, than the outgoing president.”

Gonzales has a constituency of one, Bush himself, and never built a base of support in the Senate.



JEFF WILLHELM | MCT

Kent Auberry, Michael Auberry’s father, talks to the press after Michael was found alive after spending nearly four days lost in Doughton Park, in Wilkes County, N.C. on Tuesday.

Missing Boy Scout found

The Associated Press

A 12-year-old Boy Scout whose favorite book was about a youngster lost in the wilderness now has his own harrowing survival tale to tell after rescuers found him Tuesday, dehydrated and disoriented from four days in the wooded mountains of North Carolina.

A rescue dog picked up Michael Auberry’s scent less than a mile from the campsite where he had wandered away from his troop Saturday. The boy’s father speculated that he was simply homesick and wanted to hitchhike home. The disappearance touched off an intensive search involving bloodhounds, heat-seeking helicopters and dozens of volunteers on foot.

“He saw the helicopters and heard people calling him, but he yelled back and they didn’t hear him,” said his father, Kent Auberry. “He’s very tired. He’s very dehydrated. But he came through this in unbelievable fashion.”

With tears in his eyes, Auberry added: “To have our son back is a tremendous blessing.”

It was not immediately clear exactly how the boy was able to survive or whether he put any of his Scout wilderness training to

use. A few hours after an emotional reunion, Kent Auberry said he still didn’t know much about his son’s ordeal, mostly because decided not to ask too many questions.

“What he tells us is he was on the move,” Auberry said. “He slept in tree branches. He curled up under rocks.”

Michael had worn two jackets, one of them fleece, and was believed to have a mess kit and potato chips with him when he disappeared. He told the rescue team he had been drinking water from streams, and lost his hat and glasses in the woods.

Searchers spotted Michael walking along a stream before he saw them.

“They called his name. He didn’t respond ... Once they said ‘We’re here to rescue you,’ the first thing he said is he wanted a helicopter ride out of there,” said Blue Ridge Parkway ranger David Bauer.

Aside from a few cuts and scratches, Michael was in good health and could walk and talk. Because he had been without food and water, he was carried on a stretcher to a nearby road and then taken to see his parents. “A lot of tears, a lot of hugs,” said Tina White, spokeswoman for the National Park

Service.

Later, Michael went by ambulance to a medical center. Along the way, he received IV fluids to help him rehydrate and told his father he wanted to sleep, said ambulance driver Bud Lane.

Hours earlier, the boy’s father had talked about one of Michael’s favorite books when he was younger, a story titled “Hatchet” about a boy whose plane crashes in the Alaskan wilderness, and how the boy survives on his own.

“I think he’s got some of that book in his mind,” said Kent Auberry, whose son had camped overnight several times. “They do a great job in the Scouts of educating the kids of what to beware of and tips. I’m hopeful that Michael has taken those to heart.”

Bauer said as many as 100 people searched for Auberry on Tuesday, including Misha Marshall, whose dog Gandalf picked up the boy’s scent.

The black 2-year-old Shiloh Shepherd “popped his head three times” and there was Michael, she said.

“He was a little dazed,” Marshall said. “You are totally overwhelmed. You at first don’t believe he’s the person you’re looking for.”

NATION

WEDNESDAY
3.21.07

nationbriefs

The Associated Press

White House offers to let Congress interview aides

» WASHINGTON-President Bush warned Democrats Tuesday to accept his offer to have top aides testify about the firings of federal prosecutors only privately and not under oath, or risk a constitutional showdown from which he would not back down.

Democrats’ response to his proposal was swift and firm. “Testimony should be on the record and under oath. That’s the formula for true accountability,” said Patrick Leahy, chairman of the Senate Judiciary Committee.

Bush, in a late-afternoon statement at the White House, said, “We will not go along with a partisan fishing expedition aimed at honorable public servants. ... I proposed a reasonable way to avoid an impasse.”

First few step onto tribe’s glass-bottom deck

» HUALAPAI INDIAN RESERVATION, Ariz.—Indian leaders and a former astronaut stepped gingerly beyond the Grand Canyon’s rim Tuesday, staring through the glass floor and into the 4,000-foot chasm below during the opening ceremony for a new observation deck.

A few members of the Hualapai Indian Tribe, which allowed the Grand Canyon Skywalk to be built, hopped up and down on the horseshoe-shaped structure.

At its edge, 70 feet beyond the rim, the group peeked over the glass wall.

“I can hear the glass cracking!” Hualapai Chairman Charlie Vaughn said playfully. Former astronaut Buzz Aldrin declared it a “magnificent first walk.”

The Hualapai, whose reservation is about 90 miles west of Grand Canyon National Park, allowed Las Vegas developer David Jin to build the \$30 million Skywalk in hopes of creating a unique attraction.

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NATIONAL SPORTS | ROUNDUP

Redskins trade Archuleta to Bears

The Associated Press the start of the season.

ASHBURN, Va. — Adam Archuleta’s tumultuous time with the Washington Redskins ended Tuesday night when he was traded to the Chicago Bears for a sixth-round draft pick.

Archuleta will be reunited in Chicago with coach Lovie Smith, his former defensive coordinator with the St. Louis Rams.

The trade was confirmed by an official within the league who spoke on condition of anonymity because the teams do not plan to announce it until Wednesday.

Wood and Prior could start season on disabled list

Kerry Wood and Mark Prior could start the season on the Chicago Cubs’ disabled list.

Wood, coming back from a torn right rotator cuff, threw 25 pitches off a mound Tuesday at the Cubs’ spring-training complex in Mesa, Ariz. On March 11, he strained his right triceps while pitching against Milwaukee, and it’s unclear whether he will be ready for

Jankovich named head coach at Illinois State

NORMAL — Kansas assistant coach Tim Jankovich was hired Tuesday as Illinois State’s men’s basketball head coach..

He replaces Porter Moser, who was fired March 5 with a four-year record of 51-67.

Blackhawks officially eliminated from playoffs

COLUMBUS, Ohio — Fredrik Modin scored twice in the second period to lead the Columbus Blue Jackets past the Chicago Blackhawks 5-2 on Tuesday night.

Rene Bourque and Patrick Sharp tallied goals for Chicago.

Struggling Clippers earn win against Bulls

CHICAGO — Cuttino Mobley scored 25 points, Corey Maggette added 22, and Elton Brand finished with 21, leading the struggling Los Angeles Clippers to a 103-89 victory against the Chicago Bulls on Tuesday night.

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Sudoku By Michael McPhum

4	6	5
3	9	5	8
7	8	6
4	1	2	6	9
6	7	5
5	7	2
7	9	2

Look 1 2 3 4

Complete the grid so each row, column and 3-by-3 box (in bold borders) contains every digit 1 to 9. For strategies on how to solve Sudoku, visit www.michael.org.uk

Solution to Tuesday's puzzle

4	1	8	6	3	9	2	7	5
2	9	3	7	1	5	4	8	6
5	7	6	2	4	8	1	9	3
9	8	4	3	5	6	7	2	1
1	6	5	9	7	2	3	4	8
7	3	2	1	8	4	6	5	9
8	4	1	5	2	3	9	6	7
6	5	7	4	9	1	8	3	2
3	2	9	8	6	7	5	1	4

Belcher

FROM PAGE 12

Miller will have to hire his second different assistant during his two year-tenure here.

Miller is out recruiting this week. Eastern Sports Information Director Rich Moser said Monday Miller wouldn't comment on Belcher since it is an Evansville hiring.

Phone messages left for Belcher at his office at Evansville were not returned.

But Myers-Kyles said Tuesday that he would miss the assistant coach who 'always made himself accessible to the players.'

For Panther junior center Jake Byrne,

ROMAIN MARTIN | FRESHMAN BASKETBALL GUARD

“He could be a head coach in a couple of years or so. At Evansville, I think he’ll learn even more.”

it’s one more coaching change he’s had to experience in his three-year career at Eastern.

“It kind of sucks because I liked him,” said Byrne, who has had two head coaches and seven different assistant coaches during his time at Eastern. “Also at the same time, you have to understand. It’s a better opportunity for him. Everyone wants to keep moving up.”

Evansville finished eighth in the 10-

team Missouri Valley Conference last season, but has experienced success in the past.

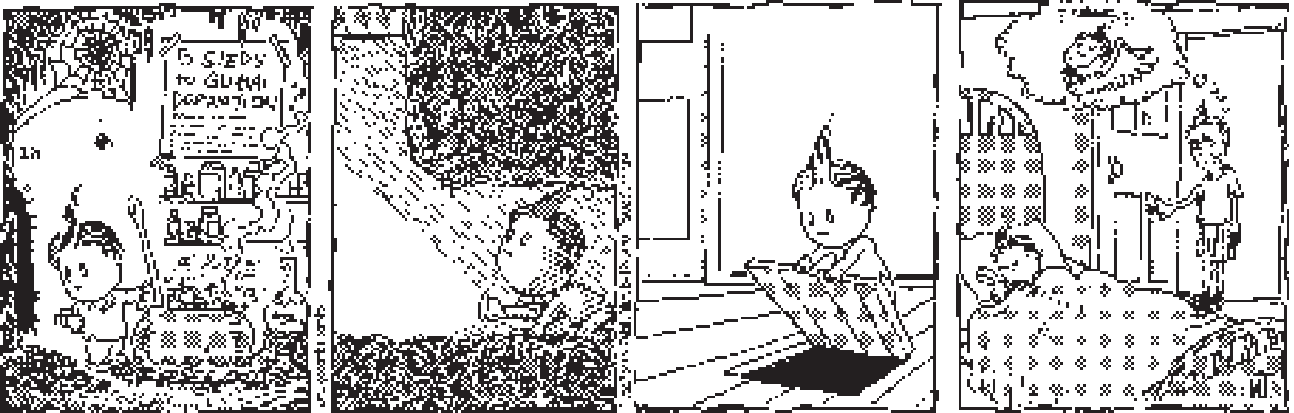
The Purple Aces advanced to the NCAA Tournament in 1992, 1993 and 1999, while Simmons was an assistant under head coach Jim Crews.

“I think Coach Belcher has a very bright future,” Martin said. “He could be a head coach in a couple years or so. At Evansville, I think he’ll learn even more.”

NON SEQUITUR | WILEY MILLER



LIO | MARK TATULLI



The New York Times Crossword

Edited by Will Shortz

No. 0207

ACROSS

1 Partition used

5 Successful air

10 New England town, to long

14 Mystery author Parody

15 Aerial specialist

16 Specified class

17 Top line

18 Eclectic mix

20 Sam and Tim, e.g.

21 Yield to gravity

23 Fruity-smelling compound

24 Corner line

26 Painter's place

30 Follows closely

31 Cacophonous

34 Operatic slave

37 Admired

38 Genetic letters

39 Bottom line

41 Small songbird

42 Viewpoint

44 Political ball club

45 Workers' 10's

46 Tintin's star

47 New Age John

48 Sea 42-Across

53 It may start as a gain of sand

57 "Steady ____ gas"

58 "Chickens" vehicle

59 Adult mind

62 With 48-Across, where 17-, 24- and 38-Across are seen

64 It flows through Florence

65 Dean Martin song subject

66 Monty's tool

67 Small songbird

68 Bow over?

69 Come clean, with "up"

DOWN

1 Suffix with Kaffa

2 One row on a chessboard

3 How we stand

4 Like lamp posts

5 Low islands

8 Prefix with pressure

7 Actress Tara and others

8 Poems start

8 ____ luxury

10 Isiah or Elijah

11 Popular I.S.P.

12 Mid ____

13 ____-Globe

18 Actress Pola

22 Old Irish alphabet

24 Mad Hatter's guest

25 Isn't serious

28 Last name in fashion

27 Exams for aspiring D.A.'s

29 Far from him

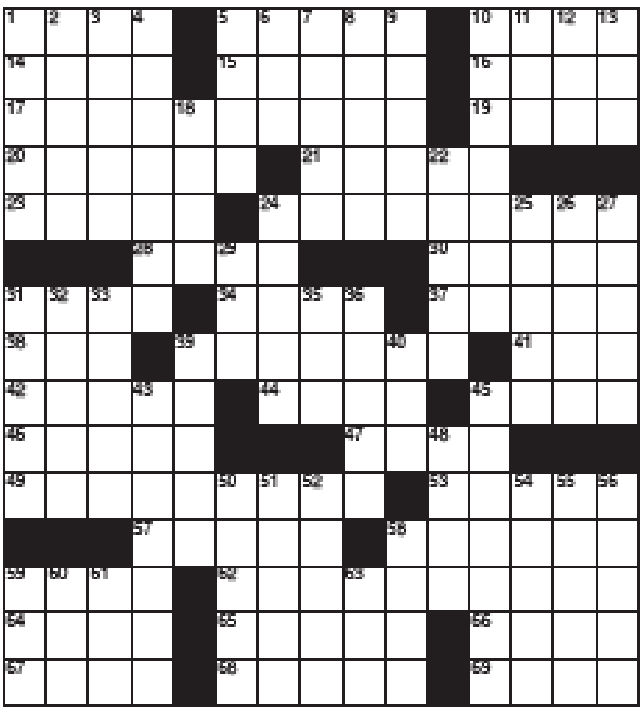
31 Guzzled

32 Bolly button type

33 Shrewish

35 Notlike mailing

36 Is an accomplice to



Prepared by World Weekly

39 W.W. II Japanese fighter planes

40 New Orleans-to-Detroit club

43 Location for Hezbollah

45 Nottingham villain

48 Urge (on)

50 "I'm gonna make you ____"

51 It's hard to do with "beaver"

52 Plinko's workplace

54 An ex. of Aesop

55 Line holders

58 Ancient strings

59 ____' Post

60 Shoot the breeze

61 Bruins legend

61 Hydrocarbon salt

62 ____ to the machine's qualifier

For answers, call 1-800-255-0820, \$1.29 a minute, or, with a credit card, 1-800-814-2294. Annual subscriptions are available for the best of Sunday crosswords from the last 39 years: 1-800-7-ACROSS. Online subscriptions: Today's puzzle and more than 2,000 past puzzles, nytimes.com/crosswords (\$34.95 a year). Show tips: nytimes.com/puzzletips. Crosswords for young solvers: nytimes.com/youngpuzzlers.

WOMEN'S TENNIS | SAINT LOUIS 4, EASTERN 2

Panthers' miscues lead to third straight loss

By Kevin Murphy
Associate Sports Editor

Sophomore Natalie Martin's undefeated singles record is no more and the Panthers lost their third straight match on Tuesday.

Martin, who came in undefeated at 12-0, suffered a groin injury during the second set of her No. 2 singles match, hindering her play.

Martin grabbed her right groin during the set and called an injury timeout.

After about 10 minutes of treatment from the trainers, Martin returned to the court.

She lost the second set, 6-3, and was one of the points the Panthers did not get in their 4-2 loss against Saint Louis at Darling Courts.

Martin lost the first set, 6-3, also.

"It forced me to stop my game and play to my ability," Martin said. "I could play my forehand but it was hard for me to move."

"(Natalie pulling her groin) was really not fortunate," said junior Sandra Sasidharan. "We have to deal with that fact that someone is injured and someone has to step up. She's a very talented player and I hope she gets better."

Freshman Hayley Homburg, at No. 5 singles, had the last match of the day, but lost in three sets (6-7, 6-3, 7-5), giving the Billikens the win.

"She stays in there mentally," Martin said of Homburg. "It's disappointing for her to lose but she'll learn from it."



JOHN BAILEY | THE DAILY EASTERN NEWS

Madina Mambetova returns a volley during Tuesday's loss against Saint Louis at Darling Courts. The senior won her match 6-3, 6-2.

Homburg is 1-3 in matches that go to three sets.

"She's a very gutsy player no matter what," Sasidharan said.

Sasidharan remains undefeated and won her match in two sets (7-6, 6-0).

"Sandy's just amazing," Martin

said. "I think (the Ohio Valley Conference) underestimated her at the beginning of the semester. She'll move you around the court. She can place the ball on a dime at any time."

Sasidharan was picked eighth by the OVC at No. 1 singles.

"There was little bit of nervousness," Sasidharan said about her first set tie-breaker. "I'm more of a baseliner but I've been working and coming in and everything. My game is to attack."

Head coach John Blackburn noticed Sasidharan's attacking style.

"Sandra kept control of the tempo and was the aggressor of the day," he said.

Senior Madina Mambetova won at No. 3 singles in straight sets, 6-3, 6-2. That was the last win for the Panthers. At No. 4 singles, junior Stephanie Harmazy lost her match in two sets (6-0, 6-2), while freshman Anne Munch lost her match at No. 6 singles in straight sets also (6-0, 6-0).

The Panthers (6-7) travel to take on Tennessee-Martin on Saturday.

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mollyclutter
AROUND THE TRACK

Walk-on talents

A downfall about college sports is not everyone can join a team. The university just does not have enough funds for everyone. That is one of life's "it's just not fair" things. However, there are a few athletes who get lucky enough to join a team, but with no aid. These athletes are called walk-ons. A walk-on athlete is no different than one on scholarship. They all practice the same and compete the same.

Around the beginning of the year, women's rugby coach Frank Graziano will hold try-outs. Basically, women who want to try out go and talk to him. Then sometimes they will be asked to come to a practice. If they seem like a good fit, then they will be asked to come to another practice and so on.

I'm not sure the procedure for track, but I know the first step is to go talk to the coaches. However, if you do make the team, there are possibilities of not traveling with the team for every meet.

It comes down to budget and size. Sometimes only so many athletes can compete in a meet and some meets have tough competition you may not be ready for.

It's not easy being a walk-on athlete. There come frustrations just like any other athlete. There are times where you will not get to compete and it could possibly bring your self-esteem down.

The important thing to remember is that everybody was in your shoes at one point in time.

You just have to take the bad with the good and at the end of the day, you will be fulfilled.

You won't only be fulfilled because you finished something.

You will be fulfilled because you can call yourself a Division I athlete.



Molly Clutter is a sophomore journalism major and a member of the women's rugby and track teams.

BASEBALL | NOTEBOOK

Freshmen contributing on senior-laden team

By Joe Waltasti
Sports Reporter

On a team loaded with senior talent, the most surprising part of the Panthers' first 14 games has been the play of freshmen Tyler Kehrer and Richie Derbak.

Kehrer has been the Panthers' best option at starting pitcher so far this season and leads the team with a 2-0 record and a 3.20 ERA.

While Kehrer has also issued the most walks on the team (13), he also has a team-high of 18 strike outs.

Derbak, teammates with Kehrer at Trenton (Wesclin) High School, has also been impressive. The 6-foot-1 infielder has a .302 batting average in addition to scoring eight runs and having eight RBIs.

But it's not his play at the plate that has been most impressive.

Derbak has also pitched well for head coach Jim Schmitz.

"Now that we have some concerns in the bullpen, Richie's nice to have," Schmitz said.

Derbak has a 3.00 ERA with six strike outs in six innings pitched.

Schmitz said Derbak could be a candidate to take over at close if senior Chris Vaculik continues to struggle.

Bullpen battles

With Kirk Miller, Drew Gierich, Jake Wade

JIM SCHMITZ | EASTERN HEAD COACH

"You have to go out and perform the same, be consistent. We have to get better at that"

and Vaculik all with ERAs above 10.00, Schmitz said there could be some changes in the bullpen.

But he doesn't know where yet.

"I have to find the right match of guys," Schmitz said. "You have to go out and perform the same, be consistent. We have to get better at that."

Senior right hander Mike Budde was thought to be the most consistent pitcher on the staff, but even he struggled during the spring break trip, surrendering a vital run in Sunday's 5-4 loss against The Citadel.

But Budde's 3.00 ERA and four hits in five innings pitched shows his poor outing against the Bulldogs should be a fluke.

"We all have our bad days," Schmitz said.

Huber heating up

Baseball America's preseason Ohio Valley Conference player of the year is starting to show why he earned that title.

Outfielder and first baseman Erik Huber has started all 14 games this season and leads the team in batting average (.386), hits (22), doubles (5), home runs (4) and RBIs (16).

Huber's improved play comes at a perfect time for the Panthers, with their first OVC opponent coming to Charleston on Saturday.

Home opener set for today

The Panthers open the home part of their schedule with a 2 p.m. game against Chicago State.

Eastern picked up its first win of the season against Chicago State when the two teams played Feb. 24 in a tournament in Evansville, Ind.

Eastern won 3-0 in a game shortened to six innings because of the weather.

Once the Panthers game against Chicago State is finished, Eastern can focus on beginning conference play.

The OVC season starts this weekend for the Panthers with a three-game homestand against Tennessee Tech, including a double-header on Saturday.

The Golden Eagles 12-7 record is the best in the Ohio Valley Conference and includes an 8-6 win against No. 13 Alabama in Tuscaloosa, Ala.

TTU is anchored by their pitching staff which has a .274 batting average against as a whole.

Starters Jake Edwards, Jared Dobbs and Matt Smith have struck out 70 batters and have a 5-1 record combined.

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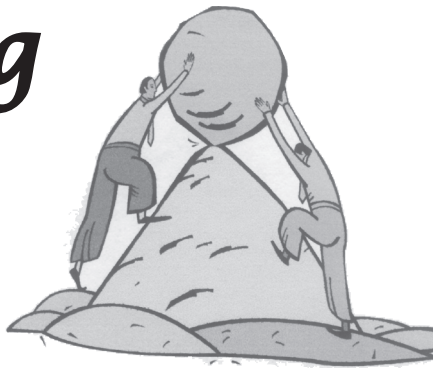


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WEDNESDAY
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sportsschedule

BASEBALL
TODAY vs. Chicago State |
2 p.m. Coaches Stadium.

SOFTBALL
TODAY vs. Indiana State |
3 p.m. Williams Field.

MEN'S TENNIS
THURSDAY vs. SAINT LOUIS |
3 p.m. Darling Courts.

BASEBALL
SATURDAY vs. Tennessee Tech (2) |
Noon. Coaches Stadium.

SOFTBALL
SATURDAY at Samford (2) |
1 p.m. Birmingham, Ala.

MEN'S TENNIS
SATURDAY at Tennessee-Martin |
2 p.m. Martin, Tenn.

WOMEN'S TENNIS
SATURDAY at Tennessee-Martin |
2 p.m. Martin, Tenn.

WOMEN'S GOLF
SATURDAY at Saluki Invitational |
All day. Carbondale.

TRACK AND FIELD
SATURDAY at Southern Illinois Collegiate Series |
All day. Carbondale.

WOMEN'S GOLF
SUNDAY at Saluki Invitational |
All day. Carbondale.

triplethreat



Tuesday was the first day of spring. You know what that means. Baseball.

Spring training has been going on for more than a month, giving fans of all MLB teams the hope of a World Series win.

New Chicago Cubs manager Lou Piniella (above) is trying to the end the teams' 100-year drought since their last championship.

With Piniella aboard as manager of the Cubs and the St. Louis Cardinals looking to repeat as World Series champions, here are three things that excite us about the Cubs, Cardinals and Chicago White Sox.

1. Ozzie Guillen — The Sox skipper is a reporter's dream — or nightmare if you're Jay Mariotti — and also a fan's dream. Guillen's team plays with the same vigor he shows. The only question is whether he can return the Sox to their 2005 form.
2. Cubs' Hitting- Alfonso Soriano is one of the best acquisitions by the Cubs in a long time. Add Aramis Ramirez, Derrek Lee and Michael Barrett to that line up and be sure to be on Waveland to catch all the home runs this season.
3. Opening Day- Opening day games feature the Cubs at the Cincinnati Reds, the White Sox battle the Cleveland Indians and the Cardinals will receive their world championship rings in their second game of the season against the New York Mets.

-Kevin Murphy

MEN'S BASKETBALL | COACHING CHANGE

Players react to Belcher's departure

Team agrees move is better for ex-assistant

By Matt Daniels
Sports Editor



Marcus Belcher
Former Eastern men's basketball assistant coach.

Romain Martin thought his teammate was kidding. But Gino-Myers Kyles wasn't kidding when he told him Eastern men's basketball assistant coach Marcus Belcher was leaving to join the staff at Evansville after one year at Eastern.

Myers-Kyles said he found out Belcher wasn't coming back on Saturday when the junior guard called his coach to set up a workout.

It was then that Belcher told Myers-Kyles about his new job at Evansville, a member of the

Missouri Valley Conference.

"I was happy for him, but at the same time I was kind of sad because he's one of the favorite coaches among the guys on the team," Myers-Kyles said. "We can relate to him. But I guess he had to do what he had to do."

Belcher's move to Evansville isn't a complete surprise, considering Belcher's connections to the Evansville program.

Evansville hired Marty Simmons, a former Purple Aces' player and assistant coach, to become its new head coach Friday.

Simmons, who comes to Evansville after five years as head coach at Southern Illinois University at Edwardsville, gave Belcher his first coaching break.

Belcher, the starting point guard on the Southern Illinois University at Carbondale team in 2002, became an assistant on Simmons' staff in 2004. Belcher coached at SIUE for two years, and helped the Cougars advance to the Division II Elite Eight in 2005.

Now, Belcher will have his third different coaching job in three



Marty Simmons
Evansville head coach and Belcher's boss during his two years at SIUE.

years.

But Martin, the 2007 Ohio Valley Conference Freshman of the Year, said initially he was shocked about Belcher's departure.

"I thought he was going to stick around for next season and for years to come," Martin said. "Me and Coach Belcher were pretty close. He was a first-year coach here and I was a first-year player so we were both kind of new."

But now with Belcher's departure, Eastern will have to replace its second assistant coach in the past two seasons.

Belcher, hired in mid-July, replaced Kwanza Johnson, who left to become an assistant at Nevada in May for head coach Mark Fox.

» SEE BELCHER, PAGE 9

SOFTBALL | DENE' MENZIONE



JAY GRABIEC | THE DAILY EASTERN NEWS

Freshman third baseman Dene' Menzione leans up against the fence at the warning track at Williams Field before practice Tuesday afternoon. Menzione hit four home runs in six games during Eastern's spring break trip to California.

Family comes first

Freshman credits parents with her on-field success

By Stephen Di Benedetto
Senior City Reporter

Greg and Lori Menzione hadn't missed one of their daughter Denee's softball games since she was five years old.

That is, until Denee' came to Eastern this year.

"We wanted to get out to Tulsa a couple of weeks ago, but that didn't go through and we wanted to see her this weekend (at Tennessee Tech), but we couldn't do it," Greg Menzione said. "My wife and I never missed any of her softball games. Now with her in college it is somewhat difficult."

Greg and Lori got the chance to see Denee' play during Eastern's spring break trip to California and were greeted with a four home run performance in six games by their daughter.

The freshman third baseman (.265 average, 4 home runs and 8 RBIs on the year) had been struggling with college pitching, but broke out of her slump while there.

"She was in some bit of a slump and then all of the sudden she came



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Freshman third baseman Denee' Menzione lays on top of third base at Williams Field before practice Tuesday afternoon. The Panther third baseman and her team face Indiana State today at 3 p.m. in Eastern's home opener.

out of it," Greg Menzione said. "It was very nice to see."

Denee' graduated from Downers Grove South and Eastern head coach Kim Schuette liked what she saw.

Schuette said she liked Denee's natural power at the plate and her competitiveness.

That natural power at the plate can be seen today when the Panthers host Indiana State in Eastern's home opener at 3 p.m.

Denee' said she had offers from other schools, but came to Eastern because of Schuette.

Denee's older brother plays college hockey and would practice on Denee' when they were younger.

"She's very competitive," said Greg Menzione. "With her brother playing hockey, she would be the one in the goalie net when he would shoot pucks at her."

Ever since the beginning of the

MEET DENE' MENZIONE

- » **Hometown:** Darien
- » **Position:** Third base/utility
- » **Year:** Freshman
- » **Major:** Physical Education
- » **Favorite food:** Italian
- » **Favorite holiday:** Christmas
- » **2007 Stats:** .265 average, 4 home runs, 8 RBIs and a team-best .676 slugging percentage

season, Denee' has been competing with junior Allyson Nolte for the third base position.

"I give her competition and she gives me competition," Denee' said. "I don't look at it, as 'I can't lose my position to her.' It's more like 'I have to keep fighting for my position.'"

Denee' credits her parents for helping her game and said they sent her to hitting coaches and other coaches to help with her fundamentals.

Greg said they are proud of Denee' and they did not need to motivate her that much.

"When things aren't going so well, you got to try to help that way and when things are good, you just keep quiet," Greg Menzione said. "And we're not talking too much for Denee' right now."