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Eastern Illinois University

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

SPORTS ♦ Baseball wins two-of-three against JSU: page 12A

THE DAILY EASTERN NEWS

MONDAY
APRIL
17
2006

VOLUME 91, ISSUE 61
dennews.com

90th Anniversary

Eastern Illinois University, Charleston

MUSEUM OF OPPRESSION

World problems expressed in physical form

By KRISTINA PETERS
ACTIVITIES REPORTER

Oppression through AIDS and anorexia will take physical form today in "Beyond the Words - a Museum of Oppression."

The museum will be displayed throughout the week to bring awareness to students about past and present problems in the world.

Housing and Dining, which will host the museum for the fourth time, will feature 17 oppression displays.

"It's to open peoples' minds and educate them about the issues," said Laura Smith, associate resident director of Lincoln Hall and coordinator for the event.

Other issues addressed include bulimia, the Holocaust, homelessness, 9/11 and human trafficking.

Besides the many displays illustrating different oppressions similar to last year, there will be a few new additions.

One is a display pertaining to what students can do to help.

Cathy Passananti, associate resident director of Carman Hall and coordinator for the event, went to many organizations in the area looking for ways students can help.

"We are providing a section of what people can do now," Passananti said.

This new display titled "Teaching Tolerance" emerged from feedback from students who wanted to know what they could do after learning about each oppression.

A second new addition is a poster made by the Diversity Affairs committee that will read, "What is oppression?"

Visitors can view the poster while entering the museum.

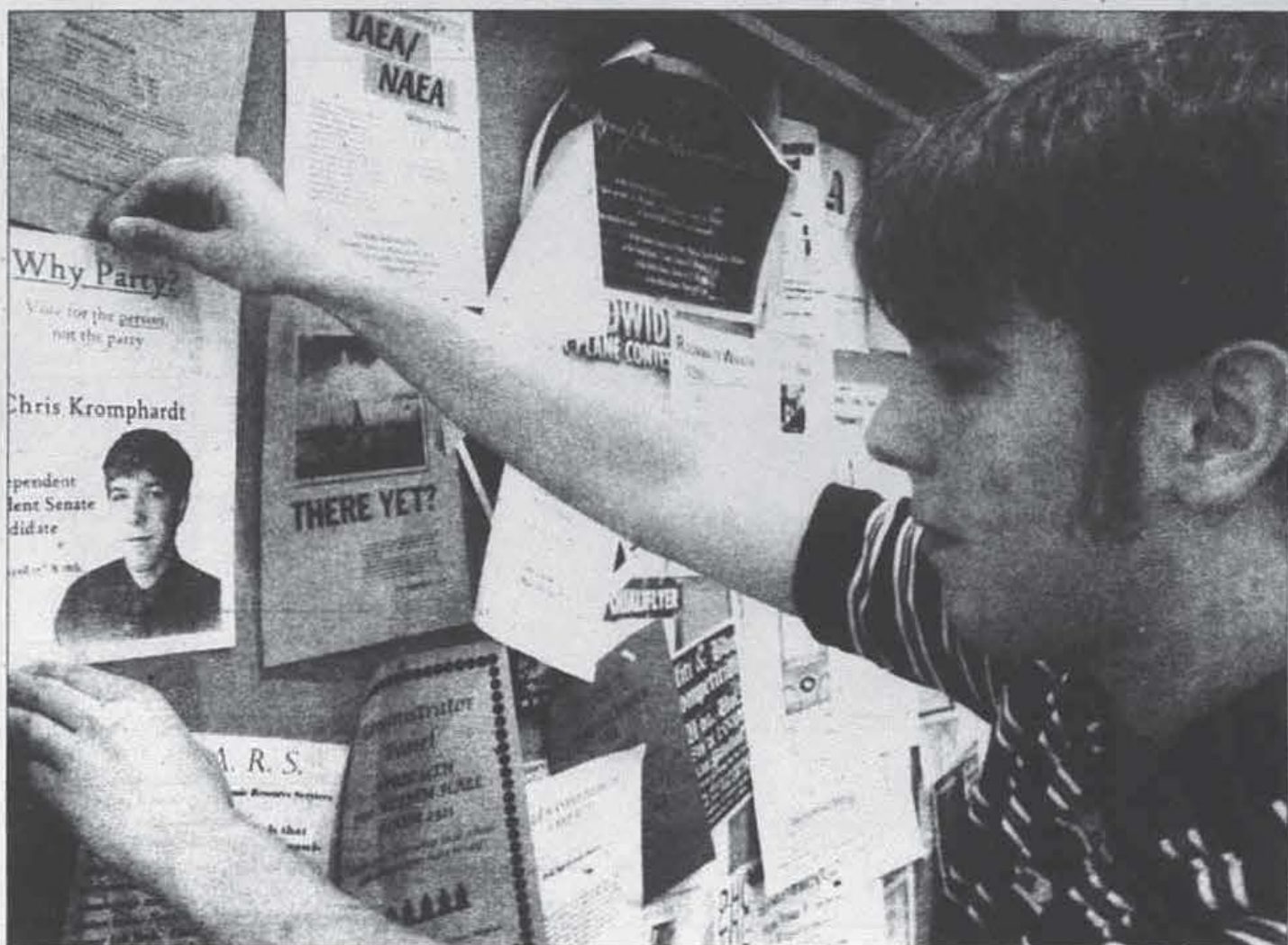
"We feel that it is our job to provoke thought and discussion," said Tori Frazier, chair of Diversity Affairs, about the poster.

Frazier, who expressed the committee's support for the museum, said it will not have a display.

"We did, as an organization, did not feel

SEE PROBLEMS PAGE 6A

STUDENT GOVERNMENT



JAY GRABIEC/THE DAILY EASTERN NEWS

Chris Kromphardt, Independent Student Senate candidate, hangs one of his flyers in Buzzard Hall. Student Senate elections will be held today and Tuesday in Coleman Hall, the Martin Luther King Jr. University Union, the Student Recreation Center and Carman Hall.

RUNNING INDEPENDENT

Kromphardt opts to run for Student Senate without a party affiliation

By SARAH WHITNEY
NEWS EDITOR

Freshman Chris Kromphardt is betting his Eastern political career on his opinion that students care more about the person running for office than they care about party affiliations. Unlike most of his opponents, who are running for senator positions in Eastern's Student Government under a party name, Kromphardt is running as an independent.

The two parties running against each other this semester are Student United Party with

More inside

♦ Check out the Student Government Election Guide to get in-depth information about candidates and voting places and procedure.

Section B

Sean Anderson running as its Presidential candidate and United University Party, whose presidential candidate is Jillian Ruddy.

Candidates running for executive positions this semester have campaigned around campus by visiting several Recognized Student

Organizations, hanging fliers and being endorsed by The Daily Eastern News. (For a summary list of these candidates see page 4A.)

The senators running on party tickets have not been as visible.

Why run as Independent?

"I don't really like the party system," Kromphardt said. "You've got the people running for the office, you see their pictures on campus ... You see those people, but you don't

SEE INDEPENDENT PAGE 2A



KYLE MAYNUGH/THE DAILY EASTERN NEWS

Madina Mambetova, a junior psychology major, stands outside Ford Hall with Stephanie Karmazy, a sophomore physical science education major and Jennifer Will, a freshman marketing major. The women were watching the severe weather that came to Charleston Sunday evening.

Storms send students scurrying for shelter

By CATHY BAYER
SENIOR CAMPUS REPORTER

Gray clouds were swirling in a dark blue sky at 5:29 p.m. Sunday, while resident assistants in Stevenson were telling their residents that Coles County was under a tornado warning.

Although no tornado threatened Charleston in the end, preparations were made throughout campus in case an Easter storm hit.

As soon as the residence halls confirm a tornado warning, the resident assistants knock on their

residents' doors, informing them of the situation, said Dan Watson, sophomore family and consumer sciences major and Stevenson desk assistant.

At 5:36 p.m., the Stevenson Hall front desk assistants were informed of an alleged tornado touching down in northern Coles County.

Kevin Michels, a senior physical education major, said he would not go to the Stevenson basement and that he thought the worst had probably passed.

In Booth Library, the tornado watch bulletin was announced.

Cole Hoffmann, a library security desk worker, confirmed that not long after, people in the library went to the library's basement to take shelter.

The library's shelter plan is to go to the basement toward the bathrooms, Hoffmann said. Each desk has an "In case of emergency" binder, he said. It contains plans for extreme weather and fire situations.

About that time, freshman Jenny Will was standing outside Ford Hall watching the clouds swirl.

SEE STORMS PAGE 6A

INDEPENDENT:

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1A

see whoever else is running under the party ticket."

Kromphardt mentioned it seems the parties are used only during student elections, and he is right. In the Aug. 25 edition of the Daily Eastern News in an article titled "Student Government parties not important after elections," Student Body President Ryan Berger said just that.

"I would say that (parties)

play no role (after the election)," he said. "Just because somebody ran with me doesn't mean that they're going to agree with me and pass what I want."

The reason Student Government uses the party system is because candidates get more votes as a whole when they run as a party compared to individually, Berger said.

Kromphardt thinks the system is detrimental to the students because they are voting for people they do not

know.

"It just seems like the party system impersonalizes the whole election," he said. "You don't know who you're voting for unless you know them personally."

This is why Kromphardt decided to not affiliate himself with a specific party.

"By putting my name out there, (students) can see a little bit about me and can know if they want to vote for me," he said. "They can make more of a conscious decision on whether to vote

for me, as opposed to a party identification."

Why should students vote for you?

Kromphardt decided to run for office at the recommendation of current senator Ben Marcy. He said he feels qualified for a senator position because, as a freshman, he is very involved on campus.

"Well, I'm active in quite a few things so I think I can represent eastern students," he said. "I know what a lot of them go through between balancing work, student involvement and staying on top of grades."

Kromphardt is the vice president of Eastern's scholastic group, has played intramural dodgeball and football, is a member of the College Democrats, has participated in Moot Court through the Political Science department, works at Steak 'n Shake in Mattoon on the weekends and is a presidential scholar.

He describes himself as being a realist.

"I can look realistically at the problems and say: is this going to work, is this worth the money, time, manpower that we're putting in to it, is

it in the best interest of the students?" he said.

He also said he understands the regular issues students care about.

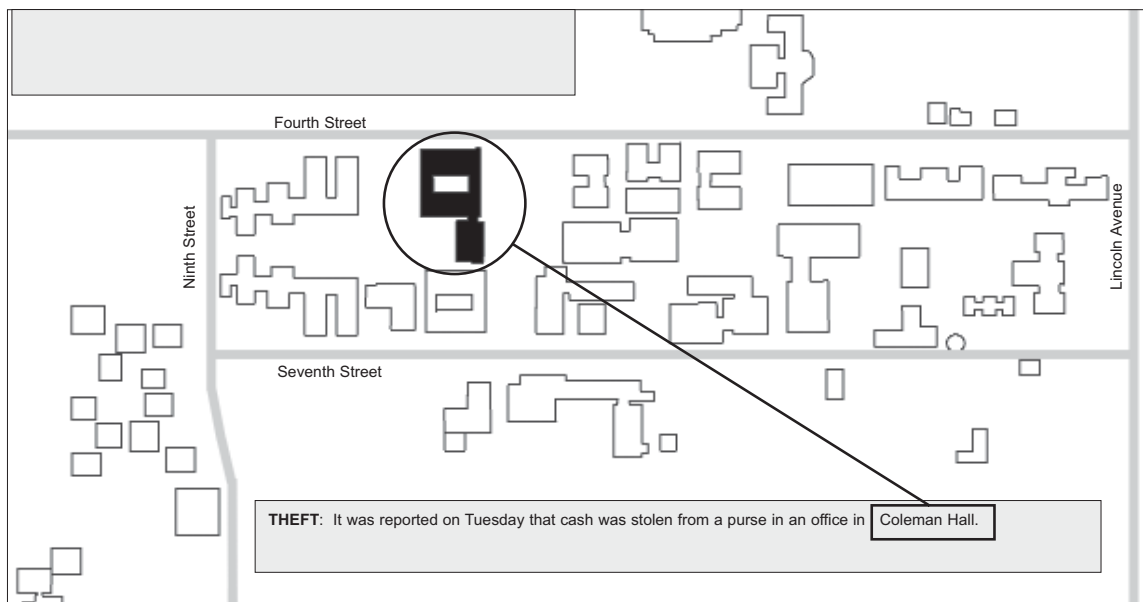
"I can relate to them," he said. "I know what (they) are going through. I'm not necessarily sure if the parties can say the same thing because they're concerned about this party image and getting as many people elected from their party."

If elected, what are your goals?

"It may seem kinda trite, but making Eastern the best place it can be," he said. "If I can relate to students, and it doesn't seem like it's in the best interest of the students, why would I want to vote on that?"

About RSO funding, Kromphardt was hesitant to reject it out of hand. He commented that at last week's debates both parties endorsed RSO funding but did not seem to have a well thought-out plan on how to implement it.

"I'm not saying that I'm against RSO funding," he said. "It seems like a lot of RSOs could bring more activities that would inter-



The Daily EASTERN NEWS

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C A M -

A quick take on news, scheduled

Family of Alegria

President Lou Hencken received the following card from the family of Glorivette Alegria: "To the faculty and staff of EIU - Thank you for all of your support and prayers during this tremendously difficult time. We know how much Glorivette loved to attend EIU and how important her education was to her. We also know how much her friends and her sorority sisters meant to her. We were touched by the incredible number of students and staff that attended Glorivette's service. We are so proud that she meant so much to so many. Again, thank you all so much."

'Invisible Children' reveals injustice

Children are being kidnapped from their homes in Uganda and forced to fight as child soldiers.

A documentary about these children will be shown at 5:30 p.m., today in Buzzard Hall.

"Invisible Children: Rough Cuts" was made by three young American college students whose original travels took an interesting turn when they found themselves stranded in North Uganda.

They discovered children being kidnapped from their homes and sent to fight.

The film has been shown to the United Nations Association, the Carter Center and the Capitol Building in Washington, D.C. Footage has been shown on the Oprah Winfrey show, CNN and the National Geographic Channel.

Participants still looking to serve

Panther Service Day is this Saturday and student government and participating organizations are still searching for additional houses to paint.

All locations must be within the Charleston city limits and owned by disadvantaged families or the elderly and in need of a paint-job.

Volunteer opportunities are also available and include painting, yard work and cleaning streets, alleys and recreation areas.

If students or an organization would like to participate or nominate a house to be painted they should contact the

TODAY'S EVENTS

Alex's Lemonade Stand

Lemonade stands will be set up around campus to raise funds to fight juvenile cancer.

All day | Grand Ballroom in the Martin Luther

25 years ago - Eastern students began their spring break the day after junior Bob Glover retained student body presidency by just 84 votes.

10 years ago - The Apportionment Board voted to deny funding to the Graduate Student Advisory Council against the recommendation of the Student Senate.

Five years ago - The Board of Trustees voted to approve the building of a new baseball field.

Eastern celebrates student diver -

International Student Week brings event, presentations to

By SARAH WHITNEY
NEWS EDITOR

Culture shock is not something Americans can easily understand.

With McDonald's, Coca-Cola and rock 'n roll permeating other countries, no matter where Americans go there is always a little bit of home.

For international students studying in America, adjusting is a challenge.

Emin Nabiyev, a political science graduate student and vice president of the association of International Students, said culture shock, which is mostly caused by not feeling accepted, is the first challenge new international students face.

"People behave differently than you're use to them," he said. "Especially for those who come from more collectivist cultures where they are not individualist like (people are) here.

"It makes them feel lonely and homesick, and while all this is happening, all the responsibilities of personal and academic tend to build pressure on the person."

Nabiyev said when he first came to America he was told to be a "sponge." In other words, he was encouraged to get involved and do the things Americans do.

"They'll first laugh at you, but they'll see that you're trying and eventually accept you," he said.

Another challenge is the language barrier. President of AIS and junior finances major, Abdoulaye Traore said he thinks this is the No. 1 challenge faced by inter-



national students because English is normally students' second or third language. This only compounds culture shock.

"On top of (language), the culture is a problem," Traore said. "America is different from other countries. You need to adjust to this new culture, and that is not easy."

To help the campus community and the international students socialize more, AIS is sponsoring an international week.

Starting today, the entire week is going to be labeled as international week, Nabiyev said.

It's celebrating all the international students, their cultures and the countries they came from."

Events range from an interna-

tional forum, where Indian and Pakistani students will teach participants how to play cricket, to a

International Student Week

u **Event:** International forum: "How to Play Cricket"

u **When:** Today from 2:30 to 3:30 p.m.

u **Event:** Game show: "Who wants to be a Global Citizen?"

u **When:** Tuesday, April 18 from 6 to 8 p.m.

u **Where:** Arcola-Tuscola Room

u **Event:** Open Mic Night

u **When:** Wednesday, April 19 from 7 to 9 p.m.

u **Where:** 7th Street Underground

u **Event:** Poetry Reading by Bei Dao

u **When:** Thursday, April 20 at 4 p.m.

u **Where:** Tarble Arts Center

u **Event:** International Potluck

u **When:** Friday, April 21 from 5 to 7 p.m.

u **Where:** Methodist Church

Mission not yet accom -

Reviewing process to update statement started

By ASHLEY RUEFF
SENIOR UNIVERSITY REPORTER

Today is the last day to view the revised University Mission Statement before the Council on University Planning and Budgets mission statement subcommittee gives approval of the second-draft changes.

The reviewing process to update the mission statement began last fall, said Mary Ann Hanner, dean of sciences and chair of the mission statement subcommittee.

Members of the reaccreditation team of the North Central Association of Colleges and Schools suggested updating the statement when they visited Eastern last spring.

Since then, university administrations have held conversations with several campus groups include Faculty Senate and the Council on Academic Affairs.

"The revised statement is now available for further comment from the campus community," Hanner said.

The statement, available for viewing on the CUPB Web site, is now being

revised for the second time from suggestions that have been made by on- and off-campus constituencies of the university, Hanner said.

The second draft of the statement is also available in the University Newsletter.

The CUPB statement subcommittee will meet this week to evaluate the additional changes and prepare the final draft for presentation at the next CUPB meeting on April 28.

"They're the ones who take all that information and distil it," said Blair Lord, Eastern provost and vice president for academic affairs, of the statement subcommittee.

The updated statement will also be forwarded to Eastern President Lou Hencken who will present it to the Board of Trustees, Lord said.

Assege HaileMariam, psychology professor and chair of Faculty Senate, said the Mission Statement should tell the community what Eastern stands for.

"I believe it is a positive change," HaileMariam said. "In a concise manner, it captures the educational mis-

EVOLUTION

of a mission statement

LAST SPRING - It begins. The National Accreditation Council suggests that Eastern revisit its mission statement.

AUG. 31, 2005 - President Hencken proposes seven questions at the faculty luncheon to promote discussion about the mission statement.

"I believe that during this school year, we need to have a thorough discussion of the mission of the university."
- PRESIDENT LOU HENCKEN

EARLY OCTOBER 2005 - Blair Lord, provost and vice president for academic affairs, circulates the seven questions for discussion to the Council of Deans and department chairs.

"In many ways I think Eastern has a pretty good sense of itself. We know who we are pretty clearly, but this is a chance for anyone who wants to get involved in that conversation to get a chance to think very intentionally about that."
- BLAIR LORD

OCT. 18, 2005 - Faculty Senate addresses the mission statement at its meeting for the first time.

"Many constituents, including the Faculty Senate, are just beginning to discuss the university mission, and with such broad input, I believe it would have a positive impact on how the university does business."
- FACULTY SENATE CHAIR ASSEGE HAILEMARIAM

OCT. 20, 2005 - The mission statement moves on for discussion in the Council of Academic Affairs.

OCT. 21, 2005 - The Council on University Planning and Budgets forms a sub-committee to handle the mission statement revisions and ensure equal representation across campus.

"At our next meeting, I would like to suggest that each of the vice presidential areas are represented in the sub-committee so that everyone is represented."
- PAT FEWELL, CHAIR OF CUPB

MARCH 2006 - CUPB subcommittee shares a draft mission statement with CUPB and the campus for review, discussion and approval. The draft is posted on the University Newsletter and the CUPB Web site.

TODAY - This is the final day for campus feedback on the mission

OPINION

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

MONDAY, APRIL 17, 2006

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EDITORIALS

Senate contraction would aid relevance

Eastern students have the opportunity and responsibility to elect their student government today and Tuesday, prompting important consideration of how the institution could be improved.

Perhaps one way to make students realize how important these elections are is to streamline the Student Senate and give more importance to each position. Cutting the number of senate members would make these elections more closely fought and of utmost importance.

Eastern's student government has a habit of letting the top people do all the work. The executive board (made up of the student body president and four student vice presidents) are the stars of the government, shouldering most of the organization's labor.

The 30 senate members, with a few exceptions, generally fall into an endless chatter of bylaw debates, complaints of lack of interest and internal squabbles. The best that can be said of the mass of senate members is that they effectively fill spots on committees that would otherwise be empty.

The members of the Student Government Association should be the true leaders of campus. Outgoing Student Body President Ryan Berger did more for this campus in his time here than the average ten senate members padding their resumes with their terms "serving the students."

The future of student government rests in how seriously it is taken by its members and its constituents. Thirty senate members are just too many. The senate should look seriously at constricting itself. It may make a few committees harder to fill, but it might just save the image of student government from itself.

DEN endorses five for executive spots

The Daily Eastern News would like to recap the Student Government endorsements made last week.

For the position of student body president, the *DEN* endorses Jillian Ruddy of the United University party. Ruddy, moreso than her opponent, shows a grasp of student issues and needs.

For the position of student executive vice president, the *DEN* endorses the incumbent, Andrew Berger, of the United University party. Berger is ideally positioned to continue the strong work of the Student Action Team, one of Eastern's most effective outreach strategies to state government.

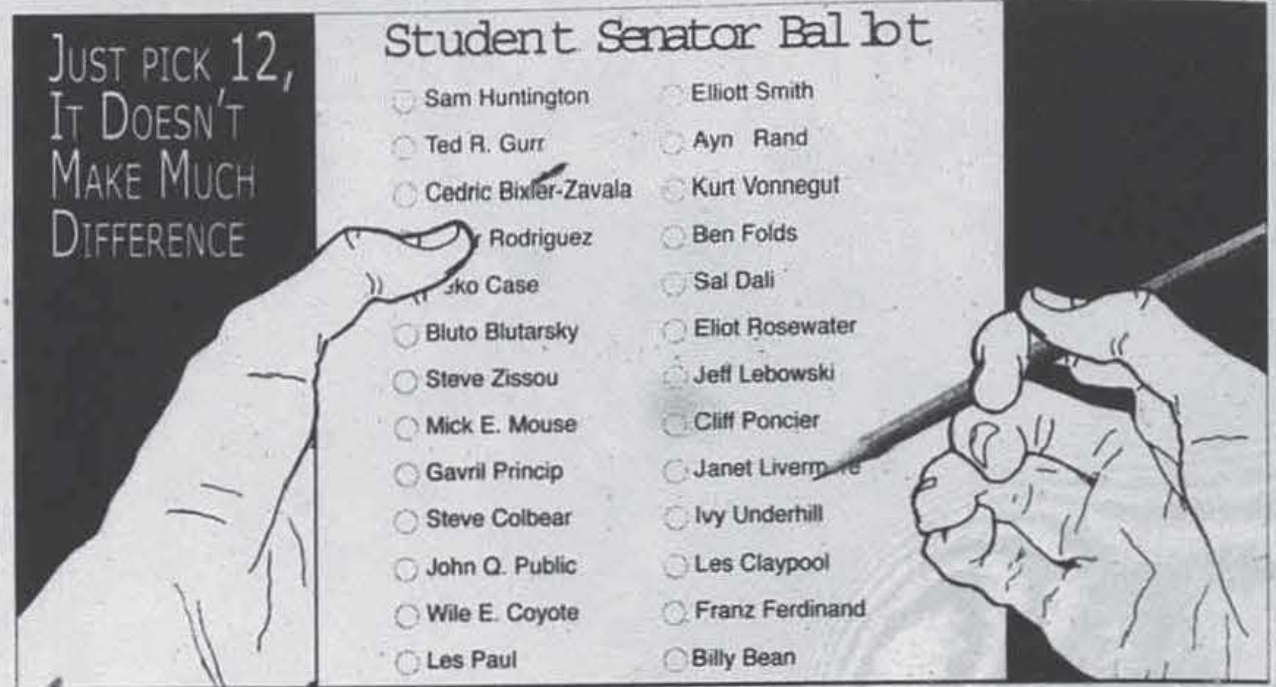
The *DEN* endorses Cole Rogers for the position of student vice president for student affairs. Rogers, of the Student United Party, is familiar with the position in a way that his opponent, Austen Williams, is not.

The *DEN* gives its endorsement to Carloyn Beck, of the United University party, for the position of student vice president for academic affairs. This position exists largely to liaise with the faculty, and Beck seems the most capable of doing that.

Finally, the *DEN* endorses Kenny Kozik, of the United University party, for the position of student vice president for business affairs.

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

EDITORIAL CARTOON BY HOLLY HENSCHEN



COMMENTARY

DEN IMPROVEMENTS AIM TO FACILITATE READERS AND NEWS



The Daily Eastern News is undergoing some changes with a new set of students taking over this week, and, as the new editor in chief, I thought it was important to explain them to the readers.

The newspaper industry is constantly changing with the rest of the world. Technology is the driving force of this change, and we as an industry wonder where there is a place for peddlers of information in a world where information is so widespread.

One of the ways we stay relevant is to constantly change to fit the readers' needs, and the changes in the *DEN*, we believe, fit that goal.

The new campus page will appear on page 3 each day, with stories, a roundup of campus news and an event calendar.

We will be running a regular state and national news section to give our student

readers access to information about the world around them in a convenient spot.

The sports section will introduce a scoreboard page that will list stats and standings from local and national sports.

We have rearranged our paid positions

"The Daily Eastern News has both a strong tradition on this campus, as well as a sometimes lackluster reputation."

to allow for more of a relationship between our reporters and the sources around campus that they use. This will hopefully benefit the readers in the form of more relevant news, and it will also allow for less intrusion into the busy lives of the many of our readers who become sources.

There will also be a few stylistic changes in the fonts that we use in various situa-

tions, but the key changes are in content.

As the editor in chief, I intend to come back and use this space whenever I feel there is a need to explain to the readers why we have taken or not taken various actions. *The Daily Eastern News* has both a strong tradition on this campus, as well as a sometimes lackluster reputation. I hope that with this issue, our new staff begins to turn that around and move back to the strong tradition of reporting that once made this paper relevant.

And finally, we intend to use this editorial page as a watchdog for students. Students pour hours of time and millions of dollars into this university. We intend to always be on guard to make sure none of this is wasted.

Please feel free to contact *The Daily Eastern News* and ask for me if you like or dislike any of these changes, or have more to recommend.

Mayhugh, a senior journalism major, can be reached at DENeic@gmail.com.

YOUR TURN: LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

IT COULD BE YOUR TURN, IF YOU DECIDE TO TAKE ONE

The length of this space is the length of one page double-spaced. You know from homework experience how long that takes to come up with.

The Daily Eastern News Letters to the Editor section is here at your disposal. Just like the guidelines that run below this section say, anyone who can type or write has the possibility of having their opinion published in this spot.

The *DEN* prefers to subsidize the marketplace of ideas with editorials, which are to the left, and columns, which run above this section.

Our goal is to make the Opinions page a respectful and accurate exchange of opinions that benefit the Eastern community. All views are welcomed, but will be subject to editorial discretion prior to publication.

This spot is your spot, Eastern. Any and every rant, theory, idea and thought have an equal chance of filling this space on a daily basis. Your input is necessary for the

successful function of this page and this newspaper.

Also welcome are your ideas for articles and issues you would like to see in the *DEN*. While the modern media is often criticized for its bias and refusal to report on certain subjects thoroughly, we aim to dispel this belief with thorough coverage on a plethora of subjects from a diverse set of viewpoints. Constructive criticism is welcomed wholeheartedly.

We look forward to hearing from you soon, Eastern.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR: The Daily Eastern News accepts letters to the editor addressing local, state, national and international issues. They should be less than 250 words and include the authors' name, telephone number and address. Students should indicate their year in school and major. Faculty, administration and staff should indicate their position and department. Letters whose authors cannot be verified will not be printed. We reserve the right to edit letters for length. Letters can be sent to *The Daily Eastern News* at 1811 Buzzard Hall, Charleston IL 61920; faxed to 217-581-2923, or e-mailed to DENeic@gmail.com

Student Action Team justified



GUEST COLUMNIST

It appalls me that Student Senate candidates have made it clear they believe the purpose of Student Action Team is for the advancement of internships and government job opportunities.

This organization was started in the 1990s in an effort to shed light on the growing concerns facing universities as a lobbying and advocacy group. It has been involved in campaigns including lobbying trips to

Springfield, creating legislative view books, writing policy statements and letter-writing campaigns.

Student Action Team is one of the greatest assets Eastern has. It is truly unique to the university, as there is no other comparable organization comprised of students at any other state institution in Illinois.

During the past four years of my membership with the organization, I have known one person that was a member of Student Action Team and now has a job in government. And I can assure you that it was certainly not the fact that she was a member of this

organization that got her this job.

When Eastern students go to Springfield to lobby, they are respected and viewed in an extremely positive light.

I recently made a trip to Springfield last Wednesday to lobby against the sale of ISAC loans. I met with two legislators and three staffers, one of whom is the chief liaison to Senate President Emil Jones. These people are excited to meet with us and hear our opinion because these issues directly effect our education and the educational opportunities of people that will attend

A sampling of opinions from around campus and the nation

Eastern long after we are gone. This is just one example of what occurs when we advocate on behalf of students in Illinois and the Eastern community.

I have personally lobbied for the MAP grant, against restricting naming rights, on budgetary issues and on behalf of the great programs and services that Eastern provides.

To hear of people making asinine comments when trying to run to represent the student body concerns

and should concern each and every person who is considering voting in Student Government Elections.

Any opportunities that members of Student Action Team receive are not because they are members. It is because they have demonstrated knowledge in state government and the issues that surround it.

The only perk I or anyone else on Student Action Team receives is a knowledge that they are doing their

UIUC, national immigration law protests not

By MATT SIMMONS
DAILY ILLINI (U. ILLINOIS)

(U-WIRE) CHAMPAIGN - On Monday, an estimated crowd of 1,000 University students and members of surrounding communities gathered on campus to protest House Resolution 4437. The bill, passed by the U.S. House of Representatives, strengthens border security and turns illegal immigrants and their supporters into felons. Protesters marched down Green Street from Neil Street to the Quad.

Many of the protesters marched with signs, others carried American and Mexican flags, and many chanted in both Spanish and English.

During the Quad rally,

some of the attendees attempted to call Rep. Tim Johnson (R-15), a supporter of the legislation, to persuade him to change his vote and support a more immigrant-friendly bill. Opponents of the House bill have mobilized on a massive scale around the nation in protest, drawing over a million protesters to rallies across the country.

This large mobilization of immigrant supporters is refreshing to those of us who strongly support earned citizenship for illegal immigrants, however, these large rallies and marches may be hurting the cause.

One conservative tactic that has worked effectively in recent years is to paint liberals as whiney and abrasive. By definition, rallies

include whining. Because of this, rallies may alienate more people than they persuade, which is the complete opposite of what we want to happen.

Still, I will admit that large demonstrations have helped make the immigration battle salient in the minds of many Americans. Yes, they have caused both Bill Frist (R-TN) and Dennis Hastert (R-IL), the leaders of the Senate and House respectively, to withdraw their support of legislation that will make illegal immigrants felons. However, demonstrations are not enough. We cannot guarantee that members of Congress will not try to pull a stunt like this in the future, during a non-election year.

Some opponents of the bill

in Texas and North Carolina are talking about organizing an economic boycott to voice their disapproval.

Boycotts are effective because people pay attention when you mess with their money. Just look at the success civil rights activists had with boycotts in the South during the 60s.

The only sure way for opponents of this bill to protect themselves is by more participation at the ballot box.

Because of their rapidly increasing size and their relatively low levels of political participation, Latinos are referred to as the sleeping giant in the American political arena. According to the 2000 census, far fewer Latinos are registered to vote than

blacks or whites. In 2000, only 35 percent of Latinos were registered compared to 64 percent of blacks and 66 percent of whites. I am sure the numbers have improved over the past six years, but work must be done in this area.

Also, the Latinos that do vote have been moving away from the Democratic Party to support the GOP.

In 2000, Al Gore received two-thirds of the Latino vote compared to the 53 percent John Kerry got in 2004.

The current battle in Congress clearly shows which party better represents Latino interests. Just look at the bill that came out of the Republican-dominated House. No bill resembling HR-4437 will come out of the Senate, where the

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STATE

Numbers of mumps cases rise

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

CHICAGO - State health officials urged residents Friday to take steps to prevent the further spread of the mumps as the number of confirmed cases continued to rise.

Thirty-five confirmed cases and 37 probable cases were reported as of Friday, which is unusually high for a state that typically only has about a dozen mumps cases a year, the Illinois Department of Public Health said.

"Mumps is about as contagious as the flu so it's important to cover your nose and mouth when sneezing or coughing, wash your hands often, don't drink from the same glass or share the same eating utensils as another person," said Dr. Eric Whitaker, director of the Illinois Department of Public Health.

Dozens of mumps cases have been reported across the country. The highest concentration appears to be in Iowa, where more than 500 suspected cases have been reported, according to the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

In Illinois, the highest concentration of the mumps has been in Jackson, Jo Daviess and Rock Island counties, which each reported at least seven cases, according to data provided by the state health department.

Mumps is a virus-caused illness spread by coughing and sneezing. The most common symptoms are fever, headache and swollen salivary glands under the jaw. But it can lead to more severe problems, such as hearing loss, meningitis and fertility-diminishing swollen testicles.

No deaths have been linked to the mumps, but officials are expressing an "elevated level of concern" because of the number of cases, said Melaney Arnold, a health department spokeswoman.

"There is the possibility of losing your hearing. That's when it gets to a very serious level," Arnold said.

Three Illinois cases have connections to Iowa, including a student who attends a school in Iowa, Arnold said.

Mumps vaccinations have been required for all Illinois schoolchildren since 1980.

STORMS:

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1A

Hall watching the clouds swirl.

"I'm in weather and climate, so I'm more interested (in the storm)," she said.

Two weeks ago, Charleston faced extreme weather conditions that included tornado warnings and severe storms.

On April 2, Lincoln, Stevenson and Douglas were dumped, and residents sat in the stairwells in the basement, said Erin Steben, a resident assistant in Lincoln.

Resident assistants only dump the building, or advise all the residents go to

PROBLEMS:

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1A

that it was fair for a student representative body to decide on a group that was oppressed," she said.

Some additional displays, on which students and organizations worked, will feature will be interactive through the use of films.

One interactive oppression exhibit is ableism. This display, presented by Lincoln Hall, will challenge students to think about the difficulties people with disabilities face.

Students and organizations coordinated the self-guided tour.

"I think it's a great way to learn about what (students') peers are passionate about," Passananti said. "The students involved have put in a lot of work."

The museum will begin at 7 p.m. today in the Martin Luther King Jr. University Union Grand Ballroom. The

Illinois schools using old textbooks

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

CHICAGO - Many Illinois school children use textbooks that are so worn and outdated that teachers have a hard time preparing students for standardized tests and assigning homework, according to a published report.

Some books are held together by duct tape and lack major developments in subjects like math and science, the Chicago Tribune reported in Sunday editions.

The Tribune examined 50 school districts throughout the state and found nearly 80 percent use textbooks in a main academic area that are at least eight years old and about 22 percent have books that are at least 15 years old.

New law for impersonating law officials

CHICAGO - A bill signed by Gov. Rod Blagojevich Sunday increases the penalties for impersonating a police officer or firefighter.

Blagojevich said the legislation was prompted by an investigation by the Chicago Sun-Times that found a growing number of people are using phony police badges to commit crimes.

"When someone impersonates an officer, it seriously violates that trust, and can put the public and even other officers in great danger," Blagojevich said in a statement.



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NATION

News briefs from across the United States.

Suspect in killing described as 'quiet'

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

PURCELL, Okla. — The man accused of killing a 10-year-old neighbor girl for an elaborate plan to eat human flesh joked about cannibalism on his online diary, discussed the effects of not taking his anti-depression medication and mentioned "dangerously weird" fantasies. All he wanted in life, Kevin Ray Underwood wrote in his blog, was "to be able to live like a normal person."

People who knew Underwood described him Sunday as a quiet, "boring" and seemingly trustworthy young man. His mother called him a "wonderful boy."

Kevin Underwood, a 26-year-old grocery store stocker in this small community 40 miles south of Oklahoma City, was arrested Friday.

Investigators searched his apartment after he aroused their suspicions at a checkpoint and found a large plastic tub in a bedroom closet. According to a police affidavit, he confessed that he killed Jamie Rose Bolin.

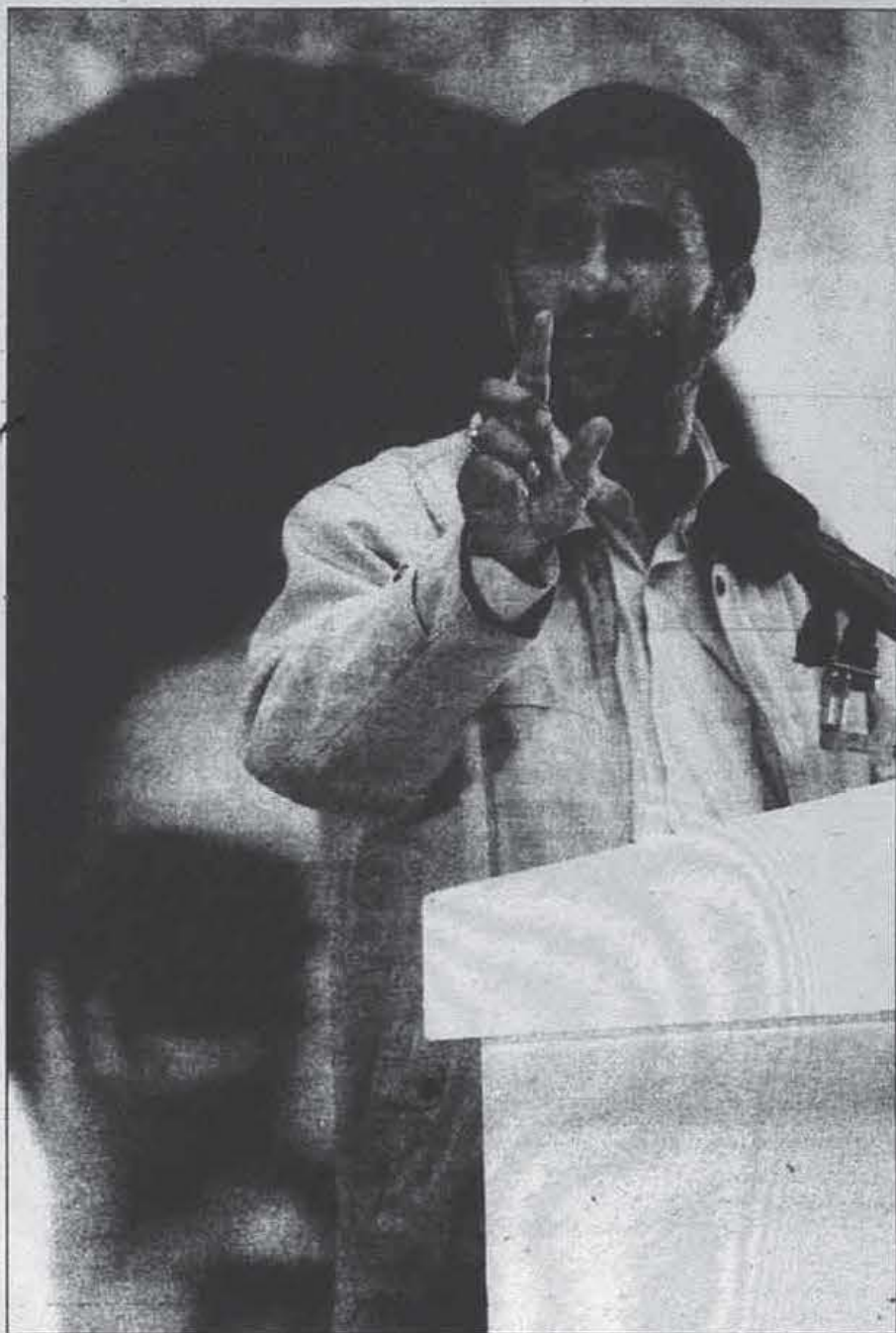
Bush prepares to approve bird flu plan

WASHINGTON — In the event of a bird flu outbreak, U.S. money could be produced overseas and Americans could be checked in drive-through medical exams for signs of infection, according to government plans being finalized.

Federal officials say the first case of bird flu could show up in the United States in the coming weeks or months as birds migrate from overseas. President Bush is expected to approve a national response plan in the next week or two laying out how agencies should respond if it were transmitted to humans.

The plan assumes a worst-case scenario that as many as 90 million people in the U.S. would become sick and 2 million would die during a pandemic.

Iran's former president: U.S. attack not good idea



THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

DAMASCUS, Syria — Iran's former president accused the United States Sunday of waging "a psychological war" against Tehran and said an American strike against the Islamic republic would not be in Washington's interests.

Former Iranian President Hashemi Rafsanjani, who heads the Expediency Council, a powerful body that mediates between Iran's parliament and clerical hierarchy, said Western nations' attempts to block Iran's nuclear program were "unjust."

"Iran's success in uranium enrichment is for the interest of the region's countries and all Islamic countries," Rafsanjani said. He reiterated the government position that Iran's nuclear program was not intended to harm any country in the region.

"If the United States launched a military strike against Iran, that would be neither in its interests nor in the interests of the entire region," Rafsanjani told a joint news conference in Damascus with Syrian Vice President Farouk al-Sharaa.

He said he believed the United States was "incapable of taking a risk or engaging in a new war in the region without discussing the subject seriously."

U.S. media reports have said the Bush administration was considering a military attack on Iran about its nuclear program, which Washington claims is designed to produce nuclear weapons. Iran says it is purely for generating energy.

President Bush has dismissed reports on attack plans as "wild speculation."

On Tuesday, Iran's hard-line president, Mahmoud Ahmadinejad, announced that Iran had successfully enriched uranium, which can be used to fuel nuclear reactors or build atomic bombs.

Iranian President Mahmoud Ahmadinejad speaks during a public meeting in Khorasan Razavi province, northeast of Tehran, Iran, Thursday. On Friday, he called Israel "an unending and unrestrained threat" to the Islamic world and urged regional leaders at a conference in Tehran to support the cash-strapped Palestinian government.

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 **announcements**


ATTENTION ALL GRADUATING SENIORS! If you are interested in a yearbook of your senior year, and are not sure how to pick it up, come to the Student Publications office, Room 1802 Buzzard Hall, and for only \$6 we will mail you a copy in the Fall when they are published. Call 581-2812 for more information. _____/00

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TENNIS

Panthers roll in last matches of

By JOE WALTASTI
STAFF REPORTER

There will be no more mini-muffins and bananas between matches as the Eastern tennis teams completed their 20-match spring seasons with a Senior Day rout.

The men swept Ohio Valley Conference opponent Tennessee State 7-0 and the women nearly equaled that feat with a 6-1 victory at the Darling Courts.

The women started out the day two points ahead because TSU had only five girls on their roster and had to forfeit the No. 3 doubles and No. 6 singles matches.

Eastern assistant coach Sajeel Qureshi compared bringing only five girls to a meet to starting only four on a basketball team.

"It would be pretty hard for the basketball team to win without a center or shooting guard," Qureshi said. "Being shorthanded makes for a very unfair match-up."

Not only did the Tigers lack the required amount of competitors, they lacked the talent to truly compete with the Panthers.

Head coach John Blackburn took advantage of the situation to let some of his back-ups get some court time in the last match of the season.

Junior Tony Puelo and sophomore Ben Thompson got some

action in for the men, replacing freshman Vuk Milicevic and sophomore Chris Thomas on the starting roster. Freshman Jenny Will played at No. 5 singles for the women, a spot normally reserved for sophomore Sam Lininger. Milicevic voluntarily agreed to sit while Thomas was suffering from a slight muscle pull on his right side.

Will was the only Panther to lose a match against TSU, but it was her first match of the season and first of her collegiate career.

Even with the back-ups playing, the Panthers rolled to straight set victories in 15 of 16 matches.

Jill Wirtz, the lone senior honored Saturday, ended her Eastern career with a strong performance. She combined with junior Madina Mambetova to win at No. 1 doubles, 8-1, and winning her No. 4 singles match in consecutive sets.

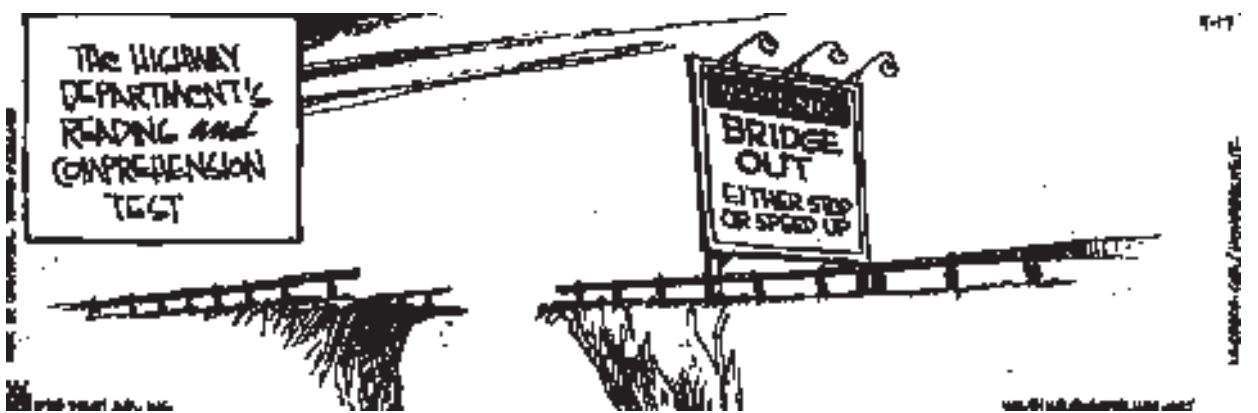
With the dual wins on Saturday, the Panther men (10-10, 3-6 OVC) will end the season with a .500 record, and the women (6-14, 2-7) won two out their last three matches.

With only the top six OVC teams allowed to advance to the postseason, last weekend's match-up against Murray State was the deciding factor for keep-



NORA MABERRY/THE DAILY EASTERN NEWS

Sophomore Sandra Sasidharan returns a volley during her singles match Saturday at Darling



The New York Times Crossword

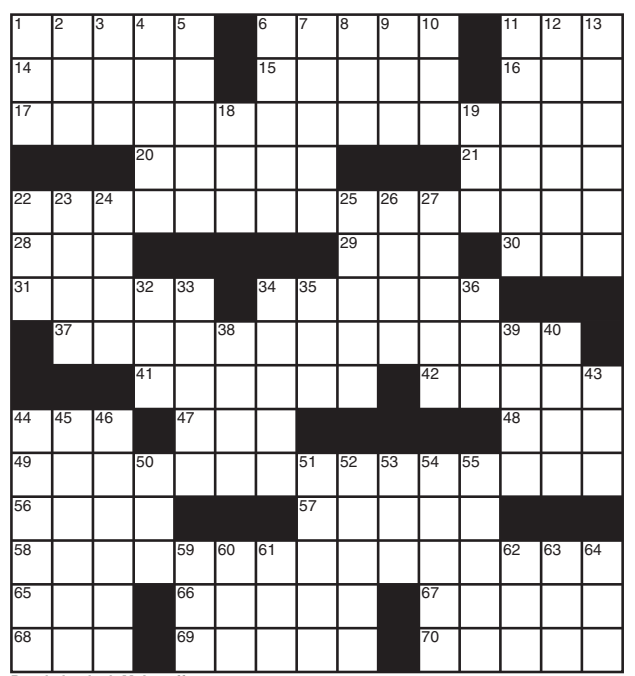
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- ACROSS**
- 1 Actor Jean-Claude Van _____
 - 6 Perry whose secretary was Della Street
 - 11 L-1011, e.g.
 - 14 Kind of address with @ in it
 - 15 Do penance
 - 16 Pie _____ mode
 - 17 Definition of a loser
 - 20 Andrea _____, ill-fated ship
 - 21 Nobelist Wiesel
 - 22 Gun owners' constitutional protection
 - 28 Drs.' group
 - 29 Victory sign
 - 30 Kanga's baby in "Winnie-the-Pooh"
 - 31 Doohickey: Var.
 - 34 Standards of perfection
 - 37 1950 #1 Anton Karas recording
 - 41 Goes abroad for a baby, perhaps
 - 42 Things
 - 44 Lawyer, for short
 - 47 Poet's "before"
 - 48 Letter after sigma
 - 49 Esperanto, for some
 - 56 Quartet, after a defection
 - 57 Everything being counted
 - 58 Take apart to understand the design of
 - 65 U-turn from WSW
 - 66 Old Ford model named for a horse
 - 67 German expression of appreciation
 - 68 Poetic contraction
 - 69 Hatfield adversary
 - 70 Historic English county
- DOWN**
- 1 Dict. offering
 - 2 French friend
 - 3 Dent or scratch
 - 4 Botch
 - 5 John who sang "Candle in the Wind"
 - 6 Madness
 - 7 First-stringers
 - 8 Boozehound
 - 9 Musical Yoko
 - 10 It's south of S.D.
 - 11 Prisoner watcher
 - 12 Pacific weather phenomenon
 - 13 Like immediately
 - 18 California's Fort _____
 - 19 Moon lander, for short
 - 22 Droop
 - 23 Give off
 - 24 Money on hand
 - 25 Makes level
 - 26 "Dandy!"
 - 27 Indian city of 13 million
 - 32 "Mamma _____!"
 - 33 Hamburger with fries, e.g.
 - 34 Spur
 - 35 "Can't Help Lovin' _____ Man"
 - 36 Tennis division
 - 38 "Dumb" girl of old comics
 - 39 Prefix with physical
 - 40 Webzine
 - 43 Seek damages from
 - 44 Course after the appetizer
 - 45 Calm
 - 46 Holder of arrows
 - 50 Stocking stuffer?
 - 51 Deceive
 - 52 Bother
 - 53 Old horse
 - 54 Skate on ice
 - 55 Radii neighbors
 - 59 Tach reading, for short
 - 60 Cry to an attack dog
 - 61 Env. insertion
 - 62 Naval officer
 - 63 Barely make, _____
 - 64 "Oedipus _____"

ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE

C	A	S	T	A	S	I	D	E	B	A	G	E	L
A	D	H	O	M	I	N	E	M	E	B	O	L	I
T	E	A	K	E	T	T	L	E	G	E	T	A	T
E	L	L	E	N	E	A	R	S	T	O	L	I	
S	E	E	N	M	A	Y	A	S	S	W	A	G	
				P	A	R	S	L	E	Y	A	M	A
F	E	S	T	E	R	S	D	E	E	P	S	E	T
A	V	A	I	L	S			P	A	T	T	I	E
N	A	M	E	T	A	G		W	I	T	S	E	N
C	P	A		S	L	O	S	H	E	S			
Y	O	R	E		A	F	T	E	R	N	A	R	C
T	R	I	N	A		O	R	E		H	O	M	E
H	A	T	E	D		R	I	D	E	A	L	O	N
A	T	A	R	I		I	D	L	E	H	A	N	D
T	E	N	O	N		T	E	E	N	A	N	G	S



- Puzzle by Jack McInturff
- 27 Indian city of 13 million
 - 32 "Mamma _____!"
 - 33 Hamburger with fries, e.g.
 - 34 Spur
 - 35 "Can't Help Lovin' _____ Man"
 - 36 Tennis division
 - 38 "Dumb" girl of old comics
 - 39 Prefix with physical
 - 40 Webzine
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 - 59 Tach reading, for short
 - 60 Cry to an attack dog
 - 61 Env. insertion
 - 62 Naval officer
 - 63 Barely make, _____
 - 64 "Oedipus _____"

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_____00

SCORING:

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 12A



JOHN BAILEY/THE DAILY EASTERN NEWS

Freshman Angela Danca swings at a pitch during the Panthers' game against Bradley Wednesday at Williams Field. Eastern won two-of-three games from Tennessee State over the weekend, keeping the team in fifth place in the Ohio Valley Conference.

The Tigers have already played the top three teams (Tennessee Tech, Southeast Missouri and Jacksonville State) in the OVC.

With both Hildebrand and Eastern ace Kathleen Jacoby locked into a pitcher's duel through the first four innings in game one Friday, TSU broke the scoreless tie with three runs in the fifth inning.

Catcher Erin Finneran doubled in the first two Tiger runs, and TSU tacked on one more in the inning.

"Hitting is very contagious," Schuette said. "It was hard to stop that once they started."

Prior to the fifth inning, Jacoby had allowed only two hits and no runs.

In the next two innings, the freshman surrendered six hits and seven runs.

Hildebrand had control of the Panther bats, as she kept them off-balance all game long by changing speeds and using her curveball, allowing only two hits.

Schuette said she was pleased her team bounced back in the next two games and credits better pitch selection for the team's improved hitting, but said there's still room for improvement.

"We manufactured runs when we had to," she said.

When it mattered most, as well.

The Panthers were trailing 2-1 in the seventh inning of Saturday's game, two outs away from losing the series.

After a single by Robyn Mackie, Jacoby doubled to center field, her third hit of the game.

This brought up junior Chelsea Adams, who had a walk-off double in last weekend's 1-0, eight-inning win against Samford. Adams didn't double this time but drove the ball in the air, good enough for a sacrifice fly that brought home Mackie and tied the game at 2.

Both teams could not

SCORE-

OVC Baseball

Standings (Through games of April 15)

Table with columns: Team, W-L, PCT., GB. Lists teams like Samford, Eastern Kentucky, Jacksonville State, etc.

THIS WEEK'S GAMES

Tuesday, April 18. Aurora at EASTERN - 3:00 p.m. Alabama State at Jacksonville State - 3:00 p.m.

Wednesday, April 19. Marshall at Eastern Kentucky - 2:00 p.m. Southern Illinois at EASTERN - 3:00 p.m.

Saturday, April 22. Eastern Kentucky at Jacksonville State (2) - 1:00 p.m. EASTERN at Samford (2) - 1:00 p.m.

Sunday, April 23. Eastern Kentucky at Jacksonville State - 1:00 p.m. Austin Peay at Southeast Missouri - 1:00 p.m.

LAST WEEK'S RESULTS

Monday, April 10. Martin Methodist 4, @UT Martin 3

Tuesday, April 11. Middle Tennessee 15, Austin Peay 5. Jacksonville State 5, @UAB 4.

Wednesday, April 12. EASTERN 6, Indiana State 1. Eastern Kentucky 6, Miami (OH) 5.

Friday, April 14. Tennessee Tech 5-2, @Austin Peay 3-1. EASTERN 8-7, Jacksonville State 2-1.

Saturday, April 15. @Austin Peay 11, Tennessee Tech 7. Jacksonville State 5, @EASTERN 4 (13 inn.).

*Samford 8, @Southeast Missouri 6 (15 inn.)

* - denotes OVC contest ALL TIMES CENTRAL AND SUBJECT TO CHANGE

OVC Softball

Standings (Through games of April 15)

Table with columns: Team, W, L, T, PCT. Lists teams like Tennessee Tech, Southeast Missouri, Jacksonville State, etc.

THIS WEEK'S GAMES

TUESDAY, APRIL 11. @Tennessee Tech 9-8, Belmont 1-0. #5 Tennessee 2-5, Austin Peay 0-2

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 12. @Eastern Kentucky 7-4, Marshall 4-7. Kennesaw State 2-1, Tennessee Tech 1-9.

FRIDAY, APRIL 14. @Tennessee Tech 3-8, Jacksonville State 2 (12 inn.)-4*. UT Martin 3-5, @Morehead State 0-1*.

SATURDAY, APRIL 15. @Eastern Kentucky 4, Southeast Missouri 1*. Jacksonville State 4, @Tennessee Tech 3* (8 inn.).

ALL TIMES CENTRAL * - OVC CONTEST

OVC Batting Leaders (as of Apr 15, 2006) (All games)

Table with columns: Player, Team, Avg. Lists Pace, Riley, Thompson, Cook, Karos, M. McDonald.

Hits

Table with columns: Player, Team, Hits. Lists Boden, Karos, Pappano.

Runs batted in

Table with columns: Player, Team, RBI. Lists Pineda, Worrell, 5 tied at.

Triples

Table with columns: Player, Team, Triples. Lists Boden, Jones, Karos, Merrell.

OVC Tennis

Standings Through April 12

Table with columns: Team, OVC W, L, PCT. Lists Tennessee Tech, Jacksonville State, Samford, etc.

WOMEN

Table with columns: Team, OVC W, L, PCT. Lists UT Martin, Tennessee Tech, Murray State, etc.

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Advertisement for the Panhellenic Council & Interfraternity Council. Text: 'The Panhellenic Council & Interfraternity Council would like to invite you to our Spring Informational. What: Recruitment 2006! When: April 19th 6:30pm - 7:30pm Where: PHC (women) Carman & Lawson'

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Advertisement for Bus Service. Text: 'Martin Luther King, Jr. University Union Bus Service Now Running Every Weekend! Union Ticket Office 581-5122. Locations: Old Orchard Mall, Northbrook Court, Woodfield Mall, Oakbrook Mall, Chicago Ridge Mall, Matteson Holiday Inn, EIU: Union & Greek Court. Only \$44.00. Dump the Pump!'

BASEBALL VS. JSU

Firlit holds JSU down and makes bid for permanent starter

By MARCO SANTANA
ASSOCIATE SPORTS EDITOR

Ever since the Ohio Valley Conference season began, head coach Jim Schmitz has tried to solve the problem of who can be the No. 3 starter for the Panthers.

With Drew Gierich emerging as a potential No. 1 starter and Brandon Murphy pitching well in his four OVC starts, he had to find a third starter that could give his team a chance to win the middle game of a series.

Kenny Firlit may be the solution to that problem.

Firlit pitched in the second game of Friday's double-header against Jacksonville State at Coaches Stadium.

He threw five innings and allowed just four hits and one run, giving the Panthers a chance to win late in the game when they scored seven runs in the fifth and sixth innings. They won the game 7-1.

"He got his velocity up and made great pitches," Schmitz said. "I can't say enough."

The game didn't start out as planned.

"I was a little nervous out there in the first inning," he said. "But it was a little easier going out there with winning the first game. It would have been more of a must-win had we lost."

JSU second baseman Bert Smith led off the game with a single. Firlit looked a little flustered at first, throwing to first base several times before focusing on first baseman Allan Rose at the plate.

With one out, Clay Whittemore dropped a single in front of Panther center fielder Brett Normenson.

Firlit took Brian Piazza to a full count before striking him out but then walked Garrett Bass on five pitches to load the bases.

Firlit managed to get Eric

Beck to pop up to Blake Meyer.

After the first inning, he only got into trouble in the fourth, when the Gamecocks scored their run.

"Once he got on a roll after one inning, he settled down," Schmitz said. "That's the sign of a starter."

Firlit was the most recent pitcher to get a chance.

Left-hander Mike Manns started the second game of the first three OVC series. After a hot start against Tennessee Tech, Manns couldn't find the strike zone and had eight walks in 4 1/3 innings pitched in his last two starts.

His earned run average of 12.46 over the last two starts caused Schmitz to look another direction.

Firlit began the season as a relief pitcher.

His first 10 appearances came out of the bullpen until he started this week's mid-week game against Indiana State.

SANTANA:

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 12A

With Casey Spears on first base, designated hitter Keiji Szalo popped up a bunt that had enough backspin to come back and stop in foul territory.

The umpire ruled Jacksonville State catcher Eric Beck had touched the ball before it went into foul territory.

As the catcher, pitcher and every Jacksonville State fan at Coaches Stadium argued with the umpire, Spears noticed there was nobody covering third base.

He took off and made it easily, and Szalo followed him and reached second base without a throw.

"It was like playing in little league again with everyone running all over the place," Spears said.

Rather than a runner on second base with one out,

Beck's miscue and the Panthers heads-up baserunning gave Eastern a runner on second and third base with nobody out.

When the Panthers had the bases loaded with one out, Jacksonville State walked in a run.

Mark Chagnon was hit by the first pitch he saw, Erik Huber singled on the first pitch he faced and Jason Cobb followed with a first-pitch double that scored two.

On four pitches, the Panthers had turned a 2-1 pitchers' duel into a 7-1 lead.

That is why the tension under the surface is just as exciting as wondering how far the next batter will hit it.

Because the one "swing" that ends up opening the floodgates could be the rou-

NBA

Bulls clinch spot in postsea-

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

MIAMI — Luol Deng got a nice gift for his 21st birthday. He's headed to the playoffs.

Deng scored 17 of his 26 points in the first half to spearhead the Bulls' rally from an early 15-point deficit, and Chicago also got 18 points apiece from Andres Nocioni and Ben Gordon to beat the Miami Heat 117-93 Sunday and clinch an Eastern Conference postseason berth.

"This was his present," Bulls guard Kirk Hinrich said.

Chicago could still finish in a number of different spots on the playoff bracket, and Bulls coach Scott Skiles made it clear afterward that his

team won't be happy settling for the No. 8 spot — and a first-round meeting with Detroit.

"It's no secret that the last couple of years we were trying to rebuild and redo our team, and there's a lot of teams that try to do that and can't get in the playoffs," Skiles said. "For our guys to get in is a tribute to the way they have been resilient and stayed with it."

Chicago's win not only spoiled Miami's home finale, it eliminated any hope Orlando had of sneaking onto the East's playoff bracket. Philadelphia remained alive, but barely, one more win by Washington or one more 76ers loss would put the Wizards in and complete the East field.

And, almost certainly to the chagrin of the Magic, the Heat, who already have secured the No. 2 seed in the East, elected to rest Dwayne Wade for the final 21 1/2 minutes and Shaquille O'Neal for the final 16 1/2. No Miami starter played in the fourth quarter, with coach Pat Riley apparently deciding that avoiding injury was more important than anything else.

"Trying to be cautious," said Heat forward Antoine Walker, who had a team-high 22 points.

O'Neal added 14 points in 20 minutes for Miami. Wade had only eight points on 2-for-12 shooting in 20 minutes, ending his team-record streak of 78 straight games in double figures.

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THIRTEEN:

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 12A

Gierich pitched six innings and gave up just one run. He was taken out of the game with a 3-1 lead. He is still looking for his first win despite an ERA of 2.94 in 49 innings.

"I left with the lead, and that is all you can do," he said. "Usually, we've been winning the games I've pitched."

Varrassi started the scoring with his second home run of the season in the third inning.

Varrassi was 4-for-6 in the game, and is the only Panther with more than one home run.

The Panthers lost their first one-run game, moving their record in these games to 5-1 on the season.

Their approach to hitting, with sacrifice bunts and hit-and-runs, helps them in the close games.

"It's just that we're not

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University Board Week Events

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EIU Uncovered:
Dr. Bonnie Irwin "What about the 10 minute rule? Folklore on College Campuses"
Thursday, April 20th 8pm
University Ballroom

Special Events
EXTREME Spring Fling
Friday, April 21st 1pm-5pm
Campus Pond
**Parking lot W will be closed from 4/20 @ 5pm until 4/21 @ 7pm

Mainstage
Open Mic Night
Thursday, April 20th 9pm
University Ballroom

Movies
Fun with Dick & Jane
Saturday, April 22nd 5pm & 8pm
Buzzard Auditorium



SPORTS

PANTHER SPORTS CALENDAR

TUESDAY	BASEBALL VS. AURORA	3 p.m.
	SOFTBALL AT SEMO (2)	3 p.m.
WEDNESDAY	BASEBALL VS. SOUTHERN ILLINOIS	3 p.m.
FRIDAY	TRACK & FIELD AT KANSAS RELAYS	through Saturday
SATURDAY	M-GOLF AT OVC CHAMPIONSHIPS	through April 25

MONDAY, APRIL 17, 2006

Eastern Illinois University,



OFF THE BENCH
MARCO SANTANA
ASSOCIATE SPORTS EDITOR

Who needs

Even some of the most die-hard baseball fans can't agree on what type of game is a better one: a game that ends 12-11 with six combined home runs and 13 pitchers or a 1-0 final score that has just three combined hits and both pitchers dealing complete games.

What has to be considered is both types of games make baseball what it is.

Baseball is a strategic battle, and the ridiculous, yet ever-growing war metaphors that are used when talking about sports like football really have more merit when talking about baseball.

War is not a constant battle. There are breaks that are necessary to develop strategies for the next battle.

That is baseball.

Every baseball game has the potential to come down to one inning, one batter, one swing.

Most casual fans are not interested in pitching duels. They want to see fireworks and constant action because they are used to the up-and-down the court action of basketball or the hard hitting of football.

But there is something to be said about the excitement just under the surface of a late-inning, low-scoring game.

In a game in which nobody can stop the other team, a five-run seventh inning means nothing because the other team is hitting well and can easily respond with five runs of its own.

In a low-scoring game, both pitchers are "on." Neither team is making any glaring mistakes unless there is brilliant pitching that gets them out of a jam. That is enough excitement in

SEE **SANTANA** PAGE 11A

BASEBALL VS. JSU



NORA MABERRY/THE DAILY EASTERN NEWS

Senior second baseman Blake Meyer waits for a pitch during the Panthers' Saturday game with Jacksonville State at Coaches Stadium. The Panthers lost 5-4 in 13 innings but remain in third place in the Ohio Valley Conference.

BY **MARCO SANTANA**
ASSOCIATE SPORTS EDITOR

Junior pitcher Chris Vaculik thought he had Jacksonville State center fielder Nick Cleckler looking.

"I thought the pitch before was right on the inside corner," he said.

The umpire didn't see it that way. Cleckler sent the next pitch between short-stop Adam Varrassi and third baseman Ryan Campbell to score Cory Tucker from second base and give the Gamecocks a 5-4 win in 13 innings, spoiling another solid start by Drew Gierich.

The win stopped the Panthers from sweeping conference opponent Jacksonville State (17-19, 6-6 OVC) in a weekend series. The Panthers (18-14, 7-5) had won the first two games 7-1 and 8-2 on Saturday.

"They put our backs to the wall," Gamecock head coach Jim Case said. "They fought us all weekend. Today was a good game."

It was the first extra-inning game for Eastern this season.

But it should not have gotten that far.

The Panthers entered the ninth inning with a 4-1 lead and closer Vaculik coming

off of a perfect eighth inning.

"He's been our closer," Eastern head coach Jim Schmitz said. "He was really sharp out of the pen."

Vaculik walked designated hitter Garrett Bass to lead-off the ninth and then gave up a single before walking another batter to load the bases.

An infield single and the two-run single by Cleckler gave Jacksonville State three runs to tie the game and send it into extra innings.

"I feel personally responsible," Vaculik said. "Going into the ninth up 4-1, we should win."

In his six innings of relief Saturday, Vaculik walked three leadoff batters and two of them ended up scoring.

The Panthers had an opportunity to not send the game into extra innings.

In the bottom of the ninth, the Panthers had a single and two walks to load the bases with two outs. First baseman Erik Huber followed with a fielder's choice to end the inning.

In the bottom of the 12th, Eastern received back-to-back walks with two outs. A

SEE **THIRTEEN** PAGE 11A

SOFTBALL AT TEN-

Eastern overcomes game-one

BY **MATT DANIELS**
SPORTS EDITOR

Facing a team in ninth place in the Ohio Valley Conference, head coach Kim Schuette wanted her team to pull off another weekend sweep, just as they had last weekend against Samford.

Except for two innings this weekend at Tennessee State, Eastern (27-17-1, 9-6 OVC) would have had its second

straight weekend sweep—and helped its chance at a berth in the postseason conference tournament.

"Our goal was to have all three," Schuette said.

But thanks to timely hitting by the Tigers (16-26, 2-14) and superb pitching from Candace Hildebrand, the Panthers dropped the first game this weekend 7-0.

"(Hildebrand) had a curveball that she threw real low, and we were way

ahead of it," Schuette said. "Hats off to her. We kept hacking at it and weren't able to make contact."

Eastern bounced back in the second game Friday, defeating TSU 3-2 and then outlasting the Tigers by the same score in 10 innings in Saturday's series finale.

With the two wins, the Panthers remained in fifth place in the confer-

SEE **SCORING** PAGE 10A