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## Daily Eastern News: March 24, 2008

Eastern Illinois University

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# The DAILY EASTERN NEWS

EASTERN ILLINOIS UNIVERSITY, CHARLESTON

MONDAY | 3.24.08

VOL. 95 | ISSUE 49

ADMINISTRATION | HIRE

## New athletic director makes history

**Burke is first woman to hold position full-time in 108 years**

By **Matt Daniels**  
Editor in Chief

Eastern President Bill Perry uttered the name "Barbara" shortly before he could make the formal introduction.

But the overflow crowd gathered in Room 1895 of the Martin Luther King Jr. University Union on Friday morning saw Eastern's future athletic director minutes before, when Barbara Burke walked in with Vice President for Student Affairs Dan Nadler and sat down in the first row of chairs.

Burke became Eastern's ninth-full time athletic director and the first woman to ever hold the position on a full-time basis. Joan Schmidt served on an interim basis at Eastern for six months in 1980 and 1989.

Burke also becomes the second female AD in the Ohio Valley Conference, along with Tennessee State's Teresa Phillips.

"First off, when I saw Barbara as a candidate, it wasn't a gender issue," said Mary Wallace, Eastern's women's track head coach, senior woman's administrator and one of the members of the AD search committee. "It

was an issue of, one, she was a person of experience; two, she was a person of passion; and three, she was a leader. Her being here is not a question of gender, but a question of ability."

Burke, the deputy director of athletics and senior woman's administrator at Wyoming, beat out four other finalists for the position. Nadler said Burke impressed him when she arrived in mid-February for her on-campus interview.

"How she handled herself, how well she spoke and how well she connected was very clear," he said. "While there is a business side of athletics, there's a personal and relationship side of things. She first and foremost has the student-athletes in her heart."

For Burke, 49, it was a moment she had waited for since she became involved in college athletics nearly 30 years ago.

But she had to keep quiet after finding out nearly two weeks ago she got the job.

"I was very excited and wanted to tell the world, but I do understand the professionalism and the need to keep some confidences," she said. "In my heart, when you've worked for something so long and so hard, when it's offered, you just want to tell the world. I didn't, but now I can."

» SEE AD, PAGE 5



KEVIN MURPHY | THE DAILY EASTERN NEWS

Barbara Burke was named the ninth full-time Eastern athletic director Friday morning in the 1895 Room of the Martin Luther King Jr. University Union. Burke was the deputy director of athletics and senior women's administrator at Wyoming before taking the job at Eastern. She said she hopes to start as early as June.

CAMPUS | ACTIVITIES

## UB replaces science guy with funny guy

**Comedian to cost \$7,000 ; will perform in early April**

By **Emily Zulz**  
Activities Reporter

The University Board Lectures committee has filled the spot left open by Bill Nye's cancellation.

Michael Showalter, a stand-up comedian, writer and director, will come to campus April 2 with his lecture "The Life and Times of a Semi-Famous Basic Cable Sketch Comedian."

Showalter is most famous for his work on Comedy Central.

He co-wrote the movie "Wet Hot American Summer," which has frequently aired on Comedy Central.

This movie has a "huge cult college following," said Ryan Kerch, UB Lectures coordinator.

Showalter is also a co-creator and writer for the TV show "Stella," which aired on Comedy Central two years ago.

Nye was slated to perform this semester before a filming conflict forced him to cancel.

UB had received an additional allocation from Apportionment Board of \$22,870 to bring Nye to campus. The allocation had to be returned after the cancellation.

The lectures committee chose to not go with a bigger-named artist and used the money left in the budget instead, said Ceci Brinker, director of student life.

Showalter's speaking fee is \$7,000.

Brinker said UB is disappointed



FILE PHOTO | THE DAILY EASTERN NEWS

Kari Byron, from the Discovery Channel's "Mythbusters," spoke about her experiences on the show in September to a packed Grand Ballroom in the Martin Luther King Jr. University Union. This semester the University Board is bringing Michael Showalter, a stand-up comedian, writer and director to campus to deliver his lecture "The Life and Times of a Semi-Famous Basic Cable Sketch Comedian."

it could not bring Nye but added that Kerch has put a lot of research into deciding on another speaker.

"I think what Ryan (Kerch) is trying to do is make sure that even though that (Nye's cancellation) was a letdown, to make sure he can bring somebody that the students would enjoy hearing come speak," Brinker said.

UB is not trying to replace Nye, she said, but Showalter also draws and attracts students.

"I think that was the main thing is to give the students an opportunity to hear a good speaker," Brinker said.

Showalter has been in the Midwest for the past couple of weeks, so the lectures committee was able

to book him with short notice, Kerch said.

"We thought this was going to be perfect for how much time we had to deal with, the dates that he was available and how much money we had left," Kerch said.

Amy Baumgart, graduate assistant for student life, said she and Kerch had considered Showalter previously in the year when they were not sure if the AB's additional allocation for Nye would come through.

"We always had to have a plan B," Baumgart said. "He was always kind of there on our back burner. I guess we got to rely on our plan B."

But Showalter was not "just a plan B" because if Nye had come, the lectures committee would still have looked into bringing Showalter another semester, Kerch said.

Kerch said he was glad he got the chance to bring Showalter to campus because the comedian is popular with college students.

He is hoping the event will attract students in the theater program and the film studies minor, Kerch said.

The event has already become popular through the Facebook event that was created for Showalter's lecture, he said.

Students are excited, Kerch said. Someone wrote on the event's facebook page that they "can die happy now."

"I'm glad we can fulfill people's dreams," Baumgart said with a laugh.

Emily Zulz can be reached at 581-7942 or at eazulz@eiu.edu.

TOXICOLOGY | JESSE MOUNCE

## Coroner determines cause of death

By **Stephen Di Benedetto**  
Associate News Editor

Eastern student Jesse Mounce's death was caused by asphyxiation due to hanging, said Coles County Coroner Mike Nichols.

Mounce was intoxicated at the time of his death, with a blood alcohol level of 0.082, which is just above the legal limit of 0.08, Nichols said.

No drugs were found in Mounce's system at the time of his death, Nichols said.

Mounce, a sophomore communications studies major and member of Sigma Phi Epsilon, was found dead at his Ninth Street apartment on Feb. 8.

There will be no inquest concerning Mounce's death, Nichols said.

Nichols is also waiting on lab results from Springfield regarding the death of student Mark Schwartz.

Schwartz, a biological sciences major, was found dead in his off-campus apartment Feb. 29. Nichols does not know when he will receive the lab results from Springfield and cannot release details of Schwartz's death until the lab results are in.

Nichols had previously said foul play and suicide were not factors in Schwartz's death.

• For more information on inquests, turn to page 5.

Stephen Di Benedetto can be reached at 581-7942 or sdibenedetto@eiu.edu

EIU WEATHER

<p><b>MONDAY</b></p>  <p><b>47° 33°</b> Partly Cloudy N-S 10-20/30</p>	<p><b>TUESDAY</b></p>  <p><b>57° 36°</b></p>
<p><b>WEDNESDAY</b></p>  <p><b>54° 40°</b></p>	

WEATHER BRIEF

Partly cloudy skies will dominate the skies today with calm winds from the north shifting from the south tonight with gusts reaching 30 mph. Small chance of showers Tuesday.

For current conditions visit EIU WeatherCenter at [www.eiu.edu/~weather](http://www.eiu.edu/~weather)

ENTERTAINMENT | A DAILY LOOK

Wardrobe Spears wore on sitcom set for auction

The Associated Press

LOS ANGELES — It seems almost everybody wants a piece of Britney Spears, and at least six pieces are officially for sale.

Spears' wardrobe from her guest-starring stint on CBS' "How I Met Your Mother" will be sold at an online auction to benefit the Natural Resources Defense Council, an environmental organization.

The weeklong auction begins Monday night, just after the episode featuring the pop star is set to air. Spears plays a flirty receptionist who falls for show's main character.

A half-dozen Spears-worn items will be available, including a navy print Juicy Couture dress, a yellow Nannette Lepore dress and a cream Nannette Lepore cardigan with blue flower details.

CBS and 20th Century Fox Television, which produces the show, are sponsoring the auction.

Grammy winner Navaira injured when bus crashes

HOUSTON — Grammy-winning Tejano singer Emilio Navaira was critically injured Sunday when his band's bus crashed on a highway in the metro area, city and hospital officials said.

Navaira and his band Rio had performed at a Houston nightclub on Saturday night.

At about 5 a.m. Sunday, the band's bus slammed into traffic barrels on Interstate 610 northbound in Bellaire, west of downtown Houston, Bellaire police Sgt. Daniel Kerr said.

Navaira was one of eight passengers on the bus who were injured, said Houston Assistant Fire Chief Omero Longoria. Navaira was listed in critical condition at Memorial Hermann Hospital, where he was being treated in the intensive care unit, said hospital administrator Lisa Lagrone.

B.B. King buys landmark business in his hometown

INDIANOLA, Miss. — B.B. King is the new owner of a juke joint in his Mississippi Delta hometown.

Mary Shepard, who said she sold the club to spend more time with her family, has owned Club Ebony in Indianola for the past three decades. A Mississippi Delta Blues Trail Marker outside Club Ebony says Count Basie, Ray Charles, James Brown, Ike Turner are among the musicians who have played there since 1945.

'Horton' has another solid showing at box office

LOS ANGELES — "Dr. Seuss' Horton Hears a Who," remained the top movie for a second straight weekend with \$25.1 million, according to studio estimates Sunday.

"Tyler Perry's Meet the Browns," came in at second place with \$20 million, while "Shutter," opened at No. 3 with \$10.7 million.

PHOTO OF THE DAY

Over-commercialization of Easter



BRYCE PEAKE | THE DAILY EASTERN NEWS

An artistic conceptualization of the over-commercialization of Easter by Brian Wolf stands in the South Quad Sunday afternoon during frequent showers of both snow and rain.

WHAT THE... | WEIRD, UNEXPECTED, BIZARRE NEWS

Driver charged with speeding blames Oreos

The Associated Press

SALISBURY, Conn. — Police say a man's excuse for speeding through a small Connecticut town takes the cake — or, at least, the cookie.

A state trooper who stopped the 1993 BMW last fall says its driver, 28-year-old Justin Vonkummer of Milerton, N.Y., blamed his driving problems on an errant Oreo. Vonkummer told the trooper that an Oreo had just slipped from his fingers as he dunked it in a cup of milk, and that he was trying to fish it out when he lost control of his car.

Prosecutors learned in court this week that Vonkummer had been charged with speeding and driving under a suspended license — not driving under the influence, as a clerk had mistakenly noted in the court records.

Hospital rules thwart horse visit

LIHUE, Hawaii — A man entered Wilcox Memorial Hospital earlier this month and rode an elevator up to the third floor with a horse to visit a patient, where they were met and stopped by security personnel.

The hospital has a pet visitation policy, but it's for dogs and cats, not horses.

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ABOUT THE DAILY EASTERN NEWS

The Daily Eastern News is produced by the students of Eastern Illinois University. It is published daily Monday through Friday, in Charleston, Ill., during fall and spring semesters and twice weekly during the summer term except during university vacations or examinations.

One copy per day is free to students and faculty. Additional copies can be obtained for 50 cents each in the Student Publications Office in Buzzard Hall.

The Daily Eastern News is a member of The Associated Press, which is entitled to exclusive use of all articles appearing in this publication. **Subscription price** | \$50 per semester, \$30 for summer, \$95 all year.

COMMENTS / TIPS

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

The Daily Eastern News is committed to accuracy in its coverage of the news. Any factual error the staff finds, or is made aware of by its readers, will be corrected as promptly as possible.

To aid the Daily Eastern News in its quest for accuracy, please report any factual error you find in any edition of the Daily Eastern News by e-mail, phone, campus mail or in person.

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UNIVERSITY BOARD EVENTS  
Get on Board! This Week

Tuesday, March 25 - 7:00p - 2nd Floor Coleman Hall

EIU  
**WORLD SERIES OF TRIVIA**



Open Mic Competition & COFFEEHOUSE

featuring **Dave Tamkin** IN CONCERT

7th Street Underground  
Wednesday, March 26 - 7:00p

"DIVERSITY ACCORDING TO SOUTH PARK AND FAMILY GUY"



7:00 PM  
Thursday, March 27  
Lumpkin Auditorium

U.S. Comedy Presents  
7th Street Underground  
Friday, March 28  
9:00 PM

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LOCAL | LIVING

# Off-campus options abound

## Charleston apartment complexes offer new amenities for prospective students

By Jordan Crook  
Senior City Reporter

Nearly 7,000 Eastern students live off campus, and many are now looking for places to live for the 2008 fall semester.

Melrose on Fourth is one new apartment complex that has created a interest among off-campus residents.

The complex, which started construction earlier this year, will be completed before the start of the fall semester.

Melissa Phillips, property manager for the complex, said she recently stopped advertising to students because the property is almost out of apartments to rent.

Of the original 32 apartments in the complex, 30 of the apartments have been rented, she said.

Students want to live in Melrose on Fourth because the apartments are brand-new, Phillips said.

"People love to be the first to live in an apartment," she said.

The two-bedroom, two-bath apartments also have washers and

dryers in each rental, Phillips said. An exercise room and a hot tub room will be included inside the complex as well.

Other apartment complexes off campus have made some major changes to draw in student renters.

The Campus Pointe apartment complex, which was recently purchased by Regency Residential Associates, has expanded its indoor and outdoor entertainment areas.

Shaina Neidigh, property manager for Campus Pointe, said the new renovations make the complex especially appealing to student renters who are searching for new places to live around Charleston.

The new owners of the complex have created volleyball and basketball courts as well as an expanded clubhouse inside the complex.

Students living in Campus Pointe usually come from the residence halls, but there are some who transfer in and start living off campus, and others who come from other off-campus apartments, Neidigh said.

Mark Hudson, director of Housing and Dining Services, said students sometimes decide to move off campus after living on campus for a few years.

Students who enroll as freshmen are required to spend their first year living in a residence hall



BRYCE PEAKE | THE DAILY EASTERN NEWS

As the end of the academic school year grows closer, more 'FOR LEASE' or 'FOR RENT' signs are popping up around Charleston. Melrose on Fourth is the second newest apartment complex that directly markets to Eastern students in Charleston, after Campus Pointe apartments.

because students who live on campus are usually more academically successful, he said.

Students who live in the residence halls perform better academically because they are closer to classrooms and other school resources like Mary J. Booth Library and computer labs, Hudson said.

Students who live in residence halls for a year usually find they enjoy the camaraderie and atmosphere that goes along with living

side-by-side with other students, he added.

The Housing and Dining Office tries to inform students about the cost and quality of off-campus living by providing a comparison on its Web site between off-campus and on-campus living costs.

"We try to educate students about the expenses that are related to that choice," Hudson said.

Jordan Crook can be reached at 581-7495 or at jscrook@eiu.edu.

CAMPUS | MISSION TRIP

# Spring breakers in D.C. address homelessness

## Students talk to senators' interns about issues of poverty, mental illness

By Sara Cuadrado  
Campus Reporter

Mandy Buell wanted to make her spring break worthwhile.

Buell, a senior management major, went on a mission trip to Washington, D.C., with a group of others from the Wesley Foundation to talk to United States representatives about homelessness and poverty.

The Wesley Foundation hosts a mission trip every spring break, said Pat Lindstrom, a sophomore sociology major. This year they decided to go to an urban setting for the mission trip, he said.

The group heard about the United Methodist Program in New York and Washington, D.C., and the group voted to go to D.C., Lindstrom said.

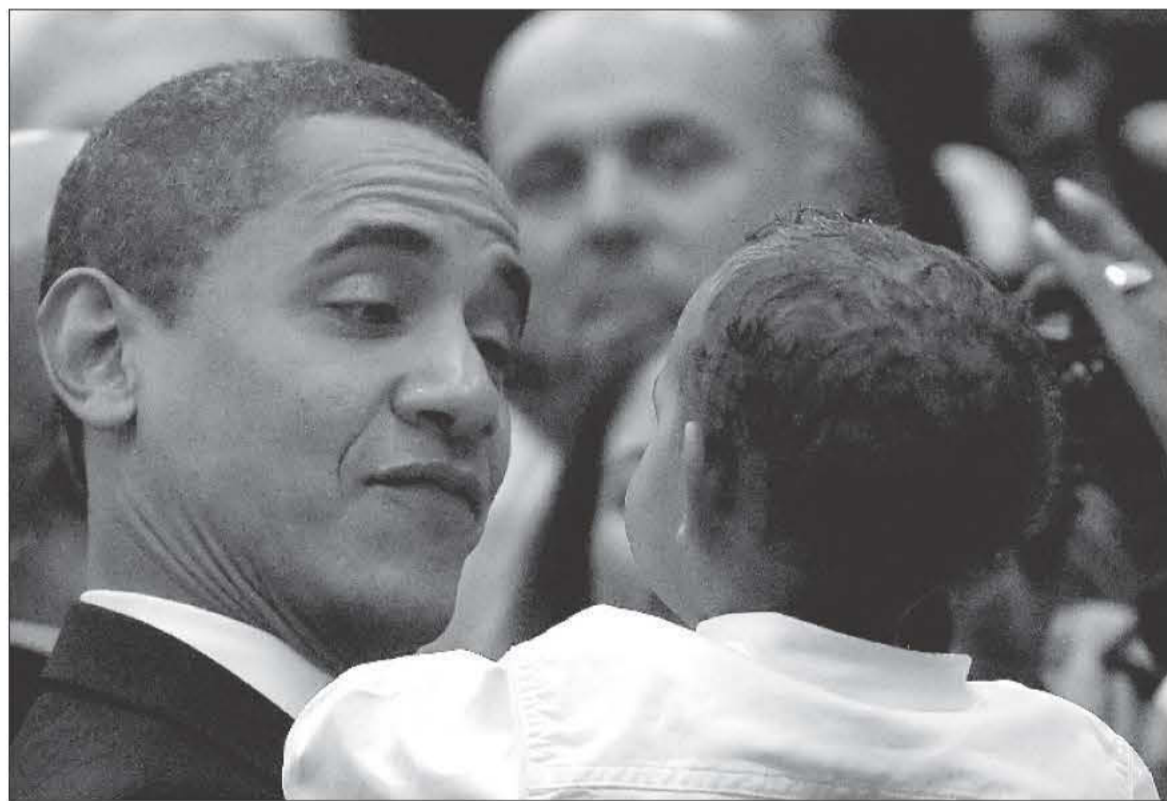
Sarah Holman, a junior music major, said she decided to go on the trip because she wanted to have an effect on important matters.

Holman and the others spent the first two days learning about mental illnesses and poverty.

By the third day, everyone put their knowledge into action by speaking to representatives of Senator Barack Obama and Senator Dick Durbin, Holman said.

The group did not get to speak with the senators directly because Illinois has important representation with Durbin as the Assistant Majority Leader, and Obama is running for president.

The students instead talked to the senators' interns about the homeless



LAYNE BAILEY | MCT

Democratic presidential candidate Sen. Barack Obama makes a face to Jackson Jordan Fancher, 19-months, of Charlotte, N.C. following his speech at the Grady Cole Center in Charlotte on Wednesday. Eastern students spoke to representatives from Obama's office during spring break regarding the plight of the homeless.

and issues surrounding affordable housing.

The group spent a day at America's largest homeless shelter, Carpenter's Center, which is reported to house nearly 1,300 homeless people each night.

Carpenter's Center is located in Alexandria, Va.

Buell knew she had an effect on the people in the homeless shelter, she said.

"You can tell they were just happy that we were talking to them," Buell said. "A lot of people go to talk to them for research, but we just went to talk."

Lindstrom thinks they had a pos-

itive effect on the homeless people because the people kept telling the students they were brightening their day, he said.

After visiting them, he realized that he shouldn't take anything for granted because anyone could become homeless, he said.

He recalled one man who owned a restaurant and became homeless after he developed schizophrenia.

The visit changed Buell's perception of homeless people, she said.

She used to think they were just "lazy," but most of the people at the shelter had a bachelor's degree or a job for 30 years before they lost their homes, Buell said.

The students did other various acts of community service while in the city.

They went to a food bank to pack boxes of food for people in the area, Lindstrom said.

The trip also included painting a cabin at a camp for inner-city kids.

Still, Holman thought the best thing they did was advocate important issues and stand up for people whose voices are not usually heard.

"My eyes were opened to the idea of helping people in a different way," Holman said.

Sara Cuadrado can be reached at 581-7942 or at slcuadrado@eiu.edu.

## CAMPUS BRIEFS

### Student leaders of residence halls inducted

Twenty new members were inducted into the Louis V. Hencken Chapter of the National Residence Hall Honorary on March 17. The National Residence Hall Honorary comprises the top one percent of student leaders in residence halls. "These individuals excelled through volunteering their time to enhance the residence hall experience," said Mark Hudson, director of Housing and Dining.

### Presentation discusses good humor, health

Faculty Development is sponsoring "The Good Humor Teacher: Fostering Positive Humor Development," from 3 to 4 p.m. today. The presentation will explain how research has said positive humor has been associated with health. The event will be in the Charleston-Mattoon Room of the Martin Luther King Jr. University Union. Call 581-7051 for more information.

### Consolidated speakers, CEO will visit campus

Consolidated Communications will bring nine executives to speak today and Tuesday to business classes. The visit is part of the School of Business' Executive-in-Residence Program. The keynote lecture, "Consolidated Communications: From Gorilla to Guerrilla," will be presented by Bob Currey, Consolidated President and CEO at 6:30 p.m. on Tuesday in Robertson Auditorium in Lumpkin Hall. The lecture is open to the public.

—Compiled by News Editor Nora Maberry

## BLOTTER

On March 15, David M. Thill, 22, of Charleston, was arrested about 1:55 a.m. at the corner of Street and Buchanan Avenue in Charleston on the charge of driving under the influence.

On March 16, Woodrow R. Brown, 24, of Chicago, was arrested about 12:50 a.m. at the corner of Ninth Street and Roosevelt Avenue on the charge of driving under the influence.

## CORRECTION

On Page 1 of Friday's *The Daily Eastern News*, the Rev. Kenneth Hoover, from the Immanuel Lutheran Church in Charleston, was misidentified.

On Page 3 of Friday's *The Daily Eastern News*, the day of the peace march was incorrectly reported. The march took place Tuesday.

*The DEN regrets the errors.*

## COMMENTS, CORRECTIONS OR EVENTS

To report any errors, local events or general suggestions for future editions, please contact our Editor in Chief, **Matt Daniels**, via: **Phone | 581-7936, E-mail | DENeic@gmail.com Office visit | 1811 Buzzard Hall**

The DAILY  
EASTERN NEWS  
"Tell the truth and don't be afraid."

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## Letter to the editor

## RE-EVALUATING EQUALITY

This letter is written in response to Alan Baharlou's March 17 column, "Interpreting our free will."

Yes, the Bible says man was made from the image of God, and women were made from man. Does this not mean that both were made in his image? As far as the Bible goes, Mohammad was not a prophet. Are we forgetting about Ruth, Deborah and Esther, not to mention Mary, the mother of Christ?

The women in the Bible have been equal with any man just by Mary's use in bearing God's only son. Back to Adam and Eve. If Alan Baharlou would just read a little more, he would have found that the word "both" is in gross error. First mentioned is Cain and Abel, yet clearly they had Seth (Genesis 4:25), not to mention that it goes on in Genesis 5:4 to say Adam and Eve had many more sons and DAUGHTERS.

Now, I see very little connection to that and the lack of women in our government. Please inform me how many have run in the presidential race, or any race. Women are smart enough to stay away from the corrupt national politics. Look at local elections and you will see many more running.

The tolerance that Baharlou speaks of is one-sided. Is it fair to have a Miss Black EIU but no Mr. White EIU? If it's going to be equal, then let it be equal. Needless to say, who are you or anyone else to tell me how to vote? That is the wonderful thing about America: we choose who we want.

If people choose not to vote for someone because they are purple, they have that right. I realize that some liberal-bleeding hearts wish they could control our thoughts and speech, but for now, nothing's doing. Yes, our speech is now controlled by hate-speech laws or politically correct manners police. But for now, I still have my vote, and I wish I could vote for Condoleezza Rice!

John Bell, junior bachelor of general studies major

## EDITORIAL POLICY

The editorial is the majority opinion of the DEN editorial board. Reach the opinions editor at: DENopinions@gmail.com

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Letters to the editor can be submitted at any time on any topic to the Opinions Editor to be published in *The Daily Eastern News*.

The DEN's policy is to run all letters that are not libelous or potentially harmful. They must be less than 250 words. Letters to the editor can be brought in with identification to *The DEN* at 1811 Buzzard Hall or submitted electronically from the author's EIU e-mail address to DENopinions@gmail.com.

## Drawn from the news | Dylan Polk



## STAFF EDITORIAL

## Burke has all the necessary tools to succeed, but will she?

On first appearances, Eastern's new athletic director Barbara Burke did everything right.

She smiled at the appropriate time, she cracked jokes at the right moment and she spoke with conviction in accepting her new job.

She said it was a moment she had strived for since she became involved in the administrative side of athletics in the early 1990s.

And now the 49-year-old has reached the pinnacle of her athletic administrator career thus far with Friday's news of her being named Eastern's ninth full-time athletic director.

Coaches, administrators and athletic personnel were all smiles and warm feelings early Friday morning in the Martin Luther King Jr. University Union. It was "a new chapter in Eastern athletics" as Vice President for Student Affairs Dan Nadler said in his opening remarks.

Which it is. But the start of the 2007-08 school year certainly represented a dark chapter in Eastern athletics.

Eastern President Bill Perry relieved Rich McDuffie of his duties in August 2007. The removal came after Pam Collins, an employee in Eastern's athletic department with 20 years of experience, came forward with sexual harassment allegations against McDuffie.

Perry said this was after the university conducted an internal investigation and found no reason to remove McDuffie. However, to the public, it appeared the backlash against McDuffie and Eastern after Collins' allegations became known had a role in McDuffie's removal.

But back to the present and to Burke, who, at first glance, appears to be the anti-McDuffie.

The university made a historic decision by appointing Burke as the first full-time female AD in Eastern's 108-year history of sports.

Perry and women's head track coach Mary Wallace said Friday that gender wasn't an issue at all with Burke. Maybe it was and maybe it was not. Even if gender did have a role in the final decision, Burke has the experience necessary to thrive in this position. She has worked in both spectrums of collegiate athletics since she graduated Western Michigan in 1980 after a career in basketball and softball.

She was a coach at five different schools before switching to the administrative side in 1992 at West Virginia State and taking the role of senior woman's administrator, along with the school's head basketball and softball coach.

She worked there for three years before moving to Marshall University, where she served as

## OUR VIEW

• **Situation:** Eastern chose new athletic director Barbara Burke Friday. She is the university's first full-time female athletic director.

• **Stance:** Burke's credentials shows she's got clout – but Eastern will be a different challenge for her. We will be eyeing her progress.

the associate director of athletics and the senior woman's administrator before heading on to Texas-El Paso in 1997. At UTEP, she served in the same positions she did at Marshall. She started off at Wyoming in 1998 and has been there ever since, filling a number of roles.

She started off as the associate AD and senior woman's administrator before moving to title of senior associate AD and keeping the senior woman's administrator title in 2001.

Wyoming is a successful athletic program in one of the most competitive leagues in the nation, the Mountain West. One doesn't rise to the title of deputy director of athletics, which she did in July 2006 – essentially the second in command in the athletic department – without some sort of knowledge or experience.

But the situation she's about to enter into Eastern is a precarious one. She will face added pressure due to the sole fact that she is the first full-time female AD. She will have critics, probably not within her own department – at least initially – but grumblings from the community might ensue.

The Ohio Valley Conference is a major step down from the Mountain West. The Mountain West is a nationally known conference, with nation wide exposure. The OVC is a more limited conference on the national scale.

She'll also have to deal with a major university, the University of Illinois, approximately 45 minutes north of Charleston. In Wyoming, she had the luxury to market the state's premier institution and its athletics. Here, it's a crowded market, not only in the immediate surrounding area, but also throughout the state.

She'll also have to juggle the responsibilities that come with the 21 sports Eastern offers compared to the 17 Wyoming offers.

Burke has all the right characteristics needed to succeed and make Eastern's athletic programs succeed in the coming years.

But she also has the added expectations to not lead this department into public embarrassment like her predecessor did.

Interim AD Ken Baker has restored some of that, but the burden now falls to Burke.

We'll be watching.

"One doesn't rise to the title of deputy director of athletics, which she did in July 2006, ... without some sort of knowledge or experience."

## CONTINUE THE DEBATE



## ONLINE

Visit DENnews.com to read Kristy Mellendorf's blog, "More to fashion than clothes."



"I'm tired of seeing accessories that advertise. I'm not sure about anyone else, but I haven't seen any advertisement royalties for what I wear."

-Kristy Mellendorf



MATT HOPF

## \$25 billion from thin air

Gov. Rod Blagojevich is in the process of building support for a \$25 billion public works program in Illinois.

With the help of former Speaker of the House Dennis Hastert and Southern Illinois University President Glenn Poshard, co-chairs for the Illinois Works Coalition, getting public support for the project is important to its success.

Hastert and Poshard spent Wednesday in Decatur at the first public meeting, or "public listening session" as they called it, to hear what people had to say about the project.

According to an article in the *Decatur Herald & Review* last Thursday, people were obviously concerned with how the project was going to be funded.

Programs like this usually sound nice, but how do they expect to find \$25 billion in Illinois?

There is no doubt that the state needs a construction plan.

In September, when representatives from the General Assembly were on campus, Jeff Cooley, vice president for business affairs, said Eastern has about \$90 million in deferred maintenance, with 20 percent coming from the steam plant alone.

At the Nov. 30 Board of Trustees meeting, Cooley gave the grave truth about the steam plant and the need to replace it and how it was possible.

The plan to replace the 80-year-old plant is to get about \$25 million in federal and state money and sell bonds to pay for a \$60 million new plant.

The bonds would be repaid through savings in energy costs. Poshard was even quoted in the *Herald & Review* saying there is \$450 million in deferred maintenance at Southern.

The overall project calls for \$14.4 billion for road and bridge programs, \$3.8 billion for school construction, \$2.7 billion for public transit, \$1.1 billion for higher education, \$1.1 billion for environment, energy and technology, \$1 billion for economic development including housing, \$600 million for improved and expanded state facilities and \$500 million for airports and rail.

The program would also support 700,000 jobs. That's a pretty lofty goal for our state to take up. How are they going to pay for that again?

Poshard told the crowd in Decatur they want people to tell them what an acceptable way to fund the program is and that a think tank of economists was working on recommendations for funding the program.

It makes me feel all warm and cozy inside to see a construction program in the future with no funding plan in place.

Usually, the funding is proposed and the public hearings start to get people's opinion. Funding for this project will be difficult because Illinois doesn't have any extra money lying around.

Will the lottery or the toll roads be sold off for a temporary fix?

Blagojevich looked at selling the lottery before. The temporary fix may help funding a construction plan for now, but what can we sell next time we need a construction plan?

I'm sure they will figure it out eventually when this construction plan is approved around 2023.

Matt Hopf is a senior journalism major. He can be reached at 581-7942 or at DENopinions@gmail.com.

COUNTY | OFFICIALS

# Change of policy for Illinois coroners

**New law determines need for inquest on case-by-case basis**

By **Jordan Crook**  
Senior City Reporter

No inquest will be held in the death of Eastern students Jesse Mounce.

No inquest will be held because the student's families did not wish to have an inquest performed, said Coles County Coroner Mike Nichols.

Nichols is no longer legally bound to perform inquests in cases where the cause of death is relatively obvious. Inquests, which are public hearings and are similar to a court proceeding, have become optional procedures for Illinois county coroners.

The change in Illinois inquest policy took effect Jan. 1, 2007, after several months of lobbying by

**LEIGH HAMMER** | EFFINGHAM COUNTY CORONER

**"There are some coroners who will say they will never use (inquests) again, there are some who will use it on a case-by-case basis and there are some who will do it with every death."**

the Illinois Coroners and Medical Examiners Association.

Inquests are used to determine the cause of death in any death that might have more than one obvious cause.

Illinois coroners had long wanted the change in policy because the previous statute cost extra time and money for coroners. The previous statute required coroners to provide an inquest into any death that might have a cause of death considered to be anything but natural – no matter how obvious the cause of death.

Inquest proceedings could also sometimes drag out for weeks, during which time a death certificate

cannot be provided to the family, Nichols said. As long as there is no death certificate, no death benefits or estate rulings can be handed out by the family.

Nichols is part of the majority of Illinois county coroners who believe this change in law was a good idea.

Edgar County Coroner Peter Templeton said he has had no inquests since the change was made.

Doing away with unnecessary inquests will help save grieving family members from undue stress caused by their involvement in an inquest proceeding, he said.

Some counties have done away with inquests altogether and now

rely on the findings of the coroners, Templeton added.

But Effingham County Coroner Leigh Hammer still sees the need for inquests, although she said she appreciates the freedom from costly, unneeded inquest proceedings. She now usually uses inquests only when there is some disagreement between her and the family members of the deceased about the cause of death.

She recently thought a death was a suicide, but the family refused to believe it.

An inquest was brought, and it ruled that the cause of death was, in fact, a suicide, Hammer said. This example shows that coroners

are experts who can determine the cause of death without anyone's help because a coroner usually already knows the cause of death before an inquest is initiated, Hammer said.

"When you bring a case to inquest, you already know the cause of death," Hammer said.

The change in law has widespread effects on coroners across Illinois, she said.

"There are some coroners who will say they will never use (inquests) again, there are some who will use it on a case-by-case basis and there are some who will do it with every death," Hammer said.

In her own case, Hammer said her own opinion on the cause of death is probably better than a ruling handed down by an inquest jury.

"Who better to determine a cause of death than a coroner?" she said.

*Jordan Crook can be reached at 581-7495 or at jscrook@eiu.edu.*

» AD

FROM PAGE 1

It is Burke's first athletic director position after serving in athletic administration for 15 years at four different schools.

Burke has spent the past 10 years at Wyoming, which has 17 sports and competes in the Mountain West Conference.

Prior to starting her career in athletic administration, Burke, a 1980 Western Michigan graduate, worked as a softball and basketball coach for 14 years at the college level, including stops at Tennessee Temple, Clearwater Christian (Fla.), Cornerstone College (Mich.), Indiana Southeast and West Virginia State College.

Burke's salary will start at \$144,000, Nadler said.

Eastern's Board of Trustees needs to approve a three-year contract for Burke.

Rich McDuffie, Eastern's previous AD who was relieved of his duties August 2007, made about \$120,000 last year.

Burke's last day of appointment at Wyoming is April 15 or 16, she

**BARBARA BURKE** | NEW ATHLETIC DIRECTOR

**"When the offer came (from Eastern), I had very good feel for Dr. Perry and Dr. Nadler. It just felt right. I can't explain it. For those of you who have done job searches before, you just know."**

said. She plans to move to Charleston in May and start as early as June, she added.

Ken Baker, the interim athletic director, will continue to serve until Burke's first official day.

"That's my plan, if I can find housing and get settled and all those good things," Burke said. "I just know me personally, if I get all my personal stuff taken care of when June rolls around, I'll never be home anyway. I'll be at the office."

Burke's start date takes effect when the next possible swimming head coach can be hired. Ray Padovan retired this season after 42 years, and a new coach cannot be officially hired until Burke starts her first

day on the job. Sports Information Director Rich Moser said Eastern will have the ability to form a search committee and narrow the list down to potential finalists, but Burke will have the final say on who is hired.

"The way things work in these situations is until Barbara is here and officially on the payroll, she can't make official decisions," Perry said. "But, in this transition time, certainly we're going to be consulting with her about how to move forward. And that's the way it always works in these situations."

Swimming is the only sport of the 21 that Eastern offers that is without a head coach.

Burke was also one of five initial

**HISTORY OF EASTERN ATHLETIC DIRECTORS**

Name	Years Served
Charles Lantz	1911-1952
John Masley	1952-1964
Tom Katsimpalis	1964-1974
Mike Mullally	1974-Dec. 1979
Ron Paap	1980-April 1980 *
Joan Schmidt	1980-April 1980 *
R.C. Johnson	1980-Dec. 1988
Joan Schmidt	Jan. 1989-June 1989 *
Mike Ryan	1989-Dec. 1993
John Craft	Jan. 1994-June 1994 *
Bob McBee	1994-1996
Lou Hencken	1996-March 1997 *
Rich McDuffie	1997-Aug. 2007
Ken Baker	Aug. 2007-present *

\* denotes an interim AD

finalists for the vacant athletic director position at North Dakota. But she withdrew her name from consideration this past Monday, Burke said.

"When the offer came (from Eastern), I had a very good feel for Dr. Perry and Dr. Nadler," she said. "It just felt right. I can't explain it. For those of you who have done job searches before, you just know.

North Dakota was a wonderful opportunity, but Eastern Illinois was ahead of Dakota, and I had made a commitment to Eastern – and that was the right thing to do. I have no regrets, not one, at all."

*Matt Daniels can be reached at 581-7936 or at mwdaniels@eiu.edu.*

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# SEVERE WEATHER FLOODS MIDWEST

Spring flooding linked to more than a dozen deaths in several states, displaces thousands

The Associated Press

FENTON, Mo. — With more than a dozen people killed by floodwaters and rivers still rising, weary Midwesterners on Thursday weighed not just the prospect of a sodden cleanup but the likelihood that their communities could be inundated again.

Families in some areas have been forced from their homes multiple times in the past few years, making the routine of filling sandbags and rescuing furniture into a familiar drill.

"We've been through this before," said Michelle Buhlinger, who works for the school district in Valley Park in suburban St. Louis.

"We're expecting the levee to hold up, but we don't want to take any chances."

The first day of spring brought much-needed sunshine to some flooded communities, but many swelling rivers were not expected to crest until the weekend in Arkansas, Missouri, southern Illinois, southern Indiana and Kentucky.

Arkansas emergency management officials have said early estimates for statewide damage to homes, businesses and infrastructure was at \$2 million, though that figure was expected to grow. Fore-



JOHN L. WHITE | MCT

William McQuillen, 13, from Valley Park, Mo., uses a bicycle to navigate Highway 141 north of the Interstate 44 junction on Saturday in Valley Park. Flooding in the area made some roads impassable to commuters.

casts show it likely will be the middle of this week before rivers statewide see significant drops.

Arkansas Gov. Mike Beebe has declared 35 counties disaster areas.

At least 17 deaths have been linked to flooding, wet roads and other weather effects over the past week, and one person is missing in Arkansas.

Thousands of Missouri residents have had fled to Red Cross shelters or to the homes of friends or relatives.

The worst flooding happened in smaller rivers across the nation's midsection. Major channels such as the Mississippi, Missouri and Ohio rivers saw only minor flooding.

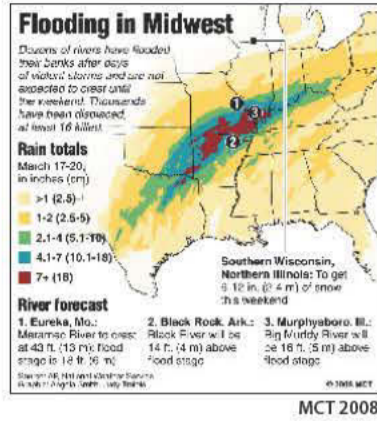
In Fenton, another suburb, Jeff Rogles joined dozens of vol-

unteers to fill sandbags and pile them against downtown businesses near the fast-rising Meramec River, which was expected to reach more than 20 feet above flood stage in some spots near St. Louis.

"I think we have enough volunteers out here to stave off disaster," said Rogles, 27, who joined the effort because he remembered the devastating Great Flood of 1993.

Parts of Missouri got a foot of rain over a 36-hour period this week, causing widespread flash flooding and swelling many rivers.

Five deaths have been confirmed in Missouri and hundreds of people were forced from their homes. Many families will return to find their property damaged or destroyed.



## STATE BRIEFS

### Alaskan ship crash leaves 4 dead, 1 missing

ANCHORAGE, Alaska — Four crew members died Sunday and another was missing after a Seattle-based fishing boat sank in high seas off Alaska's Aleutian Islands, the Coast Guard said.

The dead were among 47 crew members who abandoned the 184-foot ship.

### Iraq war protestors invade Easter Mass

CHICAGO — Six protestors interrupted Cardinal Francis George's Easter homily on Sunday at Holy Name Cathedral, standing and yelling their opposition to the war in Iraq.

The six protestors squirted fake blood on themselves and parishioners as they were removed from the Mass by security guards and ushers.

## WORLD BRIEFS

### Heightened Iraq violence kills at least 57

BAGHDAD — Rockets and mortars pounded Baghdad's U.S.-protected Green Zone Sunday, and a suicide car bomber struck an Iraqi army post in the northern city of Mosul in a surge of attacks that killed at least 57 people nationwide.

It was the most sustained assault in months against the nerve center of the U.S. mission.

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FOOTBALL | PRO DAY

# Showcasing themselves for NFL eyes

**Bench press, 40-yard dash drills done in front of Colts scouts**

By **Dan Cusack**  
Sports Reporter

Eastern football players had a chance for the future in the NFL on Saturday.

Eastern held its Pro Day in Lantz Fieldhouse and at O'Brien Stadium in front of Indianapolis Colts scouts on a cold, windy afternoon.

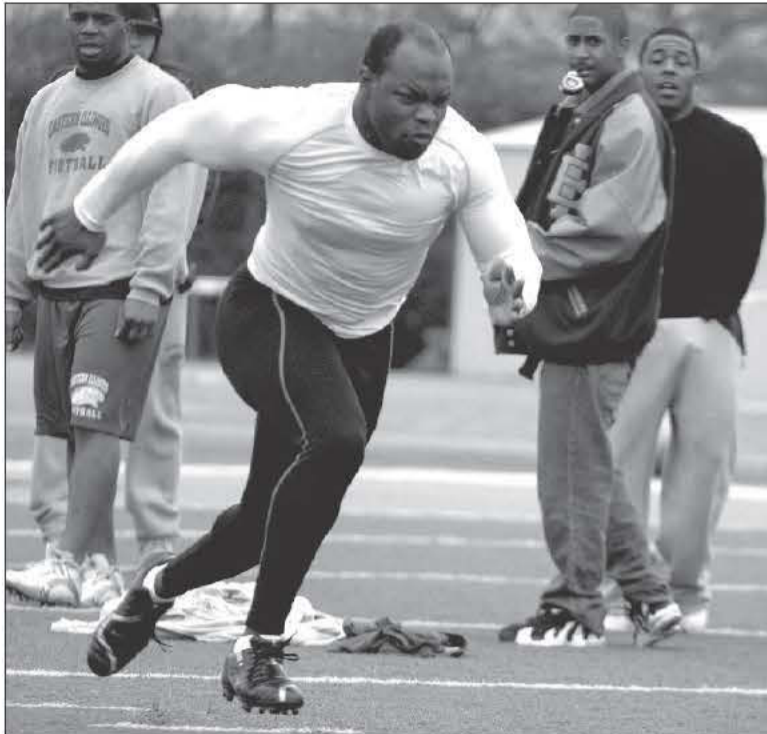
The football players completed drills such as the bench press, the short shuttle run, the standing high jump, the broad jump and the 40-yard dash all in an attempt to impress NFL scouts and possibly receive a NFL contract or get drafted.

The Panthers also went through individual position drills for the scouts.

Eastern senior Donald Thomas went to Richmond, Va., and trained with Velocity Sports Performance to gain techniques to boost his times.

"We did a lot of work as far as shuttle drills, 40-yard dash and lifting," said Thomas, a 5-foot-10 linebacker. "When I got back to Eastern, I just tried to maintain where I was and keep everything at top form."

Thomas also participated at the University of Illinois Pro Day in



NORA MABERRY | THE DAILY EASTERN NEWS

Former Eastern running back Ademola Adeniji runs the shuttle run during Eastern's Pro Day on Saturday in front of Indianapolis Colts scouts.

Champaign last Wednesday and said his performance Saturday was average.

"I improved a lot from Illinois' Pro Day," Thomas said. "My numbers are about average, but they can be better. A lot of what they are testing you on is new, and you just have to learn and try to adjust to it."

Thomas said he got 9 feet, 6 inches

in the broad jump, ran 4.62 seconds in the 40-yard dash, and had 29 reps on the bench press last weekend at Illinois Pro Day.

Senior quarterback Cole Stinson said it is important to show improvement in each workout.

"Throwing and times are both important for a quarterback," Stinson

said. "It is important in the running and stuff to show improvement every time you do it if you do more than once. The most important thing is to be consistent."

Stinson (6-5, 240) said he performed well but said there were still a few things he could have done better.

Senior wide receiver Micah Rucker (6-6, 221) did not participate in many events on Saturday but displayed a 42-inch vertical leap in the standing high jump and ran a solid time in the shuttle run.

"I knew my vertical jump would be over 40 inches," Rucker said. "I knew I was better than the 39 inches I jumped at Illinois."

Rucker said he performed well at Illinois and felt no need to perform in many of the events again.

Rucker worked in Florida the month of February with other football players from Washington, Florida State and Tennessee.

Eastern linebackers coach Forrest Jackson said many players improved their times, while others were below what they had done previously.

"This was a good event and allowed our guys to showcase their talents," Jackson said. "They had more of an individual workout as opposed to at Illinois."

Dan Cusack can be reached at 581-7944 or at [dscusack@eiu.edu](mailto:dscusack@eiu.edu).

NCAA TOURNAMENT | BASKETBALL ROUNDUP

## Davidson stuns Hoyas

The Associated Press

RALEIGH, N.C. — Stephen Curry scored 25 of his 30 points in the second half, and Davidson staged a comeback to stun Georgetown 74-70 on Sunday.

### MIDWEST REGIONAL Villanova 84, Siena 72

TAMPA, Fla. — Scottie Reynolds scored 25 points as the 12th-seeded Wildcats beat Siena.

### SOUTH REGIONAL Texas 75, Miami 72

LITTLE ROCK, Ark. — Texas' A.J. Abrams scored 26 points as the second-seeded Longhorns won.

### Memphis 77, Mississippi St. 74

LITTLE ROCK, Ark. — Memphis' Derrick Rose and Chris Douglas-Roberts added 17 points each.

### EAST REGIONAL Louisville 78, Oklahoma 48

BIRMINGHAM, Ala. — Earl Clark scored 14 points, and Louisville moved on.

### Tennessee 76, Butler 71, OT

BIRMINGHAM, Ala. — Wayne Chism led the Vols with 16 points, and Tennessee advanced to play Louisville in the Sweet 16.

### N. Carolina 108, Arkansas 77

RALEIGH, N.C. — Wayne Ellington scored 20 points, and the Tar Heels advanced.

### WEST REGIONAL W. Kentucky 72, San Diego 63

TAMPA, Fla. — Western Kentucky's Courtney Lee led the Hill-toppers with 29 points and seven rebounds.

MEN'S AND WOMEN'S TENNIS | WEEKEND RESULTS

# Panther squads split conference matches

By **JC Clark**  
Staff Reporter

The Eastern women's and men's tennis teams split their Ohio Valley Conference opening weekend matches at the Atkins Tennis Center in Urbana.

The women defeated Tennessee Tech 5-2 on Saturday and lost to Tennessee-Martin 4-3 on Friday.

Sophomore Carrie Larson said Eastern (8-3, 1-1 OVC) was nervous in the conference opener.

Eastern won the doubles point by taking the No. 2 and No. 3 dou-

bles matches. Eastern won No. 1, 2, 3 and No. 6 singles.

The men's team lost 6-1 against Tennessee Tech on Saturday after they defeated UT-Martin 7-0 on Friday. Senior Chris Thomas won the lone singles match for the Panthers (7-6, 1-1), as he defeated freshman

Mario Gutierrez 6-2, 6-3 at No. 5 singles. The men's and women's teams will both play OVC opponent Morehead State at 9 a.m. Thursday in Morehead, Ky.

JC Clark can be reached at 581-7944 or at [jrclark2@eiu.edu](mailto:jrclark2@eiu.edu).

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## UNIVERSITY ADMISSION TO TEACHER EDUCATION MEETING

Students must attend a meeting to formally apply for University to Teacher Education and to initiate the selection process. Students who have not previously applied must attend a meeting. The following meetings are available Spring 2008 semester to initiate the selection process:

**Monday, April 7, 2008**  
6:00-6:50 p.m.  
1501 Buzzard Hall

**Wednesday, April 23, 2008**  
11:00-11:50 a.m.  
1501 Buzzard Hall

*Registration is not required*

The next opportunity to initiate the selection process and apply for University Admission to Teacher Education will be during the Summer Semester, 2008.

*Dr. Douglas J. Bower, Associate Dean*  
College of Education and Professional Studies

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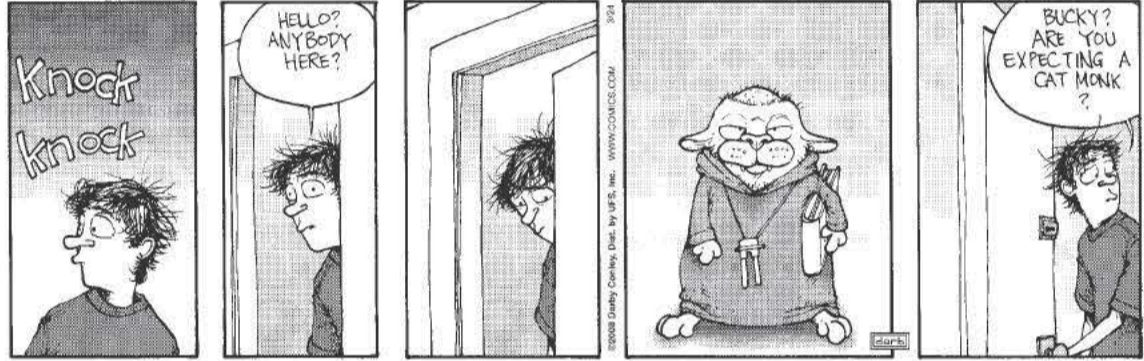
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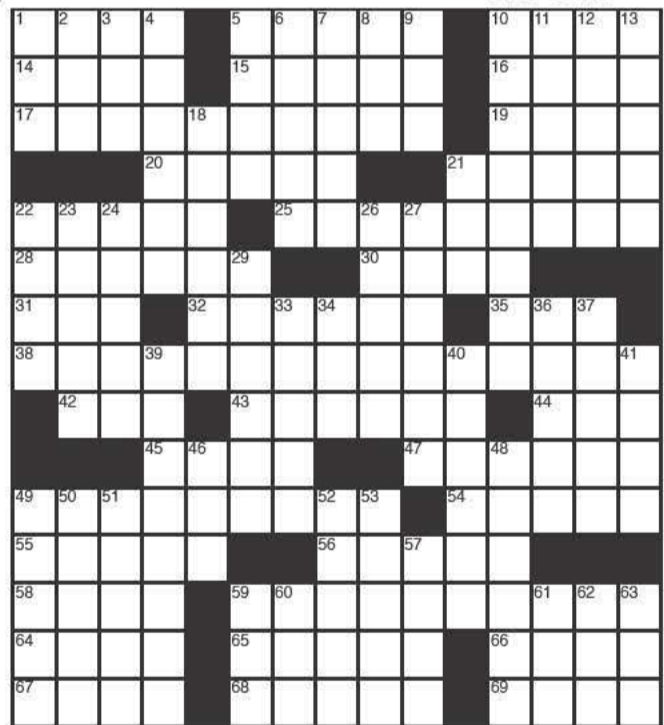


**The New York Times Crossword**

Edited by Will Shortz

No. 0211

- ACROSS
- 1 Black-bordered news item
- 5 Anne of "Wag the Dog"
- 10 Dull-colored
- 14 Internet connection at a restaurant or airport
- 15 Fanfare
- 16 Seized vehicle
- 17 Snoop
- 19 Height: Prefix
- 20 Steak that a dog might end up with
- 21 "Huckleberry Finn" author
- 22 Wet mascara worry
- 25 Felix and Oscar, with "the"
- 28 Bathroom powder
- 30 Wyatt of the Wild West
- 31 Magazine V.I.P.'s
- 32 1980s video game with a maze
- 35 Down, usually, on a light switch
- 38 Carouse
- 42 Golf peg
- 43 Boxed stringed instrument
- 44 "\_\_\_ solemnly swear ..."
- 45 Ax or awl
- 47 Judicial assertion
- 49 Symbol of purity
- 54 Figure of speech
- 55 Wall art
- 56 Mutual of \_\_\_
- 58 "Gotcha," to a beatnik
- 59 Want ad heading ... or a hint to the starts of 17-, 25-, 38- and 49-Across
- 64 Queue
- 65 More than steamed
- 66 March Madness org.
- 67 Brain readings, for short
- 68 Parceled (out)
- 69 Safecracker
- DOWN
- 1 To have and to hold
- 2 Life story, for short
- 3 Conditions
- 4 Men's fashion accessory
- 5 Submarine sandwich
- 6 Commercial prefix with Lodge
- 7 Informed, with "in"
- 8 \_\_\_ Solo of "Star Wars"



PUZZLE BY KEN BESSETTE

**ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE**



- 9 Flight board info: Abbr.
- 10 Use, as past experience
- 11 CliffsNotes version
- 12 "\_\_\_ Love," 1957 #1 hit by 13-Down
- 13 Singer Pat
- 18 Brusque
- 21 The Blue Jays, on a scoreboard
- 22 Rung
- 23 Furious with
- 24 Pitcher of milk?
- 26 John Donne's "\_\_\_ Be Not Proud"
- 27 Went by dugout
- 29 Passover bread
- 33 Spicy dish that may have a fire-alarm rating
- 34 Encountered
- 36 \_\_\_-Lay (snack company)
- 37 At the end of one's patience
- 39 Take-home pay
- 40 Squirm
- 41 Capitol's top
- 46 Bird that hoots
- 48 Crevice
- 49 Photographer's request
- 50 Peep show flick
- 51 Circular gasket
- 52 Go \_\_\_ for (support in time of need)
- 53 Overact
- 57 Copied
- 59 Huck's raftmate
- 60 Metal from a mine
- 61 Sno-cone filler
- 62 Re-re-re-remind
- 63 Respond to a really bad joke, maybe

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BASEBALL | NOTEBOOK

# Team uses walk-off for Friday win

By Scott Richey  
Sports Editor

Eastern went into the bottom of the ninth inning down one run during the first game of Friday's doubleheader against Morehead State.

A double, a single, two sacrifice bunts and an intentional walk later, Eastern junior centerfielder Brett Nommensen hit an opposite-field single down the left field line to drive in freshman third baseman Sean Estand. Estand had tied the game on a single up the middle past Morehead State sophomore reliever Quentin Morgan and senior shortstop Nick Nail.

Eastern's come-from-behind 3-2 victory started with a leadoff double by sophomore catcher Richie Derbak in the bottom of the ninth. Derbak faced a full count but was able to foul off two pitches before doubling to left-centerfield.

Eastern head coach Jim Schmitz told Derbak to get on any way possible and use a base-hit approach, Derbak said.

"I was just sitting on my back leg, just trying to get a pitch to hit," Derbak said. "It was a long at-bat. (Morgan) made a mistake."

As the at bat went on, Derbak got more nervous and didn't want to strike out, he said. He wanted to put the ball in play any way possible, he said.

"Being the leadoff man, especially getting on second, makes it a lot easier," Derbak said. "We put some plays together and got the job done."

Morehead State head coach Jay Sorg said if the Eagles had gotten Derbak out, Sorg believed they would have won the game.

"You've got to give credit to the leadoff hitter," Sorg said. "He fought. He battled. He was determined to get on a sack and make things happen."

### Panthers steal 10

Eastern was a perfect 10-of-10 on stolen bases during its three-game series against Morehead State.

Nine of those stolen bases came during Friday's doubleheader. Junior designated hitter Zach Skidmore was the only Eastern player to steal a base Saturday, but his was also the Panthers' only attempt as Eastern won 16-2.

Eastern stole all of its nine bases on Friday against Morehead State junior catcher Eric Parker.

Sorg was pragmatic about the Eastern's success on the base paths. The success wasn't because of Eastern's speed or the strong wind blowing in from the outfield, he said.

"I think they just stole bases on our catcher today," Sorg said. "They saw that they were going to be able to do it, and they got more aggressive once they saw that."

Schmitz said he knew Morehead State's pitchers could hold runners on base well, but he said he also knew Eastern could run on the Eagles' catchers.

"We saw that, and that's what we teach," Schmitz said. "Find a weakness in the other team, and then go."

Nommensen led the Panthers with three stolen bases.

### Eastern pitchers dominate

Seven Eastern pitches combined to give up just 15 hits and five runs this weekend.

Eastern also struck out 11 more batters (28-17) than the Eagles. Senior starting pitcher Tristan Facer led the Panthers with eight strikeouts. Facer started the first game for Eastern and had six strikeouts of eight outs between the second and fourth innings.

Facer and second game starter freshman Josh Mueller were pounding the strike zone well against Morehead State, Schmitz said. Mueller struck out six, including the side in the second inning of game two.

"Tristan, we've got to get his pitch count down, though," Schmitz said. "He's killing me. He's got to come out (with) 100 pitches after five innings. He grew up a little today. We talked about being the guy — being the No. 1 guy to answer the bell — and he did it. He went right out there."

Freshman right-hander Mike Hoekstra started the third game of the series and gave up five hits and two runs in six innings.

"Hoekstra's been our most consistent arm," Schmitz said. "The neatest thing is it's not just a young arm. Hoekstra and Josh Mueller, they locate (the ball) really well. Those were the two best arms in the fall."

The team knew it would be strong before the season even started, Nommensen said.

"We knew we were going to have a strong pitching staff with all the young guys we've got," Nommensen said. "Just all the young guys and the new guys on our team have just been helping out so much."

Scott Richey can be reached at 581-7944 or at srrichey@eiu.edu.

## » Drives

FROM PAGE 12

"I got a few jam shots," Restko said. "I probably hit the ball hard three times all day today, and I ended up with five hits. It's just one of those days that you've got to love."

Junior centerfielder Brett Nommensen drilled a double over Morehead State senior left fielder Eric Allen to drive in Tokarz and advance Restko to third.

"A couple hitters, especially the first two games, were kind of struggling hitting," Nommensen said. "Today we just kind of went out and had a philosophy (to) hit the other way and drive the ball. A day like this, where you get 18 hits, winning's contagious and hitting's contagious. Everybody's going to get little base hits to fall."

Junior designated hitter Zach Skidmore hit a bloop single to right-centerfield to score Restko and Nommensen.

Junior shortstop Jordan Kreke popped out to second base, but Derbak — batting for the second time — reached first on a slow-rolling infield single to the shortstop. Facer reached on an error on the shortstop, but Estand hit a groundball to the shortstop, who got Facer out at second.

Morehead State scored two runs in the top of the fourth inning on a leadoff home run by senior designated hitter Andrew Wertz and an RBI groundout by freshman third baseman Michael Fear, scoring sophomore second baseman/shortstop Drew Lee.

Eastern answered in the bottom of the inning on Estand's first career home run. Estand hit the two-strike pitch to straight away centerfield, scoring Derbak and Facer.

## Saturday's Game

### Eastern 16, Morehead State 2

Inning by Inning	R	H	E
MOR (6-12)	0	0	0
EIU (8-9)	1	7	0

WP: Hoekstra, M. (2-0) IP: Schneider, J. (0-3)

E: Fabs, M.; Nail, N. (4) —MOR. LOB: EIU 11; MOR 10. 2B: Tokarz, J. (4); Restko, C. (4); Nommensen, B. 2(4); Derbak, R. (6) —EIU. HR: Estand, S. —EIU. Wertz, A. (4) —MOR. HBP: Fabs; Midden, M.; —MOR. Facer, T. —EIU. SF: Skidmore, Z. —EIU. Street —SIU. SB: Nommensen (9); Skidmore (3) —EIU. Ashbrook, J. (3); Lee, J.

Key Inning: Bottom of the second Eastern scored seven runs on six hits as the Panthers batted around and then halfway through the lineup again to extend their lead to 8-0 after two innings.

"With Estand, he just went out there and he plays; he loves the game," Nommensen said. "It worked out for him and he got a hold of one ball, and we were all happy to see him hit a home run."

Estand has started the last five games for the Panthers.

Estand gives Eastern's lineup an added plus because of his ability to hit doubles, said Eastern head coach Jim Schmitz.

"One thing he does is put the bat on the ball a lot," Schmitz said. "He's a guy that gets the bat in the zone. He's a guy that covers the whole plate."

Eastern's three wins against Morehead State move the Panthers into a tie for first place in the OVC with Samford (12-7, 3-0). The Bulldogs swept Tennessee-Martin in Birmingham, Ala.

Schmitz said Eastern's pitching was the key to its three-game sweep.

"(In) pitching you talk about (giving up) 2 runs, 1 run and 2 runs," Schmitz said. "Giving up five runs on an OVC weekend (is) really impressive."

Despite getting 18 hits and scoring 16 runs, Schmitz said Eastern must continue to hit better.

Scott Richey can be reached at 581-7944 or at srrichey@eiu.edu.

## » Richey

FROM PAGE 12

"(Starting undefeated in OVC play) is huge, especially from how we started off 0-7," Nommensen said. "It just shows that we're a whole different team from last year."

The three OVC wins put Eastern atop the conference in a tie with Samford, which swept Tennessee-Martin.

Winning the first three games will give Eastern a solid foundation of success on which to build a successful conference season. It's the

only thing that matters because it's conference play. Only the top six teams in the OVC make the tournament, and the winner gets the automatic berth into the NCAA Tournament.

A three-game sweep against an OVC opponent in late March might not seem like much, but the three wins against Morehead State could define Eastern's conference season.

"It should get the ball rolling, and we should have nice confidence how to keep on going knowing that we can win," said freshman third baseman Sean Estand.

The Panthers own the Eagles.

Eastern holds a 38-4 series advantage against the Eagles. It showed this weekend as Eastern outscored Morehead State 23-5 and held the Eagles to just 15 hits.

Starting pitchers Tristan Facer, Josh Mueller and Mike Hoekstra combined to give up just 11 hits, five runs and six walks. The three starters also had 20 strikeouts and held Morehead State to a .170 batting average.

But the success didn't stop with the starters. Senior right-hander Tyler Brandon pitched three and two-thirds innings in relief of Facer and gave up just three hits and no

runs while striking out four.

"What can you say about (Brandon) there," said Eastern head coach Jim Schmitz. "He gave us (four) innings. That's what we told him his role was. We've got young guys to start, but a pretty experienced guy at the end in (Brandon), that's kind of nice."

Eastern's hitters also had success at the plate. The Panthers scored 23 runs on 30 hits and drew 10 walks against the Eagles. The majority of those hits and runs came in the third game of the season (18 hits, 16 runs).

"We knew we had to come out

strong right away," said sophomore left fielder Curt Restko. "I knew they'd be fired up. They didn't want to get swept. We knew we had to just put runs right up the first couple innings, and we did."

Eastern lit up the scoreboard this weekend against Morehead State, but the Panthers will have to continue to get strong pitching from its young hurlers and more offensive production from its scrappy hitters to continue having success in the OVC.

Scott Richey can be reached at 581-7944 or at srrichey@eiu.edu.

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SOFTBALL | WEEKEND RECAP

# Panthers pull off doubleheader sweep

Saturday's game called because of cold wind chill and temperatures

By Kevin Murphy  
Associate Sports Editor

Eastern used a combination of timely hitting, good pitching and solid defense to complete its doubleheader sweep of Austin Peay on Friday at Williams Field.

Saturday's series finale against the Lady Governors was canceled because of temperatures in the low 40s. The OVC has a cold-weather policy, and both teams and umpires mutually agreed the temperature was right at the threshold. The game will not be made up.

Eastern junior second baseman Sarah Coppert provided late-game heroics in the first game of Friday's doubleheader as Eastern won 1-0 in eight innings.

Coppert hit a game-winning sacrifice fly to right field, driving in senior catcher Allyson Nolte for the game-winning run.

"(Timely hits) have been the difference in a lot of our games until now," said sophomore shortstop Megan Nelson.

Before Friday's games, the Panthers hadn't gotten a lot of those hits, but now they are, Nelson said.

"(Coppert) knows what she needs to do in tough situations," said sophomore center fielder Denee' Menzione.

Senior pitcher Karyn Mackie kept the Lady Governors (4-14, 1-4 Ohio Valley Conference) from scoring in the first game. She only gave up four hits, walked one batter and struck out four. It was Mackie's first shutout of the season. She used her drop ball and got the Lady Govies to ground out eight times in eight innings. Mackie (4-4) even notched three assists on three groundouts.

"With different umpires, you can kind of stretch and see how far out you can push (the strike zone), and (Mackie) has a good curveball and a



ERIN MATHENY | THE DAILY EASTERN NEWS

Eastern sophomore shortstop Megan Nelson hits against Austin Peay in the first game of Friday's doubleheader at Williams Field. The Panthers would win both games on Friday, 1-0 in eight innings and 8-0 in six innings. Nelson went 5-for-8 on Friday with two runs and one RBI.

good outside (drop ball), and we used it to our advantage," Nolte said.

Mackie was at her busiest during the fourth inning. Austin Peay sophomore catcher Daniella Hooper grounded out to Mackie. Mackie then struck out freshman first baseman Ashley Alverson.

Lady Govies' sophomore shortstop Brittany Williams reached on an error as Mackie slipped trying to field the ground ball, but Mackie got junior Krista Henke to ground out right back to the mound in the next at bat.

"She looked on today," said senior right fielder Robyn Mackie, Karyn's twin sister. "She had that attitude (before the game)."

The second game was easier for the Eastern hitters. The Panthers had eight runs on 11 hits as Eastern won 8-0 in six innings in a mercy-rule shortened game.

Eastern (8-11, 4-1) left three people on base in the second game, an improvement from the first game when the Panthers stranded six runners. Nelson and Menzione went a combined 6-for-7 in the second game. Nelson scored two runs, and Menzione scored another.

"We're starting to trust our legs a little more," said Nelson, who had two stolen bases in the game. "We realize when you hit the ball on the ground, you're going to make things happen."

Eastern head coach Kim Schuette said Nelson and the other slap hitters focused last week on trying to put the ball in play.

Eastern senior Ashley Robison also kept the Lady Govies off-balance, allowing five hits and striking out three. Robison (3-3) escaped a no-out, bases-loaded jam in the fourth inning.

**Friday's First Game**

Eastern 1, Austin Peay 0 (8)

Inning by Inning	R	H	E
AP (4-13)	0	0	0
EU (7-11)	0	0	0

WP: Mackie, K. (4-4) LP: Elrod, A. (3-6)

E. Mackie, K. 2(1) -E.U. Alverson, A. -AP 10B: E.U. 6; AP 6. DP: AP 2. SH: Coppert, S. (2); Mackie, R.; Jackson, M. 2(4) -E.U. SF: Coppert (4) -E.U. CS: Nelson, M. 2(3) -E.U. Carr, B. -AP

Key Inning: Bottom of the eighth  
Eastern drove in the game-winning run with a sacrifice fly to right field to seal 1-0 win.

**Friday's Second Game**

Eastern 8, Austin Peay 0

Inning by Inning	R	H	E
AP (4-14)	0	0	0
EU (8-11)	2	0	0

WP: Robison, A. (3-3) LP: Williams, M. (0-5)

E. Taylor, A.; Williams, B.; -AP. Holtz, K. (3) -E.U. DP: E.U. 1; AP 1. 10B: E.U. 6; AP 1. 2B: Farley, D.; -AP. Holtz; Menzione, D. 2(2) -E.U. HBP: Millitello, S.; -E.U. SF: Coppert, S. (5); -E.U. SB: Nelson, M. 2(12); Millitello -E.U. CS: Henke, K. -AP

Key Inning: Bottom of the fourth  
The Panthers loaded the bases and scored three runs on two hits in the inning to increase their lead to 5-0.

"That's thing about (Robison), she's so tough mentally," Nelson said. "She almost lives for those jams. She could get herself out of anything"

Austin Peay head coach Jim Perrin said in a press release conference rules dictated Saturday's cancellation.

"Both myself and (Eastern head coach) Kim Schuette thought it was just a temperature below 35 degrees that would cancel a game," he said. "But (league rules) said temperature

or wind chill. The local weather had said it wouldn't get above 28 or 29 degrees for wind chill all day, so that pretty much settled that.

The Panthers return to action when they play Southeast Missouri at 3 p.m. on Tuesday in Cape Girardeau, Mo.

Kevin Murphy can be reached at 581-7944 or at kjmurphy@eiu.edu.

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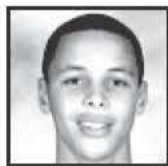
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**TRIPLE THREAT**



**Stephen Curry**

Davidson sophomore guard Stephen Curry (above) scored 70 points in two NCAA Tournament games in the first two rounds. He scored 40 points to lead the 10th-seeded Wildcats past Gonzaga in the first round, but it was his 30-point performance that drove Davidson to a come-from-behind upset victory against No. 2 seed Georgetown on Sunday. Curry scored 25 of his 30 points against the Hoyas in the second half to erase a 17-point Georgetown lead.

Here are three other games that shocked the basketball world.

**1. Siena-Vanderbilt** — The Commodores won their first 17 games of the season but couldn't get past Siena (a No. 13 seed) on Friday. Siena, the lone representative of the Metro Atlantic Athletic Conference, beat Vanderbilt 83-62.

**2. Western Kentucky-Drake** — Drake battled back from a 17-point deficit to send its first round game against the No. 12 seed Hilltoppers into overtime on Friday, but a 26-foot buzzer-beater by WKU senior guard Ty Rogers gave the Hilltoppers a 101-99 win and propelled them to a second-round win against San Diego on Sunday.

**3. West Virginia-Duke** — People outside Tobacco Road might have seen this coming, but for the Duke faithful, West Virginia's 73-67 upset-win in the second round on Saturday must have been a shock. Mountaineers fans knew differently.

—Scott Richey



**SCOTT RICHEY**

**Baseball**  
turning it  
around

The Eastern baseball team started the season 0-7 after being swept in consecutive three-game series by Southeastern Louisiana and Northwestern State. It also lost to Western Michigan by 12 runs (13-5) on March 8.

Eastern has since won eight of its last 10 games, including three straight in Florida against Vermont, Indiana-Purdue-Fort Wayne and Bucknell and three more this weekend against Ohio Valley Conference foe Morehead State.

Junior centerfielder Brett Nommensen said the contributions from the young players and the transfers has helped lead to Eastern's current success.

>> SEE RICHEY, PAGE 10

**ATHLETICS | ATHLETIC DIRECTOR HIRE**

**Department says Burke will fit in**

**Experience as player and coach leads to good relationships, enthusiasm among Eastern coaches**

By Scott Richey  
Sports Editor

Eastern head football coach Bob Spoo said he could sum up Eastern's new athletic director Barbara Burke succinctly.

She is a star. Spoo, who was also a member of the athletic director search committee, said he conducted a phone interview with Wyoming athletic director Tom Burman — one of Burke's references — and Burman said Burke was a star.

Spoo said Burke was a wonderful lady of the highest integrity who could advance the Eastern athletic programs.

"In every way she was head-and-shoulders above the other candidates," Spoo said. "She's had to deal with every aspect of the role she's about to play. She's just a very capable person and an outstanding administrator. I think the future is very bright now that Barbara Burke is now our athletic director."

Burke played both softball and basketball at Western Michigan for four years and led the Broncos to the Women's College Softball World Series in 1980, her senior season. She was inducted into the Western Michigan Hall of Fame in 1988.

Burke also coached at Tennessee Temple, Clearwater Christian College (Fla.), Cornerstone College (Mich.), Indiana Southeast and West Virginia State.

Experience as both a player and a coach has molded Burke into an athletic director who wants to win.

"I'm a horrible loser," Burke said. "You can ask my coaches (at Wyoming) about that right now. It's part of what we do and I deal with it, but I work very hard to help (coaches)



KEVIN MURPHY | THE DAILY EASTERN NEWS

Members of the athletic department and others listen to Barbara Burke speak. Burke was named the Eastern athletic director on Friday morning in the 1895 Room of the Martin Luther King Jr. University Union. Burke was the deputy director of athletics and senior women's administrator at Wyoming before taking the job at Eastern. She becomes the ninth full-time Eastern athletic director.

achieve at whatever level they want."

Spoo said Burke's experience as a former college athlete and coach would help connect her to the student-athletes and coaches at Eastern.

"She knows exactly what our stresses are, where we need help, what we're looking forward to, what our expectations are," Spoo said. "She's been through all of that, so that's a valuable asset to have."

Eastern interim athletic director Ken Baker said Burke, as a former player, understands what student-athletes go through.

"If you don't have empathy or concern for the student-athlete then you don't belong in athletics," Bak-

er said. "She's played, she's coached, she's got a great administrative career at a number of different programs. We're very fortunate to have her."

Burke said one of the things she looks forward to the most as athletic director is continuing to have interaction with student-athletes.

"That motivates me," Burke said. "I seek that out. I go to practices. I hope as an athletic director I don't lose that contact with the student-athlete."

Eastern women's basketball coach Brady Sallee said he also liked that Burke is a former coach. He said that sentiment is shared by other Eastern coaches.

"She just gets it," Sallee said. "She knows the lows. She knows the highs. She knows the day-to-day things you deal with. I think in those instances, those who have that kind of a background, they can go a long way to take the stresses off of you that they themselves take care of, and allow you to do your job — and that is coach."



**Barbara Burke**

Burke was named Eastern's athletic director on Friday. She is the ninth full-time Eastern athletic director.

**BASEBALL | EASTERN 16, MOREHEAD STATE 2**

**Eight-run second inning drives Eastern to win**

**Panthers get to Eagles pitchers early, often**

By Scott Richey  
Sports Editor

Eastern used key innings in both of its wins during Friday's doubleheader sweep against Morehead State, but no inning was as important as the second inning during Saturday's single Ohio Valley Conference game.

The Panthers (8-9, 3-0 OVC) batted around in the bottom of the second inning and then through half-way again en route to a seven-run second to increase their lead to 8-0.

The lead was too much for the Eagles to overcome as Eastern scored eight more times in the next six innings to win 16-2 on Saturday afternoon at Coaches Stadium.

Sophomore catcher Richie Derbak started the bottom of the second for Eastern, drawing a four-pitch walk.



NORA MABERRY | THE DAILY EASTERN NEWS

Eastern freshman pitcher Mike Hoekstra pitched six innings in Eastern's 16-2 win against Morehead State on Saturday at Coaches Stadium.

Senior first baseman Tristan Facer was hit on the elbow the next pitch to put two runners on with zero outs.

Freshman third baseman Sean

Estand struck out looking on an inside curveball, but junior right fielder Ryan Lindquist lined a 1-0 pitch past the diving hands of Morehead State senior shortstop Nick Nail

**ONLINE GALLERY**

• Check out dennews.com for a photo gallery of this weekend's baseball games.

driving in Derbak.

The Eagles (6-12, 0-3) brought in senior relief pitcher J.R. Peck to pitch to Eastern junior second baseman Jordan Tokarz. Peck hung a pitch over the middle of the plate, which Tokarz belted to deep left field to score Facer and Lindquist.

Eastern sophomore left fielder Curt Restko said getting to Morehead State's bullpen early was important.

"That's what every offense wants," Restko said.

Restko followed Tokarz's two-run double with an infield single to the shortstop. The baseball gods were on his side Saturday, Restko said.

>> SEE DRIVES, PAGE 10

**EASTERN SPORTS SCHEDULE**

<p>BASEBALL <b>Tuesday vs. Southern Illinois  </b> 2 p.m. — Coaches Stadium</p>	<p>SOFTBALL <b>Tuesday at Southeast Missouri (DH)  </b> 3 p.m. — Cape Girardeau, Mo.</p>	<p>BASEBALL <b>Wednesday at Illinois State  </b> 3 p.m. — Normal</p>	<p>WOMEN'S TENNIS <b>Thursday at Morehead State  </b> 9 a.m. — Morehead, Ky.</p>	<p>MEN'S TENNIS <b>Thursday at Morehead State  </b> 9 a.m. — Morehead, Ky.</p>
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