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Daily Eastern News: March 25, 2014

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CLOSED CARMAN

The 45-year-old building will remain closed for the 2014-2015 academic year as a continuation of the two-year building assessment.

Page 3



HOME CONNECTION

Quarterback Jimmy Garoppolo and pole vaulter Mick Viken have a friendship that stretches back to gradeschool.

Page 8



THE DAILY EASTERN NEWS

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Tuesday, March 25, 2014

"TELL THE TRUTH AND DON'T BE AFRAID"

VOL. 98 | NO. 122

Candidates only present platform despite 1 contested position

By Jarad Jarmon
Associate News Editor |
@JJarmonReporter

Editor's note: Specific details to each of the candidate's positions and platforms will be further featured in the Daily Eastern News throughout the week.

Candidates for the student government executive board positions were given time to present their platforms Monday despite the lack of candidates, with only one contested position.

The executive vice president is the only executive position contested this year, with current Student Senate Speaker Brandon Goodman and Lauren Price, the vice-chairwoman for the Student Action Team, in the running.

The other non-contested positions include Reggie Thedford, the student affairs committee chairman, who is running for student body president; Yazmin Rodriguez, a Student Senate member, running for student vice president for student affairs; and Shirmeen Ahmad, the academic affairs committee chairwoman, who is running for the student vice president for academic affairs.

Current Student Body President Kaylia Eskew said many of the student senate members who might have run for one of the positions were currently seeking other leadership positions on campus.

Per student government by-laws, executive members cannot hold another executive position in another organization.

She added the student body size can have an effect on the stu-

dent participation in the election and the senate has many new senate members who are not ready and old senate members who are graduating.

"I think our student body in general is fluctuating and, in particular, we have a very young senate," Eskew said. "It just takes them a little bit more time to feel up to taking on a position like that."

Price and Rodriguez agreed. They both said they believe the young senate members just do not feel ready to attack the large roles that come with each position.

Price added many are leaving student government to seek roles in other organizations.

Rodriguez said all of the pieces fit leading to a lack in anticipated participation in student government as a whole.

Goodman said he believed these were not the only contributing factors to the lack of applications.

He said he believed student government has been doing a poor job of promoting themselves to the student body in general, let alone the elections.

"Honestly, the word isn't getting spread like it should be. It is not getting out to the student body," Goodman said.

Despite the lack of competition, Thedford, Rodriguez and Ahmad were nervous about the elections.

Students can still vote "no confidence" in the upcoming election from midnight April 7 until midnight April 8.

They agreed while they were worried about students voting "no



REGGIE THEDFORD



LAUREN PRICE



SHIRMEEN AHMAD



YAZMIN RODRIGUEZ

confidence," they were glad that it existed making the position mean more.

Rodriguez said she wants to say she earned her position and did not just receive it through a lack of competition.

She added she was confident those who know her will understand her passion for the position and the work she has put into the senate.

Thedford said it is still a big deal for students to vote on these positions.

He said he was also confident people will recognize the passion he exudes.

Ahmad said it is important students know there is an option to vote "no confidence."

"I don't want them to just bypass it and vote for me," she said. "It is still open for me. I don't know if I have this position or not. I hope they think I can do it and that I am here for them."



CANDIDATES, page 5 BRANDON GOODMAN

Student art gallery in process at Dounda

By Ave Rio
Staff Reporter | @DEN_News

A retired professor's classroom left an open area that is now in the process of becoming a student art gallery in the Doudna Fine Arts Center.

Jeff Boshart, an art professor, said the art department has been working on the gallery for the last several years, but there is still a lot to be done.

"Eastern has enabled me to be a good teacher, and my job as a teacher is to enable students," Boshart said. "One of the things I've worked very hard at is displaying student art."

Different from the Tarble Arts Center, primarily students with faculty guidance will eventually run this gallery.

"The students will have the primary voice," Boshart said.

The gallery is available for any students in the art department to apply to have a show. It is then open to the student governing board of the gallery to decide what will be shown.

Student art shows are typically short, usually three or four days and sometimes a week, he said.

Having a gallery in the Doundna will give students the opportunity to hang real shows and also be a place where they can have special screenings of movies, Boshart said.

The room will also have a reading resource library with magazines and books, along with a photo studio where students can document their work.

The art department wants to take advantage of the building, Boshart explained, but turning the classroom into a gallery has not been an easy process.

GALLERY, page 5

Spring concert choice causes mixed reactions

By Bob Galuski
Managing Editor | @BobGaluski

With ticket sales for students beginning Monday, students still have plenty of time to decide on whether or not they want to attend the spring concert this year – Thompson Square.

However, students like Jasmine Stults, a sophomore family and consumer sciences major, have already made up their mind on if they're going.

"Definitely not," she said. "Country really isn't my thing." Stults said she thought the country duo and current American Country Music Vocal Duo of the Year winners would attract other students.

"I think most people my age like the newer type of country," she said. Julian Moore, a graduate biological sciences student, disagreed.

SAVE THE DATE

What: Spring concert featuring *Thompson Square*

Where: Lantz Arena

When: April 25 8 p.m.

Ticket sales begin for students Monday in the business office of the Union at \$20. General public sales begin March 31 for \$23.

"We're a little bit more diverse here," Moore said. "I'm not too sure if country will go over as well."

Chris Owens, a sophomore communication studies major, said while he knows of a few friends that enjoy Thompson Square and country music in general, he would not be attending, despite the concert being in late April.

"A couple of friends I know go

for it," he said. "I just can't see myself there."

Nisha Pierce, a sophomore kinesiology and sports studies major, believes the concert will attract music majors the most. Although she has not attended a spring concert – last year's concert featured "American Idol" winner Phillip Phillips – she has gone to several concerts at the Doudna Fine Arts Center.

"There's a general interest (in country music) from the community," she said. "It'll draw in the music group."

Drew Shore, a sophomore biological sciences major, agreed, and said he thought Thompson Square performing would go over well with the surrounding community of Charleston.

REACTIONS, page 5

Local weather

TODAY WEDNESDAY



Possible Snow
High: 34°
Low: 16°



Sunny
High: 42°
Low: 35°

For more weather visit castle.eiu.edu/weather.

THE DAILY EASTERN NEWS

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

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SASHA CORWIN | THE DAILY EASTERN NEWS

Jessica Schulte, a junior history major, donates during a blood drive Monday in Stevenson Hall. Schulte calmly browsed her phone while have her blood drawn. Donators received free pizza and a T-shirt.

Blood drive sees good attendance

By Sam Martel
Staff Reporter | @DEN_News

Students and faculty alike had the opportunity to give blood Tuesday at Stevenson Hall for the blood drive to Community Blood Services of Illinois.

Tammi Dash, the nurse in charge of the drive, said the nurses and coordinators hoped for at least 45 donations to be made.

Dash said there had been around 20 students that had donated as of 2 p.m.

Dash is responsible for overseeing other individuals on duty, monitoring and ordering supplies, and delegating other nurses assignments while on their assigned shift. She works with the Community Blood Services of Illinois as part of the Mississippi Valley Regional Blood

Services. This division is in charge of supplying all of the blood in the local area and parts of central Illinois.

Hospitals such as Sarah Bush Lincoln and Saint Anthony's Memorial Hospital in Effingham receive blood from the Community Blood Services of Illinois.

"Blood supplies are running a bit lower as of right now," Dash said.

She added that later in the afternoon it picked up and many eager students waited in line for their turn to donate blood.

Despite normally being located in the Martin Luther King Jr. University Union, she said she believed the location had little factor on attendance.

Kyle Cook, a freshman biological sciences major, is an advocate blood donor.

This Tuesday was his fifth time donating blood this school year.

"I'm Type O blood, which is the universal blood type and the only blood type that can be transfused to patients with other blood types, so I donate to help others," Cook said.

Eric Cobb, a sophomore accounting major, donated for the first time even though he said he hoped to donate earlier. He did not donate during the winter because of flu season. He said he felt that people are more susceptible to getting ill and does not donate during that time of year.

Cook said it is important to give to back to the community in whatever way a person can. Rain or shine, Cook said he had made it a mission to give blood no matter what. He said he has even gone through two feet of snow before.

"Giving blood is an easy thing to do that gives back and helps a lot of people," Cobb said.

Cobb gave blood five times last year and felt this blood drive had just about the average amount of people there donating as previous drives have had at different locations.

Eastern hosts blood drives with the intention that students will attend and give back to the community and hospitals in our local area.

Students can see more information at bloodservices.org. More information on where the blood goes is detailed throughout the website.

Sam Martel can be reached at 581-2812 or sgmartel@eiu.edu.

BLOTTER

Identity theft, multiple cannabis complaints reported

- An identity theft was reported at 1:40 p.m. Friday. It was reported to have occurred at an unknown date, time, and location. This incident was referred to the Internal Revenue Service.
- A cannabis complaint was reported at 3:43 a.m. Saturday at Lincoln Avenue and 10th street. This incident is under investigation.
- A domestic dispute was reported at 11:13 p.m. Saturday at Douglas Hall. This incident was referred to the Office of Student Standards.
- A cannabis complaint was reported at 1:21 a.m. Saturday in Greek Court. This incident is under investigation.
- Seth McDorman, 19, 321 E Country Court, Bourbonnais, Ill. was arrested at 1:21 a.m. Sunday near Pemberton Hall. He was charged with illegal consumption of alcohol by a minor, resisting a peace officer and released at 5:34 a.m. after posting 10 percent of the \$1,000 bond.

CAMPUS BRIEFS

Faculty Senate Elections

Faculty Senate elections are at 2 p.m. Tuesday in the conference room of the Booth Library.



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Carman Hall renovations ‘right on track’

By Megan Ivey
Staff Reporter | @DEN_News

Carman Hall will be closed to residents for the 2014-2015 academic year as the two-year building assessment plan continues.

Mark Hudson, the director of Housing and Dining said that Carman is “right on track.”

“Carman is a large, 45-year-old structure, which results in a complex process,” he said.

For the project, an outside engineer is hired, analyzing different principles of the building such as plumbing, electricity, heating and air.

The overview of current system setups will be evaluated for efficiency and life expectancy.

Hudson said they are still working on how to best use the information.

Carman, which closed June 1, 2013, will not be opened the upcoming year.

“We are very much still in the assessment mode,” Hudson said. “We knew originally this project would take at least two years.”

So far, Hudson said he has not heard any complaints from students with the closed residence hall and dining center.

“Carman’s dining hall only accounted for 20 percent of the meals in the complexes, and most of that was from Carman Hall resi-

“We’re getting results to better help us towards our goals of increasing student satisfaction and comfort.”

-Mark Hudson, director of Housing and Dining

“Students are now simply using the other dining halls.”

Hudson said because of low enrollment that renovating Carman “is not an immediate demand.”

“We are also putting efforts into other residence halls where students are currently staying in,” he said. “These projects have a more immediate impact.”

Such projects are taking place in Andrews Hall and Ford Hall this summer.

Currently, Andrews Hall has one floor being renovated, and two more floors will undergo the same changes in the summer.

“Once the work over the summer is completed, all of Andrews Hall will have updated furniture and carpet,” Hudson said.

Hudson said Ford Hall will also undergo a “big change.”

Ford Hall will have a private



CAYLA MAURER | THE DAILY EASTERN NEWS

Elizabeth Hatch, an elementary education major, and Dane Greene, a sophomore psychology major, skateboard past Ruth Carman Hall Monday. Carman Hall has been closed for assessment since Summer 2013.

bathroom renovation, similar to those in McKinney Hall.

Hudson said there will be future projects in Pemberton Hall.

“We are working with Pemberton’s Hall Council to get feedback and suggestions on what residents would like in the future,”

Hudson said.

Possible updates could take place in the hall’s bathrooms and laundry room, as well as getting air conditioning.

Hudson said the changes are to directly benefit the students.

“We’re getting results to better

help us towards our goal of increasing student satisfaction and comfort,” he said.

Megan Ivey can be reached at 581-2812 or mkivey@eiu.edu.

Open mic night to take on Rainforest Café motif

By Lauren McQueen
Staff Reporter | @DEN_News

University Board Mainstage is bringing back an open mic night – with a theme surrounding Rainforest Café.

Any student can come out and display their talents in a variety of ways, whatever they may be.

Open Mic: Rainforest Café is a free event that will take place at 7 p.m. Wednesday in the 7th Street Underground.

David Groves, the UB mainstage coordinator, said any kind of talent is welcome to the stage.

“The Rainforest Café will be a time for anyone to come out and enjoy the Café experience,” Groves said.

Students are encouraged to participate, however, faculty and staff are also welcome at this event. In the past, per-

formers have displayed a wide range of talents including singing, dancing, acting, comedy, poetry or any other abilities they may have. This event is not a competition and the microphone will be on stage for anyone to utilize.

Groves also said this is the first time that an open mic event has been based off the Rainforest Café restaurant.

“I feel there will be a good turnout for there is free food and it is also a time for students and their friends to get on stage and enjoy their time,” he said.

Groves expects the turnout to be around 100 students.

People attending the event should expect to have an entertaining evening in the relaxed atmosphere, Groves said.

An open mic night gives students an opportunity to socialize with others, have a good time and be heard, he added.

This event also allows students to

watch their friends and fellow classmates present their talents.

Groves planned this event because it is unique. Groves said the purpose of this event is “to provide the students a getaway with their friends since there is not a venue of this sort here in Charleston.”

This event provides an opportunity for performers to gain experience without pressure, by getting up on stage in front of a live audience, he said.

Groves also said the open mic night allows the performers to further develop their skills and offers a platform for expression.

The point of open mic night is that it lets people share their art and connect with each other, Groves said.

Lauren McQueen can be reached at 581-2812 or lmcqueen@eiu.edu.



CHYNNA MILLER | THE DAILY EASTERN NEWS

Tiarra Webb, a junior athletic training major, recites a poem during an open mic night Nov. 6, 2013 in the 7th Street Underground of the Martin Luther King Junior University Union.



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Letter to the Editor

Always learn something new

We have all seen studies on the intelligence of the average high school or college student, and bemoaned the results. A 2006 National Geographic survey found only 37% of Americans between the ages of 18 and 24 could find Iraq on a map. In a 2008 survey, only 43% of American high school students knew that the Civil War was fought between 1850 and 1900. If these numbers seem frightening, that's because they are. In recent history, our educational system has been a source of lamentation and a focus of legislation, but have things improved? Can they, based on government intervention alone?

I am not arguing that government should not take measures to improve the efficiency of our school systems. However, government intervention alone is seldom a solution to anything. I am arguing that there comes a time in one's life when responsibility must be taken concerning the education of oneself. Take college. There is a certain intellectual curiosity that should be present in a college student; if they chose to go to college for the right reasons, that is. Therefore, learning should take place both inside and outside the classroom.

Many young people devote an inordinate amount of time to sports and entertainment (yes, the same 18-24 demo who can't find Iraq on a map). I love these past times as well. However, when one possesses encyclopedic knowledge of everything Kardashian, or pours over their March Madness bracket for hours on end, without being able to name the countries that border the U.S. or engage in brief discourse about a single current event, one may want to consider the following: spend at least 30 minutes per day learning something new, apart from required work for school. In fact, this is sound advice for anyone of any intellectual level. Expanding one's vocabulary by learning a new word every day, watching a documentary, reading a news website, a classic novel, or a work of nonfiction are all great ways to increase one's knowledge and understanding of the world.

The average American watches over 30 hours of TV per week according to some surveys. By swapping just a few of those hours for learning something new, it is astonishing how much one can learn in just a few weeks. If not for yourself, do it for posterity. How can our generation be expected to be the leaders of tomorrow when we've been too busy watching Tosh.0 to know where we've been or how we arrived?

Dr. Ben Carson, noted author and columnist, had the following to say concerning the future of America: "what will maintain our position in the world? The ability to shoot a 25 foot jump shot or the ability to solve a quadratic equation?"

We should all be concerned about a future where individuals allow themselves to be distracted with entertainment and remain uninformed or even oblivious when it comes to important issues.

--Jarvis Howe

Write a letter to the editor

You have something to say. Knowing this, *The Daily Eastern News* provides a place for you to say it every day.

- 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. Letters to the editor can be brought in with identification to The DEN or sent to DENopinions@gmail.com.

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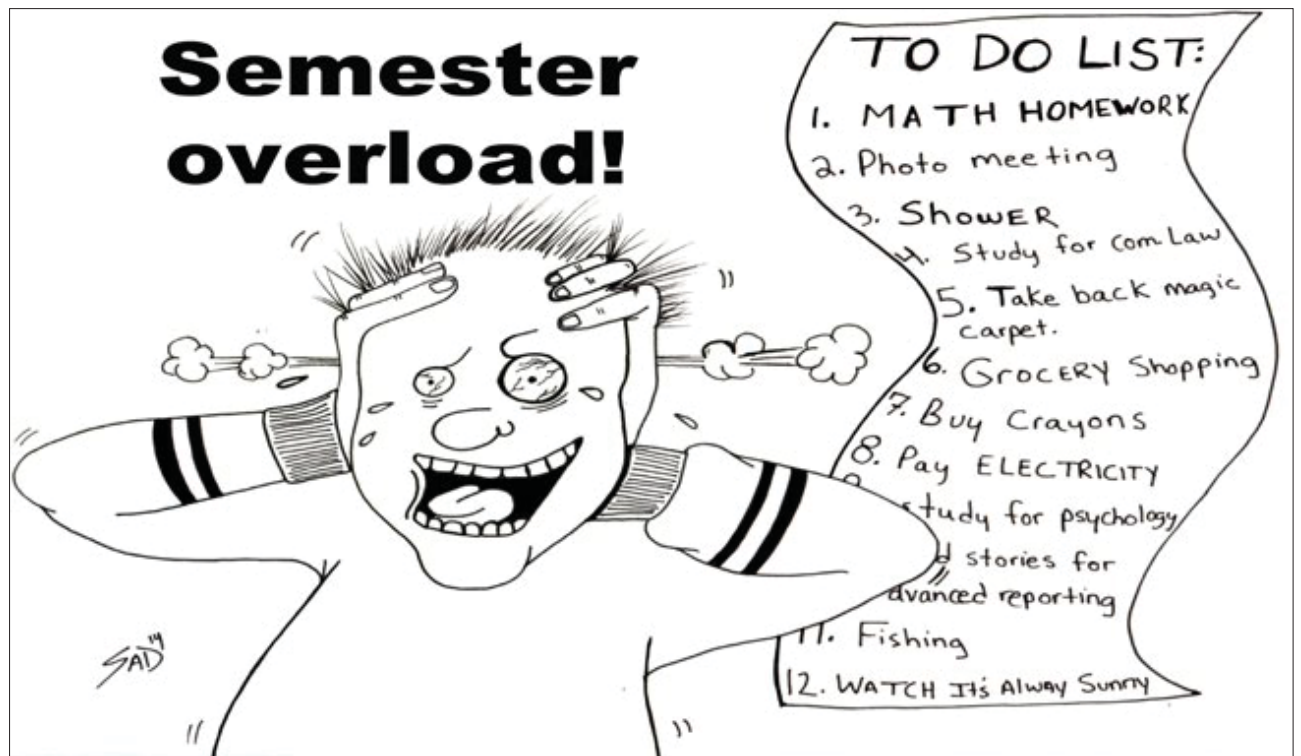
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DRAWN FROM THE EASEL



SABRINA ANN DUNCAN | THE DAILY EASTERN NEWS

STAFF EDITORIAL

Student involvement is key for satisfaction

Every year, there's going to be people complaining about whoever is decided upon for our spring concert.

It starts early in the year when surveys are first released.

People misunderstand that surveys are surveys, and not ballots.

They're used to gauge an interest in what students want. Even through the surveys, there still isn't a lot of agreement amongst students as to who is good or not.

Last year, we had former 'American Idol' Phillip Phillips, which was met with some mixed reviews upon its announcement.

This year, we have country music duo Thompson Square, which if you can tell by student reaction, is also being met with a mixed response.

If you're University Board, hearing or reading about students saying that they don't care about or have never heard of the artist selected for the spring concert might be disheartening, but it's important not to get too upset.

You're never going to be able to please all of the people all of the time. That's obvious.

What University Board should focus on is bringing in the artist that can make the most profit based on the budget and the amount of tickets projected to be sold.

At the same time, students have to understand that huge headliner acts probably aren't going to be coming to Eastern every so often. Eastern isn't as big as other schools, thus making it less of a money making opportunity for artists and promoters.

Yes, Eastern did have Drake a few years back, but that was way before Drake was who he was today.

Too often, students that are most upset with who Eastern's spring concert selection is aren't the students who filled out the survey and they aren't the students who are writing to University Board with suggestions.

If you want your voice to be heard, there

are options.

There are ways for you to make sure you get the most out of your college experience outside of the classrooms.

The best way is to stay informed and get involved.

Read the newspaper. Check the university website often. Follow various Eastern related groups on Twitter and Facebook. Interact with them and let them know what you want to do here. You're probably going to end up paying for it anyway, so you might as well enjoy it.

If you are going to see Thompson Square next month, here's to you having a good time. If you're not, here's to you finding something else fun to do.

But if you really wanted to see something else, let the powers that be know what you want. It's the first step forward.

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

Overloading will cause burn out

I am going to give you some advice. For those of you who do not know me, I obviously attend Eastern, participate in three registered student organizations, and work three jobs that pan out to about 30 hours per week.

I am not writing to complain because I have had this itinerary set out for me each semester since I started at EIU.

This is all about a warning.

Registration started on Monday for seniors and priority students. That means that we are getting closer to looking to what lies ahead for next semester. You will be planning your schedules out unless you all ready have completed that. This also means that registered student organizations will look for new people to lead them.

I am well aware how far the next semester is, but this is crunch time for these two areas. I am not a philosopher or anything, but I do feel that there are plenty of students who see a position in some RSOs that they are drooling over and want to have it, even though they may not have the time to fulfill it.

In my opinion, someone who fills an executive position should be able to guar-



Kyle Daubs

antee they can put in the time to do it right. I know that at least when it comes to my major, there are plenty of seniors next semester who will be taking the king and queen of special education courses in terms of intensity.

A president or vice-president of an organization needs to have the time to fill that position. That is why I will never run for a high up position in a RSO because I have to find a way to pay for college.

Time is everything in school, but it's not just the only reason you should not overload yourself next semester.

You really need to consider what is best for you. If you have the time to complete what is necessary for the position, then I

am all up for you being superman or wonder woman.

The troubling thing I see in some people is that they are so stressed out that they are not enjoying life. I will be honest with you folks. I am one of the luckiest guys in the world right now, but sleeping four hours a night really catches up to you. It really showed when I embarrassed myself in class on Monday solving a simple fraction subtraction problem.

We go through the motions of how important it is to be active in campus. Yes, it is important to be in RSO's, and double yes that is looks great on a resume when you are in a higher position.

Overloading yourself for a better resume is not healthy for you. Taking your classes seriously and staying awake in those classes to better yourself with the knowledge for what will make you better for your profession is what matters more.

It's why were going to college, right?

Kyle Daubs is a special education major. He can be reached at 581-2812 or DENopinions@gmail.com.

» **CANDIDATES** CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

CAYLA MAURER | THE DAILY EASTERN NEWS

Lauren Price, a junior biological sciences major, tells audience members at the Executive Meet and Greet why she should be Executive Vice President for Student Senate on Monday in the Oakland Room of the Martin Luther King Jr. University Union.

» **GALLERY** CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

It is expensive and takes a lot of work, he said.

"This has been a long term commitment both in terms of time and talent," Boshart said.

Students have been doing what they can to help outfit the gallery. Students in the sculpture program have made all of the sculpture pedestals and an art education major made 12 display easels out of leftover materials.

The faculty and students are using whatever people give them to improve the gallery.

Ace Hardware has donated paint which they used to paint the pedestals. Students also made frames out of cribs that someone donated, he said.

The room for the gallery is actually a very nice room, but the problem being that there is no money in the budget to turn it into a gallery because the university will not set aside funds for it, Boshart said.

"We have a gallery, but we can't keep it open to the public because we don't want stuff to be stolen" Boshart said. And they can't hire someone to

"We have a gallery, but we can't keep it open to the public because we don't want stuff to be stolen."

Jeff Boshart, art professor

watch and make sure nothing is stolen because there is no money, he said.

Right now, if students have a show then they have to sit there the whole time it is open, or get friends to help. There is no money for openings so students' parents often bring in pop and pizza to share, Boshart said.

Last fall, Boshart had a student alumni show and the alumni donated their work for an auction. All of the money from selling the work was used as funds for gallery.

Boshart said he is trying to get alumni to send more funds to art department for the gallery. He is also trying to get a donor to give \$30,000 for a professional lighting system.

Having a gallery is important in a university because running a gallery is a possible career opportunity

These issues with a young senate and people leaving for graduation or other leadership positions has also seeped into the number of senate members set for the next year prompting the executive board to extend the deadline to apply to April 2 for the senate positions. There are 16 open seats available.

Eskew said they are working to promote these positions to give next year's senate an easier time.

There will be outreach tables set up throughout the next two weeks at the Martin Luther King Jr. University Union.

Goodman and Price are running similar campaigns. Both said there needs to be a more major focus on voter registration. This year yielded a small turnout from the student body.

Price said it is important to increase the number of students voting. She said many laws are being passed or reviewed that students have a stake in such as the 1 percent increase in sales tax.

Goodman agreed. He said there was a severe lack in student participation and it was unacceptable. This year, only 500 students had been registered.

"I believe there was relaxed approach taken to the idea that I hope not to see again," Goodman said.

He added there needs to be closer sponsorship with political science RSOs like the College Democrats and Republicans. He also said timing was also a factor affecting the election

Jarad Jarmon can be reached at 581-2812 or jsjarmon@eiu.edu.

Council presents workshop to faculty

By **Vanessa Perez**
Staff Reporter | @DEN_News

The Council on Academic Affairs presented the responsible citizenship learning goals workshop to faculty members at their meeting Monday.

The workshop focused on ideas for curriculum and co-curriculum experiences to help Eastern students learn and act as responsible citizens by breaking the goal down to diversity, ethical reasoning and civic engagement.

The revised responsible citizenship learning goal, previously called "responsible global citizenship" provides clearer student objectives and encourages students to make connections in the real world with content they learn in class.

The CAA discussed the workshop with faculty by dividing into groups for diversity, ethical reasoning and civic engagement.

Debra Reid, a history professor, led the group discussion for diversity and shared her findings as professors shared activities and challenges of diversity in their classrooms.

Danelle Larson, a music professor, raised the question of what is diversity.

"I'm in music education, so we talk about diversity all the time, but we talk about context primarily on student learners and how different they all are culturally, race, learning styles, so I'm trying to wrap my head around what diversity is," Larson said.

Teshome Abebe, an economics professor, said this was the first time he mentioned that his students' engagement rises when different cultures deal with the same issues.

"My personal view is helping students to understand global citizenship," Abebe said.

Melinda Mueller, a political science

professor, shared the civic aspect of the goal and said there needs to be assessment in the involvements of students in student organizations.

Karla Sanders reported on the ethics group and said there needs to be ways to incorporate ethics and ethical reasoning in classrooms.

Examples she provided were having more case studies, movie clips and simulations in which students can practice ethical reasoning and connect it to real world situations.

Sanders also recommended observing students as they go into the outside world and observe how they are behaving as well as clubs they are being involved in relation to their field.

Reid brought back the groups to the announcement of faculty who are interested in the general education refinement developing new learning objectives.

Reid also emphasized on addressing general education.

"We do not have that here," Reid said. "Eastern is rare without a general education coordinator."

Sanders raised a question based on cultural diversity. She said there is a lack of teaching critical thinking as a general requirement, but all students are required to take Introduction to Speech Communication 1310.

"We don't have a 1310 critical thinking class," she said. "Where are we teaching critical thinking?" Sanders said.

The CAA will have their last workshop on the new learning goal, quantitative reasoning, from 10 a.m. until noon April 1 in the Arcola-Tuscola Room in the Martin Luther King Jr. University Union.

Vanessa Perez can be reached at 581-2812 or vperez@eiu.edu.

» **REACTIONS** CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

"A good amount of people around here like country music," he said.

"Definitely a decent amount." Shore added he hears the genre on the radio more than anything else.

Dialla Burrage, a freshman health studies major, said she would not be attending the concert – simply because she did not know who the artists were.

"I have no idea who they are," she said, laughing. "I don't think anybody listens to country music around here. At least I don't know of anybody."

Caitlin Mahoney, a freshman sociology major, said she would not go because she had not heard of the artists either. However, this was

not the deciding factor. It all came down to the genre.

"I like EDM (electronic dance music) more than country," she said. "I don't know if people listen to country music around here."

Tickets for Thompson Square go on sale for students Monday at the Ticket Office in the Martin Luther King Jr. University Union. Tickets are \$20 for students. The general public will be able to purchase tickets on March 31 for \$23.

Thompson Square will perform at 8 p.m. April 25 in Lantz Arena.

Bob Galuski can be reached at 581-2812 or dennewsdesk@gmail.com.

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Weather causes problems for softball team

By **Kaz Darzinkis**
Staff Reporter | @DEN_Sports

Spring sports such as softball are held hostage to weather conditions.

This led to the Eastern softball team beginning its season on the road for its first 25 games. Field conditions and weather issues relegate much early season softball, to indoor arenas, and southern region cities.

To this end much of Eastern's games to date have been played in Louisiana, Tennessee, Alabama and North and South Carolina.

While this has been considered normal for cold weather northern teams, it can take its toll on the players, coaches and staff.

As student-athletes, the softball players must be focused not only on competition but their schoolwork as well.

"The issue with early road traveling is missing out on school work, and other school related activities," senior pitcher Stephanie Maday said.

However, while travel can be stressful, fellow senior pitcher Hanna Mennenga also believes it has a positive influence on the team.

"When we travel, we have long bus rides and we are able to bond and stay close as a team," Mennenga said. "I mean, seven of the girls live together, so we are already really close."

While the team has gone through the rigors of early season travel, they have emerged united in a goal — get to the Ohio Valley Conference tournament, and win.

Over this past weekend, the Panthers embarked on their quest to repeat as

regular season champions of the OVC.

The Panthers split games with Jacksonville State and Tennessee Tech, netting them a conference record of 2-2, with an overall record of 20-9.

One key to their continued success has been the emergence of Carly Willert after her return from a broken nose.

"I would like to point out that it is extremely nice having Carly back in the line up," Mennenga said. "I know she was back last weekend, but I really think we feel more put together with her in the field."

Willert along with Bailey O'Dell, Reynae Hutchinson and Hannah Cole have helped propel the Panther offense.

Jennette Isaac has also been the pace car of the offense from the leadoff position.

Cole leads the team in numerous offensive category, she currently owns a .358 batting average, has 25 RBIs on the season, collected eight doubles, two triples and shares the team lead with four home runs.

Hutchinson also holds a share of the team lead with four home runs; she also has 22 RBIs, and is 7-of-8 in stolen bases.

Brooke Owens is batting .344 and she is the third member on the team who has hit four home runs.

Willert, who came back from injury, is batting .328 while leadoff hitter Jennette Isaac is hitting .342 while converting 7-of-9 stolen bases.

Coach Angie Nicholson has been impressed with her group so far, but is still looking for improvements.

While the offense is second in the conference, Nicholson believes there are areas where the team can improve.



FILE PHOTO | THE DAILY EASTERN NEWS

Junior catcher Hannah Cole stands ready for a pitch against IUPUI on April 4, 2013 at Williams Field while her teammates cheer her on from the bench.

"We will go back to the basics and fundamentals of hitting as I think we are starting to think too much," Nicholson said. "We need to just focus on hitting the ball and what makes that possible. So that's what we will focus on as well as our pitching."

As for pitching on the team, Mennenga and Maday have been stalwarts in the order, pitching a majority of the games this season.

Maday is currently 8-5 on the season, having appeared in 16 contests, starting 11 of them eight of which have been complete games.

She has a 2.74 ERA, with 64 strikeouts, and 29 walks, in 79.1 innings on the season.

Mennenga is 11-2 on the season; she has appeared in 18 games thus far, starting 15 and 12 of which have been complete games.

In 100.2 innings this season, Mennenga has struck out 97 while walking 35 batters, which has resulted in an ERA of 2.09.

Eastern will face Valparaiso at 4 p.m. Thursday at Williams Field.

Kaz Darzinkis can be reached at 581-2812 or kcdarzinkis@eiu.edu.

NY Mets scout watches Borens

By **Aldo Soto**
Assistant Sports Editor | @AldoSoto21

With a New York Mets scout in attendance at Coaches Stadium Friday afternoon, Eastern's Matt Borens started his sixth game of the season for the Panthers.

The junior right-hander pitched seven innings against IPFW, allowing five earned runs on 11 hits, but still picked up his first win of the season, improving his record to 1-2.

Despite striking out 10 batters, which is the second highest total in his career, he was not as sharp as he needed to be, Eastern coach Jim Schmitz said.

"I still don't think he looks like a Friday night guy," Schmitz said. "It's negative I guess, but a Friday night guy throws zeros on the board."

Borens began his outing, striking out five of the first six batters he faced, but then surrendered five runs from the fourth through seventh innings.

"He's got to be better for us to win on Fridays," Schmitz said.

Borens leads Eastern's starters in innings pitched, (41) ERA (3.07) and strikeouts (39).

The righty started the season, allowing one earned run his first three starts against Louisiana-Lafayette, Arkansas and Michigan State, but including Friday's performance against IPFW, Borens has given up 13 earned runs in his last three starts.

Schmitz said Borens has been well aware of scouts seeing him pitch, but that it has not been the reason for his recent sub-par pitching.

"He knows it — they've been at every game with so many at SIU-

Edwardsville and here," Schmitz said. "He's past the scout stuff. It's just like a hitter — he knows he's not sharp and then he goes out there and he's not sharp."

Eastern returns to Ohio Valley Conference play at 3 p.m. Friday in Coaches Stadium, where Borens will start against Jacksonville State.

Players of the week

Chase Green won Ohio Valley Conference Player of the Week, as the Southern Illinois-Edwardsville junior hit two home runs and had nine RBIs in five Cougars' games.

The second baseman hit 7-of-19 (.368) with a slugging percentage of .737, while also scoring three runs.

Green was 6-of-13 during the weekend against Murray State, as he helped Southern sweep the Racers and improve to 7-2 in the OVC.

Tennessee Tech junior Chris Chism was named Ohio Valley Conference Pitcher of the Week, following a one-hit shutout win over Tennessee-Martin Sunday.

The right-handed pitcher had a career-high 10 strikeouts in Tennessee Tech's 2-0 win against the Skyhawks.

Chism's lone surrendered hit came in the seventh inning, as he allowed a total of four base runners, hitting three batters and walking none, improving to 3-0 in the season.

Tennessee Tech improved to 6-3 in the OVC and has a 19-5 overall record.

Aldo Soto can be reached at 581-2812 or asoto2@eiu.edu

» ROLLING MEADOWS CONTINUED FROM PAGE 7

Before Viken rose to promise as a pole vaulter, he walked on to the Eastern football team to reunite with his former quarterback, Garoppolo, an incoming freshman.

Viken's time on the football team did not last long, as he ultimately picked pole vault over football.

"I got a couple offers from smaller schools, not anything big, like Winona State, small schools," he said. "But when I transferred here, I talked to the football coaches and I walked on and took a spot here, but I didn't see myself being able to balance both pole vaulting and football and be as successful as I wanted to be, so I picked one over the other."

For Viken and Garoppolo, both were in their first years at Eastern, and for Viken, a transfer, it was just nice to know someone.

"When I got here, that was Jimmy's freshman year," he said. "It was really nice to know somebody and have a friendship with somebody already. It was fun for when I was doing it."

That fall, Garoppolo started the final eight games of his freshman season, finishing with 1,639 yards, 14 touchdowns and 13 interceptions.

Viken finished first in the pole vault at the Ohio Valley Conference indoor championships in 2011, breaking the OVC meet record, as well as Ellis' school record with a mark of 17-feet, 1.5-inches. During the outdoor season, Viken broke the O'Brien Field record, finishing with a mark of 17-feet, 4.5-inches and also broke the school record with a mark of 17-feet, 7.75-inches.

Viken was named OVC Freshman of the Year for both the indoor and outdoor seasons, while also finishing 19th at the NCAA Region-

als.

In his sophomore season, Garoppolo became the permanent starter for Eastern, starting all 11 games under center as the Panthers finished a disappointing 2-9 in former head coach Bob Spoo's final season. Despite the final record, Garoppolo began to show signs of promise, throwing for 2,644 yards and 20 touchdowns.

Meanwhile, Viken picked up right where he left off, increasing his school record to 17-feet, 4.5-inches in the indoor season. In the outdoor season, Viken earned second team All-American honors after a 12th place finish at the NCAA Championships.

In Garoppolo's junior season, his first under the newly hired Dino Babers, he finished 10th in the voting for the Walter Payton Award, throwing for 3,823 yards, setting the OVC single-season record. Eastern finished 7-5, losing to South Dakota State in the first round of the FCS playoffs.

In the 2013 indoor season, Viken finished as a first team All-American, finishing eighth at the NCAA National Championships. In the outdoor season, Viken earned second team All-American honors, placing 12th at the NCAA National Championships.

Garoppolo's season saw him win the Walter Payton Award, as well as earn All-American honors. Garoppolo led the team to a 12-2 record and its second consecutive OVC championship under Babers. He threw for 5,050 yards and 53 touchdowns.

Garoppolo now has his sights set on the NFL Draft, while Viken enters his final season at Eastern.

"It's really exciting to see what's going on with (Garoppolo)," Vik-

en said. "It's really exciting to see what's going on with him. He tore it up at the Senior Bowl, he's one of the

hardest working kids and he always has been since high school. I think he's going to have a long, successful professional career in football and down the line, if he stops doing that, whatever he ends up doing, I'm sure he'll be really successful in it."

No matter where his eventual NFL career takes him, Garoppolo said he and Viken would always remain friends.

"Our houses back home are maybe about two blocks from each other," he said. "We're really close. We're good friends. We always will be. It's a cool connection that we have."

For Viken, he is thankful for everything he has experienced here at Eastern.

"I'm really grateful for everything that I've had here at Eastern and my coaching staff that I've had for track, everybody's been so good to me," he said. "I feel so fortunate to have come to a place with Kyle Ellis, who is a great coach. I've had a blast here."

Viken said it is exciting to see success come out of District 214 and he said the keys to success are all there for anyone trying to make it happen.

"For other people that go to that school, all the tools are there," he said. "Everything that you need to become a successful person in sports or academics in District 214, in Rolling Meadows, you have the tools to make whatever you want of yourself."

Dominic Renzetti and Aldo Soto can be reached at 581-2812 or densportsdesk@gmail.com.



DOMINIC BAIMA | THE DAILY EASTERN NEWS



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EMILY PROVANCE | THE DAILY EASTERN NEWS

TOP LEFT: Eastern quarterback Jimmy Garoppolo drops back to pass against Towson Dec. 12 at O'Brien Field. **BOTTOM LEFT:** Mick Viken (left) and Garoppolo (right) played football together in 2008 at Rolling Meadows High School in Arlington Heights, Ill. **RIGHT:** Viken vaults at the John Craft Invite at the Lantz Fieldhouse on Jan. 24, 2014.

ROLLING THROUGH RECORD BOOKS

Former high school teammates find success at Eastern



JIMMY GAROPPOLO

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- 2013 | CFPA FCS Quarterback of the Year
- 2013 | Named All-American by the Associated Press
- 2013 | OVC Offensive Player of the Year
- 2013 | Set school all-time passing record with 12,118 yards
- 2013 | Set school all-time passing touchdowns record with 107
- 2013 Walter Payton Award winner
- 2013 FCS ADA National Offensive Player of the Year
- 2013 Consensus First Team All-American
- 2013 Senior Bowl Participant
- 2013 East-West Shrine Game Offensive MVP

By Dominic Renzetti & Aldo Soto
Editor-in-Chief, Assistant Sports Editor |
@domrenzetti, @AldoSoto21

Before red-shirt senior Mick Viken became an All-American pole vaulter at Eastern, he used to catch passes from his friend in high school – NFL prospect Jimmy Garoppolo.

In one fourth and fifth grade split class at Westgate Elementary in Arlington Heights, Garoppolo and Viken first met.

Since then, the duo has remained friends, as both Garoppolo and Viken attended South Middle School and Rolling Meadows High School.

But since they first met in Mrs. Primack's class, neither could have imagined the success they would both achieve.

Garoppolo still had not played on a football team when he became friends with Viken – that came a couple years later, when he was in the sixth grade after his parents Tony and Denise finally let him play.

As Garoppolo continued to play, his path crossed with Viken's on the football field.

"All four years I played wide receiver and Jimmy wasn't the quarterback until my senior year," Viken said.

"That was a pretty fun season."

While pole vaulting and diving on the swimming team for the Mustangs, Viken finished his senior year with 36 receptions, 604 yards and five touchdown catches from Garoppolo.

"He was a very good receiver in high school," Garoppolo said. "He was kind of my go-to guy my junior year."

In Garoppolo's first year starting for Rolling Meadows, the Mustangs finished at 5-5, including a 3-2 Mid-Suburban East League record.

The quarterback threw nine touchdowns, while tossing 12 interceptions during his junior year, but he kept learning with Viken aiding him step-by-step, Garoppolo said.

"He was helping me along, as it was my first year starting and he would teach me little things here and there," Garoppolo said. "He was a great role model, really. He really helped me throughout the process."

As Garoppolo was fine-tuning his throwing motion, Viken was heading to the state championships during the summer of 2009.

Before heading to the University of Wisconsin for his freshman year of college, Viken won the Illinois Class 3A state title and then finished ninth at the U.S. junior meet.

Entering his last season with the Mustangs, Garoppolo no longer had his go-to receiver from the year before, but he did have another year under his belt and another season learning from his head coach Doug Milsaps.

"Coach Milsaps really helped me out getting comfortable with the position," Garoppolo said.

The senior quarterback led Rolling Meadows to an IHSA Class 7A playoff berth, following a perfect 5-0 league record.

While Garoppolo ended his run as a Mustang, throwing 16 touchdowns and 1,888 yards during his senior year, Viken spent his freshman year in Madison, Wis., as a red-shirt on the Badgers' track and field team.

But just as Garoppolo prepared to head south to Charleston, the two grade-school friends would meet once again.

Viken spent just one year at Wisconsin, out after a back surgery, before transferring to Eastern to work under pole vault coach Kyle Ellis.

Ellis, who graduated from Eastern in 2009, held school records in pole vault, but those would fall shortly after Viken's arrival.

ROLLING MEADOWS, page 7



MICK VIKEN

- 2013 | Set school record with a mark of 17-feet, 10.5 inches (Indoor)
- 2013 | Set school record with a mark of 17-feet, 8.5 inches (Outdoor)
- 2013 | Placed eighth in NCAA National Championships (Indoor)
- 2013 | Placed 12th in NCAA National Championships (Outdoor)
- 2011 OVC Track Freshman of the Year (Indoor & Outdoor)
- 2012 OVC Male Field Athlete of the Year (Outdoor)
- 2012 2nd Team All-American by the USTFCCA (Outdoor)
- 2013 1st Team All-American by the USTFCCA
- 2013 2nd Team All-American by the USTFCCA (Indoor)