

Eastern Illinois University

The Keep

November

2001

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Daily Eastern News: November 26, 2001

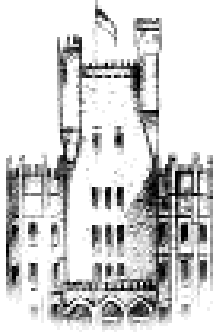
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The Daily Eastern News

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



Vol. 86 No. 65
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VPs look for the positive

Want to focus on new leader's pluses

(Editor's note: This is the second of a three-part series looking at what campus leaders want in Eastern's next president. The third installment will run Dec. 3.)

By Pat Guinane
Administration editor

Superman may not have a doctorate, which is preferred, but he does have the vice president for business affairs' vote in the search for Eastern's next president.

"I joke when I tell people that the next president just needs to have a set of blue tights and a red cape," Jeff Cooley said. "So we're looking for some super-being."

Cooley's comments illustrate the varied and difficult tasks that the university's ninth president will face. All three of Eastern's permanent vice presidents agree that it will be important to capitalize on the next president's strengths because it will be almost impossible to find a candidate that can excel in every aspect of the position.

However, the vice presidents assert that Eastern's next president must be a strong leader with the ability to connect with a number of different constituencies both within and outside the university, and he or she will also need the skills to attract contributions and increase the university's funding base.

Lou Hencken, vice president for student affairs since 1992, has assumed the role of president in the interim, replacing Carol Surles, who resigned in July to seek treatment for breast cancer. Surles was preceded by David Jorns, who took the reigns from Stan Reeves.

Cooley said each of the four have brought different abilities to the position.

"I think each of the presidents that I worked with, each had unique individual strengths, those aspects that they brought to the job that made them work," Cooley said. "For example, Stan Reeves was very detailed-oriented."

Cooley credits Jorns for bringing a great deal of institutional planning to Eastern and decentralizing the budget. He said Surles used her ability to work with others to raise the university's funding and donations and Hencken's interpersonal skills and knowledge of the university have been invaluable in the interim.

Each president has had their own strengths and so will the next president, but the university's vice presidents know they cannot expect Eastern's next leader

See PRESIDENT Page 7



Royal blue

The football team were crowned Ohio Valley Conference champions Nov. 17 after steamrolling Murray State 37-6. The title, Eastern's first since joining the conference six years ago, will fuel the Panthers in their first-round NCAA playoff game Saturday against Northern Iowa, which will be played right here in Charleston at O'Brien Stadium. See Sports for more news on the Panther football team.

External Relations forming new group

By Jamie Fetty
Student government editor

The Student Senate External Relations Committee plans to assemble an informal subcommittee to tackle issues of house parties and their noise.

Recent instances of conflict between partying Eastern students and the city of Charleston include a series of house party raids that resulted in 105 citations. Also, a group called Neighbors for a Peaceful Neighborhood aired their concerns about late-night party noise at a Charleston City Council meeting.

"We're testing out a way to find

a nice resolution to some of these problems," committee chair Marty Ruhaak said.

The unofficial subcommittee is really more of an "interest group" geared toward brainstorming ideas for compromise between Eastern students and Charleston residents, Ruhaak said.

The committee will bring its ideas to the External Relations Committee, which is comprised of members of the senate, faculty, administration, Charleston Area Chamber of Commerce, Charleston City Council, student non-senate members and Charleston residents. Ruhaak delivers committee reports at

weekly senate meetings.

"There needs to be middle ground somewhere," Ruhaak said. "Working together with the city is a great way to start that."

In his meetings with Charleston Mayor Dan Cougill, Ruhaak said the idea of a decibel meter system to monitor celebratory noise was mentioned.

Areas the group will target include Fourth, Sixth, Seventh and Ninth streets, which were represented by Neighbors for a Peaceful Neighborhood, but Ruhaak said the group will try to find solutions for all areas of Charleston.

Ruhaak hopes to include him-

self, Mayor Cougill, members of the senate, the city council, Eastern faculty, local business owners, administrators, student non-senate members and Charleston residents on the committee.

He hopes to have the committee formed by the end of this semester, and it will meet several times next semester, beginning in the first two weeks after winter break. Ruhaak said the committee will not be a permanent part of the External Relations Committee.

Students interested in joining the committee can call the Student Government office at 581-5522 or e-mail Ruhaak at mruhaak@eiu.edu.

Students return refreshed from week break

By Melissa Bagwell
Staff writer

Last week Eastern students enjoyed a break from classes and the campus grind. Whether students went home for the break or stayed in Charleston, the time was spent avoiding things related to school.

Chet Farly, a sophomore graphic design major, said he stayed around Charleston for break.

"I worked everyday and played PlayStation 2 every night," he

said, adding that when he wasn't doing that he hung out with the few people left in the area.

"Basically, I wasted my break. It was great," Farly said.

Erin Scott, a sophomore English major from Mattoon, said, "I just enjoyed being around family, friends, and my new husband John. Since John is in the military, we had to do both Thanksgiving and Christmas for both families in one week because after this he goes out to sea for six months."

Scott also said, "I get to do

something most don't get to: I am flying back to California with him for a few days at the end of break."

Jared Bayler, a junior speech communication major, stayed around the city for break.

"I had two Thanksgivings, one on Thursday and one Sunday. I also helped my parents hang Christmas decorations. That wasn't too bad," he said.

Roseanne Lehner, a junior early-childhood education major, said she spent her break at home doing nothing.

"I really didn't do much, spent time with family and friends from back home and I also went shopping the day after Thanksgiving at 5:00 am," Lehner said.

She also said shopping the day after Thanksgiving wasn't that great because the mall and Wal-Mart were packed back home in Peoria. Josh Newby, a junior chemistry major, said he worked 56 hours at Wal-Mart and ate a lot of turkey during the break.

"Overall, I didn't do much" Newby said.

The Daily Eastern News

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Student Senate elections here

Elections taking place Nov. 27-28, 9a.m. to 4 p.m., for 20 seats

By Jamie Fetty

Student government editor

Applications are in, ballots are drawn, voting is scheduled and a new Student Senate will take office Dec. 5.

Voting for senate members is scheduled for Tuesday and Wednesday from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. in the Taylor Hall lobby and the Martin Luther King Jr. University Union walkway.

The five openings in the off-campus district drew only one candidate: incumbent Kim Donnelly. In the on-campus district, six can-

didates are on the ballot for 10 spaces: current senate members Jennifer Lampley, Tiffany Shelton, Amanda Sartore and Lauren Kluge and newcomers Jeffrey Collier and Kenyatta Brookins.

The new Speaker of the Senate, which will be elected by the new senate, will appoint students to the remaining vacant positions.

At-large candidates are the only ones actually competing this year as 11 of them are after five openings. Those vying for the positions are incumbents Marty Ruhaak, Alison Mormino, Ronnie Deedrick, Bill Davidson, Amy Leonard and non-

senate members Chris Micks, Andy Ferrera, Dwight Nelson, Bryce Donnelly, Carly Schmitt and Dan Grooms.

Senate will make applications available for the vacant positions, and applicants will then interview with the Legislative Leadership Council.

Only off-campus students can run for off-campus positions and the same goes for on-campus, but any student can run for an at-large position. Students can only vote for at-large candidates and those of their district.

Voters must present a Panther Card.



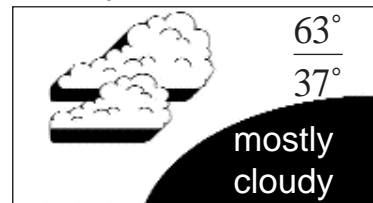
Back to school

After a long Thanksgiving break, Michelle Hughes, a sophomore biological sciences major, unpacks her things in her room in Taylor Hall Sunday afternoon. I went to Georgia and visited family (over Thanksgiving), she said.

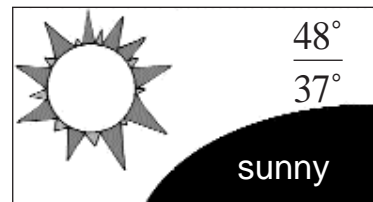
Amanda Douglass/
Senior photographer

three-day forecast

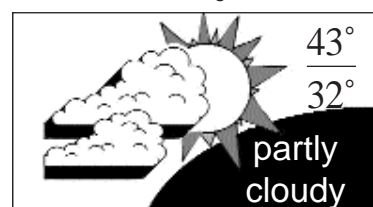
today



Tuesday



Wednesday



Grad returning to discuss his NASA career

A NASA administrator and Eastern graduate will return to Charleston today to discuss his work.

John Ziebarth will give his presentation, "NASA Technology and Education," at 2:30 p.m. in the 1895 Room of the Martin Luther King Jr. University Union.

Ziebarth will speak on how technology and his responsibilities at NASA apply to education.

Ziebarth, originally from Rantoul, was appointed deputy chief of the NASA Advanced Supercomputing division in 1999.

During his 25-year career, he has held NASA positions in which he oversaw computing strategy and investments and performed research in the field, and he has also taught at the graduate and undergraduate level.

He received a bachelor's degree in physics and math and a master's degree in math from Eastern, and he holds a doctorate in aerospace engineering from Mississippi State University.

Most students happy with ethernet connections

By Jessica Danielewicz

Campus editor

Eastern students living on campus tend to appreciate their ethernet connections over the old dial-in service.

"I don't have any problems with it (the ethernet)," Laura Hinthorn, a senior psychology major, said. "I'm on all the time."

The completion of the Century 2000 Network project last January gave students living in residence halls a 10-megabit Internet connection, which is over 300 times faster than dialing in on a modem, Bill Witsman, associate vice president of Information Technology

Services, said.

Currently about 2,500 students, or about 65 to 70 percent of the system's capacity, are on the ethernet, Witsman said.

"That's been a very good advantage for those students," he said.

Though some students may believe the ethernet is often slow and unreliable, Witsman said that slowness is not always because of the network.

"When it works, it's good," Sara Pavlik, a sophomore social sciences major, said. "It's better than it was last year."

It is common for the network to slow down during busy times, usually mid-morning and mid-after-

noon, Witsman said.

"We are working to relieve some of that slow down," he said.

However, some students feel the ethernet is slower at night.

"It seems to be slower at night when more people are on it," Chris Fedro, a sophomore industrial technology major, said.

The network functions well overall, Witsman said, but Information Technology Services continually monitors the network and works to make improvements.

"It goes off and on," Laura Morgan, a sophomore elementary education major said. "It usually works okay."

If problems occur, they may be

with the individual machine or outside the scope of the university network.

"We've not had a problem with it yet this year," Morgan Scott, a sophomore elementary education major, said.

Compared to other schools, Witsman said Eastern has the same type of network, but Eastern does not charge an extra fee for the service. In addition, some schools do not yet have a network at all or do not have it all over campus.

The next fastest Internet connection, a DSL connection, can cost up to \$50 per month, and the ethernet is still 15 times faster than that, Witsman said.

Leahy: Anthrax could have killed 100,000 people

FBI: 'You could feel the powder inside'

WASHINGTON (AP) — Sen. Patrick Leahy says there was enough anthrax in the letter sent to his office to kill more than 100,000 people.

The letter to the Vermont Democrat was discovered Nov. 16 in a batch of unopened mail sent to Capitol Hill and quarantined since the discovery of an anthrax-contaminated letter to Senate Majority Leader Tom Daschle, D-S.D., on Oct. 15.

"We still haven't got the letter open," Leahy said Sunday on NBC's "Meet the Press." "It is so powerful that they're having difficulty figuring out how best to open it and preserve the evidence."

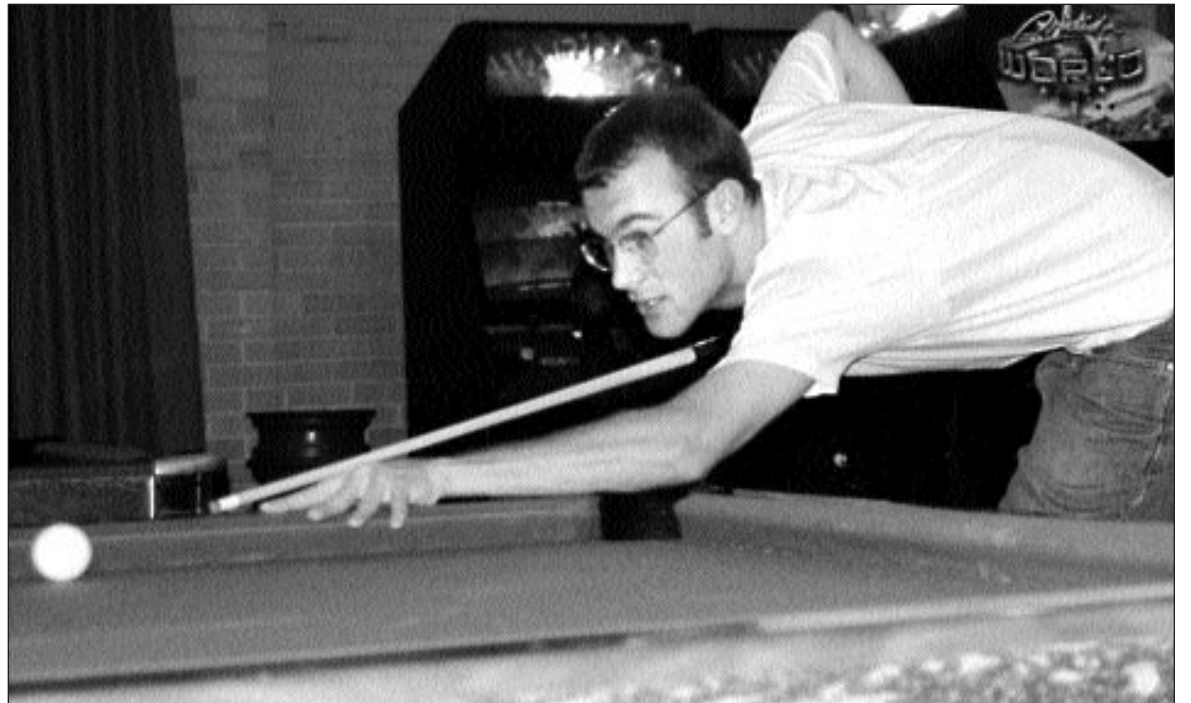
An FBI microbiologist said last week that there were billions of

spores inside the letter, which was taped around the edges. "You could feel the powder inside," the microbiologist told reporters.

Daschle, speaking a day after a memorial service for a 94-year-old Connecticut woman who died from inhalation anthrax, said Americans should be careful opening the mail.

"I would be very skeptical about opening envelopes that aren't recognizable, that look suspicious," Daschle said on "Fox News Sunday." "And we can't possibly protect every single one of our citizens from the possibility of another attack."

Leahy said he would leave it to the FBI to determine whether the anthrax came from a domestic or foreign source.



Amanda Douglass/ Senior photographer

Kicker

Ryan Olsen, a senior sociology major, lines up a shot in a game of pool Sunday evening in Thomas Hall.

Administration criticizes Dems for stalling on economy package

WASHINGTON (AP) — With Congress returning this week, top Bush administration officials prodded the Democrat-controlled Senate on Sunday to act on a stimulus proposal, and defended the president's emphasis on corporate tax cuts as a cure for the limping economy.

The Senate's top Democrat said he was troubled by the idea of corporate tax cuts at a time when companies are laying off workers.

"They're letting people off in numbers that we've got to be concerned about," Senate Majority Leader Tom Daschle, D-S.D., said on "Fox News Sunday."

"I think it would be a tragedy if we left this session of Congress without helping the unemployed at all."

But White House economic

adviser Larry Lindsey said: "We have to start creating paychecks instead of unemployment checks." He warned anew that President Bush will veto spending proposals he views as excessive.

"What we have to do is target tax relief to the sectors of the economy that need it most, that can use it most, put more money in consumers' pockets and avoid this excessive spending binge that some people in the Senate seem to be on," Lindsey said.

The exchanges on the Sunday news shows, and gaping differences between Republicans and Democrats on how to revive the economy, preview a fierce struggle as Congress rushes to adjourn before the December holidays.

Lobby groups using terrorism fears

WASHINGTON (AP) — The lobby for road-sign makers is using a new pitch for its traditional request for more federal highway safety money: Better traffic-routing devices would help motorists flee cities more quickly and safely during a terrorist attack.

Since Sept. 11, lobby groups as diverse as the American Traffic Safety Services Association, farmers, the high-tech industry and energy producers have begun to promote long-standing proposals as suddenly vital to national security.

"You have to get the attention of lawmakers to get something done, and right now their attention is focused on terrorism and national security," explained Jim Albertine, president of the American League of Lobbyists.

Among the examples:

- The American Farm Bureau Federation is arguing that federal subsidies for farmers are crucial for a sufficient national food supply.

- Ethanol producers want the government to require ethanol in gasoline, contending it would make the United States less reliant on Middle East fuel sources.

- The superconductor industry wants changes in rules governing

electricity transmission, arguing it would make the nation's power supply more secure.

Before Sept. 11, lawmakers were worried about federal deficits and Social Security.

Now, the spending spigots are open as Congress tries to stimulate the economy and fight terrorism. That has lobbyists angling for an advantage.

Lobbyists "have been very imaginative in their use of the events of 9-11 to advance their particular projects and their particular lobby goals," Albertine said.

Albertine also is a lobbyist for the American Traffic Safety Services Association, whose members include makers of traffic signs, barricades and highway safety equipment.

The group says people in the nation's capital were hampered Sept. 11 by traffic gridlock caused by the crash at the Pentagon and the precautionary evacuations of other federal facilities.

"If a second plane had come into that city, you would almost have had to helicopter people to fight fire or evacuate people," said Rob Dingess, the group's director of government relations. More sophisticated signs

would have helped such an evacuation, he said.

The U.S. Chamber of Commerce, Business Roundtable and TechNet, a network of high-tech executives, are among the groups that have refocused their arguments. They contend two long-sought items — corporate tax breaks and stronger presidential trade authority — would help strengthen the nation's economy, and that is essential to national security.

"I think most everything we're focused on has some kind of national security implication," said Connie Correll, TechNet's executive vice president. "It has to do with making sure we keep our advantage, that we're one step ahead of other countries."

Many powerful lobby groups have taken their cases — and chief executives — straight to President Bush, Vice President Dick Cheney and Cabinet secretaries.

Bush, Secretary of State Colin Powell, Treasury Secretary Paul O'Neill, Commerce Secretary Don Evans and Environmental Protection Agency chief Christie Whitman met with corporate executives on the National Association of Manufacturers' board last month.

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Get ready for stress

The temperatures may not show it, but winter is on its way. And with the change in season comes a time of year dreaded by all students: Finals week.

Although it may seem that this semester has gone too fast, the end is still near. Within the next two weeks all classes will come to an end, and with

Keeping your sanity

It's important to not get too stressed out in the -end-of-the-semester rush.

them, any last-ditch efforts to save a grade. Two weeks is no time at all in the grand scheme of things, and trying to finish several papers, projects and speeches, along with studying for that final test that could determine your final grade, can be pretty stressful.

Dealing with that stress can be one of the most important aspects of the coming weeks. Letting the stress go can create a bigger problem and could affect your ability to study and learn everything you need to.

Take a little time away from homework and studying to relax. Study in segments, then take a break for a few minutes to give your eyes, brain and nerves a rest. Take a night off to go out with friends. Make sure to get plenty of sleep and attempt to eat well and exercise.

The last two weeks of a semester are inevitably stressful, always have been, always will be, but worrying sick over them won't make them go any faster.

Also, in the last two weeks, make sure to go to all classes. This may seem like a last-ditch effort to impress a teacher, but some of the most valuable reviews go on during the final days of the semester. And, if a final is not comprehensive, new material could still be introduced.

Overall, the last two weeks will be rough. But make it easier on yourself and try to spend time wisely.

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

Today's quote

“Educated men are as much superior to uneducated men as the living are to the dead.”

Aristotle,
384-233 B.C.

The quest for bigger breasts

Man has always sought larger, firmer, more mouth-watering breasts. But would mankind be willing to give up sex to get its hands on those breasts?

Well, turkeykind, which most of you familiarized yourselves with last week, has been caught in the middle of man's obsession with breasts.

You see, CNN Headline News reported some disturbing news last Wednesday, Thanksgiving Eve. In the past 20 years, man's quest for bigger, better, more has led to numerous advances in biotechnology. Biotech has produced heartier corn, which is more resistant to pests and bacteria.

However, when these amazing advances are made, the scientists fail to mention that the United States produces so much excess corn that much of it is converted into other products. This includes ethanol, which is added to gasoline and high fructose corn syrup, which you'll find in soft drinks because it's cheaper than sugar.

Genetic engineering hasn't stopped with agriculture. It has moved on to livestock. Sure, when a sheep gets cloned, nobody really cares, but when genetic engineering of animals reaches your Thanksgiving spread, it's a bit disturbing. And I'm not referring to the little button that pops up when the turkey is done. This is much more serious.

According to CNN Headline News, genetic engineering in the United States is producing more buxom turkeys. Mankind covets the succulent white meat of the turkey breast. So, naturally man wants bigger breasts.

Of course some will tell you that breast size doesn't matter. Perhaps they favor the dark meat.

However, the majority inevitably rules and genetically-engineered turkeys everywhere are sacrificing their sex lives because the majority opinion says bigger is better.

Sure, those larger breasts may be great smothered in gravy with helpings of yams and stuffing, but if you're a turkey, they just get in the way.



Pat Guinane
Administration editor

“The turkey is already a flightless fowl, one of nature's cruelest jokes, but now it must also be a sexless bird.”

Breast enhancement for humans is almost exclusively a female thing, but for turkeys genetic enhancement is for both sexes. With their larger chests, male turkeys can't get close enough to mate with their female counterparts. So, mating is not only out of reach, it's out of the question.

Deprived of contact with their more voluptuous males, the females must now be artificially inseminated. How tragic of an existence is that?

Imagine yourself as a male turkey. Every day of your short life you're fed and taken care of just to become someone's dinner. The only joy you have to look forward to is frolicking with one of the females you've been cooped up with. But now, that sexy lady bird with the irresistible hind feathers wants nothing to do with you because you've got a bigger rack than her. Even if she was interested — you're out of reach.

Because of man's quest for bigger breasts and science's willingness to help, the turkey must now practice abstinence. The turkey is already a flightless fowl, one of nature's cruelest jokes, but now it must also be a sexless bird.

Driven by Americans' insatiable appetites, the poultry people have plucked the male turkeys of their manhood, or at least the use of their manhood. The industry was just trying to give America what it wants: plump juicy breasts.

Hugh Hefner has been doing that for years. Both Hugh and the poultry industry realized that bigger breasts could translate to bigger profits.

But while Hefner's efforts were intended to promote sex, the poultry people's actions, whether intended or not, have done just the opposite.

So, as you sit down for a lunch of Thanksgiving leftovers, gently applying mayonnaise and lettuce to the turkey your mom forced you to import to Charleston, just remember — your sandwich may have died a virgin.

■ Pat Guinane is a senior journalism major and a regular columnist for *The Daily Eastern News*. His e-mail address is pguinane@eiu.edu. Columns are the opinion of the author.



Charleston Eagles thank performers for Jam Session

Charleston Eagles #3100 extends a heartfelt apology for not getting a thank you to some of the performers of the Old Dogs Jam Session on Oct. 20.

Your turn

Letters to the editor

Everyone reached out and did a very unselfish act by donating their time to help others. We appreciated each everyone for what they did and did not mean to leave anyone out. Thank you goes out to Tom Sawyer,

Althea Pendergast and Mike Pendergast.

We also would like to correct the fact the B.J. Faires played the bass solo of the National Anthem instead of Bjor Spoon, and Bob Mathias sang God Bless America with Beef Easter at the end of the night. Once again, thank you all very much.

Janie Temples

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Switzerland weathers another deadly disaster

Crossair crash is latest catastrophe

ZURICH, Switzerland (AP) — Switzerland mourned again Sunday after a fiery plane crash near Zurich's airport killed 24 people, most of them foreigners — the latest in a string of deadly incidents that has shaken the Alpine nation.

With the fuselage in flames, seven passengers and two crew members escaped from the tail section of the Crossair Jumbolino Avro RJ-100 jet after it crashed in the woods just short of the runway Saturday night on a flight from Berlin. Two of the survivors were in critical condition.

The crash came after two months of misfortune in Switzerland, where a gunman killed 15 people in a rampage at a regional parliament in Zug on Sept. 28 and a traffic pileup deep in a mountain tunnel left 11 dead on Oct. 24.

Swiss were already stunned by the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks in the United States.

"We are absolutely speechless after being dragged from one catastrophe to the next," said resident Moritz Leuenberger. "Our grief is mixed with bitterness because it

never seems to end."

Switzerland also has watched its main airline, Swissair, descend into demoralizing financial trouble that briefly grounded most of planes in early October.

A Zurich police statement said the jet's passengers and crew included 10 Swiss, 13 Germans — one with dual U.S.-German citizenship — three Israelis, two people from the Netherlands and one each from Austria, Canada, Ghana, Spain and Sweden. Authorities did not release names.

A German record company said Melanie Thornton, a singer with American and German citizenship, was aboard, and the German-language Swiss television station DRS said she was among the dead.

A former member of the dance-music group La Bouche, Thornton released a solo album this year titled "Ready to Fly." Scheduling said she lived in Atlanta.

DRS also said three prominent Israelis reported on the plane were killed. They were identified by Israeli officials as Yaakov Matzner, 54, dean of the Hebrew University school of medicine; another leading doctor, Amiram Eldor, 59; and Avishai Berkman, 50, a Tel Aviv city official.

Quebec changes passport rules two years after arrest of millennium bomb plotter

TORONTO (AP) — Quebec's provincial government is changing identification requirements in an effort to make it harder for terrorists and others to obtain Canadian passports.

The move comes two years after Ahmed Ressay, who held a passport he obtained with a phony Quebec baptismal certificate, was arrested at the U.S. border with a trunkload of explosives apparently intended for a terror plot during millennium celebrations.

There has been repeated criticism since his arrest that Quebec baptismal certificates are easy to falsify. Quebec was the only province in Canada where such certificates were a common form of identification.

Starting Monday, the province will no longer accept baptismal or birth certificates issued before 1994 as proof of identity to obtain a passport.

Under the new rules, any Quebec native who wishes to obtain a Canadian passport must present either a birth certificate issued by the province after 1993 or a certificate of citizenship.

Ressay, an Algerian who said he trained in terrorist camps financed by Osama bin Laden in Afghanistan, pleaded guilty to U.S. conspiracy charges and agreed to testify against other terror suspects in hopes of reducing a potential 130-year sentence.

Quebec's new identification requirements are the latest in a series of security changes in the province since the Sept. 11 terror attacks in the United States.

The province has stopped allowing people to apply for birth certificates over the Internet and has halted a service in which birth certificates were issued within 24 hours of the application.

Thousands mourn slain Islamic militant

NABLUS, West Bank (AP) — To Israel, Hamas leader Mahmoud Abu Hanoud was a cold-blooded killer who masterminded the deaths of dozens of innocent civilians in suicide bombing attacks on a Tel Aviv disco, a Jerusalem pizzeria and a Jerusalem produce market.

To the thousands of Palestinians who came to pay their respects in his home village, Abu Hanoud was a hero of the resistance against Israeli occupation, to be emulated both in life and in death.

The 34-year-old Abu Hanoud had been on the run from Israeli security forces since 1994, his family said, habitually traveling in a variety of disguises through remote mountain districts.

He evaded two previous attempts to capture or kill him. In August 2000, he slipped away from Israeli special forces closing in on his hide-out, and in May 2001, he emerged with minor injuries from the rubble of a Palestinian Authority prison bombed by Israeli warplanes.

He had been serving a 12-year jail term handed down by a Palestinian security court in one of the Palestinian Authority's periodic clampdowns against the Hamas military wing, Izzedine al Qassam, which he headed in the West Bank. He was released after the Israeli air strike.

Last Friday night his luck ran out. He died with two comrades in a hail of rockets and machine-gun fire from Israeli attack helicopters stalking his car along a deserted West Bank road.

Air, roads, rails busy Sunday as thousands go home after holiday

CHICAGO (AP) — Thousands of Illinoisans headed home Sunday following the holiday weekend, taking to the air, roadway and rails on one of the busiest travel days of the year.

The Illinois State Police and Illinois Department of Transportation reported few major problems on state roadways, and air travel appeared to be relatively routine.

While Chicago's airports were expected to have their busiest day since the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks, Monique Bond, spokeswoman for

the city Department of Aviation, said that flights were generally running on time Sunday. More than 200,000 travelers were expected to pass through O'Hare International Airport and more than 50,000 through Midway Airport.

Bond said she thinks that while people are getting more comfortable with air travel, it appears the numbers are still not back to normal since Sept. 11.

"A lot of people under the circumstances are choosing to travel one holiday over another," she said. "A lot of the time we would see in

the past they would travel both (Thanksgiving and Christmas)."

The AAA-Chicago Motor Club estimated that 34.6 million Americans would travel 50 miles or more from home this weekend, compared to 36.8 million last year — a drop in overall travel of six percent. AAA said it expected a record 87 percent of this year's Thanksgiving travel to be by automobile.

State Police spokesman Capt. Dave Sanders said the Thanksgiving weekend is unique in that there can be congested roadways three separate days: Wednesday, Sunday and

also Friday as shoppers are out in force.

State Police conducted increased enforcement activities this weekend, including roadside safety checks, air speed details and aggressive driving patrols. The goal was to concentrate on motorists who choose to drive while under the influence of alcohol and/or drugs, drive aggressively and fail to wear their seat belts.

Official statewide figures on travel volume, accidents and fatalities won't be available until at least Monday, Sanders said. During last year's five-day Thanksgiving week-

end, 31 people lost their lives on Illinois roadways as a result of 26 fatal crashes. Half of those involved alcohol.

Amtrak reported an increase in train travel, but did not provide figures. The company added 75,000 seats, more than last year's Thanksgiving holiday period, when 567,000 people rode on the passenger rail service during a 7-day period.

Union Station in downtown Chicago was packed with travelers Sunday and Santa Claus was on hand to entertain children as they waited for trains.

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Afghan tribal leaders say they control part of road to Taliban stronghold

CHAMAN, Pakistan (AP) — Anti-Taliban tribal fighters in southern Afghanistan cut a key road leading to the Islamic militia's stronghold of Kandahar and were approaching the city, tribal leaders said Sunday.

Aided by U.S. warplanes, the fighters pushed back a Taliban force Saturday afternoon and seized part of the road between Kandahar and Spinboldak, on the border with Pakistan, said a leader, Abdul Jabbar.

There were conflicting reports of the number of dead, with one tribal official saying as many as 80 Taliban died.

Jabbar said tribal forces on Sunday night seized Toarkoter, an area three miles from Kandahar's airport. Taliban fighters briefly resisted before fleeing, he said.

The reports could not be independently confirmed because the Taliban have not allowed journalists to travel to Kandahar, their last major refuge after retreats from the capital, Kabul, and other big cities.

If true, the attack by tribal fighters would be one of their boldest since ethnic Pashtun leaders launched efforts weeks ago to persuade remaining Taliban commanders to surrender. It would also signal further erosion of Taliban power in the last areas under their control.

Most fighting in Afghanistan has been in the northern half of the country, with the northern alliance inflicting defeats on the Taliban with the help of U.S. bombing. The Taliban have traditionally drawn most of their support from Pashtun groups in the south.

In Pakistan on Sunday, a meeting of Pashtun tribal chiefs urged the Taliban to surrender Kandahar, and a northern alliance official in western Afghanistan reported that talks were underway in Kandahar for the city's handover.

Speaking in the Pakistani border town of Chaman, Jabbar said he learned about the fighting in satellite telephone conversations with commander Kamal Uddin, the leader of an anti-Taliban force inside Afghanistan.

Uddin said his forces seized 11 vehicles, including one mounted with a rocket launcher, from Taliban troops at Takhtapull, according to Jabbar. U.S. jets had bombed the Taliban before they confronted Uddin's soldiers, Jabbar said.

He said tribal fighters on the road later stopped a car carrying five Arabs, possibly pro-Taliban fighters who were affiliated with terror suspect Osama bin Laden and his Al-Qaida network.

"One of them got out of the car and pulled the pin out of a grenade. At that time, my squad opened fired and he was killed," Jabbar quoted Uddin as saying. The other four were detained.

Uddin is under the command of Gul Agha Sherzai, a former governor of Kandahar who entered Afghanistan from Pakistan earlier this month in order to stir up opposition to the Taliban.

Sherzai's brother, Bacha Agha, said eight Taliban died in the fighting Saturday.

However, the brother of another Pashtun leader in Afghanistan, Hamid Karzai, said as many as 80 Taliban bodies had been brought to Taliban-controlled Spinboldak. The brother, Ahmed, said Karzai's forces were also involved in the fighting. The report could not be independently verified.

The 70-mile road from Spinboldak to Kandahar had served as a Taliban supply route, and is a key route for traders from Pakistan.

Many residents have fled Kandahar, which has come under fierce bombardment since President Bush launched a military campaign Oct. 7 against the Taliban and bin Laden, chief suspect in the September terrorist attacks in the United States.

In Quetta on Sunday, dozens of Pashtun tribal chiefs from Afghanistan said at a meeting that they would send a delegation to the Taliban to urge them to surrender.

"They should get rid of the terrorist groups and leave the cities and give the power over to the tribal people," said a chief, Abdul Ahad.

American airstrikes help subdue uprising by Taliban war prisoners

WASHINGTON (AP) — American airstrikes helped subdue an uprising by Taliban prisoners of war at a fortress in northern Afghanistan, U.S. military spokesmen said Sunday. Hundreds of the foreign Taliban prisoners were killed, but U.S. military forces were all accounted for, Pentagon officials said.

The U.S. Central Command, which oversees the war in Afghanistan, declined to say if U.S. forces were in the fortress when the fighting broke out. But a German television crew at the scene of the fight taped a U.S. special forces soldier calling in U.S. airstrikes on the fortress near the city of Mazar-e-Sharif.

The U.S. soldier, who identified himself only as David, is shown on the video from Germany's ARD network. "I don't know how many Americans there were," he says on the tape. "I think one was killed, but I'm not sure. There were two

of us at least: me and some other guy."

A Pentagon spokesman, Marine Lt. Col. David Lapan, said later that no U.S. military personnel were killed in the uprising. "All our military forces in Afghanistan are accounted for," he said.

Tom Crispell, a spokesman for the Central Intelligence Agency, which has operatives working with anti-Taliban forces in Afghanistan, said the agency had no comment on the operation.

The Taliban fighters, who had been captured near the militia's last northern stronghold of Kunduz, carried concealed weapons and tried to fight their way out of the fortress, said Pentagon spokesman Lt. Col. Dan Stoneking.

Both Central Command spokesman Lt. Cmdr. Dave Culler and Stoneking said U.S. aircraft bombed the fortress during the fighting. Witnesses said the bombs hit an area of the com-

pound where the Taliban fighters were.

The U.S. special forces troops in Afghanistan work with anti-Taliban military commanders, including Rashid Dostum, whose forces held the prisoners. The U.S. troops also carry radios and other equipment to call for and guide U.S. airstrikes against Taliban forces.

The Taliban soldiers appeared to have planned the battle, "which appears to be a suicide mission on their part," Culler said. Most of the Taliban fighters were not Afghans and were from Pakistan and Chechnya, Stoneking said.

Dostum brought in about 500 of his fighters to quell the uprising, Stoneking said.

Foreign fighters in Kunduz had insisted on security guarantees following reports of summary executions by the northern alliance in Mazar-e-Sharif and Kabul, the Afghan capital.

Aid workers freed from Taliban custody arrive in Washington

Meeting set with President Bush Monday

WASHINGTON (AP) — Two American aid workers who were jailed by the Taliban in Afghanistan arrived at a Washington area airport Sunday amid cheers and tearful hugs from family and friends.

Heather Mercer, 24, and Dayna Curry, 30, both graduates of the Baptist-affiliated Baylor University in Waco, Texas, spent three months in Taliban captivity before their release Nov. 15.

The women arrived at Washington Dulles International Airport Sunday evening. They are to meet with President Bush at the White House Monday morning.

"We know there were millions all over the world who prayed for us and we really believe that's why

we're here today," Mercer told WRC-TV in Washington. "We're so glad to be back. It's really a dream come true."

The women, who had worked with the German-based Shelter Now International, were arrested Aug. 5 on charges of attempting to convert Muslim Afghans to Christianity.

A Waco church is planning a community homecoming celebration for the two on Dec. 7-8.

"What I think God had in mind, and Heather and Dayna definitely feel this way, is that God used their situation to inspire prayer for the nation they loved so much," Danny Mulkey, associate pastor of Antioch Community Church told the Waco Tribune-

“
What I think God had in mind ...is that God used their situation to inspire prayer for the nation they loved so much. God used them so that others would pray for the people of Afghanistan.”

Danny Mulkey
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Herald. "God used them so that others would pray for the people of Afghanistan."

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Activists killed by gunmen in Colombia

BOGOTA, Colombia (AP) — Dozens of gunmen targeted Indian activists in western Colombia, killing five and threatening several others, an Indian leader said Sunday, blaming the violence on right-wing paramilitary fighters.

The attack occurred late Saturday on an Indian reservation near Rio Sucio, 125 miles west of Bogota, said Armando Valbuena, director of the National Indigenous Organization of Colombia.

He claimed paramilitary forces carried out the violence in an effort to gain control of the region in Caldas province.

Police could not immediately confirm the killings. Valbuena said about 45 fighters from the paramilitary United Self-Defense Forces of Colombia threatened to kill more activists.

Valbuena has criticized the government in the past for not doing enough to protect the nation's Indian communities, which are being increasingly targeted by armed groups vying for power in a 37-year civil war.

Violence from the war claims an estimated 3,500 lives every year.

Dairy farmer found dead; bull suspected

NEW MINDEN (AP) — Dairy farmer Henry Finke had hoped a purebred Holstein would produce more calves than the mixed-breed bulls he was accustomed to using.

The new bull apparently turned on the southern Illinois man Thanksgiving Day, knocking him to the ground and killing him. His family found his body lying in the mud at their 400-acre farm in Washington County.

An autopsy revealed the 62-year-old lifelong farmer suffered chest injuries and broken ribs.

"He had a lot of bruises on his face and swelling and stuff," said Sharon Finke, his wife. "I'm hoping he did not have to suffer as bad as it looks like he did."

President

from Page 1

to excel in every area, thus Cooley's Superman reference.

"The qualities of leadership are often fairly idiosyncratic to the campus and the campus at that moment," said Blair Lord, vice president for academic affairs. "No president is going to be equally good at all of the possible things that we can ask a president to do."

Jill Nilsen, vice president for external relations, said she has worked closely with Hencken, Surlis and Jorns and that experience has helped her appreciate the important and difficult role of university president, which she admits is "a 24-seven job."

Given the rigors of being president, Nilsen said it is the vice presidents' job to provide assistance. Cooley said he feels the same way. As the university's chief financial officer, it will be his duty to adapt his style to the needs of the next president as far as providing support and in some cases more detailed budgetary information.

"My job would be to, if we bring someone from outside, specifically outside the state, would be to let them know the inner-workings of how it works in Illinois," he said. "I would look for someone though that does have the budgetary overview of the institution to understand the inner-workings and how the funding works. I'm not talking specifically to Illinois. I think anyone who's been in this position or who would apply for this already has that overview. They understand how the

funding mechanisms work."

A steady hand

Lord said he would like the next president to bring stability to Eastern, a quality that has not always been apparent during the past few years with the amount of administrative change the university has undergone, including at the presidential level.

While the vice presidents seek stability they don't expect the next president to sign a lifetime contract.

"I would love to see a three-to-five-year commitment from someone who would come in because it is kind of disruptive as you go through," Cooley said. "But to say that we're going to look for someone that's going to give us that commitment — I don't know that that's the right way to look at this."

"I think we need to look at the best person for the job and convince them that this is the place that they want to stay."

Opening up the lines

While the president is here, whether it is for three or 30 years, he or she will have to be able to relate to a variety of people.

"Communication generally is very, very important skill for any president," Lord said, noting that the ability to articulate well and explain things is even more important in the case of a public university, where a president must relate with several constituencies, both on and off campus.

Nilsen agrees that communication is vital, as the president must be able to interact with various groups both on

and off campus.

"The person who's in that role of president has to impart to these many and varied audiences a passion for the university and has to be able to convey the story of the university to all those different constituencies," she said. "And so, you have to have good people skills and you have to have good communication skills. You have to be able to relate to such a wider variety of individuals."

One of the groups the president must be able to relate to is the city of Charleston.

"We are just joined at the hip with the city and they with us. What does affect the university affects the city. What affects the city affects the university," Cooley said, explaining that businesses have been closing in Charleston, which is not beneficial to the city or Eastern. "So I see that the president, the city administrators, the mayor must work very closely together to address a lot of these issues."

Charleston isn't the only city of importance for Eastern. The next president must also be able to navigate the state capitol, Springfield, to lobby for funding. However, evidence suggests that the university's next president may need to be more concerned with soliciting private donations.

"I think you find historically, as you look across presidencies around the country that there is increasing emphasis on presidents and fund-raisers because of decreasing public support for institutions," Nilsen said. "Typically in higher education the president's role in fund-raising is to work with those individuals who are our major donors to the institu-

tion."

Cooley said current economic forecasts might place additional emphasis on the president's fund-raising capacity.

"Again, as you look at the economy, where we are right now, we're looking at that economic downturn. So external funding sources are very important if we're to reduce our reliance on state support we receive," Cooley said. "So it's very critical that the president have the capability to go out and meet with the donors and present that positive image for the university and to encourage their contributions."

Leading the team

All three vice presidents said that above all, the president must have strong leadership skills.

"Leadership by far is, I think, the key element for me. I'd like to see someone who has that ability to lead, to form a consensus opinion on decisions, and also has a vision," Cooley said.

While the president is the leader, he or she is only one member of a team and in the end the university's success may rest on the support that the president receives.

"As we look at our president we have to really capitalize on the strengths that they can bring to the position and then provide additional support for areas that may not be as strong," Nilsen said. "In that regard, if we work as a team — if there's a whole university working as a team — we can move forward and continue to grow and excel as an institution of higher education."

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Crossword

Edited by Will Shortz

No. 1015

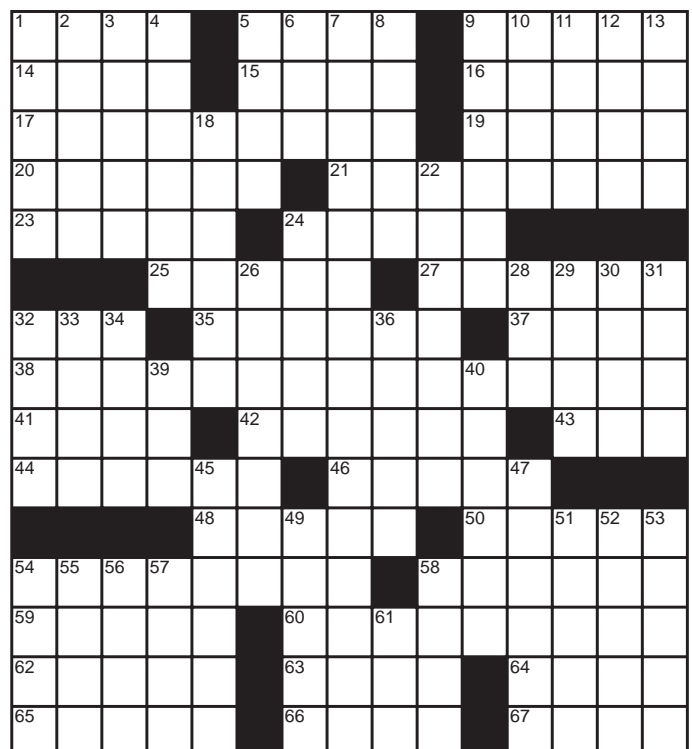
- ACROSS**
- 1 Neighborhood
 - 5 Press down, as pipe tobacco
 - 9 Break one's silence
 - 14 Not mom's
 - 15 Villainous act
 - 16 Spine-tingling
 - 17 Top-quality
 - 19 Scottish landowner
 - 20 Roughly equal to one another
 - 21 Like men at stag parties
 - 23 Stage and screen actor — Ritchard
 - 24 From years past
 - 25 Yankee manager Joe
 - 27 To wit
 - 32 Pie ___ mode
 - 35 Get ready to shoot again
 - 37 Peter, Paul and Mary, e.g.
 - 38 Point around which weight is evenly distributed
 - 41 ___-Rooter

- 42 Necessitate
- 43 New: Prefix
- 44 Perplexer
- 46 Sword handles
- 48 Madison Avenue types
- 50 Mideastern princes: Var.
- 54 Ajax or Bon Ami
- 58 Electric train maker
- 59 Addiction
- 60 like all the letters in this clue
- 62 Bikini Island, e.g.
- 63 Sheep calls
- 64 Joint with a cap
- 65 Not at all relaxed
- 66 Totals up
- 67 Ooze

DOWN

- 1 Kind of committee
- 2 Seattle forecast
- 3 J. ___ Hoover
- 4 Fireplace receptacle
- 5 Guam, e.g.: Abbr.

- 6 Gardner of "On the Beach"
- 7 Politically moderate
- 8 Beseech
- 9 One-named Tejano singer
- 10 Sound, as bells
- 11 Keystone State port
- 12 Broadcasts
- 13 Popular sneakers
- 18 In abundance
- 22 Ivy feature
- 24 Wrinkle-resistant fabric
- 26 Peruses anew
- 28 Network with videos
- 29 Yeats's isle
- 30 Low-cal
- 31 Toy on a finger
- 32 Farm unit
- 33 Trotsky or Uris
- 34 The "A" of ABM
- 36 "Not you ___!?"
- 39 Dress (up)
- 40 Bright star, one corner of "the summer triangle"



Puzzle by Holden Baker

- 45 Slugger Mickey
- 47 Lab garments
- 49 Peach follower, toast preceder
- 51 Asinine
- 52 Visit anew
- 53 Siesta
- 54 Web conversation
- 55 Recently deceased
- 56 Black, in poetry
- 57 Feels bad
- 58 Minus
- 61 Bit of chewing gum

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Bialka finishes in 99th place

Fifth-year senior falls short of All-American dreams at NCAA meet

By Kristin Rojek
Associate sports editor

While Jason Bialka's 99th place finish Monday in the NCAA cross country championships didn't earn him All-American honors, the senior ended his career with Eastern's second-best national performance.

Bialka finished 99th out of 244 runners on the Furman University course, running the 10,000-meter course in 31:00.

"My legs felt really tired. I just don't know what it was," Bialka said.

"It was definitely something physical. It definitely wasn't my best day."

Bialka went out among the first 50 runners on the course, but the first mile went out fast, leaving many competitors tired too early.

"The first mile was so fast that everyone was suffering," head coach John McInerney said. "It's hard — regionals and prenationals wasn't anything like it."

As Bialka moved past the 5,000-meter marker, McInerney felt he knew he wasn't having the race he wanted to run.

"I was real proud of the way he hung in and finished the race," McInerney said.

"By the 5K mark, he knew he wasn't having his best race. He could have hung back and not killed himself, but he decided to battle and fight. You have to be real pleased to finish in the top 100."

The first place finish came from Eastern Michigan's Boaz Chboiywo in a time of 28:47, but the first All-American finisher was Colorado's Jorge Torres in 29:06. Colorado took first-place team honors with three runners in the top 20 for 90 points.

Stanford finished second with 91 points. Arkansas, Northern Arizona and Wisconsin rounded out the top five teams.

"Nationals is one of those races that if you ran it all over again, no one would have the same finish," Bialka said. "Everyone has their day."

"I finished 99, but I could still see 50th."

While Bialka's career ended at Eastern, he now turns his attention to student teaching in the spring.

"It was disappointing to end thinking it was my last race in an Eastern uniform," Bialka said. "I never achieved my ultimate goal of All-American."

But Bialka will not be without competition soon, racing Dec. 1 for the Invaders, a professional running club out of Indianapolis.

"He's got a lot of good running left in him still," McInerney said.

Panthers bow out to Notre Dame

Women's soccer team out-shot 30-1 in NCAA loss to Fighting Irish

By Matt Williams
Staff writer

The Panther women's soccer team's dream season came to an end in the first round of the NCAA tournament against the Fighting Irish of Notre Dame Nov. 16.

The Irish's balanced attack proved to be too much for Eastern's tough defense to handle. The Panthers (14-6) were outshot 32-1 and lost the corner kick battle 7-0 en route to a 2-0 defeat.

"They were able to possess the ball against us and one touch it around our players," junior midfielder Cara LeMaster said.

Sophomore defender Becca Traen said Notre Dame's ability to take shots from all over the field gave the Panthers some added problems.

Eastern, making their first appearance in the NCAA tournament, had a few pregame jitters against the experienced Irish team.

"There were a lot of nerves before

the game and the day before," Traen said. "We calmed down a bit once the game started."

Notre Dame (17-3-1) came out strong and were able to get their first goal just 13 minutes into the game on a shot from forward Amanda Guertin. The shot hit off a Panther defender and trickled by freshman goalkeeper Lindsay Dechert.

The goal gave Guertin a score in nine straight games, which ties a Notre Dame record. The score would remain 1-0 at the end of the first half.

Coming into the second half, the Panthers were hoping to turn the game around with some early pressure, but Guertin added her second goal of the contest on a pass from Randi Scheller at 50:37.

Eastern was unable to apply any real scoring threats against the Irish defense. "It was hard to dribble the sidelines on them," LeMaster said. "We had to target on Beth (Liesen) and try to get the ball on her feet."

The sophomore forward, who led the Panthers in scoring on the season, was tightly marked and managed Eastern's only shot of the game.

With the offense having little success, it was up to the defense to keep the game close. "Our whole defense stepped it up during the postseason," LeMaster said. "Lindsay Dechert played really well and made some key saves."

Dechert, who allowed only one goal in the conference tournament, made ten saves against the Irish.

With the score at 2-0 Eastern refused to give up and were determined to keep playing until the final whistle blew.

"There was no quitting," LeMaster said. "We kept trying to counter on them and get a goal."

Traen said their refusal to give up is what got them to where they were and made their season even more special.

"The whole team played with a lot of heart," Traen said. "I'm just really proud of how we played."

Gateway

from Page 12

While the matchup did come as a surprise to some, the Panthers are just anxious to play Saturday's 12:30 p.m. home game, whether it would have been No. 7 ranked Northern Iowa (9-2) or No. 12 ranked Western Kentucky (8-3).

"We figured it would either be Northern Iowa or Western Kentucky, but I think we were thinking Western Kentucky a little more," Cutolo said.

"But you've got to play whoever they give you. We'll go out with confidence and hopefully we'll play well."

The game will mark the 22nd meeting between Eastern's and UNI's Panthers.

Northern leads the all-time series with a 14-6-1 record.

"They certainly are our old nemesis

from our Gateway days," Spoo said. "For them to go through the Gateway conference with only one loss is remarkable for that team."

They're obviously a good football team, but so are all the teams left playing."

The Panthers' No. 1 advantage heading into the game against UNI is that the opening-round game will be played at O'Brien Stadium.

Eastern is 0-11-1 at Northern Iowa all-time. Spoo is just 1-9 against UNI in his career. But the Panthers are 6-3 all-time against UNI at home, including a dramatic 31-30 win on Homecoming in 1986, a game often referred to as the most exciting in Panther history.

A first-round win at home would earn the Panthers a second-round home game against either No. 17 ranked Maine (8-2) or No. 11 ranked McNeese State (8-3).

"The home field advantage is huge," junior quarterback Tony Romo said.

Playoff ticket information

Kickoff Saturday, Dec. 1 - 12:30 p.m.

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vs.

Eastern Illinois

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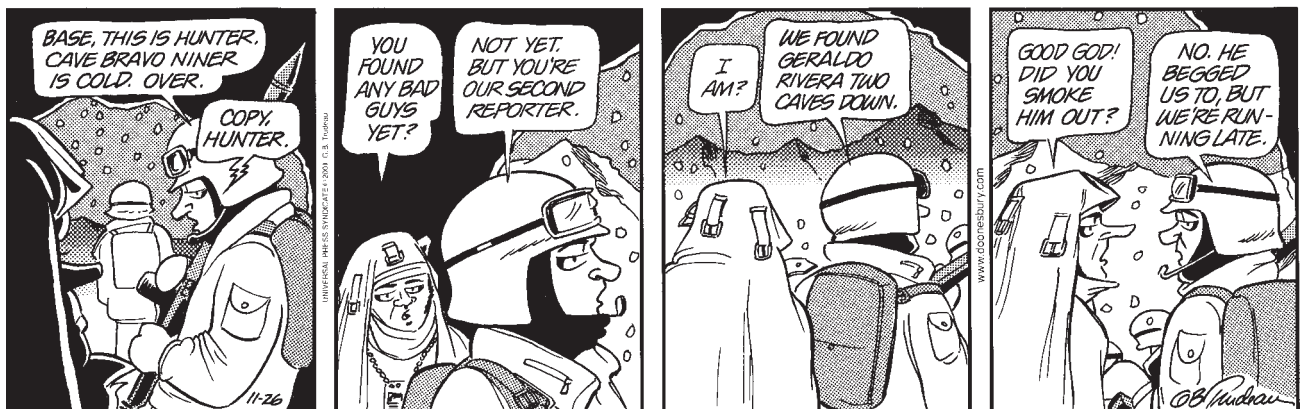
Adults \$11

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"Especially with us, because we haven't lost here for something like two years. I've never lost a home game in my career here and hopefully that will continue, and we'll win two more."

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Find out who the Panther volleyball team will take on in the NCAA Tournament this week. Tomorrow in sports.

Women's basketball team drops first five games

By Matt Meinheit
Staff writer

Eastern's women's basketball team had little to be thankful for over the holiday break.

The Panthers have dropped five consecutive games for an 0-5 record since Nov. 16. In that time, Eastern has lost to Bradley, IUPUI-Indianapolis, Mercer, Murray State and No.10 Purdue.

Here is how the week played out for the women's basketball team.

■ Nov. 24 at Corpus Christi, Texas
Murray State 66, Eastern 51

The Panthers trailed by three at halftime, despite shooting nearly 44 percent from the floor. In the second half, however, Eastern fell off the pace and made just 32 percent of its field goals. Junior center Brooke Gossett set the tone on offense for the Panthers with a team high 14 points in the game. Sophomore centers Pam O'Connor and Allison Collins added 11 and 10 points respectively.

■ Nov. 23 at Corpus Christi, Texas
Mercer 74, Eastern 53

Mercer dominated the first half by more than doubling Eastern's offensive output of 15 points. The

Panthers battled back in the second half but were still outscored 41-38. O'Connor went 7-for-13 from the charity stripe and was Eastern's only player to reach double figures in 19 points.

■ Nov. 20 at Bradley
Bradley 84, Eastern 72

Bradley was successful in 64 percent of its shots in the first half to lead by 11 at the half. Eastern responded by making over 57 percent of their shots in the second half, but could not close the gap before the buzzer sounded. Gossett led the Panthers with 25 points, eight rebounds, two blocks and a perfect performance at the line, finishing 7-for-7.

■ Nov. 18 at West Lafayette, Ind.
Purdue 89, Eastern 33

The Boilermakers had five players score in the double figures with their first half total already enough to hand the Panthers a loss. O'Connor led the Panthers with 11 points while Gossett contributed eight points with six rebounds.

■ Nov. 16 at IUPUI-Indianapolis
IUPUI 69, Eastern 61

Eastern and IUPUI went into the locker room tied at halftime with 30 points each on the score-



Bill Ruthhart/ Staff writer

Freshman forward Rachel Karos dribbles past an IUPUI-Indianapolis opponent Nov. 16 in Lantz Arena. Karos was named the OVC Freshman of the Week after scoring 19 points and 6 rebounds against IUPUI.

board. IUPUI took advantage of its 27 trips to the line to add 20 points. Eastern did not help its own cause

by losing the turnover battle 23-15. O'Connor led the team with 23 points, finishing 10-for-12 from

the field and freshman guard Rachel Karos scored 19 points while pulling down seven rebounds.

Vegas

from Page 12

shots, while Tech shot just 38 percent from the field.

"If we would have just shot the ball against Georgia Tech, we would have beaten an ACC team by 10 or 12," Samuels said. "But instead we shoot 31 percent from the field and lose by five."

Things didn't get much better for Eastern on Friday against Penn as the Ivy League School drubbed the Panthers, 77-60. Domercant led the Panthers with 18 on 7-of-18 shooting while Reynolds had 12.

Penn defeated Georgia Tech Monday gave Illinois a scare on Tuesday before falling by seven and

defeated Iowa State in the final round of the tourney.

"They were without question in the top three in the tournament. They give you matchup problems, starting two 6-8 kids and then they have all those intelligent guards running around," Samuels said. "We really struggled to match up against them. They didn't look like an Ivy League team. That's for sure."

Eastern finished up the tourney in the seventh-place game against Hartford (0-5). The Panthers got back in the 'W' column with a convincing 73-57 win. Domercant had a game-high 31 while Mackinson was the only other Panther in double figures, scoring 12.

"Against Hartford, it was a story of two teams struggling with confi-

dence," Samuels said. "In that game we really showed some grit and made plays in the last 8-10 minutes to pull away. It was a good experience for our kids."

Prior to the tournament, Eastern played host to St. Joseph's Nov. 16. The Panthers won the season opener 95-58. Junior Craig Lewis led Eastern with a career-high 23 points while Domercant scored 17. Junior transfer Ramone Taylor also chipped 17, with an array of impressive dunks. Mackinson scored 16 in the win as the Panthers shot 55 percent from the floor.

Eastern is back in action Wednesday when it hosts Indiana State, who qualified for the NCAA Tournament a year ago. Tip off is at 7:10 p.m

Title

from Page 12

"I think a lot of people have also said that. I just think we were all calm and focused on what we had to do."

Freshman Erica Gerth was named to the OVC's All-Newcomer team.

"It really doesn't matter who gets credit," Winkeler said. "It's just that we've got the job done. That's what made this team so good, is that they don't care who gets the honors."

Lindsay Perkins and Przekwas teamed up for the final point of game with a block.

"When the ball came to me it was like one of those last-play sequences

out of a movie," Prezwias said. "Everything was all in slow motion; it was like instant replay."

Gerth had a career-high 22 kills in the match, Przekwas had 18 and senior Marcia Hahn had 14.

Hahn said the only thing she can remember from the tournament was the final play of the championship match.

"It was pretty wild," Hahn said. "I was watching it on video tape over the break, and it was like the first time I'd seen it, even though I was there. It's just unbelievable."

The Panthers lost the first game 31-29, won the second 30-26, lost the third 30-22 and won the fourth 34-32.

In the semifinal round of the tournament Friday, No. 2 Eastern shut out No. 3 Morehead State 3-0.

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IN THE DEN

Panthers win OVC Championship outright

Eastern's 37-6 win over Murray St. signifies emergence of program

By Bill Ruthhart
Sports editor

After securing its first-ever outright Ohio Valley Conference Championship with a 37-6 win over Murray State Nov. 17, Eastern's football players doused their coach, received their trophy and then tore down their goalpost.

"I was just hoping no one would get hurt," Panther head coach Bob Spoo said of his players' celebratory acts following the win. "But that — that's fine with me. How often is this going to happen in our lifetime? It's just unbelievable."

After a slow start and a pair of turnovers, the Panthers buckled down to outscore the Racers (4-6, 2-4) 20-0 in the second half.

"I think our defense played their asses off. I think our offense played their asses off, and we won this football game," Spoo said. "I'm pleased with this football team and all that they've been through. They've overcome everything. Injuries were paramount, but we overcame them. Guys have stepped up, and I'm so happy for them, and I'm so happy for these coaches."

While the Panthers had already secured an automatic bid to the Division I-AA playoffs, which they'll begin at home 12:30 p.m. Saturday against No. 7 ranked Northern Iowa (9-2), Spoo said he wanted no part of a shared championship.

"I wanted that OVC outright. I really did. And that's a credit to our team to rise up again like that," he said. "There was talk that the game was anticlimactic in a sense because of the automatic bid. But we had none of that. Whatever we've been challenged with this year, we've risen to."

Eastern's defense rose to the task in the 31-point thrashing, allowing Murray State just a pair of field goals while forcing two turnovers. On the other side of the ball, junior quarterback Tony Romo was on the mark all afternoon. The nation's No. 1 efficiency passer completed 15-of-21 passes for 305 yards, while not even attempting a completion in the fourth quarter.

Junior J.R. Taylor led the rushing attack with 134-yards on 22 carries. But the story wasn't the statistics, but the big win.

"It's just an unbelievable feeling," senior defensive back Kourtney Young said. "For me, it took five years



Bill Ruthhart/Staff photographer

Junior quarterback Tony Romo attempts to complete a pass to redshirt freshman wide receiver Brandon Robinson. Robinson, who head coach Bob Spoo said, couldn't catch a cold last year, finished the game with three receptions for 43 yards while Romo threw for 305 yards on the day.

and we're finally here. Every year was close, but this year we finally got it, my last year. It's just unexplainable right now. I honestly don't think it's hit me. I'm just really glad right now."

So was his coach.

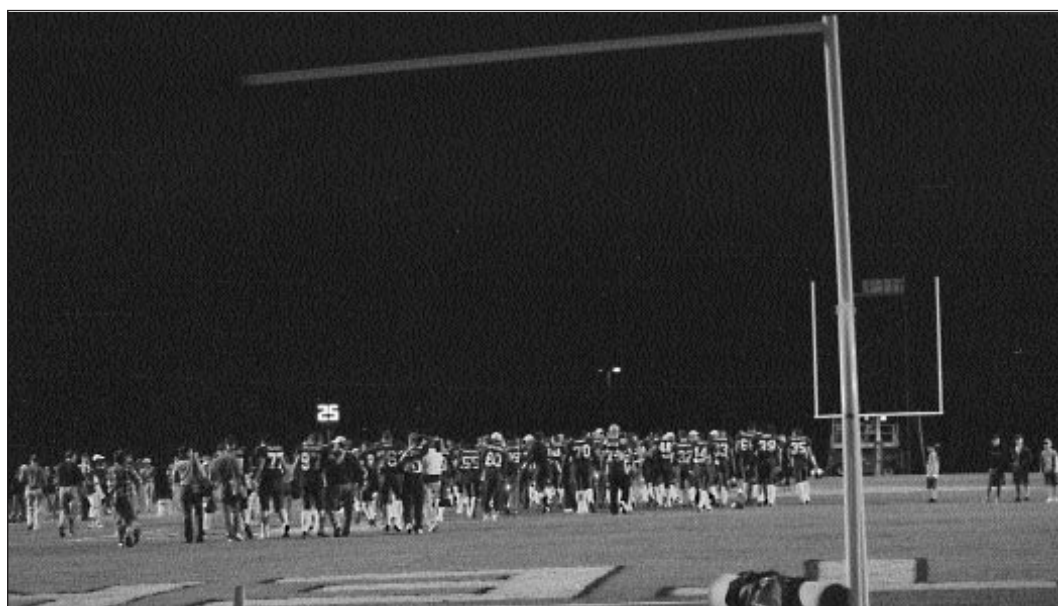
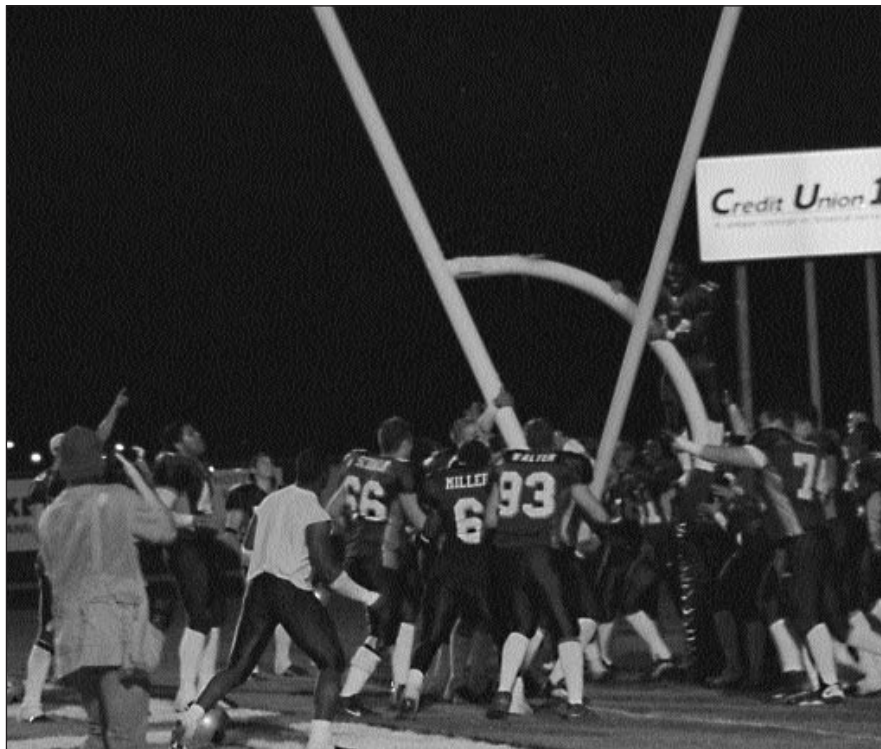
"We've answered every challenge,

and we deserved this championship and we got it," Spoo said. "I think this is the greatest thing that has happened for me in my 15 years here."

And now the focus has shifted to another championship — the national one.

"This feels good. We were close last year. It's sweet. We came into this season expecting this," Romo said. "We fulfilled it. It's great, but at the same time we're not done."

"We have one more title to go win."



Photos by Bill Ruthhart/Staff photographer

(At left) Members of Eastern's football team tear down the goalpost in the south end zone after their 37-6 win over Murray State on Nov. 17

(At top) The Panthers leave the field after tearing down one of the uprights at O'Brien Stadium.

Fallen uprights = football program on upswing

With nine victories behind them, the Panther football team had only one regular-season opponent left to conquer — its own goalpost.

After soundly defeating the Murray State Racers 37-6 Nov. 17, the Panthers hoisted their first Ohio Valley Conference Championship Trophy at O'Brien Stadium. They doused coach Bob Spoo in ceremonial sports drink and briefly reveled in victory before the cameras.

Then, led by senior safety Corey Lewis and sophomore linebacker Nick Ricks, the Panthers raced toward the south end zone and began their assault on the goalpost.

The support post, anchored by concrete, wouldn't budge, but before long the uprights were no longer upright. The mighty Panthers turned the uprights horizontal and left them to facing wide right.

It may have been the first time a team has torn down its own uprights.

Spoo was asked if he had ever heard of a team partaking in such an act of celebration.

"No I hadn't. I was just hoping that nobody would get hurt, but that — that's fine with me. How often is this going to happen in our lifetime?" Spoo said. "It's just unbelievable."

Apparently the attack was premeditated.

"Actually before the season started, Nick Ricks was the one who planned it all. He said 'I'm getting that goalpost this year,'" said redshirt freshman Brandon Robinson. "So, he got his goalpost."

In most instances, the fans storm the field after a big victory and attack the uprights, but with the majority of the campus already home

4th and 20



Pat Guinane

Staff editor
e-mail: cupjg@pen.eiu.edu

for Thanksgiving, a fan attack was quite improbable. And not to misjudge their enthusiasm, the Charleston area fans, who outnumbered the students in attendance, were probably a bit too demure to consider storming the field.

Maybe, you say, conquering the goalpost and the parties involved is rather unimportant, but the attack was representative of a much larger accomplishment.

The goalpost, the 9-1 record, the OVC championship — they all represent a giant bounding leap for Eastern's football team. The Panthers have risen from the ashes of a team that went just 2-10 two seasons ago, and was painful to watch. We're talking root-canal painful.

And continuing with the dentistry metaphor, the players, coaches and fans are so loopy you'd think someone left the laughing gas on.

Don't take my word for it; heed the words of the normally unexcitable Spoo.

"We answered every challenge and we deserved this championship and we got it. I think it's just the greatest thing that's happened

for me in my 15 years here," Spoo said. "I'm so happy for those guys."

And for all the students who couldn't, or just didn't, stick around for the last regular season game — you should be excited as well. Success in sports is sometimes fleeting, so every student should revel in their school's triumphs.

And right now there's not a better time for reveling. This year, five Eastern sports teams have finished in first place. In addition to the football team, the volleyball team, the women's soccer team, the women's cross country team and the men's cross country team all topped their conferences.

Even the university president is excited, and he's been at Eastern for more than 35 years.

"Five sports — five-first place finishes," Lou Hencken said after the football team's victory. "It probably doesn't get any better than that."

Hopefully the football team can prove him wrong with a playoff victory over Northern Iowa on Saturday.

Panther Sports Calendar

Wednesday: Men's basketball vs. Indiana State at Lantz Arena, 7:10 p.m.
 Wednesday: Women's basketball at Indiana State, 6 p.m.
 Saturday: Football vs. Northern Iowa, 12:30 p.m.

Inside

4th and 20. **Page 11**
 Women's basketball drops five games. **Page 10**
 Women's soccer ends season at Notre Dame. **Page 9**

Sports

Eastern clinches OVC title

Volleyball team wins conference tourney, advances to NCAA playoffs

By Nate Bloomquist
 Staff writer

The Eastern volleyball team set many goals for itself throughout the season. It accomplished some, but failed at others. But most importantly, the Panthers achieved their main goal Nov. 17 with a five-game win over Tennessee-Martin to win the Ohio Valley Conference title.

With the tournament win, Eastern advances to the NCAA tournament. The Panthers find out their tourney foe today at 2 p.m. by watching the selection show at the Student Rec Center.

"This is a great step for the program," Eastern volleyball coach Brenda Winkler said.

"It's great for the seniors too. They've been more a part of the Eastern winning tradition than I have - they've been here longer. And there's no better way for them to end their college careers than with an NCAA tournament match."

Speculation by Winkler has put Wisconsin, Ohio State and others from the Big Ten as possible opponents in the first round. She said the selection committee has a tendency to pair teams that aren't too far apart in distance and cited the Panther women's soccer team as example. The squad lost to Notre Dame in the first round of the tourney.

"It feels like a really big treat to make it to the NCAA tournament," senior middle hitter Leslie Przekwas said. "It's kind of exciting, but I'm kind of nervous, but I don't know what to expect."

Przekwas received All-OVC First Team honors for the second consecutive year. Eastern's journey to the title didn't come without plenty of drama.

The Panthers defeated No. 1 seed and host team Tennessee-Martin in five games, with the last a 15-13 tilt. Eastern trailed 8-5 halfway through the decisive game, but rallied to tie it at 13.

Senior Carrie Stevens picked up a kill that sailed just to the inside of the line. Stevens finished the match with 20 kills and was named MVP. She also received All-OVC Second Team honors for the second year in a row.

"It was the closest match I've ever played in," Stevens said.

See TITLE Page 10

Gateway rivalry rekindled

Eastern to host Northern Iowa in first round of NCAA playoffs

By Bill Ruthhart
 Sports editor

With a week to rest and savor its first Ohio Valley Conference Championship, Eastern's football team found out Sunday morning what they'll be up against when the Division I-AA playoffs begin this Saturday.

Eastern (9-1, 6-0) secured an outright OVC Championship with a 37-6 win over Murray State Nov. 17. Panther football players, coaches, family and friends watched the NCAA selection show anxiously in the university's Student Rec Center Sunday afternoon as the 16-team field was announced. The group quickly erupted in applause when Eastern Illinois appeared as the No. 4 seed in the tournament's pairings.

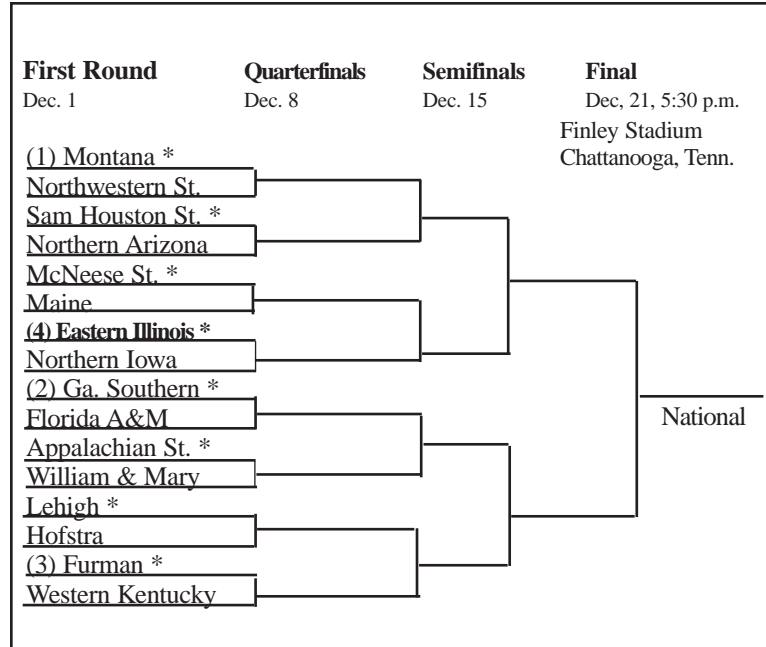
"It was a great feeling to see us up there on the screen," senior wide receiver Frank Cutolo said.

But when Eastern's opponent, Gateway Conference champion Northern Iowa, was revealed, the mood in the room quickly turned from suspense to surprise.

"We thought it would be Western Kentucky. We thought they'd pair a team who finished No. 1 (in their conference) with a team who finished No. 2 in another conference," Panther head coach Bob Spoo said.

"I'm a little surprised we're going against the top team from the Gateway, but it's not for me to say."

The national tournament's format is different from past years, as the top four seeds are selected and the rest of the matchups are determined by geographic location.



Because of their No. 3 national ranking, the Panthers were expecting a matchup with Western Kentucky, because of their second place finish in the geographically-close Gateway.

"This was a surprise. We've been watching film on Western

Kentucky," Spoo said.

"In fact, we exchanged film with them last week. So, they threw us a curve, but our coaches will go ahead right now and call Northern Iowa and try to get some film exchanged

See GATEWAY Page 9

Victories scarce at Las Vegas Invite

By Bill Ruthhart
 Sports editor

The Panther men's basketball team continued to work through its growing pains last week, as Eastern finished 1-3 in the Las Vegas Invitational.

"It certainly was good competition," head coach Rick Samuels said. "We struggled with confidence in certain games, and particularly with just shooting the ball."

Eastern (2-3) opened up the tournament against No. 2 ranked Illinois at the Assembly Hall in Champaign. The Panthers stayed close in the opening minutes, but a huge first-half run gave the Fighting Illini a 48-23 halftime lead and a 93-53 win.

"They played very good, solid defense, and they were very physical," junior guard Henry Domercant said following the lopsided loss. "They helped each other out on defense, they took us out of our offense and got us out of our rhythm. They basically made our offense run horrible."

Preseason Big 10 Player of the Year Cory Bradford led the Illini (5-0) with 18 points. Freshman phenom Luther Head chipped in 14 for Illinois while Damir Krupalija was perfect from the field for 12 points.

Domercant led Eastern with 12 points on 3-of-14 shooting. Junior J.R. Reynolds was the only other Panther in double figures with 10 points on 3-of-11 shooting. Eastern shot just 27 percent from the field and was out-rebounded 45-31.

"Illinois defends a lot harder than we do in practice," Samuels said. "Illinois is very good. If they defend that aggressively against everybody



Bill Ruthhart/ Staff photographer
 Junior J.R. Reynolds drives past Illini forward Damir Krupalija in Eastern's Nov. 19 loss at Assembly Hall, 93-53. The Panthers finished 1-2 in the Las Vegas Tournament last week.

they play, they'll do very well."

Following the loss, the tournament shifted to Las Vegas where the Panthers continued pool play against Georgia Tech (3-3). The Yellow Jackets downed Eastern, 70-65. The Panthers were ahead most of the first half and led by as many as nine.

But Tech built a 57-46 lead in the second half, but Eastern cut the lead to 66-65 after Reynolds converted on a four-point play. That would be as close as the Panthers would get as they turned the ball over with four seconds remaining, while Tech made four free throws in the final seven sec-

onds to seal the five-point win.

Domercant led Eastern with 18 while Reynolds scored 14 and sophomore Jesse Mackinson chipped in 13. Eastern's shooting woes continued as they made just 31 percent of their

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