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Eastern Illinois University

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THE DAILY EASTERN NEWS

FEBRUARY 14, 2012
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EASTERN ILLINOIS UNIVERSITY
CHARLESTON, ILL.

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Graduate student tells ups, downs in school

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Panthers win in final seconds

Page 8

AWARD

Booth Library employee wins Louis Shores Award

By Kaylia Eskew
Staff Reporter

Sarah Johnson has spent much of her life dedicated to learning and sharing her knowledge with everyone around her.

Stacey Knight-Davis of Booth Library Reference Services said her co-workers have recognized her as a loyal and dedicated faculty member.

Most recently, the American Library Association has recognized her hard work by awarding her the Louis Shore Award.

"We are very proud that Sarah has received this award," Knight-Davis said. "It is good to see her work recognized on a national level."

Every year the Reference and User Service Association, a division of the American Library Association, gives out the Louis Shores Award to one deserving candidate.

The American Library Association established the Louis Shore Award in 1990 as a way to recognize an individual reviewer, group, editor, review medium or organization for excellence in book reviewing and other media for libraries.

Johnson, librarian and professor of librarian services, has been a member of the American Library Association for 15 years and said she was not expecting to be chosen for the award.

"I was very excited and even more surprised," Johnson said. "I didn't even know that I had been nominated."

Johnson has been an employee at Eastern for 15 years, served as interim co-head of Library Technology Services, served as library liaison to academic departments and developed bibliographies and instructional materials for library workshops.

"I do a lot of workshops for classes that come through and teach them how to find the best research materials," Johnson said.

Johnson said one of the things she loves most about her job is answering the questions others ask her.

"I get questions from every field possible," Johnson said. "It really keeps my mind active."

David Bell, faculty member of Booth Library Reference Services, said Johnson brings a great amount of pride to Booth Library, her co-workers and Eastern, and has worked very hard.

"She is a wonderful credit to the profession of librarianship, and I consider it an honor to work with her as well as the rest of Booth Library's dedicated faculty and staff," Bell said.

Bell also said this award is only the latest in a great number of professional accomplishments.

AWARD, page 5

CAMPUS



KIMBERLY FOSTER | THE DAILY EASTERN NEWS

While the flu has yet to have a widespread effect on the Eastern campus this year, there have been some positive cases at Health Services this week. According to the Center for Disease Control and Prevention, preventative measures should be taken as soon as possible, including the flu shot vaccine.

Campus flu count low this season

By Daniel Cravens
Staff Reporter

Every winter, the flu strikes schools across America, leaving students more tired and stressed than usual.

However, the flu has yet to make a full-blown appearance this year on Eastern's campus.

Mara Hildebrand, a communicable diseases investigator at the Coles County Health Department, said that 2012 has overall been a below-average year for the flu so far. Hildebrand said that the unseasonably warm weather this winter has likely contributed to the low number of flu cases.

"We have had a couple cases this week of positive flu, so that just means it is coming," said Maria Barrientos, an administrative nurse at Health Services. "It's out there."

According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention website, last year's peak in activity for the flu virus occurred in early February.

Hildebrand said the best course of action in preventing the flu is to get the flu vaccine.

The flu vaccine comes in both shot form and as a nasal spray, she said.

The CDC also recommends the

Flu Symptoms

- Runny or stuffy nose
- Fever
- Chills
- Coughing
- Body aches
- Fatigue
- Stomach problems

flu vaccine as the best source in flu prevention.

While it might not combat every type of flu in existence, researchers engineer the flu vaccine each year to counter the three types they expect to be most common.

Hildebrand warned students against the possibility of spreading the flu if they have it, suggesting they remain indoors to keep it contained.

The CDC recommends that flu patients remain at home for the 24 hours following when their fever has broken.

While there is no cure-all for the flu, the CDC also suggests the assistance of antiviral drugs to weaken symptoms, as well as drinking plenty of fluids and resting.

Flu symptoms can range from having a runny or stuffy nose, a fever, chills, coughing, body aches, fatigue, headache and stomach problems, according to the CDC.

FLU, page 5

SCHOLARSHIPS

\$500,000 approved for scholarships

By Rachel Rodgers
Administration Editor

Editor's Note: This is the second installment in a series of Noel-Levitz consulting articles.

Eastern approved the allocation for \$500,000 toward the Commitment to Excellence Scholarship, which offers an automatic \$1,500 renewable merit allotment to students who meet the criteria.

The merit scholarship is geared toward prospective well qualified, lower-yield students who received an ACT score of 21 or higher, but do not meet honors criteria.

Eastern has a one-and-a-half-year contract with the Noel-Levitz Enrollment Management Consulting Services, which extends to June 30, 2013, and the consultants recommended implementing a merit scholarship.

President Bill Perry said forming a

"We created a huge file of past awards given to students to capture the detail of who we have admitted in the past."

Jerry Donna, director of the Financial Aid Office

merit scholarship is part of Eastern's new strategy for packaging financial aid to increase the number of students enrolling.

"Although the scholarship was recommended, it is not a new idea," Perry said.

"Part of (implementing the scholarship) is to meet our competing universities, and part of it is to respond to what we address in the Strategic Plan."

Universities like Western Illinois University and Illinois State University offer automatic merit scholarships to students.

Perry said they drafted about 1,500 letters to prospective students eligible for the award.

Three Noel-Levitz consultants have made preliminary suggestions to the university based on three key areas.

The three consultants are David Trites with retention, Colleen Murphy with recruitment and Cliff Neel with enrollment management revenue services.

Jerry Donna, the director of the Financial Aid Office, said he and other members of the Eastern community spent several weeks compiling financial aid data from the last two years for the consultants to analyze.

APPROVED, page 5

CITY

Students have time to register to vote

Staff Report

Students can still register to vote for the Illinois primaries, according to the Coles County clerk.

Sue Rennels, in an email, said students can register to vote until Feb. 22 in Coles County.

Rennels said students can actually register to vote up until March 13 because of Illinois's Grace Period Registration, but they have to register and vote at the same time in the Coles County clerk's office.

Grace Period Registration allows residents to register on the 27th to 7th day prior to the election.

If a student wants to register, he can go to the Coles County clerk's office, which

is located in the Room 122 at the courthouse at 651 Jackson Ave. in Charleston.

Students also can go to www.elections.illinois.gov to register online until Feb. 22.

When students turn in their registration forms, they need to provide identification, or they will have to provide identification when they vote, Rennels said.

While voting in the primary, students will pick either a democrat or republican ballot.

Right now, the precincts Charleston 16 and Charleston 17, which mostly is the area that covers Eastern students, has 401 registered voters, Rennels said.

If students are unsure where the precinct is located or even if they are regis-

tered to vote, they can go to www.elections.illinois.gov and go to Am I Registered to Vote and enter their names.

This site will tell them if they are registered and where they can vote.

Students registered and living on campus will vote at the Martin Luther King Jr. University Union or the Newman Center located on Roosevelt Avenue behind Lawson and Andrews halls.

The primary will be March 20 and the general election will be Nov. 6 with polls open from 6 a.m. to 7 p.m.

Absentee voting for the primary will continue until March 19 where any student can vote, Rennels said.

Early bird voting will begin on Feb. 27-March 15.

EIU weather

TODAY

WEDNESDAY



Snow/Rain Mix
High: 38°
Low: 30°

Mostly Cloudy
High: 46°
Low: 31°

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

ONLINE

College Cuisine Blog:
Delving into the
Starbucks Secret Menu

Ever want to impress your friends with your culinary prowess, but find yourself away from your kitchen? Luckily there is one way to preserve your super fly foodie image even while ordering from your car window: making your selection from the "secret menu."

While most places have their own secret menus, the most interesting to me is the one at Starbucks.

In this post, Doug T. Graham will share his experience with a trio of secret drinks. He'll inform you on how to order them and give you step by step instructions on how to place your "secret" order.

CORRECTION

In Monday's edition of *The Daily Eastern News*, Mark Hudson, director of University Housing and Dining Services, actually said the transactions made at the food court will not cost students extra money if they use credit or debit cards. All transactions will be credit-routed through Eastern. Cards that require a PIN number cannot be used in the food court.

The News regrets these errors.

EASTERN NEWS

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

Contact
If you have corrections or tips, please call:

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or fax us at:
217-581-2923

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Comments / Tips
Contact any of the above staff members if you believe your information is relevant.

Corrections
The Daily Eastern News is committed to accuracy in its coverage of the news. Any factual error the staff finds, or is made aware of by its readers, will be corrected as promptly as possible. Please report any factual error you find by e-mail, phone, campus mail or in person.

THE DOUDNA FINE ARTS CENTER



FILE PHOTO | THE DAILY EASTERN NEWS

Conductor Richard Robert Rossi looks back at Susan Teicher, associate professor of piano and keyboard division director, as the Eastern Symphony Orchestra performs Ludwig van Beethoven's "Piano Concerto No. 3 in C minor" during Triumph & Tragedy Nov. 13 in the Doudna Fine Arts Center.

Orchestra to join forces with Four Voices

By Samantha McDaniel
Activities Editor

The Eastern Symphony Orchestra will be performing with the Four Voices, a jazz vocal quartet, during "Stagestruck" at 4 p.m. on Sunday in the Dvorak Concert Hall of the Doudna Fine Arts Center.

The Eastern Symphony Orchestra will be playing compositions such as "An American in Paris" by George Gershwin and "Overture to Candide" by Leonard Bernstein.

The Four Voices includes members Allan Horney, a retired Eastern trombone professor; Thomas Birkner, the director of instrumental music at Belleville West High School; Craig Lindvahl, an Educator and documentary filmmaker from Effingham; and Joe Wolfe, a teacher and ar-

ranger.

Horney said they are an American vocal group that focuses on American pieces.

"We will be doing a set of popular American tunes made famous by the Four Freshmen," Horney said.

The quartet is heavily influenced by music from the 1950s-1970s.

"We pattern ourselves after groups like Four Freshmen and the Hi-Lo's, which were two very important American male vocal groups in the 50s through the 70s," Horney said.

Horney said the orchestra will accompany the group on some of their tunes like "Walkin' my Baby Back Home."

"This will be the first time that we have ever been accompanied by a symphony orchestra," Horney said.

Horney said he is looking forward to see the crowds reaction to their music.

"We are always excited to perform for a large audience and share with them the music that we think is great American music," Horney said.

Horney said a vocal group and a symphony orchestra is not something that is often seen at Eastern.

"We are especially excited to be performing with the symphony orchestra," Horney said. "We think it'll be something really unique, especially for us and the audience."

Horney said the performance will also give a different experience to the members of the symphony orchestra.

"We hope this will be an interesting and fun experience for the orchestra because it is not some-

thing that is very typical," Horney said. "Orchestras don't get the opportunity to do this, to this kind of music and we hope it will be fun for them because it is almost like playing a show, not a concert."

"We are excited to present this great music and we look forward to entertaining our audience, and we hope it will bring back some great memories," Horney said.

Horney said he cannot wait to spread the American music.

Tickets are \$5 for students, \$12 for general admission, \$10 for Eastern employees and audience members more than 62 years of age.

Samantha McDaniel can be reached at 581-2812 or slmcdaniel@eiu.edu.

CAMPUS

History repeats itself through theater

By Jordan Thiede
Staff Reporter

Eastern students will soon be witnessing history before their very own eyes when an reenactment of the debates between Abraham Lincoln and Stephen Douglas takes place later in the month.

"The Rivalry" is a presentation based on Norman Corwin's depiction of the historical debates between the future president and his rival senator.

The show will take place at 7:30 p.m. Feb. 21 in The Theatre of the Doudna Fine Arts Center.

Dan Crews, director of patron services of the Doudna Fine Arts Center, said the reenactments will be a good experience for people who attend because it is a history lesson and an entertainment aspect.

"They're going to be getting into a time capsule," Crews said.

He said he hopes this event will appeal to students who may have heard of the Lincoln-Douglas Debates, but do not know what they were about.

Dwight Vaught, assistant dean of programming for the College of Arts & Humanities, agreed.

"This is a way to bring history off of the pages of a book," Vaught said. "It will help us to get a perspective as if we had been there."

Vaught said this event will be able to show modern audiences what the political climate was like in 1858, what was said in the debates, the controversy surrounding the debates and how Lincoln and Douglas clashed.

The conflict that occurred because of these debates can come through more when presented in a stage version as opposed to print, Vaught said.

The audience will also be able to see how different the media

coverage was then compared to the present day.

The show will inform people on how politicians went from community to community to get their message out without having a venue such as television to reach a wide audience.

"Our hope is that people will take it as a starting point as to why this is such a pivotal time in history," Vaught said.

Crews said this era is especially important in the country's history.

"The Civil War had cataclysmic consequences for our country," Crews said.

Vaught said people should become more interested in history after watching the production.

The production is rather small in comparison to others, but that comes with being a road tour and comes with benefits of its own, Vaught said.

Crews said having a smaller

production can be a plus when it comes to a show such as this as the audience is able to get a more personal connection with what is going on. They will not be distracted by other events onstage and will be more focused on the historical figures and the story being presented.

"The Rivalry" will be presented by the L.A. Theatre Works as part of the Doudna Fine Arts Center New and Emerging Artist Series.

Tickets are \$15 for the general public, \$12 for Eastern employees and seniors and \$7 for students.

Jordan Thiede can be reached at 581-2812 or jethiede@eiu.edu.

COLLEGE OF STUDENT AFFAIRS

Graduate student tells ups, downs in school

By Robyn Dexter
Campus Editor

Moetiz Samad has been at Eastern for six years as both an undergraduate and a graduate student.

Samad, a graduate student and assistant resident director of Carman Hall, said his favorite part of his job is seeing students grow during their time at Eastern.

"I love the interactions I have with students on a day-to-day basis," he said.

Samad said he enjoys being able to help students and brighten their days.

However, he said, being a graduate student is very different than being an undergraduate.

"As a grad student, I feel like time flies by," he said. "Every day is just booked up."

"I'm in the midst of a job search as well as doing work here (at Carman)," he said.

Samad said as an undergrad, students have time in their day to take a nap and relax, but that is not the case for him.

Samad is taking 12 credit hours on top of his job as the assistant resident director of Carman Hall.

Samad said he comes into the office between 8-9 a.m. every morning for meetings with the Carman Hall staff, takes a short break for lunch and then has more meetings afterwards.

"Then I go to class from 4-9:30 (p.m.)," he said.

After his classes, he prepares for his Strategies for Academic Success, an English class he teaches.

Weekends also keep Samad busy because he interns for the women's basketball team.

"On a typical game day, I'm there (in Lantz) pretty much all day and Sundays are practice days," he said.

Samad said as a grad student he is expected to have two internships and that basketball had always been a passion of his, so he asked to help.

After he is done at Eastern, Samad said he plans to look for a job in athletics or student affairs.

Samad said although he loves his job, it is not without its difficulties.

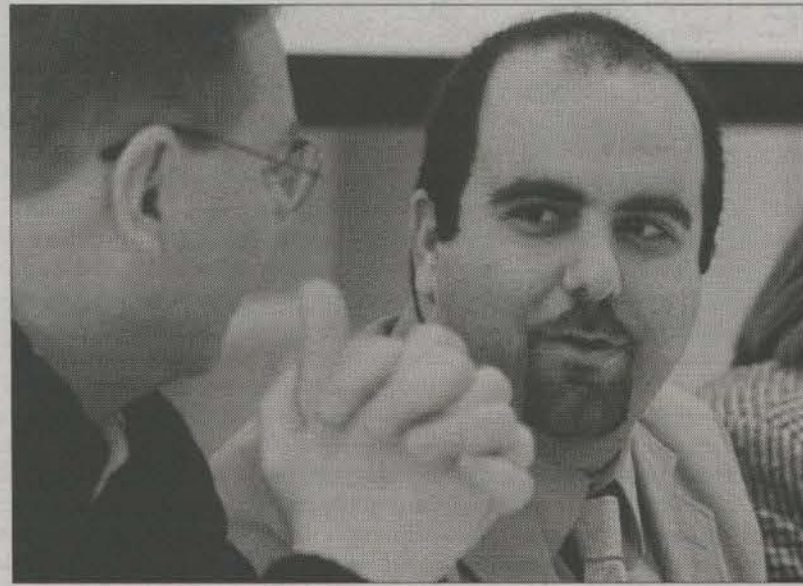
"The hardest thing about my job is students that don't really know what the college experience is all about, and base their ideas off movies and the media," he said.

Samad said in situations such as that one, he would sit a student down and have a basic conversation about how their experience has been thus far and what they see themselves doing in the future.

"When I ask if their education is important, more often than not, the answer is yes," he said.

He said he would then ask the student how their current lifestyle fits into the answer they had given and continue the conversation from there.

The beginning of the school year starts earlier for graduate students and housing members than for undergradu-



KIMBERLY FOSTER | THE DAILY EASTERN NEWS

Moe Samad, right, a graduate assistant in the college of student affairs, talks to Stephen Lucas, professor of secondary education and foundations, during "Let's Talk Teaching: Who Are Out First-Year Students?" Feb. 3 in the University Ballroom of the Martin Luther King Jr. University Union.

ates arriving in August.

"In late July, we go through two weeks of training and then another two weeks of training with our student staff," he said.

In these weeks, graduate students and student staff make sure they are adjusted, as well as preparing budgets, decorating the hall and going to meetings.

"Having a plan and having everything mapped out before the students get here is key," he said.

Though he said he gets stressed out sometimes, Samad said he loves his job.

"I love every single day," he said. "You have to ask yourself how you can affect as many lives as possible."

Samad said in his job, he has to focus on the small moments in life that change people's lives.

"Essentially, those small moments add up and impact someone," he said.

Robyn Dexter can be reached at 581-2812 or redexter@eiu.edu.

CITY

Employee charged with child porn to appear in court once again

Staff Report

A university employee charged with child porn will appear before a Coles County judge today to discuss recently submitted evidence related to the case.

Eric Knuth, an Information Technology Services employee, and his attorney Ron Tulin filed a motion to allow a private investigator to examine the hard drive that the prosecution claims contains the unlawful material Knuth is charged with displaying, according to the case record at the circuit clerk's office.

The private investigator is St. Louis-based company Forensic Computer Service, who has over 30 years experience in the computer, security and management fields, according to the defense's motion.

Knuth is charged with displaying an image of child pornography on a laptop in December 2008.

The record states: "(Knuth) displayed on an Apple MacBook Air an image of two girls (Knuth) knew or reasonably should have known to be under the age of 18...depicting the unclothed genitals and partially developed breasts of the girls."

Knuth is scheduled to appear before the judge at 9 a.m.

The hearing will be the 11th such proceeding in 16 months.

CITY

Family advocates rescue children from sexual, physical abuse

By Kathryn Richter
City Editor

The hallways of the Child Advocacy Center of East Central Illinois are hand painted with pictures of cartoonish animals and well-known characters when 200 children pass through the hallways each year.

Each one of them having survived some sort of physical or sexual abuse.

Tina Huston is a family advocate from Charleston who has worked at the center for the past four years.

Huston said the Child Advocacy Center of East Central Illinois generally sees victims from the ages of 5 to 12.

The center is seeing children who are continually becoming younger because they are barely verbal and not enrolled in school, Huston said.

"They can't cry out for help," Huston said.

Inside the interview room at the Child Advocacy Center is a large couch and a chest filled with anatomically correct cloth people in

various colors and sizes.

Opposite the couch is a camera that is mounted inside the wall and looks similar to a light switch that is designed to record the facial expressions of the child being interviewed.

In the adjoining room, a group of investigators, advocates and Department of Child and Family Service workers observe the investigation.

The interviews are recorded and are used as evidence in the court of law when the case goes to trial.

"It's very powerful for the jury to see a child insert the penis (of a male doll) into the vagina of a baby doll," Huston said.

Huston said a conviction of a sex offender is always a good thing, but wishes sexual assault would not happen in the first place.

Huston also said she does not only work with children; in fact her main job is to stabilize the parents and help the family through the process of interviewing and the legal process they will face.

Every family is different and re-

quires different needs, Huston said.

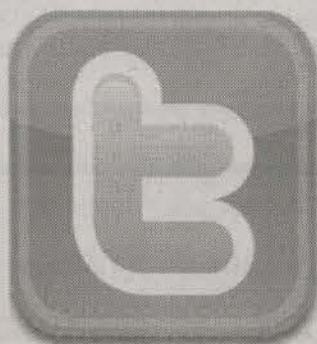
Huston said she feels her job is about raising awareness and empowering families to be more aware.

"Once it gets to me, it's too late," Huston said. "As a mother of daughters, I want to make sure they have the knowledge to protect themselves before an offense occurs."

Kathryn Richter can be reached at 581-2812 or kjrichter@eiu.edu



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What are students doing for Valentine's Day?

Get some ideas for you and your sweetie from our article!



STAFF EDITORIAL

Evolving to provide more news, access

This past weekend, several members of our editorial board attended the Mid-America Press Institute's first workshop of the year, "Managing Change," in St. Louis, Mo.

The focus of the weekend was to bring professional, as well as student, journalists together to discuss how to do more with less in a changing news climate and how to bring innovation to the newsroom.

Members of the Mid-America Press Institute, a non-profit association of news organizations, shared how their newsrooms have changed and evolved in recent years, some for the better, some for the worst.

However, a clear consensus that came through in the discussions is that journalism is not dying.

It's simply evolving.

Readers no longer receive their news from one source — they get it in print, they get it through mobile apps and through social media.

And here at *The News*, we need to evolve as well. This means you'll be hearing a lot more from us beyond the page.

Social-media tools like Twitter and Facebook are often abused to simply post "OMG! Nicki Minaj is crazy."

We are not here to refute or prove this statement (the editorial board is split on this matter), but instead we want to remind you how incredible these tools can be if we use them to their full potential.

And we're going to do this. You will be able to access campus news from multiple channels — news will be more accessible through our Facebook and Twitter accounts and we're going to take bigger strides with our online content.

This will also change the way we communicate with our online commentators, but there will be more on this in the near future.

This also means you are going to here some new voices on our staff. Within the next two weeks, several members of our staff are going to be launching new blogs to better reach out to our readers.

This will be a new way to get to know our reporters and editors that you would only normally see as a byline. Yes, we report on events and issues on campus, but would you ever know our Online Editor is a fantastic cook? (He absolutely is, by the way.)

We leave ourselves out of our reporting to present the facts as unbiased and accurately as we can. Our blogs will give us a voice after you leave the page.

This change isn't going to happen overnight, but we hope, through your feedback through these multiple channels, it will be worth the work.

The DAILY EASTERN NEWS

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

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

COLUMN

Obama's proposed NASA cuts hurt science, country

Yesterday, President Obama released his budget for 2013, which includes huge cuts to NASA that would leave the agency funded at its lowest level in four years, according to the *Christian Science Monitor*.

In particular, the budget would cut funding for NASA's planetary science division by 20 percent. This includes a 38.5 percent cut to Mars exploration, virtually destroying long-term flagship missions to Mars.

Obama has always boasted about his commitment to science, regarding scientific advancement as an integral part of the American identity and a crucial component of a new American century. These cuts are stupefying on several levels.

For one thing, the budget has almost no chance of making it through Congress as is. The odds of the House passing the president's budget would only slightly improve had he called for the complete dismantling of the federal government or a free tanning booth for the Speaker's office. It's more of an agenda outline for the campaign. No doubt any negotiations on the budget would include talk of cutting NASA's budget. Obama had no reason to start the negotiation with such deep cuts.

This also gives credence to the idea that cuts to NASA, and science funding in general, make any bit of difference in the larger budgetary picture. NASA funding makes up far less than 1 percent of the federal budget. Cutting the whole program, much less crippling its funding, does next to nothing to solve our serious budget problems.

As astronomer Phil Plait points out on his



Dave Balson

Bad Astronomy blog, "Reducing NASA's budget for Mars exploration frees up 0.01 percent of the federal budget," which is about what we spend funding 15 hours of the War on Terror. Plait continues: "For the cost of less than a single day on the War on Terror, we could have a robust and far-reaching program to explore Mars, look for signs of life on another planet, increase our overall science knowledge, and inspire a future generation of kids."

Which leads to the larger point, a point I thought the president and I agree on: NASA funding is a great use of federal dollars. Just economically speaking, NASA funding is stimulus spending. Every rocket, every space suit, every antenna and camera and solar panel is manufactured, sold and taxed in local American communities, creating jobs, wealth and revenue.

But, most importantly, we are the first life on Earth with the capability and scientific inquisitiveness to answer the immense questions whose answers lie beyond the atmosphere. We have the unique opportunity to be the first generation to find life outside our biosphere. The answers to these questions are at our fingertips

and it is our existential imperative to reach for them.

I'm a space nerd. I look at space porn—satellite images of deep space, other galaxies, planets, nebulae, etc. I have the Sombrero Galaxy as my desktop background (look it up, it's wicked).

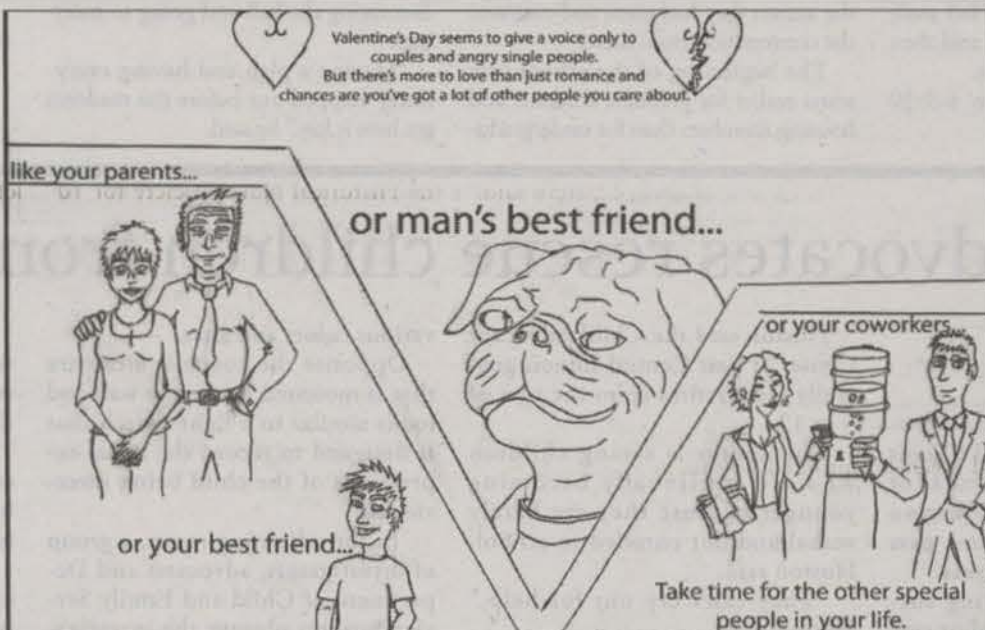
I grew up watching "Bill Nye the Science Guy." I got to meet him this summer at a lecture series at Cal Tech. Nye is now the executive director of The Planetary Society, which advocates space research and the exploration of other planets.

In a Planetary Society press release, Nye explained what we have to lose if these cuts are approved. "There is no other country or agency that can do what NASA does—fly extraordinary flagship missions in deep space and land spacecraft on Mars," Nye said. "If this budget is allowed to stand, the United States will walk away from decades of greatness in space science and exploration. But it will lose more than that. The U.S. will lose expertise, capability, and talent. The nation will lose the ability to compete in one of the few areas in which it is still the undisputed number one."

With due respect to Mr. Biden, I may start a campaign to get Nye on the 2012 ticket. In the mean time, lovers of space, humanity and America ought contact their president and members of congress and tell them to oppose the cuts.

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

FROM THE EASEL



SETH SCHROEDER | THE DAILY EASTERN NEWS

AROUND THE STATE

Marriage is threatening my civil union: a feminist satire

By **Linze Griebenow**
 Northern Star
 Northern Illinois University

Marriage is threatening the sanctity of my opposite-sex civil union.

When my partner and I became engaged, little did we know the legal and ethical oppositions we would face as an opposite-sex couple.

Not wanting to participate in a historically oppressive and exclusive practice of marriage, a civil union seemed to best suit our needs. As a mixed-sexuality couple and avid supporters of LGBT rights, we wanted to distance ourselves from an institution that openly violates civil rights while still receiving legal recognition.

However, I constantly find myself confronted by opposite-sex civil union discrimination and heterosexual marriage rhetoric.

Rarely, if ever, can I go out in public without being surrounded by marriage propaganda that is plain un-American. Thomas Jefferson is spinning in his grave, no doubt.

Words like "sacred" and phrases that describe marriage as the "truth experienced by virtually every civilization in every nation since the dawn of time" are limiting my freedom of religious ambivalence.

"There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither slave nor free, there is neither male nor female, for you are all one," (Galatians 3:28) the Bible states. Clearly, if there were an almighty god, she or he did not intend for marriage to have gender restrictions and would likely believe this hetero-exclusive form of matrimony to be an abomination.

The minute sector of the population that opposes gay marriage is nothing but a special interest group that is forcibly pushing a heterosexual agenda.

Because this group cannot come to terms with its own choice of heterosexual lifestyles, civil unions are not recognized by the federal government leaving our options for employment and housing that would recognize our relationship greatly limited. How am I supposed to explain this to my dog and cats?

Additionally, in schools across the country, public and private alike, schools are forcing a white, heterosexual male's perspective even when we know this to not be historically accurate. We must stop feeding innocent children these lies and shield them from textbooks that cater to the morally-bankrupt heterosexual agenda. If we allow this agenda into the classrooms, what's next? Marriage licence fees

tacked on to school registration?

Kids are being raised to think it's normal for only men and women to be married and for something to be defunct about opposite-sex unmarried couples. This is utterly unnatural.

They will grow up seeing everyone else's parents committed and in love, regardless of gender expression or sexual identity, and be confused. Children will have no concept of what a relationship truly is and will be taunted and teased by their peers. Won't somebody please think of the children?

Heterosexual married couples openly flaunt their perverted lifestyles in public spaces and leave little to the imagination. However, as an American citizen I believe that what everyone does consensually in the privacy of their homes should be subject to judgment. That said, married couples are tolerable, as long as they don't act like it in public.

So, as my partner and I begin evolve our separate lives into one, we will continue our fight against the evils of the heterosexual agenda and will proceed to push the DOCSA (Defense of Common Sense Act) into legislation.

To read more go to www.northernstar.info

Letters to the editor can be submitted at any time on any topic to the Opinions Editor to be published in *The Daily Eastern News*. The DEN's policy is to run all letters that are not libelous or potentially harmful. They must be less than 250 words.

Letters to the editor can be brought in with identification to *The DEN* at 1811 Buzzard Hall. Letters may also be submitted electronically from the author's EIU e-mail address to DENopinions@gmail.com.

CITY Newlyweds offer advice

By Kathryn Richter
 City Editor

Steve and Julie Runyon are not typical newlyweds.

They both have adult children and Steve retired, for a short time, a couple months after their wedding.

"I think one of the interesting things about our relationship is our 14 year age difference," Julie said. "Love just covers that bridge, it's not even an issue for us."

Steve said he has known Julie for seven years, after meeting when they both worked in education in Danville.

"Once I got passed the animal print, I just thought she was a very bright, energetic person," Steve said. "And she makes good chocolate chip cookies."

Julie said it was soon after they met that they realized they did not like to be apart.

Steve said he proposed at a Sunday family dinner where they were celebrating Julie's birthday.

After Julie blew out the candles on her birthday cake and made a wish, he asked if all her wishes came true, then presented her with a single diamond silver-banded engagement ring, Steve said.

Steve said once a person makes the decision to spend the rest of their life with another, it is hard to imagine their life without them.

"I just wanted to spend my life with Julie," Steve said. "The desire to spend the rest of your life with someone you enjoy: the good, the bad, the ups and the downs."

Steve and Julie got married on June 18, 2011.

When Steve and Julie got married over the summer, they said it was a family affair with about 20 people in attendance.

They were married at a vineyard in Greenup, with Julie's daughter as the maid of honor and Steve's son as the best man.

"We wanted it to be real and meaningful," Julie said.

Julie said they both wanted their family to be a part of the celebration.

Julie's sister sang at their wedding while her brother-in-law played the guitar and her stepfather officiated the wedding.

Julie said since she was a single mother for 10 years, it has been an adjustment for her daughter, who is

currently a freshman at Indiana State University.

Steve and Julie said they were both in previous marriages, which has had a positive affect on their own marriage.

"One of the good things that comes from a previous marriage is we learned the importance of patience and forgiveness," Julie said.

The couple is also learning about compromise, Julie said.

Julie said Steve is not naturally an animal lover and adjustments to accommodate the three dogs and two cats that now live with them.

"I still struggle with cats," Steve said.

Steve said communication is also a lesson he has learned from his previous marriage, but he admitted he has a harder time with sometimes.

"It's not good to stay silent," Steve said.

Julie said something for new couples to keep in mind is that their wedding vows still apply even when things get rough.

"To just run to get a divorce is so common," Julie said. "You really need to think about that before you get married."

Steve said the first time he got married, he waited until he was 31 and he has no regrets about that decision because he said he learned a lot.

"I learned from all of that and I think for young people, they don't have those life lessons," Steve said.

Steve said the biggest challenge that he and Julie have faced so far has been opening the consignment shop.

"It's a new challenge," Steve said. "Our families have been supportive."

Steve and Julie will be working on Valentine's Day and attending an auction in hopes of acquiring items for their shop, so Steve said Julie has planned a surprise for them for Wednesday.

Steve said this will be the first Valentine's Day that he will spend with Julie as a married couple.

"I think it's an opportunity for that one day to catch your breath from everything that's going on and think about the one you're in love with," Steve said.

Kathryn Richter can be reached at 581-2812 or kjrichter@eiu.edu.



SETH SCHROEDER | THE DAILY EASTERN NEWS

Sarah Johnson, a faculty member of the Booth Library, was recently recognized by the American Library Association and received the Louis Shore Award.

AWARD, from page 1

"(Johnson's) commitment to providing great research help to students and other information seekers is exemplary, and she is highly deserving of this professional recognition," Bell said. "I find it a pleasure to work with her regularly at the reference desk, conducting library tours for numerous community visitors, creating exhibits on a wide variety of topics, maintaining and improving the library's online resources and many other similar endeavors."

Outside her day job, Johnson edits, writes and reviews books for numerous organizations.

As a member of the National Book Critics Circle, Johnson serves as a reviewer for "Booklist," "Globe" and "CHOICE: Current Reviews for Academic Libraries."

Johnson has also been involved in the Historical Novel Society for 10 years. She writes and edits book reviews for the "Historical Novels Review," maintains its website and serves as treasurer for the Historical Novel Society Conference.

In her spare time, Johnson has written three novels titled "The Informa-

tion Professional's Guide to Career Development Online," "Historical Fiction: A Guide to the Genre" and "Historical Fiction II: A Guide to the Genre."

Johnson is also a contributor in the areas of linguistics and the history of modern English for Resources for College Libraries, an update to "Books for College Libraries."

This June, Johnson will fly out to Anaheim, Calif. to be recognized at the American Library Association awards reception.

Johnson received her master's of information and library studies from the University of Michigan, a master's in Linguistics from Ohio State University and a bachelor's in French from Drew University.

"I studied library services because I like working with people and doing research so it seemed like a good fit," Johnson said.

Kaylia Eskew can be reached at 581-2812 or at kbeskew@eiu.edu.

REGISTER, from page 1

Students registered and living on campus will vote at the Martin Luther King Jr. University Union or the Newman Center located on Roosevelt Avenue behind Lawson and Andrews halls.

The primary will be March 20 and the general election will be

Nov. 6 with polls open from 6 a.m. to 7 p.m.

Absentee voting for the primary will continue until March 19 where any student can vote and no excuse is necessary, Rennels said.

Early bird voting will begin on Feb. 27-March 15.

APPROVED, from page 1

"We created a huge file of past awards given to students to capture the detail of who we have admitted in the past, and Neel used it to look at what we need to do for the future," Donna said. "The scholarship is a new direction in our award strategy, and it is a merit-based award and not a need-based award."

Daniel Nadler, the vice president for student affairs and the liaison to the enrollment management revenue services consultant, said the university has implemented easier ways for students to locate scholarships, which included hiring scholarship coordinator Christine Edwards.

Edwards is responsible for cataloging all of the Eastern Scholarships, which are now organized in a searchable database.

"The beauty and the challenge of our scholarships is that they are decentralized so until recently, it was difficult to put your finger on how many scholarships are available, who is eligible and where they can be found," Nadler said. "This is a way to put our scholarships front and center for current and prospective students along with parents."

Students can search for scholarships based on major, year in school, county, activities and keywords.

"We will be working very closely with those involved in the admission and recruitment strategy trying to leverage the financial aid resources that we have so that we are most likely to get the kinds of students we need at the institution both in terms of quality and numbers," Nadler said.

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FLU, from page 1

Hildebrand and Barrientos both said students should make sure to take good care of themselves if they have the flu, and if they are lucky enough to be flu-free, to get the flu vaccine at the earliest convenience.

Barrientos said about 800 flu shots have already been given out this season and there are still 300 more available to students.

The flu shot is available for free at the Health Services by appointment.

Daniel Cravens can be reached at 581-2812 or drcravens@eiu.edu.

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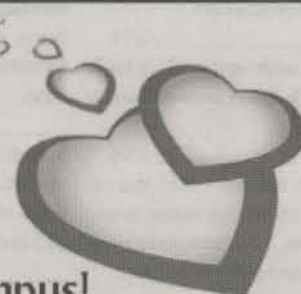


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TRACK



DANNY DAMIANI | THE DAILY EASTERN NEWS

Senior psychology major Queenie Adeboyejo competes in the triple-jump Jan. 21 during the John Craft invite in Lantz Fieldhouse.

Teams pile up top 10 finishes

By Dominic Renzetti
Sports Editor

The Eastern's men's and women's track and field teams each picked up a number of top 10 finishes at the team's respective meets this weekend. The roster was split between the Grand Valley State Big Meet in Allendale, Mich., and the Indiana Hoosier Hills meet in Bloomington, Ind.

Big finishes at Big Meet

Senior Emily Quinones finished in first place in the women's 200-meter dash with a time of 25.06 seconds. Quinones was also a part of the women's 4x400-meter relay team which broke the school record with 3:46.27.

Sophomores Jalisa Paramore and Klaudia Susul finished in sixth and seventh place in the women's 60-meter dash, finishing with times of 7.86 seconds and 7.87 seconds, respectively.

In the men's 200-meter dash, sophomore Kaleel Johnson and freshman Stefan Gorol finished fifth and sixth with times of 22.34 seconds and 22.37 seconds, respectively.

Other top men's finishers included freshman Ephraim Dorsey and red-

shirt sophomore Matt Black. Dorsey finished fourth in the 400-meter dash with a time of 49.52 seconds, while Black finished third in the 3,000-meter run with a time of 8:36.46.

The distance medley relay team, consisting of freshman Bryce Basting, red-shirt junior Sean Wiggan, Dorsey and junior Graham Morris, finished in second place with a time of 9:57.34.

The women's team also had top ten finishes in senior Olivia Klaus, sophomore Justine Moore, junior Jill MacEachen and junior Jaimee Roy. Klaus finished third in the mile run with a time of 5:04.19, while Moore and MacEachen finished second and third in the 60-meter hurdles with times of 8.87 seconds and 9.05 seconds. Roy finished in third place in the women's long jump with a mark of 18 feet, 2.25 inches.

On the men's side of the field events, red-shirt senior Donald Romero finished sixth in the shot put with a throw of 50 feet, 11 inches. Junior Bryce Hogan finished in first place in the long jump at 22 feet, 9 inches.

Panthers shine at Hoosier Hills meet

The Panthers were also represented in

Bloomington, Ind., at the Hoosier Hills meet.

Freshman Katie Ryan and senior Kenneth White each advanced to the finals in the 60-meter hurdles and the 60-meter dash.

Junior Sadiq Alliu finished third in the men's triple jump with a mark of 45 feet, 11.75 inches. Senior Reid Basting finished in sixth place in the men's 800-meter dash with a time of 1:57.21. Junior Danny Harris rounded out the men's finishers with a seventh place finish in the high jump with a mark of 6 feet, 4 inches.

The women's side saw two other top ten finishes, with sophomore Condia Smith finishing in eighth place in the weight throw with a distance of 50 feet, 3.25 inches. In the women's triple jump, freshman Katie Landry finished eighth with a mark of 31 feet, 3.75 inches.

The Panthers will continue their season this Friday at home with the Friday Night Special in Lantz Fieldhouse. The meeting time is yet to be announced.

Dominic Renzetti can be reached at 581-7942 or dcrenzetti@eiu.edu.

FOOTBALL

Tony Romo to host Gala

Staff Report

Eastern alumnus and current Dallas Cowboys quarterback Tony Romo will host the fourth installment of the Athletic Director's Gala at 6 p.m. today at the Thelma Keller Convention Center

in Effingham.

Along with Romo, the event will honor former Eastern head football coach Bob Spoo and his 25 years of service.

All proceeds directly support Eastern student-athletes.

CORRECTION

In the Feb. 13 edition of the *Daily Eastern News*, freshman forward Josh Piper was misidentified in a photo. *The News* regrets this error.

SECONDS, from page 8

After losing Saturday in overtime to Tennessee-Martin, Sallee said Monday's game would be important for the Panthers to bounce back from a tough loss.

The Panthers slipped by with a one-point win and Sallee could not have been more proud.

"We had to be tough, and you know how much I love toughness," Sallee said. "They stuck with me and we won the game how I love to win games: with toughness."

Alex McNamee can be reached at 581-7942 or admcnamee@eiu.edu.

STATE

Pressure builds on Illini coach Weber

By Associated Press

CHAMPAIGN, Ill. (AP) — Mike Thomas has been athletic director at Illinois for five very busy months.

He fired football coach Ron Zook three months after being hired and then hired Zook's replacement, Tim Beckman, over the protests of two university trustees who complained that the new coach wasn't black.

Thomas is now about to launch a campaign to raise more than \$100 million to redo Assembly Hall even as fans grow increasingly frustrated with men's basketball coach Bruce Weber.

"Pack your bags, Weber!" a fan shouted at the ninth-year coach after a recent home loss.

The Illini (16-9, 5-7) have lost six of

their last seven games to cement themselves in the middle of the 12-team Big Ten. And that, many fans note with disgust, is more or less where Illinois has been for several years.

Thomas won't say whether he plans to fire Weber. Much like he said when fans called for Zook's job last fall, Thomas said he usually evaluates his coaches at the end of the season — and that's what he plans to do with Weber.

"I go through a process and assess the situation — not only what's happening currently but the total body of work — and usually make those decisions at the end of the season," he said in an interview with The Associated Press. "I think you try to do it as soon as possible, you know, (when) it's pretty fresh to you."

ONLINE

Article: Panthers split weekend road trip



The Eastern's women's tennis team took a split over this past weekend. The Panthers beat the Chicago State Cougars with a score of 6-1 on Saturday in Chicago, but the Panthers lost to the Huskies of Northern Illinois University by a score of 1-6 on Sunday in Dekalb.

Check out the article at dailyeasternnews.com.

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WOMEN'S BASKETBALL



KIMBERLY FOSTER | THE DAILY EASTERN NEWS

Junior guard Ta'Kenya Nixon prepares to go for a basket during the Panthers' 74-48 win against Southeast Missouri Feb. 1 in Lantz Arena. Eastern defeated Tennessee Tech 52-51 in final seconds of their game on Monday.

Panthers win in final seconds

By Alex McNamee
Staff Reporter

The final buzzer sounded on the Eastern's women's basketball team's 52-51 win over Tennessee Tech on Monday, and Eastern head coach Brady Sallee looked back at his team on the bench ecstatic, pumping his fists.

After losing Saturday against Tennessee-Martin on the road, his team pulled out a one-point victory over Tennessee Tech in Cookeville, Tenn.

"This summer, when the schedule came out, I knew what this road trip was going to be," Sallee said. "To get a split and play as hard as we did in a grind-it-out game, that was my reaction."

Eastern pulled out the one-point win with its defensive focus on the last play of the game. Eastern led by one with 3.9 seconds to play as Tennessee Tech was preparing to inbound under their basket after a timeout.

Sallee played a cat-and-mouse game, waiting to see what set Tennessee Tech was going to come out in. Then, he called a timeout.

Sallee said he talked with his team about the set Tennessee Tech was playing in and how to defend it, but when the two teams came back onto the court Tennessee Tech had changed it up.

On the inbounds pass, Eastern was able to knock the ball out of bounds leaving 3.3 seconds to play. Then, Tennessee Tech switched back to the set Sallee had planned for.

"We really, really executed the defense well," Sallee said. "They switched back and our team saw it and I was shouting at them."

"We had to be tough, and you know how much I love toughness."

Brady Sallee, head coach

The inbounds pass ended up in the hands of Eastern junior guard Ta'Kenya Nixon, who then turned around and ran down the court until the buzzer sounded.

The Panthers had to battle back into the game trailing by 10 points with 13:50 to go in the second half. They did so with a handful of big defensive stops and clutch offensive shots.

Eastern shrank the deficit to six points with less than seven minutes to play. They followed it up by getting two back-to-back three pointers by senior forward Chantelle Pressley and red-shirt freshman guard Katlyn Payne.

"They were in a zone and I can't fault them for it," Sallee said. "Katlyn hit a big three and Chantelle hit a huge three."

Then, when it was time to win, Nixon hit a jump shot with 1:27 to play to bring the game within one point and followed it with a layup at the 56-second mark to give the Panthers a lead.

"She got that look in her eye as she has so many times in her career when it was winning time," Sallee said.

SECONDS, page 7

MEN'S BASKETBALL

Miller breaks scoring record

Team stands 10th in OVC standings

By Rob Mortell
Staff Reporter

Freshman guard Joey Miller set an Eastern Division I era record for points in one game as a freshman in a win against the University of Tennessee at Martin in Martin, Tenn.

The son of Eastern head coach Mike Miller scored 28 points on 6-of-12 shooting, including four three-point shots. Joey Miller also added 12 points from the free throw line.

The Previous record was held by both Tyler Laser and Romain Martin, who scored 27 points.

For his record-breaking performance, and his outing against Tennessee Tech, Joey Miller earned the Ohio Valley Freshman of the Week Award. It was the third time this season he won the award.

This season, Joey Miller is averaging 10.8 points, three assists and 2.5 rebounds per game. He

has also shown poise from the free throw line, making 81 percent of his foul shots. He has also been reliable from behind the arc, shooting 31 percent from beyond the three-point.

In games where Joey Miller scores in double-digits, the Panthers are 8-5 overall.

Current OVC Standings

With two straight wins, Eastern's men's basketball team sits in 10th place in the OVC standings.

At 4-9. The Panthers are two games behind Austin Peay, Eastern Kentucky and Jacksonville State, who come in as the last three qualifying teams for the conference tournament.

The Panthers have three OVC games remaining. They have to win all of those games to have a chance at making the tournament through a tie-breaker, because they are 0-1 against Austin Peay, Eastern Kentucky and Jacksonville State. However, if all of these teams win one more game, Eastern will be eliminated from tournament contention.

Around the OVC

Following its first loss of the season, Murray State came back with an 82-63 win over Austin Peay. Isaiah Canaan had a game-high 23 points and added six assists as the Racers improved to 24-1 overall and 12-1 in the OVC.

With the loss, Austin Peay falls to 9-18 overall and 6-7 in conference play.

Last week Murray State was ranked No. 7 in the nation; however, the loss to Tennessee State now has the Racers ranked No. 14.

Tennessee State continued its good play with a 68-53 win over Tennessee Tech.

The win improves the Tigers' record to 17-10 overall and 10-4 in the OVC, while Tennessee Tech falls to 16-11 overall and 8-6 in conference play.

Tennessee State was led by Robert Covington, who had a game-high 16 points, two rebounds and two blocks.

Rob Mortell can be reached at 581-7942 or rdmortell@eiu.edu.

FOOTBALL

Wittke returns to Eastern to accept new position

Former offensive coordinator new director of football operations

Dominic Renzetti
Sports Editor

Former offensive coordinator Roy Wittke was named director of football operations on Monday by the Eastern athletic department.

Wittke, who has been the Panthers' offensive coordinator in two separate stints, will join newly-hired head coach Dino Babers in his first season leading the team. Wittke served a total of 17 years, first from 1990-2002 and then from 2008-2011. Wittke was instrumental in helping current Dallas Cowboys quarterback Tony Romo win the Walter Payton Award in 2002. In the same sea-

son, Wittke was named the American Football Coaches Association Football Conference Subdivision (AFCA FCS) Assistant Coach of the Year. A native of Racine, Wis., Wittke helped the Panthers to become the nation's fourth highest scoring offense in 2002, averaging 35.3 points per game.

"I am thrilled to be able to retain Roy Wittke as Director of Football Operations," athletic director Barbara Burke said in a press release. "This adds another dimension to our staff, and to be able to have someone of Roy's character and knowledge of the game is critical to our football program's ongoing success."

Along with being a coach for the Panthers, Wittke also has been an offensive coordinator at Arkansas, Arizona State and Northern Illinois.

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