

4-21-2005

Daily Eastern News: April 21, 2005

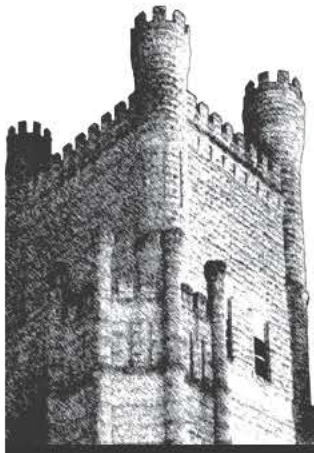
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Eastern Illinois University, "Daily Eastern News: April 21, 2005" (2005). *April*. 15.
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"Tell the truth and don't be afraid."

INSERT ♦ Looking for the next Syrus - Verge: page 1B

THE DAILY
EASTERN NEWS

VOLUME 89, ISSUE 141

thedailyeasternnews.com

THURSDAY
APRIL
21
2005

Eastern Illinois University, Charleston

VP SA to interview candidates

BY KYLE MAYHUGH
NEWS EDITOR

Eastern's Student Affairs department needs to continue a strong tradition while understanding the financial problems facing higher education, the first vice president for Student Affairs candidate said during his campus visit on Tuesday.

Rick Brandel, dean of students at Northern Arizona University, is the first of four finalists for the job to visit Eastern over the next two weeks.

"There are going to be times when we go to the trough (to ask for money), and Student Affairs isn't what is in the students' best interest," Brandel said. "There are lots of competing interests that come in and

Remaining candidates

Candidate	School	Visit Date
♦ Daniel Nadler	Tulane University (New Orleans)	April 25 26
♦ Randy Hyman	Ball State University (Muncie, IN)	April 26 27
♦ Eileen Sullivan	Loras College (Dubuque, IA)	April 27 28

have to be balanced."

Brandel attended two open sessions in which Eastern students, faculty and staff could direct comments and questions to him.

"As we know, in higher education money is tight, and we all have needs, wants and wish lists," said Bobbi Kingery, career services graduate placement officer.

Brandel said his goal for the job would be to continue Eastern's tradition of "strong vice presidents" in the department, including Eastern President Lou Hencken.

"There is some heritage here that needs to be honored and understood," Brandel said.

Because he grew up on a farm in Idaho, Brandel said he felt at home when he flew into the Coles County Airport and saw all the farmland.

In addition, one big reason he applied for the job is "not many vice president for Student Affairs positions become available."

Eastern impressed him because of its 80 percent retention rate,

SEE VP SA PAGE 9A

Polk Avenue redesigned

The redesign is part of the city's plan to improve Charleston

BY ERIN MILLER
CITY EDITOR

The Charleston City Council hired an engineer to redesign Polk Avenue from Sixth to Division streets.

The upgrade of Polk Avenue is part of the city's comprehensive plan to improve Charleston, and it wants another east-west street other than Lincoln Avenue, Mayor Dan Coughill said.

"We want to upgrade Polk Avenue because it is bumpy," Coughill said.

The cost of an engineer is about \$20,000, and the engineer will help determine if additional land needs to be purchased from homeowners to make the road wider, he said.

Polk Avenue is currently 40 feet wide from the back of the sidewalks and will be about 26 feet wide not including the sidewalks, Coughill said.

"It will improve not only vehicle traffic but pedestrian traffic," he said.

The city chose to hire Consolidated Services of Coles County, which submitted a bid to the city when the council first looked into redesigning Polk Avenue, Coughill said.

"The original design was a wider street, and that required the city to purchase more property," said Mike Sullivan, owner of the engineering company. "They hired us to revise the original design in order to make (the street) a little more narrow, so (the city) doesn't have to purchase so much right of way."

Along with determining what land needs to be purchased, an engineer determines sidewalk location, tree removal and the complete setup for project specifications, Sullivan said.

"We take (the city's) initial design, and we generate a set of engineering drawings suitable for construction, and the city then takes those drawings to contractors," he said.

Construction will ideally begin in spring 2006, after graduation and classes are done at Eastern so it does not interfere, Coughill said.

"It will improve not only vehicle traffic, but pedestrian traffic."

DAN COUGILL,
MAYOR



STEPHEN HAAS/THE DAILY EASTERN NEWS

Members of the Charleston Fire Department test out new camera equipment that can be used for search and rescue operations. The camera can be mounted on a flexible rod, an extendable pole or a rope.

Firefighters trained on various rescues

BY ERIN MILLER
CITY EDITOR

The Charleston Fire Department received \$160,000 in equipment from the state of Illinois, which enables it to serve 14 southern and eastern Illinois counties in the event of a rescue situation.

The fire department is a part of the state's regional response team for technical rescue, said Pat Goodwin, captain of Charleston Fire and Rescue.

These firefighters will be trained to

do various rescues, such as collapsed buildings, confined spaces or even from a water tower, Goodwin said.

"We are thrilled to be considered a state team," he said.

The Charleston Regional Technical Rescue Team includes firefighters from Charleston, Mattoon and Sullivan, he said.

Right now, the team has 95 percent of their equipment, Goodwin said.

This week, the team has watched presentations on the equipment so it could familiarize itself with these tools.

Three days next week will be devoted to hands-on equipment training at the fire training facility, said Todd Foster, a Charleston firefighter.

The training will focus on ropes, knots and haul systems, which are used in most rescues, Foster said.

"Most of what we do in all of these rescues has something to do with ropes, whether it has something to do with getting down to the patient or pulling ourselves up to the patient," he said.

A person can pull four times his or her own weight using a rope system, Foster said.

This is not the first time local firefighters are training on this rescue equipment.

The training is ongoing, and in the past two years, firefighters have participated in a total of 10 weeks of training at an academy designed to use the equipment for rescues, Goodwin said.

SEE TRAINING PAGE 9A

FIVE-DAY OUTLOOK

TODAY
70
55
AM Showers

FRIDAY
72
36
Scattered T storms

SATURDAY
51
32
Partly cloudy

SUNDAY
55
39
Partly cloudy

MONDAY
61
43
Partly cloudy

AROUND ILLINOIS CAMPUSES



SOUTHERN ILLINOIS UNIVERSITY
Professor investigated

CARBONDALE — A group of Southern Illinois University history faculty is challenging the College of Liberal Arts' Teacher of the Year because he used an article the group calls "racist propaganda" that was distributed in his large American history lecture as optional reading. Professor Jonathan Bean's use of an article titled "Remembering the Zebra Killings," written by James Lubinkas, has sparked a debate about the boundaries of academic freedom as well what Bean calls a "bomb" being dropped on him and his reputation. Shirley Clay Scott, dean of the College of Liberal Arts, sent Bean a letter April 12 suggesting that the professor does not understand the "parameters of discussion."

READ MORE AT WWW.DAILYEGYPTIAN.COM

NORTHERNWESTERN UNIVERSITY
Students file concerns

EVANSTON — Anonymous complaints against anyone at Northwestern University can now be reported through a centralized Web site for ethical grievances. Previously scattered around NU's Web site, contact information for ethical complaints was moved Friday into a central location, www.northwestern.edu/ethics. The Web site includes contact information for EthicsPoint, an "ethical hotline" hired by NU that provides an avenue for whistleblowers, according to Michael J. Moody, director of auditing compliance.

READ MORE AT WWW.DAILYNORTHWESTERN.COM

UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS
Students celebrate hash

CHAMPAIGN — The number "420" holds a special meaning with the drug-friendly community. It also marks the date of Hash Wednesday, a celebration held by Students for Sensible Drug Policy (SSDP) and the National Organization for the Reform of Marijuana Laws (NORML). Matthew King, University of Illinois sophomore and co-president of NORML/SSDP, said Hash Wednesday, held on April 20 (4/20), is a day of activities to educate students and rally support for the legalization of marijuana. Ryan Allured, sophomore in engineering and co-president of NORML/SSDP, said Hash Wednesday's activities will include a comedy sketch, a celebrity pothead look-alike contest, and an oregano joint-rolling contest.

READ MORE AT WWW.DAILYILLINI.COM

CORRECTIONS

A story in Wednesday's edition of *The Daily Eastern News* said the Special Olympics begins at 9 a.m. Saturday. It actually begins on Friday. *The News* regrets the error.

WHACK THAT BALL!



ANGIE FALLER/THE DAILY EASTERN NEWS

Agata Przeklasa, a junior English major, plays tennis with a friend on the tennis courts across from Thomas Hall. This was Przeklasa's third tennis excursion of the year.

ONLINE POLL

What do you think of the clock tower to be erected just south of Booth?

- A) It's a waste of alumni funds. Can we fix the other campus clocks first?
- B) It's a good idea. It will be a convenience to students.
- C) It's a bad idea. It's going to look out of place.
- D) I'm unsure. I really don't care either way.

VOTE @ THE DAILY EASTERN NEWS.COM

TODAY'S EVENTS

TRANSFER DEBUT - TOURS	ALL DAY	OLD MAIN
Debut is designed to give an orientation to the campus and to meet with an academic adviser to register for classes.		
CLEANING UP FOR CHARITY	ALL DAY	VARIOUS LOCATION
The Black Student Union is collecting new and used toiletries for the Coalition of the People in Need.		
RHA MEETING	5 P.M.	ANDREWS HALL BASEMENT LOBBY
Residence Hall Association Meeting		

WTF?

Man shot in butt

GRASS VALLEY, Calif. — Nevada County authorities were investigating a shooting that wounded a 29-year-old man in the buttocks and led officers to a large stash of marijuana and a wad of cash. Brandon Sanders said he did not know who shot him Monday night, and investigators said they were not sure how the wound was inflicted. "He has not been the most cooperative victim," said Sheriff Keith Royal. Sanders reported the shooting and paramedics and officers who responded found him sitting in his car in a parking lot.

PEOPLE

Fonda gets spit

KANSAS CITY, Mo. — A man spit tobacco juice into the face of Jane Fonda after waiting in line to have her sign her new memoir. Capt. Rich Lockhart of the Kansas City Police Department said Michael A. Smith, 54, was arrested Tuesday night on a municipal charge of disorderly conduct. He was released on bond and is due to appear in court on May 27. Fonda covers a wide range of topics in "My Life So Far," including her 1972 visit to Hanoi to protest the Vietnam War, during which she was photographed on a North Vietnamese anti-aircraft gun. She has apologized for the photo, but not for opposing the war.

COUNTING DOWN

39

Days until Memorial Day.

WORD DU JOUR

diffident:
1. hesitant in acting or speaking through lack of self confidence
2. reserved, unassertive

THE DAILY EASTERN NEWS

The Daily Eastern News is produced by the students of Eastern Illinois University. It is published daily Monday through Friday, in Charleston, Ill., during fall and spring semesters and twice weekly during the summer term except during school vacations or examinations. Subscription price: \$50 per semester, \$30 for summer, \$95 all year. The Daily Eastern News is a member of The Associated Press, which is entitled to exclusive use of all articles appearing in this paper.

HAVE A SUGGESTION?

If you have any suggestions or ideas for articles you would like to see in *The Daily Eastern News*, feel free to contact us at 581-2812 or by e-mail cucj7@eiu.edu.

FIND A MISTAKE?

Let us know if you find a factual error in *The News* so we can provide the correct information to other readers. Contact the editor at 581-2812 or cucj7@eiu.edu.

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PERIODICAL POSTAGE PAID AT:
Charleston, IL 61920
ISSN 0894-1599
PRINTED BY:
Eastern Illinois University
Charleston, IL 61920
ATTENTION POSTMASTER:
Send address changes to
The Daily Eastern News
Buzzard Hall, Eastern Illinois University
Charleston, IL 61920



Almost famous EIU student gets casting call

Zimostrad has chance to participate in a new MTV reality show

By SETH MILLER
STAFF WRITER

It began in 1992 with seven strangers meeting in New York to have their lives taped. MTV's reality show "The Real World" almost cast one Eastern student.

With former "Real World: Boston" cast member Syrus on campus for a casting call this week, Eastern students had the chance to follow in that student's footsteps.

Eric Zimostrad, a senior communications major, was one of the finalists to be chosen for the television show on the MTV network in the fall of 2004.

"I did it on a whim," Zimostrad said.

After hearing about an open-call audition from his mother, Zimostrad left Charleston with a friend at 5 a.m. to attend an audition in Chicago for "The Real World" and "Road Rules."

Friend and roommate Mike Keeter, a junior sports management major, described Eric as "outgoing, creative, a great person (and) a people person."

Zimostrad said when he arrived about 2,000 to 3,000 people were there for auditions.

After filling out a 30-page questionnaire and waiting for five hours, he was finally called in for the audition.

Zimostrad said the questionnaire, which took him about five hours, asked both general and in-depth questions.

The questionnaire asked about family, schooling and "exploring every sort of territory of yourself," he said.

Soon afterward, he was called back to have a video interview to see if he fit the mold for "The Real World."

After returning to Charleston, he said he received a call at about 11 p.m. from the casting crew.

Because of lack of sleep and a three-hour drive, Zimostrad could not make it back to Chicago for a call back at 8 a.m.



DANIEL WILLIAMS/THE DAILY EASTERN NEWS

Eric Zimostrad, a senior communications major, is a finalist for a new MTV reality television show. Zimostrad went to a casting call in Chicago and was called back for a video interview.

"I think I kind of stepped outside of the box of what they were looking for," Zimostrad said.

He offered advice to anyone planning on auditioning for a reality show. Zimostrad said get some sleep before auditions, so no all-night drinking binges before.

When participants fill out 30 pages of questions, be honest and do not be afraid, he said. Be

sure to bring lawn chairs and a cooler with some food.

He finally said don't care about their views.

Zimostrad does not have any real regrets about what happened, and if the opportunity arose to try another reality show, he would.

"I'd probably do it, maybe for (another reality show)," Zimostrad said.

Eastern students aid ancient castle dig in Belgium

Honor students take a course at the Louvain-La-Neuve

By SABRINA MADRIGAL
STAFF WRITER

For the past five years, the honors program at Eastern has allowed students to go on archeological digs at a castle in Belgium.

Bailey Young, associate professor of history, is in charge of the program.

Young, who studied Merovingian archeology in Paris, came to Eastern in 1994 and together with Raymond Brulet, of the Universite Catholique de Louvain in Belgium, designed the four-week summer archeological dig.

"This is a very unique program that allows students from America to work

side-by-side with students from Belgium and other foreign countries," Young said. "It is very difficult to excavate when you're not from a school like Brown or Princeton. That is why this is such a good opportunity for the students here at Eastern."

The castle that the group goes to every year is located at Louvain-La-Neuve, Belgium. The course is offered with the cooperation of the department of archeology and the history of art of the Universite Catholique de Louvain.

The site, which has been protected by law since 1990, is badly damaged due in part to the French revolution and a wide array of owners.

"The site changed owners many times and was left and neglected," Young said. "After one of the owners died, he had no son to pass it on to, so he gave it to his daughter. After she was

married, the site was given to her husband, and the castle has had an assortment of owners since then."

Bailey compares the architecture of this castle to that of the great pyramids. "For this to have been built in the 13th century is truly amazing," Young said. "It stands for 200 years that are not represented in any archeological history."

Students will learn the basic training and techniques of excavation and how to properly record their findings. Along with the digs, students will attend weekly lectures and laboratory visits, and they must turn in a written report at the end of the session.

Enrollment for the program gives priority to undergraduate honor students or other Eastern undergraduates with approval from the director of the Honors Program.



ANGIE FALLER/THE DAILY EASTERN NEWS

Bailey Young, associate professor of history, shows a drawing of 15th century Walhain-Saint-Paul Castle during his speech "How to Dig a Medieval Castle: Report from EIU's Belgian Trenches" Wednesday afternoon in Room 3202 at Booth Library.

UB Blowout....

All Fun Seeking Individuals Must Go To These Events

Virtual Spring Fling

Saturday April 23 @ 1:00pm

South Quad
(rain location: Student Rec Center)

Lazer Tag, Wax Hands, Make a Music Video, Freaky Photo, Live Music, Free food, Stilt Walker & More!

Def Poetry Jam & 2005 Mahogany Awards

W/ poets

J. Ivy & Dana Gilmore

Saturday, April 23 @ 7:00pm

University Ballroom

Shark Tale

Saturday, April 23 @ 5 & 8 PM

Buzzard Auditorium

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- Employees earn competitive salaries and generous benefits package with medical, dental, vision, 401K, tuition reimbursement, paid time off for volunteer work and more.

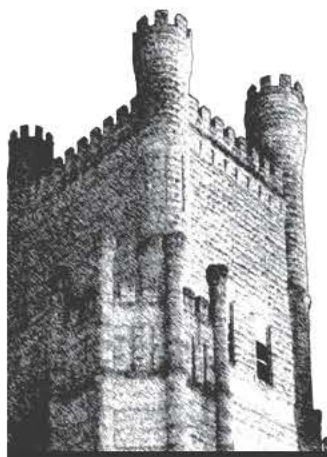
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OPINION

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

THURSDAY, APRIL 21 2005

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COLUMN

Clearing the haze of a confusing custom



DAN
WOIKE

SENIOR, JOURNALISM
MAJOR

Woike is a sports reporter for *The Daily Eastern News*.

Somewhere along the line, someone told me it's important to take pride in the process. And the saying, it turns out, taught me that the end result can only be achieved if the hard work necessary beforehand is completed. But, watching the cable news channels this week, I learned something about "the process." Sometimes, it can be pretty unnecessary. The crowds gathered at Vatican City and waited for a literal smoke signal announcing that a new pope had been selected. Now the process of selecting a pope seems to make enough sense, not withstanding the confusing vote-margin rules that I believe end with the cardinals breaking all ties with a three-legged race. My issues with the process are simply squared upon the burning of the ballots, which leads to the papal smoke. Watching the coverage of the selection on cable news, each of the major networks devoted significant time discussing whether or not a new pope was selected.

A seemingly cut-and-dry distinction between white smoke, meaning no selection has been made, and black smoke, meaning a new pope has been chosen, became muddled when the smoke released wasn't quite white and not quite black.

Yes, the cable news media spent time discussing which color the smoke was.

Sometime before I learned to take pride in the process, I was taught about life-altering things like numbers, shapes and colors. And, I have retained the knowledge that black is the opposite of white.

Considering the cardinals' smoke problem, I forced myself to say, "Ok, there has to be a better way."

Instead of confusing the talking heads, why not strip the notification process down. To notify people of a choice, why not raise a flag, release some doves or ring some bells?

Even my high school has an electronic signboard giving information about the next Hersey home football game. Why can't the Vatican adapt and go digital?

Now, I know what some people are thinking: this process has been intact for thousands of years and steeped in tradition.

And while that statement is 100 percent accurate, it fails to account for the ability to improve.

One of people's best attributes is the ability to evolve and change with the world around them (some whacko named Charles Darwin says all creatures possess the ability to evolve, but I don't see any squirrels taking in the new, evolved luxuries like air conditioning, Kit Kat's or 24-hour cable news channels.) But processes have been improved throughout history.

Instead of walking to a river, I drink water out of a faucet, and when in Charleston, I don't drink out of a faucet but only from bottles.

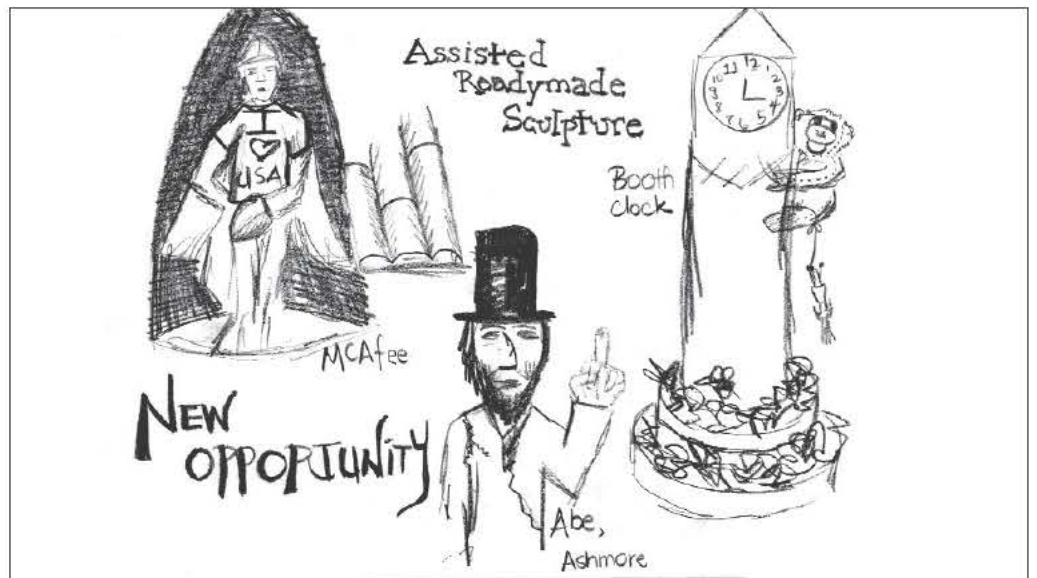
Instead of going through all the trouble of loading up a horse and carriage, people can put a key in the ignition and start a car.

People used to duck around backrooms in seedy places to get their hands on pornography until Al Gore invented the Internet. (That's why he got my vote.)

It's time Vatican City embraces evolution (not that kind – that's too much to ask) and realizes their process needs some updating. If not for the crowds gathered, the process should be simplified for the cable news people.

And, to start the process of change, there has to be a realization that the process of selecting an infallible man is lacking divine perfection.

EDITORIAL CARTOON BY KATE GILLEN



EDITORIAL

Credit's new way to bully

Congress has passed new bankruptcy laws that strongly restrict the availability of Chapter 7 filings, which erase most of a person's personal debt.

Instead, anyone with an income above the median in their state and \$100 per month left over after paying basic necessities must file for Chapter 13 bankruptcy, which means they have to set up a plan to repay all of the debt within five years.

Rather than be more responsible with how credit is issued, this new law gives companies a free pass to barrage students with bad credit deals without regard for their credit histories.

The burden used to be on the company to carefully evaluate a person's future ability to repay debts. Now, there is no risk to offering free T-shirts and beach balls to students who sign up for a "student card" with a \$100 account origination fee and huge interest rates.

While it is important to repay debts, bankruptcy is an important institution that allows people to get their lives together when things get out of control.

It is easy to see how Congress could misunderstand this, with the average congressman being more than 30 times more likely to be a millionaire than the average American.

At issue

Congress' new bankruptcy laws restrict Chapter 7 tendencies.

Our stance

The new laws will impact students in a negative way because many will be unable to avoid bad credit deals that the companies will have more opportunity to implement.

This year on campus, we have seen restaurants giving away free food if students will fill out credit card applications. If these companies want students to get credit cards this badly, it is obviously not a good deal for the students.

But some students may not realize that it is a bad deal, and that is why it seems to be a bad idea to limit their options if they do indeed get themselves into a dangerous situation. Some students, regardless of the offers in front of them, fall into poor credit habits.

So, this restructuring of the laws benefits only credit card companies and lending institutions, most of which practice aggressive lending practices.

A credit card used to be a symbol of a well-kept financial life. Now, college students are inundated with applications. The average college student leaves school with \$2,700 in credit card debt.

People certainly should pay back their debts if they can, but often times that simply isn't possible. And the law's requirement of credit counseling before bankruptcy can be filed is definitely a good idea.

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

YOUR TURN: LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

MARTY SCOTT DESERVED MORE RESPECT

I feel that the article published on the front page of the April 19 edition of the *DEN* was inappropriate and very disrespectful, not only to Marty Scott but also to his colleagues and students.

The cause of death isn't something that needs to be published to the

whole Eastern community, since another source had said the cause of death was going to be revealed only to his mother.

Personally, I think some of the comments included in the article should have not been published at all. Some of the comments include exactly how he was found and the exact cause of death.

On another note, the article almost makes it sound as if Friends & Company is partly at fault, which is absurd.

CHRIS GREEN,
GRADUATE STUDENT,
SCHOOL OF TECHNOLOGY

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR: The Daily Eastern News accepts letters to the editor addressing local, state, national and international issues. They should be less than 250 words and include the authors' name, telephone number and address. Students should indicate their year in school and major. Faculty, administration and staff should indicate

their position and department. Letters whose authors cannot be verified will not be printed. We reserve the right to edit letters for length. Letters can be sent to *The Daily Eastern News* at **1811 Buzzard Hall**, Charleston IL 61920; faxed to 217-581-2923; or e-mailed to **cujc7@eiu.edu**.

International forum hosts tea party

By YOUNGCHI CHANG
STAFF WRITER

Kind smiles and the aroma of green tea were in abundance Wednesday night at the international forum, where Eastern students and staff were introduced to Japanese culture.

The forum, a Japanese tea ceremony, was sponsored by the International Programs Office and provided a unique opportunity for students to understand and experience another culture. It was held in the Charleston/Mattoon Room of the Martin Luther King Jr. University Union.

Five Japanese international students and one guest participant introduced Japan and its culture through images of the country during the presentation. Eastern is currently home to eight Japanese students.

"It is very special how Japanese people traditionally make and serve

teas," said Emi Arai, a sophomore sociology major.

Wearing the traditional dress called Yukata, the Japanese female students performed the ceremony, called Sado, on the table set instead of a traditional Japanese room, which is used to treat guests in a host's house.

"Audiences might have not only gained a greater understanding of Japanese culture but also a visual treat from the beauty of the event," said Sue Songer, international student adviser.

Kozue Ebina, a music graduate student, showed how to make the tea and serve it in traditional way.

The tea is served in a bowl called Chawan. Ebina poured hot water with Matcha, a bitter green tea powder, and stirred it with a Chasei, a stirring utensil. All tools introduced to make the tea were from Japan to show the audiences, Arai said.

The ceremony was first introduced in Japan in the ninth century from China for medicinal usage.

Drinking the tea in the traditional ceremony had spread out to all levels of society by the 16th century.

"Actually, I didn't know well how to make the tea until preparing for this forum," Arai said.

Arai learned how to perform the Japanese ceremony from the Internet and Ebina's grandmother, who was a teacher at the Urasenke, which is a top school in Japan that has taught the ritual for more than three decades. The students gathered and prepared information about the Japanese traditional tea ceremony.

This presentation was a chance for guests to experience the unique ceremony first hand.

"(The green tea) wasn't bitter," said Doug Robinson, a senior marketing major. "I enjoyed it lot and was able to learn what Japanese culture is like. It was very great," he said.

However, the tradition has faded. Although many young people in Japan still drink the tea, they do not make



CARRIE HOLLIS/THE DAILY EASTERN NEWS

Kozue Ebina and Emi Arai await other guests to join them for the Japanese Tea Ceremony, which took place in the Charleston/Mattoon Room of the Martin Luther King Jr. University Union on Wednesday afternoon. The presentation was the last of the year for the international forum.

the tea in the traditional way.

"My grandparents' generation drank the tea everyday," Arai said. "The old people have tried to keep

the tradition, but today's people just use disposable tea-bags because (the traditional way) takes much time and needs patience."

RHA holds this semester's final meeting before board transition

By KRISTY MELLENDORF
STAFF WRITER

The Residence Hall Association is preparing for its last meeting of the year before the transition of its new executive board.

Natalie Kuchar, president of the Residence Hall Honorary, will speak to RHA about the renewal of its recycling contract. RHA was responsible for the "Bottle Battlez" and "Can Warz" that took place in the residence halls throughout the year. This year,

RHA was able to recycle 1,300 bags. The contract will provide RHA with two \$1,000 scholarships.

Committee chair elects will be announced at this week's meeting. Applications were due in to the executive board last week.

"There was not an overwhelming response, but we did have to make some decisions," said Lindsay DiPietro, RHA president.

RHA will also have an update from incoming President Heather Gergits on its Kids' Weekend, which will begin at 4:30 p.m. Friday. Scheduled

events include face painting, limbo, and arts and crafts.

"I hope that everything turns out and that the weather works with us," Gergits said.

The money for the Fundraising Wars, which goes to scholarships, is due tonight. The winner of the wars will be announced at RHA's banquet in May. Pemberton and Andrews halls are currently battling for the lead.

Last week, Kim Thompson, a freshman pre-physical therapy major, spoke to RHA about the

Diversity Project, for which she is also chair. The project is planning to adopt a family in the community and provide them with clothing and other products to their benefit. Thompson is asking for a donation from RHA, which will be voted on this week. The maximum to be donated is \$16.67.

"We are working to unite (Eastern's) campus with the surrounding Charleston community," Thompson said.

RHA meets 5 p.m. Thursday in the Andrews Hall Basement.

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Check in Place: Campus Pond Pavilion
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SCREENS 4:30 5:30 6:50 7:50 9:15 10:10
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FEVER PITCH (PG 13) 4:15 7:00 9:40
SAHARA (PG 13) 3:45 6:40 9:30
SIN CITY (R) 4:00 7:10 10:00
BEAUTY SHOP (PG 13) 4:40 7:20 9:50
GUESS WHO (PG 13) 5:15 8:00 10:30
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Student Senate postpones speaker election by adding bylaw

By AMY SIMPSON
ASSOCIATE NEWS EDITOR

After nearly three hours, two recesses and four attempts to suspend its bylaws during Student Senate's meeting Wednesday night, members left with no election of next semester's speaker of the senate.

A bylaw was adopted by the senate extending the opportunity to run for speaker to anyone who has "held a position in Student Government that is subject to election by the student body." This allows current executive

members to run but also launched the senate into a detailed discussion of complications.

Two current executive officers expressed intent to run for the speaker position, which would take effect immediately after the election.

The Student Body Constitution states that a student cannot hold an executive office and a senate position at the same time, said Ryan Berger, current speaker of the senate.

Bylaws also say the speaker should be elected at the senate's last regular meeting, at which time the student

body president would run the meeting until the new speaker is elected. The new speaker would then take over and preside over the newly seated senate.

The problem created by these guidelines is that one member of the executive board had not held a previous position on senate and would, therefore, have to be sworn in as a senate member before running for the office of speaker.

As it stands, any executive board member who is elected speaker must resign from his or her executive position before assuming the role of speak-

er. If an executive member has not held a previous senate position, he or she must resign and be sworn in before they may run.

These discrepancies must be addressed because they have potential to affect future student senates, Berger said.

Senate voted to hold senate good-byes, seating of the new senate members, oaths of office and speaker elections until its meeting next week.

Senate also approved the Apportionment Board, Student Government and University Board

budgets for the 2006 fiscal year. These budgets were in the amounts of \$22,435; \$34,161; and \$236,446 respectively.

Jill David, chair of the Student Relations Committee, was voted Senator of the Semester, and Keila Lacy, chair of the Diversity Committee, was voted Senator of the Year.

Senate will hold its last meeting of the semester at 7 p.m. Wednesday in the Arcola-Tuscola Room of the Martin Luther King Jr. University Union.

Illinois public school districts' financial troubles fell by half

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

STATE BRIEFS

SPRINGFIELD — The number of public school districts in the most severe financial trouble fell by half last year, according to new state statistics released Wednesday, but education officials fear a seesaw effect of spending cuts followed by pressure to restore programs.

The State Board of Education's annual "financial profile" was good news in the Capitol, where lawmakers and Gov. Rod Blagojevich, with just six weeks to go in the scheduled legislative session, have yet to take on the sticky issue of education funding during a budget crisis.

Education board members, however, worry that if schools don't see significant changes in funding soon, the stop-gap measures schools use to cut expenditures will catch up to them.

UTICA REMEMBERS HOLDS TORNADO CEREMONIES

UTICA — Residents of this small community gathered for a brief ceremony Wednesday marking the one-year anniversary of Illinois' deadliest tornado in more than a decade.

The names of the eight people who were killed in the April 20, 2004, twister were read aloud at the now-vacant lot where the Milestone Tap once stood. The victims were all inside the tavern when the tornado ripped through town, destroying it and several other buildings.

Some attending Wednesday's memorial said they were glad it lasted less than 30 minutes.

EXAMINING LEGACY OF FIRST MAYOR DALEY

CHICAGO — On the 50th anniversary of Richard J. Daley's first inauguration as mayor, he was portrayed Wednesday as a confidante of presidents who never aspired to higher office because he thought he held the best job in the country.

Daley died in office after serving as mayor for 21 years. The daylong Richard J. Daley Urban Forum examined the complex legacy of the last of the big city bosses, the man who controlled the Democratic machine for decades.

In various panels, examining everything from Daley's role on the national stage to his shaping of the urban landscape, he was alternately remembered as a visionary builder, a kingmaker, a man who ignored corruption in his administration, a brilliant political mind, a

prince of patronage, and a loving father, devoted to his seven children.

TRIAL OF PARIS KILLINGS STILL CONTINUES UNSOLVED

PARIS — The killings were like nothing the town had seen before: newlyweds stabbed more than 50 times each before their home was set ablaze.

Just 13 months after the crime, two men were in prison one of them on death row. The town thought the murders of Karen and Dyke Rhoads had been solved.

Eighteen years later, Gordon "Randy" Steidl is a free man and the prosecution of Herbert Whitlock is crumbling. And while Whitlock tries to persuade a judge to give him a new trial, a retired state police lieutenant is contending in his own court case that he was transferred because he wanted to

reopen the Rhoads investigation and focus on another person.

MIDWEST STATES BEHIND ON POPULATION GAINS

CHICAGO — Illinois will gain about 1 million residents by 2030, enough to keep it No. 5 in the country in population despite much more rapid growth in the South and West, according to projections released Thursday by the U.S. Census Bureau.

A continuing population explosion outside of the Midwest likely will have at least one repercussion for Illinois, though: fewer seats in Congress.

An Associated Press analysis found that if the new Census Bureau projections hold, Illinois will lose three U.S. House seats.

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Columbine shooting victims honored on anniversary

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

LITTLETON, Colo. — Friends and family members of those killed in the Columbine school shooting marked the six-year anniversary of the massacre Wednesday by visiting victims' grave sites and placing flowers on black granite crosses honoring the dead.

No formal observances were planned in the memory of the 12 students and one teacher who were gunned down in 1999 by students Eric Harris and Dylan Klebold at the suburban Denver high school. The two teens then shot and killed themselves.

Friends and family members visited a cemetery memorial for the victims and brought flowers, pausing

among the 5-foot-tall crosses and 13 memorial trees blossoming with white flowers. Two of the victims are buried there.

Cindy Thirouin, whose stepfather, Dave Sanders, died that day, brought red roses for each cross. She and her two children came to celebrate his life, not to mourn, she said. "After six years, it's getting easier, and it's time to move on," she said.

Columbine teachers gathered at the school Wednesday for a quiet remembrance. The campus was closed to outsiders and students were given the day off, although the building was open to victims' families. Teachers reported for an in-service day and had breakfast together.

Algerian convicted in bomb plot stopped cooperating

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

SEATTLE — An Algerian convicted of plotting a millennium eve bombing at Los Angeles International Airport stopped cooperating with federal investigators, jeopardizing at least two cases "of vital interest to national security," the government said Wednesday.

Ahmed Ressam provided information on more than 100 potential terrorists in interviews over two years, and federal prosecutors and public defenders had agreed his sentence would be at least 27 years.

In a sentencing memorandum filed Wednesday, however, federal prosecutors recommended a 35-year term because Ressam stopped cooperating in 2003, "breaching his agreement and effectively terminating at least two criminal cases of vital interest to national security."

He'll be sentenced April 27 by U.S. District Judge John Coughenour, who has described the information Ressam provided as "startlingly helpful."

Federal public defenders representing Ressam did not immediately return a call for comment.

Trade agreements may be defeated

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

WASHINGTON — Opponents of a free trade agreement with six Central American and Caribbean countries said Wednesday they have the votes to kill the deal when it comes up for a House vote. Supporters declared they have just begun to fight.

Rep. Sherrod Brown, D-Ohio, an opponent, said that if a vote were held now on the Central American Free Trade Agreement, 195 Democrats and more than 60 Republicans would reject it, well more than enough to defeat the measure in the 435-member House.

WYOMING HIT WITH POWERFUL SNOWSTORM

ARLINGTON, Wyo. — A powerful snowstorm pounded Wyoming on Wednesday, dumping 15 inches of snow on some areas and closing a 45-mile stretch of the state's main east-west highway.

At least two injury accidents were reported in conditions that included blowing and drifting snow and limited visibility.

Several cities reported large snowfall accumulations. Lander had 15 inches of snow, and Sinks Canyon reported 10 inches.

TEXAS INMATE EXECUTED FOR 1996 MURDER

HUNTSVILLE, Texas — A convicted murderer who said he first tried cocaine at the age of 10

NATIONAL BRIEFS



was executed Wednesday for abducting and fatally stabbing a man during a drug-induced haze nine years ago.

Douglas Roberts, 42, was upbeat and animated in the seconds before the lethal drugs were administered.

CONNECTICUT APPROVES CIVIL UNIONS FOR GAYS

HARTFORD, Conn. — Connecticut on Wednesday became the second state to offer civil unions to gay couples and the first to do so without being forced by the courts.

About an hour after the state Senate sent her the legislation, Republican Gov. M. Jodi Rell signed into law a bill that will afford same-sex couples in Connecticut many of the rights and privileges of married couples.

COMMITTEE INTERVIEWS FORMER CIA DEPUTY

WASHINGTON — Senators considering the nomination of John R. Bolton to be U.N. ambassador sought information Wednesday from former CIA Deputy Director John McLaughlin and two current intelligence officials in their review of whether Bolton abused his authority and misled a Senate committee.

Separately, Sen. Jay Rockefeller

of West Virginia, top Democrat on the Senate Intelligence Committee, is asking the National Security Agency for details of intelligence requests made by Bolton, said Rockefeller spokeswoman Wendy Morigi.

HOUSE AND SENATE SPLIT ON NONPARTY MONEY

WASHINGTON — The House and Senate appear headed in different directions on dealing with the influence of soft-money groups like the Republican-leaning Swift Boat Veterans and Democrat-aligned MoveOn.org that emerged in last year's presidential election.

A House committee chairman on Wednesday voiced support for a bill that would restore to the political parties some of the financial muscle lawmakers took away in the 2002 campaign finance law.

SOLDIERS TESTIFY ON CASE OF ALLEGED ABUSE

FORT KNOX, Ky. — An Army captain stood by as drill sergeants abused trainees at Fort Knox, including knocking one to the floor and punching another in the chest, soldiers testified Wednesday.

"He just watched for a minute before going into the other room," Pvt. Jason Steenberger testified of one incident of alleged abuse. "I looked the captain in the face."

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CAMPUS CLIPS

DEPARTMENT OF SPECIAL EDUCATION: Special Olympics are from 7:30 a.m. 2:30 p.m. Friday at O'Brien Stadium. Special Olympics is this Friday, April 22nd, "RAIN OR SUNSHINE." Everyone must report to the Volunteer Table upon arrival.

STUDENT EDUCATION ASSOCIATION: There will be a meeting at 6 p.m. today in the Kansas Room of the Martin Luther King Jr. University Union. Pizza Party!!! Also, if you are interested in becoming an officer next year, come find out more details.

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www.charlestonilapts.com LOOK US UP for details on these 2005-06 Apts: 2001 S. 12th Street, 1305 18th Street, 955 4th Street, 605 W. Grant, 117 W. Polk and 905 A Street. Rents from \$230 to \$475 per person. Call to make appointments at 348-7746.

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The New York Times Crossword

Edited by Will Shortz

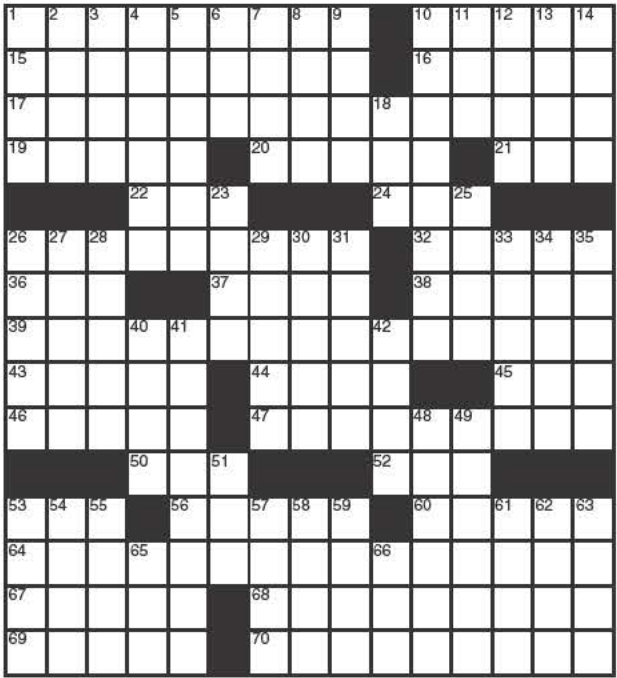
No. 0310

- ACROSS**
- 1 Airspeed ratio indicator
- 10 Full of activity
- 15 One way to repent?
- 16 Soprano Fleming
- 17 A commitment must be made here
- 19 Gracious loser
- 20 "Sad ____ ..."
- 21 Low
- 22 Support for a bill
- 24 Tsuris, so to speak
- 26 Pacific arm
- 32 Lexicon topic
- 36 Post-O.R. stop, perhaps
- 37 Catalog abbr.
- 38 Made waves?
- 39 They're spotted on beaches
- 43 Kind of acid used to make soap
- 44 Russia/China border river
- 45 Prefix with conscious
- 46 More terrible
- 47 Cause for pause
- 50 By the agency of
- 52 Take in slowly
- 53 It'll never fly
- 56 "When We Were Very Young" writer
- 60 Old film vamp Pola
- 64 Stuffy stretch
- 67 1990's sitcom

ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE

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

- 68 Worthy of respect
- 69 Primed
- 70 Gulfweeds
- DOWN**
- 1 Route revealers
- 2 Straddling
- 3 Madison Avenue award
- 4 Son of William the Conqueror
- 5 Hand holder?
- 6 Pamplona pronoun
- 7 Goatee, e.g.
- 8 Rubik of cube fame
- 9 Essex contemporaries
- 10 Question after an accident
- 11 Track transaction
- 12 "One" on a one
- 13 Bubkes
- 14 Philosopher for whom a paradox is named
- 18 Unseasoned
- 23 Seasoned
- 25 Morales of movies
- 26 Certain rifle stand
- 27 Source of some stomachaches



Puzzle by Ed Early

- 28 Schoolbag item
- 29 Athenian meeting places
- 30 Wonderland message
- 31 It contains tracks
- 33 Cellulose fiber brand
- 34 Big name in insurance
- 35 Pelé's given name
- 40 Capital on the Dnieper
- 41 Bitterness
- 42 Camera component
- 48 Place for a concession
- 49 High-culture entertainment
- 51 Put on
- 53 It can come before after
- 54 Square ____
- 55 Pac Ten power-house
- 57 Sprawls
- 58 Pathfinder's parent
- 59 ____'acte
- 61 Wedgelike metal strips in a machine shop
- 62 Caramel candy from Hershey
- 63 Midmonth time
- 65 "First Blood" director Kotcheff
- 66 Nonsharing type

Ecuador's Congress votes to remove embattled president

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

QUITO, Ecuador — Lawmakers in Ecuador voted Wednesday to remove embattled President Lucio Gutierrez from office after a week of escalating street protests demanding his ouster, and they swore in Vice President Alfredo Palacio to replace him.

An unidentified army officer in combat gear said on television that Gutierrez and his wife, Congresswoman Ximena Bohorquez, had left the presidential palace. An Associated Press photographer saw a small helicopter land briefly on the palace roof and a figure climb aboard.

Anti-Gutierrez protests have been building for a week and late Tuesday night 30,000 demonstrators marched on the palace, demanding Gutierrez's ouster.

The rapid events were only the latest in a long history of political instability in Ecuador, where two other presidents have been forced from office since 1996.

Gutierrez was elected president in November 2002 on a populist, anti-corruption platform. But his left-leaning constituency soon fell apart after he instituted austerity measures, including cuts in food subsidies and cooking fuel, to satisfy international lenders.

Opponents have accused him of trying to consolidate power from all branches of government. On Friday Gutierrez dissolved the Supreme Court in a bid to placate protests after his congressional allies in December fired most of the court's judges and named replacements sympathetic to his government. That move was widely viewed as unconstitutional.

TRAINING:

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1A

Twenty out of the 30 firefighters who participate in the team attended the training sessions, Goodwin said.

"It is an intense 10 weeks of class," he said.

The 10 weeks were not consecu-

tive but divided into different sections, Goodwin said.

"These situations are few and far between," Foster said. "You might do this type of rescue once in your career, but the more practice with the equipment we have, the more we can familiarize ourselves with the equipment."

VPSA:

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1A

"I guess I'll just have to put my student hat on and try to do what's best for them."

RICK BRANDEL, DEAN OF STUDENTS AT NORTHERN ARIZONA UNIVERSITY

community spirit and its recent flawless accreditation visit from the North Central Association.

"In case you didn't know, only about 20 percent of schools get a perfect rating from their visits," he said.

Brandel also admitted that one area he has no experience with is dealing with unions. Eastern has 12 active labor unions, but Brandel is from Arizona, where state laws make labor unions ineffective and unnecessary.

"I guess I'll just have to put my student hat on and try to do what's best for them (when union issues come up)," Brandel said.

The remaining three finalists will be on campus next week, and a decision is expected shortly after. Lynette Drake, director of Health Services, is serving as acting vice president for Student Affairs until the position is filled.



MICHELLE ARNOLD/THE DAILY EASTERN NEWS

Rick Brandel, dean of students at Northern Arizona University, held an open question session with faculty and staff as part of his interview for the vice president of Student Affairs Wednesday afternoon in the Arcola/Tuscola room in the Martin Luther King Jr. Union.

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LOST AND FOUND

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NON SEQUITUR BY WILEY MILLER

4/21

BOONDOCKS BY AARON MCGRUDER

To the Reader:

Today's Boondocks features a special "Big Mac" shout-out.

Please pay close attention. McDonald's paid good money for this.

4/21

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SOFTBALL PREVIEW PAGE

Panthers battle back twice in doubleheader

By Andrew Hansen
Staff Writer

The Panther softball team picked up two come-from-behind victories against Southeast Missouri in an Ohio Valley Conference doubleheader Wednesday.

It took Eastern (11-23, 8-9 OVC) 12 innings to defeat the Redhawks (22-17, 10-7 OVC) in the first game. The Panthers forced the extra innings after trailing 3-0. The game was tied 6-6 in the bottom of the sixth when starting pitcher Andrea Darnell singled to score the winning run, defeating SEMO.

It was Darnell's third game back from an injury that sidelined her for 2 weeks.

The Panthers struggled in the second game, down 1-0 coming into the bottom of the seventh inning.

"We didn't start off the game like we wanted to," Eastern head coach Lloydene Searle said. "We were having good at bats, but we couldn't hit people in."

Senior outfielder Jessica Irps tied the game when she hit a solo homerun, tying the game 1-1. It was her third of the season. With two runners on base,



Senior pitcher Heather Hoeschen fires a pitch in to a SEMO batter during a doubleheader at Williams Field Wednesday. The Panthers won the first game 7-6 in 12 innings and the second 4-1. Hoeschen picked up both wins in relief work.

sophomore infielder Chelsea Adams hit a three-run homerun in the bottom of the seventh to beat the Redhawks 4-1.

"It was a wonderful ending to the day because we battled so hard in the first game," Searle said.

Senior pitcher Heather Hoeschen picked up both wins after coming in for relief in both games, picking up her

sixth win of the season.

Searle was happy with the wins, especially because of SEMO's performance the past week when it defeated Samford who is currently second in conference.

"We got them at their high point and beat them," Searle said.

Searle was also impressed with freshman pitcher Karyn Mackie's perform-

ance in the second game.

"We put her in a high-pressure game, and she performed," Searle said.

The two wins also have put Eastern with a winning record on its home field.

Eastern will travel to Austin Peay University to play a doubleheader on Saturday and a single game on Sunday. Both games start at 1 p.m.



STANDINGS

TEAM	OVC RECORD	OVERALL RECORD
Jacksonville State	13-4	29-14
Samford	13-5	21-19
Tennessee-Martin	10-5	26-14
Southeast Missouri	10-7	22-19
Austin Peay	7-7	14-27
Eastern Illinois	8-9	11-23
Tennessee Tech	7-8	23-25
Eastern Kentucky	6-9	15-22
Morehead State	3-12	10-29
Tennessee State	2-13	8-27

OVC STATS

BATTING AVERAGE		
	G	AVG.
1.ALEXANDER, Maigin-JSU	43	.400
2.FOXLEY, Adriel-EKU	38	.398
9.WORELL, Leena-TSU	35	.393
4.MIZZELL, Megan-UTM	35	.380
5.McDONALD, M.-SEMO	39	.377
6.BENNETT, Kacy-TTU	47	.370
7.WHALEN, Brandy-UTM	39	.366
8.PAPPANO, Daniela-JSU	43	.354
9.RUNYAN, Runyan-UTM	40	.339
10.SANDERS, Hollie-TSU	33	.333
11.STEELE, Katy-EIU	32	.330

HOME RUNS		
	G	HR
1.PAPPANO, Daniela-JSU	43	12
2.OLEMAN, Breanne-JSU	43	11
3.FOXLEY, Adriel-EKU	38	9
4.SUMMERS, Michelle-SEMO	39	8
5.ALEXANDER, Maigin-JSU	43	7

WEEKEND SERIES		GAME DESCRIPTION	NEXT WEEKEND SERIES		GAME DESCRIPTION	OVC NOTES
 Eastern Illinois (11-23, 8-9)	@  Austin Peay (14-27, 7-7)	Austin Peay has won just three of the last 10 games, but the three Governor victories came over OVC opponents, allowing them to stay in the middle of the pack in conference. Austin Peay is hitting just .229 and with their top hitter Jessica Warden hitting .303.	 Eastern Illinois (11-23, 8-9)	@  Eastern Kentucky (15-22, 6-9)	Eastern Kentucky and Eastern are sitting next to each other in the standings. The Colonels took two out of three from third place Tennessee-Martin in their last OVC series. ECU is hitting .271 as a team and has three hitters hitting .295 or better. Adriel Foxley is second in the OVC in batting average (.398) and is posting a .728 slugging percentage.	<div>OVC PLAYER OF THE WEEK Daniela Pappano So. C/OF - Jacksonville St.</div> <div>OVC PITCHER OF THE WEEK Bonnie Bynum So. Pitcher - Tennessee Tech</div>

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MLB NOTES

GarciaParra carried off field

ST. LOUIS — Nomar GarciaParra of the Chicago Cubs was carried off the field after grounding into a double play and then collapsing just in front of the batter's box in the third inning of Wednesday night's game against the St. Louis Cardinals.

The slumping GarciaParra, hitting .157 after going 0-for-2 with a strikeout, took a few steps toward first base before falling. The nature of GarciaParra's injury was not immediately clear.

Jerry Hairston replaced GarciaParra in the lineup, playing second base with Neifi Perez moving from second to shortstop.

GarciaParra's slump landed

him in the sixth spot in the Cubs' lineup. He'd batted third all season but is in a 4-for-23 skid and has four RBIs this season.

WHITE SOX 9, TIGERS 1

DETROIT — Joe Crede hit a three-run homer, Jermaine Dye had a two-run drive and Jon Garland pitched eight solid innings to lift the Chicago White Sox to a 9-1 victory over the Detroit Tigers on Wednesday night.

The AL Central-leading White Sox (11-4) have won three straight and are off to their best 15-game start since 1981.

Garland allowed one run and five hits, improving to 3-

0 for the first time. He has won three straight starts for the first time in three years.

Wilfredo Ledezma (1-1) gave six runs and eight hits.

The White Sox scored three runs in the first after shortstop Carlos Guillen bobbled a grounder that could've led to an inning-ending double play. Guillen wasn't charged with an error because he made a throw to first base for the second out of the inning.

Scott Podsednik hit a lead-off single and later scored on a wild pitch. Dye's two-run homer over the left field wall extended Chicago's streak with a homer to seven games and was his first hit in 12 at-bats.

NFL NOTES

Jets, Raiders strike a deal

The Raiders agreed to a trade with the New York Jets on Wednesday that will send tight end Doug Jolley to the Jets and give Oakland a first-round pick in this weekend's NFL draft after all.

Jolley, a fourth-year tight end out of Brigham Young University, goes to New York along with a second-round pick in exchange for the Jets' 26th overall pick, one Raiders source and one NFL source said, both speaking on condition of anonymity. The swap would be contingent on Jolley passing a physical.

"There are a couple things that need to happen," the Raiders source said, including finalizing which other draft picks Oakland would receive.

The Raiders traded their first-round draft selection — seventh overall — to Minnesota for Randy Moss in March and weren't scheduled to make their first pick until sixth in the second round, 38th overall.

Jolley, a second round draft pick out of BYU in 2002, had 27 catches for 313 yards and two

touchdowns last season. In 47 career games, Jolley has 90 catches for 972 yards and five scores.

The Jets needed help at tight end after losing starter Anthony Becht as a free agent earlier this offseason. Chris Baker was the only player on the roster with any significant game experience at the position.

The swap of Jolley came a day after Oakland dealt disgruntled cornerback Phillip Buchanon to the Houston Texans for two draft picks.

The Raiders got Houston's 47th overall pick in the second round in the Buchanon trade Tuesday, then gave that pick to the Jets in Wednesday's deal. Oakland already had the 69th pick in the third round and now also receives one of the Texans' two picks that round.

New York went after restricted free agent Jeb Putzier last month, but the Denver Broncos matched the Jets' offer, agreeing to pay \$12.5 million to keep the tight end for the next five seasons.

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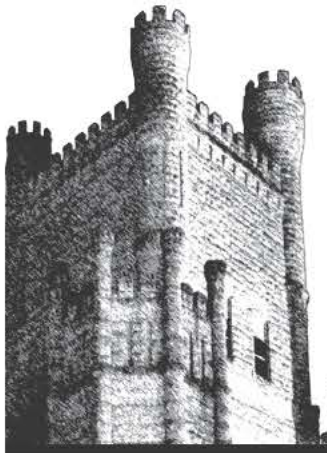
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SPORTS

THURSDAY, APRIL 21, 2005

PANTHER SPORTS CALENDAR

FRIDAY	TRACK AND FIELD AT KANSAS RELAYS	through Sat.
SUNDAY	BASEBALL AT SEMO (2)	1 p.m.
	SOFTBALL AT AUSTIN PEAY (2)	1 p.m.
MONDAY	BASEBALL AT SEMO	1 p.m.
	SOFTBALL AT AUSTIN PEAY	1 p.m.

Eastern Illinois University, Charleston



THROWING HEAT

MATT STEVENS
ASSOCIATE SPORTS EDITOR

QB pick makes the grade

I'm sure Eastern head football coach Bob Spoo was troubled by his decision involving the new starting quarterback for next fall.

With apologies to Matt Schabert, Spoo and the rest of the coaching staff have struggled to find a sufficient candidate to make the Panthers occasionally forget the name Tony Romo.

The coaches thought a kid from the Sunshine State named Justin Midgett was that signal caller, and they were wrong. Apparently, the recruiting effort for Midgett did not involve investigating his educational experience while at the University of Florida. If it had, Spoo and company would have discovered he didn't have any.

His apparent lack of success and effort in the classroom has forced the Panthers' coaching staff to suspend him from spring practice and possibly the entire 2005 season. Spoo has made it publicly known with this decision that academics are a high priority at this institution, and I commend him for making that call.

Spoo has shown his true colors as a leader on the same day that Virginia Tech head coach Frank Beamer exposed his stripes.

Virginia Tech has announced that Marcus Vick will be the Hokies' starting quarterback next season. Yes, Vick is the younger brother of Atlanta Falcons' QB and former Virginia Tech starter Mike Vick; however, the younger Vick may be more notorious for not being a Virginia Tech student this fall. After being charged with underaged drinking and other inappropriate behavior, he was kicked both off the team and out of school. When Marcus Vick was found guilty and served community service and probation, Beamer gladly brought him back to the football team to show his program's high standards. Now, he's highly enhanced his reputation by putting the junior quarterback back under center full time.

If Midgett doesn't go to class, he should not have the privilege of playing college football, regardless of if he's spent two years on the Florida Gators' bench.

Spoo has proven time and time again that although his coaching abilities may not measure up with these high-profile headset wearers, his character has always been more impressive.

BASEBALL

Panthers suffer fielding follies

Errors cause four unearned runs in 7-4 loss

BY DAN RENICK
ASSOCIATE SPORTS EDITOR

Eastern let an early lead slip away against Indiana State Wednesday and fell to the Sycamores 7-4.

The Panthers (9-26) had four errors on the day, allowing four unearned Sycamore runs to score.

The Panthers loaded up the bases with two outs in the second inning. Sycamore pitcher Chad Dawson walked in the first run of the game but was able to work out of the jam when Eastern third baseman Ryan Campbell popped out to the catcher.

Eastern went on to score two more runs in the second, and with sophomore pitcher Eric Huber allowing just three hits and no runs through three innings, it looked like the Panthers were gaining momentum.

But the Sycamores (21-17) would compensate on an Eastern error to strike back in the fifth.

With two runners and two outs, Indiana State outfielder Chris Schmidt grounded to second baseman Adam Varrassi, who had a wild throw to first that scored two runs.

And the Panthers' mistakes would continue in the seventh. Junior pitcher Kenny Firli came into pitch for the Panthers and struck out the first batter he faced.

The next batter reached on an



STEPHEN HAAS/THE DAILY EASTERN NEWS

Sophomore Erik Huber tries to pick off a runner at first against Indiana State Wednesday afternoon at Coaches Stadium. Huber pitched three scoreless innings, walking one and striking out two.

error by shortstop Jon Hickey. After advancing the runner to second on a wild pitch, Firli gave up a single to bring the run home.

With two outs, freshman pitcher Mike Manns hit the first batter he faced since relieving Firli, and the following batter reached on another Hickey error that allowed another run to score.

Manns escaped the inning when

he threw a wild pitch that bounced straight off the back stop and right back to catcher Joe Hernandez, who tagged out the runner trying to steal home.

Trailing 4-3 in the eighth, freshman Matt Brannigan tripled to right field, scoring junior outfielder Pete Stone, and Eastern appeared to be right back in the game.

With the score tied in the ninth,

junior pitcher Mike Bouchez gave up a single to start off the inning.

The next batter laid down a sac bunt back to Bouchez, who overthrew the throw to first, allowing the runner at first to score. Indiana State would drive in two more runs to before the inning was over.

In the ninth, the Panthers put only one runner on base before the Sycamores closed the game.

WOMEN'S GOLF

Second round evens OVC Championship field

BY MATTHEW STEVENS
ASSOCIATE SPORTS EDITOR

Low scores were plentiful in the second round of the Ohio Valley Conference Golf Championships as solid playing brought the field together for what will be an exciting last day.

In the men's tournament, both the team and high individuals fell on hard luck rounds as Samford fell from first to third.

The good news for the top four teams (Austin Peay, Murray State, Samford and Eastern Kentucky) is the margin from top to fourth is only 10 strokes. This tight pack at the top will make for a highly competitive shootout in the final round.

The Bulldogs recorded only one under-par round and carded a disappointing 8-over-par 296 to counter its 1-under 287.



Austin Peay overtook the day-two lead and was led by sophomore Yoshio Yamamoto (74-69 143). The Mexico native placed himself in a tie for third individually by shooting a 3-under par 69.

Murray State's Jamie Frazer (72-68 140) assumed the lead, and the junior is two strokes ahead of Tennessee State Phillip Watkins (71-71 142). Frazer and Watkins are the only two players to shoot a pair of even-par rounds.

First round leader Justin Metzger (69-76 145) fell down the leaderboard after a frustrating 4-over-par

76. The Austin Peay sophomore is at 1-over and must make a four-shot comeback to win his first college event.

Ironically, the only two prior champions in the field, Jacksonville State's Matias Anselmo and Tennessee State's Robert Dinwiddie, will be paired together in the finale and look to build on each other's momentum to make a six-shot comeback. The two seniors are at 2-over-par 146, and a victory would mark the biggest comeback in OVC history.

Eastern sits in last place, 17 strokes behind 10th place Tennessee State, and looks to be finishing the season finale in the cellar.

The good news for Jacksonville State junior and first round leader Shanelle Howell is that she's still in the Top 10. The bad news for the South African native is that after

posting a 91, she is 13 strokes behind the leader, making a comeback nearly impossible.

Howell and everybody else will be chasing Eastern Kentucky senior Brittany Klein. Klein (74-76 150) is six strokes clear of the field with defending champion Nikki Orazine (76-80 156) from Murray State in the second spot.

Klien will have double motivation as the Colonels are leading the team competition by a trio of strokes over Tennessee Tech and four in front of Jacksonville State.

The biggest jump was made by Tennessee Tech's Beth Underhill (86-71 157). The junior from the Volunteer State shot an 86 in the opening round and managed to turn around her second round by 15 shots to shoot a tournament best 71.

Eastern has four players in the Top 20 and is solidly in fourth place.



THE DAILY
EASTERN NEWS
SECTION B

ON THE **VERGE**
OF THE WEEKEND

4.21.05

LOOKING FOR THE NEXT SYRUS

BY GREG WALKER
STAFF REPORTER

Eastern isn't known for churning out celebrities, but on Tuesday night, many Eastern hopefuls gathered in the University Ballroom, some in T-shirts, others dressed up like it was "a night at the bars meets a job interview," but all with hopes of reality TV stardom.

The University Board brought Syrus Yarbrough of "The Real World: Boston" to Charleston to find a diamond in the cornfield, and give a lecture on "The Seven Simple Steps to Reality TV Celebrity."

Yarbrough did not give a step-by-step. Instead, he started off his speech with a simple open forum. Of course, most people wanted to know which member of the "The Inferno," "Battle of the Sexes" or the "Extreme Challenge" was the biggest slut.

Yarbrough said Blair, from "Road Rules: The Quest" has slept with the most cast members, but overall, Steven from "Real World: Las Vegas" is the biggest slut. (As in the Steven who was at Eastern last year giving a presentation.) To add to that, Yarbrough advised the crowd if they get on the show, "Do not hook up with cast members."

Yarbrough also discussed aspects of "The Real World," only a cast member would know like how hard it is to avoid the camera crew. For instance, he would have to pick up a special phone in the house, which he liked to call the "Bat



CARRIE HOLLIS/VERGE

Syrus, of the reality show "Real World," speaks to a crowd of students Tuesday evening in the University Ballroom of the Martin Luther King Jr. University Union.

phone," and tell the crew where he was off to even if he was going to the store to get a Snickers bar. Even if he did try to escape the camera, they would somehow

track him down, he said.

As a Real World-er, Yarbrough had some restrictions a college student might find hard to handle, like the no music or

TV rule. For a show that is on MTV, the rule seems hypocritical, but cast members are probably too drunk to care, but not too high because that is not allowed either.

Another restriction is the relationship rule between the crew and the cast. Cast members cannot talk to or acknowledge the crew that is with them almost every waking hour. Yarbrough recalled one time when he was cornered at a bar by a group of people who wanted to beat him up. The cameraman put his camera down to help Yarbrough in the fight. A cast member from the upcoming "Real World: Austin, Texas" didn't just get beat up, he got "beat down," Yarbrough said.

Although Yarbrough's stories were interesting, most people were there for their chance to make their way out of obscurity, and Yarbrough was their go-to guy. He has casted people for music videos, video games, "The Real World," "Fear Factor," "Contender" and other new shows. Yarbrough thinks he "picks winners" well, due to being in front of college kids often.

The question of whether Yarbrough would find a winner at Eastern was in the air. When hopefuls showed up, they had to fill out a sheet with general facts like name, age, sex, location and weight. Of course there was the question, "What's the craziest thing you've ever done?"

See **REAL** Page 3B

Wertz works full house

BY HOLLY MOHR
STAFF REPORTER

The lights dimmed and the crowd cheered from all corners of the room as a University of Illinois alumnus wearing a pink shirt and a green cap, dressed himself with an acoustic guitar and a pick Monday night.

The 7th Street Underground of the Martin Luther King Jr. University Union welcomed musician Matt Wertz with a full house. Anyone who came late stood in the back as Wertz showed off what he could do with his vocals and guitar.

"It was awesome," said Chip Lynn, a

junior political science major. "Best show I've seen in a while."

Wertz, a singer-songwriter, shared the stage most of the night with fellow guitarist and band member Andy Davis.

Davis said Wertz wanted to play at Eastern because it was close to where he went to college. Wertz was personable, laid back and approachable, especially for a musician who has already released two CDs. He is a recent graduate who hasn't forgotten what it's like to be a college student.

"We wanted the concert to be free so people would come out instead of worrying about money," Davis said.

Throughout the concert, Wertz joked about being from the Midwest.

"Even though there's nothing here, this feels like home," he said.

Wertz also notified the audience that his song titled "Here" aired on the WB show "Summerland."

"That might be the closest I get to being famous," Wertz said.

Lynn said he thought Wertz will go far in his music career.

"He's an entertainer for every meaning of the word," Lynn said.

The curly haired musician not only entertained his fans, but also inspired some.

See **WERTZ** Page 3B



KELLY CREMENT/VERGE

Matt Wertz performs in 7th Street Underground Monday night as part of a University Board concert. Wertz was one of the three performers that played.

POP PRINCESS
PREGNANCY

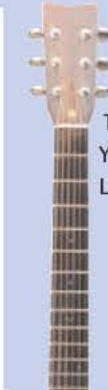
See **SPEARS** Page 4B



ECHO FEST '05

TAKING A LOOK AT THIS
YEAR'S ECHO FEST VS.
LAST YEAR'S

See **ECHO** Page 3B



"SHE STOOPS TO
CONQUER"

See **STOOPING** Page 4B



DEF POETRY JAM

UNIVERSITY BOARD CELEBRATES
POETRY MONTH BY BRINGING

See **DEF JAM** Page 4B



GET FLUFFY

'FLUFFGIRLS' TASTEFULLY TEASE
FRIENDS & CO. SATURDAY

See **LESS** Page 3B



QUOTE THIS

Which reality TV show would you choose to be on?



MATT SILKOWSKI
FRESHMAN PHYSICAL EDUCATION

“The Bachelor.”



LORI KNUPP
FRESHMAN SPECIAL EDUCATION

“Real World.”



JEREMY DALY
JUNIOR BIOLOGY

“Temptation Island.”



JOE PERZIGIAN
SOPHOMORE BIOLOGY

“Real World.”



CAITLIN DOLAN
FRESHMAN UNDECIDED

“The Bachelorette.”



TIMOTHY SOWA
SOPHOMORE ECONOMICS

“Survivor.”



KELLY JARVIS
FAMILY AND CONSUMER SCIENCES

“Real World.”

EVENTS

TODAY

“She Stoops to Conquer”
7 p.m.
Village Theatre
\$3.50 students, \$8 adults,
\$6 faculty, staff, senior citizens

EIU Jazz Ensemble
7:30 p.m.
Grand Ballroom
MLK University Union

FRIDAY

Spring Concert: “Romeo and Juliet”
7 p.m.
McAfee South Gymnasium

“She Stoops to Conquer”
7 p.m.
Village Theatre
\$3.50 students, \$8 adults,
\$6 faculty, staff, senior citizens

Joey Z’s Prom After hours
Friends and Co.

SATURDAY

Spring Concert: “Romeo and Juliet”
7 p.m.
McAfee South Gymnasium

Fluffgirl Burlesque Show
9 p.m.
Friends and Co.
\$5

Elsinore
10:50 p.m.
Canopy Club
\$5

SUNDAY

“She Stoops to Conquer”
2 p.m.
Village Theatre
\$3.50 students, \$8 adults,
\$6 faculty, staff, senior citizens

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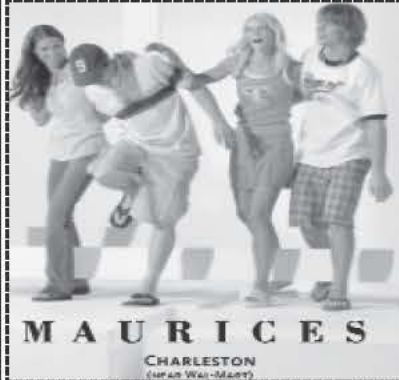
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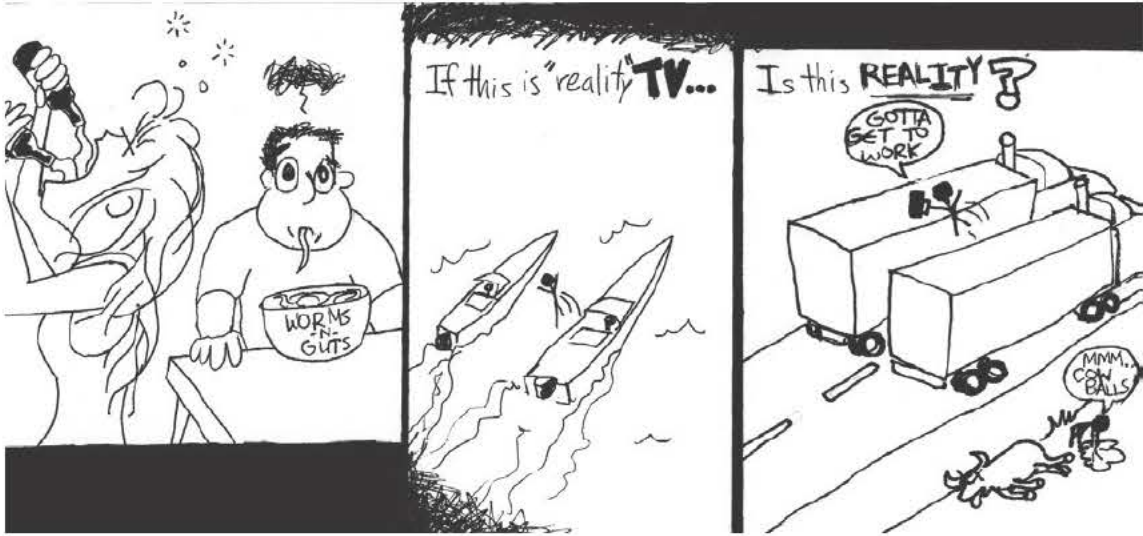
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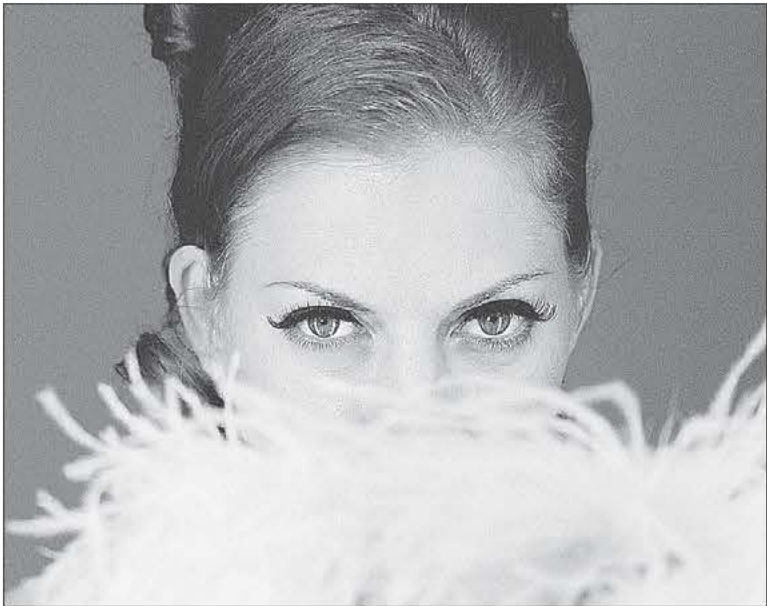
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'Fluffgirls' show Friends that less is more



SUBMITTED PHOTO
Cecilia Bravo's Fluffgirl Burlesque Society is set to perform Saturday at Friends.

By LAURA GRIFFITH
VERGE EDITOR

The Fluffgirl Burlesque Society is out to show that less is more by dancing their way through eras of popular music to give audience members an idea of what tasteful, yet adult-oriented entertainment is all about.

The show will be at Friends and Co. at 9 p.m. Saturday.

"It's a little risqué," said Jason Kottwitz, owner and manager of Friends and Co., who expects the show to be a hit, especially amongst Eastern students, who are the bulk of the bar's clientele.

Burlesque began as a form of entertainment comprising comedy and vulgar dialogue, later becoming synonymous with a

"strip-tease show" around 1920, according to encyclopedia.com.

The show is basically what strip clubs were like back in the 1930s before they became what they are today, Kottwitz said. It's a chance for students to experience a little culture, he added.

The girls will groove to everything from traditional fan dances from the 1920s to modern day music: "the best in strip-tease tunes and trash rock electro," said Chaz Royal, the show's DJ and manager.

"The girls in the current tour are stars," Royal said. "Each of them has been performing for long enough to say they are pros."

The group was founded by a woman named Cecilia Bravo who became interested in vintage clothing and 1950s strip-tease music and began performing in the Vancouver area in 1996, Royal said. The Fluffgirl Burlesque Society, which first toured North America in 2002, currently travels internationally, performing over 150 shows a year in all size venues.

"It's different from the norm," Kottwitz said. "You don't get that everyday in this town."

The show will last about an hour and a half, and although there is no dress code, the society encourages audience members to "dress to impress."

Admission is \$5 with an Eastern student ID and \$7 for everyone else.

Second ECHO Fest draws double the crowd

By ASHLEY CORBETT
STAFF REPORTER

This year's ECHO Fest brought a wide variety of bands to entertain students while educating them on issues concerning foreign policy and economic issues that affect them, whether they know it or not.

The University Board and Fair Trade Coalition hosted its second ECHO (Everyone Can Help Out) Fest Saturday afternoon.

Compared to last year, this year's fest was held in a better location, in the South Quad, and turned out better attendance.

Last year, according to Roy Lanham, director of the Newman Catholic Center, there were about 300 people in attendance, and this year he estimated the number to have doubled.

Last year, ECHO Fest was held in the Library Quad and had the same concept as this year, to get people "thinking beyond themselves," Lanham said. Last year's set-up was the same as this year's: speakers, bands and campus organization information tables. The event's purpose was to provide entertainment for people to come out and have a good time while at the same time encouraging people to think about issues they wouldn't normally worry about. The fact is the issues really do concern them, Lanham said.

"If we can get people to think, then we succeeded," he said.

People listened to the bands and speakers from the quad, and even from their residence hall rooms. Some stopped while walking by just to listen for a little while.

There were fewer informational tables hosted by the student organizations this year compared to last year, but having it at the end of the year is difficult because many students are more concerned about final papers than joining a new activity, Lanham said.

Students stressed what they hoped for next year's event.

"I would hope for a lot more activities; more variety of entertainers," said Sarah Gouskos, a freshman math education major. "Also for next year, I would like to see more emphasis on what ECHO Fest is about."

Lanham said there will be some changes for next year, but overall the second ECHO Fest went well.

"This year was as good as last year," Lanham said.

Real

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1B

Some people refused comment.

"You're not putting that in the paper," said Jacqueline Kollinger, a sophomore corporate communication major.

Students received a number and went into the 1895 Room in groups of 10. Yarbrough then took them one-by-one into a corner to ask them questions. If he liked them, he took their picture and gave them his card.

Yarbrough asked questions along the lines of why the hopeful would want to be on a reality show and why they think people would want to watch them.

Almost every person said it would be a "great/interesting experience," but probably won't make any show with that answer.

Kollinger had the right set of mind when she said she wants to live in a "sweet-ass mansion" on "The Real World." Her further plans would be to "drop out of college and be on the 'Battle of the Sexes' and the 'Infernos' for the rest of (her) life."

Kelli Young, a junior early childhood education major, had a mission.

"I want to do things on my own. I don't do my laundry," she said.

On the other hand, Anna Siharath, a junior family and consumer science major, basically cast her self for the role that is present on every "Real World."

"I like creating drama," she said. "I'm trouble."

Wertz

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1B

"I sat with my jaw wide open," said Brad Curtis, sophomore political science major. "He was phenomenal."

Curtis is an aspiring guitarist who said he knows a good musician when he sees one.

Other students just came to enjoy the show and admire Wertz's music. Anthony Vernom, freshman music education major, liked Wertz's personality and music style.

"I wish I knew how to play guitar and sing at the same time like him," Vernom said.

Wertz and Davis had the crowd singing, clapping and laughing almost all the way through the show. The two told stories of how they save money in hotels by sleeping in the same bed with a pillow between them and mocked celebrities like Michael Jackson, P Diddy and Justin Timberlake to get some laughs.

Wertz told the audience the one rule of a touring guitar player.

"Always know where you're playing at," he said. "Charleston, Ill."

Wertz gave the crowd what they wanted, love songs and his full attention. Fans were able to yell out requests and sing with him during songs that included crowd participation.

Wertz ended the show with an encore and a handshake for every person who attended.

"The University Board should try to bring him back," Curtis said.

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Nicole Fleming, a junior theatre arts major, as Constance Neville, and a Scott Podraza, sophomore theater arts major as Marlow, practice Tuesday evening for "She Stoops to Conquer."



BRIAN O'MALLEY/VERGE

STOOPING FOR A LAUGH

BY BRIAN O'MALLEY
ASSOCIATE VERGE EDITOR

The theatre arts department is putting on its third and final play of the spring semester called "She Stoops to Conquer or the Mistakes of a Night."

The play was written by Oliver Goldsmith in 1773 and is a comedy about a family in London and their various guests and servants.

Christopher Mitchell, a theater arts professor who teaches theater history, said comedies were, at that time, lacking excitement before Goldsmith wrote this play.

"(Goldsmith) really wanted to bring laughter back to comedy," he said. "The audience loved it. It became one of the most produced plays in its time."

Among the many people working on the show, dialect coach Jerry Eisenhour had an important job, helping students perfect their British accents.

Director Jean Wolski said the dialect used in the play has been one of the cast's challenges during rehearsals.

"It took a little bit to get used to the language and manners of the play," she said.

Wolski has directed many shows at Eastern, at least one a year for the last few years.

The cast is made up of 19 students, a baby and a dog, she said.

Most of the cast members experienced firsts by taking a part in this play. Wolski said one of the challenges was getting the actors used to the circular stage, which is completely surrounded by audience members.

"It's a lot of people's first time acting here at Eastern, or in this setting," Wolski said. "To see the progress from the beginning of the play to the end is amazing," she said. "That's the reward of it."

Michael Dwiggins, a senior theatre major; Jennie Passig, a senior theater arts major and Stephanie Leasure, a sophomore theater arts major, play a family called the Hardcastles. Jake Senesac, a freshman theater arts major; Nicole Fleming, a freshman theater arts major; Scott Podraza, a sophomore theater arts major and Ben

Marcy, a junior English major, make up the rest of the main characters.

A few factors are considered when choosing a play to put on, Wolski said.

"There are a variety of things in a student's four years," she said. "And we also look at plays we can do in this space."

This is the theatre department's third year at the Village Theatre since the Doudna Fine Arts Center was closed for renovations in the fall of 2002.

Wolski said the stage at Doudna could also be arranged into a circular stage, so she has directed in this kind of setting before.

"I'm used to this setting, but for some of the actors, that took a little while," she said.

The play opened at 7 p.m. Wednesday and will continue to run at 7 p.m. today through Saturday and a matinee performance will be at 2 p.m. Sunday.

Ticket prices are \$8 for adults, \$6 for faculty, staff and senior citizens and \$3.50 for students.

The box office is open from 2 to 6 p.m. at the Village Theatre Monday through Friday.

Spears: from school girl to soccer mom

POP SHOTS

DAVID THILL
VERGE REPORTER



In 1999, Britney Spears burst onto the music scene with a bubble-gum pop explosion rarely seen from even the likes of Bazooka Joe.

Her album "Baby One More Time" spent what seemed to be (at least to a more rational, rock audience) an eternity on the pop charts.

Spears' brand of up-beat, pop music spoke volumes to a nation of youths desperately seeking an icon that could speak to their generation. (Forget the fact that she really had nothing to say.) Granted, the vast majority of "listeners" were prepubescent boys that may not have appreciated her musical "ability" as much as other, shall we say, assets. And truth be told, any heterosexual male who has come of age within the past six years might be hard-pressed to honestly claim he didn't have certain "feelings" for Miss Spears.

However, recently Spears has suffered what some may call an all-out free fall from grace.

First, she canceled her Onyx Hotel Tour due to a "knee injury," even though the tour had admittedly suffered low ticket sales. Then, she married (and divorced) high school friend Jason Alexander with a quickness that would send chronic divorcee Elizabeth Taylor's wig spinning.

After that little public relations snafu, Spears made the brilliant move of courting and marrying back-up dancer Kevin Federline. Of course, Britney handled the relationship with only the utmost Southern, white-trash civility, stealing Federline away from his girlfriend who was, at that time, pregnant with their second child. Let's not overlook the fact that it takes two to tango ... shame on you, Kevin Federline.

Most recently, Spears announced she is expecting her first child with her new husband.

This would make Spears a 23-year-old mother charged with taking care of not only her own child, but also helping to raise Federline's other two children.

However, there should be no doubt in anyone's mind that Britney Spears would make a fantastic mother. (Taste the sarcasm.)

What tyke wouldn't want to be raised by someone who appears in public in shirts proclaiming "MILF in training"? (If you don't know the definition of MILF, look it up, grandpa.)

And who wouldn't want to turn on the television one morning to find mommy and daddy standing on the balcony of their hotel room, only to see mommy disappear below the railing, the only explanation offered being a very "relaxed" look on daddy's face?

And let us not forget the hectic pace of an international pop icon. That always makes for a caring and attentive home life, right?

And, remember who mommy looked up to? Madonna. Need I say more? I do? Okay, two words: Houston Rockets. Great role model.

All joking aside, (well, most, anyway) Spears and Federline have announced the news about their little bun in the oven a scant seven months after being wed.

If the likes of Brad and Jennifer, Julia and Lyle and Carmen and Rodman have taught us nothing else, they have shown that in Hollywood marriages are as come and go as John Travolta's popularity.

The marriage of Federline and Spears is not necessarily one that looks to stand the test of time. After all, he walked out on a relationship that bore him two children before. What's to say the same might not happen again?

The point is, a young mother with star clout like Britney plus an unstable father like Federline times a monumental slide in popularity among Spears' key demographic equals one screwed up kid.

But, I am not always the cynic. I wish the Spears family only the best and have even sent them a gift for the soon expected ... a thong diaper. Mommy will show her (or him) how to use it, I'm sure.

Poetry month gets "Def"

BY DORI NIEMANN
STAFF REPORTER

Poets who focus their work on topics ranging from politics to social situations and spiritual conflicts came together to form a popular group known as "Def Poetry Jam," which is coming to Eastern on its very first college tour.

These poets tell their stories through a new kind of poetry-hip hop, according to "Black Issues Book," a magazine geared toward minorities.

Some call it "slam poetry," others call it the brilliance of Russell Simmons. Whatever people want to call it, these poets are making their first college appearances and Eastern is amongst their stops.

The poets performing at 7 p.m. Saturday in the Martin Luther King Jr. University Union are popular, said Stephanie Johnson, a junior journalism major and a part of the Mainstage Committee with University Board. Johnson said students may recognize "Def Poetry Jam" performers from HBO and Russell Simmons. Simmons, who was the founder of the successful franchise Def Comedy Jam, started Def Poetry Jam in 2002.

All of the performers in the show have been on HBO or on the Def Poetry Jam videos.

"I used to watch 'Def Poetry Jam' on HBO. The words they speak are the truth," said Jackie Johler, sophomore physical therapy major. "They allow people who have never faced the 'hard knock life' a chance to see what they went through."

Monty Buckley, a junior biology major, actually performed on the HBO show about three summers ago. Russell Simmons came to his high school, Kenwood Academy in Chicago, and he got a chance to recite an original poem. Danny Simmons, who was in charge of casting the show, heard the poem and Buckley got to perform in front of a TV audience.

"It was a good experience," Buckley said.

When asked if he was nervous onstage, Buckley said no.

"I'm a performer," he said. "I don't get nervous."

According to an issue of "Black Issues," "Def Poetry Jam" allows poets the chance to explain their political, personal and poignant monologues to the nation. One of the featured poets in the

upcoming show, J. Ivy, worked with Kanye West on his latest album.

Also making an appearance is Dana Gilmore. Gilmore's poetry focuses on women and love.

Johnson brought the show to Eastern because April is poetry month and she wanted to do something big for the occasion. Poetry is not only a personal interest of hers, but also an interest of many student poets, who have asked her to bring big name poets to Eastern.

This event could be a chance to meet some of Def Poetry Jam's finest and it's also a chance for students to show off their own poetry. During the performance, there will be an open mic session to feature some of Eastern's very own talent.

Admission to the show is free, and Johnson recommends that everyone attend.

"(The performers) are hot, original and very inspiring," Johnson said.

Those who have seen the Def Poetry Jam on television say the show will be a positive experience for those who attend.

"This is one thing you don't want to miss," Johler said. "These poets will either inspire you to write, or inspire you to help make the world a better place."