Eastern Illinois University The Keep

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the DAILY EASTERN NEWS

Eastern Illinois University, Charleston

Volume | 93 | **Issue** | 32

\$100,000 leaves Hencken 'speechless'

Old friends fund scholarship in retiring president's name; money to go to students active on campus

> **Sarah Whitney** Senior Reporter

Eastern President Lou Hencken was speechless when Tim and Vickie Burke told him they were donating \$100,000 toward a scholarship they were naming in honor of

The Burkes worked as resident assistants under Hencken in Douglas Hall when the two attended Eastern in the late '60s and early '70s.

The three became and remained friends over the years, keeping in touch.

As a Mattoon, native, Tim would frequently bring his wife and, later, growing family, back to Charleston for visits - events that often included side trips back to their alma mater.

When the couple learned of Hencken's retirement, they knew the scholarship was something they wanted to do.

"As you well know, I am very rarely speechless," Hencken said. "But when Tim and Vickie told me last June that they wanted to establish a scholarship in my honor, I was

"It was an emotional moment for me as I realized that these friends and former coworkers think enough of me that they are willing to give their money for a scholarship, yet have it named in my honor."

In keeping with Hencken and the Burkes' involvement in student housing, the Louis V.

Hencken Housing Service Scholarship will be awarded to students who live on-campus and are active in student organizations including the Residence Hall Association, Student Government or working as a resident assistant starting Spring 2008.

The money will sit in trust until then, accruing interest, according to Karla Evans, executive director of development.

Then the interest is what will fund the scholarship.

>> SEE HENCKEN, PAGE 6

Former Eastern coach dies while working out

By Matt Daniels Sports Editor

Former Eastern basketball player Josh Gomes had just talked about Barry Stevens' influence on his life to one of his teammates in Poland.

He can still hear his former assistant coach's voice telling him always be ready to shoot the ball.

Gomes, along with many other of Stevens' friends, former players, teammates and coaches, won't hear the former Eastern's men's basketball coach's voice

The news of Stevens' unexpected death Wednesday stunned his former coaches and players that he worked with in Charleston.

Stevens, 43, died Wednesday while working out with his 15year-old son at a fitness center in Gary, Ind.

The Des Moines Register reported Thursday morning Stevens died of an apparent heart attack, his widow, Sarita Stevens, said.

Stevens was an assistant under head coach Rick Samuels during the 2003-04 and 2004-05 seasons.

Gomes, who had Stevens as a coach his sophomore and junior years at Eastern, said Stevens was a father figure to the team.

"He was one of those guys who you can talk to about anything that was going on in your life," Gomes said via e-mail from Poland, where he plays professionally for AZS Koszalin. "And you need those type of guys; they tend to keep the team



Barry **Stevens Panthers** assistant coach 2003-05

together." The news of his death shocked former assistants here Eastern, Steve Weemer and Mike Church, because of

Stevens' good,

physical health.

"He religious about what he ate," Church said. "I was completely amazed because he was in such great shape."

Samuels, who now works at Lincoln College as a development officer in the office of alumni and development, said Weemer called him Wednesday informing him of Stevens' death.

"It was a shock because here's a guy who was in great physical condition," Samuels said.

Weemer also received a call from a coaching friend informing him of Stevens' death.

>> SEE STEVENS, PAGE 5

CHARLESTON ALLEY THEATRE I "THE LOVE OF THREE ORANGES"



AMIR PRELLBERG | THE DAILY EASTERN NEWS

Duke Bagger jots down some last-minute errands that have to be done for "The Love of Three Oranges" before it premieres Friday. Behind Bagger are posters of plays that have been performed at Charleston Alley Theatre since opening 16 years ago.

'Our little piec 1 • , , 1 of heaver

Local couple prepares set for next show at Charleston Alley Theatre

By Kristina Peters

Associate Verge Editor

Duke Bagger is proud of the black shirt he wears that displays his

It is a black T-shirt, with a logo of the Charleston Alley Theatre on the upper left that represents who Bagger is, a "techie."

Bagger is the technical director for the productions at CAT. He builds the sets with his own two hands while turning text descriptions of sets into

The black shirt is exclusive for "techies" like Bagger. He earned his shirt by climbing in the docks and knowing where the tools are.

"This one (shirt) you're given because you've shed blood," Bagger says jokingly.

Knowing where the tools are is not easy because the tool room looks as if a tornado had struck inside.

Much like how cars wind up in trees, tools wind up in all the wrong places, piled up on top of another.

>> SEE CAT, PAGE 5



AMIR PRELLBERG | THE DAILY EASTERN NEWS Victoria Reible of Charleston touches up a chair for "The Love of Three Oranges" while a worker finishes the doors at CAT. The show premieres Friday at 7:30 p.m.

trial begins Monday

Bonnstetter, Eastern's associate athletic director for operations, begins at 2 p.m. Monday in the Coles County Courthouse.

Bonnstetter, 38, of 20 Woodfield Lane, has been charged with two felonies and a misdemeanor stemming from an alleged Nov. 25 incident near his residence.

Bonnstetter was arrested Nov. 28 on the charges of

Mark criminal trespass to a residence, a Class 4 felony.

A Class 1 felony charge of residential burglary was filed at a Dec. 11 hearing along with a Class A misdemeanor charge of criminal sexual abuse.

The Class 1 felony carries the stiffest penalty. If a person is convicted of a Class 1 felony, they will receive no less than four and no more than 15 years in a state prison.

Task Force



JAY GRABIEC | THE DAILY EASTERN NEWS

Members of the Charleston Crisis Response Team wrap up a task at an apartment complex at the corner of Ninth Street and Johnson Avenue on Thursday afternoon. Officers at the scene could not disclose any information because the details of the case are still under investigation. The Crisis Response Team is made up of local police officers. The group has been a multiple agency team since 1999.

CAMPUS | CHARITY WORK

Philanthropy unites Greeks

Fraternities and sororities work to raise money for St. Jude's Children's Research Hospital

By Stacy Smith
Greek Life Reporter

Hand cramps and tired eyes don't stop fraternities and sororities from writing letters for hours to raise money for St. Jude's Children Research Hospital.

Up Till Dawn is an event Greeks participate in before Greek Week during which they request donations from friends and family members.

Being one of the largest philanthropy events within the Greek community, each chapter divides about 600 professional letters among participants.

"It's the most important philanthropy because the whole Greek system works together to raise money," said Erik Borczon, Sigma Phi Epsilon and philanthropy board member for Greek Week.

Greeks were asked to work extra hard this year because St. Jude's is near discovering a cure for a type of children's cancer, he said.

Jackie Stuopys, head of philanthropy committee for Delta Delta Delta, helped raise \$32,000 last year for St. Jude's during Greek Week.

"This year our goal is \$50,000," she said. "Philanthropy brings Greeks and other people in the university close together."

In September 2002, Tri Deltas made an endowment to raise \$1 million within four years to the hospital's Teen Room.

However, the donation was completed in May 2005, a year ahead of schedule.

Tri Deltas are also involved in Habitat for Humanity, Natural Ties and Relay for Life.

In April, Tri Deltas hold an annual golf tournament at the Mattoon Golf & Country Club, which includes a \$50 entry fee and lunch.

LAUREN HOGEBOOM I ALPHA PHI

"We went above and beyond to get the gifts and everyone was in complete awe when they received them. There's a satisfaction of knowing you helped raise money for a good cause."

"There's more to Greek life than socializing and competitions," Stuopys said. "We have high goals and work together toward one cause."

Although all members help raise money for St. Jude's, members also participate in other community work.

For instance, the Greek community is encouraged to participate in events like the Special Olympics, Relay for Life, Polar Plunge and Big Brothers/Big Sisters.

Many chapters enforce members to complete a minimal number of community service hours before being accepted into the house.

Sigma Phi Epsilon requires members to perform 10 hours of charitable service to enter the fraternity and must continue 10 hours of service work annually to stay in the chapter.

"When people think about fraternities and sororities on campus, they think about immature pranks and parties," Borczon said. "It is either out of ignorance or a bad stereotype that this mentality is based. No one but those involved in Greek Life know the hard work involved."

Depending on the chapter, community service varies upon the national fraternity or sorority expectations.

"Locally here on campus, the governing councils which operate the Greek community, such as Interfraternity Council, expect a minimum of 400 hours spread throughout the year for most chapters to complete," said Bob Dudolski, director of Greek Life. "This is a minimum expectation and almost all the fraternities

and sororities will far exceed that minimum expectation."

Borczon completed some of this community service at the Coles County Animal Shelter in Charleston taking care of dogs.

"It's kind of satisfying," Borczon said. "Doing something for other people and not just yourself."

Sigma Phi Épsilon also hosts a softball game called Grand Slam to raise money for Youth AIDS.

The fraternity charges \$25 for each team to play and usually raises more than \$1,000, Borczon said.
"Get involved, you don't have

"Get involved, you don't have to be Greek, just get involved with school or the community," he said. "People help you all the time, you should do the same."

Mayor John Inyart contacted Alpha Phi before winter break to ask them to donate gifts to teenagers.

Lauren Hogeboom, president of Alpha Phi helped bring presents like CD players, DVD players and televisions.

"We went above and beyond to get the gifts and everyone was in complete awe when they received them," she said. "There's a satisfaction of knowing you helped raise money for a good cause."

Although Alpha Phi is not required to complete a certain amount of service hours, members receive incentives like recommendation letters when charity work is performed.

Participating in community service provides an outlet for members to become aware of their surrounding community. Participation also educates members of the possibilities of service they can provide to the various communities, Dudolski said

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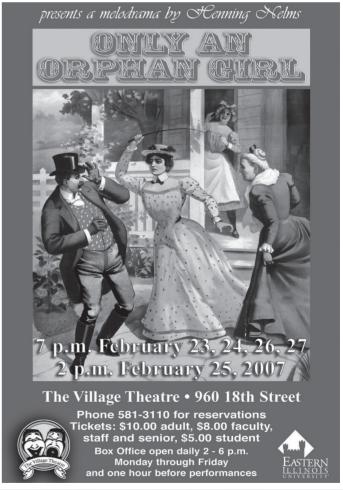
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Labs to be upgraded

Communication disorders and sciences to pilot laptop program beginning **Fall 2008**

By Sarah Whitney

Senior Reporter

The Academic Technology Advisory Committee will vote on upgrading five computer labs across campus at today's meeting.

We review the technology needs to be done to maintain or upgrade the labs," said Mark Borzi, chair of the student technology fee subcommittee, which maintains the 20 ATAC-funded labs on campus.

The five labs, which will be upgraded over the summer, are the math Mac and PC labs, the foreign language lab, a journalism lab and the CAD (computer assisted drafting) lab.

The subcommittee will also recommend ATAC move forward on continuing the equipping the technology-enhanced classrooms for the next two summers.

"Once that's done then 100 percent of the rooms that departments wanted to have updated, will be updated," Borzi

Should ATAC approve the item, all classrooms except those in the Dounda Fine Arts Center will be updated this summer, with those in Dounda being done next summer, Borzi said. In other business, the committee will also continue discussion on the Laptop Pilot Project that would require students to purchase laptops.

We are going to discuss many of the issues related to starting a laptop program on a university campus, but that will take many weeks," said Michael Hoadley, chair of the laptop pilot project subcommittee. "Right now it is still a concept, but several academic departments have expressed interest in the idea."

This includes the communication disorders and sciences department. The department is working on a pilot program to be implemented in Fall 2008, which would require its graduate students, incoming and returning, to purchase laptops.

"The faculty are really excited about piloting this because there are so many ways we could use it within the technology of therapy treatment," said Gail Richard, chair of CDS.

Communication disorders and sciences majors go into the field of speech pathology. To help teach its students, the department has a clinic where students meet with clients from the community.

The clinic just switched its client list from paper to electronic, and with a lab that only had five computers, the 150 students in the major are having difficulties having the technological access needed to prepare for their appointments and

"Students are literally standing in line to try to do progress notes and therapy plans," Richard said.

Piloting the laptop program would alleviate this and also benefit the university.

"To do it on a smaller scale, it will allow us to help the university by discovering some of the issues that may need to be worked out before they take it large scale," Richard said.

weatheroutlook

TODAY

41° | 29° Partly Cloudy

SATURDAY 42° | 39°

Rain and wind

SUNDAY

Rain and snow showers

CAMPUS | ELECTIONS



LIZA BISHTON | THE DAILY EASTERN NEWS

RHA programming and diversity coordinator Eric Dusanek, a sophomore family and consumer sciences major, sits on the board during the RHA meeting on Thursday at the NPHC building in Greek Court.

RHA candidates to run unopposed

One candidate running for offices of both RHA president and student body president

By Katey Mitchell

RHA reporter

Nominations were given for the 2007-08 executive board elections at the Residence Hall Association meeting Thursday night.

Not many people seemed interested in running for the RHA positions, as four candidates were unopposed and one position has no applicants.

The programming and diversity coordinator, treasurer, secretary and vice president positions were all unopposed in the nominations for the 2007-08 executive board elections at the Residence Hall Association.

The national conference coordinator/ Illinois conference coordinator had no nominations presented.

"A lot of people have talked to me about running for the position," said Becky Wilson, current NCC/ ICC for RHA. "But they are also on the bid team for the 2008 IRHA conference bid team and if we get the conference they cannot do both."

RHA members put in a bid to hold the Illinois Residence Hall Association conference for 2008 in Charleston. If Eastern is granted the conference, the members on the bid team must give it all their attention making it hard to run an executive board

If Eastern's RHA does not receive the bid for the conference, then the members on the bid team can contact Carrie Mueller, RHA president, to put their name on the list serve and have other members nominate them during the week next week, or they can be nominated before elections at next weeks meeting, Mueller said.

Jarrod Scherle, RHA secretary, is the only current executive board member to be running for a position. But this term, he's opting for president against Isaac Sandidge, a senior psychology major.

Sandidge said he does not feel intimidated by running against a current executive board member contender for RHA president. However, not only is

Results for RHA Winter Olympics

»Third place: Taylor Hall –196 points

»Second place: Carman Hall – 237 point

»First place: Andrews Hall – 246 points

"The difference between the points awarded to Carman and Andrews halls was one volunteer at Up All Nite event, where each volunteer was worth about 10 points.

»Andrews Hall was awarded a snowman trophy that they will keep until next year's Winter Olympics.

he running for RHA president for next year, but he is also running for student body president for the Peace Party later this semester.

'Being president of both organizations might conflict but I'll find a way to make it work,' Sandidge said.

Sandidge said he has a lot of experience he can bring to the position. He is currently president of Thomas Hall Council, and said that his efforts there and for other organizations will make him a worthy candidate.

"I built a pretty strong executive board in Thomas, a really strong one, and I plan to do the same for RHA," Sandidge said.

His main goal, if elected, is to have more attendance from hall councils and residents at the

Cecilia Borries, a freshman history major, is running unopposed for the position as treasurer so

If elected, Borries will have to start immediately after the elections, unlike the other officer who will begin at the end of April.

The treasurer's office is open right now because RHA's previous treasurer resigned.

"I think starting out right away will help me out better," Borries said, "that way I can work with people already comfortable in their positions and they can give me a heads up on what to expect."

Elections will take place at the next RHA meeting is at 5 p.m. Thursday in Thomas Hall.



campusbriefs

RHA heading to conference

>> Members of the Residence Hall Association and the National Residence Hall Honorary will be attending the Illinois Residence Hall Association conference in Edwardsville this weekend. The conference will be held today through Sunday. The National Conference Coordinator and Illinois Conference Coordinator from RHA, NRHH Conference Coordinator and the RHA president, as well as 20 other delegates and two advisers, are planning to attend the conference

-Katey Mitchell, RHA Reporter

Programs get ready to 'dance'

>> The EIU Wind Symphony and Concert Band will be performing a concert at 3 p.m. on Sunday in the McAfee South Auditorium. The Wind Symphony's theme for the concert is "Dance Party," conducted by Dr. Milton Allen and student conductor Peter Pacini. Jeffrey Steiner will conduct the Concert Band with guest conductor Timothy Schmidt. There will be a special quest conductor, Patrick Casey of the Virginia Tech Symphonic Wind Ensemble. This event is free.

-Ashley Mefford, Staff Reporter

Greek Life hopes to win again

>> In hope of continuing their winning streak of six years, 27 students are going to Chicago this weekend for the annual Mid-America Greek Council Association Conference. The Greek Community has applied for awards to gain recognition in eight categories. "Sixteen binders containing stuff from over the years were sent with over 3,000 pages to be reviewed by Student Affairs," said Bob Dudolski, director of Greek Life. "We were nominated first place out of 300 universities ranging from North Carolina to Oregon."

- Stacy Smith, Greek Life Reporter

ourmistakes

- >> In a story on Page 11 of Thursday's edition of The Daily Eastern News, freshman guard Romain Martin's injury was misidentified. He has a sprained ligament.
- >> The "Diabetes grant awarded" article on Page 1 of Thursday's edition of The Daily Eastern News should have read the diabetes health and education program needs five members to start the program.

The program is only open to prediabetics. If someone is unsure, a blood-fasting test can be done by the HERC or a physician.

Participants in the program who are pre-diabetic can reduce their risk of diabetes by 58 percent in three years, but diabetes can still occur, said Paula Enstrom, the Sarah Bush Lincoln Health Center employee who received the grant. Enstrom's phone number is 217-348-4808.

The DEN regrets the errors.

COMMENTS | CORRECTIONS | **EVENTS**

To report any errors, local events or general suggestions for future editions please contact our news editor, Cathy Bayer, via: Phone | 581-7942, E-mail | **DENnewsdesk@gmail.com** **COLUMNIST |** ADAM TESTA

Obama out of control

The problems all started with the "Barack the Vote" campaign.

Now, the virus that is Barack Obama trying to appeal to young people has spread to the World Wide Web.

Obama has titled his new campaign Web site "My.BarackObama.com," and he claims, "This campaign is about you."

The site works a lot like social networking sites Facebook and MySpace. Users can log in, create a profile, join groups and meet new people.

Yes, it's true. You can actually log into Obama's campaign site and joins groups like "Mamas for Obama" and "Bay Area Polynesians for Obama."

The simple thought of supporting the same candidate for president should be enough to bring people together who have similar views. Why does there need to be groups for people to find even more things they have in common?

While the features of the Web site may get young people interested and involved, that should not be the main objective at hand. Obama should be more concerned at launching a youth-themed campaign that will actually get people ages 18-25 to the polls. In 2004, 58 percent of all people ages 18-24 were registered to vote. According to the U.S. Census Bureau, only 47 percent of those registered in that age bracket voted.

But wait... aren't there several prominent campaigns that told these kids to vote? What about Rock the Vote? How about punkvoter.com's campaign for those politically driven punk rockers? Even World Wrestling Entertainment sponsored a voter registration drive.

So why didn't college-aged students show up at the polls?

Because they don't care that much. Sure, they will go along with these registration drives and sign up to get the free things that come with it. And, hey, their idols and the celebrities they look up to are telling them to do it.

But that's where it stops. All the emphasis is put on building interest and registering to vote. But then no one is there to remind those people to actually make their way to the polls.

If Obama hopes to make something successful out of targeting youth, he needs to focus his campaign more on the importance of following through with a vote rather than simply becoming informed. All the college students in this country can rally behind Obama and give him support, but if less than 50 percent of them show up on Election Day, he stands no chance.

Mr. Obama, take my message. Focus your campaign on a balance of all ages. Promote yourself on your stances and your beliefs. Leave the fun, little profile pages and network sites behind.

All these sites are doing is building support with your college fans who won't vote anyway and giving Hillary more things to throw at you in a debate.

If the Democratic Party hopes to sell itself on these kinds of interactive features, let's start preparing now for another four years of the evil

Republican empire.

Adam Testa



Adam Testa is a senior journalism major. He can be reached at **adamtesta@gmail.com**

ourview

Lent diet raises questions

Wednesday marked the beginning of the celebration of Lent for many Christian denominations.

This is generally celebrated by each believer giving something up for the forty days of Lent (from Ash Wednesday to Easter Sunday) and by giving up consumption of meat on Fridays during this time period. Many followers also fast from foods and festivities and follow other acts of penance.

In recognition of these Lenten dietary traditions, Eastern dining centers around campus provide plenty of fish and other non-meat selections on Fridays.

This has been a practice for as long as administrators can remember. Mark Hudson, director of the housing and dining administration, said the Lenten traditions were in practice 30 years ago when he was a student here.

We at *The Daily Eastern News* are not opposed to this practice.

We do not see an issue of separation of religion and government, because there is a very sizeable demand for non-meat meals during Lent from students on campus that celebrate it.

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And the university has the responsibility of meeting the demands of its students. Eastern still meets the needs of students that are not partaking in the Lenten custom, while answering to those that do.

However, we are encouraging other students with religious needs to speak to their dining administrators as well, so that their requirements can be met.

Hudson and Jody Stone, assistant housing director, both said that they have never had or heard of a request from any other students on campus looking to have their religious dietary needs met.

Though Eastern is not the most diverse campus in the country, we do have many

students of many faiths, and all of their needs should be equally met.

Students and faculty of all religions need to contact the proper administrators to have any special needs met and take advantage of the university's willingness to help.

For instance, Hudson said that people on campus that celebrate Ramadan have the Union Food Court open until 11 p.m. and Thomas Dining Center open until 1 a.m. most days of the week. He said that any other special requests could be sent to the respective dining administrator.

Hudson also said that while we have no kosher kitchens on campus, that the university could look into any reasonable request for kosher meals, whether it be yearround or only in recognition of Passover.

We at *The DEN* encourage all people on campus, of all faiths, to make sure they and their religions are provided for equally.

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

Reach the Opinions editor at **DENopinions@**gmail.com.

DRAWN FROM THE NEWS | DAVID THILL



COLUMN | MICHAEL PETERSON

Mourning over mascot shows spirit

Chief Illiniwek is dead.

Wednesday marked the Chief's final halftime dance, much to the chagrin of many University of Illinois students, professors and alumni

After years of controversy, the Illinois board of trustees decided to give the Chief the axe, ending an 81-year tradition. The backlash occurred almost immediately. It only took a few hours for multiple Facebook groups to pop up.

However, I am not here today to talk about whether the decision to dump the Chief was a good decision or not. I am going to talk about something that Eastern's campus is seriously lacking: school spirit.

Eastern doesn't have horrible school spirit, the Eastern and U of I football game proved that point. However, compared to what they have at U of I, Eastern is seriously lacking.

When the Illini made it to the Final Four in 2005, almost every student on our campus was glued to the television. Is it true that most Eastern students are bigger

FEATURED BLOGGER | BRANDON CAMPBELL

"Super Columbine
Massacre RPG! is
an example of how
games can be used
to educate, express
opinions and deliver
social commentary."



fans of the Illini than the Panthers? I'd put my money on "yes." It doesn't seem to me that the students' zeal of football has carried over after the U of I game. So why did so many people show up for that particular game? Simple. It was because we were there to watch the Panthers play the Illini, not because we necessarily wanted to watch Eastern play.

Since I've lived in Champaign my entire life and my parents are U of I alumni, it has been painfully obvious to me the difference in attitudes of each college's students and fans. The truth is most people on Eastern's campus care more about Chief Illiniwek

TO COMMENT.....

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than Prowler (which is Eastern's mascot in case you didn't know). I seriously doubt that if for some odd reason Prowler was banned that Eastern students would make a huge fuss or even create Facebook groups threatening to leave the college.

I do realize that Eastern is much smaller than U of I and it hasn't been around as long, but that doesn't mean that we can't get excited about our sports teams or even our college in general. And I am not going to lie; I am also guilty of being apathetic to school spirit. This entire school year I have only gone to two Eastern athletic events, and one of them was the U of I game of course. This is something I am not particularly proud of, but at least I admit it. Besides, the first step to recovery is admitting that you have a problem.

So, yes, maybe we aren't as big as U of I and maybe our college is practically in the middle of nowhere.

But you know what?

It's still *our* little college in the middle of nowhere. We need to start acting like it.

Michael Peterson



Michael Peterson is a senior journalism major. He can be reached at **mtpeterson@eiu.edu** Barry Stevens, right, played at Iowa State from 1982-85 and was

drafted in the second round of the 1985 NBA Draft by the Denver

Nuggets. He is still the Cyclones' second all-time leading scorer

news 5

Stevens

FROM PAGE 1

"Coaching's like a fraternity," Weemer said, who's now the boys' varsity basketball head coach at Waubonsie Valley High School in Aurora. "The news spread fast."

Stevens' had a prolific playing career at Iowa State from 1982-85 and is the school's second all-time leading scorer, with 2,190 points.

He played professionally for 12 years and was drafted in the second round of the 1985 NBA Draft by the Denver Nuggets.

Senior Austin Hogue, a member of Eastern's basketball team during Stevens' years in Charleston, remembers how easily Stevens could relate to his players.

Hogue said Stevens was one of the "most athletic 40-yearolds" he'd ever seen.

Samuels said he remembers players challenging Stevens to dunk a ball in practice and Stevens performed the task easily.

Stevens coached in the Continental Basketball Association

with a few franchises before coaching at Eastern late in the summer of 2003.

Samuels said Stevens was the right candidate he was looking for.

"We had an opening late in the summer (for an assistant coach)," Samuels said. "He fit what we wanted. I thought he had his players' best interest."

Church, who last talked to Stevens about six months ago, said he thought the players respected him because of his playing ability and his soft-spoken nature.

Gomes, who said the players referred to Stevens as "B Steve," last talked to him in September.

"He was simply one of those guys you could walk into his office just to say "hello" for a couple minutes, and end up leaving after two hours of conversation," Gomes said. "He has helped me on and off the court in becoming a better basketball player and a better person. There are not many 'B Steves' around in the world."

Stevens leaves behind his wife, two sons and a daughter.

"I just wish I had made another phone call or contacted him more, but that's how it is," Samuels said.

Funeral arrangements are pending.

» CAT

with 2,190 points.

FROM PAGE 1

An everyday person could walk in hoping to find a wrench and search for quite some time, but not Bagger.

"It's one of these things where we know where it is," he says. Bagger's latest set design is for the

Bagger's latest set design is for the CAT production "The Love of Three Oranges."

The play is known as a "Commedia Dell'arte," which is an old form of theater improvisation.

It was always popular among women, said Bagger's wife, Linda Bagger, CAT facilities manager.

This play tells the story of Prince Tartaglia, who lived a sheltered life until a witch and her henchmen send him to find three large oranges in efforts to kill him. After departing from the castle, he finds a friend in a fool and love in an orange.

"There is a very definite storyline," says director Jerry Hughes.

But, what is a storyline without a set? That is where Duke and his small staff comes in.

Duke has a small space to work

with when creating the scene. Throughout the past 17 years since CAT opened, a 20-foot wide by 25-foot long room that holds about 40 people has been home to all the productions, and Duke and Linda have been there every step of the way.

PHOTO COURTESY OF DES MOINES REGISTER

The Baggers are two of the nine founders of the theater and have worked on productions ever since.

"It's our little piece of heaven," Linda said.

Although the space is small, Duke appreciates what he calls "an environmental theater," which means everything can move.

"We are able to put it up any way we want," he said.

A dark alley on Monroe Street leads to the small building, but upon entering the theater the stage can be seen immediately. It is L-shaped, painted to appear made out of gray brick.

If it weren't for audience seating close by, one might think it was actual brick.

"Everything has to be of (high) quality because the audience is so close," Duke said.

Painting objects and giving them

a certain effect is a technique called tromp l'oeil, which means "fool the eye" in French.

While holding up a skinny piece of wood, Duke explained, "This board just looks like pine, but its just chip wood."

Paint is Duke's closest friend when it comes to making a set. Cans of paint with a variety of amounts of paint inside, are stacked on top one another in the paint locker.

There, brushes lie with splatters of about five different colors on each

Duke often reuses what he has made for previous plays when making a set, and that is where his friend paint meets another friend, chip board.

"It's a less expensive material and we keep using it," he said.

While holding up a piece of wood that had two different colors on each side Duke shows how well chip board and paint work together in making a production.

"On one side you can see one show and on the other side another show," he laughs.

For "The Love of Three Oranges," Duke and his crew haven't had to build much

"We really haven't had to build a set up in quite some time," he said. Life-size French doors are the

Life-size French doors are the premise of the play setting.

They stand in the corner of the L-shaped stage freshly painted in a crisp white and butter yellow. In front of the doors stand two columns, used in about every production, but painted to match the scene.

The building Duke and Linda call heaven was bought in 1990 by Tanya Wood, the woman who first started the theater alongside her husband, Leonard.

Tanya opened the theater in 1991 with the help of seven other close friends who include Duke and Linda.

Three years after a fatal car crash took the lives of the Woods on March 13, 2004, Wood would have been happy to know that the theater, which is now a not-for-profit corporation, she opened is still strong and serving its original purpose.

As old as the building is and as close as Duke is to it, he is able to work with the building and its problems.

'We know the house so well," he

said

He knows how to work around the sloping floors and ceilings and the cold, dark concrete floors.

Duke just continues to strive towards the theater's original goal of putting together shows that are not commonly produced.

"We just want to do what nobody else does," Duke said.

What nobody else does is feature original work by new playwrights that have not been produced yet as well as feature plays theaters are hesitant to produce.

For example, CAT produced the works of Christopher Durang.

With Durang's plays, the intention is to have everyone offended by something before the audience exits the theater, Duke said.

The theater might have offended some attendees during the showings of Durang's plays, but with "Three Oranges," audience members can expect to have a few good laughs.

The play will be performed at 7:30 p.m. today and Saturday, and at 2 p.m. Sunday.

It continues at 7:30 p.m. on March 2, 3 and 5 and at 2 p.m. on March 4.

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ASTRONAUT FARMER (PG) 3:50 6:30
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STUDENT GOVERNMENT | NATIONAL CONFERENCE

Delegates travel to Texas to share ideas

First Night one program brought back from **Conference on Student Government Associations**

By Matt Hopf

Student Government Reporter

Programs or ideas that the Student Government proposes throughout the year don't always originate on campus.

Every year, Student Government sends delegates to the Conference on Student Government Associations at Texas A&M University.

The four delegates leave at 4:30 a.m. Saturday to attend the conference and return

Student Senate members Jeff Melanson, Leah Pietraszewski and Rich Higginbotham will attend the conference. Dave Keyes, student vice president for academic affairs is also attending the conference.

Pietraszewski said she is really excited about the conference.

She plans on bringing back program ideas from the conference.

According to Cole Rogers, student vice president for student affairs, First Night originally came from the conference.

First Night takes place the night before classes start in the fall with a countdown of the start of the school year. Delegates get ideas outside the box, Rogers

Adam Howell, former student executive

vice president, attended the conference twice, leader," he said. and both times he brought back five or six

One of the ideas he used for the Student Action Team was called Faces not Figures.

Students would write about their hardships they had paying for college. Their picture would be next to their testimonial. These were handed to Illinois legislators, when the Student Action Team traveled to Springfield.

People need to be accountable at the conference, and not waste student fee dollars.

The Student Senate approved a \$4,358 allocation from the Student Government budget in November to send four delegates and one adviser to the conference.

If the delegates do there job it is an excellent conference, Howell said.

"It's a great experience for any student

According to the COSGA Web site, approximately 550 delegates attended the conference in 2006.

The delegates attend workshops, speakers and roundtables at the conference.

In the workshops, schools present programs that have been successful on campus.

Freshmen orientation and increasing school spirit were presented at the conference last year, Rogers said.

Delegates are broken into groups with delegates from comparable schools to discuss issues relating to those schools.

Secretary of Defense Robert Gates was the speaker when Howell attended, he said.

Big name speakers - all having to do with leadership - speak at the conference, Howell

APPORTIONMENT BOARD | WEEKLY MEETING

'Untouchable' budget to be voted on next week

By Zach Nugent

Apportionment Board Reporter

Members of the Apportionment Board discussed the budget process for the 2007-08 school year Thursday.

"Budget time is one of the most important times of the academic year," said Levi Bulgar, AB Chair.

Members began this process by reviewing their own budget proposal for the next school year. AB budgeted more than \$22,000 for themselves.

Most of the money, which comes from student activity fees, will go toward the salary of Laurel Fuqua, its account technician.

AB uses the remainder of the budget to pay for group insurance, computer maintenance, office supplies

and a University Service Fee. The fee totals more than \$4,000 and is paid to university administration.

It covers AB, University Board, the Student Recreation Center and Student Government.

"This fee pays for costs (the university) incurs for running these groups," said Ted Hart, a non-voting AB member.

Members had no objections to their budget and offered little discussion about it.

"AB budget is pretty much untouchable," said John Stimac, AB faculty member.

A unanimous decision was reached to postpone a final vote until next week's meeting. Once AB approves its budget, it will go to Vice President of Student Affairs, Dan Nadler.

In addition to voting on their budget next week, AB will hear the budget proposal of the University Board.

>> Hencken

FROM PAGE 1

"The basic purpose is to give students additional incentives to live on campus and to stay involved in ways that positively affect the environment," said Mark Hudson, director of Housing and Dining. "The longer you stay involved the more the scholarship grows in how much you earn."

Hudson has worked closely with orchestrating how the scholarship will be awarded.

If there's \$10,000 available, then a senior would be awarded \$4,000, a junior \$3,000, a sophomore \$2,000, and a freshman \$1,000, he explained.

President Hencken hopes the scholarship will motivate students to succeed.

"Students who live in university housing especially during their first two years in school – do better academically, complete more courses at the university and are less likely to withdraw," Hencken said. "I also believe in the importance of Student Government, and by offering this scholarship to people who live in university housing, some students may decide to stay in university housing and participate in residence hall government or serve as an officer in a fraternity or sorority.

"This is not to say that this scholarship is limited to those students involved in Student Government or a fraternity or sorority."

The scholarship's structure of awarding students more the longer they stay in housing is reflective of Hencken's career.

Hencken has served Eastern for more than four decades, and the vast majority of those years have been spent focused on student housing. He began his career in student affairs as a graduate assistant, then advanced through the housing ranks as a counselor and both assistant and associate director prior to being selected as director in 1975.

In 1989, he was named associate vice president for student affairs, responsible for four major student affairs areas - housing included. He was named vice president for student affairs in 1992.

Both Hudson and Evans acknowledged Hencken's impact on Eastern.

'Lou is a person who stuck with it," Hudson

What's unusual about the Burkes' gift, Evans said, is that the couple plans to help in the effort to solicit additional endowments for the scholarships.

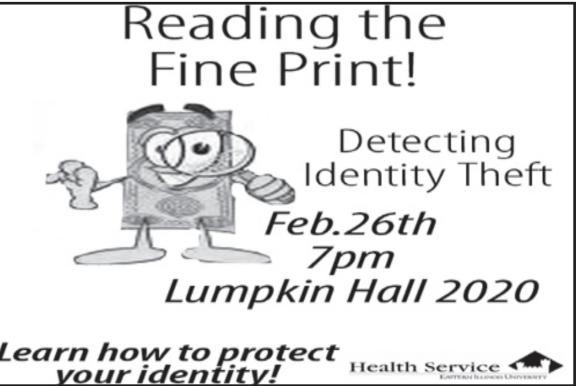
The couple said in a press release they would like to see the total endowment capable of producing twenty \$2,500 annual scholarships.

"There were so many lives that he (Hencken) touched," Evans said. "That's what the Burkes are doing...they're actually recognizing Lou Hencken for the mentoring that he did back in the '70s and calling upon others to do the same."









nationbriefs

The Associated Press

Army struggles to shorten National Guard deployments

>> WASHINGTON—Army National Guard combat units that go to Iraq or Afghanistan through much of the next two years will be on active duty for longer than 12 months despite the Pentagon's pledge to try limiting deployments to a year, Army and Guard officials say.

The effort to shorten tours of duty to a year, they're now roughly 18 months was designed to ease the strain on troops and their families, in part by jamming more war preparation into the soldiers' routine monthly training exercises at home. However, Army and National Guard leaders told The Associated Press that efforts to transfer more training to the states so soldiers can train at home won't be done in time to benefit the thousands of troops going to war this year and in 2008.

Spears enters rehab, Federline cancels court apperance

>> LOS ANGELES-An appearance in family court sought by Kevin Federline amid a child custody dispute with Britney Spears was canceled Thursday after the pop star entered a rehabilitation program. Spears has gone into the Promises Malibu drug and alcohol rehabilitation center. The TV entertainment magazines "Extra" and "The Insider" and the Web site TMZ said Spears' mother, Lynne Spears, drove her daughter to the center, which she had reportedly been in and out of earlier in the week. The center specializes in treating drug and alcohol abuse.

State Farm seeks to bar judge's clerk from cases

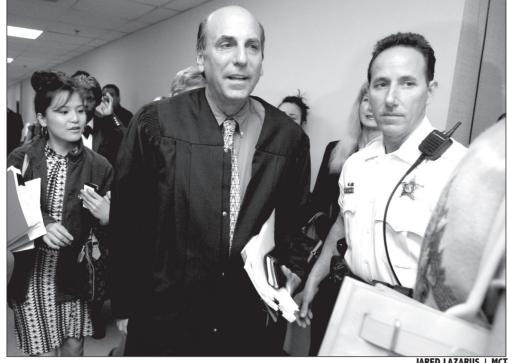
>> Bloomington—State Farm Fire and Casualty Co. is seeking to bar a federal judge's clerk from working on any of the lawsuits that Gulf Coast homeowners filed against the company after Hurricane Katrina because he sued a different insurer over storm damage to his own home. An attorney for Bloomington, III.-based State Farm said in court papers Wednesday that it creates an "appearance of impropriety' for the clerk, Jerry Read, to assist U.S. District Judge L.T. Senter Jr. in dealing with Katrina cases in Mississippi after Read sued Allstate Insurance Co. for denying part of his claim.



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COURTS | ANNA NICOLE SMITH



JARED LAZARUS | MCT

Judge Larry Seidlin walks out of the courtroom after his ruling during the Anna Nicole Smith hearing at Broward County Courthouse, in Fort Lauderdale, Fla. on Thursday.

Smith to be buried in Bahamas

The Associated Press

FORT LAUDERDALE, Fla.-Anna Nicole Smith will be buried in the Bahamas, alongside her dead son, it was announced Thursday after a tearful judge left the decision up to the attorney for the model's baby daughter.

Richard Milstein, the courtappointed lawyer for 5-monthold Dannielynn, announced the plans not long after a judge gave him control of Smith's final resting place. He gave no timeframe for the burial

Circuit Judge Larry Seidlin steered a surprise middle course in a dispute that became more urgent by the day when the medical examiner warned that Smith's body was rapidly decomposing

rapidly decomposing.

"Who is entitled to custody of the remains of Anna Nicole Smith?" Seidlin wrote in his ruling. "There can be only one proper and equitable answer to that question: Dannielynn, Anna Nicole Smith's only child, heir and next of kin."

The ruling came a full two weeks after Smith died at a Florida hotel at age 39 of still-undetermined causes.

Smith's estranged mother wanted her buried in her native Texas, while Smith's boyfriend wanted her laid to rest in the Bahamas.

The judge, who choked up frequently and sometimes blubbered as he explained his decision, compromised and gave custody to Milstein. And the judge made it abundantly clear what he felt should be done.

"I want her buried with her son in the Bahamas," he said through tears. "I want them to be together."

Smith's boyfriend, attorney Howard K. Stern, had been hunched over a table with his hands folded as he listened to Seidlin's ruling and wiped away tears afterward.

Smith's mother, Virgie Arthur, covered her eyes.

Outside court, Stern joined Arthur and Smith's ex-boyfriend photographer Larry Birkhead before dozens of reporters, and they pledged to work together on funeral arrangements.

"It's a family affair. You guys can go home," Krista Barth, the attorney for Stern, told reporters.

Smith's mother planned to appeal the judge's order, said one of her attorneys, Tom Pirtle.

Seidlin teared up earlier Thursday when he abruptly cut short the proceedings to say he had made up his mind.

In a sometimes rambling statement, he said "I've been trying to figure out, in a spiritual sense, how to bring it all together."



worldbriefs

The Associated Press

Europe, Russia agree to encourage Iran to negotiate

BERLIN—U.S., European and Russian diplomats agree on encouraging Iran back to the bargaining table over its disputed nuclear program, Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice said Thursday. "We reconfirmed we will use available channels and the Security Council to try to achieve that goal" of restarting negotiations with Iran, the top U.S. diplomat said.

Four Guatemalan police arrested for three killings

>> GUATEMALA CITY—A top police official and three other officers were arrested Thursday in the killings of three Central American Parliament members, including the son of the alleged founder of El Salvador's death squads. Among those arrested was Luis Arturo Herrera, head of the Guatemalan National Police organized crime unit, said Interior Minister Carlos Vielman. The assailants repeatedly shot Eduardo D'Aubuisson, son of El Salvador's late right-wing leader Roberto D'Aubuisson, two other Salvadoran officials and their driver before setting them on fire while they were still alive, officials said. Their charred bodies were found Monday along a road about 20 miles southeast of Guatemala City.





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sports 9

Women's Basketball EIU 82, Jacksonville State 76

Eastern	min	fg m-a	ft m-a	reb o-t	α	pf	pts
Scaggs	23	0-1	0-0	2-6	3	2	0
Galligan	30	4-11	10-14	4-11	1	2	18
Huffman	31	7-18	6-8	0-4	2	4	21
Canale	34	4-9	4-5	2-8	0	2	13
Thomas	32	3-12	4-5	1-4	2	3	12
Sturtevant	16	2-4	1-2	0-3	2	4	6
Eck	7	0-3	0-0	0-0	0	0	0
Maxedon	7	1-1	0-0	0-0	0	1	2
Kluempers	11	0-2	1-2	3-4	0	0	1
Lipperd	10	3-3	3-3	0-2	0	0	9
TOTALS	200	24-64	29-39	13-49	10	18	82

IUIALS 2	200 4	24-04	29-39	13-49	10	18	02
Jacksonville State	min	fg m-a	ft m-a	reb o-t	α	pf	pts
West	32	5-10	2-4	0-6	2	4	13
Efezokhae	20	6-11	4-5	2-13	1	4	16
Boykin	28	3-11	1-1	1-4	0	0	9
McMichael	31	5-13	6-6	3-6	5	2	19
Johnikin	17	0-2	0-0	0-1	1	5	0
Carlisle	19	1-6	2-2	1-1	1	5	4
Jeffs	9	0-1	0-0	1-4	1	0	0
McKinney	27	5-13	2-4	0-2	2	2	13
Whitt	2	0-0	0-0	0-0	1	1	0
Clay	13	1-3	0-0	0-1	1	2	2
Pierce	2	0-0	0-0	0-0	0	2	0
TOTALS	200	26-70	17-22	11-44	16	27	76

>> Waltasti

FROM PAGE 12

I love pouring through message boards and staying glued to The Score to see who is doing what.

All the possibilities intrigue even the casual sports fan. It makes everything more exciting and it makes the players who are plastered on the rumor mills perform better to try and prove they are too valuable to be traded.

But it's all about hope.

CLASSIFIEDS

Men's Basketball EIU 69, Jacksonville State 65

Eastern	min	fg	ft	reb	α	pf	pts	
		m-a	m-a	0-†				
Catchings	27	4-6	8-9	2-7	0	3	17	
Cisse	33	1-7	4-6	4-12	1	3	6	
Byrne	27	10-13	8-10	2-4	0	3	28	
Robinson	37	1-10	2-2	0-5	3	2	4	
Martin	34	2-7	0-0	0-1	4	4	5	
Myers-Kyles	13	3-4	0-0	1-3	0	0	6	
Parrish	4	0-0	0-0	0-1	0	0	0	
Brock	14	1-3	1-2	0-1	1	1	3	
Willhite	9	0-2	0-0	0-0	0	0	0	
Joliff	2	0-0	0-0	1-1	0	0	0	
TOTALS	200	22-52	23-29	14-41	9	16	69	
Jacksonville	min	fn	ft	reh	n	nf	pts	Γ

Jacksonville State	min	fg m-a	ft m-a	reb o-t	α	pf	pts
Crow	19	5-7	1-2	0-1	0	5	11
Bradley	38	7-18	6-6	2-5	1	2	20
Mbodji	25	1-2	0-0	1-7	1	4	2
Ginn	36	5-13	0-0	0-1	5	0	12
Smith	32	2-7	3-4	2-7	1	3	9
Bray	22	0-1	0-0	0-1	6	3	0
Adams	24	3-4	3-7	2-3	2	4	11
Brown	4	0-2	0-0	0-0	0	1	0
TOTALS	200	23-54	13-19	7-26	16	22	65

Hope that next season is better than last, hope your team trades for the next big superstar, hope Kevin Durant declares for the NBA draft.So maybe the Bulls didn't trade for a big man and maybe they will lose in the first round of the playoffs for the third straight time.

No big deal. I have the NFL combine to monitor so I can see who puts the Bears over the top and spring training to see if Alfonso Soriano is all the Cubs think

A true fan's hope never dies; it just changes teams from time to time.

MEN'S BASKETBALL | EASTERN 69, JACKSONVILLE STATE 65

yrne comes up big in victory By Matt Daniels Tournament to Tournament

Sports Editor

Junior center Jake Byrne said four months ago Eastern's ninth-place preseason Ohio Valley Conference ranking gave the team something to prove.

"I think it's a good thing to look at and realize that we need to step it up," Byrne said at the time.

Byrne backed up those words with his performance Thursday night.

Byrne scored a career-high 28 points and the Panthers, thanks to a missed JSU layup with 1.3 seconds left and JSU down three, kept their OVC win in Jacksonville, Ala.

Tennessee State beat Morehead State 62-44 and now the Panthers' postseason chances come down to Saturday.

If Eastern wins at Samford, Morehead loses at Austin Peay and JSU beats Southeast Missouri, Eastern makes the conference tournament. Eastern can thank Byrne for keeping its chances

"He got out there and made his first few shots" Eastern head coach Mike Miller said. "He made some big baskets

JSU"s Nick Smith's layup stayed on

the rim, in between where the rim and backboard meet, and did not go in.

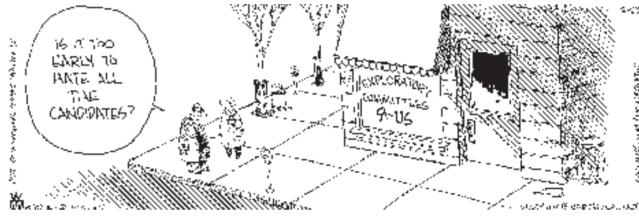
Ousmane Cisse fouled Smith on the play, and if the shot had gone in, along with Smith's free throw, the game would have been tied at 67.

Miller said he'd never seen something like that happen in a game.

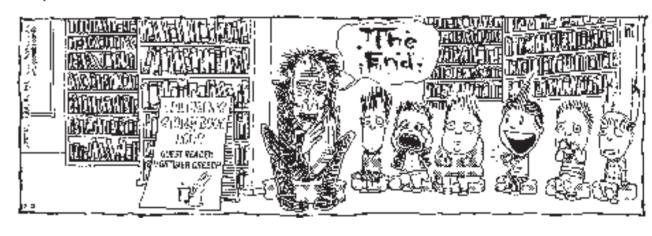
"I was just waiting for it to drop through the net," he said. "For whatever reason, it stuck up there for once."

Smith missed his first free throw and made the second one, giving Eastern a 67-65 lead. JSU fouled Byrne before the ball came inbounds, and Byrne made two free throws to give Eastern the win.

NON SEQUITUR | WILEY MILLER



LIO | MARK TATULLI



campus clips

000: A new social group on Campus Just for women where you can hang out, talk, and have fun is holding an Informational Meeting on Feb. 24 at 2pm in the 3rd Floor of the Union. Contact: Lizzy Powers-Captnlizzy18@sbcglobal.net.

National Society of Collegiate Scholars is holding an Informational Meeting on Tuesday, February 27 at 7pm in the Charleston-Mattoon Room MLK Union. Free Raffles and NSCS Clothing and Local Business Gift Certificates!

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Edited by Will Shortz

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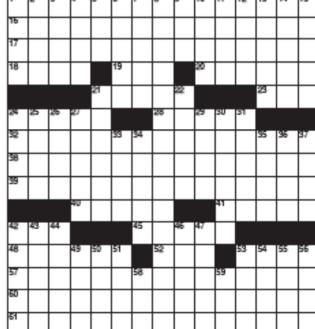
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ALL ACCESS WITH ...

DAVID HOLM

Canadian runner battles injuries and clichés

Sophomore distance track runner David Holm is annoyed with clichés associated with his native country of Canada. He also is annoyed and disgusted with the taste of tuna.

Holm, who will try to help Eastern's men's track and field team win its 10th Ohio Valley Conference Indoor Championship in 11 years, sat down with Online News Editor Adam Tedder on Tuesday and discussed his running shoes, his love for eating Fruit Loops before running in a meet and the type of work ethic it takes to be a runner.

WHAT GOT YOU RUNNING IN THE FIRST PLACE?

I probably got started running in track in grade four or five and it was just a sport I did along with all the other sports I did including hockey, volleyball, basketball and all that. Then, at high school I just took track a lot more competitively and that's where it got me to now.

WHAT'S THE WORST INJURY YOU'VE EVER HAD?

I broke my ankle when I was in my senior year when I was running. And that was one of the years I was really training hard and it was one of those freak things.

I couldn't walk or run or do anything for about a month and a half

WHAT IS SOMETHING THAT YOU HATE A LOT?

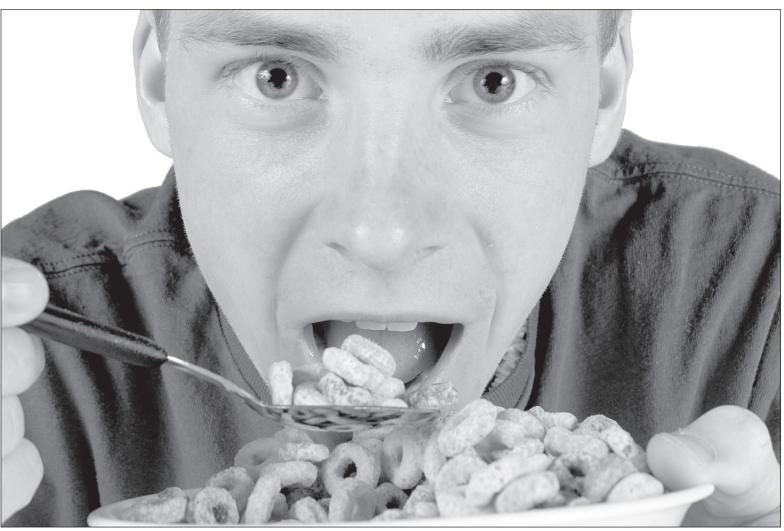
I'd say I hate tuna, I hate fish and seafood for food. I just don't like the smell of it and it looks gross.

DO YOU HAVE ANY FAVORITE CARTOON CHARACTERS?

I'd have to say Daffy Duck. He's pretty goofy, a funny guy.

WHAT IS YOUR GREATEST SPORTS ACCOMPLISHMENT?

My biggest sports achievement would have to be two years ago when I won the Canadian Junior Nationals at the 800-meter for ages 19 and under.



CARRIE HOLLIS | THE DAILY EASTERN NEWS

Sophomore distance runner David Holm broke his ankle his senior year of high school. He eats Fruit Loops as part of a superstitution before every race. The Canadian junior national champ started running when he was in the fifth grade.

"A couple of years years ago when I was running and I was coming up to the finish line and one guy pulled my arm when we were about to cross the finish line and ended up beating me in the race, so things almost got heated up after the race on the track and an official had to come on the track and pull me away."

It was something I had been training for all year and that was the year I broke my ankle and the same year I was running trying to win a scholarship to the States.

I ended up winning the Canadian Junior Nationals and that was a pretty big thing.

That meant I was the fastest guy running the 800-meter in Canada for 19 and under.

HOW IMPORTANT IS IT FOR YOU TO HAVE THE RIGHT SHOES?

I guess shoes are pretty important. Each runner gets comfortable in a certain pair of shoes and that's the kind of shoes that they keep buying time after time when they go to get new shoes.

You don't want to switch to a new pair of shoes because your feet tend to get used to a certain pair of shoes.

DO YOU HAVE TO WEAR A CERTAIN PAIR OF SHOES?

Kind of, yes and no. I like to wear when I compete my Nike Milers. Yeah, they're comfortable but I'm not too superstitious about that. I try not to get too superstitious about competitions and meets and stuff. Although, I'll only eat Fruit Loops before a meet. It's just one of those things I have.

WHAT IS THE BEST PAIR OF SHOES YOU'VE EVER OWNED?

I'd have to go with the Asic 21 10s. Those are the shoes I'm using right now. They're awesome. They're comfortable.

WHAT ARE SOME CANADIAN CLICHÉS?

The biggest things would have to be people saying "eh" and "aboot." They think that Canadians just say "eh" all the time and that's not really

And I get asked a lot about how cold it is up there and if it ever gets warm up there and stuff like that.

WHAT ARE OTHER THINGS YOU HAVE TO DO TO GET IN SHAPE?

You have to be fit first of all and then do endurance training. You have to go to the weight room and interval training, where there can be repetitions anywhere from 200-meters to 400-meters to 600-meters, just different sets and different paces and different reps so you get the speed aspect to training and running too.

HAS A RACE EVER GOTTEN A LITTLE OUT OF CONTROL?

Yeah, a couple of times. A couple of years ago when I was running and

I was coming up to the finish line and one guy pulled my arm when we were about to cross the finish line and ended up beating me in the race, so things almost got heated up after the race on the track and an official had to come on the track and pull me away.

Nothing was really going to happen, but things like that happen on the track where some tempers can fly.

WHAT ARE YOUR THOUGHTS ON CANADIAN SPORTS?

I played hockey all the way until high school and then I stopped. I love hockey. It's one of those things you start when you're younger and you know how to do it and you just never forget it.

And Steve Nash is a great basketball player and I don't follow basketball that much, but I know he's been the MVP the past couple of years.

HOW LONG DOES IT TAKE TO BUILD UP ENDURANCE?

It takes a lot of training and a lot of commitment, dedication. I don't know what the time frame would be for doing something like that, but taking a week off of training can set you back a couple weeks in training.

quickhits DAVID HOLM

On his video games..

Madden 2007 is an awesome game. I just play around in the dorms and create fantasy teams and that's what I'm doing right now is creating a fantasy team with a couple of friends and seeing who can draft the better team and coach.

On temperature changes...

running, but indoors the temperature is always constant so you can rely on the temperatures to be like that. But once you get outdoors, the elements just totally — you just don't know what to expect on any given day. It can go anywhere from a really nice, calm day to 40, 50 mph winds one day to snowing or raining or nice hot sun. You just have to learn to cope with the elements and not let them affect you too much.

On favorite sports...

Currently, my favorite sport would probably be running, track and field. Outside of my own sport, I'd say football. I like watching football, both the NFL and CFL.

DO YOU THINK THERE ARE MISCONCEPTIONS ABOUT TRACK?

Maybe just running and how fast people are running and how much harder it is than I guess people show when they're running in the Olympics.

They look like they're just running a little bit faster than a nice, easy jog, but it's a lot harder than that. It's a lot faster than they probably think it is.

2007 Ohio Valley Conference Indoor Track and Field Championship Preview

MEN'S TRACK AND FIELD | CHAMPIONSHIP PREVIEW

Hosting the biggest home meet of the season

By Kevin MurphyAssociate Sports Editor

Eastern hosts its fourth meet of its season on Friday.

It also happens to be the biggest meet of the season: the Ohio Valley Conference Indoor Track and Field Championship.

Competition begins at Lantz Fieldhouse at 2 p.m. on Friday and at 11 a.m. on Saturday.

"Our kids are use to the facility, use to the track, use to the throwing areas and little bit bigger fan base," Akers said.

But when hosting a meet, Akers has to worry about other issues besides coaching his team; like finding officials, keeping the Fieldhouse clean and helping make sure events start on time.

"It's sort of like an away meet at home," Akers said. "Once it gets pretty much going, it starts to run itself."

Akers said they hire an outside staff to take care of issues like timing the races.

Eastern will use the Fully Automatic Timing device for this



JOHN BAILEY | THE DAILY EASTERN NEWS

Senior pole vaulter Ed Miller cracks jokes with assistant jumps coach Nate Davis.

meet, like it has all season.

F.A.T. gives an accurate measurement of the race and there is usually a camera set up at the finish line to records those times.

Certified officials are brought to

help with the F.A.T. timing. Eastern, however, sometimes have problems finding officials.

This weekend could prove difficult in finding certified

Illinois is hosting the Big 10 Women's Indoor Track and Field Championships Saturday and Sunday.

The Men's and Women's Indoor Track and Field Missouri Valley Conference Championships are at Carbondale this weekend, while Illinois Wesleyan hosts the College of Illinois and Wisconsin Championships Saturday. They will also host the Mid-Continent Conference Indoor Track and Field Championships Sunday and Monday.

"There are a lot of officials out there being sought after," Akers said. "There's an outside timing crew that handles the automatic timing device."

The outside crew is different from the previous three meets Eastern has had this season.

Akers said qualified faculty has volunteered their time throughout the years when Eastern has hosted a track and field meet.

"Their help has been invaluable," Akers said. "Even though they may not be certified ... they still do an excellent job."

WOMEN'S TRACK AND FIELD | CHAMPIONSHIP PREVIEW

Eastern poised to win first ever indoor title

By Brandy Provaznik

Staff Reporter

For nine of the past 10 years the women have had to sit back and watch the men win one Ohio Valley Conference Championship after another.

The women have never won an OVC championship, but this year, something is different.

The women are favored to win and have a confidence distance coach Geoff Masanet said has been lacking in previous years.

"In years past they were a little bit anxious, like 'We could, maybe do it, but I don't know," Masanet said. "This year I think they actually believe it."

Even though the women supported the men all along, they still felt like they were in a shadow and wanted a victory of their own, said senior pole vaulter Nicolene Galas. Seeing the men win consistently every year just makes the women want it more and more, said senior distance runner Jillian Blondell.

"I think it is sort of like playing second fiddle to somebody else and seeing it happen year after year," said Tom Akers, Eastern's men's track and field head coach. "It wouldn't sit well with me and I think our girls have a competitive enough



JOHN BAILEY | THE DAILY EASTERN NEWS

Track coaches Mary Wallace and Tom Akers speak to their athletes about the conference meet. The women are favored to win their first Ohio Valley Conference Indoor Track and Field Championship.

attitude that it is like, 'We want to do that too.'"

Akers said this year he believes the women are capable of doing that.

Akers said he thinks the reason the men have had success in the past was because they had contributors in each event.

He feels the women are at that point now.

Women's track and field head coach Mary Wallace said coming into the conference championships they have talent in every event.

She also doesn't feel like any one

event has a weak spot or any one event is particularly stronger than the other.

"The entire team is solid and has the opportunity to get it done," Wallace said. "If every event group takes care of their business we will have really good results." Because Tennessee State has won women's conference titles in the past and Southeast Missouri are the three-time consecutive defending OVC champions, Masanet said they might be favored over Eastern.

"They know the presidents

"They know, theoretically, what it is like to show up to a championship meet like this and perform well," Masanet said. "They know how to control anxiety and edge people out at the line to make it to a final where it does help to have that experience."

Akers said Tennessee State and SEMO are predominately sprint and jump oriented. And Samford and Eastern Kentucky have strong distance programs, he said.

"There is just so many different teams that have strengths in different areas so it is really going to be a battle no matter what event we are competing in," Akers said.

Austin Peay head coach Doug Molnar said he is also expecting the Eastern women to have many athletes scoring in many events.

"We don't have a lot of guns, but like assassins, the ones we do have are very lethal," Molnar said. "Eastern has a lot of guns and on paper they are favored. It is theirs to lose."

Now it is time to see if the outcome will be different too.

AUSTIN PEAY

- **» Track:** Sophomore Bertha Castillo, 5,000-meter run.
- " Field: Junior Ashley Genslak, high iump.

MURRAY STATE

- **» Track:** Freshman Taylor Crawford 800-meter dash
- **» Field:** Junior Dominique Robinson weight throw and shot put (co-female field athlete of the year)

EASTERN ILLINOIS

SAMFORD

- **» Men:** Kyle Ellis-pole vaulter; Kirkland Thornton-hurdler; Dan Strackeljahndistance.
- **» Women:** Kandace Arnold-thrower; Nicole Flounders-distance.

» Men: Michael Smith-hurdler/sprinter;

William Denton-middle distance:

» Women: Lauren Blankenship-

distance; Daphne Anderson-hurdler/

EASTERN KENTUCKY

- **» Men:** Elkana Kurgat, distance; Carl Arnold III-distance; Nicholas Landissprinter
- **» Women:** Kathryn Ankrom-distance; Joy Henry-distance.

SOUTHEAST MISSOURI

- **» Men:** Miles Smith-sprinter; Chris Williams-sprinter.
- **» Women:** Whitney Thomas-hurdler/sprinter; Julia Koenegstein-distance.

JACKSONVILLE STATE

- » Track: Junior Asha Gibson, 200-meter dash.
- » Field: Senior Andrea Arnaud, (cofemale field athlete of the year) triple and long jump.

TENNESSEE STATE

- » Men: Buford Williams-jumper, Ronald Morris-sprinter,
- **» Women:** Dominique Ward-sprinter; Felicia Jeffers-middle distance.

MOREHEAD STATE

- **» Men:** Hugh Denbow-sprinter; Matu Bundy-jumper;
- **» Women:** Brittany Brown-jumper.

TENNESSEE TECH

- **» Track:** Senior Lauren Addie 60-meter dash, long and triple jump
- » Field: Freshman Katherine Lynn high

www.dennews.com | Page 12 **SPORTS FRIDAY**

2.23.07

triplethreat



The women's track and field program seeks its first Ohio Valley Conference Indoor Championship.

Men's head coach Tom Akers (above), who helps with Eastern women's runners, and women's head coach Mary Wallace, who helps with the throwers, will try to lead the women to a historic feat.

Here are three reasons why the women's track team will win the OVC Indoor Title.

- 1. Distance crew- The distance crew is led by senior Nicole Flounders. She has the second best mile time in the OVC and junior Jillian Blondell has the third best time in the 5.000-meter race
- 2. Field Events Eastern will need to pick the majority of the points from the field athletes. Senior Nicole Marczewski is seeded first in the long jump and sophomore Jenna Uhe in the triple jump is as well.
- 3. Sophomore sensation Sophomore sprinter Shawana Smith has the second best time in the OVC this season in the 60-meter

-Kevin Murphy

joewaltasti

THE EXTRA POINT Trade deadline madness

The NBA trade deadline passed at 2 p.m. Thursday and the Chicago Bulls' roster remains unchanged.

The rumors swirled around the Memphis Grizzlies' 7-foot Spaniard Pau Gasol coming to the Windy City to finally give the Bulls a low post scorer.

He would have been the perfect addition to the team, save for Kevin Garnett. But like the rest of the NBA, the Bulls refused to deal. Jason Kidd to the Los Angeles Lakers, Vince Carter to the Los Angeles Clippers and Mike Bibby to the Cleveland Cavaliers were other big-time deals that were being discussed on ESPN and message boards alike.

But once again all the action failed to live up to the hype.

The only deal was the Toronto Raptors trading Fred Jones to the Portland Trailblazers for Juan Dixon. Yeah, I don't know who Fred Jones is either. Sounds like an insurance salesman.

Just like the beautiful girl sitting at the bar inside Marty's constantly putting on lip-gloss, twirling her hair and getting free drinks from every guy in the building - the trade deadline was one gigantic tease.

But I loved it.

>> SEE WALTASTI, PAGE 9



Joe Waltasti is a senior history major with a journalism minor. He can be reached at jwal717@yahoo.com.

Conference tourney chances improve

Panthers win on the road need one more to make Ohio Valley **Conference Tournament**

By Marc Correnti Staff Reporter

Even with the Panthers 82-76 victory Thursday Jacksonville their State, chances of making the Ohio Valley Conference Tournament just got more confusing.

meaning

Panthers

a win and some



more help on Saturday. The Panthers best hope remains in a victory at Samford, followed by a loss by Eastern Kentucky to Tennessee State or an Eastern Kentucky loss plus an Austin Peay loss to Morehead State.

If this sounds confusing, it's because it is. In order for all of the aforementioned possibilities to take place, the Panthers have to win.

"It's as simple as that," Eastern head coach Brady Sallee said. "We know first and foremost we have to win. It's not something you wanna be in the middle of, but we're realistic about our chances."

For Eastern (10-18, 7-12 OVC) to have any realistic chance, the Panthers had to beat a Jacksonville State team that was missing Courtney Slaughter - the Gamecocks leading scorer.

The absence of Slaughter, who left Jacksonville State (7-21, 4-15) this week for undisclosed reasons, created a huge hole for the Gamecocks and a big advantage for the Panthers.

"They're a different basketball team without her," Sallee said. "The only thing I was worried about was our team sleepwalking. When another team's best player is out,

the other team tends to relax. We didn't do that."

The Panthers did anything but relax, especially in the first half when Jessica Huffman scored 16 of her 19 points in helping Eastern gain a 44-33 halftime lead.

and added 8 rebounds. Jacksonville State came out

Ellen Canale

Canale 13 points

Sophomore

guard Ellen

shooting in the second half, going on a 14-4 run to cut the Panthers lead to 48-47.

Instead of folding down the stretch like the Panthers have done so often this season, the Panthers grabbed their biggest lead of the game at 73-60.

During the Panthers 19-9 run, Ashley Thomas scored eight points to help the Panthers assume

Sallee points to Jacksonville State's lack of help defense in letting the Panthers beat them off the

To check out the women's basketball box score, see page 9. The Panthers play Samford at 5 p.m. Saturday in Birmingham, Ala. A win would help their chances of making the Ohio Valley Conference Tournament.

"They weren't going to help a lot on our drives," Sallee said. "When we're the aggressor, we usually have pretty good outcomes."

Most of the aggressiveness came from Ellen Canale. The sophomore followed her season-high 17-point performance against Murray State with 13 points and nine rebounds.

"Her confidence is real high right now," Sallee said.

While Canale ignited the Panthers offense, Eastern got a strong contribution from Rachel Galligan (18 points, 11 rebounds), who did most of her damage from the foul line (10-14).

The Panthers face a Samford team on Saturday that beat Eastern 63-41 three weeks ago in Charleston.

BASEBALL | EVANSVILLE TOURNAMENT

Dealing with the cold

Panthers play three games in three days at opening season tournament in Indiana

By Kevin Kenealy

Online Interactive Editor

Senior outfielder Casey Spears played in snow during a game last year.

Senior reliever Kirk Miller played through sleet and rain against Chicago State.

Sowhen Eastern goes to Evansville, Ind., for its opener this weekend, the weather shouldn't affect them. The team hasn't had the chance to even get outside yet this year, as the snow and sleet has kept the boys practicing inside the Lantz Fieldhouse.

"Not at all," said head coach Jim Schmitz, when asked how often his team's been able to get out. "Last year, in 15 practice days we were able to get outside 12 of those. This year, so far, zero. For Spears, that means an added motivation to go to Evansville, who's ranked 18th in a Rivals.com Poll and National Collegiate Baseball for being one of the top teams in the nation. Also playing at Evansville will be Chicago State and Toledo, two places also familiar with cold weather.

Temperatures are expected to be in the upper 40's and low 50's this weekend, according to weather.

Schmitz expects to get 80 pitches from his starters in this Midwest rivalry despite the early games.

Miller is just anxious to outside and pitch. "Big thing is getting out of the Fieldhouse," Miller said. "Gets kind of monotonous after a while with pitching drills and throwing to batters in here." Schmitz said while inside, he has implemented an arm program for his pitchers that consist of opening



JOHN BAILEY | THE DAILY EASTERN NEWS

Senior pitcher Chris Vaculik follows through on a pitch behind a net during practice on Tuesday evening in the Lantz Fieldhouse. Vaculik leads the team in strikeouts and career saves records.

up about an hour before practice, administering heat packs, massage treatment and stretching.

Long toss, or gradually spreading the distance in playing catch, is also used to get arms in shape. All the same, Schmitz does understand how cold weather can affect his players, having been to games where the wind chill made the temperature drop into the 20s. "We've had games canceled because it's just too cold," Schmitz said.

'Because that is the concern if you have a pitcher that's going up and down, up and down; even if he only throws four innings, if the other

EVANSVILLE TOURNEY SCHEDULE

Dunn Hospitality Diamond Classic in Evansville, Ind.

All games will be played at UE's Charles H. Braun Stadium.

- » Today: vs. Toledo, 11 a.m.
- » Saturday: vs. Chicago, 11 a.m.
- » Sunday: vs. Evansville, 3 p.m.

team stays out there too long, it's going to be hard for him to get loose." In cases like these, team trainer Tony Katzenmeier will ask a pitcher how

he's feeling and then ask the coach on whether to take him out.

From there, headministers ice and checks on him throughout the week. The only problem the cooler weather presents for Spears is maintaining concentration in the outfield.

"(You) kind of lose your train of thought out there sometimes because you just think about how cold it is sometimes," he said.

"But you really don't worry about it most of the times because it's the first week going in and you have so much adrenaline that you really don't think about it much."

See our Oscar predictions on page 4. Make your own predictions on page 8.

on the verge



major, also does not pay much

>> SEE REJECTED, PAGE B7

acknowledge award ceremonies.



ROBBIE WROBLEWSKI | ON THE VERGE

A student sleeps in Booth Library Monday afternoon. Many students do not get enough sleep and take naps to catch up. Naps can be healthy if they are less than an hour and take place during the early afternoon.

Sleep affects studies

By Kristina PetersAssociate Verge Editor

Naps help Tracy Kersh get through her school day.

Because of homework and hanging out on the weekends, Kersh, a junior family and consumer sciences major, does not get enough sleep to keep her awake through most days.

"When I'm really tired, I really can't focus," she said.

Kersh gets about five to six hours of sleep on weeknights and three hours a night on the weekends on average.

This amount is far less than the average college students should get, said Eric Davidson, associate director of Health Service.

The amount of sleep students need differs, but it is recommended to get about eight hours of sleep each night, he said.

Sleep has an important effect on college students when they are trying to store new information.

"Students that get less than eight hours of sleep may miss sleep cycles, which help with the ability to store newly acquired information," Davidson said. "Sacrificing sleep can lead to later sleeping and waking times, which

can lead to larger sleep problems, missed classes and poorer academics."

Aside from school, poor sleeping habits can lead to anxiety, fatigue, anger and depression in college students, Davidson said.

Andy Sarwark, a senior recreation and administration major, gets close to the recommended amount of sleep. Sarwark gets about seven hours of sleep on weeknights and seven to 10 on weekends.

"There's a big difference if you don't get that amount," he said.

Sarwark said that if he gets less sleep he is very tired and would not be able to get through his classes.

Kersh said she would get more sleep if she did not have a large amount of homework that keeps her up late at night.

"Teachers want you to be a master of their particular subject," she said. "They should lay off the homework."

Because Kersh gets less sleep than recommended, she takes about two "power naps" a week.

Her power naps are about 15 minutes long and "they give you a little burst of energy," she said.

Although Kersh gets less sleep than recommended, she feels that she is usually ready for a day of class. It would be difficult to function with even less sleep, she said.

Davidson said naps can be useful, but only if taken in the early afternoon and limited to less than an hour.

"As the day gets later, naps can negatively impact sleep patterns and one's ability to get sleep," he said.

Naps may be useful, but Davidson said that if too long or taken late in the evening, naps can affect sleep patterns.

"While the eight hours is important, one aspect that is often ignored is the need for consistent sleeping and waking times," Davidson said.

The sleep pattern of Jamie Hilley, a junior special education major, is not consistent. Hilley gets about six to seven hours of sleep each night but said that varies.

"Sometimes it's more, sometimes it's less," Hilley said.

Hilley said sleep is important to concentrate in class, and unlike high school, it is harder to stay awake in college courses.

playlist

The Verge: It looks like rap is your favorite genre of music. Why is this?

Battle: I just like the songs. They're not made to dance to. I just like the music.



vergestaff

Thomas Battle

Black Student Union

President

Contact the On The Verge staff by e-mail at **DENverge@gmail.com** or visit us on the Web at www.pounceonline.com How can Britney Spears expect to ever win back Justin Timberlake's heart with a shaved head?

Verge editorAdam TestaAssociate Verge editorKristina PetersPounce Online editorKatey MitchellVerge designerCharles ManterVerge interactive reporterJason Duarte



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Folk singer to perform at coffee shop

By Ben Balanoff

Verge Reporter

Michael Kammin has worked to cultivate a sound of his own.

The musician has combined traditional songwriting with guitar work that is highlighted by his finger picking style, which lies somewhere in between the avantgarde and the delta blues.

Kammin will be performing at Jackson Avenue Coffee at 8 p.m. Saturday.

"I really try to connect with the audience," he said. "I believe the performance is a two way street. I try to connect, and I try to look for something in return."

Kammin hails from Wisconsin, but relocated to the Champaign-Urbana area several years ago with his wife.

Since then, he has performed at colleges, county fairs and coffeehouses.

Around age 15, Kammin realized he wanted to devote his life to music.

"I started going to concerts. It really stuck with me," he said. "It just took hold."

One experience that had a strong impact on him was seeing Leo Kottke and Michael Hedges perform live.

Leo Kottke is an elder statesman of acoustic guitar playing who draws heavily on jazz, folk and blues to construct polyphonic, syncopated melodies.

Hedges was an innovative guitarist of eclectic compositions.

Kammin credits Kottke as being his biggest influence.

"I like his overall attitude, his personality and his quirky sense of humor," he said.

Kammin released his five-song debut EP, "Strong Mind," last August.

Kammin plans to release new material in

The show is free and is open to students and the public.

From Gospel to the Oscars



TERRENCE ANTONIO JAMES | MCT

Jennifer Hudson sings "For Every Mountain" at the end of a gospel concert at Progressive Baptist Church in Chicago on Feb. 13. Hudson has gained recognition for her singing role in "Dreamgirls," directed by Bill Condon and co-starring Eddie Murphy. Both Hudson and Murphy are nominated for supporting actor/actress awards at the 79th annual Academy Awards. The Awards air Sunday at 7 p.m. on ABC.

Comeback Kid's return comes up short

By Jason Duarte

Verge Interactive Reporter

Not even a new lead singer can help Comeback Kid make its way into mainstream music.

Hailing from Winnipeg, Manitoba, Comeback Kid has



2005's "Wake the Dead," and with the addition of Andrew Neufeld as lead singer, the band keeps the hardcore tunes coming

From start to finish, "Broadcasting" is nonstop aggression, as the four-piece band slaps it on thick on 11 tracks in less than 35 minutes.

Listening to the album will conjure reminiscent feelings of teenage angst into anyone listening.

People cannot help but at least tap their feet as the bass guitar/drum combination rhythmatically dominates not only their speakers, but their head.

The problem with the songs is

ALBUM DETAILS

»Artist: Comeback Kid »Album: Broadcasting... »Label: Victory Records »Release Date: Available Now »Current Single: "Broadcasting..."

that the lyrics don't make sense. On "One Left Satisfied," Neufeld abruptly begins the track, "There was desire that burned, and when the dust had blown away, there was a whisper of gold. No reservations, they were expecting for some time. There was a whisper of gold."

Barely even poetic, Comeback Kid fails to formulate sensible lyrics to compliment its conglomeration of intensely pounding instruments.

Maybe that song is the only one that doesn't make any sense. Let's look at another example, just to be sure.

The first lyrics of "Market Demands" chant and scream, "The masses said, by popular demand, cheer me on now, closer to the edge. I didn't think I could follow through, but I did out of convenience."



Genius material? Maybe in the eyes of some. I'd like to think that in the 21st Century, new music hasn't been stripped of all meaning.

If people enjoy pumping their fists and/or going to shows and throwing punches blindly at strangers in mosh pits, this album is a must-have.

After a couple of hours of listening to these 11 tracks over and over, I feel like punching some strangers myself.

Even the cover art resembles the same sort of dark, gloomy picture of something broken, destroyed or decaying.

Just like countless other hardcore bands that coincidentally sound strikingly

The cover of "Broadcasting" features a large, once-standing building buried mostly

underground. Power lines jut from the sides of the building, and dark storm clouds overhead detail the artwork as well.

Comeback Kid has the sound but not the feel. Too many other bands in the scene have produced music that sounds similar for years. This new album definitely lacks originality.

So many bands in the "scene" produce music based on what's cool, or at least what is perceived

There is no meaning to be understood or anything to be really gained by listening to this

However, if you're playing a fighting video game, then this album would make for great background music to get those intensely competitive feelings

This album would be recommended for fans of Norma Jean, Countdown To Life, Bane and Terror.

If you plan on picking up the album, be sure to bring money for black hair dye and a studded belt before leaving the house.

If Comeback Kid does not improve, they may reach a point where a comeback is impossible.

Music's a real Sirius business

Two major satellite radio companies talk about merger

By Kevin Kenealy

Online Interactive Editor

How does a monopoly begin? It starts with a handshake between Gary Parsons, chairman of XM Satellite Radio, and Mel Karmazin, CEO of Sirius Satellite

Radio, following the signing of the merger of the two companies.



If the merger clears U.S. antitrust laws, the new company would become a \$13 billion monopoly that would include 14 million

subscribers. The companies combined also carry a debt of \$1.6 billion, according to globeandmail.com.

Even with hot shots Howard Stern (Stern took a five-year, \$500-million contract) on Sirius and Bob Dylan on XM, both stocks fell more than 40 percent last year because of concerns over their continued growth in subscribers.

Well, I guess subscribers won't have too many other places to turn now if the deal falls through anyway.

Karmazin declined comment on how much the company expects to save from the merger, but he somehow believes the merger will result in lower costs for consumers.

XM users can't receive signals from Sirius and vice versa. But if the mega deal goes through, Karmazin and Parsons said their companies are working on a receiver that can pick up both signals.

The two companies have not been able to compete on their own in the past few years because of competition from iPods, mobile phones and non-satellite digital radio.

"There hasn't been a problem in terms of creating a market for satellite radio; the problem has been the cost to do it," said analyst Andrea Horan of Genuity Capital Markets.

Now, the Federal Communications Commission is trying to prevent the mega company from forming. However, if the companies can squiggle their way through that, I would hope they could satisfy consumers.

After all, it's not like there's competition out there in the satellite industry. Sure, they complain about being hit hard from outside sources, but they knew going into the industry they would have to compete with regular radio and CDs anyway.

Even though a Bear Stearns analyst said in a research note that the merger would have a good chance of overcoming regulatory obstacles, others aren't so optimistic.

Sanford C. Bernstein analyst Craig Moffett believes the deal would only have a 50 percent chance of passing antitrust regulations from the Department of Justice.

The merge does a number of things. Sure, prices could very well drop in the first few months of use. With the swollen number of subscribers, I don't think it would hurt XtremeSirius (or whatever they intend to call it) that much.

But it's all about profit. This means raising prices (hey, they're free of competition remember) and gathering more delightful ads to fill the airwaves. Nice.

All I can say is this: please let the Department of Justice do just what they do - justice. Break the trust.

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academyawards

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Adam Testa Verge Editor



Kristina PetersAssociate Verge Editor



Dann GireDaily Herald Film Critic
President of Chicago Film Critic's
Association

Motion Picture

TOP PICK: Little Miss Sunshine **CONTENDER:** The Departed

NOTES: In an ideal world, the light-hearted dark comedy "Sunshine" would take home Hollywood's top prize. But this isn't an ideal world; it's America. So guns, violence and the Irish mob will win out.

NOTES: Clint Eastwood's "Million heat out Martin Scoreses's "The A

TOP PICK: Letters from Iwo Jima

NOTES: Clint Eastwood's "Million Dollar Baby" beat out Martin Scorsese's "The Aviator" two years ago. Things look like they could go that way again if "Iwo Jima" can bring home the big one.

TOP PICK: Little Miss Sunshine **CONTENDER:** Babel

NOTES: "Sunshine" is a sweet, edgy, black comedy that avoids the darkness and conflicts permeating in the world today. "Babel" perfectly emulates last year's winner, "Crash."

Directing

TOP PICK: United 93 **CONTENDER:** The Departed

NOTES: Paul Greengrass deserves the award for making a movie about a sensitive issue in such a professional, moving manner. But when Academy politics come into play, Scorsese's got a shot.

TOP PICK: Letters from Iwo Jima

CONTENDER: The Queen

NOTES: Two years after winning for "Million Dollar Baby," Eastwood is looking to claim his prize again. While Eastwood deserves the prize, he might just lose it to Stephen Frears.

TOP PICK: The Departed **CONTENDER:** Babel

NOTES: Martin Scorsese for "The Departed" because, hey, it's about time. Alejandro Gionzales Inarritu may win for "Babel," but only if it wins for best picture.

Lead Actor

TOP PICK: Forest Whitaker **CONTENDER:** Will Smith

NOTES: Whitaker deserves the award for an outstanding performance in "The Last King of Scotland." The Academy may give the award to Smith for making a movie without aliens or robots.

TOP PICK: Will Smith

CONTENDER: Forest Whitaker

NOTES: After a hard loss in 2001, Smith will probably lose this award again. His portrayal of Chris Gardner was heartfelt and touching, but Whitaker's performance might give him the award.

TOP PICK: Forest Whitaker **CONTENDER:** Peter O'Toole

NOTES: Whitaker provides human insight into a monster better than "Hannibal Rising" ever could. O'Toole is good at playing a sly, aging drunkard trying to get parts in TV shows and movies.

Lead Actress

TOP PICK: Helen Mirren **CONTENDER:** No one stands a chance

NOTES: Penelope Cruz, Meryl Streep, Kate Winslet and Judi Dench might as well just skip the ceremonies. Mirren will walk away with another trophy to add to her mantle, hands down.

TOP PICK: Helen Mirren

CONTENDER: No contest

NOTES: Mirren made playing Queen Elizabeth II look easy. She demonstrated outstanding acting ability that has earned her both Golden Globe and Screen Actor's Guild honors.

TOP PICK: Helen Mirren

CONTENDER: Helen Mirren **NOTES:** You don't tug on Superman's cape and you don't stop a force of nature like Helen. Warning to competitors: don't even think about it.

Supporting Actor

TOP PICK: Alan Arkin

CONTENDER: Eddie Murphy

NOTES: The team of Arkin and Abigail Breslin is a force to be reckoned with. The role of the explicit grandfather should win Arkin the honor. But a win might save Murphy after making "Norbit."

TOP PICK: Mark Wahlberg

CONTENDER: Eddie Murphy **NOTES:** Both Wahlberg and Murphy are nominated for their first Academy Awards. While Wahlberg deserves the award, it will possibly go to

Murphy for stepping away from his normal roles.

TOP PICK: Eddie Murphy

CONTENDER: Alan Arkin

NOTES: Murphy finally plays a character he wouldn't play on "Saturday Night Live." Arkin plays the lovable but irreverent and sassy grandpa every little girl dreams of.

Supporting Actress

TOP PICK: Abigail Breslin

CONTENDER: Jennifer Hudson

NOTES: Another hopeful prize for "Little Miss Sunshine" will probably land in the hands of "American Idol" loser Hudson. The award will feel natural in Hudson's hands, though.

TOP PICK: Jennifer Hudson

CONTENDER: Jennifer Hudson

NOTES: Hudson has continued to build a career after finishing seventh on "American Idol." Landing a role in "Dreamgirls," and winning a Golden Globe and a a SAG, helped. So will an Oscar.

TOP PICK: Jennifer Hudson

CONTENDER: Abigail Breslin

NOTES: Why Hudson? You didn't hear those pipes? But Breslin has a heart as exposed as a patient in cardiac surgery.

Movies go on location in Illinois

By Nora Maberry

Editor In Chief

Hollywood is not a million miles away from Illinois. Production companies have been using Illinois as a filming location for

chicago's Navy Pier was used in "Never Been Kissed" starring Drew

Barrymore.
Chicago was a key player
in "Ferris Bueller's Day Off"

Chicago was a key player in "Ferris Bueller's Day Off" with the Art Institute, the Chicago Board of Trade and

Chicago Board of Trade and the Sears Tower all making cameos in the

The Illinois Railway Museum in Union was used in a "League of Their Own."

The Illinois State Capitol Building was used in "Legally Blonde 2: Red, White and

Blue."

Closer to Charleston, the Danville Stadium was used as the setting for the 1992 movie "The Babe," which focused on the life of Babe Ruth.

The stadium was used to portray Fenway Park, where the Boston Red Sox play, and Forbes Field, home of the Pittsburgh Pirates.

Danville's Convention and Visitors Bureau capitalized on the filming of the movie to increase tourism to the stadium.

"Upon request we give tours," said Jeanie Cooke, director of the Danville Area Convention and Visitors Bureau. "We use "The Babe' in our advertising to draw people to the area and the stadium."

The film has increased tourism to the stadium, Cooke said.

In addition to being a tourist destination, the stadium also functions as a baseball field.

The stadium is home to two high school baseball teams, a community college team and the American Legion baseball teams in the Danville area.

The stadium is home to the Danville Dans, a central Illinois Collegiate League baseball team.

"The premier team is the Danville Dans, who bring top notch players in from all over the country to play wooden bat, major league sponsored summer program," Cooke said.

"It's not unusual to have 4,000 fans there on a Friday or Saturday night," he said.

Baseball stadiums are not the only reason Hollywood has come to Illinois.

Further south, movie buffs can swim through a Boeing 727 in Mermet Springs. The film "U.S. Marshalls," starring Tommy Lee Jones and Wesley Snipes, was filmed in

the springs.

The movie made use of southern Illinois and filmed along the Ohio River near Metropolis and in rural Vienna.

The Boeing 727 that was used in a crash scene in the film is now submerged in the springs.

Visitors from across the country have come to swim through the plane.

"We have drawn people from as far away as Canada, California, the East Coast and Florida to come and dive on the 727," said Glen R. Faith, owner of Mermet Springs. "It has been a tremendous draw as it sets us apart from other inland dive destination. Few places can offer a famous 727 passenger jet to dive in."

For more information on touring movie locations, visit http://www.onscreenillinois.com.

trailertalk



Director: Ben Garant Starring: Lennie Lofton, Danny DeVito MPAA Rating: R

Fans of the television show "Reno 911" have an opportunity to see their favorite show on the

The characters on the show travel to Miami where they get wrapped up in solving crime while attending a police convention.

The movie looks as if it reflects the television show with lowbrow comedy and acting that is obviously supposed to be less than quality.

Recommended for fans of the show, and new audiences might also find some enjoyment.



Director: Joel Schumacher Starring: Jim Carrey, Virgina Madsen MPAA Rating: R

Today is February 23. "The Number 23" is always around us. There is no escaping it.

Or so goes the life and mind of Walter Sparrow (Carrey), who becomes obsessed with the number.

This movie looks like it will put to rest any doubt that Carrey can pull off a serious role. His acting, as well as that of his supporting cast, looks

Though it may seem like writers stretched a bit too far to find references to 23, this movie still looks highly entertaining.

Recommended to see in theaters.



Director: Michael Polish Starring: Billy Bob Thornton, Virginia Madsen MPAA Rating: PG

Everyone wants to be an astronaut as a child. Charles Farmer (Thornton) was no different.

In "The Astronaut Farmer," Farmer lives out a childhood fantasy by building a rocket on his farm.

The acting in the film seems high quality, even if the storyline seems kind of out there. From this trailer, the viewer is really unaware of what to

This movie could turn out to be one worth seeing or it could just be another run-of-the-mill flick to pass up.

Recommended for people looking for a feel good movie, some relaxation and a happy ending.

-By Verge Editor Adam Testa

And the winner is...

Throughout the years, hundreds of people have opened the envelopes to announce the winners at the Oscars. Here are some of this year's presenters for the 79th annual Academy Awards.



Ellen DeGeneres



Jaden Christopher Syre Smith



Will Ferrell



Tom Hanks



Kate Winslet



Reese Witherspoon

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thisweek ondvd

BABEL

Directed By: Alejandro Gonzalez

Starring: Brad Pitt, Kate Blanchett MPAA Rating: R

Run Time: 142 minutes

Synopsis: Communication breakdown causes struggles for three intertwined storylines

THE PRESTIGE

Directed By: Christopher Nolan Starring: Hugh Jackman, Christian Bale, Michael Caine

MPAA Rating: PG-13

Run Time: 128 minutes

Synopsis: Two rival magicians compete for prestige and attempt to learn the other's secrets

FLUSHED AWAY

Directed By: David Bowers Starring: Hugh Jackman, Kate Winslet, Ian McKellan (voices) MPAA Rating: PG

Time: 84 minutes

Synopsis: "A Tale of Two Cities" told in cartoon form with a rat flushed down a toliet

Scorcese strikes out at Oscars

By Adam Testa

Verge Editor

The Oscars are a lot like a baseball game. Some players strike out and have a batting average of .000.

Others will earn honors for every nomination and bat 1.000 for the day.



For others, the batting average continues for more than one season.

Best director nominee Martin Scorsese may continue his lifetime batting

average of .000 Sunday.

Scorsese belongs to a club of directors who have never won an Academy Award despite being nominated multiple times.

Scorsese is not alone in being a prominent name in Hollywood and also a member of the club. The roster also includes Robert Altman (five nominations), Alfred Hitchcock (five nominations), Stanley Kubrick (four nominations) and Ridley Scott (three nominations).

Scorsese's nomination for "The Departed" marks his sixth nomination. If he loses Sunday, Scorsese will become the most nominated director to never win an Oscar.

Two years ago, Scorsese's chances of breaking his losing streak looked positive until Clint Eastwood's "Million Dollar Baby" entered the ring (no pun intended).

Eastwood took home the prize for director and "Baby" took home the statue for Best Motion Picture of the Year.

Scorsese finds himself in the same situation again this year with Eastwood and his film "Letters from Iwo Jima" nominated for the same awards as Scorsese and "Departed."

Scorsese is not the only one who should be worried about striking out.

While it may seem that earning multiple nominations would greatly increase a film's chances of winning at least one award, this is not always the case.

Throughout the years, 32 films that have been nominated for at least seven competitive nominations left the Oscar arena empty handed. Many of these films were even huge box office successes and have earned a place in movie history.

Among these Oscar losers are 1980's "The Elephant Man" (eight nominations), 1990's "The Godfather, Part III" (seven nominations) and 1994's "The Shawshank Redemption" (seven nominations).

On the opposing side of things are movies that have swept the Oscars

While 32 films have left the ceremony empty handed, only five have swept the ceremonies when nominated for four or more competitive categories.

Among these films are 2003's "Lord of the Rings: Return of the King" (11 nominations) and 1999's "The Matrix" (four nominations).

Six films enter Sunday's contest with five or more nominations. The fun of the Oscars will be watching these films step up to the plate and take a swing at the big prize.

The movies include "Dreamgirls" (eight nominations), "Babel" (seven nominations), "The Queen" (six nominations), "Pan's Labyrinth" (six nominations), "Blood Diamond" (five nominations) and "The Departed" (five nominations).

If Scorsese or these other competitors strike out Sunday, they can always look ahead a week to MLB spring training.

Testa can be reached at denverge@gmail.com.



teaturethis

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Checking out area rental stores

By Jason Duarte

Verge Interactive Reporter

When all assignments are completed and everything on the to-do list is checked off, people may find themselves sitting around, realizing they have hours of down time with nothing to do.

These people may choose to rent a movie.

They don't even have to leave their couch if they are able to order movies through their cable service with pay-

per-view or movies on demand.

But until technology completely takes over every aspect of human life, people can still go out to a video store, thumb through movies and decide on one.

Charleston and Mattoon offer several places to go if one is looking to rent movies.

In Charleston, Positively Fourth Street Records offers 98-cent movie rentals, and new releases come in every week.

To rent at Positively Fourth Street, all one needs to start an account is a valid driver's license and a major credit card. Registration is free.

Carl Erd, a senior business management major, works at Positively Fourth Street and rents out movies to customers.

While the store rents movies, it does not offer all products students may be looking to rent.

We do mostly movies and TV shows. We don't rent video games," Erd said.

However, Positively Fourth Street will place special orders. If a new release is a little bit obscure, the store can try to track it down for the customer.

Eastern students have an alternative to paying when wanting to rent movies.

Booth Library rents movies to students



ROBBIE WROBLEWSKI | ON THE VERGE

Kevin Blankenship, a freshman math major, and Jessica Castillo, a freshman management major, pick out movies from Family Video so they have "something to do" Tuesday afternoon.

with a Panther Card for one night and free of cost. Patrons of Carnegie Public Library in Charleston can also utilize Booth's services.

The selection at Booth may not cater well to those looking for new releases. Most of the movies at the library are older or documentaries.

Joe Maestro, a junior family and consumer sciences major, checks out movies from the library often.

"They have a pretty decent selection of the classics, like 'Arthur.' And it's free," he

When looking for those new releases, Spotlight Video in Mattoon may be a little further off campus, but it is still an option for Eastern students.

Ciara Colbert, employee for Spotlight Video, said the Mattoon store offers many deals for students.

"On Mondays and Wednesdays, you rent two new releases and get a third one for free. And then, I think right now we have all of our old VHS tapes for \$1 a piece for sale,"

"Our Xbox and PlayStation 2 games are for sale for \$7 a piece."

Premier Video, also in Mattoon, also has deals and specials for renters.

"If you rent a new arrival, you bring it back the next day and you get a 99-cent coupon off your next rental," said Marie Miles, manager of Premier Video. "We also have on the older titles, the VHS's are five for \$5 for five nights and the DVDs are five for \$8 for five nights."

Miles attributes much of Premier Video's business to college students from Eastern and Lake Land College, especially on video game rentals.

'We have a big game selection," she said. "We're the only ones in Mattoon that are carrying all the new ones like the 360, the Wii, the PS3. We kind of have a little monopoly in this town on that one."

Family Video in Charleston offers Eastern students another local option for

Maestro said the store's options depend on the time of release for the film one is looking to rent.

"Family Video has a decent quantity of new releases when you want them," he said.

Maestro said that with older movies, people can find themselves out of luck if someone has already checked it out.

Ted Effertz, a junior business management major, is a member of Family Video and also agrees that the store offers many new releases.

"Family Video's not bad. They have VHS and DVD, which is cool. The only real weird thing about it is they have like 8,000 new releases and some of them are from like two years ago," Effertz said. "Also, their gaming section pretty much sucks. I was very disappointed."

Performance encourages audience interaction

Village Theatre to showplace "Only an Orphan Girl"

By Beth Hackett

Activities Reporter

Heroes battling villains, exciting plot twists, thrilling action, music and climatic events.

These characteristics seen in many productions are unknown



to many as the qualities of melodramatic theater.

"In traditional stage melodramas

of the 19th Century, audiences were not passive or quiet as they typically are today," said Christopher Mitchell, Village Theatre director. "They cheered the hero loudly, booed the villain just as loud and gasped at thriller moments."

"Only An Orphan Girl" is an old-style, 19th Century melodrama, which is still considered thrilling to contemporary audiences.

The performance premise is that a traveling theater troupe at the turn of the 20th Century is making a stop in Charleston to perform this particular play.

Mitchell has been a part of such melodramas in the past and found that the various audiences have almost always found it "to



ROBBIE WROBLEWSKI | ON THE VERGE

Rich Aguilera, Jane Blue and Chris Wiebler practice for their performance "Only an Orphan Girl" Monday evening. The play opens tonight at the Village Theatre.

be a hoot," as they were inclined to noisily voice their emotions throughout the play.

Audiences in attendance at the production of "Only An Orphan Girl" will be encouraged to do the same, since the performance is highly audience-participatory.

Chris Wiebler, a senior theatre major, said when people are heckling his character it is not so much distracting as it is helpful.

"When people are booing me while I am acting it encourages my character to become even more

mean," Wiebler said.

During rehearsals, Mitchell asked the faux audience to be as loud and ruthless as possible so the actors would have to work through the "worst possible element."

This technique is used so the cast will not be thrown off when there is an actual audience before

The classic good-versus-evil scenario manifests as a citybred villain attempts to gain the inheritance of his niece, who was

ONLY AN ORPHAN GIRL

»Where: Village Theatre

»When: Feb. 23-26

All shows at 7 p.m. except for Sunday at

»Price: \$10 adults, \$8 senior citizens, \$5 students

»Box Office: Call 581-3110

The villain threatens property and others' lives in order to gain the orphan girl as his wife.

Simulation audience rehearsals and play run-throughs began on Jan. 21 and generally take place five nights a week, which turns into about five weeks of intense

Mitchell said general auditions for all shows in a semester are held at the beginning of that semester. Anyone is welcome to audition.

People auditioning prepare two contrasting monologues for the general audition and those called back do what are called 'cold readings.' This means the actors are given a portion of the script and a scene partner and are expected to interpret the script piece on the fly.

The theatre department has welcomed non-majors and nonstudents to participate and act in performances.

The cast and crew for "Orphan Girl" are comprised primarily of theatre majors who receive one hour of class credit for their work.

Wiebler has been involved in five plays during his career at Eastern. He said melodrama plays are just like horror films in the sense that music plays into the viewer's emotions and helps to keep them at the edge of their seat.

The musical interludes take place during stage rearrangements to keep with the mood and help the audience to stay lively.

Rich Aguilera, a sophomore theatre major, said Mitchell encourages the cast and crew to warm up before performances, especially this one because the acting becomes extremely intense and physical.

Before a performance, Aguilera tries to remove himself from his surroundings and mellow out.

"I just try to do whatever I have to do in order to become my character," he said.

Wiebler, on the other hand, has an energy boosting ritual he likes to carry out before shows.

"I always say a prayer and then just (go by everyone else) and make jokes and keep myself loose and limber," he said. "If I don't do that, I will start thinking about the show and I will get out there and freeze up."

Tim Lindeman, a senior theatre major, plays piano throughout the entire play. He said people have to come to this play willing to participate.

"Do not be afraid to be involved," he said.

weekendevents

TODAY

Tracey Ashley Performance

Time | 9 p.m.

Location | 7th Street Underground

More info | Comedian Tracey Ashley will share her comedic stylings wiith Eastern tonight when she performs at 7th Street Underground.

Ashley is performing as part of African-American Heritage Celebration Month. The event is free for students

To find out more about Tracey Ashley, check out the story in today's edition of The Daily Eastern News.

Only an Orphan Girl

Time | 7 p.m.

Location | Village Theatre

More info | "Only an Orphan Girl" opens tonight at the Village Theatre. The play tells the story of a battle for family inheritance and a quest to find real parents.

Audience participation is highly encouraged during the play. The show starts at 7 p.m. There are also showings on Saturday and Monday at 7 p.m. and Sunday at 2 p.m.

Tickets are \$10 for adults, \$8 for senior citizens and \$5 for students.

For more information, see page B6.

Panacea Concert

Time | 8:30 p.m.

Location | Common Grounds in

More info | Panacea is a Carbondalebased band that was named one of the top 10 bands in Southern Illinois in the Eye of Rock contest.

The band claims to sound like the Rolling Stones, the Who and Jimi Hendrix.

SATURDAY

Miss Black EIU

Time | 8 p.m.

Location | Grand Ballroom

More info | The annual Miss Black EIU pageant will be held Saturday. Four contestants will compete in categories for talent, creative expression, African garment and impromptu question.

Tickets to the event are \$10 in advance or \$12 at the door.

Red Cross Blood Drive

Time | 11 a.m. - 2 p.m.

Location | Gill's Restaurant in Mattoon

More info | The American Red Cross will be hosting a blood drive sponsored by the Mattoon Chamber of Commerce. The event will be held at

Gill's Restaurant located at 1121 DeWitt Ave. in Mattoon and will last from 11 a.m. until 2 p.m.

Mattoon Middle School Dinner Concert

Time | 1 p.m. and 5:30 p.m.

Location | Mattoon Middle School

More info | Mattoon Middle School is hosting an afternoon and evening of jazz, concert music and spaghetti. The event will be held in the school gymnasium and will host both a lunch and dinner concert.

Porn Again Christians Concert

Time | 10 p.m.

Location | Mac's Uptowner

More info | After the break-up of bands Swampass and Ambition Murder, the members joined to form Porn Again Christians.

The bands hails from Charleston, and will share its musical stylings at Mac's Uptowner Saturday night.

SUNDAY

Texas Hold'em **Tournament**

Time | Noon

Location | University Ballroom

More info | Phi Sigma Pi National Honor Fraternity will be hosting a Texas Hold'em poker tournament.

The event is open to the public and has a \$10 entry fee. First place prize is an iPod Nano, and prizes will also be awarded for second, third and fourth

Jenny Keefe Concert

Time | 9 p.m.

Location | Mac's Uptowner

More info | Jenny Keefe is an acoustic/folk/indie performer from

Her lyrics often focus on painting landscapes, treveling the country, dancing ancient dances and the state of society.

Keefe will be pkaying her hometown at Mac's Uptowner Sunday.

EIU Wind Symphony/EIU Concert Band

Time | 3 p.m.

Location | McAfee Gymnasium

More info | The EIU Symphony

The afternoon of music will be held in and it is free and open to the public.

Ballroom Dance Lessons

Time | 1:15 p.m. - 2:15 p.m.

Location | Mattoon YMCA

More info | The Mattoon YMCA begins its weekly ballroom dancing lessons Sunday. The sessions of the event will teach participants the rumba, the cha cha, triple swing and foxtrot. The sessions are four weeks and are taught by Scott and Cheryl Sweet.

Lessons meet every Sunday except for Easter. The cost of the event is \$20 for YMCA members and \$25 for nonmembers. For more information or to register, call 217-235-9622.

ROLLING EVENTS

Charleston: Postmodern Meets Postmortem

Duration | Through April 1

Location | Tarble Arts Center **More info** | The exhibit gives people

the opportunity to participate and star in a death scene of a "slasher" genre horror movie.

This event is funded by the Illinois Arts Council and is presented in cooperation with the Eastern Department of Theatre

Snowman Building Contest

Time | Through March 30 **Location** | Any city park

More info | Build a snowman in any city park and once done, take a picture and submit it to the Parks and Recreation Department.

There must be playground equipment or building in the background and the photo must be registered by April 13.

The contest is divided into two divisions, children under 18 and adults. The best snowman in each division will win a

If you would like your events on our calendar, please e-mail them to denverge@gmail.com or call

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24 HOURS

Orchestra will be performing with the EIU Concert Band Sunday Afternoon.

McAfee Gymnasium beginning at 3 p.m.,

» Rejected

FROM PAGE B1

The common academy scene is celebrities walking the red carpet dressed in prominent fashion designers like Christian Dior, Gianfranco Ferre, Carolina Herrera, Issey Miyake and Todd Oldham.

The arrival of celebrities in top fashion is a tradition students find unnecessary.

"Celebrities spend millions of dollars on outfits, but it doesn't go to a real noble cause," Goldfarb said. "It's primarily for entertainment

Although many college students do not

watch the Academy Awards, some residence halls are promoting watching the award ceremonies together.

Sara Schaller, assistant resident director of Pemberton Hall, is helping put on an event for Pemberton residents to watch the Oscars together in the lounge.

"I enjoy watching the Oscars because it is fun to see who wins and what celebrities say,"

Pemberton residents have an opportunity to get dressed up, eat snacks and win prizes.

"Events bring people together with a common interest," Schaller said. "It also allows students to get to know each other better and build a community."

Connie Sleezer, resident director of Andrews Hall, plans on taping the Oscars so that she can fast-forward or rewind as she pleases.

"I like to be aware of what's going on when people talk about it so I can say what I thought about it," she said. "Many people (who) watch it are into celebrities and celebrity gossip."

Contrary to popular belief, women are not the only ones interested in celebrities.

"I think it's common for a lot of guys that are really into movies and check out celebrities or girls they have a crush on to watch the Oscars," Sleezer said. "Movies can be macho."

The 79th annual Academy Awards will be broadcast at 7 p.m. Sunday on ABC.

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You decide the winners

YOUR PICK	WINNER	Best Actor	YOUR PICK	WINNER	Best Supporting	YOUR PICK	WINNER	Best Adapted
		Leonardo DiCaprio - Blood Diamond			Actress			Screenplay
		Ryan Gosling - Half Nelson			Adriana Barraza - Babel			- Borat
Ħ.		Peter O'Toole - Venus			Cate Blanchett - Notes on a Scandal			- Children of Men
Ħ_		Will Smith - The Pursuit of			Abigail Breslin - Little Miss			- The Departed
		Happyness			Sunshine		$\neg \vdash \vdash$	- Little Children
		Forest Whitaker - The Last King of Scotland			Jennifer Hudson - Dreamgirls			Notes on a Scandal
		Best Supporting			Rinko Kikuchi - Babel			Best Picture
		Actor			Cinematography			– Babel
		Alan Arkin - Little Miss			The Black Dahlia			- The Departed
ш		Sunshine			Children of Men			- Letters from Iwo Jima
		Jackie Earle Haley - Little Children			The Illusionist			- Little Miss Sunshine
		Djimon Hounsou - Blood		_;;	Pan's Labyrinth			The Queen
		Diamond			The Prestige			Best Feature
		Eddie Murphy - Dreamgirls						Documentary
		Mark Wahlberg - The			Directing			- Deliver Us from Evil
		Departed			Babel		$-\overline{\sqcap}$	- An Inconvenient Truth
		Best Actress			The Departed		- □	- Iraq in Fragments
		Penelope Cruz - Volver			Letters from Iwo Jima		$-\overline{\sqcap}-$	- Jesus Camp
		Judi Dench - Notes on a Scandal			The Queen		$-\Box$	- My Country, My Country
		Meryl Streep - The Devil			United 93			Art Direction
		Wears Prada			Best Original			
		Kate Winslet - Little Children			Screenplay			- Dreamgirls
		Helen Mirren - The Queen			Babel			The Good ShepherdPan's Labyrinth
					Letters from Iwo Jima			- Pirates of the Caribbean:
		Animated Film	\sqcap	$-\overline{\Box}$	Little Miss Sunshine			Dead Man's Chest
		Cars	\sqcap		Pan's Labyrinth			- The Prestige
		Happy Feet		_	The Queen			
		Monster House						- Total Correct
						-FILM	STRIP PHOTOS COURTESY OF	THE ACADEMY OF MOTION PICTURE ARTS AND SCIENCE

