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Daily Eastern News: February 16, 2012

Eastern Illinois University

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Check out how one family brought attention to Black entrepreneurship in *Fresh!*
Section B



Panthers win 3rd straight to stay in tourney hunt

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7TH STREET UNDERGROUND

Poetry expresses African-American culture, struggle

By Felicia Darnell
Staff Reporter

The 7th Street Underground filled up with students hearing poetry from the spoken word group SpeakEasy on Wednesday.

Blake Morris, a junior theater arts major and a member of SpeakEasy, said that the main mission of the event was education.

"Of course we want to entertain. Education for the younger generation is the topic," Morris said. "We wanted to make sure we remain centered around that topic."

Morris said that the night was meant to be a celebration.

"We are celebrating the will to reach out to others," Morris said.

The poetry that was performed was a mix of tributes and original material that focused on diverse topics.

The topics ranged from detailed images of love, expressions of anger and oppression.

The poets performed pieces that spoke to the modern African-American struggle and the controversies of urban culture. Performers brought up topics like environmental impacts in urban communities and the social implications of negative role models.

Accounts from the perspectives of African-American young people witnessing, struggling, and living within African-American society and culture, gave the audience some things to think about.

Special guest Amira Davis, a professor of African-American studies, performed her own original piece that spoke to sensitive, vulnerable and frustrated testimonials to the strength in the African-American culture.

Comparisons between past oppression and modern devaluation of African-Americans was mixed in among popular culture references and historical commentaries.

Janae Bonner, a senior biological studies major, said that she did not have too many expectations of the event.

"(I'm expecting) just some amazing poetry," Bonner said. "I'm pretty much an open book."

Folashade Samuel, a senior psychology major, said she looked forward to seeing what SpeakEasy had to say.

Samuel said she thought it would be interesting to hear African American history through the point-of-view of poetry.

Eric Baker, a senior communications studies major, said he thought the event would be inspirational.

"It's really going to speak to people's hearts," Baker said.

Bri Willis, a junior family and consumer sciences major, said "Culture is the New Crack" would challenge people, and the event would be something different for campus.

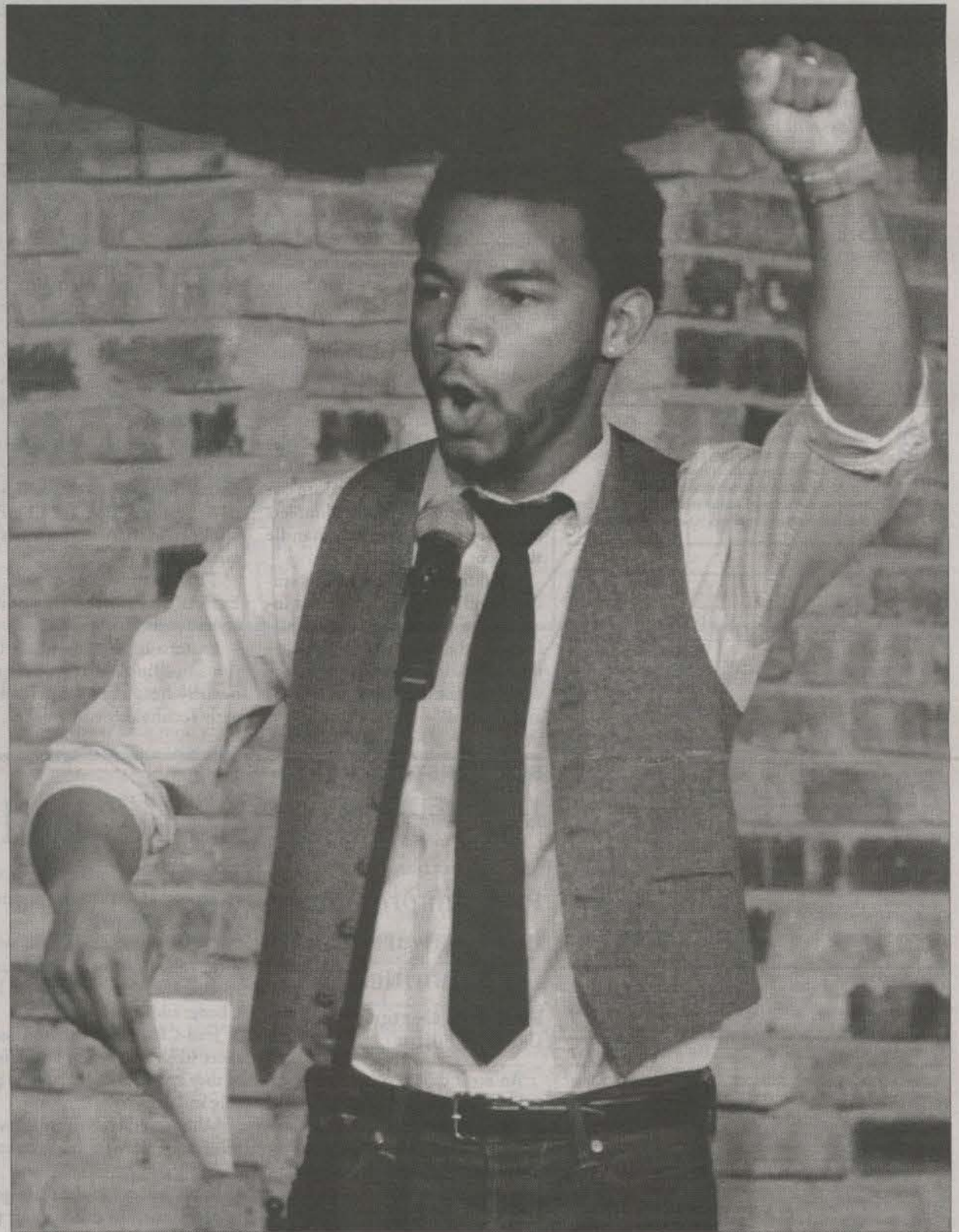
"I just really hope people leave with a new look at culture and get a new sense of where we are now (as a people)," Willis said.

Temetria Harris, a freshman psychology major, said the evening was eye-opening.

"Everything that they said I knew so it just opened my eyes even more," Harris said.

Eric Echols, a freshman political science major, said the evening was a good experience.

POETRY, page 5



MIRANDA PLOSS | THE DAILY EASTERN NEWS

Blake Morris, junior theatre arts major, performs "Comment #1" by Gil Scott Heron during the "Culture is the New Crack: Night with Speakeasy" event for African American Heritage Month in the 7th Street Underground Wednesday.

CITY

UPD says DUIs have increased in recent years

By Kathryn Richter
City Editor

A former Eastern student was drinking when he offered to drive friends to a house party from Taylor Hall.

After pulling up to the party on Oct. 28, 19-year-old Brendon Burke said he saw the lights of the police car behind him.

Burke, from Bellville, said the police stopped him because he had a non-functioning headlight and because he allegedly blew through a stop sign.

Burke said the cops administered a field sobriety test, which he failed, and he was arrested.

Burke said he remembers being questioned by the police: "How much did you drink?" and "Where were

you?"

Burke said the worst part of the questioning was sitting in the interrogation room and realizing his mistake.

"You're sitting there and you're like, 'I screwed up,'" Burke said.

After telling his parents, they made the decision for him to not attend Eastern for the spring semester, a decision that Burke said he understood.

"My parents always told me that whatever you do: 'don't drink and drive,'" Burke said.

Burke said the worst consequence he has faced from his DUI charge has been the financial burden and having his license suspended for six months.

"It's kind of tough now because I'm back home and I don't have a job or anything," Burke said.

Burke said he could also see people

being in a similar situation.

"I could see people doing it, but I don't recommend it all after my experience," Burke said.

Burke said he no longer attends Eastern because his parents decided not to enroll him because he received a DUI charge during the Fall Semester.

Adam Due, Chief of Eastern Illinois University Police Department, said the number of instances of drunken driving charges has risen.

"It's been on the rise the last few years," Due said.

Due said he has attributed the increase in DUI occurrences to the funding the police department has received from the government, that Due said has allowed better training, more patrols, and stronger enforcement.

Due said he also thinks age is a factor when it comes to the number of DUIs because he said the majority of the cases are from the 18- to 23-age range.

"They are the ones that are immature enough to get in the car and drive," Due said.

Due said he also thinks drinking is a bigger deal to those ages 18 to 23.

"You don't see the 27-year-olds at the bar," Due said.

Due said it is usually the younger ones that get in trouble for alcohol-related offenses while drinking is not a big deal to older residents.

Due said he also thinks the college students' mentality sway their decision to partake in alcohol-related activities.

DUI, page 5

CAMPUS

Student Senate opposes CPD Facebook page

By Amy Wywialowski
Staff Reporter

The Charleston Police Department is working to disable the photo comment feature on its Facebook page after Student Senate members said the comments had a negative affect on the university.

At the Feb. 8 Student Senate meeting, the members discussed how the Facebook page reflects a negative image on students and allows anyone to comment on the mug shots of accused individuals.

One of the issues brought up was that the profile picture on the Facebook page is a police car in front of Old Main.

SENATE, page 5

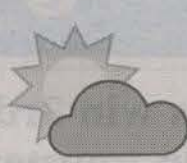
EIU weather

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Chance of Rain
High: 45°
Low: 37°

FRIDAY



Partly Cloudy
High: 46°
Low: 29°

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

A NOTE FOR OUR READERS ...

The Daily Eastern News will not be publishing this Friday because class will not be in session. The News will however print on Monday as usual.

EASTERN NEWS

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

Contact

If you have corrections or tips, please call:

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or fax us at:

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

Corrections

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COMMUNITY

Eastern to host technology conference

2nd annual student-led session to take place

By: Kimberly Foster
Photo Editor

Children ranging from third to 12th grade will get a chance to show their tech-savvy skills Saturday during the Students Involved with Technology Conference in Buzzard Hall.

From 8 a.m. to 2 p.m., students will lead and learn during sessions centered on varying forms of technology including digital painting, video and audio editing, robotics, and photo editing. The conference's theme is "All Hands On Tech!"

Students lead and develop the sessions that last for 20 minutes, and they include a handout and a question and answer period.

Janna Overstreet, the event coordinator and the dean of the School of Continuing Education, said 140 attendees signed up for the conference and 32 volunteers have been called to help handle the event.

In addition to the sessions, students will take part in contests including a mystery project challenge and a logo design competition for next year's conference with the theme "To The Cloud and Beyond!"

"The local winner (of the logo contest) will receive a \$25 gift certificate and be considered for the statewide contest," Overstreet said.

The conference schedule includes some Eastern faculty and students leading sessions.

Keith Sutterfield, a sophomore communication studies major and a student assistant in the Center for Academic Technology Support, will be the keynote speaker for the event. Sutterfield specializes in video production and has won three Student Television Awards from the National Academy of Television Arts and Sciences.

Antoine Thomas, the training and development specialist for the Center for Academic Technology Support, is scheduled to present two sessions of "Things You Need to Know," a program on social media including YouTube and Facebook.

Mark Rubel, the director of the Eastern recording studio, will present the session "Exploring Audio Technology."

Judy Barford, a professor of early childhood, elementary and middle level education, will host a trivia session using Turning Point clickers with American history questions.

This is the second year that Eastern has hosted this conference.

Eastern is just one of six locations in Illinois that will simultaneously host a Students Involved with Technology conference.



FILE PHOTO | THE DAILY EASTERN NEWS

Zach Schafer, from St. Peters School in North Aurora, Ill., celebrates after winning a gift basket containing a video game programming kit and candy Feb. 12, 2011, at the Students Involved with Technology Conference in Buzzard Hall.

Other locations include Heartland Community College in Normal; Adlai E. Stevenson High School in Lincolnshire; Thomas Jefferson Junior High School in Woodridge; Dekalb High School

in DeKalb; and Glenview Middle School in East Moline.

Kimberly Foster can be reached at 581-2812 or kafoster@eiu.edu.

BLACK HISTORY MONTH

'Sistas in shape' bolsters healthy lifestyle

Program promotes health-awareness for minorities

By Robyn Dexter
Campus Editor

An event called "Sistas in Shape," part of Black History Month, will feature a forum with guest speakers and ways to promote a healthier lifestyle in minority women on Sunday, Feb. 19.

Irvin Jean-Charles, a graduate assistant and a member of the office of minority affairs, is one of the co-founders of the event and he said all participants in the program will get a free workbook and t-shirt.

The workbook will include work-

out basics such as what to wear, what to expect, and different beginning workout techniques.

"We're going to start off with a forum about women's health issues, specifically minority women," Jean-Charles said.

Jean-Charles said minorities are more likely to develop health issues as they age, such as high blood pressure and diabetes.

"Although this event targets women of color, we welcome everyone to come," Jean-Charles said.

Jean-Charles said the main goal is to get women to think about their lifestyle habits.

Ceci Brinker, the director of Student Life, and Ken Baker, the director of campus recreation, will both speak at the forum about healthier lifestyle choices for minority women.

Baker will give the welcome and introduction, and Brinker will discuss the educational aspect of healthy living and working out.

Jean-Charles said his friend and the founder of "Sistas in Shape" Seymour Loftman will also be in attendance to talk about personal trainers and his experience working with NFL athletes as one.

"The first results you're going to see (as a result of the program) are better eating habits, better sleeping habits and having more energy," Jean-Charles said. "From there, consistency and discipline bring about the weight loss."

On Feb. 21 and Feb. 23, the program will continue with a group workout session in the recreation center.

Jean-Charles said participants will

wear their shirts they received on Sunday and work out in the aerobics room of the Recreational Center as a group.

The sessions will be at 2:30 p.m. and 7 p.m. both days.

"We understand our target group and the people we've been working with, and we felt this program was needed to raise awareness," Jean-Charles said. "We're going to help you kickstart your workout," Jean-Charles said.

He said that he and Loftman had done personal training before, but wanted to bring the idea of more of a group setting.

"We want to unify women and give them a support system," he said.

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

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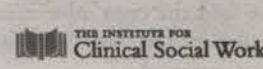
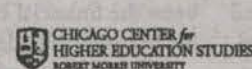
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Practice makes perfect



NATALIE FEDDER | THE DAILY EASTERN NEWS

Derek Maninfior, senior piano performance major, practices music on the piano Wednesday in the Recital Hall of Doudna Fine Arts Center. Maninfior has been playing the piano for 16 years and plans to continue to play in the future. He will be pursuing graduate studies in piano performance in Fall 2012.

DOUDNA FINE ARTS CENTER

Dancers to showcase 'Alive on the Inside'

Concert charges admission for first time to raise money

By Robyn Dexter
Campus Editor

The EIU Dancers will present their annual spring concert performance "Alive on the Inside" this weekend in The Theatre of the Doudna Fine Arts Center.

Antoine Thomas, the director of the EIU Dancers, said the performance will include a variety of dancers.

"Our company has 16 people in it from different backgrounds and different majors," he said. "We've invited our club to participate this year as well."

He said the addition of the club members will add another 10 performers to the show.

The EIU Dancers have been a registered student organization at Eastern for 31 years.

"The group prides itself on trying all different kinds of dance styles," Thomas said. These styles include hip hop, jazz, lyrical, contemporary, tap and stomp, he said.

Some of the artists that will be featured in the performance include An-

nie Lenox, Amy Winehouse, Jorge Quintero and A.R. Rahman.

Thomas said this year is the first year the annual spring concert will not be free.

He said the company is trying to do more elaborate shows in the future, which is why they are trying to raise more money.

This money will be used for better sets and lighting expenses, Thomas said.

Thomas said he expects a good turnout, even though the show will not be free like in past years.

"Normally our performances are completely booked," Thomas said. "We had to turn people away last year."

The EIU Dancers are sponsored by the departments of kinesiology and sports studies, theatre arts, and The DanceLife Center.

The shows will be at 7 p.m. Thursday and Friday and at 2 p.m. and 7 p.m. on Saturday.

Doors will open a half-hour before each show.

Tickets can be purchased for \$5 at the Doudna Fine Arts Center Box Office or online.

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

STRONG M.E.N.TORING

Men embrace stereotypical depictions during competition

By Samantha McDaniel
Activities Editor

The stereotypes of African-American men will be demonstrated and discussed on Monday.

Strong M.E.N.toring will have "Not a Genuine Black Man" at 6:30 p.m. Monday in the Phipps Lecture Hall Room 1205 in the Physical Sciences Building.

Darnell Tyms, the president of Strong M.E.N.toring, said they will be having a discussion on the stereotypical idea of how men are supposed to act.

The title of the event came from a comedy show by Brian Copeland, where he tells his stories from growing up in a predominantly white neighborhood and had to deal with stereo-

types, Tyms said.

Tyms said to start off the discussion and to get the audience thinking, men will participate in a pageant to show what the idea of a man is.

The categories that men will participate in the pageant include push-ups, pickup line contest and a rapping contest.

"There will be categories that reflect the stereotypes that black men are given or that they have," Tyms said. "This is supposed to set the mood for the entire forum."

The push-up competition will represent the idea that men have to be strong and bulky.

The pickup line contest will represent the idea that guys are predators and women the prey.

"It depicts how men are supposed to be these sex fiends; they only look at women as objects, as things they can obtain, and that is why we want to make that a category," Tyms said.

The rapping contest represents the idea that black men are supposed to be rappers.

"It is pretty evident in entertainment that is probably one of the top categories of entertainment that is closely associated with black men," Tyms said.

After the pageant, there will be a discussion on how the audience feels about the stereotypes.

"We will sort of flip the switch and basically ask the question 'Do you feel that not being able to own up to these different stereotypes makes you less of a man?'" Tyms said. "I think that will lead us to a further discussion about personal experiences, how the different audience members have been pressured to conform to the different stereotypes."

Tyms said this is a topic that Strong M.E.N.toring has discussed and want to open up to the public.

"It was an event produced after a discussion (Strong M.E.N.toring) about where black men stand in society today," Tyms said. "We discussed how masculinity itself plays a huge role in how men are portrayed and even the culturally specific masculinity traits, how that affects how black men are portrayed and behave in society."

Tyms said he hopes the program gets people to think about stereotypes.

"In all, the program is suppose to just bring awareness of masculinity and how it is working in society, how it is affecting men," Tyms said. "From there, men can make their judgments about how they behave and can make sense of how they are being affected."

Tyms said he hopes some good comes from the program.

"I am looking forward to social change," Tyms said. "Men are almost always targeted, whether they are straight, gay, masculine or not so masculine, they are targeted and not everyone sees men as being the victim, but they are."

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

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STAFF EDITORIAL

Oblivious epidemic: a DEN PSA

A curious illness plagues undergraduate college students. It impairs their ability to make rational decisions and, worse, inflicts itself upon unsuspecting classmates and teachers.

Normal, unaffected students understand the cost of college and know that their education revolves around time in the classroom. They understand that college is an investment and they will get out of what they choose to put in.

But the victims of this particular ailment seem determined not only to undermine their own education, but that of their classmates as well. They appear utterly oblivious to the nature and purpose of a classroom. We have undertaken an exhaustive study of this illness and, though we lack any formal training in the art of medicine, we have observed its symptoms.

Probably the most common symptom is an overwhelming compulsion to prematurely pack their papers and notebooks into their bookbags. This begins about five minutes before the end of class, but has been observed anywhere from 10 to 30 minutes earlier.

This is also wildly contagious. The first early packer triggers the rest of the early packers in the room. It is as if indignant imps infect the minds of students, ordering them to pack up as rudely and deliberately as possible. It is strange; somewhere inside, they know that they signed up for a class that meets for a particular duration, that the other students have paid for this class time and that the professor is paid to use it. Yet they exhibit no shame for their rudeness toward the professor, and seem unaware that their cacophony might drown out important information their classmates may want to hear.

Another common symptom is an apparent confusion of class discussion with group therapy. The individual takes every opportunity to commandeer class discussion of any topic in order to tell personal anecdotes of little or no actual significance. So deeply deluded are they in their self-importance, they pounce on any opening, no matter how obscure or abstract, to share mundane details from their short lives as if they are unique or significant.

They are unable to fathom that lengthy, detailed diatribes about their quirky family or annoying sibling are a waste of class time; rather, they believe their classmates are going into debt to get a glimpse at such profound insight.

These unfortunate souls are not to be confused with students who share their perspective in ways that further class discussion. Those afflicted are driven by ego alone and, when desperate, have been known to hold a class hostage with emotional outpourings about the death of some guy they used to know.

There are other symptoms, of course: Having side conversations everyone can hear; mashing away at a keyboard to chat on Facebook; texting throughout class, as if no one notices the cell phone vibrations every three minutes.

We believe there is a prophylactic. If you see symptoms begin to manifest, repeat these words to yourself: "Other students are here to learn, and I refuse to stop them."

The DAILY EASTERN NEWS

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

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COLUMN

Degree may not get you hired; do more now

You've heard it before: the economy is in the toilet so only the brightest, luckiest and best connected among your peers are going to get jobs sometime in the next 10 years.

For some of you, the crappy economy has inspired you to spend time polishing up your resume, cover letter, portfolio and all the other job-seeking paraphernalia for the job market.

I have been lucky enough to have two professional internships in my career field so far and I can attest to the importance of putting time and effort toward those crucial documents.

As important as having the documents ready to sell yourself to employers is, far more important is actually having something to sell.

As a senior staring down graduation without a clear plan for my own future, I am among the least qualified to give advice on how to go out and get that first job out of college. But one thing I know for certain is, to have a shot in hell at landing in your field of study, you need to do more than show up to class.

The fact is that having a college degree is not the ticket to ride that it once was. The conversation in higher education now is that the master's degree is becoming the new bachelor's degree. I don't buy into that line of



Doug T. Graham

thinking because it is very major-specific and gives off the impression that there is nothing you can do to improve your shot at a career while pursuing your bachelor's degree.

I don't know if you've drafted a resume lately but it only takes a few lines to say where you went to college. To really wow your interviewer, you are going to have to write about what you actually did during college. And unless you are planning on lying on your resume, which is a bad idea that became a much worse idea when Google was invented, that means applying yourself at Eastern.

Applying yourself means gaining experience that will help you stand out in your career field in a venue outside the classroom.

It is never too early to start looking for ways to apply yourself. Besides luck, the biggest reason I've had two internships is because I

picked up my first story for The DEN during my first week of class freshman year.

Applying yourself goes for every major. Think of your peers who've gotten internships or recent graduates of your major who are already employed and ask yourself: what did they do? Often, whatever they did is something that you yourself can pursue and do better. If you can't think of anyone who's done that recently, ask your professors.

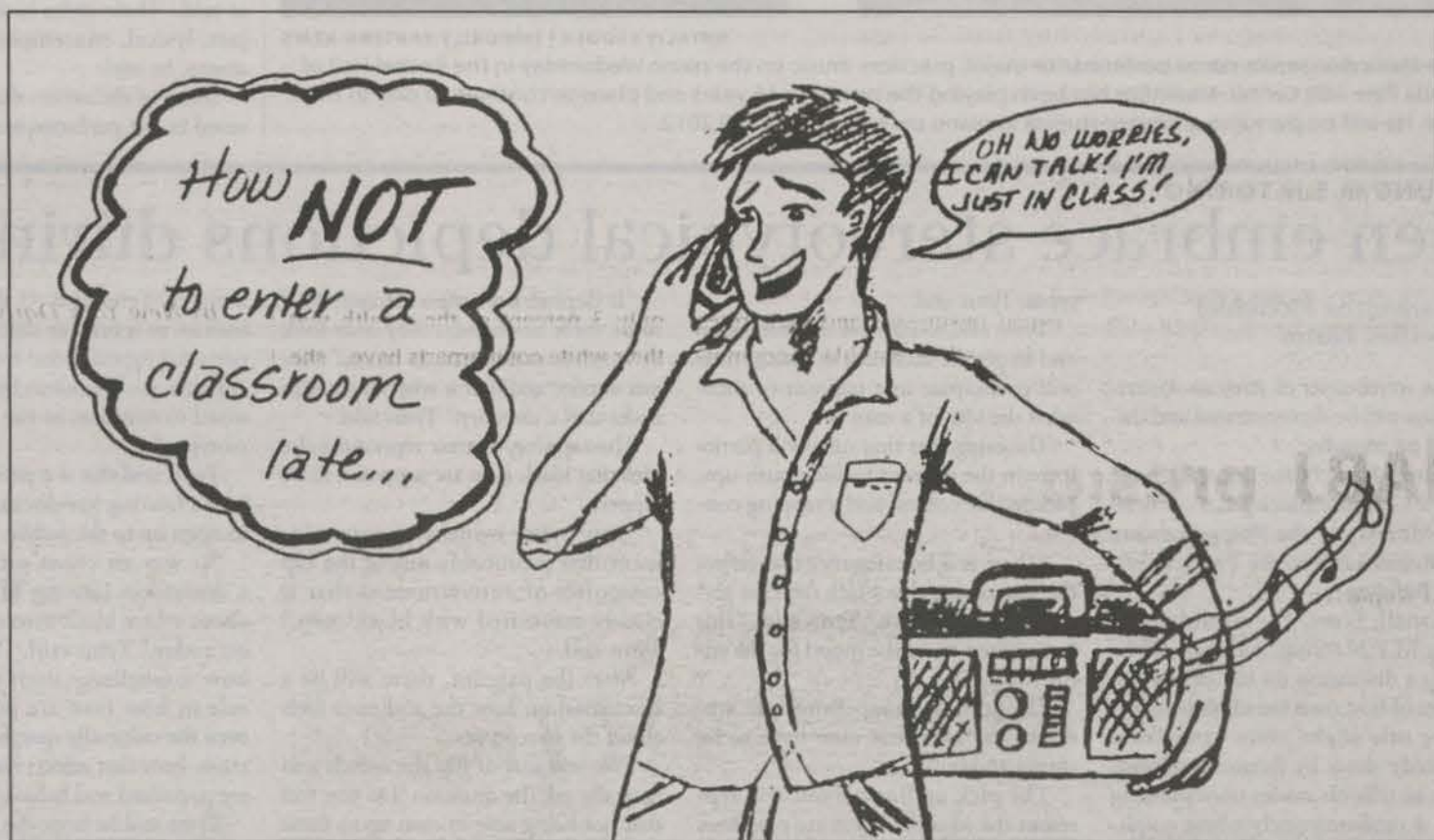
Professors are really your best resources when it comes to figuring out how to do more in your major. They know what successful students did to get jobs and they have a good idea of where those jobs are from their personal experience.

If you've gotten this far in the column I have one word for you: congratulations. It is never fun to listen to someone tell you how hard it is going to be to stand out from the crowd, but you made it through.

But listening is just the first step. It is up to you to find out how you can get involved at Eastern and take a bold step towards standing out from the herd. Godspeed.

Doug T. Graham is a senior journalism major. He can be reached at 581-7942 or DENopinions@gmail.com.

FROM THE EASEL



SHELLEY HOLMGREN | THE DAILY EASTERN NEWS

AROUND THE STATE

Government needs to stay out of my bedroom

By Beth Clothier
Western Courier
Western Illinois University

Well, ladies, look out yet again. The government is trying to take away even more your reproductive rights.

In a bill introduced in Monday's Senate session by Sen. Marco Rubio, R-Fla. and Sen. Joe Manchin, D-W.Va., any employer would be allowed to deny birth control coverage if it was against their religious or moral beliefs, according to the Associated Press.

While it is no surprise that this legislation was introduced by two men, who, let's face it, should obviously have a say over what women can and cannot do with their bodies, it is somewhat surprising that the government would continue to go to even greater lengths to remove the rights of its citizens.

I guess it's President Obama's fault. After all, he was the one who recently tried to get Catholic employers to provide free birth control coverage for their employees, so surely he

is responsible for this misogyny.

And I guess it's also his fault that Sen. Roy Blunt, R-Mo., has also introduced a bill that would allow employers with a heavy moral compass to deny coverage for any service that goes against their beliefs.

So, if for example, there is an employer out there in the wide, wide world of jobs that thinks diabetes is a completely avoidable disease and it's your fault if you have it, which in today's uber-moral health climate is entirely possible, they don't have to cover any tests or medication pertaining to that disease.

Alex Conant, Sen. Rubio's mouthpiece, defended against claims by The White House that these bills were taking the wrong approach by saying, "The Obama administration is willing to violate religious liberties with its federal takeover of health care. It's clear that legislation is needed to protect these important constitutional freedoms from federal overreach."

So allowing an employer to deny me any coverage at all based on their whims alone

isn't considered federal overreach? Give me a break.

To me, it is an interesting paradox - these politicians will apparently do almost anything they can to ensure that women continue to have no choice in the matter of giving birth, yet they don't want to have to deal with the issues that arise once that person is born and needs further care. In a way, it seems as if all they care about are numbers: the number of constituents they can claim to represent, the number of people who will continue to vote for them if they push the right agenda, the number of dollars they can get from companies if they make things happen for them. By the people for the people no longer enters the equation.

Maybe federally mandated healthcare isn't the answer everyone is looking for, but neither is taking away the rights that people already have in order to please a self-serving agenda.

To read more go to www.westerncourier.com

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

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



SHEA LAZANSKY | THE DAILY EASTERN NEWS

Student Body President Ed Hotwanger encourages the members of the Student Senate to cheer on the men's basketball team during their meeting in the Arcola/Tuscola Room of the Martin Luther King Jr. University Union on Feb. 15. Student Senate sponsored the "Blue Out" theme of the men's game and gave out door prizes, held raffles, and had a "Show Me The Blue" contest to find the fan with wildest school spirit outfit.

SENATE, from page 1

Student Senate Speaker Zach Samples said a group of Student Senate members spoke to Daniel Nadler, the vice president for student affairs, about their concerns with the Facebook page and they communicated with Chief Bryan Baker through email.

"We had planned on having our own meeting with the chief, but we do not have to as he made his decision after talking to Dr. Nadler," Samples said.

During the Student Senate meeting on Wednesday, Samples said the Charleston Police Department will meet to internally discuss the matter of the Facebook page.

The meeting was informal and condensed as the Student Senate members were all required to attend the "Blue Out" event at the men's basketball game at 7 p.m.

At the "Blue Out" event at the men's basketball game, the Student Senate members sat together, manned spirit tables, dressed in Eastern spirit gear and passed out cans of the Monster energy drink that was donated.

At the meeting, the group unani-

mously passed all three proposals to freeze 6 percent of funds from the Student Senate, the University Board and the Student Recreation Center budgets.

The freezes were approved by the Apportionment Board and were given to the Student Senate to vote on.

Jarrod Scherle, the student executive vice president, used the meeting as opportunity to kick off his letter writing campaign for the Student Action Team's lobby day in April. Scherle is lobbying for a new science building for Eastern.

"It starts now," Scherle said. "It gives me two months to reach my goal, which is 1,000 letters."

Scherle said he received 80 signed letters during the Student Senate meeting.

The next Student Senate meeting will take place on Feb. 21 in the Arcola-Tuscola Room of the Martin Luther King Jr. University Union.

Amy Wywialowski can be reached at 581-2812 or alwywialowski@eiu.edu.

COUNCIL ON ACADEMIC AFFAIRS

CAA to vote on revisions, deletions

By Amy Wywialowski
Staff Reporter

The Council on Academic Affairs will vote on six revisions and deletions suggested from the College of Sciences today.

The council will meet at 3 p.m. in Room 4440 of Booth Library to discuss the six executive actions and to nominate a chair for its Integrative Learning Award Subcommittee.

Christopher Mitchell, the chairman of the Council on Academic Affairs, said the council's four learning goals subcommittees will meet at 2 p.m.

Godson Obia, the interim dean of the College of Sciences, submitted the six possible executive actions.

The proposals request to revise

the prerequisites for Nursing and the Community, NUR 4506, and the course descriptions for Research in Physics. There is also a proposal to revise the electives and footnotes in the Physics Major, Physics: Astronomy Option, Physics: Computational Option, and Physics: Radiation Physics Option.

Obia said they are also requesting to delete Special Topics in Physics, PHY 3011 and PHY 3012, from the catalog.

According to the agenda, another proposal is to add a statement to the Chemistry B.A. Program regarding the availability of a five-year accelerated BS/MS Program.

Obia said the changes come due to scheduling conflicts.

"Due to scheduling issues that have

not been feasible for all of our students, the faculty have determined that the students' prior fundamental coursework and workforce experience make certain courses unnecessary for their success in NUR 4506," Obia said. "To facilitate smooth progress through the program for our students, we've decided to require only prior or concurrent enrollment in NUR 3103 Theoretical Foundations of Professional Nursing Practice before enrollment in NUR 4506."

A full list of the possible changes is available on the CAA website. If the recommended changes are made, they will take effect Fall 2012.

Amy Wywialowski can be reached at 581-2812 or alwywialowski@eiu.edu.

POETRY, from page 1

"I was very intrigued by the depth," Echols said. "Tonight inspired me to search deeper within my culture."

Elexis Wilson, a graduate student, said that the night was very informa-

tive and that the night will be "life changing for some people."

Chris Harris, a junior English and psychology major and a member of SpeakEasy, said the people that did not attend missed out on some great

information.

"They missed an opportunity," Harris said.

Felicia Darnell can be reached at 581-2812 or fldarnell@eiu.edu.

DUI, from page 1

"Students think that everyone is drinking when they get here," Due said. "There are a lot of students that don't drink."

Due said driving while intoxicated is not worth all the consequences.

"There's just so many reasons not

to do it," Due said.

Due said the financial aspect of lawyers and court costs, as well as having a revoked license, are all examples of the negative consequences of drunk driving.

"You can do all the catchy sayings, but when it comes down to

it, be smart because you are putting yourself, and others, at risk," Due said.

Burke's case is still ongoing.

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

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The New York Times Edited by Will Shortz No. 0112

ACROSS
 1 La ____ (Argentine city)
 6 Irksome
 10 Blacken
 14 Museum piece
 15 Name of counties in three states, all crossed by I-90
 16 Loosen (up)
 18 Amicable
 20 Abridge
 21 Windhoek-to-Pretoria dir.
 22 "Beloved," in operas
 23 Begin energetically
 24 Player of Mark Antony in 1953's "Julius Caesar"
 27 Singer
 30 Epithet for France's Louis VI, with "the"
 31 Singer Alan or Anita
 32 Weather line
 34 Abbr. in classifieds
 35 Andries Pretorius, e.g., who gave his name to a national capital
 39 What each of the 10 abbreviations in this puzzle's answer stands for
 43 Bloom support

ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE
 APSE ORION DABS
 NAPA CAMPY ORAL
 SWATCHTEAM NORI
 MAO ARP TMAN
 PATCHONTHEBACK
 BELKIT PESKY
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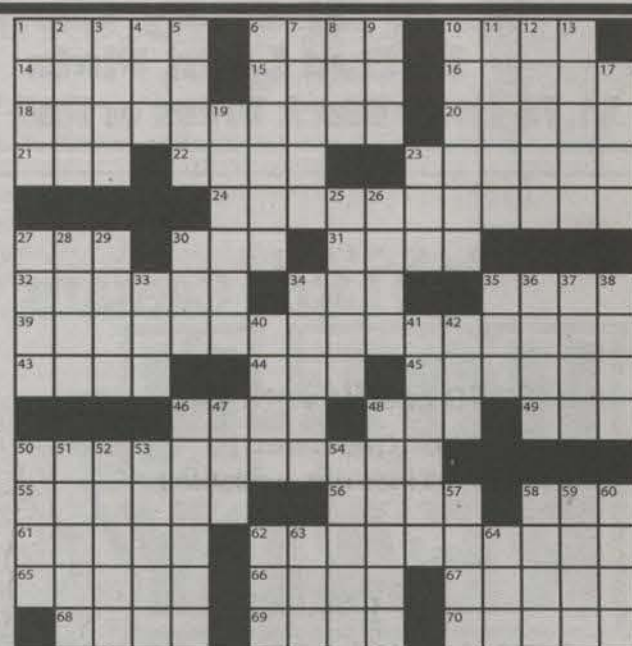
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 35 Drill part
 36 Year in the reign of the emperor Augustus
 37 Napkin shade, maybe
 38 Party in a legal proceeding: Abbr.
 40 Part of St. Paul's
 41 No longer bothered by something
 42 Baron ____ Richthofen
 46 Like some meas.
 47 Small area meas.
 48 City once divided by the Green Line
 50 Mixer choice
 51 Seemingly ceaselessly
 52 With cruelty
 53 Gay ____
 54 Plumbing, e.g.
 57 Golf's Ballesteros
 58 Lhasa ____
 59 Quick weight loss method, for short
 60 Command eliciting barking
 62 On the ____ vive
 63 Mantelpiece pieces
 64 Johnny Rotten

TOP CAT

Miller continues to impress

Freshman is "x-factor" for team

By Rob Mortell
Staff Reporter

After winning his third Ohio Valley Conference Freshman of the Week award, freshman guard Joey Miller earned this week's Top Cat honor.

In two wins against Tennessee Tech and Tennessee-Martin, Miller averaged 19 points.

His high-scoring average can be attributed to his record-breaking 28-point performance against Tennessee-Martin.

The 28 points marked the most points scored by a freshman in Eastern's Division-I history.

The previous record was 27 points, formerly held by both Romain Martin and Tyler Laser.

Miller's record game had him 6-of-12

shooting from the field, including 4-of-6 from the three-point line.

He also added 12-of-16 free throws to help close the game out late in the second half.

Although, he did most of his work offensively against the Skyhawks, Miller had a solid game in other areas stealing the ball three times and grabbing three rebounds.

Miller has easily been the Panthers most successful recruit this season. While also the son of head coach Mike Miller, Joey Miller is averaging the second most points per game on the team, behind only team captain, senior guard Jeremy Granger.

At nearly 11 points per game, Joey Miller has shown he solid second option in the backcourt along with Granger.

He is shooting 31 percent from the three-point line and shown poise on the foul line making 81 percent of his free throws.

Miller has hit many clutch three-point shots in his short time at Eastern and he said he feels comfortable shooting the ball in those situations.

The Panthers are currently 5-9 in the OVC and must win the rest of their OVC games to have a chance at making the conference tournament.

Joey Miller said the team just needs to take it day by day. "We got to keep our heads up," Joey Miller said.

Joey Miller has now won three OVC Freshman of the Year awards; and if he keeps up his consistent play, he should be on pace to make the All-Freshman team at the end of the season.

He has been sort of an "x-factor" for the Panthers this season. In games where Miller has scored in double-digits, Eastern has a record of 8-5, and in games when he is held under 10 points the Panthers are 4-9.

Rob Mortell can be reached at 581-7944 or at rdmortell@eu.edu.

ALIVE, from page 8

"That was my first (dunk). I knew he wasn't committed to driving so I just put my hand in the (passing) lane and tried to get away from him as quick as possible," Doss said. "The guys on the team were giving me a hard time because they know I'm pretty slow, but I got out on the fast break. It was a fun play but the guys gave me a hard time about the dunk."

Along with Doss, the rest of the Panther bench players turned in an impressive performance, outscoring the Cougars 20-0 in points off the bench.

"They have been able to do that throughout. They were big on the road last week and stepped up and made some baskets and some good plays," Miler said. "It's not gonna be Jeremy (Granger) getting 25. That won't be enough. It's gotta be different people."

Jeremy Granger was efficient from all areas of the floor as he was 7-of-15 from the field, 2-of-3 from beyond the arc and 8-of-9 from the charity stripe. All nine of Granger's free throw attempts came

in the closing minutes of the game as he recorded eight of the Panthers final 10 points from the foul line.

"I'm comfortable with the ball in my hands. That's part of being a senior and taking leadership and trying to go out and make the right plays at the end of the game," Granger said. "We shoot free throws every day at practice and it's just something I got use to. I don't feel any pressure when I'm at the free throw line. All I see is the basket and I'm shooting to make it."

With the win, the Panthers are now 12-14 overall and 5-9 in OVC play, and remain in the hunt for a birth in the OVC Tournament. The Panthers will be back in action on Saturday when they host the University of Illinois-Chicago Flames. Tip-off is scheduled for 6 p.m. at Lantz Arena.

Jordan Pottorff can be reached at 581-7942 or jhpottorff@eu.edu.



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MEN'S BASKETBALL

Still Alive

Panthers win 3rd straight to stay in tourney hunt

Jordan Pottorff
Assistant Sports Editor

Eastern's men's basketball team faced off against in-state and Ohio Valley Conference foe Southern Illinois-Edwardsville, and prolonged their conference tournament aspirations with the 73-66 win on Wednesday in Lantz Arena.

Eastern jumped out of the gates with a high level of intensity, knowing it was playing for its post-season dreams.

The Panthers quick start was fueled by their efforts on the glass, as they recorded 17 first-half rebounds that resulted in 11 second-chance points in the opening 20 minutes.

"To be able to score enough points to stay in these high scoring games, you have to have a balance. Free throw points, second chance points, you have got to get some transitions points and you just have to get them in different ways and we had a balance tonight," Eastern head coach Mike Miller said. "We made some threes and got to the free throw line and we had some second chance points."

Junior James Hollowell also provided a spark for the Panthers, as he tallied five of his 12 points in the opening minutes of the game.

The Panthers continued to execute in the first half, as they were using the extra pass to create good looks to the basket. The Panthers shot just under 50 percent from the field and converted on five of their nine three-point attempts in the first half.



DANNY DAMIANI | THE DAILY EASTERN NEWS

Sophomore forward Alfonzo McKinnie goes in for a dunk during Eastern's game against SIU-Edwardsville Wednesday in the Lantz Arena. Eastern beat SIU-E 73-66.

The three-point barrage was led by Hollowell and senior guard and team captain Jeremy Granger, as they were perfect from down town, connecting on each of their two three-point attempts. Eastern also got a big lift from the bench players as they outscored

Southern Illinois-Edwardsville 8-0 in bench points in the first half.

Eastern continued right where it left off in the first half with an impressive second half performance.

L.C. Doss came off the bench and energized the Panthers when they

needed it most. After giving up the lead on a pair Edwardsville three-pointers, Doss elevated his game and poured in 12 of his 14 points in the second half, including a steal that was capped off with his first career dunk as a Panther. **ALIVE, page 7**

BASEBALL

Panthers ready for opening tournament

By Jordan Pottorff
Assistant Sports Editor

Eastern's baseball team will kickoff its 2012 season with a trip to Jackson, Miss., to play in the Jackson State Tournament from Feb. 17-19.

The Panthers are eager to get back on the field, coming off of a disappointing season that had them turning in a record of 18-33.

The 2012 rendition of the Panthers will rely heavily on their pitching depth and their newly implemented offensive approach to guide them through the Jackson State Tournament and the regular season.

Eastern Head Coach Jim Schmitz has implemented an offensive game plan that focuses on execution and speed rather than the free-swinging approach of the past.

The Panthers will open their season against the Mississippi Valley State Devils on Friday. "Mississippi Valley, we don't know much about," Schmitz said. "I do know Jerry Rice played there, but he's not playing so I think we will be OK."

Schmitz will give sophomore lefthander Christian Slazinik the opening-day nod against the Devils.

Slazinik is coming off of a freshman season that had him posting a record of 2-5 and an ERA of 5.57 in 42 innings of work.

Mississippi Valley is coming off of an 18-36 season in 2011 that had them losing in the first round of the Southwestern Athletic Conference Tournament.

On Saturday, the Panthers will face host Jackson State at noon before rounding out the day with their second meeting with Mississippi Valley at 6 p.m.

"Jackson State, again they aren't Ole Miss, but they have one of the better players in the south in terms of their number three hitter (Kendall Logan), and they have two really good arms that are going to get drafted," Schmitz said.

Jackson State has a number of players that posted good numbers in 2011, but Logan led the way for the Tigers (27-26) with a .366 batting average to go along with 12 home runs and 44 RBIs.

The Panthers will start red-shirt senior Mike Hoekstra against Jackson State before turning to freshman newcomer Andrew Grahn in the night-cap of the double-header.

Hoekstra is coming off of his junior campaign that had him turning in a record of 5-6 while posting an ERA of 5.53 in 84.2 innings of work. Saturday night's game against Mississippi Valley will be Grahn's first collegiate start of his career.

Eastern will round out the Jackson State Tournament on Sunday with their second game against the Jackson State Tigers.

The Panthers will send sophomore Luke Bushur to the mound in the second meeting against Jackson State.

Bushur posted a 4-5 record with an ERA of 6.04 in 56.2 innings of work on his way to earning Ohio Valley Conference Newcomer honors during his freshman season.

Eastern, who was picked to finish seventh in the OVC preseason poll, will look to prove doubters wrong with their play on the field this season.

"We have to go out and play, but it's a real disappointment in where we were picked; and it just goes to show that in the last two years we haven't done well," Schmitz said.

"They aren't gonna pick you to be second or third after a bad year, but I told (the team) that we can create runs and find ways to win. In the past, it was if we hit we win, and if we didn't hit we didn't win, and that's why I'm excited to see the new face of EIU baseball."

The Panthers will open their season against Mississippi Valley State at 3 p.m. on Friday.

WOMEN'S BASKETBALL

Panthers learn from last 2 games

Nixon says team has improved after tough weekend

By Alex McNamee
Staff Reporter

The Eastern's women's basketball team learned a lot this past weekend from being put in situations it is not used to being in.

The Panthers trailed in the second half of both games Saturday against Tennessee-Martin and Monday against Tennessee Tech.

In the Tennessee-Martin game, they came back and tied the game but lost in overtime.

In the Tennessee Tech game, they came back and won in regulation by one point.

Eastern junior guard Ta'Kenya Nixon said the two games were among the toughest the team has played in all season, especially since they were back-to-back road games against two of the top three teams in the conference.

"We showed a lot of heart," Nixon said. "When we got off that bus (after the trip back to campus) we were a different team." Eastern head coach, Brady Sallee, said good teams are sometimes good because they do not trail at half or are not coming from behind in the second half; however, Eastern is the No. 1 team in the Ohio Valley Conference.

"You look at the stats and they talk about what a team's record is when behind at the half. It's never good," Sallee said.

Sallee said his team was able to make comebacks, and win one of the two games, because they were able to make adjustments to the game plan during the game. The team never gave up.

"This team understands the 40-minute process," Sallee said. Nixon said she was proud of her team for coming together and not giving up even when they were trailing by double digits.

"When you're down 10, 15 (points) in the second half, it's so easy to give up and use that it's an

away game as an excuse," Nixon said. "When you're down on Saturday, come back and lose. Then come back Monday and are put into that same exact situation, it's easy to say, 'It's just one of those nights.'"

Nixon said the win over Tennessee Tech and the comeback, overtime loss against Tennessee-Martin showed the team's character.

Nixon said the team learned from those tough road games and are now focused on Saturday's game against Southern Illinois-Edwardsville Saturday.

Nixon said Southern Illinois-Edwardsville, although not eligible for the OVC Tournament this season, could become one of Eastern's rivals. She said she expects that intensity out of the Cougars Saturday.

Southern Illinois-Edwardsville is not eligible for the conference tournament because its program is in transition into the OVC, but that doesn't mean they aren't eligible for other postseason tournaments.

"There's a whole lot on this game," Sallee said. "You've got SIU-E who is

trying to play their way into a post-season tournament."

Sallee said a win for the Cougars Saturday over the Panthers would grab selection committees' attention.

Senior forward Chantelle Pressley said the Panthers are not approaching the game any different because the Cougars are not eligible. The Cougars have the conference's third-best record.

"They're right at the top of the league, so it's a big game," Pressley said.

Eastern's game Saturday will be its last home game of the season and will be the last home game for Pressley.

"The only thing I've been thinking about is I don't want to cry before the game," Pressley said. "It's going to be emotional, but I don't want those emotions to affect my teammates before the game."

The game is set to begin at 4 p.m. Saturday in Lantz Arena.

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Empower experiment for black businesses proves economic struggle

Lauren Thomas
Staff Reporter

Students and staff at Eastern are educated on the plight of the black community's economic struggles through the story of one family's experiment to help bring attention to the problem.

Maggie Anderson, an author and business woman, came to Eastern as part of the Young, Black & Gifted series to speak about a project that she and her family embarked on to show support to black-owned businesses.

Anderson said the project, named the Empowerment Experiment, was designed to draw attention to the lack of economic power in the black community.

"For the Empowerment Experiment my husband John and I decided to take a public stand and completely live off black businesses for one year," she said.

Anderson spoke about her family's experiences and discoveries during the project which



Maggie Anderson and Dr. Janice Collins

were recounted in her book "Our Black Year: One Family's Quest to Buy Black in America's Racially Divided Economy."

She and her husband came up with the idea for the experiment in 2008, while sitting in their home discussing issues within the black community, Anderson said.

The couple wanted to learn more about the operation of black-owned businesses and their roles in the modern day black community, she said.

Anderson said they researched and compiled a list of black-owned businesses before embarking on the project. The family officially began their experiment on Jan. 1, 2009.

The family frequented a total of 15 black-owned businesses in the Chicagoland area, not including online shopping. Some establishments required driving over 30 miles to reach, according to Anderson.

Anderson spoke to the audience about the many economic disadvantages that continue to plague the black community.

"One dollar circulates among various businesses in the Asian community for up to 28 days and 19 days in the Jewish community," she said. "However, one dollar circulates within the black community for only six hours," according to Anderson.

"Black people currently have only 3 percent of the wealth that their white counterparts have," she said.

BLACK, page 2

Remembering Whitney Houston



Whitney Houston and her daughter, Bobbi Kristina. Photo by New York Daily News photographer Merritt/Getty

Megan Johnson
Staff Reporter
Editorial

As a young girl I remember standing in the mirror singing, "The Greatest Love of All." It gave us a glimpse into the world of learning to love yourself, while accepting who you are and holding onto your dignity. It spoke of all the positive aspects a person can hold inside of them as well as remembering the time they were all children. "Everybody's searching for a hero, people need someone to look up to, I never found anyone who fulfilled my needs, a lonely place to be, so I learned to depend on me." I absolutely love this song and it has helped me through many tough times and battles within myself.

Although I didn't know Whitney Houston personally, I absolutely adored and looked up to her. On Saturday, February 11, 2012, we lost one of the greats; we lost one of the world's best selling music artists, we lost Whitney Houston.

Houston was born August 9, 1963 in Newark, New Jersey to Cissy and John Houston. She started singing at the age of 11 in her church junior gospel choir. In 1983, Clive Davis heard Houston sing and immediately signed her; her career took her places she couldn't imagine. Whitney Houston has won two Emmy Awards, six Grammy Awards, 30 Billboard Music Awards and 22 American Music Awards; she has won a total of 415 career awards in her lifetime.

During the 1980's, MTV was just coming into itself and they

were receiving harsh criticism for not playing enough videos by African-American artist. Michael Jackson broke down the color barrier for black male artist, while Houston did the same for African-American female artist. The New York Times stated that, "Houston was a major catalyst for a movement within black music that recognized the continuity of soul, pop, jazz and gospel vocal traditions."

I was deeply saddened to hear about Whitney Houston's death, I was rooting for her every step of the way, as I'm sure everyone else was. But I found myself feeling even worse for Bobbi Kristina, Houston's 18 year-old-daughter. Bobbi Kristina suffered from a nervous breakdown after finding out her mother died, I couldn't imagine losing my mother or the pain she's going through. I can only hope and pray she can eventually recover and cope with knowing her mother is in a better place.

I think it's important for us to remember that Whitney Houston was human and humans make mistakes. The most important thing to focus on and to remember is her great music, her legacy and her contribution to the black community. From Houston's song, "Your Love is my love," "If I should die this very day, don't cry, 'cause on Earth we weren't meant to stay, and no matter what the people say, I'll be waiting for you after the judgment day," we will not cry, we will forever love you Whitney and hope you are now at peace.

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NABJ president offers wise words

Lauren Thomas
Staff Reporter

Black journalism students gathered to receive words of advice and encouragement Feb. 9 from the current president of the National Association of Black Journalists.

Gregory Lee Jr. spoke to members of the Fresh staff, NABJ and a few other journalism students and faculty about being successful in the journalism industry.

Lee is also the senior sports editor at the Boston Globe. He spoke to the audience about his experiences in sports journalism and the work he has done to increase diversity in the field.

Over the years Lee has created numerous programs through his work at the Globe and NABJ to promote diversity in all areas of journalism.

"I wanted to make change and make a difference in my industry," he said.

Lee encouraged the students to be multidimensional in order to increase their chances of finding internships and jobs.

"You've got to do it all. You've got to be able to write. You've got to be able to edit video," he said. "You've got to have those skills. It takes you far."

He advised the students to maintain their identities once they enter the work force. Diversity is important in the newsroom, he



Members of NABJ and Fresh! with Greg Lee. Photo by Sally Renaud

said.

Lee also encouraged them to use their experiences as minorities in the field to their advantage and to not be discouraged by negativity they may encounter.

"Your experiences are very important and what you've learned will serve you well," he said.

Lee said that he understands how hard it is for black students to succeed in the industry and how complicated it is to support themselves once they are on their own.

It is difficult for many black college students to survive on their own because they do not have the same support system that others do, Lee said.

"We don't have the parents

that are behind us that have that salary the can supplement our income," he said.

Lee stressed the idea of keeping an open mind when making career moves and not overlooking opportunities in search of comforts.

Many black people do not want to work in smaller areas because they don't offer the same luxuries as big cities, even if they do offer great job opportunities, he said.

Lee said preparation is a very important step in pursuing a career in journalism. He encouraged students to gain as much experience as they can through school and internships before entering the work

NABJ, page 4

Speaker removes red line dividing knowledge

Timothy Bell
Staff Reporter

Dr. Runoko Rashidi speaks out about "The Global African Presence," at the Martin Luther King Jr. Union in the grand ballroom Feb. 6.

Did you know the first person to have walked this planet was African? Did you also know that the richest land is proven to be Africa? Dr. Runoko Rashidi summed it up in his presentation, "The Global African Presence."

Dr. Rashidi is a writer, world traveler and research specialist who came to Eastern Illinois to present on how there is an African presence all over the world, which he learned during his research and visits to 100 countries and six continents around the world.

Dr. Rashidi stressed how it is important that we know where we come from.

"By looking at the African foundations of world civilizations African-Americans attain a reinforced sense of pride and self-esteem. And, as you know, self-esteem is essential for success in life," he said. "My motto is what you do for yourself depends on what you think of yourself, and what you think of yourself depends on what you know of yourself."

He also added, "What you know of yourself depends on what you have been told; this is true for African-Americans, Africans in other parts of the Diaspora, and Africa itself."

Knowing who you are, is an important part of Dr. Rashidi presentation. Dr. Rashidi explained how the media teaches people that Africa is a place of poverty and a place of disease.

"Africa is not poor; it's the African people that are poor," Dr. Rashidi said. "Africa is a big continent so, of course, the civilization would vary from place to place. Nile Valley civilization would have certain similarities to the great empires of West Africa, just as Greece and Rome differ from Renaissance Europe."

Dr. Rashidi expressed there is hope of a greater civilization "We can develop a greater tolerance for each other and we can gain a respect for African-Americans."

Dr. Rashidi's presentation ended with this question "what will they say about you?"

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'Blackademically Speaking' inspires students

Clarissa Wilson
Staff Reporter

Dr. Chandra Gill, a motivational speaker, author and educator, came to Eastern Illinois University, to deliver her honorable speech dedicated toward the struggles and mishaps of African-American students and their relationship, educationally and socially.

"Blackademically Speaking," was titled perfectly, as Dr. Chandra Gill has visited various high schools, universities and other mass audiences, delivering her message of change and instilling hope in some of our young brothers and sisters.

Blackademically Speaking is a motivational outreach organization that reaches toward the inner city youth. Youth, who face strife and triumph of living in poor neighborhoods everyday, as well as not having the resources to succeed in life.

Almost as an educational tour throughout the city of Chicago and elsewhere, Blackademically

Speaking was introduced to EIU's University Ballroom, on February 9th, as a part of Black History Month educational events.

The opening of the event began with Dr. Shawn Peoples, assistant director of Student Standards, who gave a heart-warming introduction, while acknowledging the accomplished speaker, Dr. Gill.

Dr. Peoples said, "Dr. Gill has a strong message to share with students. It is important for our students to hear that message so they can be encouraged and enlightened."

Dr. Gill, who gave reference to her background as a Chicago native and the difficulties of not seeing her peers or elders as positive role models. Her environment inspired her to make better of her circumstances.

Understanding and identifying with self destruction and peer pressure, Gill said, "It's a crime taking place, and it's with your mind."

She spoke light heartedly

and humorous, yet was firm in her ways of conveying her message.

Chynna Ward, a sophomore, undecided major, said, "she made me feel okay, I don't have to settle for less and that I should want the best for everything."

Throughout her speaking, she went into a dissection of the problems our youth faces, and she called it C.S.I. The C, standing for our youth being cowards, and not realizing their full potential or being courageous enough to say no to certain people and situations.

Secondly, the S, standing for our youth being selfish, and not learning how to sacrifice for others or for the growth and development of ones' self, and lastly, the I, for the ignorance of our youth.

Many young people are aware of the challenges and wrongdoings to themselves, however, there are still some, who rather continue their path of destruction, instead of getting control of their life.

Ultimately, the dissection of the acronyms was a unique way of getting the audience to understand

her perspectives and views on the current state of our youth.

Dr. Gill stated that she would not only tell the problems but give solutions as well. She enforced through her message, the power of education and placing more attention away from social networking and more on self-discipline to better ourselves academically and mentally.

"I hope students were able to take home the message to know your history, stay focused on your goals in order to achieve your goals, to never stop learning and you can overcome any obstacles put in your way," Dr. Shawn said. "Faith, prayer, inspiration, and knowledge are the key words that come to mind."

A student who attended the event, Jazmine Emia, a junior sociology major, said, "I learned to not let 'worldly things' get in the way of my blessings."

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The total number of black-owned businesses according to the survey was **1,921,881**, and of them, **1.8 million** had no paid employees, an increase of **64.5%** from **2002**.

MBE Connect The Diverse Supplier & Corporate Vender Network

Black, Cont.

Anderson said it was not enough to simply care about the issue, which is why she and her husband decided to create the Empowerment Experiment.

"The purpose of the project was not just to support black-owned businesses, but to bring back the unity and close ties that the community once possessed," she said.

"I want us to remember those businesses, those pillars in our community," Anderson said. "Those brilliant, talented role models that used to be common, and remember that time when the sense of duty and stewardship and shared destiny in the black community permeated our culture."

The Andersons also had concerns about the younger generation that have not had the opportunity to see examples of black people owning their own businesses, Anderson said.

"We still thought about the fact that most black kids can go their whole young lives and never encounter a business owner who looks like them," she said. "For every other American child, regardless of their background, that essential encounter is an everyday

experience.

Ted Gregory, Anderson's friend and co-author of the book, spoke to a group of journalism students and staff a few hours before the presentation.

Gregory, an Eastern alumnus and Pulitzer Prize winner, said he agreed to write about the Andersons and the Empowerment Experiment because he felt it had all the elements of a great story.

"I thought that what Maggie and John were doing would be a really informative experience for readers to learn about," he said. "I was hoping they would be able to see through the tension that may exist on the surface and get to a discussion of the larger issues."

Both Anderson and Gregory said they received harsh criticism and hate mail because of the project. Gregory said that after publishing his first article about the project in the Chicago Tribune in 2009, he received about 2,100 email responses, which were mostly critical and often profane.

Some people viewed the Andersons' experiment as racist and racially divisive, which Anderson said is an unfair and inaccurate accusation.

"Whenever we as a people, or just one little family from Oak Park, finally decide to use some common sense and do something, they have the nerve to call us racist," she said.

Anderson said she and her husband were upset by the lack of representation of the black community in the retail business. Through the experiment they discovered the number of businesses offering quality products in black communities was fairly low. Anderson also mentioned that majority of food deserts in the country are located in poor black communities whose residents have no means of getting to larger grocery stores to buy fresh, healthier food.

Dr. Janice Collins, a journalism professor at Eastern, said that since people in these situations do not have access to proper nutritious food they resort to more affordable options that are often unhealthy.

"Groups or aggregates that are from low income, those are the easiest things to buy. They usually buy candy or potato chips because they're 69 cents," she said.

Anderson said that this reality was upsetting to her husband and

herself.

"Our hearts ached as we saw up close what our people have to go through in these retail and food deserts. Forced to settle for inferior goods at high prices," she said. "Enduring disrespect from owners, who won't live with us, sometimes won't even hire us, but use our money to send their kids to college and pay for their dream vacations."

Anderson said that since the Empowerment Experiment launched it has sparked a worldwide movement to support businesses that invest in underserved communities and provide employment to poor black communities.

"The Empowerment Experiment is working and that's why I'm here today," she said. "That's why I dedicate my life to this."

Since the project, the Andersons have gone on to start the Empowerment Experiment Foundation, which is designed to provide support and a network for black-owned businesses and their owners, according to Anderson.

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Fresh! Staff

Businesses need no 'race' competition, only empowerment

Tempett Washington
Senior Reporter

I'm no professional speaker, but I do know that blacks still have a long way to go. Living the experience daily in a predominantly white school, I know that there are a few things we can control. We often wait on others to produce change for us when we in fact are capable of bettering a community just as the next person.

As CEO and cofounder of The Empowerment Experiment Foundation, Maggie Anderson has become the leader of a self-help economics movement. A movement that supports quality black

businesses and urges consumers, especially other middle and upper class African-Americans, to proactively and publicly support them. Anderson has taken a stand in supporting blacks.

How can we help support black businesses in a community like Charleston, Ill.? How can we build businesses that are successful? Here in Charleston, we struggle from lack of black businesses which stress how much we do really need them.

We can start by supporting all campus events and empowering black leaders. There are some black leaders here on campus that we have to support, push, and rep-

resent.

We have to show people on campus that it is ok to lead and have a passion for something that you believe in. Just because we are in college doesn't mean that our chance to lead is not likely to happen, it means that we have to work harder and that we can't be afraid to push ourselves to make a change.

Anderson said in her speech, "It's the system and it works." With that said we have to learn how to beat the system. Manipulate the system so that it works in our favor.

Throughout the year we continue to see blacks not supporting each other. We see it starting within our community. For example black

students here on Eastern's campus do not support events sponsored by black campus leaders. Not only has it affected the unity amongst the black population, but it is ruining our chance to succeed.

We have forgotten that what happens in a community also affects what happens to a business. Blacks are already identified as the minority and when we have an opportunity to do better, we should take that and excel with flying colors. Not only is the lack of support, prevalent in the community, but it is also prevalent in a world outside of Eastern's campus. We constantly hear about black-owned businesses and wonder why they are not suc-

cessful. The answer is simple. We as blacks have reached a stagnant level that has exceeded our level of intellect and control. We have been trying to figure out why other ethnicities can come into our community, open a business, and be successful. We have to remember that hard work pays off, but we also have to remember to use the resources that are available, as well as the paths that previous leaders have paved for us. We have to empower each other.

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Two days after Valentine's Day and still counting...



Dana Jackson
Editor-In-Cheif

Right now I am about to claim the freedom by revealing knowledge to my African-American culture about redefining love in a positive way.

This ultimately could invent something to benefit the African-American culture as well as Easterns campus as a whole.

Today that silent, unwritten, unspoken instruction about having positive love with a companion gets communicated, in the background of films, songs, TV, and within homes. This leaves negative depictions of love within the African-American culture.

Some may disagree and say that the holiday does convey positive implications; it's a day to celebrate love.

According to Valentine's Day History, during the 17th century, ready-made cards were an easy way for people to express their emotions in a time when direct

emotions were discouraged.

As Valentine's Day approaches people today are more concerned about what gifts they should get, rather than the celebration of being in a relationship or in love with someone. There really is no principal behind the holiday, at least not in today's society.

According to the Greeting Card Association, an estimated 1 billion Valentine's Day cards are sent each year, making Valentine's Day the second largest card-selling holiday of the year.

Love is not a holiday. Love is not gifts or the response after receiving that gift. LOVE is how we treat ourselves, which will ultimately determine how we treat others.

OK, are we talking about L.O.V.E. or LOVE? The word love is ambitious and flexible, what love means to one person may mean something completely different to the next.

We try to find the meaning of love from characters on TV, instead of dealing with relationships that validates the love we have for someone.

What we see in ourselves is what we come to look for and expect in our own relationships.

Please do not get so invested in Valentine's Day, because guess what. Now that the holiday is over you are still stuck with yourself and your relationship.

Here right know, love should be for eternity.

As individuals we get so excited about some of the insignificant holidays that circulate within our society that it begins to mold us as people.

Seeing as how Valentine's Day is now over. Is there still respect, loyalty, encouragement, honesty, motivation? Do you still have the best interest of the person you are with? Ask the question; are you the same person that you were on Feb. 14th, two days after?

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Embrace your natural side

Angelica Moore
Staff Reporter

Natural is defined as existing by nature and not made by or caused by humankind. Trying to define what natural hair should be or look like is not hard to do. Yet people have their own perception of what it means to be "natural."

Mary J. Walter, a senior art major, discussed her views on "natural hair" and why she loves and embraces it.

"Many different people have different definitions of what they consider natural but personally for me, it's not having any type of chemical straightening products in my hair or any type of chemicals."

However, Walter did explain that a chemical such as hair dye does not affect the natural texture of her hair.

"I think that your hair is still natural it's still in its natural texture and natural state it's just a different color if you have dye in it," said Walter.

Walter said the reason she wanted to go natural is because she wanted to be able to wear her hair the way God intended for her to wear it. Natural.

"I have only been natural for about a year and eight months

now," She said.

Walter went on to say that there are other ethnicities or races other than African-Americans who don't seem to have a problem with their natural hair.

"Their hair being its natural state, I wanted to be able to wear my hair that way too," she said.

Walter talked about childhood memories of her being natural as well as her unique curl pattern.

"Before I went natural I didn't really remember what my natural hair use to look like, when I was a child, I just remember it being difficult for my mom to comb," she said.

"When I really decided to go natural and could get a closer look at my texture it had such a unique curl pattern. Like, everybody has a different curl pattern or curl type; my hair is more "coily", so it looks like a little spring.

Walter also talked about the existence of the word "nappy."

"I don't even like the word nappy, I don't think the word should exist. I define it as curly, "coily" or wavy, not nappy," Walter said. "I feel like nappy is kind of like when you look at some one's hair and it looks unkempt or it's just all over the place."

Walter said that she embraced being natural because she feels confident in knowing that her hair is 100 percent natural.

"I don't have to worry about all the other things that come with having a perm, I lived through that, I know how it is to have a perm and I didn't want to go through those things to wear a certain style"

"I like being able to wake up and do a little this and a little that and be able to wear my natural hair," Walter said.

Why do you think a lot of African American females don't go natural, what's stopping them: "I think some people might be afraid of change. You do have to get to know your hair all over again if you haven't seen your natural hair in a while you have to learn how to take care of it all over again in a different way."

Walter went on to say, that some people are just use to growing up seeing other people around them with a certain style, maybe with straighter hair and they just don't know any different until they might see someone with natural hair.

She also explained that certain ideals of beauty were forced on

the African-American culture including European aesthetics. Walter described European aesthetics, "as the ideal of beauty, having light skin, blue eyes, straight and blond hair."

Walter talked about her inspirations, in regard to her natural hair.

"I had one close friend who was natural, the first time I tried to go natural my freshman year and she inspired me a lot," said Walter.

Walter also said she was inspired by recording artist, "Kelis." When Kelis was natural Walter really liked how her hair looked, she's not really sure if Kelis is natural anymore but she really liked how curly and pretty her hair was.

Walter seems to be inspiring others as well. Recently since she has been natural, quite a few of her close friends have gone natural as well.

"It feels good to see them embrace their natural beauty as well and embrace everything that they are," Walter said.

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Mary J. Walter



Mary J. Walter

'If you can't find a job then create one!'

Jeremy Nowell
Staff Reporter

Graduates walk away with diplomas, but in our economy they walk away with no jobs. How does a struggling college student continue to make steady money? While there are those students that rely on their parents and those that find a job on or off-campus, not all students are so lucky.

Aaron Williams, a junior communications major, said when life gives a student a lemon then they should make the best lemonade possible. Williams has turned his lemons into an on-campus profitable business of cutting hair for students at a low price.

Williams said he saw the void at Eastern Illinois University of African-American haircutters.

"One of the first questions freshmen black men ask is where I can get my hair cut," Williams said. "Now I can give them an answer that not only is a solution to their hair problems but a solution to my money problems as well."

Williams said he sees an average of five guys a week for \$10 a haircut. He believes that the reason he has been successful in maintaining a steady number of customers is because when there is a high level of demand than supply will always be relevant.

Anthony Boyd, a customer of Williams, said that he has had bad experiences at licensed hair cutting places in Charleston. He believes that it is the lack of diversity in Charleston that is the reason it's hard to find licensed barber shops for black men.

"They don't know our texture of hair," Boyd said. "We

don't use scissors to cut our hair, it's sad because they don't even use the equipment to cater to both audiences."

Men are not the only ones who find themselves faced with having to resort to students doing their hair.

Monique Hampton, (what year is she) a corporate communications major, agreed with Boyd that the licensed shops in Charleston do not know how to handle ethnic hair.

"I use to have to go home to get my hair done," Hampton said. "But now I have found a great licensed student that does all ethnicities of hair."

Alante Johnson, the licensed student Hampton referenced, has a great track record on campus for doing all ethnicities and genders of hair while charging fair prices.

"I began by word of mouth passing out my business cards," Johnson said. "I formed a Facebook group under Alante's Lawson Salon 609, which is where I live on campus now."

Johnson said that the most rewarding aspect of doing hair on campus is that she is able to do what she loves.

"I had the opportunity to go straight to a salon after high school, but my ambitions are so much higher than that," Johnson said. "I have been able to continue with something I'm great at and dedicated too."

Johnson believes that her hair business is in a league of its own because of her license in cosmetology. Johnson says that her customers appreciate the experience that she has in hair.

"Would you rather get your hair done by someone who can

do a little of this and a little of that or do you want someone who has been to school and specialized in hair?" Johnson said. "It's like going to the doctor; would you rather go see someone who knows general info about the body, or someone who has a degree?"

Johnson admits that doing hair on-campus can be time consuming. She says that customers begin to think that because she lives on-campus then she is on call 24/7. Johnson hopes that her customers know that she is not defined by her business.

"I'm not just a hairstylist; I am a friend, mentor, and therapist who serve you with quality service glamorizing you on the inside and out," Johnson said.

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Inventions we should be thankful for

Chantrell Nealon
Staff Reporter

From middle school on, I remember being asked more than a dozen times to donate blood for the use of those who need it. However, imagine a world without blood banks, and the millions of lives that could be lost if it weren't for them. Dr. Charles Richard Drew, an African-American doctor and surgeon, pioneered the idea of a blood bank and a system for long-term blood preservation. This is just one of the many inventions created by African-Americans that have revolutionized life in both America and around the world.

By now, I'm sure most of you have heard of George Washington

Carter and his invention of peanut butter. But did you know that in addition to peanut butter, he developed many products deriving from peanuts, soybeans, pecans and sweet potatoes? His findings tremendously improved Southern agriculture and the future of their output, as before this, their main crop was cotton.

Being in college, most students can appreciate a good potato chip, considering it makes up about 75 percent of our diet. Who would have thought, a black man invented that, too. George Crum, (how ironic is that last name?), a Native American/African-American cook, stumbled upon the potato chip when a customer complained that the French fries were

cut too thick. Crum made a batch cut thinner and the guest was still unsatisfied. So, in attempts to annoy the frustrated customer, he made the fries so thin that they couldn't be eaten with a fork. To his surprise, the customer was happy, thus the invention potato chips!

Another invention college students can appreciate is the folding cabinet bed. It saves space when folded up against the wall and into a cabinet. Though not as popular as they once were, Sarah S. Goode, an African-American businesswoman and inventor, invented them for people living in small apartments. I know I've crashed on a few in my day, and I can easily assume that the futon

was its protégé, coming a couple decades later, which is also something that is very much appreciated.

Last but not Least, Madame C. J. Walker, thank you. Thank you for inventing the flat iron, pressing comb, hair relaxers, and a number of other hair care products for African-American women. My nappy edges benefit a 100 percent from her hair innovations, and I know at least a billion other girls who don't go a day without running a straightener through their hair. So ladies, next time you're getting all fancy for a night out with the girls, remember to say a quick "Thank you to Madame C. J." when you plug in that Chi Flat Iron. She is

the reason you look the way you do and not like Sideshow Bob from The Simpsons.

These are just a few of the African-Americans who have helped revolutionize our lives, making the days a little easier, or in some cases, more appetizing, for us. Who knows what tomorrow will bring or who will bring it, that's not important. It's the recognition and gratitude we give to everyone that came before us. Their contributions, along with the contributions from all other races and cultures join together to make us the Americans we are today.

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Lee stressed the idea of keeping an open mind when making career moves and not overlooking opportunities in search of comforts.

Many black people do not want to work in smaller areas because they don't offer the same luxuries as big cities, even if they do offer great job opportunities, he said.

Lee said preparation is a very important step in pursuing a career in journalism. He encouraged students to gain as much experience as they can through school and internships before entering the work force.

"You have to prepare yourself, plan. It's never too early to do that. You have to make that sacrifice," he said.

Lee said he was able to become successful in his career because he was exposed to hard work early in college.

Lee said he missed out on many social events during his college years because he spent many hours in the newsroom. "To a 19 or 20-year-old, working nights and weekends is not the most ideal thing," Lee said. "But if you have a vision and an idea of what you want to do with your life



Greg Lee Jr. speaking to NABJ and Fresh! members.

you can party after you graduate from college and get a job."

Lee said that work ethic and hard work are very important to being a successful journalist, but it is a trait that is lacking in today's generation of college students.

"I always call your generation the microwave generation," Lee said. "They want it now. Press a button and in one minute they got it," he said.

Lee emphasized that there are no shortcuts to success and that it takes hard work and many sacrifices to get to the top.

You can create your own shortcuts in life by working your butt off, being different and smart, he said.

Lee encouraged the students to always stick to their convictions and to never doubt themselves if they feel they are right in a situation.

"You cannot sell your credibility," he said. "You're not there to be popular. You're there to do your job."

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