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Daily Eastern News: February 25, 2014

Eastern Illinois University

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SOFTBALL SUCCESS

The Panthers went 3-1 during their weekend roadtrip at the Jackson State tournament.

Page 7

THANK YOU, SHERMAN

Senior Sherman Blanford was honored on Senior Night as the Panthers ran past Chicago State 84-62.

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THE DAILY EASTERN NEWS

Tuesday, Feb. 25, 2014

"TELL THE TRUTH AND DON'T BE AFRAID"

VOL. 98 | NO. 107

University Board proposes overall budget increase

By Bob Galuski
Managing Editor | @BobGaluski

Members of the University Board presented a potential budget plan to the Apportionment Board, which could result in an overall increase of \$4,530 for the 2014-2015 year.

Funding for the UB comes from student fees, which is split between the Apportionment Board, sports and campus recreation, student government and the UB.

The UB had an overall budget last year of \$199,591, and the members are now seeking a grand total of \$204,121 for the 2014-2015 year.

The funds are divided between 13 sections of the UB: general, comedy, cultural arts, homecoming, ideas and issues, mainstage, marketing and public relations, movies, special events, Quakin' along with Welcome Back Weekend, productions and Pantherstock.

General costs include student payroll, scholarships, retreats and conferences for the UB staff. Last year the allocated amount was \$47,577. The proposal called for a \$4,197 decrease, totaling \$43,380.

The comedy section helps bring professional comedic artists and entertainers throughout the year. This includes major and minor comedians, student comedians and comedy troupe events. Acts that have been brought to Eastern include Sean Larkin, which had an attendance of more than 55 students, according to the proposal; Ray Lipowski, with an attendance of more than 65 students; and Seaton Smith, totaling more than 55 students in attendance.

The budget proposal asks for a decrease of \$1,000, giving next year's budget \$13,900.

The cultural arts section includes

events such as the "Let's Talk About It" series, the Cultural Chocolate Factory and the production, "A Raisin in the Sun."

Asking for an increase of \$850 to bring the total for next year to be \$13,770, UB chairwoman Kara Butorac said this was to help bring others to campus.

"Current plan is to bring the Chinese Acrobats: Golden Dragons which we had two years ago to great success," she said.

For homecoming, Butorac requested a decrease of \$215, resulting in a budget of \$12,785.

Homecoming encompasses the seven-day celebration that includes Blue Royalty Coronation, Yell Like Hell Competition, Panther Patrol and the Homecoming Parade and Tailgate.

The allocated funds for homecoming 2013-2014 were \$13,000.

As for ideas and issues, Butorac said the reason for the increase was because of the demand by students for certain performers.

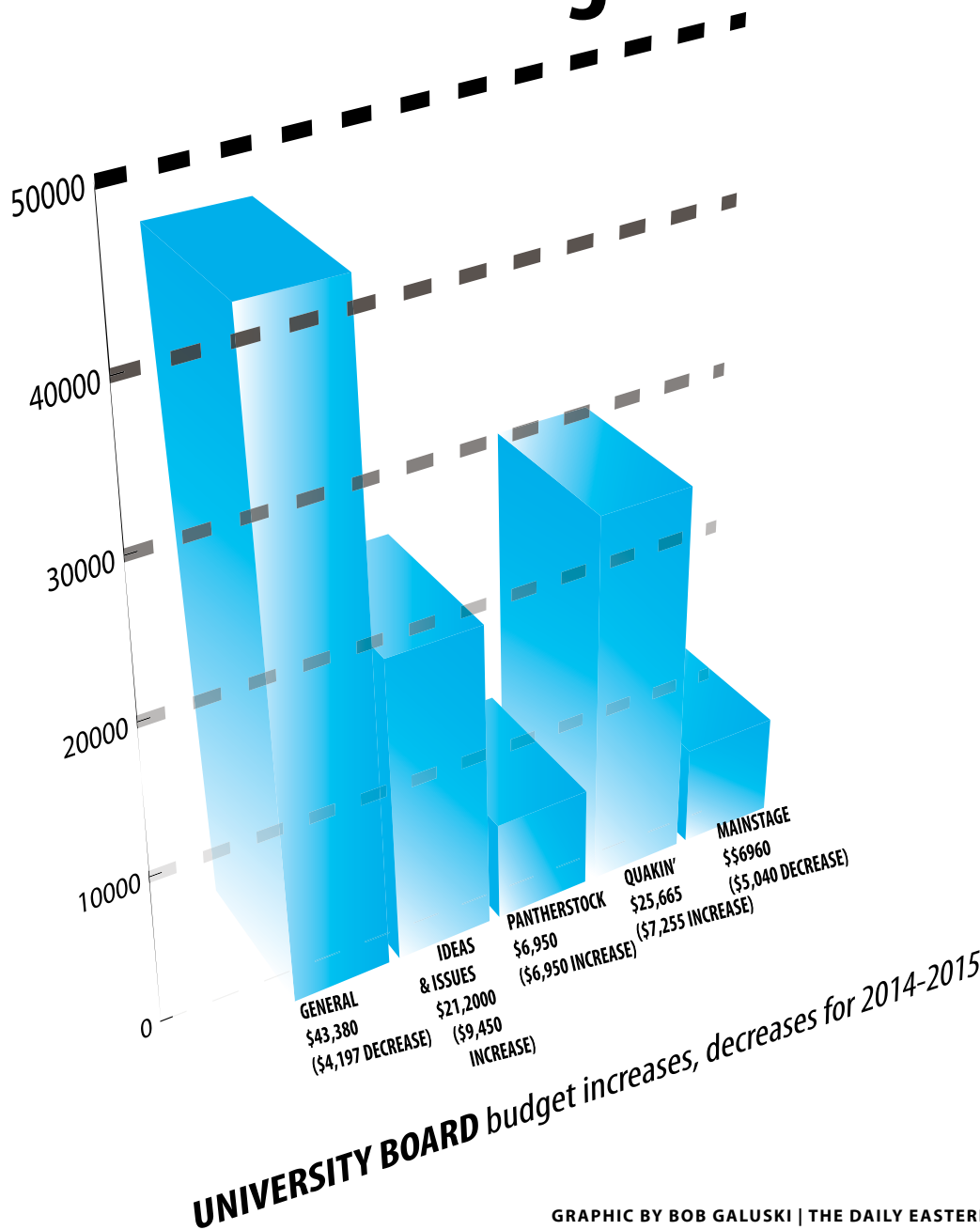
Butorac requested an increase of \$9,450, bringing last year's allocated funds from \$11,750 to \$21,200.

"We think that this increase will help us get speakers that are relevant to pop culture and our generation," Butorac said.

Butorac also said the sections mainstage and special events were requested to have a decrease, but in reality it is just moving funds around.

"Previously each contributed to Welcome Back Weekend and Pantherstock so now each of those events have their own budgets in hopes of not going over on those events, so the two committees can focus the rest of their budgets on the remainder of the year," she said.

UNIVERSITY BOARD, page 5



UNIVERSITY BOARD budget increases, decreases for 2014-2015

GRAPHIC BY BOB GALUSKI | THE DAILY EASTERN NEWS

The University Board presented a proposed budget to the Apportionment Board, asking for increases and decreases in their budget for the 2014-2015 year. Some of the areas included general, Quakin' along with Welcome Back Weekend, ideas and issues, mainstage and Pantherstock.

Director of study abroad candidate to tour Eastern

Chair of search committee eager for faculty input

Staff Report

The Graduate School will host a candidate for the position of director of study abroad Tuesday and Wednesday.

The candidate, Elizabeth Dille, will start out her on-campus interview process by meeting with the search committee at 1 p.m. Monday, and will then continue her on-campus activities throughout the day, with various forums for questioning.

The session for deans and chairs is at 2 p.m. in the Edgar room of Booth Library.

The faculty session will then

"The person who ends up filling this position will undoubtedly have a keen influence on the future direction and growth of study abroad for EIU."

Stephen Canfield, chair of foreign language department

start at 3 p.m. in the same place, followed by the open session at 4 p.m.

The day for Dille will then conclude with interviews with Bob Augustine, the dean of the graduate school, and Marilyn Coles, the interim director of study abroad.

Dille will then end the night with dinner with the search committee charged with finding a new director of study abroad.

On Wednesday, Dille will present to the search committee at 8:30 a.m. in room 4440 of Booth Li-

brary.

Stephen Canfield, the chair of the foreign language department, is the chair of the search committee.

In an email to the faculty, Canfield said, "The person who ends up filling this position will undoubtedly have a keen influence on the future direction and growth of study abroad for EIU. Please help by attending either the faculty or the open session listed on the schedule below. Your input will play an important role in the outcome of this search."

Flu virus keeps 38 students out

By Morgan Shaffer
Staff Reporter | @DEN_News

An outbreak of stomach virus spread through Mark Twain elementary last week, keeping 38 students from attending class, said Jim Littleford, the Charleston superintendent of schools.

Littleford said there are still 10 children and two staff members out because of the virus.

Littleford said that he is not aware of any children at the middle or high schools being affected and that the elementary school did not close, despite rumors that it had.

After school officials were notified of the outbreak, an email and letter were sent to parents that included information about preventing the spread of viral illnesses.

Custodial personnel at the school and First Student Transportation personnel are following guidance from the health department for cleaning

and disinfecting the school and buses.

Littleford and other school officials said the virus might have been a strain of norovirus, also known as the stomach flu, but the Coles County Health Department said it has been unable to confirm such a report.

The stomach flu is easily spread according to the Center of Disease Control. Some symptoms are nausea, vomiting, stomach pain and diarrhea. Those suffering from stomach flu have also exhibited fever, headache or body aches.

The illness is normally spread after individuals come into contact with an affected person or by consuming food tainted by the virus. Symptoms normally last one to three days and leave the effected susceptible for another two weeks.

Morgan Shaffer can be reached at 581-2812 or at meshaffer2@eiu.edu.

Local weather

TODAY WEDNESDAY



Sunny
High: 30°
Low: 4°



Sunny
High: 20°
Low: 10°

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

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"It Takes a Village"



KATIE SMITH | THE DAILY EASTERN NEWS

Alexandria Neff, a junior political science major, performs during "It Takes a Village" Monday in the Auditorium of Coleman Hall. The event was a part of African American Heritage Month. Student rehearsed monologues from the point of view of famous African American characters throughout history. Neff began her story as Debbie Allen, an African American dancer, by sitting on a desk, addressing the audience about her dreams of the stage and the adversities she had to overcome to achieve her goal.

Alternative spring break numbers remain steady

By Samantha Middendorf
Staff Reporter | @DEN_News

Rebecca Bleeker is looking forward to her spring break, just like any other college student.

However, while some students may be basking beneath sunrays on the beach, Bleeker will be helping restore poverty-stricken McKee, Ky., with the Christian Appalachian Project.

Bleeker, a sophomore psychology major, plans to participate in Eastern's Alternative Spring Break – an organization that offers service trips throughout the globe to college students. This is her first year participating in a service trip at Eastern.

"When I heard about the alternative spring break, I just jumped on it and I knew I wanted to do it," Bleeker said. "Me and my best friend are going together. We knew it was something we wanted to do."

Doris Nordin, the campus minister for the Newman Center, said the Newman Catholic Center has sponsored Alternative Spring Break since 1993.

Nordin said there are currently two trips with 10 Eastern volunteers and

11 trips with seven volunteers.

"The numbers change by the minute because people back out and we have a waiting list," Nordin said.

Throughout the years, the Newman Catholic Center has experienced consistent student volunteers.

"Surprisingly, we have kept up with the numbers. We have not had to cancel any site," she said. "Usually some students back out, but that is a normal behavior through the years."

Student volunteers pay \$175 in fees for their trip. All other costs are paid by the Newman Catholic Center.

"We try to make it very affordable for the students even if the partner organization's fee is higher than that," Nordin said. "The most important thing is that every student gets a meaningful service-learning experience."

The activities each trip involves depends on the organization. Some opportunities include helping children who live in poverty in Mexico, building and repairing homes in Mississippi, serving the poor in Georgia, caring for the sick in Louisiana and cleaning up nature in Kentucky.

Bleeker was inspired by a mission

trip with her church she attended in the past and Eastern alternative spring break trip is also faith based, she said.

"We'll be doing prayers and also helping with the construction of homes and helping the community in any way that we can."

Bleeker said she is primarily looking forward to witnessing the differences the group will make in the community.

"We're only going to be there for about a week, so it's obviously not going to be drastic, huge changes, but I know that we will make a difference in their community, which is something I'm really looking forward to seeing," she said.

Alternative Spring Break is hosted by the Student Volunteer Center of the Newman Catholic Center.

To students that are interested in going on a service trip in the future, Bleeker offers inspiration.

"I would highly encourage it. I would definitely say that they should give it a shot and try it."

Samantha Middendorf can be reached at 581-2812 or semiddendorf@eiu.edu.

BLOTTER

Sexual assault on campus

- A disorderly conduct was reported at 3:45 p.m. Friday the University Police Department. This incident was referred to the Office of Student Standards.

- A cannabis complaint was reported at 12:59 a.m. Saturday at Ninth St. and Garfield Ave. This incident was referred to the Office of Student Standards.

- A sexual assault was reported at 11 p.m. Saturday in Taylor Hall. This incident is under investigation.

- Taneja Shaw, 18, 4332 W. Karmarling St., Chicago, was arrested at 2:02 a.m. Sunday in Andrews Hall. She was charged with assault and disorderly conduct and was released at 3:14 a.m. after posting 10 percent of a \$1,000 bond.

- Devonta Garner, 19, 5629 S. Indiana, Chicago, was arrested at 2:59 a.m. Sunday on the 1900 block of Fourth Street. He was charged with DUI for drugs, possession of cannabis, possession of alcohol by a minor and released to the custody of the Coles County Sheriff's Office at 6:18am pending \$1,000 bond. On the same date and location at 3:10 a.m., Dantrell Johnson, 19, 5706 S. Michigan Ave., Apt. 1, Chicago, Ill. was arrested and charged with possession of cannabis. He was released at 4:59 a.m. after posting 10 percent of a \$1,000 bond.

- At 10:27 p.m. Sunday, a harassment and battery was reported to have occurred over the last several months at various on and off-campus locations. This incident is under investigation.

- Kylee Nonley, 19, 4236 S. Champlain Ave., Chicago, was arrested at 12:21 a.m. Monday in Lawson Hall. She was charged with domestic battery and released to the custody of the Coles County Sheriff's Office at 1:29 a.m. pending court appearance to determine bond. On the same date and location, Sergio Norvell, 19, 8214 S. Ellis Ave., Chicago, was arrested at 12:20 a.m. He was charged with aggravated domestic battery, resisting a peace officer and released to the custody of the Coles County Sheriff's Office at 12:39 a.m. pending a court appearance to determine bond.

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Panther Shuttle leases new buses

Panther Shuttles replaced every two years because of wear, tear

By Ave Rio
Staff Reporter | @DEN_News

Eastern made the biennial replacement of the two panther shuttle buses last week.

For the past six years, Eastern has leased two new panther shuttle buses every two years. The buses drive a 40-minute loop on and around campus throughout the day.

This is the third round of leasing new buses. The panther shuttle service started in 2001.

Jennifer Sipes, the special assistant to the vice president for student affairs said two years seems like the perfect amount of time to lease the buses.

"We drive them hard. It's a lot of

stopping and going," Sipes said. So after about two years the buses have about 80,000-100,000 miles and naturally begin to have mechanical issues, she said.

Eastern is in charge of everything that comes along with the panther shuttle service, including maintenance on the buses, hiring the drivers, and keeping the buses clean, said Dan Nadler, the vice president for student affairs.

"There are several different options when you look at renting a shuttle service," Nadler said. Options could be purchasing the vehicles or outsourcing them and having someone else do it, he said.

Sipes and Nadler said they both agree that leasing the buses seems like the best option.

The buses are the same make and model every time they lease new ones, Sipes said. Ford makes the buses.

The student fee for riding the panther shuttle is 91 cents per credit hour, per semester, for unlimited

use and access to the shuttle service, Nadler said.

"That is probably less than one taxi ride to Mattoon," he said. Nadler said he thinks the shuttle is convenient, cost-effective and inexpensive.

All the panther shuttle drivers are university employees. There are three full-time drivers, one part-time driver and also substitute drivers this semester.

"If they keep the buses any longer than two years, they would have to put a lot of money into them."

-Dan Icenogle, Panther Shuttle driver

Dan Icenogle, one of the full-time drivers, said he thinks the bus leasing system is great.

"If they keep the buses any longer than two years, they would have to put a lot of money in them," he said. The previous bus he drove had a lot of mechanical issues, he said.

"The new bus is much better. It has brand new tires and the body is a lot tighter," Icenogle said. He also said the new bus has a great heater.

He said he would love to have more capacity in the buses, but he understands that it would be a trade-off. With a bigger bus, he could not get into a lot of places and the larger turn radius would be more difficult, he said.

He said he enjoys talking with the students on the shuttle.

"Driving the bus keeps me younger," Icenogle said.

Ave Rio can be reached at 581-2812 or agrio@eiu.edu.

Senate to review CASL data

By Jack Cruikshank
Administration Editor | @JackCruik

The Faculty Senate will hear a presentation from the Committee for Assessment of Student Learning regarding the implementation of university learning goals within the different colleges around campus.

Karla Sanders, the executive director of the center for academic support and assessment, will present to the Senate regarding the reports compiled by the center.

The senate members have been presented with charts and graphs which compile different learning goals information and how successfully different colleges within the university are implementing the goals.

Danelle Larson, a music professor, will also present to the senate in conjunction with Sanders.

The committee has no new business scheduled, but will hear 10 reports from each of its various committees, including the newly-formed committee on committees, which was created Jan. 28 after the Senate felt a need to hold certain committees accountable.

During the elections committee report, the senate will review the appointment of David Viertel, a geology professor, as a replacement for Andrew Methven, a biology professor, who is retiring as a professor after this academic year.

Viertel, who will fill the vacancy for the 2014 to 2015 academic year, said he is "pleased" to accept the position and he will "endeavor to represent the faculty interests to the best of my ability."

Jack Cruikshank can be reached at 581-2812 or jdcruikshank@eiu.edu.

RHA to hear request to support pride

Pride members to ask RHA for help with guest speaker

By Jarad Jarmon
Associate News Editor | @JJarmonReporter

Pride members will be going to the Residence Hall Association meeting at 7 p.m. Thursday to request financial support in order for them to host a guest speaker Fag Davies.

Davies had made a documentary, "Fag Bug," exposing the hate crimes in the U.S. against the

LGBT community.

According to the RHA constitution, the RHA can only donate one-third of their university affiliated non-residence hall donation fund. The fund currently has \$150 budgeted meaning they can only offer \$50 to any specific cause.

RHA President Patrick Morrow said RHA will decide whether to fund this endeavor or not.

Ford Hall representatives will also be asking the RHA if they can offer co-ed floors for the 2014 to 2015 school year.

Morrow said the Ford Hall Council is looking to have co-ed floors, following suit with McKinney Hall.

"They are going to ask for RHA's blessing."

-Patrik Morrow, RHA President

"They are going to asking for RHA's blessing," Morrow said.

Applications for RHA executive positions including RHA president, vice president, national-Illinois communications coordinator and treasurer will be available on Thursday. Laura Imbirowicz, the resident director of Lawson Hall, said applications will be available at the meeting.

The applications will be due Mar. 14, the last day of Spring

Break.

The RHA will meet Mar. 20 opening the floor for nominations for each position. The following week, Mar. 27, the RHA will vote on the candidates after speeches from the candidates and discussion.

Jarad Jarmon can be reached at 581-2812 or jsjarmon@eiu.edu.



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Quote of the Day


“Clarity is the counterbalance of profound thoughts.”

- Luc De Clapiers

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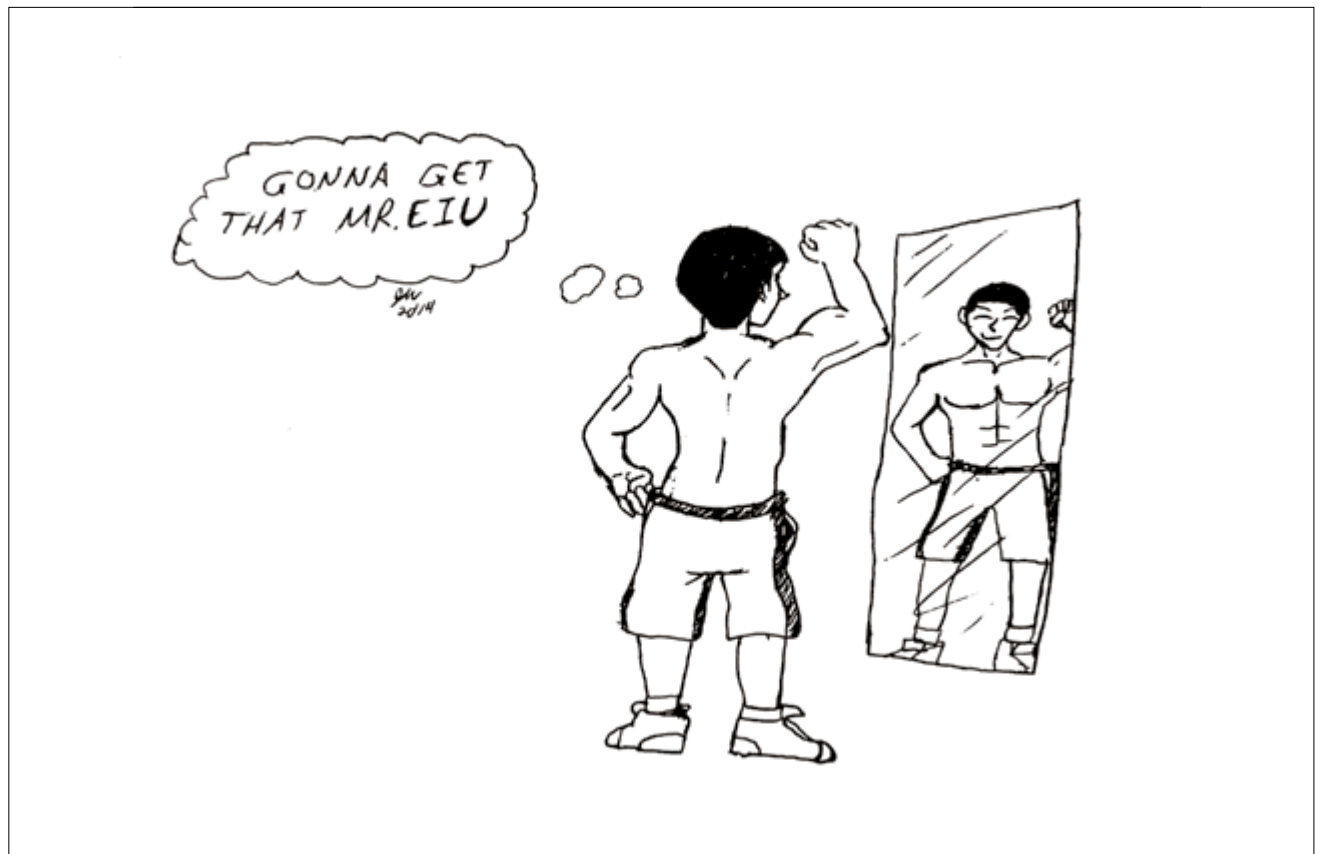
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We are days away from the competition



JOSH WILLIAMS | THE DAILY EASTERN NEWS

STAFF EDITORIAL

Take every chance to better yourself

Over the weekend, a handful of staff members from *The Daily Eastern News* traveled to Chicago for the Illinois Collegiate Press Association conference.

At the conference, we got to not only hear presentations from various other professionals in the journalism industry, but interact with other journalism students from other schools across the state.

We were able to exchange ideas, network with others in the industry, and see how we stacked up against other newspapers in the state.

Overall, *The News* took home 15 awards in categories ranging from photography to sports writing to page design.

There's a lot that we, as a newspaper, can take away from the conference, but even for students that aren't journalism

majors, there's still a central idea that anyone can take away from it, and that's to get out and meet people in your field.

If you've never been to conference of up and coming professionals like yourself, you're seriously missing out.

Our advice to you is to find out more about conferences in your discipline and go to them.

Go to them, learn things, meet people, and make connections.

Take these ideas back to school with you and use them and find ways to apply them to your future.

While we were at our sessions, sometimes it wasn't even about learning something new, it was about getting the wheels to turn in our head for new ideas for us to implement in the paper.

There was certainly something for each of us to take away from each of the sessions, and something for each of us to bring back to the rest of our staff here at Eastern.

If you have the opportunity to go to one of these conferences for something you're interested in, certainly take the trip.

It will be well worth it. Anytime you have the chance to further yourself in your field, you should jump at the opportunity.

Don't be afraid to expand your horizons and do something you've never done before.

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

Appreciate work of bodybuilders

Hey, body builders, I'm back. Yes, guy who creeped me on Facebook last year, sent me a friend request, and then messaged me saying I needed to watch what I say, I am back.

Yes, guy who threw a newspaper at me while I was on duty, telling me I needed to go through what he went through, I am back.

For you lifters I befriended over the year to find out I didn't hate you and that I was trolling you hardcore, I am back.

I am back to talk about the Mr. and Ms. EIU competition that is Saturday at McAfee Gym.

Now, before you let the blood start boiling, let me speak.

I commend all of you competing. I made the mistake of never putting anything that said I couldn't do what you do. I couldn't. It is that simple. Mainly, because I love Cheese-Its. If only I wasn't kidding about the Cheese-Its.

So, guy who threw the newspaper at me, you are right. Now, you can drink a victory protein shake.

For all of you reading, and waiting for another troll-fest, you don't need me to reit-



Kyle Daubs

erate anything you all already don't say yourselves.

We can call them tools because they are bigger than us. We can call them self-admirers because they lift up their shirt to look at themselves. We can say that they are jerks because they might think they are better than non-competitors because they are bigger.

Is that really fair to say though? There are plenty of people in the gym that are self-righteous. There are plenty of people in life itself that are self-righteous and arrogant.

I am not going to judge anyone until I see actions.

For those of you lifters that try to tell others lifters how to lift, you should proba-

bly can it. Unless they are in real dangers of injuring themselves, no one likes a know-it-all. I don't even have to lift a single weight to tell you that.

For those who takes gym selfies, I don't even need to make a joke. That's hilarious in itself.

I am sorry if you all wanted me to rag on the competitors again.

As much as I hate shirtless, mirror-hogging, public self-admiration, I am not ripping on these people. What these people have done is amazing.

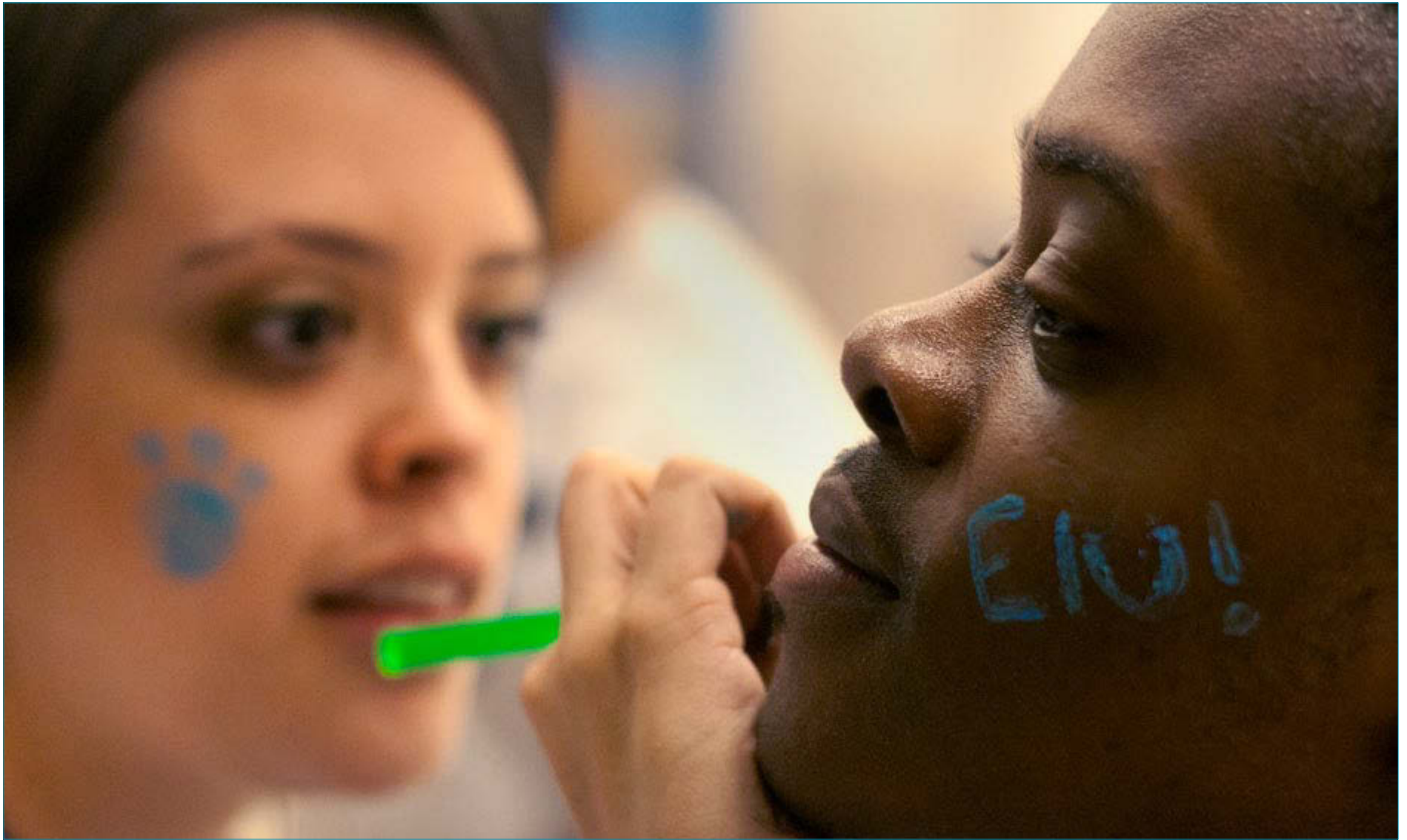
The competitors have put in a lot of training. Logging the amounts of training I put into my running, while also working and at school, I can relate.

It's a great accomplishment to compete in this competition. The competitors have put in work and are on diets that I would die before doing.

Besides, they are regular people. They are just people way bigger than me.

Kyle Daubs is a special education major. He can be reached at 581-2812 or DENopinions@gmail.com.

Painting on Panther pride



CAYLA MAURER | THE DAILY EASTERN NEWS

Marlene Acosta, a junior sociology major, painted a paw print on Reginald Thedford, a junior political science major, during halftime of the men's basketball game. The Panthers defeated Chicago State 84-62.

» UNIVERSITY BOARD CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Mainstage encompasses events and artists like Jasmine Mann, Dakaboom, "So You Think You Can Rap?" and Battle of the Bands.

The request for mainstage is a decrease of \$5,040 to go to \$6,960.

Special events covers areas like Up All Night and Spring Fling. The request was for a decrease of \$6,520 from last year's \$25,370.

The marketing and public rela-

tions division, which is responsible for graphic designers, post-it-positions, a webmaster and the public relations position, had a requested decrease of \$533.

Quakin' along with Welcome Back Weekend, now encompasses all of opening weekend, including Up All Night and New Student Mixer.

Butorac said this was another instance of not really an increase

in funds, but instead just moving funds around because of the new additions.

The increase calls for an additional \$7,255, bringing the total for next year to \$25,665.

Pantherstock which includes live bands and concerts, called for an increase of \$6,950 – which Butorac said was more of just moving around funds.

"We have had it in the past

along with celebration," she said. "So most years it has gotten canceled or not many people came due to weather. We are hoping to do a concert feel with other activities similar to an Up All Night."

The productions division, which handles technical support, may get a decrease of \$2,470 adding up to \$5,130.

The only area not requested for either an increase or a decrease is

the movies. The request kept the budget at the same \$20,964.

Members of the Apportionment Board will convene to discuss the proposals at 7 p.m. Thursday in the Arcola-Tuscola Room of the Martin Luther King Jr. University Union.

Bob Galuski can be reached at 581-2812 or dennewsdesk@gmail.com.

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Panthers finish weekend with 3-1 record

By Kaz Darzinskis
Staff Reporter | @DEN_Sports

The Eastern softball team went 3-1 at the Jackson State Tournament, improving its record to 9-5 overall.

The Panthers played four games in Jackson, Miss., starting Friday when Eastern defeated host Jackson State 8-3.

Eastern junior Bailey O'Dell's 4-for-4 performance at the plate led the Panthers to the win. Jennette Isaac was 3-for-4 and also scored a run, while Hannah Cole had two RBIs. Hannah Rachor also added two RBIs and Ashleigh Westover had a game-high three RBIs for Eastern.

Senior Hanna Mennenga pitched all seven innings for the Panthers, giving up six hits, with five walks, while she was able to strike out three. Mennenga gave up three runs, (two earned) improving to 3-1 on the season.

On Saturday, Eastern split its double-header, beating Kansas 2-0, but then losing to Southeastern Louisiana 10-0.

Against Kansas, the Panthers sent senior Stephanie Maday to the circle, where she improved her record to 4-1 on the season, guiding Eastern to the 2-0 shutout win. Maday pitched seven innings, giving up five hits and recording three strikeouts and walking one.

Eastern's Brooke Owens led the Panthers' offensive effort, hitting a two-run home run in the sixth inning to right-center field. The rest of Eastern's lineup scattered three hits against Jayhawk pitcher Kelsey Kessler.

In the night-cap of the double-header, the Panthers fell to Southeastern Louisiana 10-0. Eastern sent three pitchers to the circle, but none were able to solve the Southeastern offense.

Maday made her second start of the day, but was not as affective against the Lions, allowing six runs in 2.1 innings. She did not get much help from her defense that committed six errors in the loss, leading to four unearned runs.

Maday took the loss, dropping to 4-2 on the season.



JASON HOWELL | THE DAILY EASTERN NEWS

April Markowski, a sophomore outfielder, practices batting at Williams Field Sept. 13. The women's softball team's first home game against Colgate will take place Feb. 28 at 8 a.m. at Williams Field.

JACKSON STATE TOURNAMENT

FEB. 21

VS. JACKSON STATE

W | 8-3



FEB. 22

VS. KANSAS

W | 2-0



FEB. 22

VS. SOUTHERN LOUISIANA

L | 10-0



FEB. 23

VS. JACKSON STATE

W | 8-0



Eastern's offense fared no better than its pitching, as it could not get across a run on six hits and three walks.

O'Dell was the only Panther with multiple hits, going 2-for-4 in the loss.

On Sunday, Eastern wrapped up its weekend playing Jackson State for the

second time, winning 8-0.

Mennenga cruised to the victory improving her record to 4-1 on the season. The senior pitched a complete game, giving up three hits, while striking out four and walking one.

Eastern's offense again came alive after being shutout the night before,

as the Panthers managed to score eight runs on 13 hits.

The Panthers were led by the middle of their order with Owens going 2-for-3 at the plate, scoring a run and driving in another. Reynae Hutchinson hit a home run as part of her two-hit game and Cole also had two hits, adding a run scored and driving in

another.

The Panthers will play Colgate, starting at 8 a.m. Friday in Charleston S.C., at the Charleston Southern Tournament.

Kaz Darzinskis can be reached at 581-2812 or kcdarzinskis@eiu.edu.

Eastern to take on Louisville

By Aldo Soto
Assistant Sports Editor | @AldoSoto21

Before the Eastern baseball team started its 2014 season, beating No. 14 Louisiana-Lafayette on Feb. 14, the Panthers went an entire season without a win against a ranked opponent.

In 2012, Eastern played Louisville, and like the Ragin' Cajuns, was ranked No. 14. Then, Troy Barton was a junior and in the midst of his best season as an Eastern pitcher.

He picked up the 3-2 win against Louisville, going 5.1 innings, allowing three hits and no runs, while striking out three hitters.

During that time, current freshman Jake Haberer was also a junior — at Highland High School, where he was on his way to being named to an all-conference first team.

Now, Barton is recovering from a bulging disk in his lower back, still uncertain when he will pitch next, while Haberer will make his first collegiate start against No. 20 Louisville Tuesday afternoon.

Eastern baseball coach Jim Schmitz said after pitching a scoreless inning Friday against Arkansas, pitching coach Jason Anderson and he decided Haberer would get the start against the nationally ranked Cardinals.

"I think he threw the ball really well at Arkansas, got his feet wet at Lafayette,

so coach Anderson does a good job of just getting them slowly into the mix," Schmitz said.

Haberer's first appearance as a Panther did not go as planned. He entered in the fifth inning, relieving Christian Slaznik.

The freshman pitcher inherited runners at first and second with no outs against the Cajuns.

After 1.1 innings, Haberer allowed six earned runs on five hits as the Panthers went on to lose 13-0.

He then responded with a scoreless inning in the series-opener against Arkansas, where he recorded a strikeout.

Schmitz said he hopes that Haberer is composed against Louisville that would then lead to pitching at least a couple of innings if not more.

"You want to go with him at the beginning and see how he does — if he gets comfortable then he could give us four or five innings or three or four and then we'll go with our normal (Jaden) Widderheim and (Garrison) Stenger to get ready for the weekend," he said.

At 1-6, Eastern has lost six straight games all to ranked teams in Louisiana-Lafayette and Arkansas. Louisville will be the third consecutive ranked opponent for the Panthers, but Schmitz said the Cardinals would present a unique challenge.

Louisville is 5-2, following a series win against Western Michigan. In their first seven games, the Cardinals are 14-

of-19 in stolen base attempts, averaging almost three steals per game

"That's 150 stolen base attempts a year — that's what they do," Schmitz said. "They play the short game, they put the pressure on you. They're going to run."

Schmitz said he expects Haberer to realize that the batter is more important than the runner because when pitchers start to focus on the base runners they tend to leave pitches up, resulting in more hits for the other team.

"It's easy to say, but hard to do, but as a pitcher you have to be quick to plate," Schmitz said. "A stolen base isn't going to lose a game for us. A wild pick-off attempt or leaving the ball up in the zone, which leads to a home run will."

As often as Louisville has attempted stolen bases it has also hit home runs. The Cardinals have six different players with at least one home run through the first seven games.

Junior Zach Lucas leads the team with two home runs and 10 RBIs.

Eastern as a team has yet to hit a home run this season, while giving up five.

First pitch is scheduled for 2 p.m. Tuesday at Jim Patterson Stadium in Louisville, Ky.

Aldo Soto can be reached at 581-2812 or asoto2@eiu.edu.

Former Colts GM has Garoppolo going early

Staff Report

Eastern quarterback Jimmy Garoppolo participated at the NFL Scouting Combine during the weekend, having his official workout in front of scouts Sunday.

On Monday, ESPN's Adam Schefter revealed through his Twitter account that former Indianapolis Colts general manager Bill Polian said Garoppolo would be a first-round draft pick in this year's draft.

"Former Colts GM Bill Polian just said on ESPN's NFL Insiders that he projects Eastern Illinois QB Jimmy Garoppolo to be a first-round pick," Schefter tweeted.

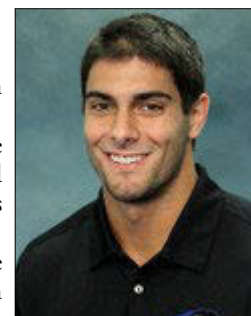
Garoppolo is coming off a 53-touchdown season that also saw the Arlington Heights native throw 5,050 yards, setting numerous program records while also winning the 2013 Walter Payton Award, which is given to the best player in the FCS.

Garoppolo has impressed scouts since his performance in the East-

West Shrine Game in January, when he was named the game's offensive MVP. He was then invited to play at the Senior Bowl in Mobile, Ala., where the Jacksonville Jaguars' coaching staff mentored him.

Polian was general manager of the Colts between 1997 and 2011 and drafted Peyton Manning with the first overall pick in the 1998 draft. The Colts went to two super bowls with Polian and Manning, winning one in 2007.

Before the combine took place, Garoppolo had been projected to be a mid-round draft pick, as some mock drafts had him going as high as the second round.



JIMMY GAROPPOLO

2014 NFL DRAFT | THURSDAY MAY 8 (FIRST ROUND), FRIDAY MAY 9 (SECOND AND THIRD ROUND), SATURDAY MAY 9 (ROUNDS 4-7)

Eastern routs CSU on Senior Night; Blanford honored

By Anthony Catezone
Sports Editor | @AnthonyCatz

Chris Olivier wanted to send Sherman Blanford out in good fashion.

So on Senior Night Monday, when the Eastern men's basketball team beat Chicago State, Olivier, the sophomore, wanted to make sure he did exactly that for Blanford, the lone senior.

"With it being his last go-around, I just wanted to send him off in good fashion," Olivier said. "That was my personal mindset. He's our leader, our captain; so I just gave everything I had."

Olivier tied his career high with 20 points on a near impeccable 8-of-10 shooting, while also hauling in four rebounds.

While Olivier accomplished his goal in honoring Blanford appropriately in his last game in Lantz Arena, Blanford, meanwhile, accomplished his goal as well.

passive," Spoonhour said. "We waited back, now here they come at you. You can't be passive against a team like that."

Eastern answered with a 7-1 run to close out the half and take 40-25 lead into halftime.

As for Blanford, he recorded his routine double-double performance — the 13th of his career — with 13 points and 11 rebounds.

"That's a quarter of his games he has gotten a double-double in," Spoonhour said of Blanford, who has played in 60 career games as a Panther.

Spoonhour said Eastern was able to ride Blanford throughout the technical part of the game.

"When they pressed us, we threw it ahead to him and he's a forward that is able to put it on the floor," Spoonhour said. "He was huge — more so than the numbers show — by driving and going into attack mode."

EASTERN ILLINOIS VS. CHICAGO STATE



84-62



LANTZ ARENA
CHARLESTON, ILL.

10-18, 6-9 (OVC)

11-16, 6-6 (WAC)

"We got the 'W' for my last home game — that was my goal," Blanford said.

Olivier scored 13 points in the first half coming off of the bench, where he also collected all of his four rebounds.

"He gets some decent buckets and a lot of the rebounds I miss out on most of the time," Blanford said. "We need that off the bench."

Olivier also scored seven of the Panthers' first 14 points, as they jumped out to a 14-2 lead during the first six minutes of the game. The Panthers opened the game shooting 5-of-7 in the opening six minutes, while the Cougars began just 1-of-10 from the field.

Eastern shot a season-high 61.7 percent from the field, despite 5-of-15 from the 3-point line.

"They play trap defense every play, so there's going to be times when you have a choice on which shot to take and took shots that allowed us to shoot 61 percent," Eastern coach Jay Spoonhour said.

Chicago State shot 36.2 percent from the field and just 29 percent in the first half.

But the Cougars used an 8-2 run to cut the game to a 33-25 deficit with 2:27 left in the first half.

"We got into trouble when we were

Blanford attacked for 32 minutes with a 5-of-9 shooting-performance in his last home game as a Panther.

As the senior was subbed out, he walked off the court for the final time with one minute remaining in the game.

A chant of "Thank you, Sherman" showered down from the student section in Lantz Arena, while teammates and coaches congratulated him.

"It couldn't have felt better," Blanford said. "A lot of people came to see the effort I put in. It just feels great to be noticed and appreciated."

But as good as it felt for Blanford, Spoonhour said the Panthers' only senior is not finished yet. After all, Eastern still has at least one more important game as the season finale against Southern Illinois-Edwardsville.

Eastern, the No. 8 seed at 6-9 in the Ohio Valley Conference, will play Edwardsville, the No. 6 seed at 7-7 in OVC play, with a possible tournament berth on the line.

"He isn't gone yet," Spoonhour said. "He still has another couple weeks left in him. We'll say goodbye later. Right now, it's just good job."

Anthony Catezone can be reached at 581-2812 or ajcatezone@eiu.edu.



JASON HOWELL | THE DAILY EASTERN NEWS

Senior forward, Sherman Blanford, makes a drive to the basket during Senior Night on Monday night in Lantz Arena. The Panthers beat Chicago State 84-62. Blanford shot 5-of-9 from the field and 3-of-6 from the free throw line.

Eastern women match best mark since 2008 season

By Aldo Soto
Assistant Sports Editor | @AldoSoto21

The Eastern women's tennis team won two matches during the weekend, which extended its winning streak to five and matched the team's best start to a season in six years.

The Panthers defeated Bradley 4-3, sweeping the three doubles matches on

Friday. Then on Sunday, Eastern picked up another victory, beating Chicago State 5-2.

At 5-0 to start its season, Eastern tied its best stretch beginning a year since 2008, when the Panthers went on to finish 14-7 overall.

Following a 4-3 win against Bradley on Friday, Eastern traveled north to play at the H-F Racquet & Fitness Club

against Chicago State.

Senior Janelle Prisner and junior Sephora Boulbahaem set the table for the Panthers, winning their No. 1 doubles match 8-6. The Eastern duo defeated freshman Kirsia Utech and senior Karyn Emerald.

A pair of Eastern sophomores followed with an 8-5 win at No. 2 doubles, as Ali Foster and Hannah Kimbrough

won their fourth doubles match of the season.

Freshmen Kelly Iden and Kamile Stadalninkaite completed the doubles sweep with an 8-6 win.

Prisner, Iden, Boulbahaem and Foster also won their singles matches at No. 1-4 spots, respectively.

The Panther women started their winning weekend at the Clubs at River City

in Peoria, where Eastern had singles wins from Prisner, Iden and Foster to go along with three doubles wins.

The women's team will play at noon Saturday against Indianapolis at the UIndy Tennis Center.

Aldo Soto can be reached at 581-2812 or asoto2@eiu.edu.