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Eastern Illinois University

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**CAMPUS BRIEFS**

**Racist slur written on Doudna’s stairwell wall**

Staff Report | @DEN_News

A racist slur was written on the side of Doudna’s stairwell before being taken down Thursday morning.

In a screenshot taken by a student of a Snapchat documenting the scene, the word “n****” is written in big, pink, chalky letters on the stairwell.

The word itself is circled in red, with the caption “So I’m walking right...and then all I see is this...still happening in 2018...get it together EIU.”

The student posted the screenshot to Twitter and tagged @eiu.

In response, Eastern’s Twitter page said the slur was removed, but that it is “disgusting” that it was ever there in the first place.

“An investigation (into the incident) was started when the request was initially reported,” the university tweeted.

In an email sent to department chairs in the College of Arts and Humanities that afternoon, interim dean Anita Shelton addressed the issue.

“As dean of the College of Arts and Humanities, I want to assure everyone that this hateful act does not in any way represent our college and we denounce it,” she wrote in the email. “The Doudna was designed and built to encourage creativity and self-expression. The chalkboard walls are part of this. But self-expression cannot include hateful attacks on others.”

Shelton wrote that the college does not tolerate instances like this, and will “be keeping a close eye on all parts of the building in response.”

The News desk can be reached at S81-2812 or dennewsdesk@gmail.com.

**Arrest warrant sent out Thursday for Mother’s Bar arson suspect**

Staff Report | @DEN_News

An arrest warrant was obtained for aggravated arson for Charleston resident Brin Griffin in connection with the fire that burned down Mother’s Bar at 506 Monroe Ave.

At about 1:46 a.m., officers from the Charleston Police and Fire Departments responded to a call that the building was on fire.

Investigation into the cause of the fire by the CPD and CFD indicate that the fire was set intentionally, according to a press release.

This investigation ended up leading to the identification of Griffin, 29, formerly of Chicago.

Anyone with information on Griffin’s whereabouts can contact the CPD through Crime Stoppers at https://www.p3tips.com/website/index.htm. The investigation into the incident is ongoing.

The News desk can be reached at S81-2812 or dennewsdesk@gmail.com.

**CAA approves new radio minor**

By Brooke Schwartz

Communication studies professor Scott Walus presented what he said were the first wave of changes for the department at the Council on Academic Affairs meeting Thursday.

Walus said the five proposals brought before the CAA are a part of a larger shift throughout the communication studies department.

“For the last couple of years, we’ve been in a major revision of our mass communication studies department,” he said. “We decided to break (the course proposals) up into two waves, because it’s a pretty big proposal and we don’t want to have a tsunami of curriculum.”

The proposals brought forward at Thursday’s meeting included the revisions of four courses, consisting of: CMN 2500 Production I, CMN 2550 Audio and Voice I, CMN 3050 Production II and CMN 3520 Audio and Voice II.

The CAA unanimously approved all the course revisions, as well as the addition of a new radio and audio production minor.

The minor was proposed to fit in with departmental, as well as cultural, changes, Walus said.

“The idea is the industry has changed a bit away from on-air personalities and radio programmers to needing to know how to do a lot of the audio production things, both online and offline,” he said.

Walus said the minor was designed to be low-credit hour so students with other majors could fit it in with whatever their main field of study is.

CAA, page 5
Relief shelters open in Midwest as flood waters continue to rise

ELKHART, Ind. (AP) — Shelters were open to assist people forced from their homes by flooding in Indiana and Michigan on Thursday, as rivers swollen by heavy rain and melting snow continue to rise in the Midwest.

Flood warnings were in effect across a wide swath of the central and southern U.S., from Wisconsin, Illinois and Ohio to Texas and Louisiana. The American Red Cross said it has opened eight shelters in northern Indiana, where crews used boats to help residents evacuate their homes.

Local officials declared a state of emergency in three local cities and asked that traffic be limited to first responders and emergency personnel. Indiana University-South Bend canceled Tuesday classes for the week as many students remained in student apartment complexes surrounded by water were encouraged to leave.

Record-high flooding along the St. Joseph River closed down a wastewater treatment plant for several hours in South Bend, a city of about 100,000 residents. It later restarted at limited capacity. The National Weather Service reported the river was expected to stay above its major flood stage until Tuesday.

“Todays major flood stage and its going to be that for a while as water from the whole county continues draining into the river, even though the rains are mostly behind us,” South Bend Mayor Pete Burdick said.

Officials havent yet estimated the extent of building damage, which is concentrated in low-lying areas.

Other parts of the Midwest were under winter weather advisories on Thursday, with Kansas school districts and universities canceling classes and many state employees being told to stay home. In Michigan, states of emergency were declared in the Lansing area as officials recommended the evacuations of several neighborhoods. City officials said anyone living in the possible flood area should temporarily leave their home by midday Thursday.

“While the rain has stopped, we are expecting significant flooding,” Lansing Mayor Andy Schor said.

Flooding also hit nearby Michigan State University, where some roads, parking lots and athletic fields were covered by water from the Red Cedar River that runs through its East Lansing campus. Classes in several buildings have been relocated and the school put up sand-filled barriers in an attempt to cash flooding.

“We are prepared to accommodate some of our students,” Schor said Wednesday, noting the river was at its highest level since 1975. “Changing conditions are affecting not only the roads but sidewalks and walkways.”

The storm system started pushing heavy rain, snow and ice into the region earlier this week, affecting roads and other low-lying areas. The weather was blamed for hundreds of car crashes and several deaths, including a crash that killed four people along a slippy interstate in Nebraska.

In Illinois, authorities issued an evacuation order Wednesday for residents in Muness additional flooding are 45 miles west of Chicago in Marquette County.

State and Nation

The Associated Press

Lawmakers look to revisit gun legislation after mass shootings

SPRINGFIELD, Ill. (AP) — Advocates of gun control have introduced legislation in Illinois this year to revitalize the measure in the wake of the Feb. 14 shooting in Parkland, Fla., in which 17 people were killed and others were wounded.

Some lawmakers are also calling for an outright ban on semi-automatic rifles to try to prevent mass shootings, an effort that has repeatedly failed in Illinois.

But supporters of the licensing bill have said the measure is necessary because gang violence that permeates communities in Chicago.

“This was as we should, when there is a horrific mass shooting, but every day in my district and across the city, people are dying from gun violence,” said sponsoring state Sen. Don Harmon, D-Danville.

“I would like to do something to try to stop that.”

Opponents are arguing that those who sell guns are already licensed by the federal Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives, which requires background checks.

Todd Vandermyde is a former lobbyist for the National Rifle Association who now represents a group of gun dealers called the Federal Firearms Licenses of Illinois.

He said the measure state could prove to be expensive for small business owners.

“We already have a federal licensing standard and we think it works reasonably well,” Vandermyde said.

1802 Buzzard Hall

School officer never went inside in Fla. shooting

FORT LAUDERDALE, Fla. (AP) — The armed officer on duty at the Florida high school where a shooter killed 17 people never went inside to engage the gunman and has been placed under investigation, officials announced Thursday.

The Valentine’s Day shooting at Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School by a gunman armed with an AR-15 style assault rifle has reignited national debate over gun laws and school safety, including proposals by President Donald Trump and others to designate more — including trained teachers — to carry arms on school grounds.

Gun-control advocates, meanwhile, have redoubled their push to ban assault rifles.

The school resource officer at the high school took up a position viewing the western entrance of the building that was under attack for more than four minutes, but “he went in,” Broward County Sheriff Scott Israel said at a Thursday news conference. The shooting lasted about six minutes.

The officer, Scott Peterson, was suspended without pay and placed under investigation, then chose to resign, Israel said. When asked what Peterson should have done, Israel said, “We went in, addressed the killer, killed the killer.”

The sheriff said he was “devastated, sick to my stomach. There are no words. I mean, these families lost their children. We’ve been to the funerals. … I’ve been to the vigils. It’s just, ah, there are no words.”

There was also a communication issue between the person reviewing the school’s security footage and officers who responded to the scene.

Politicians under pressure to tighten gun laws in response to the mass shooting Roasted various plans Thursday, but most fell short of re- forms demanded by student activ- ists who demonstrated Wednesday on Florida’s Capitol.
After-dinner focus

Nathan Vemmer, a sophomore history major, listens to music on his laptop after finishing dinner in the Taylor Dining Hall Thursday night.

Friday Focus:
Larson gets January graduate faculty of the month

Staff Report | @DEN_News

Editor's Note: This is our weekly column where we highlight awards, grants and other accomplishments given to Eastern’s students, staff and faculty. If you have a new item you would like highlighted, contact deneic@gmail.com.

Heidi Larson, a professor in the counseling and student development program, was chosen as January’s graduate faculty of the month by the Graduate Student Advisory Council. The student who nominated her, Nicholas Caldwell, said she “provides excellent service to the students in her program.”

“She provides sound, structural classes with constructive feedback to each of her students designed to help them reach their full potential,” he said. “Her most important characteristic as a professor and leader is that she’s able to connect well with students who have a positive reactionary effect toward her teaching and instills a transformative approach to counseling.”

The News desk can be reached at 581-2812 or dennewsdesk@gmail.com.

‘A million ways to laugh’ comedy show set for Friday night

Program will be Western-themed, hosted by the UB

By Andrew Paisley
Campus Reporter | @Andrew_Paisley

Comedy, food and prizes will all be highlights of the “A Million Ways to Laugh in the West” comedy show set for 7 p.m. Friday in the 7th Street Underground of the Martin Luther King Jr. University Union.

The show, hosted by the University Board, features comedian Bryan Morris, who is known as the “Michael Jordan of Comedy,” according to Dallas Lancenese, comedy coordinator for the UB.

“Bryan is a relatable comedian for the people who believe they are not like the ‘normal’ person,” Lancenese said. “He aims to make people laugh with his quick wit, situational humor and lovable personality.”

Lancenese said he and his committee chose to do a Western comedy show because they thought it was unique.

“We sort of brainstormed different ideas, and I realized that a Western-themed comedy is something we have not done before,” Lancenese said.

Students can eat Western-themed foods such as chicken, meatballs and BBQ sauce, and enter a giveaway for gift cards during the show.

“This will be a great time for students to relax and enjoy themselves while laughing alongside their friends,” Lancenese said. “I know a lot of people like to come to events like these, especially on Fridays, because of how stressful their week can be with school work and classes.”

Lancenese said he hopes students will enjoy the comedy show and see the humor from Morris.

“Bryan is absolutely hilarious and I know that people will really enjoy his show,” Lancenese said. “I hope that when students leave they can reflect back and realize how much fun they had and that the show was a hit.”

Andrew Paisley can be reached at 581-2812 or at abpaisley@eiu.edu.

THALIA ROULEY | THE DAILY EASTERN NEWS

Nathan Vemmer, a sophomore history major, listens to music on his laptop after finishing dinner in the Taylor Dining Hall Thursday night.

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Inquiring minds need answers

As journalists, it is our responsibility to get both sides and present an unbiased view of news that happens on campus, especially when this news essentially parodies two parties at odds with each other. However, when one side refuses to talk to the paper, it makes it harder to present both sides of what happened.

In a statement, the university refused to release any substantial information about it. As a paper, we tried reporting on the probation of Lambda Chi Fraternity. So far, all we have gotten is the statement.

Lambda Chi Alpha national headquarters issued a statement. However, this statement was vague and did not provide the details needed to explain the reason for the probation to our readers. In it, the director of communications states that members of the fraternity chose to “repeatedly violate the ethics and laws of membership, in addition to violating the policies and laws of the university and local law enforcement.”

The fact that laws were broken and the local law enforcement was mentioned raises some red flags to us. However, this statement was vague and did not add up. As we keep explaining, we are not looking for any specific names of people who might be involved.

We understand that there are some aspects to this that might not be able to be disclosed. But the terms and conditions of the probation, such as what the fraternity is and is not allowed to do! Not confidential. What exactly the fraternity did to allegedly have recruits? Not confidential. In fact, when one fraternity at Cornell University was put on probation, Ithaca College’s student newspaper, The Ithacan, was able to print that it was for having a “pig roast” hazing competition, in which pledges competed to see who could have sex with the heaviest woman.”

An administrator at Cornell even sent out a statement acknowledging the specific allegations, calling it behavior that degrades and dehumanizes women. And they did it all without releasing names of people who were involved. This way people were able to know what happened and what exactly was going on at Cornell University.

There are questions out there being asked, and we know we are not the only ones who want answers. Concerned parents want to know if Greek Life at Eastern is safe. Students want to be assured that hazing allegations will be taken care of.

And we know there are people who want to know why Sigma Chi was suspended while Lambda Chi was put on probation. Perhaps there is a good reason for that. But the rate information is going out, however, we’ll never know it. But right now, it looks like there are two different punishments for similar crimes.

At the end of the day, though, this isn’t about Sigma Chi; this isn’t about Lambda Chi; this isn’t even about Greek Life. This is about people at the university withholding information that they know they can give out. If saving face is more important to our administrators than keeping people safe, telling the truth and holding people accountable, there is a real problem on this campus.

The daily editorial is the majority opinion of the editorial board of The Daily Eastern News.
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The New York Times Crossword

Note: The completed puzzle conceals the name of a famous composer, along with something that might help you listen to him. Who and what are they?

ACROSS
1. Help during the fall? (12)
2. Spanish hotel (5)
3. Venting, e.g. (6)
4. Hardin-Simmons University setting (5)
5. N.L. East city (5)
6. Branded (9)
7. Neo- (9)
8. Touching things (9)
9. Web developer’s development (9)
10. Shipload (9)
11. Like some veal chops (8)
12. Hardly fresh (11)
13. It’s not on the level (11)
14. Stout cousins? (8)
15. Leaf part (9)
16. Some farm equipment (9)
17. Factory (10)
18. Home office convenience (4)
19. Difficult thing to do, informally (5)
20. Smoking ___ (5)
21. Flower whose name derives from the shape of its cluster (5)
22. Some farm equipment (6)
23. Light-colored and medium-sweet (8)
24. Mortify (7)
25. Leaf part (6)
26. Stout cousins? (8)
27. That right introduction? (5)
28. Third-largest city of Switzerland (9)
29. Car once advertised with the slogan “The relentless pursuit of common sense” (9)
30. Bubkes (7)
31. Cabinet part (7)
32. New last Beatles track before their split in 1970 (6)
33. Lounge, in a way (2,9)
34. Wraps around the shoulders (10)
35. Big name in shoe stores (8)
36. A foundation brush should be used when applying foundation to the face. It helps to give a flawless finish without wasting product. It also helps to spread your foundation more evenly on the face without any form of messiness that may be caused when you use your fingers. There are different types of foundation brushes that you can invest in, including flat foundation brushes, Kabuki/buffing brushes and stippling brushes. (16)
37. The beauty blender is one of my favorite tools for applying and blending foundation and concealer. I love how buffed my makeup looks after using it. The tip of the blender makes it really easy to blend areas around the nose and under the eyes where brushes cannot get to. The triangular white sponges are also great for applying foundation. However, they may absorb a lot of your makeup, so you have to work with them as quickly as possible. (17)
38. The best time to use your fingers is when applying BB creams or tinted moisturizers. This way, the product warms up into the skin faster and the finish looks natural. Always ensure that your fingers are clean before applying makeup to your skin. You do not want to spread dirt and germs on your face now, do you? (16)

DOWN
1. Accords (9)
2. Update at the factory (9)
3. Home office convenience (9)
4. Difficult thing to do, informally (9)
5. Smoking ___ (9)
6. Flower whose name derives from the shape of its cluster (9)
7. Some farm equipment (9)
8. Light-colored and medium-sweet (9)
9. Mortify (9)
10. Leaf part (9)
11. Stout cousins? (9)
12. 1966 Pulitzer-winning Edward Albee play, with “A” (9)
13. Common rating scale (9)
14. All-nighters? (9)
15. Role in 1993’s “Tombstone” (9)
16. Those who may accept tips (9)
17. Figured out (9)
18. Renaissance artist della Francesca (9)
19. Kept going (9)
20. Fashions (9)
21. Much of binary code (9)
22. Like a boxer’s hands during sparring, maybe (9)
23. Beguilers (9)
24. Sets securely (9)
25. Something to gnaw on (9)
26. “The Vampire Diaries” protagonist (9)
27. Writer Janowitz (9)
28. It makes an impression (9)
29. Place for a piercing (9)
30. Work, as a proposal (9)
31. The Daily Eastern News (9)
32. nytimes.com/wordplay (9)
33. nytimes.com/crosswords ($39.95 a year) (9)
34. puzzle by David J. Kahn (9)
35. Edited by Will Shortz (9)
36. No. 0119 (9)

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By Abiola Alafe

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FASHION FRIDAY

Three Ways to Apply Foundation

By Abiola Alafe

Did you know that foundation is the basis of your makeup and the way it is applied will determine your overall makeup look? In today’s post, I will be sharing the best makeup tools for applying foundation. There are different types of foundation from liquid and cream to powder and pressed. These can be categorized into foundations for oily skin, dry skin or a combination of both. Here are the best makeup tools for applying foundation:

Brushes

A foundation brush should be used when applying foundation to the face. It helps to give a flawless finish without wasting product. It also helps to spread your foundation more evenly on the face without any form of messiness that may be caused when you use your fingers. There are different types of foundation brushes that you can invest in, including flat foundation brushes, Kabuki/buffing brushes and stippling brushes.

Sponges

The beauty blender is one of my favorite tools for applying and blending foundation and concealer. I love how buffed my makeup looks after using it. The tip of the blender makes it really easy to blend areas around the nose and under the eyes where brushes cannot get to. The triangular white sponges are also great for applying foundation. However, they may absorb a lot of your makeup, so you have to work with them as quickly as possible.

Fingers

The best time to use your fingers is when applying BB creams or tinted moisturizers. This way, the product warms up into the skin faster and the finish looks natural. Always ensure that your fingers are clean before applying makeup to your skin. You do not want to spread dirt and germs on your face now, do you?

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Track and field set to host OVC championship Friday

By Alex Hartman
Track & Field Reporter | @DEN_Sports

The indoor track and field season reaches an end, as the Ohio Valley Conference Championship meet is Friday in Lantz Fieldhouse.

On Feb. 16 at the Eastern Friday Night Special, the team built some good momentum heading into the final meet of the indoor season as the men finished in first place and the women finished in second.

There was an explosion of top finishes from both sides of the team and quality finishes from most of the events. From the distance runners, led by freshman Kate Bush, to field athletes and seniors Kendall Williams who won the long jump, the team performed well on their home track.

There was a total of 11 first place finishes from Eastern athletes at the Feb. 16 meet. The men and the women will have a chance to repeat as OVC champs since both came in first last season. The men’s team would win the first three consecutive indoor titles and the women their second consecutive title if they win this weekend.

They look to be in good shape having a handful of athletes in the top three in the OVC in their events, with the 60-meter dash featuring Eastern as the top place holder by way of senior Davion McManis and the third place spot filled by junior Brandan Lane. Lane also is third in the OVC in the 200-meter dash.

A bright spot for Eastern last year in the throwers has taken some blows from athletes graduating and injuries, but new talent hopes to reestablish Eastern as a top team in throwing events.

“We are looking for bigger marks and improvements, but better yet more confidence,” said coach Jessica Sommerfeld. “Ryan Pratt is doing great in the shotput, he is one to watch for.”

Another bright spot on the track team going into the championship has been senior high jumper Raleigh Knappe, who was named OVC Field Athlete of the year and the Eastern record holder, setting a height of 6-feet-.50. Her best height this season also ranks 12th in the NCAA.

The team will compete in the indoor OVC Championship Friday and Saturday with qualifying events starting at 9 a.m. both days, and 2:30 p.m. on Friday and 11 a.m. on Saturday for scoring events.

Alex Hartman can be reached at 581-2812 or aihartman@eiu.edu.

Panthers eyeing rematch with Evansville

By Sean Hastings
Sports Editor | @DEN_Sports

Two weeks ago the Eastern softball team ran into Evansville pitcher Morgan Florey, and she shut down Eastern and pitched a five-inning 1-0 shutout.

“Despite the early success, Schuette said players “bring to the roster.”

The Panthers are a long way from being their

Senior pitcher Jessica Wireman delivers a pitch in the Panthers’ 3-1 win against Belmont March 2017. The Panthers are 7-3 this season and have five gets this weekend in Chattanooga, Tenn.

The Panthers are 2-6, but when they do win, they run up the score. In their two wins they have combined for 25 runs.

The Purple Aces have not won much this season, as they are 2-6, but when they do, they run up the score. In their two wins they have combined for 25 runs.

Eastern is 7-3 this season after sweeping last weekend’s series that ended up with sophomore first baseman Haley Mitchell and senior pitcher Jessica Wireman earning OVC Player of the Week honors.

Despite the early success, Schuette said the Panthers are a long way from being their best.

“At times, there were some really nice things that happened last week,” Schuette said. “Wins are always nice, but there are losses that we have where we played well. I think that is important to keep that. Last week was fun.”

Eastern opens the weekend against Western Michigan and Chattanooga Friday, with the much-anticipated rematch against Evansville as the first game of the doubleheader on Saturday.

Eastern plays Indiana-Purdue University Indianapolis in the second game.

The Panthers wrap things up with Alabama State Sunday.

Last weekend, Mitchell carried the load driving in 10 out of the 27 runs the Panthers scored. Schuette said she hopes other players can join in on that and start carrying the load as well.

“If you can get different kids carrying the load at different times (that helps), because you’re going to have some peaks hitting and you’re going to have some valleys and hopefully there are less valleys and you can have 1-9 being a weapon,” Schuette said.

Eastern has seven new players on the roster this year, and all have contributed in some way this season.

Freshman catcher Morgan LaMore is hitting .250 this season, which is the highest of the new additions.

Although LaMore and the four others are listed as freshmen, Schuette said she does not see them that way.

“At this point in the year, I tell our freshmen that they are not freshmen, they’re ball players,” Schuette said. “That whole freshman concept is over. They didn’t play like freshmen when they got here.”

Eastern opens the weekend against West

Senior pitcher Jessica Wireman delivers a pitch in the Panthers’ 3-1 win against Belmont March 2017. The Panthers are 7-3 this season and have five gets this weekend in Chattanooga, Tenn.

Schuette added that the upperclassmen have noticed the talent that the new “ball players” bring to the roster.

Sean Hastings can be reached at 581-2812 or smhastings@eiu.edu.
Racers’ big first half pushes past Panthers

By Sean Hastings
Sports Editor | @DEN_Sports

Thursday’s game against Murray State started way faster than the Eastern men’s basketball team thought it would and wanted to.

The start did not phase the Racers as much and they were able to pull away with a 7-6 win and take sole possession of the OVC, as Belmont lost to Jacksonville State Thursday night.

The Panthers and the Racers traded baskets until it was 20-20. Hardly any defense was played and coach Jay Spoonhour noted that each team only having two fouls in the first half showed that.

Eastern did not even get to the line in the first half and Murray State was 3-4 from there. It was up-and-down and up-and-down the court for both the Panthers and the Racers for the first 7:47 of the first half where both teams scored 36 points.

Murray State went on a 25-16 run to close out the first half and led 44-36 at the end of the first half.

“They just kept going,” said senior Monzell Goodwin. “When we started to miss some shots they just kept capitalizing and when we were on defense, we just started to get a little bit tired and they kept the energy up.”

Eastern’s shots fell for much of the first half as it shot 48.4 percent and with a 12-point deficit heading into the second half, Eastern went ice cold for the first 9:08 shooting just 1-10 from the field.

Goodwin and freshman Mack Smith led the scoring charge, just like they have over the last two months, but even they struggled to put the ball in the basket early in the second half. Smith finished with 22 points, but had 17 in the first half. The “start kind of got us in a bad situation because we were just missing and couldn’t get it in a flow and a rhythm so we had to pick it up on defense,” Goodwin said.

And in the second half, when Eastern was looking for stops, especially with the start it had, it did not get them. The rebounds were near even with Murray State edging the Panthers 39-35.

Before the game, Spoonhour said, “I thought Murray State is a great defensive team and Jonathon Steel and Ja Morant play well together and that Shaq Buchanan does not get enough credit. Those three each scored 15 points to go along with Terrell Miller Jr.’s 20.

“We were not staying in front of them and we weren’t guarding them very well,” Spoonhour said. “We gave up four points (in the first half). We can’t give up four points, not to anybody. That’s a good defensive team we’re playing.”

Goodwin said he liked the effort and saw things that the Panthers were able to do against Murray State, the top team in the OVC. He said if they can play with the Racers then they can have the confidence to play with anybody come tournament time.

Eastern and Southern Illinois–Edwardsville play Saturday in Lantz Arena and both are battling for the No. 7 spot in the tournament.

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Slow 4th quarter sinks women’s basketball team

By JJ Bullock
Assistant Sports Editor | @JJB_Sports

Piecing together four quarters of consistent basketball has been a struggle for the Eastern women’s basketball team all season long and once again Thursday night.

The Panthers came before it, it was another game that Eastern did not even get to the line in the first half where both teams scored 36 points.

Eastern senior Ray Crossland drives the lane against Murray State Thursday night at Lantz Arena. The Panthers lost 76-66 and Crossland scored 13 points and had seven rebounds.

At the end of the third quarter, Eastern was looking for stops, especially with the start it had, it did not get them. The rebounds were near even with Murray State edging the Panthers 39-35.

Before the game, Spoonhour said, “I thought Murray State is a great defensive team and Jonathon Steel and Ja Morant play well together and that Shaq Buchanan does not get enough credit. Those three each scored 15 points to go along with Terrell Miller Jr.’s 20.

“We were not staying in front of them and we weren’t guarding them very well,” Spoonhour said. “We gave up four points (in the first half). We can’t give up four points, not to anybody. That’s a good defensive team we’re playing.”

Goodwin said he liked the effort and saw things that the Panthers were able to do against Murray State, the top team in the OVC. He said if they can play with the Racers then they can have the confidence to play with anybody come tournament time.

Eastern and Southern Illinois–Edwardsville play Saturday in Lantz Arena and both are battling for the No. 7 spot in the tournament.

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For Murray State, it secures them a No. 10 seed in the tournament.

The loss for Eastern drops them to 5-26 overall and 1-16 in the OVC.

For Murray State, it secures them a No. 7 seed in the tournament.

Eastern led 34-33 closing out the final 3:30 of the second quarter with an 11-6 run.

Outside of a five-minute stretch to start the game, when the Panthers were down by as much as 12-2 and allowed Murray State to rattle four shots before Eastern even put up one, the Panthers seemed to have an edge on Murray State.

Steele and junior Carmen Tellez made two three-pointers late in the first quarter to end the Racers run and by the end of the quarter. Eastern trailed just 19-14 after closing out on a 12-5 run.

The loss for Eastern drops them to 2-26 overall and 1-16 in the OVC.

For Murray State, it secures them a spot in the conference tournament next week and eliminates Eastern Kentucky from contention.

The Panthers season finale is Saturday at 1 p.m. against Southern Illinois–Edwardsville in Lantz Arena.

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