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Daily Eastern News: February 26, 2004

Eastern Illinois University

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

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THE DAILY EASTERN NEWS.COM



THE DAILY EASTERN NEWS

February 26, 2004 ♦ THURSDAY



Teeing off

Men's Panther golf team places seventh out of 12 teams in first action of the spring season at Charleston, S.C. tournament.

Page 12 SPORTS

Eastern testing new plagiarism program

By Evan Hill
CAMPUS EDITOR

It would be difficult to find anyone on a college campus who believes plagiarism is fair and a good idea, but some students still try to take the easy way out.

Before the Internet, professors relied upon their own instincts and memory to spot plagiarism, but now Eastern is testing a new, computerized system to spot plagiarism with the click of a mouse.

Turnitin is a program utilizing databases of published works and the Internet to determine if any similarities exist between a paper submitted electronically by a professor and the billions of documents archived by iParadigms, the company behind Turnitin.

How it works

According to Turnitin's Web site, every paper submitted for plagiarism-prevention is returned in the form of a customized, color-coded "Originality Report," which gives the details of any similarities found.

Turnitin's creator, John Berry, said each electronically submitted paper undergoes a search of three database systems.

The first search is of a copy of the Internet iParadigms updates 24 hours a day. Currently the copy is comprised of 4.34 billion pages and is continually updated with automated web crawler servers at a rate of 40 million pages a day. Berry said, a 45 megabyte per second T1 connection and 13 racks of server computers for storage are required to maintain this copy of the Internet.

The web crawlers work by starting with about 50,000 "seed" pages. They download each of these pages and then follow every link on each page, download the resulting pages, follow the new links and so on, Berry said.

The second search is of a database of academic journals called Proquest, which Berry said was the largest and most comprehensive database of its kind and contains the majority of all publications worldwide.

Finally, each paper is run through iParadigms' own proprietary database that includes every paper previously submitted through Turnitin. Berry said the database currently contains "upwards of 10 million papers" with about 20,000 coming in each day.

Usage Issues

One question addressed on Turnitin's Web site is how students' intellectual property rights are handled when Turnitin receives their papers.

Everything iParadigms does with students' papers falls under the "fair use" portion of United States copyright law and "is not harming the market value of the work" said Berry.

A response on the Web site stated iParadigms' research had determined there was little or no copyright law conflicts.

SEE PROGRAM ♦ Page 9

What water hike will mean

- ♦ University will pay average of \$1,500 a month for water.
- ♦ 3.2 increase will result in new charge of \$7.07 per 1,000 gallons.

By Michael Schroeder
CITY REPORTER

A 3.2 percent increase in the water rate may not be significant when one's water bill is only around \$15 a month; however, when the bill is around \$45,000 a month it makes quite a difference.

The city council placed an ordinance on file for public inspection last week to increase the charge for water by 3.2 percent per gallon next year.

This increase will cost Eastern an average \$1,500 a month.

Increase in water rates substantial to Eastern

Gary Reed, Eastern's director of physical plant facilities and management, said the school used 78,322,599 gallons of water in the fiscal year 2003.

The city now charges Eastern \$6.85 per 1,000 gallons of water used. The 3.2 percent raise will result in a new charge of \$7.07.

This additional cost of \$1,500 each month for water will add up to approximately \$17,231 a year.

Reed said the budget accounted for a 2 percent raise. However, now he must rebalance the budget to account for the additional 1.2 percent, he said.

"We haven't done a projection yet, but the total utilities budget will have to allocate the funds," Assistant Comptroller Richard Edwards said.

Reed said the water fluctuates from month to month. September has the highest usage rate whereas December's is the least.

The majority of the water used by Eastern goes to the housing facilities, he said.

"The campus used a lot more (water) prior to the water conservation efforts implemented between 1999 and 2001," he said. "Those initiatives shaved approxi-

mately 30 percent off our consumption."

The 3.2 percent water rate increase also will affect off-campus students and Charleston residents whose charges will increase from \$7.11 to \$7.34 per 1,000 gallons of water.

Mayor Dan Cougill said the city has always given Eastern a break on the water rate.

With the reduced rate, the city saved Eastern approximately \$20,500 during the 2003 fiscal year.

"If you go all the way back to

SEE WATER ♦ Page 9



DAILY EASTERN NEWS PHOTO BY STEPHEN HAAS

Flocking to 'Christ'

A Kerasotes Theatres employee counts out 309 tickets for "The Passion of the Christ" Wednesday afternoon for Matt and Mike Southards of First Christian Church in Charleston at the Showplace 8 Theatre in Mattoon. The Southards bought 25 tickets for Saturday's performance for their youth group and 283 tickets for March 7 for anyone who wants to go see the movie. Mike Southard, pastor of the church, also bought one ticket for himself for yesterday afternoon's opening show. The church can be reached at 345-2823 for any questions regarding the March 7 showing.

Ethics law deadline may not be met

By Kevin Sampier
ADMINISTRATION EDITOR

An ethics law requiring all state employees to document their work in 15 minute increments will take effect March 1, but Eastern may not be ready to comply by then.

"I don't know if we're going to be able to comply with that (date)," Eastern President Lou Hencken said Wednesday.

During the last Board of Trustees meeting, Hencken was given the power to create and implement a system for recording the 15 minute time periods of the state employees at Eastern. Professors, administrators, building service workers and others are included in those needing to keep record.

The Illinois Board of Higher



Lou Hencken

Education gave universities 30 days to create the system. The 30 day time period will be up on March 1, Hencken said.

A meeting between Hencken and other university presidents was scheduled for 4 p.m. Wednesday, in which methods of time recording would be discussed, Hencken said.

"I'm going to suggest we get an interpretation of the law from the Attorney General or the ethics commission," he said.

Rebecca Rausch, spokeswoman for Gov. Rod Blagojevich, said the law went into effect for other

organizations, including the governor's office, last January.

Rausch said she is not sure what will happen to universities and other organizations if they are not in compliance with the law.

Hencken said a sample time card has been created here and that he "wants to be consistent with other universities."

The bill was created to prevent state employees from campaigning for political candidates while on the clock, said Jeff Cooley, vice president for business affairs.

"No one can argue with that part of the law," Hencken said.

But administrators and faculty members think this original intention of the law is lost on professors and other workers.

Hencken said he has spoken to legislators who worked on the bill

that agree the bill was not intended for university use with teachers.

"It's an unnecessary burden for everyone to fill out, every 15 minutes, what they've done," Hencken said.

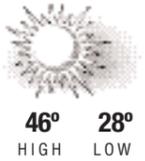
Faculty members across campus agree with Hencken and have said the requirement will take time away from more important activities.

Jean Wolski, associate professor of theater arts, said the ethics law will add an additional workload to instructors.

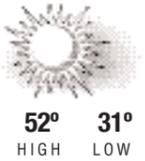
"I think a lot of people would be shocked at how much time faculty members spend working in and out of the classroom," Wolski said. "I don't think it's been thought through particularly well," she

SEE DEADLINE ♦ Page 9

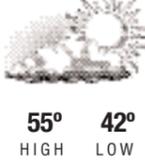
Today
Sunny



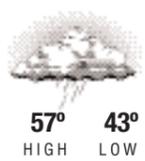
Friday
Sunny



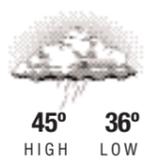
Saturday
Mostly sunny



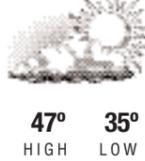
Sunday
Light showers



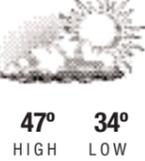
Monday
Light showers



Tuesday
Partly cloudy



Wednesday
Partly cloudy



Students, residents donate blood, register for database

By Chris Kee
STAFF WRITER

Students and local residents gathered at Eastern's African American Cultural Center Wednesday afternoon between 2 and 6 p.m. to donate blood and register for a bone marrow donation database.

Kathleen Moreno of Eastern's Internal Auditing Office said the late Johnetta Jones, Eastern's Director of Minority Affairs, requested student involvement with the beneficial program.

Free T-shirts and snacks were not the only incentive at Wednesday's drive.

"There is very little minority involvement in bone marrow transplants, yet there is a high need for their bone marrow," Moreno said.

"Caucasians are normally charged \$65 to be entered in the database, and the fee is normally waived only for minorities."

"Community Blood Services of Illinois waived the \$65 fee for every-

body at today's blood drive," said Donor Relations Coordinator Melissa Webb.

Some at the blood and bone marrow drive said they were just following the examples of others.

"I have a friend that was a donor, and he was able to help someone else," said Julie Chadd, assistant professor of career and technical education.

As Chadd left the Cultural Center, she said she would urge her class to donate blood or register before the 6 p.m. closing.

Kelly Boeger, a family consumer science major, says she has a common blood type and donates each chance she gets.

"I try to do as much as I can," said Boeger. "I'm O-positive so anyone can use my blood," she said.

Webb said there was a great turnout. Seven people registered to be a marrow donor and 19 donated blood.

CBSI will return to Eastern at the Student Recreation Center on March 5.

Sioux Indian encourages deviating from comfort zone

By Marissa Hainrihar
STAFF WRITER

The bravest thing of all is to face yourself, said 70-year-old Crow Creek Sioux Indian Melvin Grey Owl.

"Brave means to do many things in life."

Owl spoke Wednesday night about two different kinds of history, the written one Americans know and oral history, which Native Americans know.

Owl said oral history is what is not found in most textbooks.

Owl, of Central South Dakota, told the Native American oral history as opposed to written history.

Before Columbus came to America, there were no crimes, murders or wars, Owl said.

"Our earth was peaceful," he said. "The Great Spirit showed us how to get along on Mother Earth."

Owl said when new people came to their homeland, they ruptured the rhythm. Columbus said the natives are gentle beings, truthful and faithful.

Owl said Natives learn about life and what it is like from their elders, who tell them what lies ahead in life.

"We are taught how to get along with each other by our grandparents," he said.

Owl said a "white man's education" was forced upon his culture.

"They stomped on our way of life and our culture," he said. "We don't want the white man's way of life, we want our own."

Owl said 354 treaties the Sioux Indians made with the United States Government were broken.

"Brave means to do many things in life."

—Melvin Grey Owl, Crow Creek Sioux Indian

We are currently in the process of asking the United States World Court for our land back, he said.

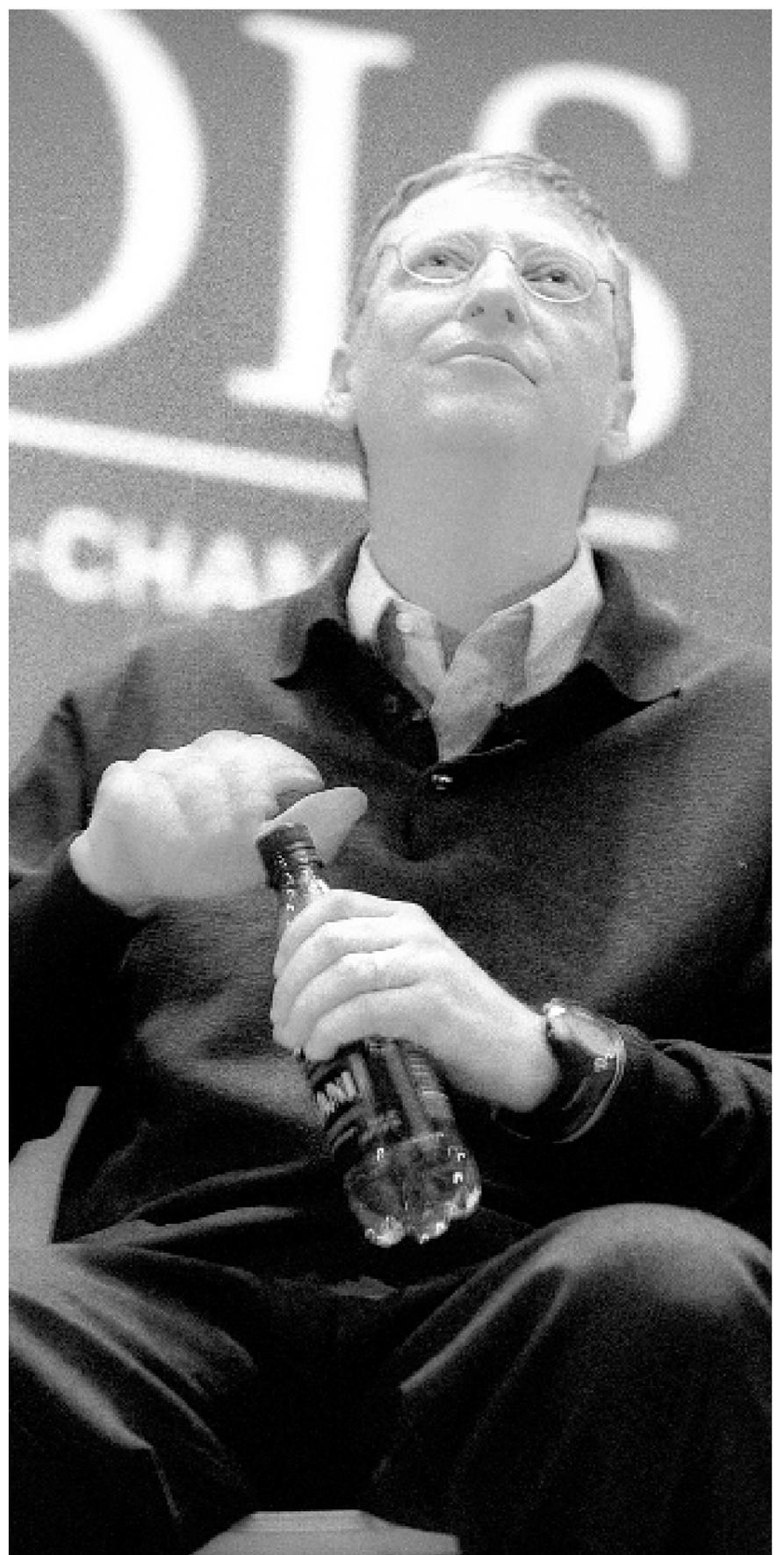
"Native Americans value individual freedom, generosity and good advice from the elderly, and that is the way that we live," Owl said. "We share and give to others not expecting anything in return."

Mike Curtis, undeclared undergraduate, was one of those in attendance at Owl's lecture.

Curtis is Native American and said studying the culture is one of his passions in life. He emphasized he likes to learn and listen to people speak on this subject. He said he walks in fields near streams and collects artifacts like stone axes and arrows. One day he walked about 15 miles through a field and found an artifact, he said.

Keith Walden also came to listen to the lecture. He said he also likes to listen to people speak about Native Americans because a dear friend of his who was a Pawnee Otoe Indian passed away. He was always very invested in his culture, he said, and Walden is trying to keep his passion alive and learn more about the culture.

These are just two people out of approximately 70 who gathered to listen to Owl speak in the Charleston/Mattoon room in the University Union.



DAILY EASTERN NEWS PHOTO BY JOSH REELEY

Computer guru

The co-founder of Microsoft Corporation Bill Gates speaks to a crowd in Foellinger Auditorium at the University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign Tuesday night. Gates talked about the future of technology including a wireless media center and a Smart Watch which he wore to the lecture. The watch (featured above) is equipped with MSN Direct; it has a calendar, Instant Messaging, games, weather updates and has a microprocessor.

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CORRECTIONS

In Tuesday's edition of *The Daily Eastern News* the name of Erin Miller, University Board vice chair, was spelled incorrectly. *The News* regrets the error.

SUGGESTIONS

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





DAILY EASTERN NEWS PHOTO BY COLIN MCAULIFFE

Matt Clark, a senior 2D and graphic design major, blows filings off his project as he sands his metal brooch for metals and jewelry class, Wednesday night in Art Park West. "They should give us free passes with our diplomas to come back and work in Doudna for free," said Clark. He added that it will be a good facility that, along with Tarble, will freshen up the department.

Campus grateful for Doudna funds

By Kathleen Gore
STAFF WRITER

Students and faculty of the art and music departments are eager to see the renovation of the Doudna Fine Arts Center after Gov. Rod Blagojevich released \$46 million for the project Tuesday.

Glenn Hild, art department chair, said he is pleased with the governor's decision to release the funds for the building. One of the most beneficial parts of the new building for the art department will be the extra space.

"One of the biggest gains is the studio labs will be larger to accommodate equipment safely," Hild said.

Hild said ventilation also will be more appropriate and fumes will not go

throughout the building.

Although the excitement is rising about the building, Hild and other faculty realize the bid for the building has to be signed.

"Overall I am very excited about the building," Hild said. "Our goal is to have state of the art technology that will be as first class as possible for students."

President Lou Hencken said he would like to see construction fences by the beginning of May.

"That was such a nice day, Monday afternoon," Hencken said. "Those construction fences, I used to dislike, but now I've gotten accustomed to them."

Stephanie Fones, art major, said she is excited the new building will be located on campus.

"I'm happy to hear that the rooms will be bigger," Fones said. "When we have 30 kids in a classroom there is practically no space."

The faculty from the music department is also happy with the plans for Doudna. Christine Ford, director of bands, said the news of the building is "awesome."

"This building is going to do wonderful things for the music program," Ford said.

Ford, along with music students, is most excited about the new performance hall the building will have. This will give the music program at Eastern a "legitimate performance venue," Ford said. "It will also provide a home for music students which is very important."

Student Senate downs diversity bylaw change

By Brian O'Malley
STUDENT GOVERNMENT EDITOR

The bylaw change requiring Student Senate members to participate in, rather than just attend, a diverse event failed 7-19-1 Wednesday.

The current diversity bylaw only requires senate members to attend a diverse event.

Sean Anderson, chair for the Diversity Affairs Committee and co-author of the bylaw change, said he was unhappy with the outcome of the vote.

"It's disappointing," Anderson said. "I think you all underestimate me and my committee."

After some discussion, Anderson said he wanted the bylaw change to be tabled for one more week so he could make proper changes to meet the majority of members' satisfaction.

"I think it's very interesting that the bylaw was failed after I asked you guys to table it," Anderson said.

Jeff Collier, chair for the Academic Affairs Committee, said diversity is not about attending a program, but about taking a part in something different.

"What diversity truly is," Collier said. "Is stepping out of your comfort zone."

Anderson said he has no power to tell anyone what defines diversity.

"We don't want to define diversity for you," Anderson said. "It's not at my discretion to decide what's diverse."

Andrew Berger, member of the Diversity Affairs Committee, said the current bylaw doesn't help promote diversity.

"It's lacking actual promotion of diversity," Berger said. "This way you're actually aiding in the promotion of diversity as well as subjecting yourself to diversity."

Kyle Donash, chair for the External Relations Committee, said no one should object to a diversity requirement because it's beneficial.

"It's not a punishment," Donash said. "It's about exposing yourself. Last semester it gave me the opportunity to see some amazing things."

Anderson said he will meet with his committee to work on a new bylaw change to meet with the senate's satisfaction.

"I think one of our responsibilities as student senators is to promote diversity," he said.

Virus protection updates help network complications

By Evan Hill
CAMPUS EDITOR

While the battle for a stable network continues to rage between viruses and Eastern's Information Technology Services department, some students may still be asking themselves what a virus is and how they can protect themselves.

The ITS department has circulated several e-mails to Eastern students and faculty that said the best way to ward off viruses is to download update patches for Microsoft Windows, frequently scan the computer with updated antivirus software and finally to never open e-mail from anyone whose identity is unknown.

Chat Chatterji, assistant vice president for ITS, said in an e-mail he is beginning to assemble a combination of residence hall technical staff and ITS staff "who will try to come up with the most efficient way for getting this done—with an eye to a risk/benefit ratio."

"It will also depend on the specific capabilities that the new network electronics will have in being able to detect and disconnect 'dirty' PCs, which are connected to it," Chatterji said.

This concept of permission-based access would help

the residence hall side of the network run smoother because it will force every computer connected to be running with the same updates, said Max Swango, administration coordinator for ITS.

Swango said there are many styles or "flavors" of permission-based access. Since the new hardware has not yet been purchased, however, the capabilities have not yet been determined, Chatterji said.

Mark Hudson, director of housing and dining services, said the viruses have been dealt with earlier this year by resident assistants knocking on residents' doors with update CDs, but this was a very inefficient method.

Hudson said the main problem is students without updated computers connecting to the network become gateways for viruses to get onto the network.

Housing and Dining services will be circulating information to parents and students this summer to encourage them to patch and update their computers before they come to school.

If students try to update after they get to school and the network is down, they would not be able to update and would become another potential victim for a virus infection, Hudson said.

Online trivia

- ◆ Virus: A malicious computer program that infects a host computer and will cause damage to the machine and/or attempt to replicate and spread itself.
- ◆ Trojan: A virus attached to another file or disguised as a legitimate file.
- ◆ Backdoor: Gaining unauthorized access to a computer through a loop-hole in security.
- ◆ Packet: All information traveling through a network or the internet is broken into tiny segments with information on where the packet goes and how to reassemble the packets at their destination.
- ◆ Switch: Decides how information is handled and where it is sent on a network.
- ◆ Router: Similar to a switch, but it makes more intelligent decisions on what to do with information.

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EDITORIAL

Exemption in shooting case unjust

The Coles County Circuit Court acted inappropriately in dismissing the case for an Eastern student involved in the Homecoming Weekend shooting.

Sophomore undecided major Crystal P. Lovemore, 19, and Marc D. Griffin, 21, of Chicago, were both originally charged for their involvement in the incident.

Last Friday, charges against Lovemore were dropped in exchange for her mother's testimony.

Despite various pieces of evidence found in police reports and court records tying Lovemore to the shooting, she is not being tried in court.

Amral L. Johnson, junior sociology major and resident of the 12th Street home where shots were fired, told police Lovemore threatened him just two days before, saying she had a boyfriend in Chicago with a gun.

"I can have you killed," she allegedly said.

The reports of her threat connect her to the shooting.

During the Dec. 1 hearing, Deters said Lovemore's threat, her involvement in an on-campus fight with Johnson before the shooting and her presence in Griffin's vehicle at the time of arrest related her to the crime.

Circuit Court Judge Mitch Shick determined probable cause that Lovemore played a part in the events leading to aggravated discharge of a firearm charges.

Police records show she told police she was involved in a fight with Griffin and Johnson just hours prior to the shooting outside the First Annual Johnetta Jones Memorial Homecoming Step Show.

Shots were reportedly fired outside the show in the E-Lot, and a witness told police he was 80 percent sure the shirt worn by the suspect there matched one found in Lovemore's home.

She was reportedly seen by witnesses behind Johnson's residence with Griffin before shots were fired.

Police records say Lovemore was in Griffin's car with him and the gun police believe the shots were fired from when police made the arrest.

Considering much of the shooting case records include Lovemore's a role in the events leading up to the shooting, dismissing all charges against her is not carrying out the judicial process victims deserve.

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

At issue

The Coles County Circuit Court dismissed the case for an Eastern student's involvement in the Homecoming Weekend shooting.

Our stance

Even though plea bargains are used in similar cases, the student should have gone through the judicial system.

OPINION

Here comes the sun, it's alright



Carly Mullady

Associate news editor and semi-monthly columnist for *The Daily Eastern News*

Mullady also is a junior journalism major

She can be reached at loislayne83@aol.com

No matter which side of the bed I got up on last week, it was the wrong one. No matter what turn I took, it was the wrong way. I swear, it seemed I could do nothing right.

That has been a recurring theme for me for a while now, and though nothing particularly tragic has occurred, (knock on wood) I've found myself weakening in despair from the plethora of little things gone awry.

From putting the last cash I possessed into gas for my car that broke down pulling out of the station's lot, to having to push it out of traffic alone, to losing my cell phone on my trip to take the train home, to getting up before 5 a.m. in preparation for a job fair in Chicago, catching the 6 a.m. Metra and getting soaked by rain in my interview attire walking from Randolph to Ohio downtown, I'd lost hopes of the sun ever shining on me again.

By the time I drip-dried and stepped into the job fair, it was extremely difficult to find confidence anywhere within me, which I fear could be easily noticed through the interview process.

In the mean time, I've managed to physically injure myself twice, get my hair sucked into the blow-dryer (which is not only painful, but also doesn't smell too good) and inadvertent-

"Somewhere, I managed to lose my perspective and get so distracted by ridiculous negative things, I lost sight of all the good there really is."

ly complicate a close friendship.

All those things, a few more random acts of clumsiness and the realization that I have a grand total of \$22.67 in my checking account pretty much summarizes why I've been dreading getting out of bed in the morning.

I went to bed miserable last night and sometime during the hours I couldn't fall asleep, I thought about some good advice an old friend gave me recently and had an epiphany.

Although I cannot remember the exact words, he told me I shouldn't be sad and to look into my heart, where I'll find my happiness.

So that is what I did, and I realized things are hardly as bad as they seem. Somewhere, I

managed to lose my perspective and get so distracted by ridiculous negative things, I lost sight of all the good there really is. I decided to redirect my focus.

I woke up this morning, literally, to rays of sunshine creeping through my blinds and onto my face. I half-expected bluebirds to fly in my window, dress me and tie my hair up in pretty ribbons.

Now I consider the countless tears of frustration I've cried in even just the past seven days as pretty wasteful.

For instance, I've never had to cry alone. I've always had someone there to listen, whether it's one of friends or family. That's something to smile about.

Not only do I have the ability to care for myself, I have the capability to offer myself to others. I can listen and help other people with problems.

The world, in fact, does not have a full-fledged conspiracy against me being able to find something daily or even weekly to smile about.

On the contrary, it has so many positive things to offer, I will probably never experience one-tenth of them in my lifetime. But, from now on, I'm going to try.

And though I'm not too far into this new leaf I've turned over, I can already recommend it to anyone missing how it feels to smile.

Cartoon by Kevin Coulton



YOUR TURN: LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Dropped charges unfair to locals

I am deeply disturbed by the dismissal of charges against Crystal Lovemore involved in the shooting on 12th Street during homecoming.

There seems to be a plethora of evidence that this young lady was involved in an extremely dangerous and obviously violent criminal act; to dismiss the charges is a travesty!

Assistant States Attorney Duane Deters is obviously not protecting the residents of this city by dropping the charges against this obviously violent and dangerous

person!

As a resident of that area of town who was awakened by the shots that night and the ensuing police investigation, I am appalled at this decision.

It is a sad state of affairs when the rights of the criminals are more important than the safety of the law-abiding public! The liberal courts continue to protect those who commit criminal acts more than they do other citizens.

It is the duty of the States Attorney Office to convict these dangerous people. An example should be made of

these individuals that this type of behavior will absolutely not be accepted. Deters needs to answer to the citizens of Charleston for this miscarriage of justice!

Both of the individuals involved in this violent and dangerous incident should be in prison. This incident was premeditated and planned. There are families

living near this house; children and innocent people could have been injured or killed. How can you justify the unjustifiable, Deters? The citizens of Charleston should be outraged!

*Thomas J. Sinclair,
assistant professor
Department of Special
Education*

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR: The Daily Eastern News accepts letters to the editor addressing local, state, national and international issues. They should be less than 250 words and include the authors' name, telephone number and address. Students should indicate their year in school and major. Faculty, administration and staff should indicate their position and department. Letters whose authors cannot be verified will not be printed. Depending on space constraints, we may edit letters, so keep it concise. Letters can be sent to *The Daily Eastern News* at 1811 Buzzard Hall, Charleston IL 61920; faxed to 217-581-2923; or e-mailed to jpchambers@eiu.edu.

Students trade coats for sandals

Weather will be in the lower 50s by end of the week

By Ashley Haussy
STAFF WRITER

As this weekend approaches, weather should be warming up for Eastern students. All around campus, students are now seen without coats. Instead of coats, many choose to break out their flip-flops and short-sleeve T-shirts.

Brandy Pollock, a junior music education major, is one of the students who is ready for the winter weather to go away.

"Last week was really nice. I don't really like coats, so I am glad it's supposed to warm up," Pollock said. "I have been wearing my flip-flops some, and I can't wait to wear them every day."

For students hoping for the warmer weather, the outlook for the week is good.

According to the National Weather Service in Lincoln, starting on Friday, Charleston will see mostly sunny weather with temperatures in the lower 50s. On Saturday and Sunday it will be partly sunny with temperatures in the upper 50s.

Many students also are starting to get anxious about the upcoming spring break. With only a few weeks to go, students are ready for that warmer weather.

Freshman elementary education major Christina Tauber is excited about her upcoming trip to Florida and says she too is ready for spring to come.

"I'm so ready for the winter weather to stop. I real-

"I don't like coats, so I'm glad it's supposed to warm up."

—Brandy Pollock, junior music education major

ly hope it gets warm this weekend like it did last week," Tauber said.

Former Eastern professor and local weather observer Dalias Price said that although we are seeing some warmer weather, we won't be seeing more spring-like weather until April.

"We are entering a period I like to call late winter, and spring won't come until the first week of April," Price said. "The temperatures aren't as severe, but the weather will still be fairly cold because it is still winter."

Price also explained that as of right now we are seeing temperatures in the 40s, but we will not start to see warmer weather until we get a more southwardly flow of wind instead of the wind we are getting now from the north.

"We will see the effect of the sun more next week and we will be having some mild weather in March which should give us some signs of what's to come," Price said.

As far as the wish for warmer weather this week goes, Price said, "There's hope."



DAILY EASTERN NEWS PHOTO BY COLIN MCAULIFFE

A faculty member leaves Old Main as the flag blows in the wind Thursday afternoon. The high today was 43 degrees.

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in The Daily Eastern News

Greek councils bring home award hardware

By Julie Bourque
CAMPUS REPORTER

Eastern's Interfraternity and Panhellenic Councils returned to campus this week with some hardware to brag about.

After a weekend at the Hyatt Regency O'Hare in Rosemont for the Mid-American Greek Council Association conference, both Greek councils came back to Eastern with the top award in their division, the Outstanding Council Programming Award and a majority of the eight sub-awards.

The MGCA conference is held annually, and both Eastern Greek councils have shown an impressive, respectful performance,

winning the top awards in their division for the past four years, said Bob Dudolski, director of Greek Life.

A special committee composed of national University Student Affairs administrators presented the awards after judging each of the applicants, according to a press release.

The top award for the Interfraternity Council is the Jellison Award. Eastern's Interfraternity Council received the Jellison along with all eight of the sub-awards under the following categories: Academic Achievement, Council Management, Philanthropy and Community Service, Leadership and Educational Development,

Membership Recruitment, Public Relations, Risk Reduction and Management and Self-Governance and Judicial Affairs.

The top award for the Panhellenic Council is named the Sutherland Award. Eastern's Panhellenic Council was awarded the Sutherland along with seven of the eight sub-awards, excluding the award under the Recruitment category, Reed said.

Eastern's Panhellenic Council was also one of the five nominees for the Kaleidoscope Award, which recognizes any special events the judges believe to be innovative, Reed said.

Preparing for MGCA is a long process said Interfraternity Council President PJ Caposey.

"We have to apply for each of the eight sub-awards by answering about 30 questions," Caposey said. "After the individual officer of each category has applied, they give it to me, and I look it over and put it together. Overall, the process takes about 300 hours."

The application process is the same for women as men said Panhellenic Council President Amber Reed.

Overall, there were 1,500 students, 28 representing Eastern, at the MGCA conference representing colleges from coast to coast, Caposey said.

Dudolski and two graduate student staff members, Michael Shaver and Gary Cooke, joined the students during the confer-

ence. Students chosen to attend the conference were the executive officers of both councils and any delegates of other Greek chapters wanting to go.

"The executive officers of both councils automatically go, and then we open the opportunity to any chapters wishing to send members," Dudolski said. "We usually have five or six delegates who want to go each year for an educational purpose."

The Interfraternity and Panhellenic Council presidents and Dudolski were extremely proud of their achievements.

"There aren't words to describe how proud I am of our system and its accomplishments," Reed said.

New amount proposed for center remodeling

By Sarah Matherly
STAFF WRITER

Student Body President Caleb Judy said he will give a presentation to the Apportionment Board Thursday about the amount needed to renovate the Student Activities Center.

The Student Activities Center is used by about 150 Recognized Student Organizations and has been in the works of being renovated for a long time.

After receiving \$30,000 from Shirley Stewart, vice president for student affairs, Judy will propose \$44,898.48 to fund the remainder of the project, instead of the original amount of \$74,898.48.

Judy said it is only fair to get the center renovated.

"It should happen. It's the only area that hasn't been renovated in 10 years. It's next on the list," he said. "It's been in the book for 10 years, and it's never been done."

Other students who use the activities center are pleased the office will be renovated.

Heather Sims, sophomore communication disorders sciences major and secretary for the activities center, said "It will look more professional; there is so much old stuff thrown in here. With the renovations it will look more inviting."

Sims also said with the improvements the office would be easier to get around.

"It's the only area that hasn't been renovated in 10 years."

— Caleb Judy, student body president

"It will be more organized and not as hard to keep up," Sims said.

Several students who use the office on a regular basis said they want it to be a better environment for students.

Student Senate Speaker George Lesica said the project is "long overdue."

"The renovations will benefit the organizations using the office and also benefit the organizations on campus," he said. "Make it easier for the RSOs to keep informed about what's happening on campus. It will better to serve the needs of the organizations that meet here."

Larry Ward, student vice president for financial affairs, said the Student Recreation Center will also ask for an additional allocation for new equipment.

The University Board will be presenting their proposed budget for next year.

The Apportionment Board will meet at 7 p.m. in the Arcola/Tuscola Room of the Martin Luther King, Jr. University Union.

RHA to discuss room, board increase

By Christine Doheny
STAFF WRITER

Director of Housing Mark Hudson and the Bond and Revenue Committee will discuss Thursday the amount of the room and board increase for next semester.

Residence Hall Association and Student Senate each picked three people for the committee.

RHA President Nachel Glynn said room and board at Eastern is increased every year because the price of food and minimum wage for Panther Dining Service workers increase.

A new recycling program will

also be looked at by RHA members.

RHA and councils are going to be asked by the National Residence Hall Honorary if they want to help participate with the program.

If the recycling program is passed, the honorary will donate \$1,500 to two different scholarships each year.

"We will have a vote and make our final decision hopefully by spring break," Glynn previously said.

A campus-wide theme for the fall 2004 semester will be discussed at the next meeting.

"This is a brand new process," Glynn previously said. "This will only be the second time that Eastern will have an opening theme."

A poll was taken to see if the theme should be campus-wide or just within individual residence halls.

The results from the poll will be released Thursday, Glynn said.

RHA will ask the assembly what they think about the constitution qualifications for the executive board members

The Residence Hall Association will meet at 5 p.m. Thursday in the basement of Andrews Hall.

Council prepares for questions

By Jennifer Peryam
STAFF WRITER

The Council on Academic Affairs will submit answers electronically in reference to the North Central Association questionnaire to allow reaccreditation of curriculum at Eastern.

"This questionnaire is addressing every major academic body focusing on the goals and accomplishments of general education," CAA member Doug Bock said.

Bock said this questionnaire is important because it allows Eastern to be reaccredited.

The last self study was conducted in 1995 and updated questions are to be answered by CAA members and returned to CAA Chair Andrew Methven by Friday. The questions address whether undergraduate academic regulations and requirements relate to Eastern's mission and vision.

"The North Central Association wants to know how

curriculum is developed and approved at Eastern and CAA plays a major role in that process. NCA wants to have a better idea of how our process works," CAA Vice Chair James Tidwell said.

Enhancing literacy and oral communication, encouraging critical and reflective thinking and introducing knowledge central to responsible and global citizenship were the goals the CAA addressed previously.

The survey asks CAA members to answer questions about these goals in terms of how general education goals are applied into the curriculum, the relationship between the goals and the university's mission and the CAA's plan for assessing the effectiveness of the general education program.

Once Methven has received feedback, he will finalize the document and have it available for the council's approval at the next meeting.

The Council on Academic Affairs will meet at 2 p.m. March 4 in the Booth Library Conference Room 4440.

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ACROSS

1 Often-told truths

5 ___ facto

9 Tricky shot

14 Racer Luyendyk

15 Gardener's purchase

16 Some saxes

17 Lava geese

18 It's passed on

19 Contents of some John Cage compositions

20 Start of a question

23 Adjusts

24 Big ___

25 Whomps, briefly

28 Old Mideast combine: Abbr.

29 John Dean, to Nixon

32 Sure way to lose money

34 "Gosh!"

35 Ruined

37 A star may have one

38 Middle of the question

41 Place

43 Discernment

44 Common ratio

46 Sample

50 Chamber piece?

49 Dispatched

51 Monk's title

52 Driver's aid: Abbr.

54 Track racer

56 End of the question

60 Like work-horses

62 Arcade name

63 V.I.P.'s opposite

ANSWER TO TODAY'S PUZZLE

N	E	O	D	E	S	O	H	V	A	V	K	N	A	
S	I	B	I	D	E	T	H	E	R	E	O	T		
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S	O	L	T	V	W	A	O	T	E	I	R	V		
E	S	S	V	M	O	S	D	I	S	M	V	S		

64 It's passed on

65 Compelled

66 Wading bird

67 Ottawa-born singer/ songwriter

68 Turned up

69 Cry that might be appropriate at this point in the puzzle

ACROSS

1 Retreat

2 Passage between buildings

3 Bingo announcement

4 "Toodles!"

5 Mirage

6 Magician's sound effect

7 Draped dress

8 Things to be read

9 Om, e.g.

10 Cream ingredient

11 Malodorous pest

12 Coded message

13 Language suffix often seen in crosswords

13 Compass dir. often seen in crosswords

21 African grazer

22 Put words in someone's mouth?

26 Anthem contraction

27 Platform place: Abbr.

30 Is hip to

31 1995 country hit "Someone ___ Star"

33 "Dagnabbit!"

35 Latched

36 Affectedly dainty, in England

37 Extinct Namibian shrub genus: Var.

38 Coordinated effort

39 Like some seats

40 First

41 Trip producer

42 W.W. II Pacific battle site, for short

44 Appropriate

45 Blazing

47 Cat

48 Desired response to "Take my wife ... please!"

50 Open-sided shelter

53 Perfume source

55 Noted archer

57 What a germ may become

58 Good sign

59 Ticks off

60 Hearst kidnapping grp.

61 Dear

Water:
CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

1895, the provision was for free water," he said. The free water was part of the process of courting the university to make Charleston its home, Cougill said. Cougill said he is not sure when the city decided

to start charging the university, but the Environmental Protection Agency now has laws saying they can not give water away. However, the city still recognizes that the university uses a large quantity of water and is a major contributor to the city which warrants the reduced rate.

Deadline:
CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

said of the time recording component of the ethics law. David Carwell, assistant professor of political science, said the time recording is "an administrative and logistical nightmare for the state of Illinois. How many people will they have to employ to

read these papers?" Carwell added, "tens of thousands of state employees churning out a piece of paper every 15 minutes, every day. It's completely unworkable." Doug Bock, speech communication professor, said "I think it's clearly unrealistic," and added, "It will be ridiculed, and personally, I don't think it will ever

"Tens of thousands of state employees churning out a piece of paper every day. It's completely unworkable."

—David Carwell, political science dept.

happen." Rausch disagreed, saying "It's good policy for everyone under the state's umbrella. This is law now and people are moving forward toward an ethical work force."

Program:
CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

"It's not just small, it's negligible," Berry said. "If we were ever to sell or misuse someone's work we would be sued so fast it would make our heads spin." Berry said Turnitin's legal issues were researched by the Foley & Lardner law firm. "They determined we were on firm legal ground, and the owner-

ship of the work always resides with the author," he said.

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Unlike buying a car, when people buy software they are actually buying a license allowing them to use software under certain circumstances defined by the agreement. When software is installed

the user must agree to what is called an End User License Agreement. Berry described three types of Turnitin users. First are the faculty, who submit papers to Turnitin's databases. Second are the administrators who access Turnitin to view overall statistics and originality reports. Finally are the students whose papers have been submitted. Everyone at Eastern who uses

Turnitin must agree to Turnitin's EULA, but some users may not be aware they are entering into a contract. Although Turnitin is still in a trial period at Eastern, some students have agreed to Turnitin's license agreement, with or without knowing it. However, if Eastern were to continue to use Turnitin after the trial period, the students would be made aware of the agreement either

through their teachers or the administration, said Berry. Regardless of the issues surrounding Turnitin, some Eastern professors are eager to use an automatic method of ensuring the originality of their student's work. "I would definitely use it in my classes," said Ron Wohlstein, professor of anthropology and sociology. "We really need to be concerned about plagiarism, and students need to be aware of it."

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Infamous foul ball will get explosive send-off in Chicago

CHICAGO (AP) — This ball is going, going ... Ka-BLAM!

In an event applying the gloss of Hollywood and P.T. Barnum to the "curse" of the Chicago Cubs, the foul ball that couldn't be caught in October's playoffs will be obliterated by a special-effects expert on live television Thursday night.

The ball-bashing, taking place with spring training just underway, is being done to bring some closure to one of the most painful losses in the Cubs' doleful history.

Grant DePorter, who helped buy the ball at a December auction for \$113,824 on behalf of Harry Caray's Restaurant Group, has lined up three hours of music, comedy and celebrity appearances leading up to the climactic event — everything short of Steve Bartman, the hapless fan who deflected the ball during Game 6 of the NL championship series.

The ball will be sent into oblivion by Michael Lantieri, an Oscar winner who wrecks things for a living and has worked on such movies as

"Jurassic Park" and "Back to the Future." Lantieri, a Cubs die-hard himself, would not reveal his exact demolition plans but admitted he has been blowing up a dozen balls a day in his California lab in preparation.

"That ball's gotta go," said DePorter, managing partner of the restaurant group, which organized the event as part of its annual tribute to Caray, the beloved Cubs broadcaster who died six years ago Thursday. "It's like the ring from 'The Lord of the Rings' and we're kind of like Frodo, trying to get it over with."

The ball figured in one of sports' biggest collapses. With the Cubs leading the Florida Marlins 3-0 on Oct. 14 and just five outs from their first World Series appearance since 1945, Bartman reached for the ball hit toward his front-row seat at Wrigley Field, knocking it out of reach of left fielder Moises Alou. The Cubs then gave up a staggering eight-run rally to the Marlins, and squandered another lead in Game 7 the next night.

Bonds fires back at Wendell

(AP)Barry Bonds teed off on Turk Wendell for accusing him of using steroids.

A day after the Colorado reliever said it was "clear just seeing his body" that Bonds was taking steroids, the San Francisco Giants slugger said the remark should've been made directly to him — not a reporter.

"If you've got something to say, say it to my face," Bonds said Wednesday in Scottsdale, Ariz. "You got something to say, you come to my face and say it and we'll deal with each other. Don't talk through the media like you're some tough guy."

On Tuesday in Tucson, Wendell criticized Bonds to The Denver Post.

Bonds, who has always denied using steroids, appeared in December before a grand jury probing a supplements lab accused of illegally distributing steroids to athletes. His trainer, Greg Anderson, was among four men charged this month. All the men have pleaded innocent and no athletes have been charged.

"If my personal trainer, me, Turk Wendell, got indicted for that, there's no one in the world who wouldn't think that I wasn't taking steroids," Wendell said. "I mean, what, because he's Barry Bonds, no one's going to say that? I mean, obviously he did it. (His trainer) admitted to giving steroids to baseball players. He just doesn't want to say his name. You don't have to. It's clear just seeing his body."

Another top slugger, Manny Ramirez, reported to Boston's spring training camp in Fort Myers, Fla., with his customary smile and public silence.

"He looked great. He's hugging everybody," Kevin Millar said. "Manny was Manny, and in the (batting) cages he looked awesome. Everything was fine."

Ramirez is expected to bat fourth again for Boston, nearly was traded to Texas for Alex Rodriguez, but the deal fell through in December. Red Sox shortstop Nomar Garciaparra, who would have been sent to the Chicago White Sox, said after reporting Tuesday that he felt hurt

by Boston's actions.

"These guys are professionals," Trot Nixon said. "They know they have a job to do. They're not going to disrespect the organization, their teammates, especially themselves. These guys are going to continue to have MVP-type years, as they normally have."

In Tucson, Ariz., Frank Thomas said he still doesn't agree with the way the team handled his contract after the 2002 season, when the White Sox invoked a diminished-skills clause in his previous agreement.

"I think it was embarrassing. I told people I was the first player ever last year to have a guaranteed contract taken away," said Thomas, who wound up re-signing. "I was bitter about it, but you know what? I got over it."

In Phoenix, Oakland's Eric Chavez insisted his unsettled contract situation won't be a distraction this spring. The Gold Glove third baseman is signed through this season, and he wants a longterm deal to stay with the Athletics.

Trustee decides not to raise Chief Illiniwek issue at March meeting

URBANA (AP) — A University of Illinois trustee has shelved plans to reintroduce her resolution calling for retirement of the Chief Illiniwek symbol at the board's meeting next month.

Trustee Frances Carroll said in a statement issued by the university Wednesday that she was withholding the resolution because "it is important to me that consensus be reached on this topic before I bring it back to the board." She did not say when or if she would bring the issue up again.

Carroll did not immediately return a call for comment Wednesday.

"I don't think she's giving up," university

spokesman Tom Hardy said. "She's not the type of person to give up. She believes in this."

Chief Illiniwek has been the symbol of athletic teams at the university's Urbana-Champaign campus since 1926. The Board of Trustees voted in 1990 to support the symbol but for years it has divided those who revere it and those who believe it is racist.

Carroll's resolution was originally submitted for board consideration last November. It called for Chief Illiniwek to be "honorably retired at a time and in a manner to be determined by the Urbana-Champaign campus" in consultation with faculty, alumni, students

and others at the school.

The possibility of a vote drew hundreds of people to the board's meeting on the UIUC campus, and the board heard from both sides. But Carroll withdrew the resolution before a vote, saying she had determined she did not have the votes to pass it.

Carroll indicated then that she planned to reintroduce the resolution at the March meeting.

"I think she felt, knowing that she wasn't going to put it on the agenda, that she needed to make that public," Hardy said. "There has been an ongoing public debate on the issue, geared to that date."

Earlier this month, student government at UIUC repealed a 2002 resolution calling for the Chief's retirement and scheduled a referendum for March 16 and 17 so the student body could determine what position student government should take. Hardy said Wednesday that the timing of the referendum did not appear to be a factor in Carroll's decision.

The board's voting student member, UIUC senior Nate Allen, said he thinks the student vote will only reaffirm that the campus is divided on the issue. He said the trustees need to deal with the issue before a new president is hired to replace James Stukel.

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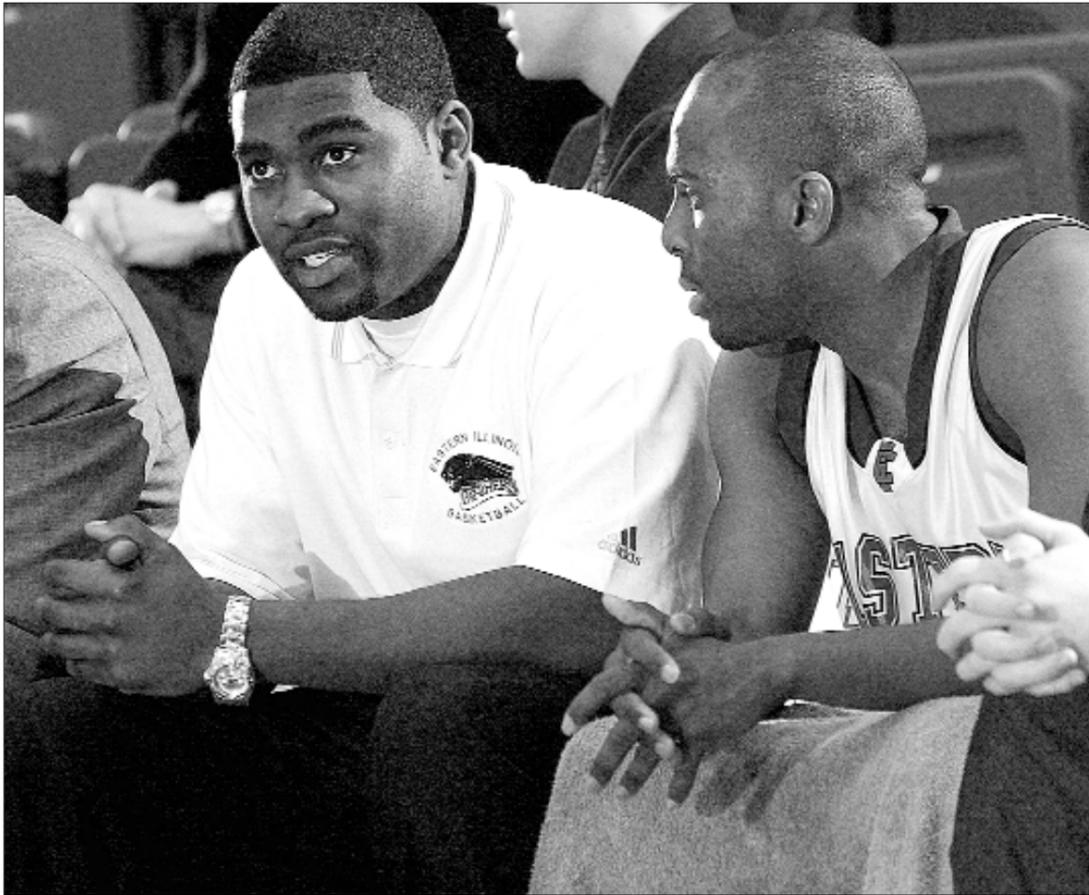
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MEN'S BASKETBALL



DAILY EASTERN NEWS PHOTO BY STEPHEN HAAS

Former basketball player and current graduate assistant J. R. Reynolds advises junior guard Emanuel Dildy

Maybe next year for Panthers

By John Hohenadel
SPORTS REPORTER

The Eastern men's basketball team has failed to qualify for the Ohio Valley Conference tournament for the first time since they joined the conference in 1996.

Eastern has not finished lower than seventh in OVC play until this year.

As dismal as their conference play has been this season, the Panthers hit a low point when they lost to Division II Florida Gulf Coast at home. Some people believed after that loss, head coach Rick Samuels was in the hot seat. The impression people got was the Panthers had to win if Samuels wanted to keep his job.

Former player and graduate assistant, J.R. Reynolds believes Samuels is above and beyond all of that.

"He's too professional,"

Reynolds said. "Being around the program for as long as I have, I can't see coach Samuels saying that."

Even though this year's team has only won six of their 25 games, Samuels has said on more than one occasion his team hasn't given up. Reynolds agrees.

"Not once have I questioned this team's motivation," Reynolds said.

The Panthers are 6-19 overall this year and have a 4-10 record in OVC play.

Eastern lost 10 games in the 1998-99 season but took the seventh spot in the OVC tournament. With this year's unbalanced conference schedule, the Panthers had less conference games and now find themselves out of the OVC tournament with no chance to rebound.

Since joining the OVC in '96, Samuels has compiled a 72-62 record, including this season.

This year his Panthers have earned Samuels only his third OVC losing record in the eight years Eastern has been in the conference.

The Panthers close their season with road games at Tennessee Martin and Murray State.

When Tennessee Martin came to Charleston on Feb. 7, Josh Gomes had an all-star performance, dropping 40 points. Gomes and the Panthers will look to repeat their performances when they go to Tennessee Martin tomorrow.

Murray State beat up on the Panthers when they came to Lantz Arena on Feb. 5, but the Panthers look to finish their season with a win at Murray. Eastern has never had success in Murray, Ky., ending its season there in first round OVC Tournament exits. This season, the destination is the same only the reason will be different.

Par:

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 12

The Panthers enter their first spring season under new head coach Mike Moncel and feel that the improvement has been instantaneous since the day after former coach Jay Albaugh left to take the head coaching job at William & Mary.

"Moncel understands what it takes to succeed in the game of golf," Kockler said. "He helps people if they are willing to help, and we like hearing what we are doing wrong so we can get better."

The players have been drawn to

Moncel, who is considered one of the best golf teachers in the area, much more than Albaugh.

"Moncel is a much better coach than Albaugh," Kockler said. "I wouldn't trade him for anybody right now."

The Panthers now return to indoor practice before they will be back in action this weekend as they travel to Pickwick, Tenn., to participate in the Tri-State Classic hosted by the Pickwick State Park Golf Course.

"I don't think the change will hurt us much; because, we've been out there now and it was a good warmup for us," Kockler said. "We just want to improve every meet and be strong come conference time."

Speed:

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 12

finishes from Harris in the 200 and 400-meter runs, where she holds the Eastern record as well as the 60 and 600-meter events. Harris has won OVC Female Athlete of the Week honors twice this year. In the distance events, Wallace said she is hoping for good runs by Angie Simone in the 3000 and 5000 meter run.

"It doesn't matter what we did in the season," Wallace said. "All our

training boils down to this one weekend."

The key events for the women will be in the field according to Wallace. That is were they have the most depth and All OVC Female Field Athlete of the Week freshman Nicolene Galas in the pole vault.

They will also need a strong performance from junior Denise Jones in the high jump if they hope to win. Throws from junior Adrienne Leaschewski will play another key to victory for the Panthers, Wallace said.

Hohenadel:

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 12

the mound at that speed, the pitcher is not going to have any time to react.

Many injuries have occurred, with aluminum bats being the direct cause. Injuries are part of the game, but a pitcher should never have to fear for his life after taking a laser beam off the

head.

I'm sure college pitchers don't think about getting a rocket hit back at them when they're pitching, but it does happen, and when it does, it's not pretty.

College players should be forced to use wooden bats. Have you seen some of these things these days? They look like those old red whiffle ball bats.

What's sweeter than the sound of a perfectly struck ball off a Louisville Slugger anyway?

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	Track & Field at OVC Indoors 3:30 p.m.	Lantz Fieldhouse
SATURDAY	Track & Field at OVC Indoors 8:30 a.m.	Lantz Fieldhouse
	W Bball at Murray St.	5:15 p.m. Murray, KY
	M Bball at Murray St.	7:15 p.m. Murray, KY



BALL FOUR

John Hohenadel
SPORTS REPORTER

There is no substitute for Wood

Do you remember your first baseball bat? I do. Santa Claus wrapped it in an old tube of wrapping paper.

I thought all of my presents had been opened when my parents told me I had one more. I uncapped the tube of wrapping paper and unveiled my brand new Louisville Slugger.

I was watching the Travel Channel the other day and Cliff the mailman from the television show Cheers was on taking a tour of the Slugger factory. Needless to say, I was glued to the set.

In the old days the bats were each hand made, but now to save time and to make more profit, the bats are machine made.

After each log of wood becomes a bat, it is branded with the patented Louisville Slugger logo.

I remember using my Slugger at the local Chicago park in baseball pick up games, which are few and far between these days. However, when I brought my wood bat to my first little league game, I was ridiculed by the other kids.

They introduced me to aluminum. They told me the metal bat makes the ball go farther than the wood bat. I gave the metal bat a try.

I hit my first home run with a metal bat. It was one of those TPX bats. It said Louisville Slugger on it too, but I knew it was no Louisville Slugger.

In the majors all they use is wood bats because if they were to use aluminum bats, the balls would travel farther than NASA. In college, however, aluminum bats are legal. I don't understand it.

Bret Pignatiello was drafted by the Montreal Expos last year with the 807th overall pick in the draft. This guy has taken an aluminum bat to the dish all of his life. I bet it's a tough adjustment to make when you get to the professional level and have to use a wooden Louisville Slugger.

Rookie minor league baseball players need more of a grace period to get used to playing baseball with wooden bats.

I can think of no better grace period than college baseball because many college players have just as much power as professional baseball players, yet they get to use aluminum bats.

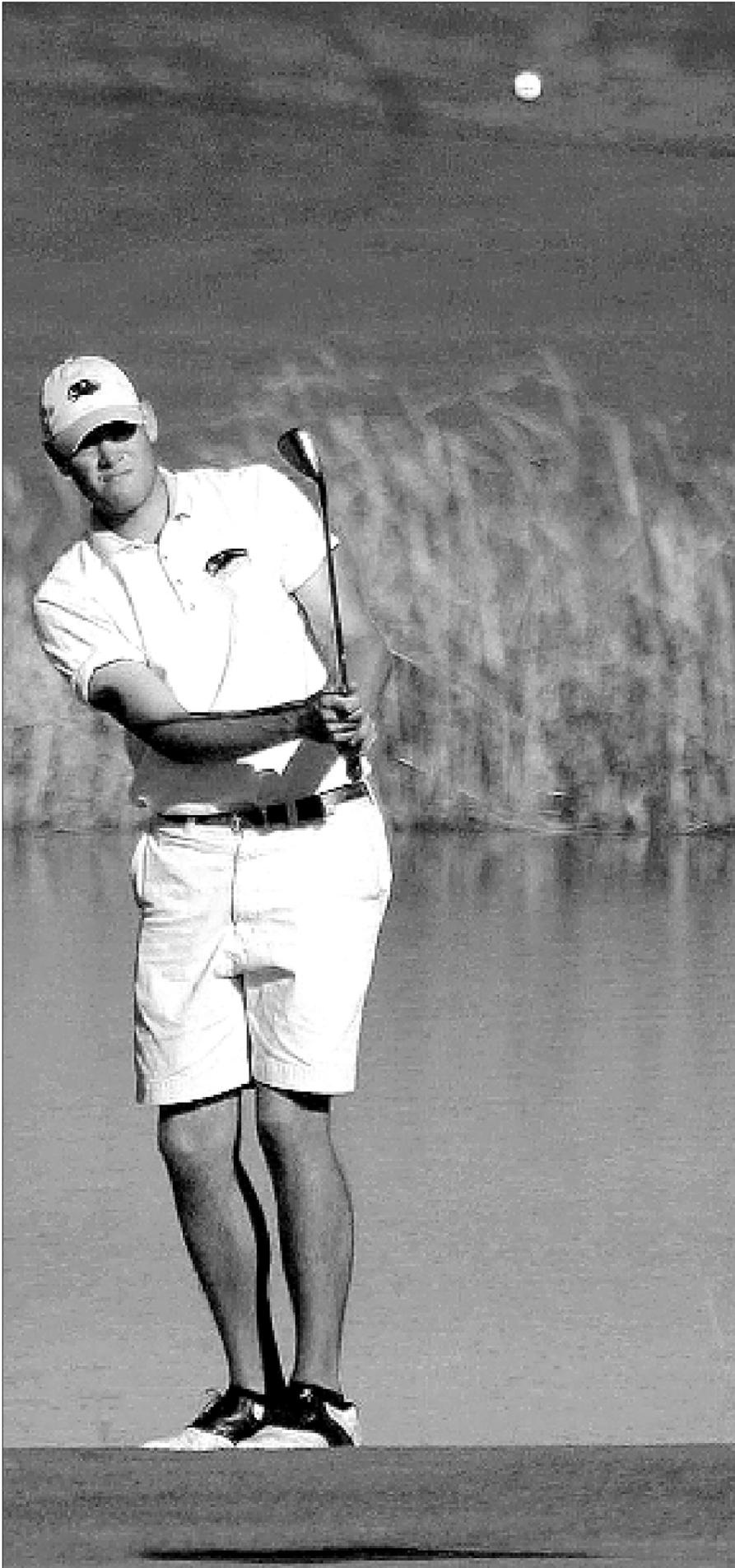
Another thing that annoys me about aluminum bats is the danger factor.

One time at the pony league level, I was pitching and got a rocket shot at me courtesy of an aluminum bat. I got nailed in the leg, and I couldn't avoid it. This was when I was 14 years old. I probably served up a sweet 55 mile an hour fast ball, and the kid hit it back at me at, perhaps, 75 miles an hour.

At the college level pitchers can throw 90 miles an hour and if the ball is hit right back at

SEE HOHENADEL ♦ Page 11

MEN'S GOLF



DAILY EASTERN NEWS PHOTO BY STEPHEN HAAS

Senior Kyle Maxwell watches his ball after chipping from the edge of the ninth green at Ironhorse Golf Course during the Ironhorse Intercollegiate Tournament in Tuscola Oct. 14.

INDOOR TRACK AND FIELD

Season and training on the line this weekend

By Dan Renick
STAFF WRITER

Both of Eastern's indoor track teams will look to their field events for success in Friday's Ohio Valley Conference meet. The men also need success in their middle to long distance crew, while the women will need speed in the sprint events.

The meet starts Friday at 1:30 p.m. in Lantz Arena, and each of the team's are hoping to add to the success they've built already this year.

On the men's side, head coach

X Factors at weekend Ohio Valley Conference meet

- ♦ Men: Mile runners, Dan Stackeljahn and Jake Stout
- ♦ Women: Sprinter Alicia Harris and pole vaulter Nicolene Galas

Tom Akers is looking for big performances from his mile runners, sophomores Dan Stackeljahn and Jake Stout. Each of the runners has won OVC Male Track Athlete of the Week with Stackeljahn being the most recent when he ran a season's best 4:15 mile at last week's Friday Night Special held at Lantz. Akers has another Athlete of the

Week in Erik Werden who will compete in the 800-meter run at this weekend's competition.

"There won't be one make or break event," Akers said. "We just need to go out and set the tone in the early events."

In the rest of the field, the men will be getting help from sophomore long jumpers Jason Stark

Seven under par

By Matthew Stevens
SPORTS EDITOR

After seeing its first action since the beginning of October, Eastern got a good overall team effort and two solid performances individually last weekend.

Eastern Illinois men's golf opened the 2004 campaign with a seventh place finish at the 12-team Charleston Southern Spring Kick Off, hosted by the Coosaw Creek Country Club.

Matthew Kockler was the top Panthers finisher, shooting 16-over-par during the three-round tournament, and finishing tied for 16th overall individually.

"With it being our first tournament of the spring, I thought we did okay and didn't play bad," Kockler said. "We've hadn't seen any good grass to hit off of this year."

Kockler finished in the Top 10 in par 4 (+8) and par 5 (-2) scoring.

"I was really hitting the ball well that weekend, that was wasn't the problem at all," Kockler said.

The Orland Park native finished tied for 11th with 33 pars and was only one of four players to record an eagle on the par 5, eighth hole. Kockler's second-round 75 was the low-round for Eastern.

"I tend to hit my long irons from 200-plus yards really well so as most people are laying up and trying to get up and down, I'm able to get on the surface," Kockler said. "That eagle on the short par 5 really helped my score."

Kockler and sophomore Dustin Sloat (+21, 234) were the only Panthers to shoot below 80 in all three rounds as Sloat finished tied for 27th. Sloat was playing in his first collegiate golf tournament since winning the Ironhorse Invitational on Oct. 14.

Senior Kyle Maxwell (+25, 238) carted a final-round 77 and finished tied for 38th overall. Maxwell excelled in par 3 scoring (+1) and finished tied for ninth with seven birdies.

Ryan Lambert (+29, 242) and Kyle Averkamp (+30, 243) also posted finishes of 45th and tied for 49th, respectively.

Host Charleston Southern (890) won the tournament behind top-finisher Paul Rudd. Bowling Green (905) was runner-up followed by Western Carolina (920), Davidson (921), High Point (934), Appalachian State (937) and Eastern.

"I think the team was disappointed with not being able to catch Davidson because after the first day we were so close to them," Kockler said. "I think Moncel thought we'd do a little better, but overall I think he was pleased."

The Panthers were unable to hit balls outdoors until they were finished with the road trip to South Carolina and were still able to finish close to the upper half of a tournament full of southern schools.

"It's really hard to drive for 18 hours and then be expected to jump out and be ready to play," Kockler said.

SEE PAR ♦ Page 11

"I think Moncel thought we'd do a little better, but overall I think he was pleased."

—Matthew Kockler, Junior golfer

SEE SPEED ♦ Page 11

2004 MISS BLACK EIU

Roses, Lilacs and silver

The 2004 Miss Black EIU Pageant is the culmination of African American Heritage month and the end of a journey for three students who will compete for the crown while displaying a variety of their cultural experiences.

By Joaquin Ochoa
Editor in chief

Beauty, creativity, intelligence and talent will be on display as the Annual Miss Black EIU pageant celebrates African-American Heritage Month.

Three contestants will be expressing themselves and competing for title at 7 p.m. Saturday night in the Grand Ballroom.

Vice President of Black Student Union Angela Beard, pageant coordinator and 2003 Miss Black EIU, said, "These ladies are the dedicated few who dare to take the journey to becoming Miss Black EIU. The pageant will be the completion of the journey."

Tracy Wayne, freshman finance major participating in the pageant, said the journey has been hard. "This is my first pageant but this is so big that you have to be strong willed patient, committed and an all-around student. It's not easy. Sometimes you feel like pulling your hair out, but then you just calm down."

Monique Cook-Bey, director of Student Life and pageant advisor, said the theme to this year's pageant is: "The rose that grew from concrete."

Cook-Bey said it describes the struggles of African-american

women. "Through hardship, they continue to blossom into beautiful flowers."

Beard, whom picked the theme from a poem written by Tupac Shakur by the same title said it reminded her of the struggle of black women to get to where they are today.

Each contestant will be judged in four separate categories: creative expression, African garment, talent and evening gown with an impromptu question. This year's judges include Lou Hencken, president of Eastern Illinois, in his first year as judge, has never missed a pageant. Don Dawson, director of Gateway, Cynthia Nichols, director of the Office of Civil Rights, Affirmative Action and Diversity, Assistant Professor Mildred Pearson and Annette Samuels, journalism professor.

"It's tradition. It's been around since 1971, and it's the biggest event that's recognized with African American celebration month," said Beard.

Beard said the pageant offers a wealth of cultural knowledge only offers positives. "There are a lot of alumni and people from different schools that come to see it. Even if



Samantha Lampton



LaDonna Murphy



Tracey Wayne



DIVERSE PHOTO BY JOAQUIN OCHOA

Miss Black EIU 2003 Angela Beard, as this year's contestant Tracey Lampton practices in the Grand Ballroom of the Martin Luther King Jr. University Union. Beard is coordinating this year's pageant that will be held February 28.

PLEASE SEE PAGE 3 BLACK EIU

Back with open minds



Photo submitted by Monique Cook-Bey

Shot of group visiting Atlanta, an event held in conjunction with African American Heritage Month. The Group will hold a panel discussion during Unity week to share their experience.

By Joaquin Ochoa
Editor in chief

Students coming back from a mid-February trip to Atlanta have armed themselves with the tools needed to improve diversity on campus.

The tools, education, dialogue and open-mindedness, aren't the most glamorous methods but should be the most effective, Caleb Judy, student body president said.

He said the impact of the trip will not be felt overnight, it "isn't going to be something that's going to get big headlines on a paper. It's going to have to be dialogue and going somewhere else, somewhere outside of your usual environment, somewhere out of your comfortable environment."

Judy said, diversity isn't something that can be forced on people, "but, we can educate people. Hopefully, they'll come to the realization by having an

on going campus dialogue with each other, not just when there is a racial incident."

Cook-Bey said the group will present journals and share their experience during an open-panel discussion during Unity Week, that takes place April 12-16. The presentation will also include a video documentary and photographs.

PLEASE SEE PAGE 2 STUDENTS

Difficult time getting through

International numbers low as students encounter tough visa process.

By Jaclyn Gorski
Staff writer

The flow of International students on campus has not been increasing over the last few years, in fact it can be described more as viscous.

Currently Eastern has 159 international students from 50 countries; India, China, and Nepal are the three countries with the highest representation in Eastern's international student population, respectively.

Interim director of International Admissions William Elliot said they have a recruitment system in order to get more international students, but for the past couple of years, there have been no significant increases in international students.

Elliot expects that Eastern will have 200 or more stu-

dents under student visas in the next couple of years.

"We engage ourselves in overseas embassies and advisement," said Elliot. The International Program also recruits students and places advertisements on the Internet.

All 159 international students were able to come to Eastern through the International Program by getting an F-1 or J-1 student visa.

The biggest problem with the student visa, according to Elliot, is that "it is a difficult type of visa to obtain."

International student admissions usually sees a 6 percent increase from year-to-year. Last year's increase was almost unnoticeable in comparison, 0.6 percent increase.

This is partly because of

PLEASE SEE PAGE 3 VISA

STUDENTS

Group will share their experience during a Panel discussion at Unity week

continued from page 1

Thirty students participated in the educational trip to Atlanta over Valentine's weekend and many were concerned with the state of race relations and sense of community on campus.

Cook-Bey said, many of them were sponsored by student organizations that paid the \$150 for hotel accommodations after \$2,950 of \$3,980 donated by Student Senate paid for the majority of the trip.

The group visited Martin Luther King Jr. Memorial Park and talked to student leaders at Clark/Atlanta University about how to spread diversity on Eastern's campus.



Caleb Judy

An open forum discussion took place while the student leaders talked about race relations as well as accepting disagreement. According to Jeffrey Collier, senate member for Academic Affairs a key points was high tolerance, another having an open mind.

"A closed-minded individual when faced with racism and disagreement will react with aggression and anger. While, an open-minded individual will act through education.

Darnell Jordan, sophomore journalism major, said the students at Clark/Atlanta "stressed learning, because a lot of people don't have a sense of culture or history."

Judy said, "When we were in Atlanta we talked about diversity, not just the shallow things people say and then think they're diverse. We talked about stories of things that have happened here at Eastern or in other places that explain why people might react a certain way in certain situations."

The intention of the trip was to get the student leaders to attack the racial problems and disagreements on campus in an educated way, "instead of sweeping them under the ground." Collier said.

Cook-Bey hopes the trip will



Photo submitted by Monique Cook-Bey

improve relations among all students.

"People need a better understanding of cultures to be able to work together," she said.

"All students on this campus should have something to identify with, some sense of community," Cook-Bey said.

Judy, said being the only white male to attend was an experience that he liked even if it was only for

a weekend.

He added, "It can't compare with anyone who is always in the minority but I'm glad I got that perspective."

Students came away with a connection with students from different organizations, (thinking).

I have a friend, I have an organization I can be involved in."

When we ended it with some words to live by. If you all can't

stand for something then you will fall for anything."

She said the state of racial relations on campus is improving because of events such as this because it cultivates student leaders. Cook-Bey suggested students should join organizations outside their comfort zone. "A lot of students think, I must fit a certain criteria, all you need is to be a student!"

Jordan said that "Stepping out-

side your comfort zone and learning about other peoples cultures, and get rid of erroneous beliefs or stereotypes," is critical to taking the next step in diversity.

Cook-Bey said that for this to happen though, students have to take ownership and make it (diversity) an issue. "It made people analyze and look at it from a different perspective not just a black white thing but a human thing."

DIVERSE

Minority Today has changed its title

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DIVERSE PHOTO BY JOAQUIN OCHOA

Jeffrey Collier, senate member for Academic Affairs, asks for donations to add tribute to Martin Luther King Jr. at a table beside the south Food Court entrance of the Martin Luther King Jr. Union. As many as 14 students have helped man tables.

Students seek money to add tribute to King

By Joaquin Ochoa
Editor in chief

This week, students have been scheduled to sit at a table and take donations from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. every day near the south entrance of the food court in the Martin Luther King Jr. Union.

Keila Lacy, a senior student senate member, said the week has been going well.

"It seems to be unifying the students because we're all in agreement that this tribute has to take place," Lacy said.

The tribute week is an effort to create ownership among students and acknowledge the life's work of the Civil Rights Leader the union has been named after since Nov. 18, 1971.

Jeffrey Collier, senate chair for the Academic Affairs, said the tribute week was planned to bring awareness to campus.

Caleb Judy, student body president, said "A lot of people know a lot about this man, but they may not understand how much of an impact he's had not just for black people but all of us."

"We wanted to create more hype for the

project this month and give the students the opportunity to get involved in the process and maybe get some more suggestions," Judy said.

No timetable has been set for the completion of the tribute but Judy said he would like to see it done as soon as possible.

"We're working as hard and as fast as we can," Judy said.

Collier, who said he expected the tribute to Martin Luther King Jr. completed this semester in the October 2003 edition of *italics* Diverse *italics*, said that after the resolution was passed on Sept. 10, they hit some road-

blocks and had to regroup.

"I thought it was going to be an easier task. It became bigger than what I thought it was going to be and that's a good thing," Collier said.

Bigger, because the resolution merely asked to expand on the existing portrait that hangs in the Union, it didn't give a roadmap to complete the task—the committee has met since October to do just that.

Judy said the committee is looking at quotes for a possible bust and wall tribute similar to one in a museum that would extend 30 feet in length and 4 feet tall.

VISA

continued from page 1

9/11 and the heightened security around it and competition from countries like Australia, the United Kingdom and New Zealand.

"It's a little bit more complicated than it used to be," said Nils Venghaus, an international student from Germany. "The application process takes a long time to get information."

According to Venghaus, there are several people a student visa applicant has to get information from. The student would only be able to get partial information from each person because he or she was only in charge of some of it.

Venghaus said he was never really sure who he had to contact to get the right information or if he would get hold of that person.

Venghaus also said international students have to prove to their government of origin that he or she is financially independent, so their country won't have to pay

for the student's tuition.

"A student has a lot to prove to a U.S. Embassy," Elliot said. International students must be able to prove he or she can afford to prove he or she can afford to prove he or she has good scholastic abilities.

Undergraduate students whose native language is not English must have a minimum score of 500 on the paper-based Test of English as a Foreign Language examination or a 173 minimum score on the computer-based TOEFL.

Graduate students must have a minimum score of a 550 on the paper-based or at least a score of 213 on the computer-based.

All students "must have a good grasp of the English language," according to Elliot, in order "to understand what is going on in their classes."

It would be best to apply 1 1/2 -2 months ahead of time, in order to give international students enough time with the application and the rest of the process, according to Venghaus.

Because of a U.S. immi-

gration law, international students also can only have on-campus jobs with a maximum of 20 work hours per week. This helps protect American workers.

The student visa is "designed to allow an international student to study" in the United States, according to Elliot. "They are allowed to work temporarily to gain work experience."

After the student's education is over, the student under a student visa is allowed to work in the work force for about a year, but is then required to go back to their home country.

International students are able to switch visas in order to become an American citizen, but it's "not easy to switch to a citizenship type of visa." They have to be in some kind of specialty, according to Elliot. However, a company an immigrant is working for would have to be willing to sponsor him or her.

There are approximately 65,000 work visas so it is difficult for international students to get them.



DIVERSE PHOTO BY JOAQUIN OCHOA

Freshman Tracey Wayne practices her routine at the Grand Ballroom where the contestants practice daily.

BLACK EIU

continued from page 1

you don't go to any of the other events it gives people the opportunity to learn about African-American history as whole through the pageant and through the contestants on display."

LaDonna Murphy, a resident of Charleston and contestant, was able to give her perspective on how it affects the community outside of campus.

Murphy said the pageant is important to Eastern and the community because, "They don't get to see other cultures express themselves."

Overall, the event has a strong positive impact, Murphy said.

"It gives the community at Eastern and Charleston the opportunity to see young African-American's expressing themselves on an educational level," Murphy said.

Samantha Lampton said the pageant "shows that black women are beautiful and they have talent and they're not afraid to face the world."

"It addresses issues that pertain to any culture. I'm addressing beauty this is something that all cultures deal with," Murphy said.

Regardless of who wins, Beard said that all the contestants are deserving of the title. "They will forever be queens in my heart," she said.



DIVERSE PHOTO BY STEPHEN HAAS

Menagerie a poetic drama

By Lea Erwin
In focus editor

"The Glass Menagerie" will be performed by the Theatre Arts department as its third major production of the year.

Tennessee Williams, the playwright, is also known for plays like, "A Streetcar Named Desire," and "Cat on a Hot Tin Roof."

"The Glass Menagerie's" story has different meanings for the different people who participate in the plays production.

The director, Jerry Eisenhour said that "Menagerie" is one of Williams' better works because it is an autobiography that depicts certain aspects of his own life experiences.

Eisenhour said, "The narrator is presenting vignettes from his life and why he left it."

The Glass Menagerie is set in St. Louis in 1937 it tells the story of Williams who is portrayed as Tom, in the story and his struggles between his family responsibilities and having his own life. His mother Amanda tries to set up her younger-disabled and very shy daughter Laura, (whom Tom is very close to), to prevent her from loneliness.

Tom is forced to make an important decision that in the end may effect him forever. (according to sparknotes.com.)

"This is a highly autobiographical play," said Eisenhour.

Eisenhour describes what the play means to him and the challenges the cast faced as compared to other plays. "Out of the play's I have done in the past five

years this has meant the most to me."

Eisenhour said Tennessee Williams' plays has influenced him as a director and actor all throughout his career in theater.

"I have known Tennessee Williams' (work) since I was in high school. Now I am

directing. I know most of his plays, he is very special to me. He is a real southerner."

He said this play may have been more difficult for the actors because it requires the cast to learn an Irish dialect.

The plays difficulty had different effects on the different actors.

Of the four actors, Amber Wagner describes why this play was so difficult and why this play is so important to her.

Wagner who plays Rose (Laura) said, "This was the first serious role that I had."

Wagner said this play was a lot more difficult than others she had done. She said it involved more emotion and more facial expression so the audience could "read it on her face."

Wagner said she has been working on this play for 15 hours a week for about five weeks, this is Wagner's last play as a senior and she describes what this play means to her.

"Tim (who plays Tom) is my best friend" Wagner said.

She also said that the closeness between her character and his is gratifying because in real life they are close as well.

The chairman of the theatre department, John Oertling, said "Menagerie," is a play about searching for an ideal existence and struggling for who we are," said

Oertling.

He also said that "Menagerie" is an "American classic," and that is one of the reasons for choosing the play.

Oertling said there is a process to choosing the plays, and that the theater committee bases its decision on things such as, genre, style, season and balance.

"We look for balance in terms of size of cast," said Oertling.

"Menagerie" is a four-person play as opposed to the 15-20 person play, "A Midsummer Nights Dream," to open in April.

Oertling said this also helps to create a sense of balance.

"The season is a group of plays, six every year. The selection of our season is a communal thing," said Oertling.

"We don't want the students to be overburdened," said Oertling.

Wagner said she hopes that when the people leave the theater, that she hopes they will appreciate the relationships in the story and what is really going on between the characters in the play.

Oertling said this play is giving the students the opportunity to see the play that they may have been studying or reading about in class. He said, "A life drama is a very unique experience," for the actors and for the students.

John Oertling said "The Glass Menagerie" is simply a "Poetic drama, poetic in nature."

The play is scheduled to open 7 p.m. Wednesday Feb. 25 at the Village Theater.

STRANGE FRUIT

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Committee. According to the documentary, Meeropol said he wrote the song because "I hate lynching, I hate injustice and I hate people who perpetuate injustice."

According to the documentary, "Strange Fruit" was a song of mourning, but it also spiked activism among black communities. It is part of an artistic tradition that is both beautiful and born in protest.

Strange Fruit had so much influence that Time Magazine chose it as the best song in the 20th century.

Ken Paulsen, senior vice president of Freedom Forum, said the song "stands the test of time, it is a powerful and thought provoking."

Strange Fruit was on of the songs performed by Freedom Sings, a salute to songs that have made a difference in American history and American life, in the Grand Ballroom of the Martin Luther King Jr. Union April. 16, 2003.

"It's been a part of Freedom Sings for more than two years, there's no song that provokes as much powerful reaction than Strange Fruit," said Paulsen.

Paulsen described the reaction as a shocked hush followed by an ovation. "It's a singular song in that regard," he continued, "We associate music with love, romance and dancing. When people use the same medium to condemn lynching, it then takes our breath away."

STRANGE FRUIT

WRITTEN BY ABEL MEEROPOL
ORIGINALLY SUNG BY BILLIE HOLIDAY

Southern trees bear strange fruit
Blood on the leaves
Blood at the root
Black bodies swinging in the
southern breeze
Strange fruit hanging from the
poplar trees
Pastoral homes of the gallant south
The laughing eyes and the beaming
mouth
The scent of magnolia sweet and
fresh
That the sudden snarl of barking
dogs
Here is a fruit for the crows to pluck
For the rain to suck
For the sun to rot
For the bee to drop
Here is a strange and bitter crop

"They really don't know what's coming, when you listen carefully to the words, it can ring you up," he said.

Paulsen ventured that 98 percent of the audience hear strange fruit for the first time when they watch Freedom Sings.

Erin Miller, sophomore sociology major who first

heard of the song by watching the documentary, said, "I honestly have not talked to one person that knows about the song or has even heard of it. I think it had a huge impact for that period, but not our generation."

Paulsen said it doesn't have much of an impact because no one hears it.

"Pop music has become a very safe and non-controversial medium and we've lost something because of that," Paulsen said.

"The world would not be a very rich if it was all romance. Cinema would be less interesting if every film was a light hearted comedy. When music becomes primarily for commercial gain and not about the message, there are a lot of ideas that go unheard."

There's no question that the most political music today is rap and hip hop. It continues to push the envelope and make people uncomfortable.

But according to one of Abel Meeropol's adopted sons in the documentary, "Until the last racist is dead, 'Strange Fruit' is relevant." It said that the attitudes that led to lynching still exist, in the form of racial profiling and other injustices.

MOVIE REVIEW ♦ THIRTEEN

Teens under too much pressure to gain acceptance

By Rachel Dant

"Thirteen" tells the shocking, gripping, yet truthful story of peer influence gone wrong. Written by costar Nikki Reed and based on a compilation of her friends' lives, she plays Evie who befriends the naive Tracy (Eva Rachel Wood), both middle schoolers.

Tracy is the typical new teenager caught between the grade-school self she once was and the sexual woman she will become. Befriending the popular Evie speeds the process along, much to the dismay of her recovering addict mother Melanie (Oscar-nominated Holly Hunter).

The film highlights just how vulnerable and willing to please young people are when they wish to be accepted. In an effort to get into Evie's clique, Tracy steals from a stranger to allow the girls to go on an extreme shopping spree. From there, the antics slowly escalate, from being late to class to skipping class and from selling drugs to using drugs.



PHOTO COURTESY OF WWW.ROTTENTOMATOES.COM

Meanwhile, Melanie's ex-boyfriend Brady ("Clueless" Jeremy Sisto), also a recovering addict, comes back into Melanie's life despite the clear unhappiness of Tracy. This only drives Tracy farther into Evie's extreme world and farther away from Melanie's

attempts at regaining a family connection.

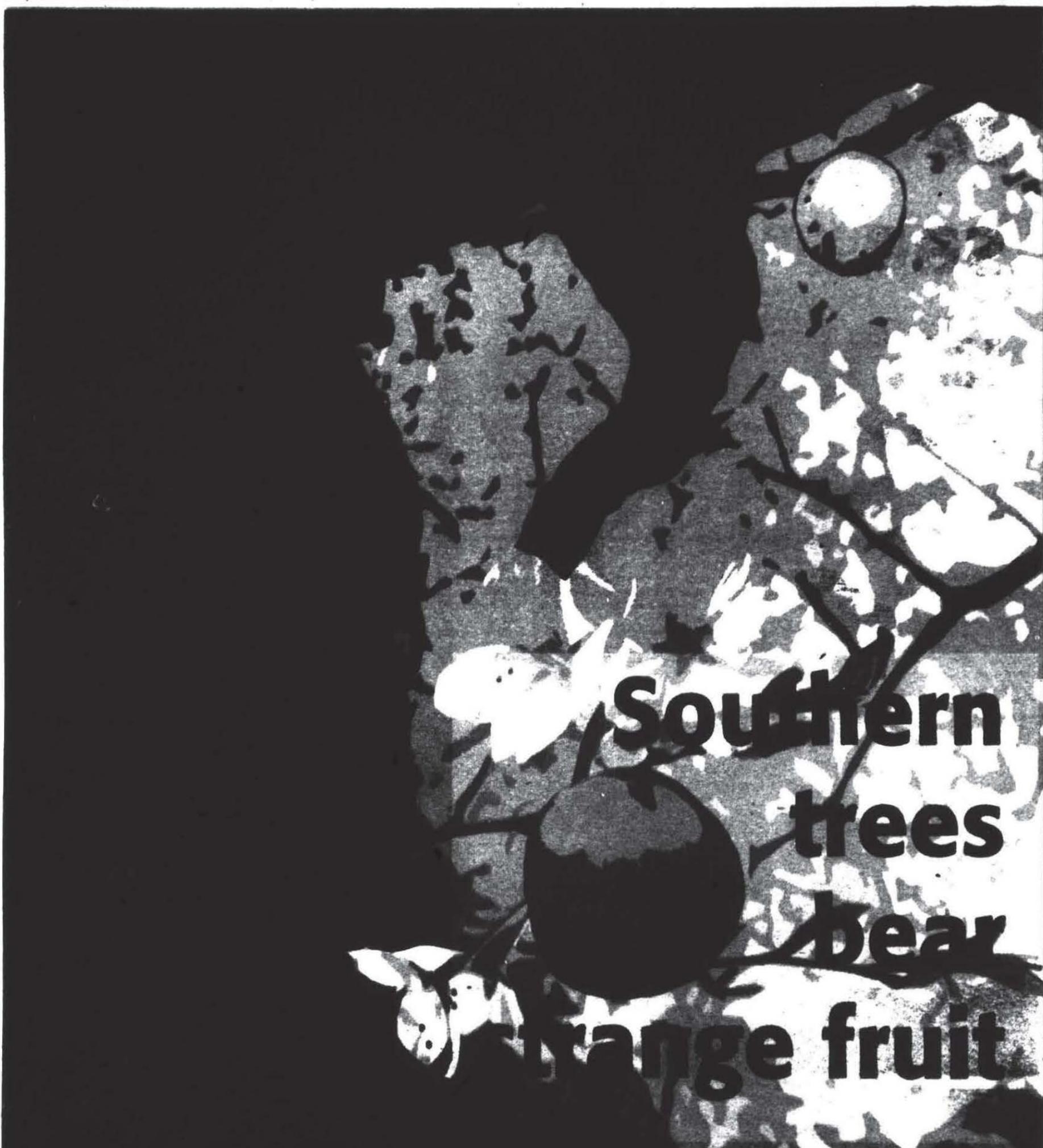
The truly manipulative actions of Evie show up throughout the

movie, and eventually allow her to move in with Tracy and Melanie. This causes a larger rift between mother and daughter, and forces each to deal with the changes going on in their lives.

"Thirteen" is a strong and haunting movie that brings to the forefront an issue that many would like to deny is happening. Teens today feel an enormous amount of pressure to succeed and stand out but also be accepted and liked at school, and for some this is a large order.

Tracy, a stark contrast to Wood's happy role on TV's "Once and Again," deals with her pain in numerous unhealthy ways and the movie ends in such a way that will only bring more pain into her life. While this is not everyone's coming of age story, it is true for far more people than we wish to think.

The hand-held feel of the directing brings us directly into the characters' lives and this movie will remain in your head for much longer than the average movie showing at Showplace. Take a chance and rent Thirteen.



Southern trees bear strange fruit

Controversial song hailed as top song of the 20th Century

Editor in chief

"Strange Fruit," made famous by Billie Holiday, was first released in 1939 by Commodore record after Columbia records decided it would not be a commercial success, according to a documentary titled

"Strange Fruit" shown by the Booth Library Series on Feb. 3.

The documentary continued, "Nobody wanted to touch it (the song), because it was too controversial."

It was written by a Abel Meeropol, a Jewish American and member of the American Arc

STRANGE FRUIT

STAFF EDITORIAL

Bush stands in the way of the State

The Federal Marriage Amendment violates the First Amendment

As the societal fate of the gay world hangs in the balance, President George W. Bush is doing everything in his power to deny homosexuals the rights they constitutionally deserve.

While much of American society is founded on religious ideals, the one Constitutional principle protects Americans from being forced to follow any religion or from being persecuted for a religious belief.

Separation of Church and State does not, and should not, restrict anyone from practicing a religion. It simply gives everyone a right to choose. Therefore, any law violating Separation of Church and State is unconstitutional.

The proposed Federal Marriage Amendment directly violates the First Amendment by not only respecting an

establishment of religion, but by respecting certain religious establishments. While most of Christian, Jewish, and Islamic faiths restrict homosexuality, more and more churches and religious organizations support gay rights.

If the government supports one religion, why not another? President Bush is not supporting the rights of Mormons, who believe in polygamy. He is also not protecting the rights of those who choose not to believe in god or practice religion. The only way the government can outlaw gay marriage is to make it a religious institution. If marriage becomes a religious institution in the eyes of the government, we all lose one of our most precious rights, the First Amendment right that states, "Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion."

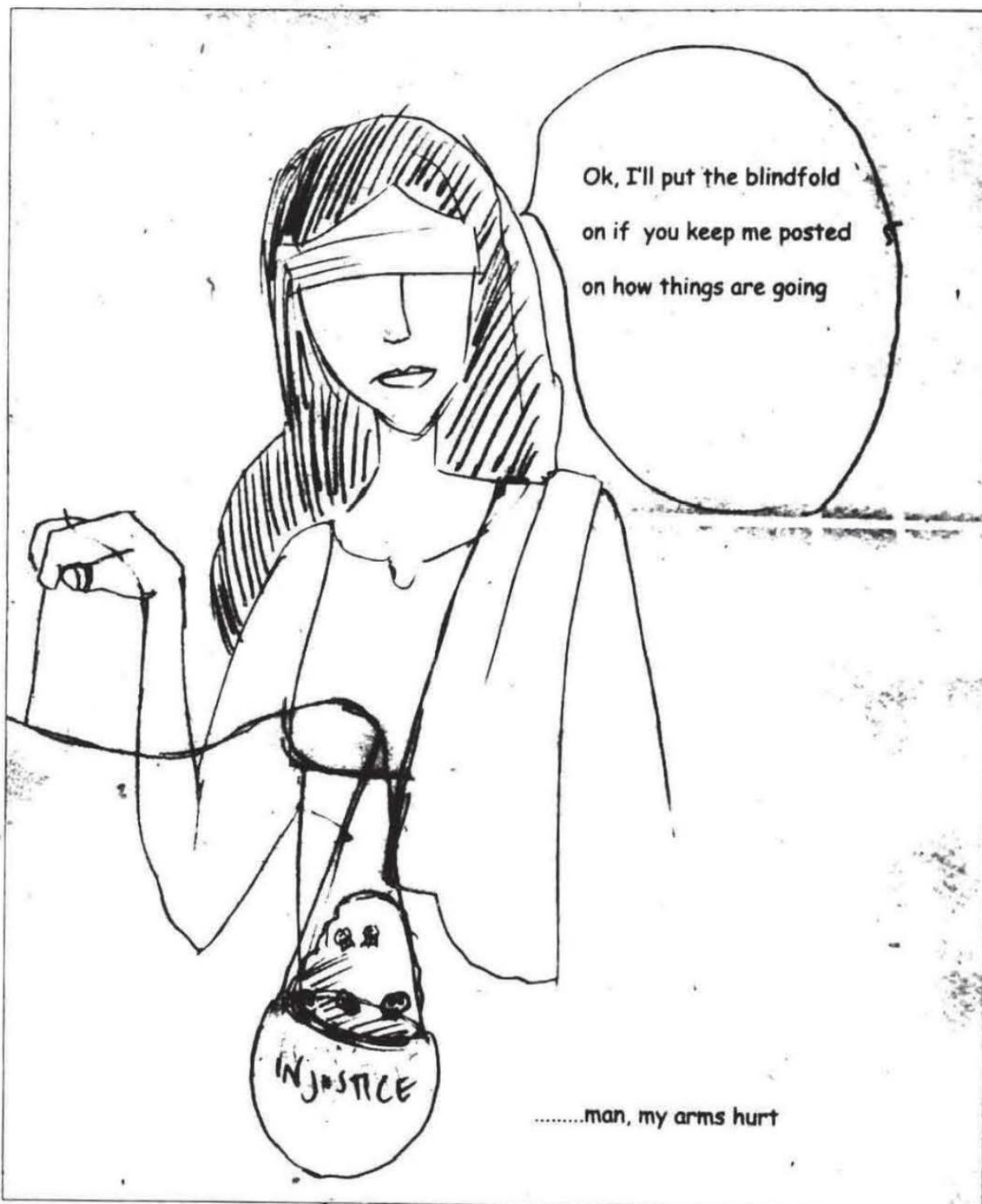
In fact, the government has already gone to far with the 1996 Defense of Marriage Act, which, according to CNN.com, denies "federal recognition of same-sex marriages and give states the

right to refuse to recognize same-sex marriages licensed in other states."

Also, if Bush is so interested in protecting the sanctity of marriage, as he so often states, he should first do more to fix the existing problems. He could crack down on adultery or divorce. In a country where divorce is as American as apple pie, it is hard to defend sanctity of marriage as a priority.

The bottom line is the proposed federal marriage Amendment is unconstitutional. It denies basic rights to American citizens instead of protecting them. It is unfair and religiously biased. When the president of the United States blatantly creates and supports federal law based on his own religion, we are all in danger of losing our unalienable rights as Americans.

The staff editorial is the majority opinion of the Diverse editorial board.



DIVERSE EDITORIAL CARTOON BY JOAQUIN OCHOA



Jeffrey Collier Guest Columnist

E-mail responses to: DiverseEU@hotmail.com

It's no secret that political decisions in the United States is dominated by a two-party, white male, degree having structure. But when one opens his or her eyes and seriously view our country's demographics, the question can be raised. Does our government resemble our society?

The answer is no. We live in a country where the majority rules and people in the minority struggle to be heard and are often ignored or ridiculed.

Those involved in the Civil Rights

Movement that started in the '50s still continue to be in the minority today. The same can be said for advocates of women's rights, gay rights, etc.

All of these issues could be addressed through political decisions at the state and national level.

Our government's make up should resemble the cultural diversity that exists.

There are individuals who mentally live in an ideal world and individuals who are associated with colorblind.

But the truth is we as a society must learn to become a color accepting soci-

ety. It is the only way our government can truly look out for the minority.

In my trip to Atlanta, a young man said, "if Lady Justice takes her blindfold off, then she can see what is really going on."

So, whenever you find yourself going against the majority of any kind, just remember that Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., Frederick Douglas, Harriet Tubman, Rosa Parks and others who shaped this country with their blood, sweat and tears were there in the minority. They were still able to have and impact on the majority

OP

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OPINIONS PAGE

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The Unity Gospel Choir performs during the Gospel Explosion Sunday night in the Grand Ballroom of the Martin Luther King Jr. University Union.

DIVERSE PHOTO BY COLIN McAULIFFE

I got something for your mind, your body and your soul

Gospel music explodes through the walls of the Grand Ballroom

By Eram Cowlas
Managing editor

Music poured from the Grand Ballroom Sunday night in celebration of Black History Month.

Participants said the Gospel Explosion helped promote cultural ideals and knowledge on campus.

Organizer Claude Magee said the event shows other groups what traditional gospel is all about. "Music is an important part of African-American history," he said. He said gospel music was the most important form of communication during slavery, and it was a way for black families and communities to come together. He said while traditional gospel is different than contemporary religious music, it has strong roots and meaning for black history.

The evening started with a request to focus on the gospel and leave problems at the door.

Various church groups performed religious tunes while the audience sang and clapped along. Audience participation gave the event an uplifting and enjoyable atmosphere.

Brothers Kaleb and Thaddeus Searcy performed for the first time at the Gospel Explosion. Kaleb began by telling how he became religious, saying Jesus saved his life.

The overriding theme of the evening was expressed by the director of the Second



Members of the Sigma Gamma Rho sorority serve up soul food, Sunday night at the African-American Cultural Center. Fried Chicken, corn, combread, spaghetti, and macaroni and cheese were on the menu.

Missionary Baptist Church, when he emphasized, "Don't be entertained; get the message." As a former fraternity member at Eastern, he said he understands the temptations that exist in college life, and that it is important to resist them.

Thaddeus Searcy, who is the assistant pastor of the New Covenant Ministry, agreed,

saying "It was a good way for students to experience different cultures and to hear the gospel message in a real life way."

Overall, the performers enjoyed the event, saying they are proud of the message they conveyed.

Kaleb Searcy said, "I felt a strong heartfelt response from the audience."

Magee was happy with the performances and the energy of the crowd. However, he said the turnout was disappointing. He also urges students to participate in other gospel events around campus. Those who missed the Gospel Explosion can still come to the New Covenant Ministry Sundays at 1:30 at the Emmanuel Lutheran Church near campus.

Using food to share cultural knowledge

Following the Gospel Explosion, African American sorority Sigma Gamma Rho sponsored a Soul Food Sampler to further spread their cultural message.

Lauren Wright, junior sociology major, helped set up the event. She said it was "very uplifting." She thinks it is another good way to share cultural knowledge with fellow students. Soul food is the perfect vehicle for her sorority to share their message for many reasons, mainly because "everybody loves food." It is also a way to identify with the culture and history of black Americans, because of the large part soul food plays in black history. She said it has historically been a way for people to come together and celebrate together.

While the tradition soul food consists of fried chicken and fish, macaroni, salad, and fruit punch, Sigma Gamma Rho member Nafisah Freeman said any food can be soul food, as long as it is cooked from the heart.

DIVERSE PHOTO BY COLIN McAULIFFE