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the **DAILY EASTERN NEWS**

TUESDAY
4.24.07

Eastern Illinois University, Charleston

Volume | 93 Issue | 68

CITY | NEW PRESIDENT

City ready to welcome Perry

Charleston Mayor John Inyart 'impressed' with president-elect

By **Stephen Di Benedetto**
Senior City Reporter

It only took three minutes. Larry Rennels was impressed with William Perry after speaking to him for three minutes. The City Council member briefly spoke to Perry after he was announced as Eastern's next president.

Rennels said Perry was interested in being involved with the community and having a strong relationship with the city.

"I was impressed with him," he said. "From the things that he said, it indicated to me that he is very observant."

William Perry is the vice provost of Texas A&M University and will take over as president of Eastern on July 1.

He was approved as president at the April 10 board meeting, where Rennels and other city officials met with Perry during the reception after the meeting.

Rennels said Perry saw his nametag when they met at the reception, and commented on Rennels running for re-election because he saw his election signs around Charleston.

He said City Council members do not work directly with the president of Eastern, but Mayor John Inyart and City Manager Scott Smith have personal contact with the president often.



NORA MABERRY | THE DAILY EASTERN NEWS

William Perry talks to Eastern President Lou Hencken on April 10 before being named as Eastern's next president.

"I met Dr. Perry at the reception of the board meeting where he was approved and was very impressed," Inyart said.

Inyart and President Lou Hencken tried to meet once a month for breakfast to review anything that was of joint concern to Charleston and Eastern, Inyart said.

He said he and Hencken worked

great together.

Inyart said he met with Perry for two minutes at the reception line and promised each other to get together as soon as it is convenient for Perry.

"We'll kind of get a feel for where each of us are at and what each of us think we can do to help the other," Inyart said.

Charleston and Eastern work

together on a variety of issues, Inyart said.

He said Eastern is one of Charleston's best water customers, Eastern pays Charleston to provide fire protection, and the city and Eastern went together and bought a fire truck after the Blair Hall fire in 2004.

» SEE PERRY, PAGE 9

CAMPUS | GOVERNMENT

Student Supreme Court takes shape

By **Matt Hopf**

Student Government Reporter

After a six-year absence, the Student Supreme Court has returned to the Eastern campus.

According to the Student Body Constitution, the court is to "have original and final jurisdiction in cases involving constitutional matters regarding student organizations."

Sophomore geography major Keith Darby was one of the new appointments to the Student Supreme Court.

He said that the court is an "on-going process" and that they are currently developing areas that they should look into.

Election appeals, whether for Student Government or another RSO, is one of the primary areas that the court will focus on, Darby said.

Student Body President Sean Anderson said that the court is also contacting Judicial Affairs and the Greek Review Board to see what roles the court plays and that "no one is stepping on anyone's feet."

As of right now, the court will be kept simple with Student Government elections, violations of a Registered Student Organization bylaw and possible violations of the Student Bill of Rights.

At the April 18 Student Senate meeting, a revision to the Election Reform Act made the Student Supreme Court the "absolute and final jurisdiction over all election decisions."

The court would also refer students who submit a complaint to the proper board.

"If a student felt they got the wrong grade, they would go to grade appeals," Anderson said.

Anderson has stepped out of the process after appointing the justices in order, because the court is a separate body.

The court will meet every other week and will make sure any approved proposals from the senate are constitutional.

The Student Supreme Court is a body made up of six student associate justices and one chief justice.

Ken Baker, director of Campus Recreation, is the appointed adviser of the Court, but he doesn't plan on getting too involved with any decisions of the court.

"I am here to give a little direction and advice for later," Baker said.

CAMPUS | PROGRAMS

Traveling to learn, learning to educate

Study abroad benefits outweigh possible terrorist risks

By **Graham Milldrum**
University Reporter

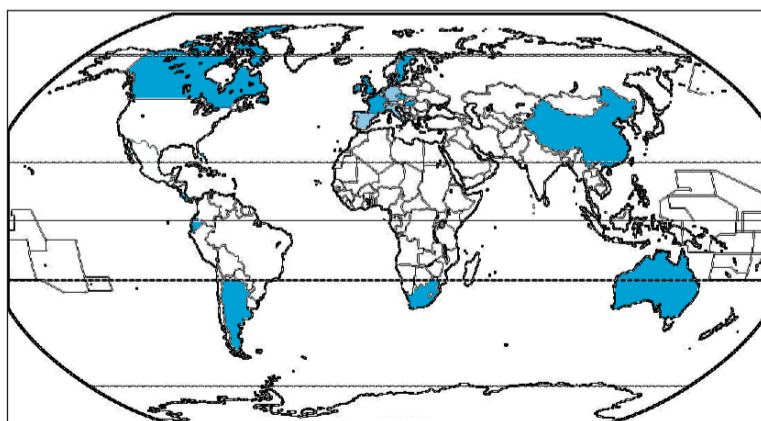
When more than 50 people died July 7, 2005 in the terrorist attacks in the London subway, Eastern students were there only a block away from one of the blast sites.

No one from Eastern was injured, and they were able to get out of London quickly.

Wendy Williamson, director of Study Abroad, said students should not be intimidated by the threat of terrorism when they consider studying abroad.

"International terrorism is all over. It could even happen in Charleston," she said.

She describes Sept. 11 as a



GRAPHIC BY GRAHAM MILLDRUM | THE DAILY EASTERN NEWS

Some of the current and tentative study abroad locations include destinations on most continents.

reason more students are attending study abroad programs.

"I think 9/11 made Americans realize we need to educate people," Williamson said.

She did offer some advice.

Students traveling to a foreign country should try to keep a low

profile and avoid staying around lots of Americans for two reasons: it helps prevent the students becoming targets, she said, and students learn more about the culture.

"We want to get them away from the Americans for a while,"

she said.

Taking the opportunity

Teresa Britton, a philosophy professor, said college is a great time to go abroad. Students have few commitments and can travel with their friends and peers. After graduation, those advantages disappear. She said that individual travel can result in students missing all sorts of events. She said learning is also done best in an academic program.

"I didn't travel to Europe until I left college," Britton said. "I look back and see it was a mistake."

Britton said she can't convince someone who doesn't want to travel that it is worth it. For some students, this is a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to see the Coliseum and Pantheon.

Others will go repeatedly.

» SEE TRAVELING, PAGE 6

Ballroom dance



AMIR PRELLBERG | THE DAILY EASTERN NEWS

Emma Troccoli, a junior accounting major, dances with Joe Sierra, a senior communications disorders major. The ballroom dancing class, PED 1920, was held outside Monday afternoon in Commemorative Park.

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Contact any of the above staff members you believe your information is relevant to at their provided e-mail address.

You may also call 581-7942 or visit the student publications newsroom at 1811 Buzzard Hall.

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Finding the five best

Tonight's and fall's winners to go on to Chicago conference

Staff Report

The top nine student finalists will present their research papers at the Undergraduate Education Research Fair tonight.

The finalists were picked out of a group of 150 students who wrote papers on education, philosophy and the history of education. Professors then evaluated the papers and the top 25 students were narrowed down to ten.

All of the finalists will present their papers either through PowerPoint or posters incorporating the theme of the fair, "The Perspectives of the Culture of Education in History."

"It's going to be a very nice

RESEARCH PAPER FINALISTS

- » **Becky Seifert**: elementary education major
- » **Vince Kirwan**: mathematics major
- » **Sarah Jaworski**: elementary education major
- » **Madeline Landes**: English major
- » **Amy Lejeune**: elementary education major
- » **Diana Vasich**: elementary education major
- » **Myra Howard**: art major
- » **Mark Anselment**: history major
- » **Colleen Tapling**: mathematics major

they will be judged by deans and professors who will then pick the top five.

The top five from this fair and the fall fair will join finalists from other schools at a Chicago conference.

Albear is expecting a bigger turnout than last year, although he was not disappointed with how things went last time.

"Last year's fair was very successful, and the students who were selected from the 10 finalists represented Eastern Illinois University in an exemplary fashion at the Midwest Philosophy of Education Society conference in Chicago breaking ground for other universities to follow suit," Albear said.

The Research Fair will take place from 6 to 10 p.m. in the Buzzard Hall Auditorium. It is free and open to the public.

cultural conference open to all," said Gustavo Albear, assistant professor of secondary education and foundations.

After the students present,



Delta Zeta Seniors 2007

- | | | |
|--------------------|------------------|-------------------|
| Cailey Swartz | Libby Whaley | Donna Lakinger |
| Chrissy Fosdick | Megan Frawley | Meggie Gilmartin |
| Jen Reinert | Laura Phelps | Melissa DelPreto |
| Danielle Ross | Emily Spahr | Sally Regan |
| Jenna Games | Nikki Kusswurm | Melanie Monninger |
| Maria Lollino | Angela DeLong | Ashley Trabert |
| Brittany Brown | Annette Analitis | Brandy Ballard |
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THURSDAY
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Showers

FRIDAY
61° | 46°
Sunny



campusbriefs

Ceremony to honor the dead of Virginia Tech today

» The Student Government and Eastern's Student Affairs will host a ceremony to mourn those who died in the Virginia Tech shootings. The ceremony begins at 4 p.m. today in the Grand Ballroom of the Martin Luther King Jr. University Union. Before the ceremony, a banner will be on display for attendees to sign from 1 to 4 p.m. Also, video recordings, which will be sent to VT, will be available. Eastern President Lou Hencken will speak at the ceremony. For more information, email Megan Ogulnick at meogulnick@eiu.edu.

Pantera restaurant goes Hawaiian for final meal

» The School of Family and Consumer Sciences' student-run restaurant will host its final meal of the semester. Pantera restaurant will go with a Hawaii theme for its last event. Seating is available at 5:45 and 6:10 tonight. The cost is \$9.50 per person. For reservations, call 581-6677.

Humane Association sponsors Pet Drop-Off Day today

» Students who are not taking their pets home with them for the summer are asked by the Coles County Humane Association to participate in Pet Drop-Off Day from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. today at 580 W. Lincoln Ave. The purpose is to lessen the number of pets that are left abandoned in Charleston. There is no fee and students can just sign a release form. The group will work with the Coles County Animal Rescue and Education Center to coordinate an adoption event in May to help find homes for the animals.

—Marco Santana, campus editor

Celebration bags tournament registration due Wednesday

» Students can still sign up for the bags tournament during Celebration: A Festival of the Arts. Wednesday is the last day to sign up. Registration is \$10 for teams of two people. Thirty-two teams will be accepted to the tournament, which is open to Eastern students, faculty and staff. The tournament begins Friday at noon. The final four championship begins at 6 p.m. Registration forms can be downloaded from the Celebration Web site at <http://www.eiu.edu/~festival/index.html>, or picked up in the Celebration Planning Office located in the McAfee Building Room 2248. Forms are due Wednesday by 4:30 p.m.

—Cathy Bayer, news editor

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To report any errors, local events or general suggestions for future editions please contact our news editor, **Cathy Bayer**, via: Phone | **581-7942**, E-mail | **DENnewsdesk@gmail.com** Office visit | **1811 Buzzard Hall**.

UNIVERSITY | GRADUATION HOOPS

Faculty, students question EWP

Portfolio takes fire for perceived lack of value

By Neil Schneider
Staff Reporter

The results from the spring survey about electronic writing portfolio said that nearly 60 percent of faculty surveyed said the EWP is not an effective tool to measure student writing.

The survey questioned whether faculty and students see the value in the current system or whether writing improvement is even measured in the current process.

The purpose of the EWP is to be able to "assess the capabilities of the student's writings," said Karla Sanders, director of the Center for Academic Support and Achievement.

Sanders said that the Illinois Board of Higher Education ensures that every college in Illinois gives some kind of an exam, whether it is a written submission or a standard exam.

Sanders said that Eastern has been doing the EWP since the Fall of 2000.

Every time a student completes 30 hours of classes, a form evaluation from a writing-centered or writing-intensive course must be submitted to

HOW TO TURN IN A EWP

» **Print a submission form** from Eastern's Web site at <http://www.eiu.edu/~assess/subforminfo.php>

» **Give a writing sample** from the specified course to the course professor along with the form. The professor will fill out the form and rate the paper.

» **If the writing sample is rated** with a "2" or higher, it can be turned in at Room 3001 at Ninth Street Hall, along with the form. The writing sample should be saved on a disk or USB-drive.

» **Documents will be accepted** one full semester after a student completes a course, however a hold might be placed on a student's account until the submission is received.

CASA, located at Ninth Street Hall.

An additional form must be submitted from each student's senior seminar.

If a student does not submit an essay, there will be a hold placed on that student's account, which could prevent him or her from registering.

The hold on the account was for "the students' own good and it acts as a reminder to turn the EWP in," Sanders said.

Sanders acknowledged the growing grumble

from students complaining about the process and having to bring their information to a place, which is a hassle for some students, especially those who live off-campus.

"It might be possible for essays to be sent by e-mail," Sanders said, looking to the future. "There is a plan in the works for things to go electronic."

While the location of the process may be a problem for some students, other students had different complaints.

Holden Kurwicki, a sophomore communication studies major, said the process needed to be more direct. It would also be easier if the teacher chose what paper would be submitted, he said.

Ashley Kanak, a social science major at Eastern went so far to say that we "shouldn't have the EWP at all."

The university teachers are good enough advisers to help students with any revision processes, and the EWP isn't necessary, she said.

The Committee for the Assessment of Student Learning plans to work on the issue over the summer, as reported at the April 17 Faculty Senate meeting.

—Jess Kinsella contributed to this report

Pond paddling



JAY GRABIEC | THE DAILY EASTERN NEWS

Matt Latham, a senior elementary education major, takes a swim in the campus pond during the Tugs event on Saturday afternoon.

CAMPUS | EIU JAZZ ENSEMBLE

Playlist promises 'toe-tapping' fun

Bernstein, Rippingtons highlight tonight's program

By Kyle Bondeson
Staff Reporter

The EIU Jazz Ensemble will have its final performance of the year tonight.

In January, the band was selected to perform at the State Music Educators Conference in Peoria.

"I'm very proud of this group, they had to rise to the occasion early in the semester," said Sam Fagaly, director of jazz studies and associate professor of saxophone. "That's a very high-profile performance with a very critical audience."

The Jazz Ensemble represented Eastern in fine fashion and has continued to improve throughout the year, Fagaly said.

Michael Pond-Jones, a freshman music education major, said the year has been a big help to his performing.

"It has been a great experience," he said. "I've been exposed to a lot of different types of music. This is the best band I've ever been in."

Throughout the year, the band has performed

MICHAEL POND-JONES | MUSICIAN

"It has been a great experience. I've been exposed to a lot of different types of music. This is the best band I've ever been in."

musical styles as diverse as swing, bebop and even slow ballads, said senior music education major Justin Hunt.

At tonight's performance, the audience can expect to hear songs such as, "Morocco" by the Rippingtons and "Mambo" by Leonard Bernstein.

It will be held at 7:30 p.m. in the Grand Ballroom of the Martin Luther King Jr. University Union.

"We're going to be playing a lot of good tunes that people can tap their foot to," Hunt said.

In contrast with their usual routine, the band plans on performing the concert without an intermission.

"Normally we'd take a break after about four or five tunes," Hunt said. "This time, we'll be playing 11 straight through with no intermission."

As for the fact that tonight will be ensemble's final performance of the semester, Fagaly said, "It will be a bittersweet end to a great year with this group. I wish we could keep playing through the summer."

Next semester the ensemble looks forward to the prospect of working and performing in the Doudna Fine Arts Center.

That would be a real treat for the performers and the audiences, Fagaly said.

The ensemble hopes to entertain and expose people to jazz one final time.

"Jazz is something that you usually don't hear on the radio," Pond-Jones said. "It's an American art form, and in the same way that people should go check out an art exhibit every once in awhile, they should come check out a jazz performance."

VIEWS

TUESDAY
4.24.07

GUEST COLUMNIST | TIM ENGLS

The whiteness of rap music

As you probably know, talk-show host Don Imus recently polluted the airwaves with a racist and sexist description of the Rutgers women's basketball team as "nappy-headed hos."

The Reverend Al Sharpton quickly spearheaded a campaign to fire Imus, which succeeded when his show's advertisers started bowing out.

Money rules the airwaves, and another way to drive up ratings was to show us talking heads shouting at each other about issues raised by the case.

Part of this second wave of controversy has been the common charge of "black hypocrisy," which basically says, "Black rappers call their women bitches and hos all the time, and black people call each other nappy-headed too, so how can they complain when a white person uses those words?"

One problem with labeling the misogyny of mainstream rap and hip hop a "black" thing is that this kind of entertainment is only black on the surface – it's an Oreo with a lot of whiteness at the core.

Surveys of those who consume rap music and images repeatedly show that about 80 percent of them are white males, and the percentage of white men behind the scenes making the biggest money from hip hop is even higher.

The *Village Voice* recently quoted Boots Riley of the rap group The Coup: "My audience has gone from being over 95 percent black 10 years ago to over 95 percent white today. We jokingly refer to our tour as the Cotton Club," he says – a reference to the 1920s and '30s Harlem jazz spot where black musicians played to whites-only audiences."

Actually, The Coup's lyrics are more politically revolutionary than misogynist or demeaning. And that's another problem with attaching simplistic labels to *all* of hip hop – so much of it does not contain the objectionable content paraded across our mainstream radio and TV outlets.

Many white male rap fans are like those legions of white females who flash gang signs when someone's pointing a camera at them.

Media-generated depictions of blackness provide them with a sexy, slightly dangerous edginess, something they can't find in the relative blandness of whatever "white" culture seems to be.

It's not that black people don't like rap too, nor that some black stars and producers don't get rich from sexist and racist material.

However, it's easy to overlook how the forces driving mainstream hip hop – which consist of primarily white corporate executives at one end and primarily white consumers at the other – are not black. Thus, blaming black community leaders for failing to condemn sexism and racism in "their own music" doesn't really make sense.

Pointing out this logical inconsistency in the common charge of "black hypocrisy" is also not another way to "blame whitey," as conservative Fox News pundit Michelle Malkin recently put it to her guest on the Imus controversy, black talk-show host Opio Sokoni.

Rather, as Sokoni pointed out, we shouldn't limit our blame for the excesses of hip hop to its black performers, when it's actually a realm of entertainment where the biggest earners and the biggest buyers are white folks.

Tim Engles is an associate English professor. He can be reached at tdengles@eiu.edu.

ourview

Mass murder preventable

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Guns don't kill people. People kill people, right? But guns can be used to kill people – to kill them quickly and to kill a large number of them.

So, why do we give guns to people who kill people?

This is the question that many of us asked after the Virginia Tech massacre last week.

Though there is some gray area, in Illinois, this probably would have been prevented.

Is it just a coincidence that the three largest school shootings in the United States in recent history – Virginia Tech, Columbine and the shooting at a Pennsylvania Amish school last semester – have all been in states with inadequate gun control?

On two separate occasions, Cho Seung-Hui was able to purchase a handgun with only a quick background check and leave the gun stores with a deadly weapon.

He would later go on to use these weapons to murder 32 innocent people.

Though there is no telling the lengths Cho would have gone to obtain guns, in Illinois, he would have been subject to a complete background check, taking up to 30 days.

In Virginia, he went through the background check, called "insta-check," within minutes. Not even a permit is required.

The Brady Campaign is a nationally recognized campaign to prevent gun violence. They issue a yearly report card on gun laws in which 32 of 50 states receive a D or lower. Colorado, where the deadly Columbine shootings left 13 innocent people dead was among those with a D. So is Pennsylvania, where the Amish school

shootings left 5 innocent girls dead. Virginia squeaked by with a C-. Illinois, in contrast, scored an A-.

Is it just a coincidence that deadly shootings haven't been on this campus, or at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology – another campus in an A- state?

We at *The Daily Eastern News* do not think so.

While Illinois and Virginia both have Child Access Prevention laws holding gun owners accountable for leaving guns accessible to children, Colorado has no such law, making it possible for gun owners to be more careless with no fear of repercussion.

Is it a coincidence that Columbine High School students were able to obtain guns?

Is it a coincidence that though Illinois has laws holding gun manufacturers accountable for their sales, Colorado, Pennsylvania and Virginia do not?

Could this make it easier for a psychopath to purchase weapons within minutes?

The more facts come out, the less we feel we can leave to coincidence.

We at *The DEN* feel our country should adopt federal laws similar to those of Illinois.

This would help prevent such a terrible tragedy from ever happening again.

Illinois has only 3.3 percent of the nation's gun deaths though it has more than 4.2 percent of its population.

That being said, an "A-" isn't good enough for our state.

"(In Illinois) assault weapons are as easy to buy as hunting rifles," says the Brady Campaign. "(There is) no restriction on the sale or possession of rapid-fire ammunition magazines that can fire up to 100 bullets without reloading."

Anyone who needs to use an assault weapon to hunt obviously doesn't understand what a sport is. These guns are obviously being purchased for violent use and should be banned in order to protect our society.

Critics say that if someone wants to kill another, they will find a way to do it.

We say that by restricting assault rifles and automatic weapons and by taking other precautions to prevent psychopaths from obtaining weapons, countless deaths will be prevented. And the facts back us up.

In 2004, there were 29,569 people who died in the United States from firearm-related deaths. Only 311 of them were justifiable, legal homicides.

Cho could not possibly have murdered 32 innocent people with a knife in the time he did.

Guns helped him kill people without being overtaken.

Guns helped him kill a large number of people in a small amount of time.

The editorial is the majority opinion of The Daily Eastern News editorial board. Reach the Opinions editor at DENopinions@gmail.com.

More firearm facts from the Brady Campaign:

- There are approximately 192 million privately-owned firearms in the U.S. – 65 million of which are handguns.
- An estimated 39 percent of households have a gun.
- In 1998 alone, licensed firearms dealers sold an estimated 4.4 million guns, 1.7 million of which were handguns. Additionally, it is estimated that 1 to 3 million guns change hands in the secondary market each year, and many of these sales are not regulated.
- In 2002, 30,242 people in the United States died from firearm-related deaths – 11,829 (39 percent) of those were murdered; 17,108 (57 percent) were suicides; 762 (3 percent) were accidents; and in 243 (1 percent) the intent was unknown. In comparison, 33,651 Americans were killed in the Korean War and 58,193 Americans were killed in the Vietnam War.
- For every firearm fatality in the United States in 2002, there were estimated to be nearly two non-fatal firearm injuries.
- In 2001, firearms were used to murder 5 people in New Zealand, 56 people in Australia, 184 people in Canada, 73 people in Great Britain and 37 people in Sweden. In comparison, firearms were used to murder 11,344 in the United States.
- For every time a gun is used in a home in a legally-justifiable shooting [note that every self-defense is legally justifiable] there are 22 criminal, unintentional, and suicide-related shootings.
- The presence of a gun in the home triples the risk of homicide in the home.
- The presence of a gun in the home increases the risk of suicide fivefold.

YOUR TURN | LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

To Don Smith:

As if your first letter was not enough, you had to put your bigotry and ignorance on display yet again in your April 19th Letter to the Editor. Not only are you an ignorant individual, you also seem to be quite misinformed. You say that Blacks should hold themselves accountable for their disproportionately high prison population and high drop-out and illegitimacy rates.

However, have you stopped to consider that the reason there is a disproportionate population of blacks in prison is because of the racist society we live in? Or the fact that many black males are profiled and arrested for no reason at all? Or, have you ever thought about the racially-biased justice system in our society that seems to find loopholes that allow blacks to be put in prison for an outrageous number of years? (For example, in Texas, a white teenager burned down her parent's house and got probation, and a black teenager pushed a white hall monitor and received seven years in prison.)

You claim that black rap artists are responsible for first calling black women "bitches" and "hoes," but you are yet again incorrect. During the enslavement of Africans, white slave owners referred to enslaved women as "wenches" and other derogatory terms, and those terms evolved into words that are used today.

The National Alliance, Don Imus

and you, Don Smith, are not directly responsible for the things you discussed in your letter. However, it is the ignorance and hate-mongering that comes from individuals like yourself and members of the National Alliance that perpetuate racism and discrimination and make it so equality becomes more and more unattainable.

P.S. not many people show up to conferences on race because many people have been tricked into believing that racism does not exist or that there is nothing they can do about it.

Kevin Wick | Junior public relations major

Congratulations Mr. Smith, once again you've succeeded in furthering an already great divide. While the National Alliance may not be to blame for illegitimate black children, it is undeniably advancing the cause of hatred. It also calls upon the worst sentiments humanity has to offer in order to turn a profit. Of course, it's perfectly acceptable to be proud of your race, but you conveniently ignore the fact that most groups placing an emphasis upon whiteness have historically had a racist bent to them (including your revered National Alliance).

I sense you have an axe to grind with the black community. That must be why you seem to have a compulsive need to address issues that hardly concern you, as you live in an almost entirely racially homogenous

town, and taught at an institution that was more of the same. While you certainly do have a right to voice your opinions, I am quite grateful that your venom will more than likely be confined to the small area of Coles County for your remaining days. One final concept for you to consider is your own hypocrisy – your previous letters themselves are little more than you "whining" about how you are a victim of victimization.

Michael Hearnese | Senior biological sciences major

TO COMMENT....

The Daily Eastern News welcomes responses to our original content.

For consideration, e-mail letters to DENopinions@gmail.com.

All letters to the editor may be edited for accuracy, clarity and length. Letters 250 words or fewer have the best chance of being published. Only letters that include a name, address and phone number that are verified by *The DEN* will be considered for print publication.

You may also choose to join in conversations taking place online by going to www.dennews.com.

OP-ED
TUESDAY
4.24.07

YOUR TURN | LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

The following are responses to the letter 'Pantherstock, Spring Fling wrong venue for Army' in the April 19 issue:

Casey Taylor,
What I'm most disappointed in is your lack of knowledge and support for our armed services. Many young people like ourselves are serving our country without reservation. Granted, the situation in Iraq may be too hot to handle, but that's no reason to bash the Army for trying to recruit on a college campus.

The military isn't about live music, food and bags ... It is, however, about protecting our country, our people and our precious college community. So, why not advertise to college students? Many go to college only to find out it's not for them. The military, in general, offers different opportunities for young

people. Countless Americans have made careers out of the military. All branches offer different programs and paths to take to lead a successful life after serving.

Yes, there is war and there will always be. Don't you think by now everyone knows the Army recruits 24/7 with or without war? Do you really think people were tricked into coming to Pantherstock only to find out it was a recruiting "trap"? Personally, I don't ... I applaud those who did participate and that did make a decision to sign up. I applaud those who are serving right now, and I urge you to reconsider who you are calling spineless; those who don't take action or those who do. I sincerely hope others do not share your feelings.

Eric Feigl |
Physical education graduate student

The Spring Fling is a time of celebration. In order to have all that free food, T-shirts, music etc., there needs to be money that is donated generously by many different organizations and companies. Maybe Mr. Taylor should focus his outrage at the Student Board for inviting the military to take part in this activity rather than lash out at the military itself.

Does he realize that the different branches of military that attended the Spring Fling donated hundreds of their dollars to be able to give away T-shirts, food, footballs and basketballs, among other things? They did this for the students. Military personnel had every right to be at that event and were invited to do so. We are, unfortunately, at a time of war and we do have many men and women leaving their lives, jobs and families to deploy in

support of our country. Maybe you should have gone to one of these selfless individuals and thanked them for their service, thanked them for giving so much of themselves and asking so little in return.

Sarah Steidl | Junior FCS major

I would like to start by saying "thank you" to all of those students that decided to come out and support Spring Fling and Pantherstock. I do apologize for its location, but due to severe weather warnings during the week it was a call that had to be made in order to ensure the proceeding of the event. To address Mr. Taylor's letter; on behalf of University Board and myself, I do apologize for the "outrage" you and possible others may have felt by the construction of this year's festivities.

Some of those activities were brought in by the National Guard

and U.S. Army, through a process called "co-sponsorship." And it's through co-sponsorship that most of the events that take place on Eastern's campus are even possible. Yes, I do see how from an aerial view the event may have looked to be one that's only affiliation was from that of the U.S. Army and National Guard.

Andrew Hubbard |
UB special events coordinator

FEATURED BLOGGER

"Blogging is supposed to be fun. It's supposed to be entertaining. It seems like a stretch to me that news stories are what blog audiences want."

SCOTT RICHEY



GUEST COLUMNIST | JAY PREFONTAINE

Jay's summer reading list

Fiction:

Brady Udall's *Letting Loose the Hounds*: These short stories of the modern West will punch you in the face, and just when you're about to cry, they will make you laugh. Male or female, you will be led down the dark alleys of the male character as if for the first time.

Susan Perabo's *Who I Was Supposed to Be*: After you read these stories you will never look at strangers on the street the same way again. Susan Perabo's weird, comical characters suck you into their lives. You'll feel like they're whispering in your ear, and you'll miss them after they're gone.

Donald Hays' *The Dixie Association*: This is the greatest baseball book ever written. It's narrated by Hog Durham, an armed robber who gets out of jail and plays a season with the Arkansas Reds, a minor league baseball team managed by Lefty Marks, a one-armed ex-major-leaguer accused of being a communist.

Tom Franklin's *Smonk*: I don't know how to classify this novel - nobody does. Its brilliant and seductive voice carries you and its characters - corrupt judges, Christian deputies, widows, war veterans, whores, witches, madmen, and zombies - through a terrifying and hilarious series of events in a 1911 southwestern Alabama town

with two of the most memorable characters in all of southern literature.

Steve Yarbrough's *The End of California*: During Christmas break, I was halfway through this novel when I lost it in a bar in southwest Florida. I don't know which one, but I searched and inquired in all of them with no luck. I was devastated and bought another copy as soon as I got home. Find out why I went through the trouble, especially if you're a fiction writer yourself.

Non-Fiction:

Jabari Asim's *The N Word*: Take a ride through the cruel history and future of racism with this new book that identifies Thomas Jefferson as the source of the "n-word," a complex slur that has exacerbated bigotry in America for over four hundred years. Asim also argues that this word does have its place but should only be spoken by and written by those who understand its history.

Kevin Sessums' *Mississippi Sissy*: This is the dark life story of a boy growing up gay in a small Mississippi town during the 1960's. It is brilliantly written, courageous, and harrowing. You'll watch this very likeable boy look the word *sissy* in the eye and tell it to back off, and you'll watch as Kevin Sessums walks

you unflinchingly through one of the most brutally violent acts about which I've ever read.

Beth Ann Fennelly's *Great with Child*: Check out the letters this award-winning poet and mother of two wrote to a dear friend who found herself pregnant and alone in Alaska. Beth Ann Fennelly's letters are warm, smart, and witty, and you don't have to be a parent or expecting parent to be changed by them.

The Reverend Barry W. Lynn's *Piety & Politics: The Right-Wing Assault On Religious Freedom*: This book exposes fanatical quasi-Christian forces who are so far right they're dead wrong. This book will make you want to get off your ass and do something to support the constitutional separation of church and state, to do something against the tyranny of the righteous who think they can re-write our biology books, hang Jesus on public buildings, and condemn all those who are different.

Jay

Prefontaine



Jay Prefontaine is an English instructor. He can be reached at jrprefontaine@eiu.edu.

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» **Traveling**

FROM PAGE 1

Britney Bellettini, a management major with Spanish minor, has already gone on one trip to Rome and is going again this summer.

She said she liked it and had no problems. By the end of this trip, she expects to speak fluent Italian. She said she would definitely recommend it to other students.

Britton has run the "Italy: The Good Life" program for the last four years and is going again in the summer. Worth six semester hours, the course takes students to Genoa, Rome, Florence and Venice.

It is a chance for students to learn about history, art, culture and film. So far, 19 students have signed up.

She said she started this program because she has been to Genoa many times and had built up a good network of contacts.

The office develops a few courses. They had a Spring Break trip to Guatemala, classes the office begins are normally short term. They also suggest courses to faculty, but have no way, or inclination, to force faculty to teach them.

Williamson says that some of the best attendance is for senior seminar courses, since all students have to take them.

Breaking out of the bubble

Williamson said that study abroad is no longer looked on as a luxury. Instead, it serves as a way for students to make themselves stand out from the crowd on job applications.

During job interviews students have been told they were interviewed on the basis of their study abroad experience.

"It's hard for individuals to define what

changed them," she said.

This is why workers at the office of study abroad and career services help students articulate what they learned while they were overseas. This helps them with describing their trips on their resumes.

"It's not a one-on-one association," she said. "Just because you learned to ride the trains in over there doesn't mean you know how to ride the trains here," she said. "It's not that concrete." Instead, students learn about self-reliance and self confidence. She said they learn to push their limits by surviving in an unfamiliar society. Students also learn to rely on others, especially when they do not speak the foreign country's language.

"Even ordering dinner can be hard if you don't speak the language," she said.

Williamson said students should make an attempt to learn the language.

"People see that you are making the effort to move towards them," she said.

She also said that students shouldn't be afraid to break out of their bubble and make fools of themselves.

Going for class

Alyssa Boynton, a sophomore science and biology major with teacher certification, is traveling to Costa Rica this summer on an individual study abroad trip. Eastern is giving her three semester credits for her volunteer work with animal rehabilitation.

"I think it will be fun, more of a real-life experience," Boynton said.

She said that having direct experience will help her teaching, since she will be able to understand subjects better and have examples for her class.

A class is created on a faculty member's

ALYSSA BOYNTON | PARTICIPANT IN UPCOMING STUDY ABROAD TRIP

"I think it will be fun, more of a real-life experience."

FAST FACTS ABOUT STUDY ABROAD

» **When:** Study abroad is offered every term, including summer

» **Where:** Locations such as Costa Rica, Italy, Guatemala, England, Canada, Australia, South Africa, the Netherlands, and the Bahamas

» **How much:** Varies based on location and length of trip. Eastern offers eight scholarships for study abroad participants, with awards from \$500 to \$1,000.

» **What:** Students pay for the trips — Eastern does not pay any part of the cost. Financial aid can be used to defer costs.

» **Why:** Participants can earn college credit for most trips

instigation. They have to propose a plan, and then a board approves or does not approve of it.

One new course that has been proposed is going to China to study ethno-botany and the uses of medicinal plants.

The board likes to see courses that involve a foreign language.

Student life and costs can vary greatly. A canceled trip to Germany was worth three semester hours and cost \$7,966.25. Williamson said that cost can be a real barrier and will result in courses having insufficient sign ups.

If a class is canceled, the study abroad program attempts to direct the students who had signed up into other courses.

Students pay for the trips out of their own pockets. Financial aid can be used to cover costs.

Britton said that means that faculty have to work harder to ensure they keep costs down.

Students can stay in university residence halls, five star hotels, hostels, with host families, or whatever the faculty member arranges.

Plans for more scholarships

The Study Abroad Office operated without a director for years. Williamson took over the job two years ago.

Williamson said she has spent much of her time since her arrival making the program easier to use. She also has been trying to get more scholarships. Currently, there are eight Eastern scholarships specifically for study abroad. Most have a \$500 award, and \$1,000 is the largest grant.

Williamson said she wants to expand the number of scholarships and the amount awarded.

She is doing that by applying for grants from the IFSA foundation, as well as funding from the university.

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Police accused of not following FOIA

Records being kept from journalists, lawyers, insurance companies and crime victims

The Associated Press

SPRINGFIELD — Illinois state police routinely turn down requests for public information, whether from grieving relatives, insurance companies deciding whether to pay a claim or even other police officers doing research, a review shows.

The policy extends to withholding reports on murders that occurred decades ago on the grounds that even dead people have a right to privacy, The (Springfield) State Journal-Register reported Monday.

The agency sometimes protects its own privacy, too. It waited five months before finally disclosing how much had been spent on lawyers

handling an employment discrimination case against the agency.

State police also fail to keep track of all information requests and how they were handled.

In 2006, for example, state police received nearly 700 requests under the Illinois Freedom of Information Act. They granted 175 requests, denied 146 others and reported in 81 cases that they couldn't find the document being sought. But in more than 200 cases, there was no record of whether state police responded at all. State police officials would not talk to the Journal-Register about the details of its findings. But they did say the agency tries to follow the law on releasing documents.

"Can I tell you it's worked perfectly every time?" chief counsel Keith Jensen said. "I can't tell you that."

Jensen suggested the agency could be sued for violating someone's privacy if they released records. Asked how often such lawsuits had been

filed, Jensen said he didn't know. The agency never provided a number.

On Monday, state police spokesman Scott Compton said the agency strives to balance the public's right to know against the need to protect people from invasions of privacy and, potentially, even violence. But he would not discuss the issue in detail.

"I've pretty much said what I can say," Compton said.

State law assumes that all government documents are public unless they fall into certain special categories, such as a government employee's personnel file or police records revealing confidential informants. Officials can black out sensitive information and still release the rest of a document.

It isn't just reporters being kept in the dark. Lawyers, insurance companies, crime victims and others outnumber journalists by about 20 to 1 in making FOIA requests to the state police.

STATE

TUESDAY
4.24.07

statebriefs

The Associated Press

Mayor Richard M. Daley names new chief of staff

» CHICAGO — Mayor Richard M.

Daley named a new chief of staff Monday, less than a week after his former top aide was tapped to run the Chicago Transit Authority.

Daley appointed city planning and development commissioner Lori T. Healey to replace Ron Huberman, whom Daley recommended last week take over the CTA after its president, Frank Kruesi, resigned.

The CTA board is scheduled to vote on Huberman's appointment at a meeting next month.

Power companies pushing relief plan as alternative

» SPRINGFIELD — Ameren and ComEd are dangling about \$150 million in financial relief from soaring electric rates as an incentive for Illinois lawmakers to drop efforts to cut rates back to last year's level.

An Ameren spokesman said Monday its customers wouldn't see their share of the relief, \$85 million, until lawmakers abandon the idea of rolling rates back and freezing them.

ComEd, meanwhile, said it was moving ahead with \$64 million in relief but cautioned it would be scrapped if legislators approve cuts.

200th person exonerated through DNA

Innocent man spent 25 years behind bars

The Associated Press

CHICAGO — A man who spent 25 years behind bars for a 1981 rape was cleared of all charges Monday after DNA evidence proved what he had always said: He didn't commit the crime.

When Cook County Circuit Court Judge Diane G. Cannon vacated 48-year-old Jerry Miller's conviction, a courtroom of his family and friends whistled and cheered. Miller smiled.

"I want to get on with my life, start a life, have a life," he said at a news conference after the court hearing. "I'm just thankful for this day."

The exoneration is the nation's 200th based on DNA evidence, according to the Innocence Project in New York, a nonprofit group

that works to exonerate wrongly convicted inmates through the use of DNA evidence. It is the 27th in Illinois.

Miller had been found guilty of rape, robbery, aggravated kidnapping and aggravated battery in 1982. He was paroled in March 2006 and now works two jobs and lives with a cousin in Chicago's south suburbs.

Results from a DNA investigation, ordered by attorneys last year, were returned earlier this month.

After Monday's court hearing, an officer removed the electronic monitoring bracelet from Miller's right ankle. Miller no longer has to register as a sex offender.

Miller was arrested after a 44-year-old woman was attacked as she got into her car on the roof of a Chicago parking garage in September 1981. The attacker raped the woman, put her in the

trunk of her car and started to leave the garage. He ran away after two parking attendants approached him.

The garage workers gave a description that was used to create a sketch of the attacker and later picked Miller out of a lineup.

At the trial, Miller testified he was home watching a championship boxing match at the time of the crime. Still, the jury found him guilty and sentenced him to 45 years.

In prison, Miller wrote many letters asking for help, including one to the Innocence Project, which agreed to take his case in 2005.

Last year, the Innocence Project persuaded Cook County prosecutors to conduct DNA tests on a semen sample taken from the woman's clothes, and the results excluded Miller as the rapist.

The DNA evidence matched

another man who is awaiting trials on two separate charges of aggravated criminal sexual assault. The man can't be charged in the 1981 incident because it is past the statute of limitations, according to First Assistant State's Attorney Robert Milan.

Attorneys filed a motion Friday to vacate Miller's conviction.

"We look at this as a learning moment," said Peter Neufeld, a co-founder of the Innocence Project who was one of Miller's lawyers.

"What went wrong? We have to get the answer for the future or there'll be too many Jerry Millers."

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» Perry

FROM PAGE 1

Fire Chief Kris Phipps said Hencken was instrumental in getting a new fire truck for Charleston and was a big bonus to the city and the Charleston Fire Department.

Phipps said Perry has big shoes to fill, but anticipates Perry to do the same, if not more.

Phipps has not met Perry, but expects to.

"I look forward to meeting him and working with him," Phipps said.

If Eastern is planning an expansion, the president needs to inform the

council so they can take into account if real estate is going to be taken off the tax roll or not, Inyart said.

Inyart also went to the interviews of Perry and the other candidates, Blair Lord and Sue Hammersmith, prior to the announcement on April 10.

"He did a very nice job," Inyart said of Perry's interview. "He understands what he is taking on."

Superintendent of the Charleston School District Gary Niehaus said he had a great rapport with Hencken, but did not have the chance to meet Perry.

Niehaus is leaving as superintendent of the school district after this school year, but said he often worked with

Hencken.

Niehaus said he expects the new superintendent to contact Perry as soon as possible.

Diane Hutchins, principal of Charleston High School, said CHS and Eastern are actively involved with each other in many different ways.

Hutchins is in her first year as principal of CHS and has not established a direct relationship with Hencken.

She hopes to change that after July 1.

"I had not had the opportunity to meet (Hencken) up to this time," Hutchins said. "But I am hoping I will have that opportunity with (Eastern's) new president."

NON SEQUITUR | WILEY MILLER



LIO | MARK TATULLI

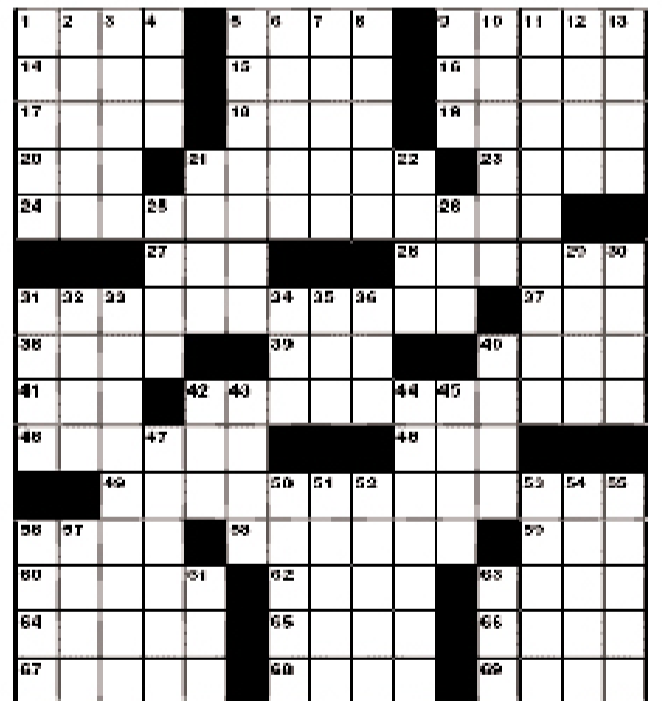


The New York Times Crossword

Edited by Will Shortz

No. 0313

- Across**
- 1 Poodle sounds
 - 5 Aspirin target
 - 8 Hymn accompanier
 - 14 "Angler's float
 - 15 Terrifying dino
 - 18 "Bush's 2004 foe
 - 17 Jazz singer Anita
 - 18 Café au ____
 - 18 Assists, three-pointers, turnovers, etc.
 - 20 N.F.L. Hall-of-Famer Ford
 - 21 Not systematic
 - 23 ____ dixit
 - 24 "1960's Richard Chamberlain TV role
 - 27 Tease, with "on"
 - 28 Nap under a sombrero
 - 31 "Ava Gardner's co-star in "The Sun Also Rises"
 - 37 Resistance unit
 - 38 Wished otherwise
 - 38 Will Smith biopic, 2001
 - 40 Fateful March day
 - 41 Little devil
 - 42 "Dell request
 - 48 Nursery rhyme opening
 - 48 Miner's find
 - 48 What the answers to the seven starred clues all are or contain
 - 58 Persian sprite
 - 58 Harangue
 - 58 590, to Caesar
 - 60 Partner of dangerous
 - 62 Comic actor Jacques
 - 63 Cry of fright
 - 64 "Writer ____ Boothe Luce
 - 65 Tucson-to-New Orleans route
 - 68 "Quilt filling
 - 67 It may be perfect
 - 68 Actress Garr of "Mr. Mom"
 - 68 Eye sore
- Down**
- 1 "It'll be ____ day in hell ..."
 - 2 Bull-riding event
 - 3 Pre-euro money
 - 4 Shade of blue
 - 5 Not in custody
 - 6 Model T feature
 - 7 Storied Swiss miss
 - 8 Praise highly
 - 8 Approves
 - 10 Quit for good, jobwise
 - 11 Welch's product
 - 12 Kennedy Center focus, with "the"
 - 13 Wall Street Init.
 - 21 Equine color
 - 22 Store stock: Abbr.
 - 25 Trampled
 - 28 Publicize
 - 28 ____ Might Be Giants (rock group)
 - 30 Schoolyard retort
 - 31 "Lou Grant" newspaper, with "the"



Puzzle by Holden Baker

- 32 Arizona city
- 33 Tool kit carrier
- 34 Buddy
- 35 Bygone
- 38 Puns and such
- 40 "____ a traveler ...": "Ozymandias"
- 42 "Ball ____"
- 43 Malt-drying kiln
- 44 Erich Weiss, on stage
- 45 Fish-eating eagle
- 47 Prickly plants
- 50 Cry to the band
- 51 Fruit-packing unit
- 52 Western flick
- 53 Birdbrain
- 54 Multilane rts.
- 55 Noisy public fight
- 58 Treaty
- 57 Author ____ Stanley Gardner
- 61 Actress Ruby
- 63 Football gains or losses: Abbr.

ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE



Sudoku By The Mepham Group

6 8 2 9 4
9 6 3
2 7
9 4 7 5
2 7
1 9
6 5 1
7 4 1 6 3

Level: 1 2 3 4
Complete the grid so each row, column and 3-by-3 box (in bold border) contains every digit 1 to 9. For strategies on how to solve Sudokus, visit www.sudoku.org.uk

Solution to Monday's puzzle

9	1	7	3	8	5	2	4	6
6	3	4	9	1	2	5	7	8
2	8	5	4	7	6	3	9	1
7	6	9	5	2	1	8	3	4
1	5	8	6	4	3	7	2	9
4	2	3	7	9	8	6	1	5
5	7	8	1	3	4	9	8	2
3	4	2	8	6	9	1	5	7
8	9	1	2	5	7	4	6	3

For answers, call 1-800-285-5656, \$1.20 a minute; or, with a credit card, 1-800-814-5354.

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TENNIS | SEASON RECAP

An unexpected season

Both teams finished better than expected

By Kevin Murphy
Associate Sports Editor

They were expected to not make the Ohio Valley Conference Tournament.

They were supposed to finish near the bottom on the league.

The men's and women's tennis teams proved the OVC wrong. The men's team was selected to finish in a tie for eighth place and finished fifth in the regular season.

"We were kind of shocked that by the ranking too," freshman Jeff Rutherford said of the preseason ranking.

The women were also selected to finish in eighth, but finished third in the regular season.

"I'm so happy I was part of this year," said senior Madina Mambetova.

Mambetova also said she would come back next year if not for graduation.

"She's been a great player as leader and as a player," said Eastern head coach John Blackburn.

The women's tennis team finished 13-9, 7-3 in the OVC.

It was the highest OVC finish for the Panthers, and it marked the first time since the Panthers had gone to the OVC Tournament since 2005.

That year they were a No. 8 seed.

Last year, the women finished 6-15, 2-8 in the OVC. The Panthers finished in ninth place, not qualifying for the six-team tournament field.

"Moving six spots rarely happens with any team," Blackburn said. "It was a combination of young players contributing and returning players improving."

This year they were the No. 3 seed at the OVC Tournament



JOHN BAILEY | THE DAILY EASTERN NEWS
Sophomore tennis player Natalie Martin argues with a referee about an Eastern Kentucky player during Eastern's match against ECU at Darling Courts on April 13. Martin lost the match 6-2, 6-3.

TOP FIVE TEAMS IN OVC

Women's Tennis

Team	OVC	Overall
Samford	10-0	12-4
Murray St.	9-1	14-5
EIU	7-3	12-8
UT Martin	7-3	11-5
EKU	6-4	12-12

Men's Tennis

Team	OVC	Overall
Jacksonville St.	8-1	14-6
Tenn Tech.	8-1	8-14
Samford	7-2	13-8
EKU	7-2	17-10
EIU	5-4	13-6

behind the play of first team all-OVC picks Sandra Sasidharan and Natalie Martin.

"Sandy is our No. 1 player," Mambetova said. "It's a lot of

PREDICTED FINISH FOR EASTERN MEN AND WOMEN

Women's Tennis Tied for 8
Men's Tennis 8 place

responsibility. She's so humble. She's so sweet. She goes out there and does it."

Sasidharan, a junior, went 19-2 this season, and Martin, a sophomore, led the team with 20 victories.

Both those players will return for next year, as well as Hayley Homburg, the OVC freshman of the year.

"Hayley got injured during (the last match of the season)," Blackburn said. "I know the injury affected that match. She's a strong player."

Homburg finished the season 16-6 and finished the regular season 9-1 in OVC matches.

The men's team finished fifth in

the conference behind the strong play of senior Chuck Levaque.

Levaque was named a second team All-OVC pick.

It was the fourth straight year Levaque was honored by the OVC.

"He was a great leader for us all year long," Rutherford said. "He carried himself real well."

Levaque was a second team pick in 2005 and 2006 and was a first team selection in 2004.

"He'll be missed," Blackburn said. "He's a very good player."

Levaque leaves Eastern with a 51-24 record in singles play, playing at the No. 1 singles spot his final three years.

The Panthers were also led by Rutherford, who led the team with 15 wins, most coming at No. 5 singles.

"He was a big contributor," Blackburn said. "I think he'll improve as times goes on. He'll be a better player."

» Championship

FROM PAGE 12

"I saw some people hit it (a downhill putt) completely off the green," he said.



The tournament leader board experienced significant changes with four golfers falling out of the top 10.

Morehead State senior Kyle Litter dropped the farthest from the top 10 in the second round, falling from tied for second to a tie for 13th after shooting a second-round 80.

Overall, Morehead State senior Matt Gann fell 15 spots in the tournament, the most in the standings after a second-round 84.

Matt Imburgia's jump from tied for 30th to a tie for 15th was the biggest positive improvement in the tournament.

Rounding out Eastern's scores were junior Mike Imburgia (79, +7), senior Ty Comerford (78, +6) and junior Jaron Rose (85, +13).

OVERALL TOURNAMENT STANDINGS

1	Jacksonville St.	597
2	E. Kentucky	608
3	Austin Peay	611
4	Murray St.	620
5	E. Illinois	622
T6	Morehead St.	626
T6	Samford	630
8	Tennessee Tech	630
9	Tennessee St.	646
10	Tenn-Martin	651

TOP SCORES FROM EIU

T8	Anthony Imburgia	151
T15	Matt Imburgia	154

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SOFTBALL | AT UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS

It's just another game

Panthers look for revenge after sweep

By Kevin Kenealy
Online Interactive Editor

Senior Katy Steele still remembers being thrown out at home plate last year in one of the two losses to Illinois.

Today, she will have her chance for revenge.

The Indiana native, however, said she doesn't relate to the Illinois rivalry all that well and just wants to keep the team's current two-game win streak alive.

"I didn't even know our game Tuesday was against Illinois until today," Steele said. "We had two good wins the last two games, and we got to win a lot of games to get into the conference tournament."

The Panthers finished third last season in the OVC.

Eastern is ninth in the Ohio Valley Conference.

Illinois is fifth in the Big Ten with a 7-5 conference record and blank overall.

Despite U of I's Big Ten status, Eastern players do not consider themselves to be underdogs, and look at facing Illinois as facing any other team.

"I think any team we can beat on any day," junior Ashley Robison said. "Some days fly balls fall and it's anyone's game any given day."



JOHN BAILEY | THE DAILY EASTERN NEWS

Sophomore pitcher Kathleen Jacoby throws the ball to first base to make the play while third baseman Allyson Nolte backs her up during Eastern's 4-3 win against Morehead State on Sunday afternoon.

It doesn't matter what team you're facing."

For Eastern, beating Illinois means an extra push of momentum for conference team Austin Peay this weekend.

But even if the Panthers don't pull it out, Robison at least won't consider the loss a disappointment.

"Any game you play will help

us in some way," she said. "Win or lose, it's good experience for us."

Softball alumna Rachel Karos agreed with this theory in that even though Illinois is in the Big Ten, it's the type of game the team has nothing to lose since it's not conference play.

Unlike this year, Eastern went to U of I on a five-game losing streak, a streak that ended with two close

REMAINING SCHEDULE FOR PANTHER SOFTBALL

Today vs. Illinois	DH
Saturday at Austin Peay	DH
Sunday at Austin Peay	
5/1 vs. Illinois State	
5/2 at Southeast Missouri	
5/5 vs. Jacksonville St.	DH
5/6 vs. Jacksonville St.	
5/10-5/13 Ohio Valley Tournament	

*DH are Double Header games

losses to Illinois.

Yet, following the five-game streak, EIU went on a seven-game win streak.

"We got hot at this point last year," said junior Robyn Mackie. Mackie said the series is not really a rivalry for her and is looking forward to this weekend versus Austin Peay.

Whatever happens against Illinois happens, fun she said

Head coach Kim Schuette recalled the two losses last year and said the Eastern-Illinois rivalry is always fun.

Both games last year against U of I were at Illinois.

This year they will be at Williams Field.

"Don't want to be an Illinois shadow," said Schuette. "You want to win every game you play and this will be a good test for us."

» Murphy

FROM PAGE 12

Wesson, on Saturday at the Vanderbilt Invitational, was second in a time of 1:51.95. He keeps continually dropping his 800-meter time.

At the Calhoun Classic on April 15, Wesson ran a 1:52.81. And at the SIU Collegiate Relays on March 24, Wesson ran a 1:54.23.

The Panthers only have a few more weeks if they want to break outside the box and send more athletes to the regionals.

They have the prestigious Drake Relays on Friday and Saturday where some of the nation's top talent comes to achieve perfection.

Eastern track and field athletes also have the opportunity to do so at the Ohio Valley Conference Championships.

These two meets will be the best time to qualify for the regional for multiple reasons.

The first reason is because of the atmosphere. The Drake Relays draw athletes from around the country at all levels including high school, college and professional.

Another reason is that the competition at both of these meets will be excellent. The OVC and the Drake Relays provide top talent and force the athlete to compete that much more.

Finally, time is not on the athletes' side. There are only two big meets left for the athletes to qualify.

This is why if one follows the track and field program, those athletes' times will start to drop and there may be more than one regional qualifier come May.

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SPORTS

TUESDAY
4.24.07

sportschedule

PANTHER SPORTS SCHEDULE

MEN'S GOLF

TODAY at Ohio Valley Conference Championships | All day, Paducah, Ky.

SOFTBALL

TODAY vs. Illinois | 4 p.m. Williams Field

BASEBALL

TODAY at Illinois | 6 p.m. Champaign

BASEBALL

Wednesday vs. Illinois State | 3 p.m. Coaches Stadium

FOOTBALL

Wednesday Scrimmage | 4 p.m. O'Brien Stadiumkevinmurphy
RUNNING WITH THE PACK

Track about to break through

Junior sprinter Brenton Pegues broke through on Saturday at the Vanderbilt Invitational in Nashville, Tenn.

He is the first Panther to hit an NCAA outdoor qualifying mark this season.

Pegues ran the 400-meter dash in 47.16 seconds and placed third. The regional qualifying time is 47.20 seconds. In other words, Pegues barely passed it for his personal best time.

Pegues is the first Panther, but others are close to qualifying as well.

One of those Panthers is senior thrower Austin Hogue.

The Tuscola native is on the cusp of qualifying for the javelin.

He is the defending Ohio Valley Conference javelin champion and placed sixth at the 2006 NCAA Midwest Regionals with a personal best throw of 216 feet, 7 inches.

Also on the cusp for qualifying in the javelin is senior Kyle Ellis.

Ellis, normally a pole vaulter, threw 59.06 meters this past weekend at Vanderbilt.

In the indoor season, he set a provisional mark for the pole vault and a school record (17 feet, 1 inch).

Senior Dan Strackeljahn and junior Chris Wesson are also on the cusp too.

Strackeljahn was close in the indoor mile and Wesson is inching closer in the outdoor 800-meter run.

The regional qualifying mark is 1:50.48.

» SEE MURPHY, PAGE 11



Kevin Murphy is a freshman journalism major. He can be reached at kjmurphy@eiu.edu.

Jacksonville State still leads OVC Championship

Eastern moves up three spots to fifth place in second round

Read page 10 to see the individual standings

By Scott Richey
Online News Editor

Windy conditions continued during the second round of the Ohio Valley Conference at the Country Club of Paducah in Paducah, Ky.

Tennessee Tech senior Scott Stallings continued his excellent play and shot a 3-under 69 in the second round. Stallings was the only golfer to shoot under par in both the first and second rounds. He now leads the field by seven strokes.

Eastern moves to fifth overall with a score of 307, eight shots better than its first round score.

Going into the third and final round, Eastern is two strokes out of fourth place and 11 short of third.

Eastern junior Matt Imburgia said while

team members played well Monday, they are in a position to advance more in the final round if they play even better.

Jacksonville State finished in first place and shot under 300 for the second consecutive day.

The Gamecocks again had four scores in the 70s, led by senior Bryan Rozier's -1 over 73.

Imburgia led Eastern's team effort with a 2-over 74; six strokes better than his first round score.

Winds blew even harder than during the first round.

Imburgia said this made it difficult to control both distance and spin on the ball.

He said his approach shot on the first hole landed 15 feet from the hole before the wind pushed it off the green into a water hazard.

Despite a rocky start, Imburgia said his

improvement in the second round came from not letting mishaps negatively affect his attitude like they did in the first round.

"I had a triple bogey (on the eighth hole), but I tried to rebound and salvage a decent round," Imburgia said.

Imburgia's six-stroke improvement catapulted him from a tie for 30th to a tie for 15th. His brother, senior Anthony Imburgia carded a 4-over 76 and is tied for eighth overall.

Anthony Imburgia said he has yet to play his best golf.

"I know that if I play up to my potential I can move up," he said.

At only four strokes out of second place, Anthony Imburgia said his goal for the final round is to play well enough to move up into the top three.

Anthony Imburgia said the windy conditions played a factor around the greens again.

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BASEBALL | PITCHING STATUS



JOHN BAILEY | THE DAILY EASTERN NEWS

Senior pitcher Brandon Murphy threw seven innings, and gave up five hits and two runs in his outing in last Sunday's loss against Samford. Murphy is 2-2 in his final season with the Panthers and has a 6.20 ERA.

Pitching on the upside

Panthers attempt to find No. 2 starter for weekend games

By Brandy Provaznik
Staff Reporter

It has been an area of concern all year for head coach Jim Schmitz.

But the starting pitching seemed much improved for the Panthers this weekend against Samford, senior third baseman Ryan Campbell said, especially in the first and third game of the series against Samford.

Eastern hopes to get the right pitchers in to practice this week to set up for their upcoming weekend series against Southeast Missouri starting with a game at Illinois today.

Schmitz was pleased with the pitching against Samford, but said they need to find a No. 2 starter they can count on for the weekends.

Senior Chris Vaculik pitched a complete game in the first game on Saturday earning his 20th career win. He allowed only six hits and two runs and struck out eight batters. But in the second game, starter Mike Manns only lasted 1 2/3 innings, giving up five runs on

four hits.

"That's how it has been for us all year we have come out stellar in the first game and dropped the ball in the second," senior pitcher Brandon Murphy said. "That is something we can hopefully work on and improve on in weeks to come."

Murphy had a good showing in Sunday's game, until the top the eighth when he came out holding his right arm.

"I had an elbow injury last year, and I took the entire summer off, healed it up and one pitch (Sunday) just kind of re-aggravated the muscle in there," said the right-hander.

Murphy said his elbow is really sore and they are going to slowly work on it and will judge by how he feels in a week or so when he can start throwing again.

"I felt like this last week I finally got things rolling again for me mechanically and I was building confidence back up there on the mound," Murphy said. "It's extremely frustrating for something like this to happen, especially because it is out of my control."

Murphy didn't allow a hit until the fifth inning and when he came out in the eighth, had only allowed five hits and two runs.

Murphy, a Charleston native, transferred

from Illinois after his sophomore year to Eastern because he said he wanted to find a better opportunity baseball wise.

"I loved the academics and everything at U of I but I needed to make some changes for my baseball career," Murphy said. "I made those changes by coming to Eastern and I love it here."

Murphy will not be traveling with the team today but will go up to Champaign on his own and sit in the stands.

"It may be a little weird, but I am more excited to see some of my old friends and how some of my old teammates play against my new ones," Murphy said.

Schmitz said junior Alex Guttosch will start against Illinois.

Guttosch has struggled this year, posting an 0-3 record with a 6.75 ERA.

Schmitz hopes that he can get him, and a couple other pitchers, throwing well and gaining confidence this week. Eastern hosts Illinois State on Wednesday before playing at SEMO this weekend.

"We aren't cohesive, and I am not saying they all have to be good all the time," Schmitz said. "But I am looking for five or six good arms, and right now I only have three or four."