

Eastern Illinois University

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

SPORTS ♦ Men's track races to OVC indoor title: page 12

THE DAILY EASTERN NEWS

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LINDSEY CHOY/THE DAILY EASTERN NEWS

Tracey Wayne, Miss Black EIU 2004, crowns Jennifer Ether as Miss Black EIU 2005 during the Miss Black EIU pageant Saturday night in the Grand Ballroom of the Martin Luther King Jr. University Union.

A new queen is crowned

Jennifer Ether takes over reign as Miss Black EIU

BY APRIL MCLAREN
CAMPUS EDITOR

After weeks of preparation, the hard work paid off when Jennifer Ether was crowned Miss Black EIU 2005, Saturday night.

Just minutes before the four contestants took the stage in the Grand Ballroom of the Martin Luther King Jr. University Union, Ether, a sophomore journalism major, said she was busy, setting up last minute props and trying to get the people participating with her all together. She said she could not believe the

night had finally arrived.

"I was running crazy putting everything together," she said. "It went by so fast. It was over just like that."

Ether, along with Stephanie Johnson, a junior journalism major; Tiffany Ross, a sophomore communications major; and Lakya Hill, a junior psychology major, were judged on four categories: creative expression, African garment, talent and evening gown with an impromptu question.

The talent competition was Ether's favorite when she and four other girls took the stage to perform an organized dance for a crowd of approximately 200.

She said she would not have been able to accomplish what she did without the girls in the dance competition on her side. They practiced every night from 10 p.m. to midnight working on choreography, costumes

and getting the right "vibe" for the dance.

"Those girls helped me the whole way," Ether said.

Other talents included flute playing and singing from Ross and a Maya Angelou poetry recitation by Hill.

The creative expression category was the first category the girls competed in, which was a freedom of personal expression the contestants wrote and performed on stage.

Johnson's performance was concerning violence. She spoke as a woman who was in a physically abusive relationship.

"The first time a woman is hit should be the last," she said. "After he hits you, everything you once believed about that relationship changes."

After Hill's performance on the love of Jesus

SEE QUEEN PAGE 7

CUPB digests impact of fall 2006 budget

Governor's proposal to give no new funding, cut pension benefits

BY JENNIFER PERYAM
ADMINISTRATION EDITOR

The Council on University Planning and Budget received an update, Friday, on Eastern's budget and enrollment initiatives for fall 2006.

Gov. Rod Blagojevich's proposal for fiscal year 2006 would give no new funding to Eastern and cut pension benefits for new university employees.

Blagojevich's proposal, which was announced earlier this month, would set Eastern's state funding at \$47.6 million, the same as last year. The static funding would mean Eastern and other Illinois public universities will look to raising tuition to cover increasing costs.

"We want to encourage the university to think positively and work with the legislature to know intimately the story at Eastern," said Jim Shonkwiler, director of budgeting.

Shonkwiler said the house hearings for the budget have started and Eastern will be working with the legislatures to receive a budget that would be better than a flat budget.

Under the governor's current proposal, all public universities would receive the same funding as the year before. The proposal does reallocate funds for the renovations of the Doudna Fine Arts Center, expected to begin in March.

An update on the admissions process at Eastern was presented by Brenda Ross, director of admissions.

"We see parents looking at colleges earlier and are working on strategies to guide these families," Ross said.

Ross said Eastern is continuing to admit students for fall 2005.

"We have had a bountiful flow of applications and are trying to be intentional in the students we admit," said Blair Lord, provost and vice president for academic affairs.

SEE BUDGET PAGE 7

Eastern commemorates King

New timeline memorial is put in Bridge Lounge of University Union

BY NICOLE MILSTEAD
STAFF WRITER

Many people remember exactly where they were and what they were doing when an influential person in history died.

University President Lou Hencken remembers he was in his car driving to Arcola when he found out Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. died.

Hencken felt it was so important to remember Dr. King that he made the creation of a memorial to him one of his three goals for this school year.

"I made goals for the year, and we have met and exceeded them well," Hencken said.

Through the years, many students have approached

Hencken about creating a new memorial to Dr. King. Hencken was always very supportive of them but never found a student with the determination to follow through until the day he met Jeff Collier, Hencken said.

"Just as Dr. Martin Luther King said 'I have a dream,' Jeff Collier said 'I have a plan,'" Hencken said.

Collier was moved to action after he heard a student in his "Civil Rights Movement" class ask why there was only one picture of Dr. King in the Martin Luther King Jr. University Union.

"In September of 2003, I was just an active student who approached Shirley Stewart, university vice president, about creating a new memorial," Collier said.

That same month, a table was set up in the Union to raise money for the memorial; \$565 was raised. This money showed Eastern that students were serious about wanting the memorial, Collier said. Many university officials worked hard to raise the funding needed. The memorial cost approx-

SEE KING PAGE 7



STEPHEN HAAS/THE DAILY EASTERN NEWS

Members of Alpha Phi Alpha fraternity take down the curtain during the unveiling ceremony for the Martin Luther King Jr. memorial in the Bridge Lounge of the Martin Luther King Jr. University Union Saturday evening.

FIVE-DAY OUTLOOK

TODAY
38
26
Rain/snow

TUESDAY
31
20
Flurries/wind

WEDNESDAY
32
20
Partly cloudy

THURSDAY
42
31
Partly cloudy

FRIDAY
40
35
Rain/snow

COLLEGE AND UNIVERSITY NEWS

UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII Alien algae invades

By **KIMBERLY GEE**
KA LEO O HAWAII

(U-WIRE) HONOLULU – Hawaii's coral reefs are being overgrown by an invasive red-orange algae, *Gracilaria salicornia*, which is threatening the islands' marine environment.

Volunteers are needed for an alien algae clean-up. "Last year we had about 200 people help," said Signe Opheim, director of the event. "People were out on surfboards, boogie boards and with their snorkels to help bring the algae to the beach."

Volunteers will retrieve bags of algae that divers have bundled and send to the surface. The invasive algae is then separated from the native species and put into a recycle container. The invasive algae goes to Hawaii Earth Products to be used as mulch.

UNIVERSITY OF NOTRE DAME Sudan crisis traced

By **MICHAEL BUSK**
THE OBSERVER

(U-WIRE) SOUTH BEND, Ind. – The current ethnic cleansing crisis in western Sudan, with two-year death toll estimates in the hundreds of thousands, actually traces back to grains of sand.

In an interview with *The Observer*, Juan Mendez, special adviser to U.N. Secretary-General Kofi Annan for genocide, said he estimated the recent death toll in the region to be as high as 170,000 and perhaps even higher. Some Darfur experts have estimated the death count to be more than 300,000.

UNIVERSITY OF MISSOURI Legislation proposed

By **A.J. BAYATPOUR**
THE MANEATER

(U-WIRE) COLUMBIA, Mo. – Missouri state senators discussed a bill this week that would grant immigrants in-state tuition for all state-funded universities.

Sen. Maida Coleman, D-St. Louis, presented Senate Bill 296 in a hearing before the Senate Education Committee on Tuesday. The bill proposes that if an immigrant attends a Missouri high school for at least two years and graduates, or earns an equivalent degree, he or she would be eligible for in-state tuition.

Students who are not U.S. citizens or permanent residents could sign an affidavit pledging to become a permanent resident in order to receive the lower tuition rate.

CORRECTIONS

In the Friday, Feb. 25 edition of *The Daily Eastern News*, Lovell Shoe Repair and Jane Lovell was misspelled in an article titled "City defaced." *The News* regrets the error.

ALL IN THE FAMILY



STEPHEN HAAS/THE DAILY EASTERN NEWS

Joe Centers performs with his daughter, Jill, during halftime at the men's basketball game Saturday evening in Lantz Arena. The Pink Panthers performed a routine with thier fathers or special guests for the last game of the year.

WTF?

Man has sex with cows

NEILLSVILLE, Wis. (AP) – A 63-year-old man is charged with sexual gratification with an animal for allegedly having sex with calves.

Harold G. Hart, of Neillsville, allegedly told police that he routinely stopped at a Greenwood farm, usually after bar closing or on trips to strip clubs near Marshfield or Neillsville.

A criminal complaint filed in Clark County Circuit Court said the farm's owners installed a motion detector on Jan. 22 after regularly seeing footprints and vehicle tracks on their land. Around 4 a.m. the next morning, a sensor sounded and Hart was caught leaving the barn, but Hart allegedly said he just used a bathroom in the barn and had never been there before.

Hart told police he had sex with heifers before he went into the service in 1963 and resumed about a year ago at the farm.

ENTERTAINMENT

'Baby' is best picture

LOS ANGELES (AP) - Clint Eastwood received the best-director Academy Award on Sunday for the boxing saga "Million Dollar Baby." The film also took home the best picture Oscar. A previous winner for "Unforgiven," Eastwood joined an exclusive club of dual-directing recipients that includes Billy Wilder, David Lean, Robert Wise and Steven Spielberg.

Hilary Swank became a double Oscar winner with a best-actress win for her role in "Baby," Jamie Foxx took lead actor for "Ray," and "The Aviator" led the Oscars with five prizes, including supporting actress for Cate Blanchett.

"Million Dollar Baby" also earned the supporting-actor prize for Morgan Freeman for his portrayal of a worldly wise ex-prizefighter. The wins for Freeman and Foxx made it only the second time blacks won two of the four acting prizes.

TODAY'S EVENTS

SUMMER & FALL CLASS REGISTRATION APPOINTMENTS	8 A.M.	ACADEMIC ADVISING CENTER, 9TH STREET HALL
Students assigned to an Academic Adviser at the Academic Advising Center should come in to make an appointment.		
MIMIO BOARD	10 A.M.	CATS TRAINING LAB, MCAFEE 1214
This workshop demonstrates the basic features and components of the Mimio technology.		
RESUME BLITZ	3 P.M.	CAREER SERVICES, 1301 HSC
Get your resume critiqued before the Mid-America Educator's Job Fair.		

ONLINE POLL

What do you think should have won the Oscar for Best Picture?

- A) "The Aviator"
- B) "Finding Neverland"
- C) "Million Dollar Baby"
- D) "Ray"
- E) "Sideways"

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COUNTING DOWN

17

Days until
St. Patrick's
Day.

WORD DU JOUR

incumbent
1. holding an indicated position, role, office, etc.
2. obligatory.

THE DAILY EASTERN NEWS

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HAVE A SUGGESTION?

If you have any suggestions or ideas for articles you would like to see in *The Daily Eastern News*, feel free to contact us at 581-2812 or by e-mail mmwilliams1220@aol.com.

FIND A MISTAKE?

Let us know if you find a factual error in *The News* so we can provide the correct information to other readers. Contact the editor at 581-2812 or mmwilliams1220@aol.com.

EDITOR IN CHIEF **MATT WILLIAMS**
..... mmwilliams1220@aol.com
MANAGING EDITOR **JENNIFER CHIARIELLO**
..... cujc7@eiu.edu
NEWS EDITOR **AARON SEIDLITZ**
..... aseid0383@hotmail.com
ASSOCIATE NEWS EDITOR **JULIA BOURQUE**
..... bourque6@hotmail.com
OPINION PAGE EDITOR **MICHAEL SCHROEDER**
..... mjschroeder@eiu.edu
ASSOCIATE CAMPUS EDITOR **LAURA GRIFFITH**
..... urflaky2@hotmail.com
ADMINISTRATION EDITOR **JENNIFER PERKAM**
..... runner1530@yahoo.com
CITY EDITOR **HILLARY SETTLE**
..... cuhas2@eiu.edu
CAMPUS EDITOR **APRIL MCLAREN**
..... amae82@yahoo.com
STUDENT GOV. EDITOR **AMY SIMPSON**
..... elevenelevenam@hotmail.com
PHOTO EDITOR **STEPHEN HAAS**
..... stephen@haasphotography.com
ASSOCIATE PHOTO EDITOR **JOSH REELEY**
..... cujr4@eiu.edu

SENIOR REPORTER **KEVIN SAMPIER**
..... k_sampier@hotmail.com
SPORTS EDITOR **DAN WOIKE**
..... woiked@eiu.edu
ASSOCIATE SPORTS EDITOR **DAN RENICK**
..... ndwres88@hotmail.com
VERGE EDITOR **HOLLY HENSCHEN**
..... hhenschen9@hotmail.com
ASSOCIATE VERGE EDITOR **JOAQUIN OCHOA**
..... cujjo@eiu.edu
ONLINE EDITOR **STEPHEN HAAS**
..... stephen@haasphotography.com
ADVERTISING MANAGER **MEGAN NEUBAUER**
PROMOTIONS MANAGER **SARAH GIEBEL**
NATIONAL ADVERTISING **TORI CAMFIELD**
BUSINESS MANAGER **BETSY MELLOTT**
ASST. BUSINESS MANAGER **KYLE PERRY**
STUDENT BUSINESS MANAGER **MARIE REHR**
EDITORIAL ADVISER **JOE GISONDI**
..... cfjgg@eiu.edu
PUBLISHER **JOHN RYAN**
..... cfjmr1@eiu.edu
PRESS SUPERVISOR **TOM ROBERTS**

PHONE: 217-581-2812 FAX: 581-2923

E-MAIL: mmwilliams1220@aol.com

NIGHT PRODUCTION STAFF:
NIGHT CHIEF **JENNIFER CHIARIELLO**
INSIDE DESIGN **ANGEL FAIRCHILD**
SPORTS DESIGN **DAN WOIKE**
NIGHT PHOTO EDITOR **JOSH REELEY**
COPY EDITORS **BRI KENNEDY**
..... **ERIN MILLER**

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Candidates work for better voter turnout

Lack of student effort this year disappointing

By HILLARY SETTLE
CITY EDITOR

After a lack of student voting in Tuesday's primary election, the Student Senate, Interfraternity Council and Panhellenic Council are hosting a forum to give students an opportunity to become informed and involved in the election process.

The forum, which is scheduled for March 23, will give City Council candidates a chance to inform students of their goals if elected.

The Student Senate is sponsoring the event to try and encourage participation from the student body in both voting and community involvement, said Adam Howell, a junior political science major and Student Senate executive vice president.

"We are trying to sponsor a sense of community from the students of Eastern," he said. "We believe it's important for students to get involved with town issues. We want to have a student-friendly voice on the council."

Larry Rennels, an incumbent seeking reelection, said Eastern was "ahead of the game" in planning the forum and said he was looking forward to attending.

The forum will have a town hall structure, where students will write questions down and Howell will read them to candidates for a response, Howell said. The sole candidate for mayor, John Inyart, will also be speak-

ing at the forum. Students will also have an opportunity to register to vote at the forum, he said.

Some issues Howell expects to be brought up are bar hours, the bar entry age and economic involvement in the town.

Many other candidates shared the same enthusiasm as Rennels and are looking forward to the forum as a way to connect to the student population and get student feedback.

"I guess the question is 'what do the students want?'" said City Council candidate Jeff Lahr. "Maybe it has been asked and I just don't know, but I think one of the main ways of opening the communication is to have a public forum."

Lahr said opening communication and regarding students as actual community members are aspects of his campaign students would appreciate.

"I know students are only here for four or five years, but that cannot be looked at any differently than a person who is here and transfers after a few years because of their job," he said.

Bob Murphy's goals for connecting with Eastern students were similar to Lahr's.

"I think (the community and students) could do a lot of things around here together," he said, but noted that the effort had to come from both sides. "The students need to get involved in the community as much as the city needs to reach out to them"

Only 1.39 percent of registered voters in the four student precincts, or precincts where students usually vote, turned out to vote last week, said Coles County Clerk Betty Coffrin.

That statistic, combined with the overall 10.2 percent voter turnout from the city, has some candidates concerned.

"It's a concern to me when anybody who has the right to vote doesn't vote," said City Council candidate Thomas Watson. "(Students) are voting on the people who are going to affect their lives the next four years."

The low numbers didn't faze Howell because there are usually low turnouts in the primary election, he said.

Eastern musical talents exposed

'Puttin' on the Hits' traces roots of music

By YOUNGCHI CHANG
STAFF WRITER

Swaying with the music, an audience was entertained by performances in a talent show called "Puttin' on the Hits" that took place on Friday evening in the Grand Ballroom of Martin Luther King Jr. University Union.

John Coffey, the director of the show and academic adviser of early childhood education, opened the show by singing "Love Train" by the O'Jays with two other faculty members who served as back-up vocals.

The performances included singing and reciting a passage from the Bible by Judith Barbour, professor of early childhood education.

Four girls lip-synched "Giving Him Something He Can Feel" by En Vogue.

Another group of three girls performed the Destiny Child's "Soldier" music video.

Ryan Goodall, a freshman pre-nursing major, performed a mixed dance that put together different genres of dances with

her partner, Bryan Range, a freshman family and consumer sciences major.

"We practiced for two weeks," Goodall said, who also performed in sign language the song, "Just My Imagination" by the Temptations with about 10 students.

"I liked Coffey's medley of different songs," said Marcus Smith, a freshman biology major.

Smith said he thought it was a good way for people who do not know about Black history to express themselves and have a good time.

Nancy Farber, assistant professor of counseling and student development, came out with enthusiastic performances in "Midnight Train to Georgia" by Gladys Knight and the Pips and "Proud Mary" by Tina Turner.

"All of the shows were fantastic," Farber said. "Everyone had a lot of energy and had a really good time."

Coffey sang "Hit the Road Jack" by Ray Charles with several students as back-up vocals.

The show closed with four ROTC students' who saluted Coffey's performance of "America the Beautiful."

"The show was a connection between



STEPHEN HAAS/THE DAILY EASTERN NEWS
John Coffey, academic advisor of the early childhood education department, sings during the talent show in the Grand Ballroom of the Martin Luther King Jr. University Union Friday night.

faculty and students," said Jamal Morris, a senior Board of Trustees. "We definitely attained our goals to celebrate Black History Month (and) to share our culture with people to understand American culture."

Collegezone Web site comes to campus

By MICHAEL PETERSON
STAFF WRITER

It does not matter if a person is a high school senior, a transfer student or someone just trying to find some financial aid or scholarships, the Collegezone Web site can help out in a number of ways.

Representatives from Collegezone will be at the Martin Luther King Jr. University Union today to provide more information on the site.

The site, www.collegezone.com, was developed by the Illinois Student Assistance Commission (ISAC) and is designed as a free tool for parents and students to use when looking for information on Illinois colleges.

The Web site navigates users through the steps of applying for college and acquiring financial aid and explains each step.

"(The site) is free," said Alexis Davis, public relations account executive for ISAC. "We are not going to charge you, and there are no hidden costs."

The Web site can still be useful, even for those who are not high school seniors.

Carrie Harding, a freshman undecided major, said when she applied at Eastern as a transfer student she was on her own, fending for herself.

"If I would have known about the Web site, I definitely would've used it," Harding said.

College graduates can click on the "after college" link for tips ranging from

how to pay off student loans to creating a resume.

ISAC is also taking great strides in reaching out to the Hispanic population. They are hiring bilingual counselors and collegezone.com can be translated from English to Spanish with just a click of a button.

"(Collegezone) was a way to bring everything under one umbrella and give it a recognizable name," said Lori Reimers, ISAC director of state relations.

Instead of going on the Internet and searching for many sites and eventually finding the information that you need, users can literally go to one site and find everything they could possibly want and more, she said.

"Collegezone serves as a one-stop shop," Reimers said.

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OPINION

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

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 28, 2005

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mmwilliams1220@aol.com

COLUMN

Remembering past sacrifices



MICHAEL SCHROEDER

SENIOR, HISTORY EDUCATION MAJOR

Schroeder is the opinion page editor for *The Daily Eastern News*.

Since the Iraqi war began in March 2003, coalition forces have experienced about 12,000 casualties, 1,600 of which were deaths. A majority of both these casualties and deaths have been American.

Last week, the Paris National Guard returned to a much-deserved hero's welcome after a year of duty and the loss of five fellow soldiers, and Cpl. Kevin Michael Clarke, a 21-year-old Marine from Tinley Park, was killed by a small arms fire. Clark attended Andrew High School in the south suburbs, which many Eastern students attended.

Both events were reminders of the realities of war and the effect that those statistics have had on the families and friends of troops.

There is no denying the sacrifice these soldiers and their families are making. But when looking at the history books the number of deaths and casualties in this war is very low.

During one day of the Civil War (Battle of Antietam, Sept. 17, 1862) there were twice as many casualties as there have been in the nearly two years of the Iraqi War. Granted the Civil War casualties count is higher because Americans were fighting on both sides, but the numbers are still mind-boggling when you think of the effect it would have on families of that era.

In no way am I minimizing the sacrifice of today's troops; I have as much respect for them as anyone, but I do hope to point out the amazing sacrifice put up by our ancestors.

The Civil War accumulated approximately 498,000 casualties over its four-year span. Due to the style of warfare and especially the medical knowledge of the time, a larger percentage of those casualties were deaths.

Between 1861 and 1865, 498,000 men returned home wounded or not at all. Given the structure of society with men being the only member in the family to earn any kind of a living, the damage inflicted on the families is even more severe.

Approximately 1.5 percent of the American population were casualties during the war, which makes 3 percent of the soldiers. When you trim it down to just those men of a fighting age the percentage would only get higher. In comparison, the casualty rate in Iraq represents only 0.004 percent of the country's population.

To find a family in 1866 without casualties in the Civil War, be it in the North or the South, would be a difficult task.

It is amazing that our country was able to come out of the Civil War in tact and, although it wasn't pretty and took a long time, come together again as one nation.

More recently, World War II saw very high casualty rates. Americans saw approximately 405,000 casualties, which comes out to about 0.3 percent of the population. The sacrifice by those families, the generation of many of our grandparents, is also amazing.

With the effect that the current war has had on families throughout the country, it is amazing to consider how much more of a sacrifice was needed in the 1860s and 1940s.

It shows the resilience, dedication and courage of those of previous generations. Something none of us should forget. It is part of the reason we study history and are asked to memorize all those statistics.

To understand and respect the sacrifice given by many men and women generations before us, just so we could live the life we live today, is the least we can do.

EDITORIAL CARTOON BY RICH LAKEBERG



EDITORIAL

Voicing the student opinion

Last week the Charleston City Council primary elections took place, and Betty Coffrin, Coles County Clerk, said there was only a 1.39 percent turnout in the student precincts on campus. These student precincts are not all student voters either, Coffrin said. This percentage includes some community members too.

This is disappointing.

Students complain about the bar hours and bar entry age on Eastern's campus, but we aren't doing anything to change it. In 1993, when Mayor Cougill, who is retiring this year, was elected, he promised he would not change the bar entry age from 19 to 21. Once he came into office, he did just that.

But, we students can't complain because when election time came around again, enough of us didn't vote to get him out of office. In the 1997 elections, according to archives from *The Daily Eastern News*, Cougill only won by 764 votes.

In the 2000 Illinois Census, Charleston had a total population of 21,039 people, which includes students. In 2000, Eastern's enrollment alone was 10,637, this number includes both undergraduate and graduate students. We students

At issue

A disappointing student turnout at the city primaries

Our stance

Students, who account for half of Charleston's population, could make a huge difference in the April 5 city elections.

make up more than half of Charleston's entire population, which could give us, if the majority voted, a lot of say in what policies are made in Charleston.

We always complain there is not much to do in this town, especially on the weekends. There is always talk about other alternatives to the bars, but the bowling alley and movie theater are clearly not cutting it. With more student involvement in the elections, we could make a change in our options for weekend plans.

While John Inyart is running for mayor unopposed, there are eight candidates on the April 5 ballot for the four city council positions, all positions students can have say in.

Also, the Student Senate is sponsoring a candidate's forum March 23 in the Grand Ballroom of the Martin Luther King Jr. University Union. It would be beneficial for all students to go and get to know the candidates.

Our vote does matter, and we can make a difference.

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

YOUR TURN: LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

LET HAITI LIVE

On Feb. 28 2004, United States Marines took the democratically elected President of Haiti, Jean-Bertrand Aristide, from his home under threat of force. The President was told that he must compose a letter of resignation and agree to ask no questions, or he and his wife would be left at the airport and killed.

This is fact - not conspiracy.

As early as November 2003, rebel groups began marching toward the capital of Port Au Prince. These rebels, whom Colin Powell characterized as

"thugs and criminals," included members of the former paramilitary organization (the infamous FRAPH) universally recognized as having operated terrorist/execution squads during the 1991-1994 military coup. They were armed with M-16s and M-60s of American manufacture and faced a police force that had been rendered helpless by embargoes imposed on Haiti in 2000 under the false pretenses of "faulty elections."

As the rebels threatened to enter Port-au-Prince, the Bush administration stated that the United States would not send troops to protect the democratical-

ly elected government until a political solution had been reached. However, within one hour of President Aristide's departure U.S. troops were ordered to Haiti. Days later, an interim Prime minister sympathetic to "American interests" was appointed.

It has been widely accepted that self-determination is a basic human right and it is this principle that stands at the heart of democracy. What has happened in Haiti must not be forgotten. When will the people of the world let Haiti live?

SEAN BARTH

BOARD OF TRUSTEES PROGRAM

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. We reserve the right to edit letters for length. 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 mmwilliams1220@aol.com.

'Women like that' dancing in the McAfee spotlight

EIU Dancers performed weekend shows

By LAURA GRIFFITH
ASSOCIATE CAMPUS EDITOR

The EIU Dancers were "In the Spotlight" this weekend, performing a variety of dances during their annual student-/director-choreographed show.

About 700 people came to McAfee Gymnasium to see the company perform dances ranging from ballet to tap during shows at 7:30 p.m. Friday and Saturday and 6 p.m. Sunday, co-director Jeanna McFarland said.

"I heard (the show) was really good," said Christy Anderson, a sophomore history major. "My friend came last night."

McFarland, who is also an instructor in the physical education department, said the company consists of 17 dancers this year. This show is their annual event.

"We started practicing in September," said Cynthia Baker, a junior psychology major.

Baker, secretary of the EIU Dancers, was involved with various aspects of the show this year.



CARRIE HOLLIS/THE DAILY EASTERN NEWS

Members of the EIU Dancers perform "Women Like That" during their show entitled "In the Spotlight" on Sunday evening in McAfee Gymnasium. The dancers performed three shows over the course of the weekend.

"I choreographed two (dances) by myself and helped with three of them," Baker said.

During one of the dances, entitled "Some Days Are Like That," the dancers pretended to run across and around the stage in slow motion. The dance ended with all of the dancers, dressed in

sweatpants and T-shirts, lying on the floor.

"The last one was very funny," Anderson said. "I liked how they did the slow motion so long."

Other dances included a little bit of hip-hop with music by Missy Elliott, tap dancing to songs by the Dixie Chicks and

the Charlie Daniels Band, and ballet to Elton John's "Tiny Dancer."

"I liked 'Sweet Angel' and 'We're Dancing' the best, because my friends choreographed them," said Kari Blazek, a junior Spanish major.

Dancers were clad in a variety of costumes throughout the perform-

"The last one was very funny ... I liked how they did the slow motion so long."

CHRISTY ANDERSON,
SOPHOMORE HISTORY MAJOR

ance, from sweatpants to dresses to flannel shirts and jeans.

"I really liked the costumes this year," said Elizabeth Bucciarelli, a junior elementary education major. "Before they were just kind of plain."

The dancers took the stage for the last dance of the night, entitled "Never Felt This Way," to the song "(I've Had) The Time Of My Life" by Bill Medley and Jennifer Warnes. The entire company performed the dance along with the show's two directors, McFarland and assistant physical education professor Nancy Nordtvedt.

Baker, along with other members of the EIU Dancers, said all three shows went really well, especially Saturday night, which had the biggest turnout.

The company will perform again at Carl Sandburg Elementary School later in the semester, and possibly at the Relay for Life, Baker said.

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Vigil to be held in remembrance of year-long Haiti bloodshed

By JACLYN GORSKI
STAFF WRITER

The Newman Catholic Center and the Haiti Connection will be sponsoring a vigil at 5 p.m. today in front of the Newman Catholic Center in honor of the one year anniversary of the force down of the Haitian President Jean-Bertrand Aristide.

The purpose of the vigil is to remember what happened in Haiti a year ago,

said Roy Lanham campus minister for the Newman Catholic Center and the adviser for the Haiti Connection.

"We need to remember there was an injustice done there a year ago," Lanham said.

Members of the Newman Center and the Haiti Connection will be joining thousands of people across the country to pay respect to the country of Haiti.

"We are sort of going along with it,"

said Sean Barth, a junior Board of Trustees student. "It's sort of an international day."

Aristide stepped down on Feb. 29, 2004 when a group of armed rebels, who had taken over much of the northern part of country, said they were within 30 miles of the Haitian capital of Port-au-Prince, saying he did not want any more bloodshed.

"(Aristide) was basically removed at gun point," Barth said. "Since he

stepped down, there's been a lot of rioting and looting.

"Haiti is an extremely poor country and they have really gone downhill (since last year).

Aristide was elected in 2000 and was Haiti's first democratically elected president since the country's independence from France in 1804, and his term was not supposed to end until 2006."

Several countries, including France, Canada and the United States sent in

forces in order to protect Haiti's citizens from the anti-Aristide forces.

Boniface Alexandre, Haiti's Supreme Court Chief Justice was placed as president as mandated by Haiti's constitution.

"There's a sense of solidarity of the Haitian people in their plight of terror," Lanham said.

"Things are bad in Haiti. Things have to change in regard to our foreign policy with Haiti."

Pearson brings experience as director of faculty development

By KYLE MAYHUGH AND JENNIFER PERIAM
STAFF WRITERS

Mildred Pearson has been named Eastern's new director of faculty development, and she's bringing years of education experience to the position.

Pearson, assistant professor in the department of early childhood, elementary and middle school education, will serve a two-year term as director of faculty development.

"I wanted to be a voice for the

improvement and enhancement of education and for the advancement of those we serve," Pearson said, stating why she applied for the position. "I believe Eastern has a strong history and a powerful mission and that mission is possible to those who believe."

Pearson has previously served as a public school teacher for more than 17 years in the Oklahoma City Public Schools. Some of the other highlights of her career include assisting in the development of Inside Writing, a



MILDRED PEARSON

writing program to enhance the literacy needs of struggling readers and writers, and serving as an adjunct professor of the Educational Policy Department at the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee.

Bonnie Irwin, Honors College dean and former chair of Eastern's faculty development committee, said the devel-

opment process on campus is important to "making faculty successful on this campus."

"Faculty development is the means by which faculty have access to things like teaching workshops, research support and mentoring for newer faculty," Irwin said, noting it helps new faculty to know what is expected of them.

Pearson's responsibilities will include planning and coordinating programs and orientation, publicizing events and developing a new faculty mentor

program.

Pearson discussed how she will balance her duties as an assistant professor at Eastern as well as the director of faculty development position.

"I will multi-task while remaining multi-faceted and embrace myself with positive mentors," Pearson said.

Pearson said she will bring about balance by remaining focused and providing the allocated amount of time for teaching, research and services, as well as faculty development.

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Bob Augustine, chair of the North Central Association self-study committee speaks about the results of the accreditation survey Friday afternoon in the Martin Luther King Jr. University Union.



JOSH REELEY/THE DAILY EASTERN NEWS

BUDGET:

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

The admissions office is continuing to reevaluate the pooling process for those students who applied after Nov. 1.

Some of the enrollment challenges and threats Eastern faces that Ross addressed were financial limitations and students enrolling in community colleges and the University of Illinois.

"We are going to have to be creative and use what we do well and embrace what we believe

in," Ross said.

Working to understand potential students and using the "I Am EIU" marketing message are ways in which the admissions staff are attempting to connect with potential students and their families.

An open house for potential students is scheduled for April 23.

"It is important for faculty and staff to participate in this open house," Ross said.

Also at the CUPB meeting, Bob Augustine, co-chair of Eastern's NCA steering committee, discussed the results of the North Central

Association's site visit at Eastern.

"We were delighted with the participation of our campus community and glad there were recommendations that came out of the visit, not concerns," Augustine said.

The site visitors recommended Eastern continue to work on enhancing general education and equalize assessment programs. The NCA team will send an official post-visit report to Eastern within eight weeks. Eastern will have a chance to respond, and the final word on reaccreditation is expected from the NCA's Higher Learning Commission this fall.

QUEEN:

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Christ and the impact he has had on her life, she had audience members on their feet in praise.

"He will never leave you and never forsake you," she said.

The evening gown with an impromptu question was the last competition the girls were judged on. While Ether, Johnson and Hill donned traditional ballroom gowns, Ross wore a white, strapless dress with black embroidery handmade by her mother.

Bill Kolacek, Housing and Dining complex director and the pageant's host, asked each contestant the impromptu question.

Ether was asked how the struggles of the African-American society have influenced her.

She said her ancestors have given her pride, along with confidence.

"Because of them, I am who I am today," she said.

After the judges tallied up the scores for nearly 45 minutes, Hill was announced third runner-

up and Johnson as second runner-up.

This left Ether and Ross standing alone, hand in hand.

Ether said before the competition the two were friends, which made it a little weird to run against her.

"To have me and her at the end holding hands was the best," Ether said.

She said before the pageant she was not worried about the friendship of her and Ross with the chance that one of the two would win.

"This is my girl," she said. "And it doesn't matter when it's over. She is still going to be my girl."

When Ross was announced as first runner-up, tears overwhelmed Ether as she was crowned.

During extensive practicing while balancing her classes, Ether admitted to being stressed out before the pageant. She said without her mother, she would not have been able to get through all the stress. Her mother helped her organize everything she had going on in addition to preparing a lot of her props, Ether said.

"If it wasn't for her I couldn't have been so organized," she said.

During the pageant, Ether's mother was backstage helping her prepare for her events.

"She felt like she was in the pageant," Ether said.

During the pageant, there was entertainment from Unpredictable, a dance group, and musical entertainment from The Squad.

The event was coordinated by Tracey Wayne, Miss Black EIU 2004. Before the coronation, Wayne spoke about the past year as Miss Black EIU. She came to tears as she talked about what she had experienced working with the girls for the pageant.

"These are the best girls to work with," she said. "I'm glad to have this opportunity."

Ether said she knows the next year is going to be a lot of work as she holds the title as Miss Black EIU 2005. A goal Ether had when she decided to join the pageant was make her voice heard.

"I wanted to set an example for other females on this campus," she said.

KING:

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

imately \$8,000, said Bev Cruse, university photographer.

At 6 p.m. this past Saturday, Jeff Collier, the current Black Student Union president, unveiled the new memorial in the Bridge

Lounge of the Union. The memorial is a timeline and pictures of Dr. King's life. The timeline, which was created by Cruse in Booth Library, took 15 months to complete.

"I'm very emotional about the whole thing; this is a really big step and achievement to acknowledge someone who is such a great person," said Tracey Wayne, 2004 Miss Black

EIU.

The ribbon at the ceremony was cut by Dr. Jarman Porter, a former professor of civil rights at Eastern who is currently the vice president of Student Affairs at Arkansas Baptist College.

"Finally, students who walk into Dr. King's Union will know they are in Dr. King's Union," Collier said.

NATIONAL BRIEFS



FOURTH DAY OF SEARCH ENDS FOR MISSING 9-YEAR-OLD FLORIDA GIRL

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

HOMOSASSA, Fla. — A man photographed at a convenience store with two children hours after a girl vanished from her nearby home was not involved in the girl's disappearance, police said Sunday.

Investigators released a surveillance camera picture of the man because they initially believed it could hold clues to the whereabouts of 9-year-old Jessica Marie Lunsford, who was last seen in her bedroom about a half-mile from the store.

GOVERNORS KEEP 2008 PRESIDENTIAL RACE IN MIND

WASHINGTON — For governors thinking about running for the White House in 2008, a formal dinner with President Bush at 1600 Pennsylvania Ave. provides a glimpse of what the future could hold.

Even for those who dismiss, at least publicly, such talk.

"Presidential talk is way too speculative and way too early," said Republican Mitt Romney of Massachusetts. "Now is the time for policy and progress. Not presidential ambitions."

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Panthers drop two in Mississippi

By DAN RENICK
ASSOCIATE SPORTS EDITOR

After opening up a three-game series against No. 17 Mississippi State with a 3-1 loss, Eastern ended the weekend on a rougher note, losing 16-6 on Saturday before being rained out on Sunday.

The Panthers (0-5) appeared to

have luck on their side as the Bulldogs (2-0) opened the game with two straight errors to put Eastern runners on base.

But with one out and two runners in scoring position, junior outfielder Keiji Szalo flied out to right field. Sophomore outfielder Mark Chagnon, tagged up to score but was thrown out at the plate to com-

plete the inning-ending double play. Mississippi State jumped on the board first, scoring one run in the second and two more in the fifth. Eastern scored its only run of the game in the sixth off on sophomore Eric Huber's single.

Senior left-hander Ted Juske started for the Panthers, allowing three hits and three runs in five innings.

Eastern out-hit Mississippi State 6-4.

On Saturday, the Panthers once again jumped out to a quick start before quickly slowing down. With the bases loaded in the first inning, sophomore Kevin Carkeek singled to left, scoring two Panther runs.

With a 3-0 lead going into the bottom of the second, the Bulldog bats heated up.

Eastern senior starting pitcher Kyle Widegren allowed five hits and

six runs before being pulled for junior Mike Bouchez, who finished the inning and allowed one more run.

Mississippi State kept their momentum rolling, scoring six more runs in the sixth. Sophomore outfielder Mark Chagnon led the Panthers in the losing cause, going 3-4, with three RBI's and two runs.

Eastern returns to action Saturday when they play Olivet Nazarene in a doubleheader in their home opener at Coaches Stadium.

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MEN'S BASKETBALL

Panthers shutout Racers' star; supporting cast does damage

BY DAN WOIKE
SPORTS EDITOR

The scouting report for the Murray State Racers probably says two things — stop sophomore guard Trey Pearson and force junior guard Keith Jenifer to make jump shots.

The Eastern men's basketball team did just that, but Jenifer's big second half, along with junior center Preston Griffith's play, pushed Murray State to a 72-66 win over the Panthers Saturday night at Lantz Arena.

Jenifer scored 15 of his team-high 19 points in the second half, and Griffith added 17 points on 7-of-8 shooting while grabbing seven rebounds, blocking three shots and grabbing five steals.

Eastern head coach Rick Samuels said his team executed part of the defensive gameplan, holding Pearson scoreless on 0-for-3 shooting. But, the Panthers' focus on Pearson created other openings.

"We really tried to keep (Pearson) from getting loose, and part of that strategy was to be softer off Keith Jenifer," Samuels said. "And he made us pay."

Heading into the game, Jenifer was averaging 6.9 points while shooting 35.8 percent from the field. Against the Panthers (12-15, 7-9 Ohio Valley Conference), he hit 7-of-11 from the floor, making 5-of-6 in the second half. Jenifer's 19 points was his season-high.

Murray State head coach Mick Cronin said he was worried his team wouldn't find someone fill Pearson's shoes.

Pearson leads Murray State (17-1, 11-5) with a 15.3 points per game scoring average.

"I was concerned with us getting points, especially down the stretch where (Pearson's) our go-to guy," Cronin said. "We needed him to step up."

And Jenifer did just that, Eastern senior forward Andy Gobczynski said.

"We wanted to force him to make plays as part of our gameplan," Gobczynski said. "He stepped up and made some plays by getting to the hole."

"He took the slack we gave him."

Jenifer wasn't the only player to contribute with Pearson not scoring, Griffith's 6-foot-10, 255-pound frame gave the Panthers problems, as he scored a career-high 17 points.

"He's a big body, and we were letting him catch it way too close to the basket," Samuels said. "His point production was critical."

Cronin said Griffith did more than just score, but he affected numerous aspects of the game.

"He was all over the place," Cronin said. "17 (points) and seven (rebounds), five steals, three blocks and 12 deflections — that's his career game."

"Griffith changed the game."

"We took away their best scorers. But, other people got loose."

RICK SAMUELS, EASTERN HEAD COACH

While the Racers had players filling the scoring void created by Pearson's zero-point night, the Panthers couldn't overcome a tough night by their second leading scorer, senior guard Emanuel Dildy.

Samuels said Murray State's pressure defense kept Dildy from being able to run the offense with ease.

Dildy finished with nine points on 2-of-10 shooting, missing all six of his three-point field goal attempts. Eastern junior guard Josh Gomes led all scorers with 22 points.

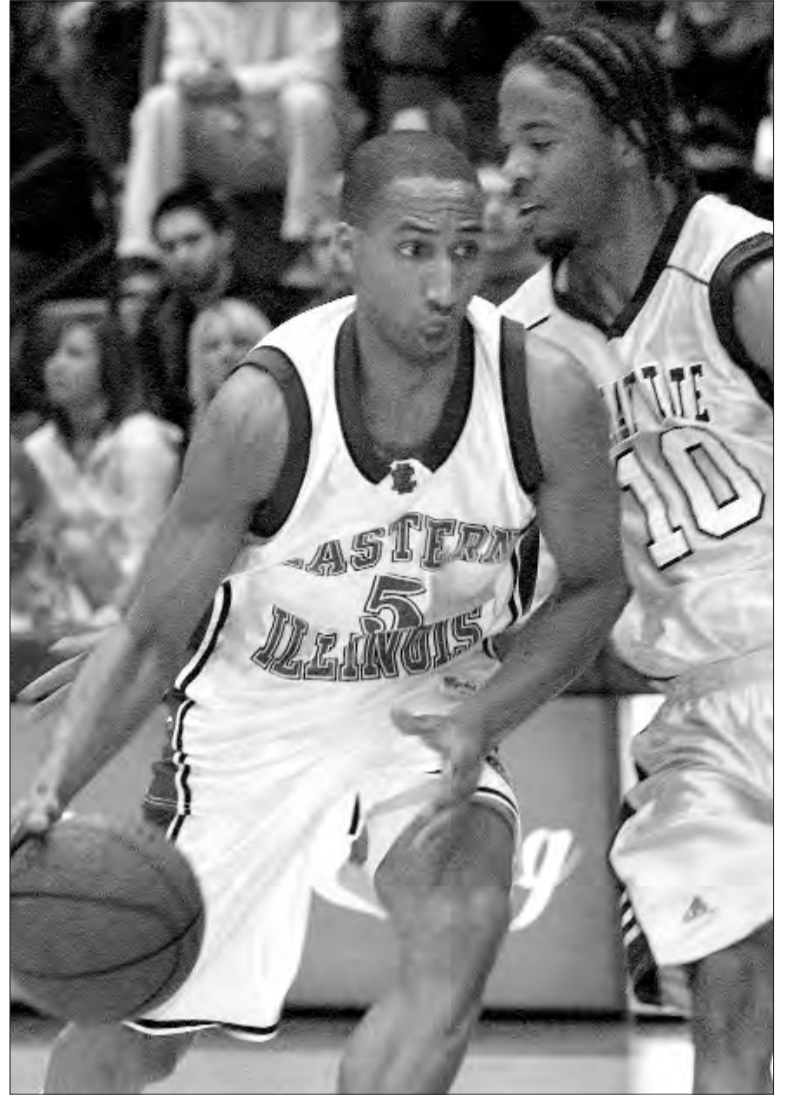
"We were able to stay with him much better than Gomes," Cronin said. "We needed to stop Dildy because we couldn't stop Gomes."

Jenifer said one of his team's strengths is that there are always other players waiting to pick up the slack.

"The way we play, every night someone can be our leading scorer," Jenifer said. "If it's not Trey, there's always someone there ready to step up, and we needed that tonight."

And Samuels said the Racers beat Eastern with their depth.

"We took away their best scorers," Samuels said. "But other people got loose."



STEPHEN HAAS/THE DAILY EASTERN NEWS

Junior guard Josh Gomes tries to get around Murray State junior guard Keith Jenifer Saturday evening in Lantz Arena. Jenifer scored a team-high 19 points, 15 coming in the second half, in the Racers' 72-66 win in the Panthers' regular-season finale.



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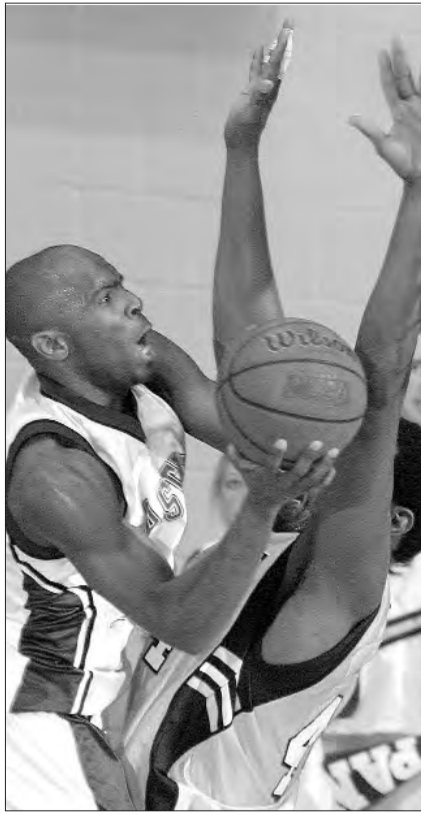
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MEN'S BASKETBALL

Bad blood spills over after Panthers lose to Murray State



STEPHEN HAAS/THE DAILY EASTERN NEWS

Senior guard Emanuel Dildy scores two points over Murray State junior center Pearson Griffith Saturday at Lantz Arena in Eastern's 72-66 loss.

By JOHN HOHENADEL
SPORTS REPORTER

Saturday night, eight years of animosity culminated in an altercation between Eastern and Murray State coaches. "I can't say anything about it," Eastern head coach Rick Samuels said.

After Eastern lost 72-66 to the Racers, Samuels and Murray head coach Mick Cronin walked toward each other to shake hands. Instead of the customary hand shake, the two coaches began to shout at each other.

Although Samuels would not comment on the incident, junior guard Josh Gomes shared his outlook on why Samuels was angry.

"Murray always has a fan talking junk through the whole game," Gomes said. "I don't know what happened. I don't know if they were arguing words or if they (Samuels and Cronin) were just talking."

Rumor has it, the Eastern coaching staff was unhappy with Murray's sportsmanship and it set Samuels off.

Eastern has not won against Murray in its past eight games. Not only have the Panthers lost their last eight games against Murray, they are also 7-22 against the Racers in the all-time series.

"You always want to beat Murray," junior guard Josh Gomes said. "They always play with a chip on their shoulder. They're always talking trash and doing things the wrong way.

"It was a heartbreaker but what can you do?"

Eastern started the game with a 12-5 run but Murray countered with its own 12-0 run giving the Racers a lead

they would never relinquish.

Eastern tied it up four times in the first half and then again with 9:10 left in the game but that's the closest the Panthers would get.

Toward the end of the game the Panthers' shots didn't seem to be falling for them but Samuels said the deciding factor of the game was Murray's defense.

He said it was a physical game, and a big part of it was junior center Pearson Griffith.

The 6-foot-10 inch center not only caused the Panthers problems by taking up space, he also had 17 points on seven of eight shooting, five steals, seven rebounds and three blocks.

Regardless of what happened in Saturday's game, Eastern would still have its eight seed in the Ohio Valley Conference tournament and Murray would still have its three seed.

But Gomes said this wasn't a game where the Panthers were just happy to be in the tournament, which explains why he was down after the game.

"We just have to forget about this," Gomes said. "Good basketball teams put a game like this behind them and look forward. We have to stop thinking about Murray and start thinking about Tennessee Tech."

Tech swept the Panthers in the season series this year winning by 16 on Jan 15. at Tech and 13 on Jan. 22 at Lantz. Tech (12-4) clinched the OVC regular season title last weekend when they beat Morehead State 74-67.

The Panthers will get their third crack at Tech Tuesday night on the road in the first round of the OVC tournament.

Murray State 72, Eastern 66

Eastern (12-15, 7-9)

Gomes 7-11 7-9 22, Dildy 2-10 5-6 9, Catchings 4-7 1-2 11, Patterson 3-5 2-2 8, Tandy 1-1 2-5 4, Gobjczynski 1-2 0-1 2, Wright 1-3 0-0 3, Sinclair 3-4 0-0 7

Percentages: FG 22-43 .512, FT 17-25 .680, 3-FG 5-14 .357, Rebounds: 29 (Gobjczynski 5), Assists: 13 (Gobjczynski, Gomes 3), Blocked shots: 3 (Tandy 3), Steals: 4 (Dildy 2), Turnovers: 17 (Gomes 4) Team fouls: 19 Fouled out: Catchings

Murray State (17-10, 11-5)

Witherspoon 1-7 0-0 3, Jenifer 7-11 7-9 19, Hopkins 2-6 1-2 7, Orr 3-6 4-6 11, Griffith 7-8 3-6 17, Redding 3-7 2-2 9, Dansby 2-4 1-2 6

Percentages: FG 25-52 .481, FT 16-26 .615, 3-FG 6-19 .316, Rebounds: 27 (Griffith 7), Assists: 9 (Jenifer 4), Blocked shots: 3 (Griffith 3), Steals: 9 (Griffith 5), Turnovers: 8 (Pearson 3) Team Fouls: 22 Fouled Out: Witherspoon Halftime: Murray State 35, Eastern 30

HOOPS:

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 12

going to be the leader, whether she wants to be or not it's on her, so I look forward to see how she responds."

In all, the Panthers had four players finish the game in double-figures led by O'Connor and Sparks. Sophomore guard Melanie Ploger finished with 11, and junior forward Janelle Cazy added 10.

Riva finished with six points, six rebounds and four assists in her final collegiate game.

"(Riva) and I wanted to come out of here with a win today, and our teammates fought tooth and nail for us," O'Connor said. "It was just a surreal experience to go out with a win."

Women's Basketball

Eastern 75, Murray State 70 (ot)

Eastern (10-17, 3-13)

Sparks 2-9 7-8 12, Riva 1-10 4-4 6, Sellers 1-5 2-2 4, Ploger 4-8 0-0 11, O'Connor 11-14 6-11 28, Bytnar 0-2 1-2 1, Cazy 4-5 2-5 10, Casad 0-2 3-5 3

Percentages: FG 23-56 .411, FT 25-37 .676, 3-FG 4-24 .167, Rebounds: 44 (Sellers 10), Assists: 17 (Casad 5), Blocked shots: 8 (Sellers 3), Steals: 6 (Riva 3), Turnovers: 19 (Sparks 5) Team Fouls: 16 Fouled Out: none

Murray State (9-18, 5-11)

Matthews 4-8 2-2 10, Miller 1-4 0-0 2, Fulkerson 2-5 0-0 5, Petty 7-15 0-1 14, Remington 4-13 4-4 13, Hayes 2-9 0-0 5, Lee, 2-11 2-2 5, Foreman 1-3 1-2 3, Willinger 3-7 6-6 12

Percentages: FG 26-76 .342, FT 15-18 .833, 3-FG 3-16 .188, Rebounds: 49 (Remington 9), Assists: 8 (Petty 3), Blocked shots: 1 (Remington 1), Steals: 9 (4-tied 2), Turnovers: 15 (Remington 4) Team Fouls: 23 Fouled Out: Willinger, Lee

Halftime: Eastern 32, Murray State 31

End of regulation: Eastern 64, Murray State 64

MEN'S COLLEGE BASKETBALL TOP 25

Kansas downs No. 4 OSU

LAWRENCE, Kan. — Wayne Simien had a career-high 32 points and Aaron Miles hit a running layup with 37 seconds to go, lifting No. 8 Kansas to an 81-79 victory over No. 4 Oklahoma State on Sunday in a crisply played game that could decide the Big 12 championship.

The old rivals traded basket for basket with Kansas (21-4, 11-3) shooting 66 percent from the field while ending a three-game losing streak. Oklahoma State (20-5, 10-4) shot 59 percent in losing its second straight.

Simien had 12 rebounds and was 10-of-11 from the foul line, breaking the school record with 34 consecutive free

throws.

John Lucas, one of four senior starters for Oklahoma State, hit his first nine shots but he missed a long 3-point attempt seconds before the final buzzer. Lucas' first miss came with 1:31 to go and the game tied at 78. With 37 seconds left, Miles, the Big 12 assists leader, scored the go-ahead basket for an 80-78 lead.

Oklahoma State freshman James On Curry was fouled by Christian Moody and went to the line with 25 seconds left. He made the second free throw to make it a one-point game. Miles was fouled with 19 seconds to go and he hit the second for the 81-79 lead.

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The men of ΣΠ would like to thank Jill Blackburn ΑΦ fall sweetheart 04 and congratulate the new spring sweetheart Brittany Brown ΔΖ

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SPORTS

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 28, 2005

Eastern Illinois University, Charleston

PANTHER SPORTS CALENDAR

TUESDAY	MEN'S BASKETBALL AT TENNESSEE TECH	7:30 p.m.
THURSDAY	OVC WOMEN'S BASKETBALL TOURNAMENT SEMI-FINALS	T.B.A.
FRIDAY	SOFTBALL VS. NORTH DAKOTA STATE	3:00 p.m.
	OVC MEN'S BASKETBALL TOURNAMENT SEMI-FINALS	5:30 p.m.
	OVC WOMEN'S BASKETBALL TOURNAMENT FINALS	T.B.A.



TWO-POINT CONVERSION

DAN RENICK
ASSOCIATE SPORTS EDITOR

Clarett's credibility flagged

When Maurice Clarett came out against "The" Ohio State University, alleging the Buckeyes were violating NCAA regulations, it looked like the running back's reputation was headed back towards legitimacy.

Of course, Ohio State head coach Jim Tressel and athletic director Andy Geiger denied all the claims, but quickly, several other former Buckeyes spoke out about violations.

I refused to believe Clarett wasn't the bad guy he was made out to be after taking on the NFL for the right to enter the NFL Draft after his freshman season, only to lose the case, and after showing up to an NFL workout out of shape.

I hesitate to say it, but I actually had some respect for Clarett at that point.

In interviews, Clarett said that he thought if he kept the violations quiet then Tressel would help him get back onto the field. And after that didn't happen, he said he felt betrayed. Clarett wanted to make everything right and just wanted a shot at the NFL, which he said he was training hard for.

But any respect or legitimacy Clarett may have gained was lost Saturday at the NFL combine. After the Buckeye fiasco, Clarett said he just wanted to have his shot at the NFL and was working hard to be prepared for the combine.

Well, when you post 40-yard dash times of 4.82 and 4.72, comparable to the fullbacks in Clarett's group, it surely doesn't say your working hard.

After the 40-yard dash, Clarett decided not to continue with the rest of the workouts.

That a boy, Maurice, way to show everyone what you're truly made of.

Maybe scouts could have looked over the time when you skipped the combine because you weren't in playing shape. Or, maybe they'd forget about when you had a private workout a month later and showed up over playing weight. But this is the last straw.

It's amazing, really, that Clarett has been able to ride one season of on-field success into loads of media attention and fame. But, I'm sure that will quickly fade after his performance at this year's combine and with analysts predicting that Clarett is dropping to a sixth or seventh round pick in the draft.

TRACK AND FIELD

Panthers sprint to 5th straight title

BY DERRICK JOHNSON II
STAFF WRITER

Junior Dave Carlson ran straight to victory this past weekend at the Ohio Valley Conference championship track and field meet on Saturday. Carlson completed the 3000-meter with a time of 8:32 to become the reigning OVC champion in the 3K.

The performance given by Carlson in the 3K and 5K, as well as standout performances made by others in several races and field events, were leading factors in the Panthers' fifth-straight OVC title.

The team finished with a total of 189 points.

Carlson stayed strong throughout the 15th lap of the race and finished the last 200 meters with a powerful kick across the finish line. The first place victory in the 3K was a reaction to his second place finish in the 5K, Carlson said.

Sophomore Erik Werden comments on his teammate's performance as something that shouldn't be taken lightly.



"He ran 28 seconds for his last 200 meters, and that's just amazing," Werden said. "It really shows that he wanted it more than anything."

Some may wonder how someone who has accomplished so much can stay motivated. For Carlson, inspiration comes from the thought of improving, he said.

That drive is what has led Carlson to so many of his accomplishments as an athlete, junior Jaylee Carr said.

"He's fantastic," Carr said. "His life revolves around running. He knows the stats of everyone in the conference. I don't think that I have seen anyone more dedicated than him in my life."

Werden's comments on Carlson's drive reflects that of Carr's.

"It's just amazing, all the time and effort that he has put into running and he's just one of the best runners around," Werden said.

The world of running for Carlson started in the eighth grade when he began running track because he was bored, he said.

Looking back, Carlson would never have guessed that he would have come this far because he wasn't very good in middle school, he said.

What started as an after-school activity has now become a lifestyle for Carlson, as he intends to keep competing even after he graduates from Eastern.

However, Carlson isn't strictly business as he takes time to smile and enjoy life, Carr said.

"He's hilarious," Carr said. "He always has a smile on his face."

See Tuesday's edition for women's track and field OVC championship coverage.

2005 OVC MEN'S INDOOR TRACK AND FIELD CHAMPIONSHIPS RESULTS

TEAM	RESULTS
Eastern	189.00
Southeast Missouri	175.00
Eastern Kentucky	122.00
Samford	51.00
Tennessee State	48.00
Morehead State	39.00
Murray State	3.00

EASTERN'S FIRST-PLACE FINISHES

KIRKLAND THORTON
60-meter Hurdles
8.02 seconds
DAVE CARLSON
3,000-meter
8:32.29
TRISTAN MCKINNIS
Triple Jump and Long Jump
49'01.75" (triple), 23'06.75" (long)
JASON STARK
High Jump
6'07.50"
ADAM CALDWELL
Men's Pole Vault
15'01.00

WOMEN'S BASKETBALL

Overtime win ends Panthers' season on high-note



STEPHEN HAAS/THE DAILY EASTERN NEWS

Senior guard Sarah Riva drives to the basket against Murray State Saturday afternoon in Lantz Arena. The Panthers defeated the Racers 75-70 in overtime, in the final game for Eastern's two seniors.

BY MARCUS JACKSON
SPORTS REPORTER

Senior center Pam O'Connor scored a career-high 28 points in her final collegiate game to lead the Eastern Illinois women's basketball team to a 75-70 victory over the Murray State Racers Saturday in Lantz Arena.

O'Connor connected on 11-of-14 shots from the floor and grabbed five rebounds in the game moved in to second place on the Eastern all-time scoring list with 1,731 points and sealed her place at the top of career field goal percentage (.586).

But it was junior guard Megan Sparks' heroics at the end of regulation that sent the game into overtime.

With 0.7 seconds remaining and the Panthers trailing by two, Sparks was fouled going to the basket by Murray State senior forward Ashley Smith.

Sparks then made both of her free throws to give the Panthers (10-17, 3-13 Ohio Valley Conference) a chance to win the game in the extra period.

In overtime, the Panthers held the Racers (9-16, 5-11) without a field goal for the first 4:10. Sparks scored eight of the Panthers' 11 points in overtime, and finished the game with 12 points.

Sparks said with O'Connor and

"I couldn't think of a better way to step up and hit them, especially for these girls."

MEGAN SPARKS, JUNIOR GUARD

senior guard Sarah Riva playing their final games, it meant a lot for her to make the free throws and help them go out as winners.

"I couldn't think of a better way to step up and hit them, especially for these girls," Sparks said.

Head coach Brady Sallee said he called the last play in regulation for Sparks to see how his senior-to-be would respond.

"That was more than just one play in one game for me," he said. "I wanted to test her medal a little bit, and she stepped up and made the play, and I couldn't be happier."

And performances like that send a message to the younger players in the program, Sallee said.

"(Sparks is) going to be the lone returning senior with significant experience next season, and we're going to have a lot of young kids, and they're going to be looking to her to see how Eastern Illinois basketball is played," Sallee said. "