

Eastern Illinois University

The Keep

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April

2007

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4-26-2007

## Daily Eastern News: April 26, 2007

Eastern Illinois University

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# the **DAILY EASTERN NEWS**

**THURSDAY**  
4.26.07

Eastern Illinois University, Charleston

Volume | 93 Issue | 70

UNIVERSITY | CLASSES

## Quality education questioned

**Grad students to teach gen ed biology course; some faculty oppose**

By **Stephen Di Benedetto**  
Senior City Reporter

Biology instructor Amanda Poffinbarger has been fighting it for a month.

On the April 13 faculty meeting, Chair of Biological Sciences Andrew Methven implemented a program that will allow graduate students

to teach Biological Principles and Issues next fall.

Students often use the 1000-level course to fill their general education requirement.

Poffinbarger said the idea of allowing graduate students to teach has been brought up at other faculty meetings prior to April 13.

The faculty also voted against the program two years ago.

“There are several faculty members that are against this besides me,” Poffinbarger said.

Dean of the College of Sciences Mary Anne Hanner has

received letters from at least 15 faculty members expressing their displeasure in Methven’s decision, Poffinbarger said.

Poffinbarger said students will be put at a disadvantage if a graduate student with no teaching experience teaches students.

Poffinbarger said she is scheduled to teach six sections of the class next fall, but will only technically teach two of them. She said the graduate student would teach the other four.

“Out of the 14 sections of this (general education) class, eight will

be taught by graduate students,” Poffinbarger said.

She feels Methven’s decision affects her academic freedom.

“Our mission statement states you will be taught by a faculty member,” Poffinbarger said. “That whole thing is changing now.”

She said the department presented this decision to her. “There are several reasons,” Methven said. “The primary one is we got a lot of graduate students who want teaching experience.”

» SEE **EDUCATION**, PAGE 6

UNIVERSITY | COMPENSATION

## Perry gets \$292,289

**Incoming president will earn 30 percent more than Hencken does**

By **Ashley Rueff**  
Senior University Reporter

Bill Perry currently makes \$28,930 more than President Lou Hencken. And he’s only a provost.

According to a media representative at Texas A&M University, Perry’s salary as provost is \$228,600, while Hencken’s salary at Eastern is \$199,670.

But Texas A&M also has a 45,000-student body, while Eastern’s is closer to 12,000.

This difference was one of a few factors that Eastern’s Board of Trustees considered when negotiating a contract and salary for Perry as Eastern’s next president.

“There are a number of factors that go into determining the presidential salary,” said Robert Webb, vice chair of the board and chair of the presidential search advisory committee.

After three weeks of negotiations between the board and Perry, the two parties settled on a salary of \$260,000 with \$32,289 for housing and a five-year contract.

Webb said Perry’s salary is a median salary for other state graduate level universities in Illinois.

According to the Illinois Board of Higher Education, Southern Illinois University Edwardsville has a student body of 13,460, and its chancellor has a salary of \$217,500. Western Illinois University has a student body of 13,404, and its president makes \$243,348. Illinois State University has a student body of 20,653, and its president has a salary of \$274,250.

Webb said regional salaries of comparable universities were considered when determining Perry’s salary. But so was the fact that this was a national search.

“You are more than likely going to have to be more competitive on your salary,” in a national search, Webb said. Southern Illinois University at Carbondale, Governors State University and Northeastern Illinois University are a few schools that were also looking for a new president this year.

When the search for Eastern’s next president began, search consultant Elaine Hairston informed the board that they should be prepared to offer a salary upwards of \$300,000 to be competitive on the national level.

The board also knew before the search began that the educational degree held by the new president and his or her previous position and salary would also be factors.

“We knew pretty much the range that we were going to have to be in,” Webb said.

» SEE **PERRY**, PAGE 6

CAMPUS | ACADEMICS



KELLY MARIE CREMENT | THE DAILY EASTERN NEWS

Ousmane Cisse, a freshman business management major and member of the men’s basketball team, looks over homework in the newly built basketball offices and study lounge adjacent to Lantz Arena.

## Athletes have their own study space

**Lantz renovation improves attitudes, gives more study space**

By **Shane Evans**  
Staff Reporter

With finals less than a week away, students are getting ready to start their cram sessions.

Within a few days it will be almost impossible to find a computer at Booth Library, Buzzard Hall or the Gregg Triad labs.

But there is one more place for students to get on a computer, with one catch: this space is limited to student-athletes.

“More space, computer access for students, accessibility for students,

staff and coaches, and windows,” said Cindy Tozer, director of academic services.

She was talking about the newest addition to the Eastern Illinois campus.

A recent development in Lantz, open since November, includes a new facility for student-athletes to receive academic help.

“I feel that it’s a great addition because it really gives the busy athletes a place of our own to get things accomplished and not worry about having a place at the library to study,” said senior Deb Hasik, a member of the women’s track and field team.

Finding a quiet place for a team of athletes is not the easiest thing to do. Noise pollution is around in most study environments, Tozer

said. “The new facilities offer students a structured setting to study,” she said.

The addition has 10 computers and a printer for student-athletes to use.

The students said the addition is beneficial and convenient.

“The new academic facility is a great building for student-athletes to sit down and focus on what they need to get done in the classroom,” said senior Austin Hogue, a member of the men’s track and field team. “I am very thankful that the university is willing and able to build an academic facility for student athletes to use.”

The set-up of the facility was designed for a set number of

athletes to use at a given time as not to have too many people making noise.

“The institution stresses small class size,” said Jason Hall, assistant athletic director.

“We wanted fewer than 50 in our learning facility at a given time.”

Before the addition of the new facility, student-athletes already had access to this kind of help.

But before the learning center was created, Tozer’s and Hall’s offices, along with the study area, were located in the basement of Stevenson Hall.

“It was very dark, dingy — not really a good study environment,” Hall said.

» SEE **ATHLETES**, PAGE 6

NATIONAL | WEATHER

# Storm takes 10 lives

**All residents declared accounted for after tornadoes kill 10 on Texas-Mexico border**

The Associated Press

EAGLE PASS, Texas — All residents were accounted for Wednesday after crews scoured the mangled remains of houses and trailer homes in the wake of tornadoes that killed at least 10 people in this border community and its Mexican neighbor. The storm killed two other people in Louisiana and Arkansas.

Twisters cut across a nearly 4-square-mile area in a rural community southeast of Eagle Pass on Tuesday night, destroying two empty elementary schools, a church, business and homes. Several mobile homes were still missing as searchers with dogs went lot to lot.

Maverick County Judge Jose Aranda said that all residents on the Texas side were accounted for, but that 50 to 200 families were left homeless.

A family of five — a girl, her parents and two other relatives — were killed when the winds blew their mobile home across the street and slammed it into Rosita Valley Elementary School.

"It was a whole family, and they were all together, probably like they were huddling," said police officer Ezekiel Navjas, who arrived

EZEKIEL NAVJAS | POLICE OFFICER

**"It was a whole family, and they were all together, probably like they were huddling."**

Tuesday night just as crews were pulling from the wreckage the body of the girl, believed to be about 5 years old.

"I've never seen nothing like this," he said, shaking his head as he walked down a dirt road lined with homes cut in half like doll houses and mesquite treetops torn from their trunks.

One of the dead was found in a house, and the other died after being taken to a San Antonio hospital, authorities said. More than 80 others were injured, and at least four remained in critical condition Wednesday.

Across the Rio Grande in Piedras Negras, three people were killed and 300 homes were damaged. About 1,000 people sought refuge in shelters in Piedras Negras, where 37 people were killed in flash flooding three years ago.

Neither Eagle Pass nor Piedras Negras had a siren warning system like those used to help people evacuate ahead of the same storm when it flooded streets and peeled roofs off homes in North Texas. No injuries were reported there.

Lightning was blamed for a death Wednesday as the huge weather system plowed through the

Mississippi and Ohio valleys. The bolt started a fire near Shreveport, La., that killed a 101-year-old man, authorities and the man's family said.

A 12th person died in Arkansas when high winds swamped a boat on a lake, officials said.

The sprawling front also spun off tornadoes Tuesday in Oklahoma and Colorado, caused flooding in Iowa and Nebraska, and piled snow more than a foot deep in the Rockies.

About 350 residents from Eagle Pass were in shelters and were kept from their homes until rescuers completed their search of the area. Search teams made up of police, firefighters, Border Patrol agents and National Guard soldiers picked their way through homes, knocking on doors, calling out to residents and marking searched buildings with spray paint.

Gov. Rick Perry arrived for a tour in the late afternoon, saying he was pleased with officials' response. The state has asked the federal government for quick assistance and a disaster declaration, which would entitle it to federal aid.

"It is stunning, the devastation," he said.

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### About The Daily Eastern News

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### Comments | Tips

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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The Daily Eastern News is committed to accuracy in its coverage of the news. Any factual error the staff finds, or is made aware of by its readers, will be corrected on this page as promptly as possible.

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**campusbriefs**

**Bonnstetter's next hearing scheduled for May 14**

» Associate Athletic Director for Operations and Head Athletic Trainer Mark Bonnstetter has another status hearing scheduled for May 14. Bonnstetter is on trial for two felonies and a misdemeanor stemming from a Nov. 25 alleged incident. He is being charged with criminal trespassing, residential burglary and attempted criminal sex abuse. Bonnstetter's original status hearing was set for April 16, but he was granted a continuance of leave.

His hearing was moved to April 23, where a status was decided and another status hearing was scheduled for May 14.

Modifications to Bonnstetter's bond also took place on Monday's hearing.

Assistant State's Attorney Kerry Kiger, who is in charge of the case, could not comment on what happened during the April 23 status hearing.

She said paragraph 2b of Bonnstetter's bond was deleted, but could not say what the paragraph was about.

"I can't comment on the status of an on-going case," Kiger said.

Bonnstetter's attorney Ron Tulin refused to comment on Bonnstetter's case.

Bonnstetter was arrested Nov. 28 and plead not guilty on Jan. 22.

—Stephen Di Benedetto, senior city reporter

**Tuscola candy kitchen possibly featured on CBS news**

» Flesor's Candy Kitchen in Tuscola has been chosen by the CBS Evening News as a possible location to appear on the show.

The store, owned by Eastern alumnae Devon Nau and Ann Beck, is one of three companies to be named finalists.

Flesor's would be featured on David Hartman's travel segment and would be filmed on Monday or Tuesday, according to Roger Beck, an Eastern history professor.

On Friday, a segment of CBS Evening News will feature the three finalists and give viewers a chance to vote on which destination Hartman should choose.

The CBS Evening News airs at 5:30 p.m.

**Dinner table conversation film showing tonight in Lumpkin**

» As part of Asian Heritage Month, the Asian Cinema Organization will show "Eat Drink Man Woman" at 5 p.m. tonight in the Lumpkin Auditorium.

The movie is about a chef who lives with his three daughters.

It revolves around their Sunday dinner and the family's conversation at the dinner table.

—Marco Santana, campus editor

**COMMENTS | CORRECTIONS | EVENTS**

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**.

# Summer reading required

**Freshmen will have to read and discuss award-winning book over the summer**

By **Kaitlyn Lonkar**  
Staff Reporter

Eastern is starting a freshman reading program for 2007 that will require all incoming freshmen to read the same book before their fall semester.

Eastern Reads! will emphasize reading as a significant component of the college experience and enhance student participation in intellectual life of campus.

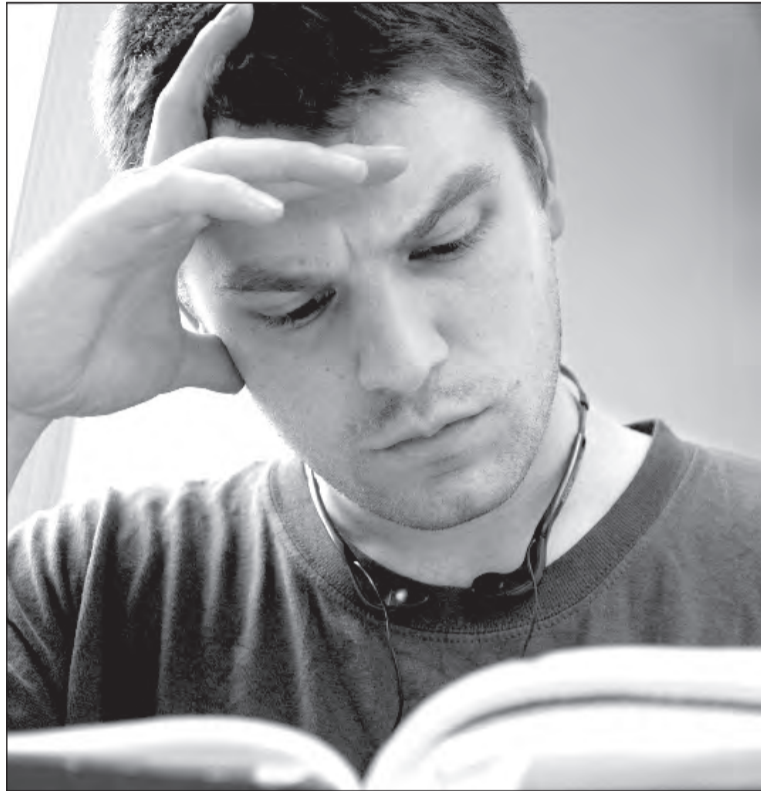
"A Hope in the Unseen," by Ron Suskind, is the chosen book for 2007 that Bonnie Irwin, dean of the honors college, has seen other schools have success with.

"We wanted a book that would stimulate thought, one that a lot of people could relate to and a readable one," Irwin said. "Not an easy one, but one that moves quickly."

The book had to fit certain criteria. It needs to invoke a range of opinions to stimulate discussion, be open to interdisciplinary approaches, be of general interest and academic merit and deal with contemporary social and cultural issues, Irwin said.

"We chose 'A Hope in the Unseen' because it best addressed many of the issues faced by incoming college students," said Robert Fischer, associate chair of biological sciences.

Suskind was the senior national affairs writer for the Wall Street Journal from 1993 to 2000. He has also written "The Price of Loyalty," "The One Percent Doctrine," and



JAY GRABIEC | THE DAILY EASTERN NEWS

Pat Nelson, a senior sociology major, flips through his Spanish book Wednesday afternoon in the Booth Library in preparation for his final on Monday. Nelson has never heard of "A Hope in the Unseen" by Ron Suskind, which incoming freshmen will be required to read. "I think it's a good idea so everyone has a common ground," Nelson said.

contributed to "Profiles in Courage for Our Times."

The book follows a college student and his adjustments to his new life.

"I've read most of the book and I think that it tells an important story about adjusting to college and racial issues," Irwin said.

Eastern faculty members brainstormed about how to engage students in a common academic experience, Fischer said.

Each incoming freshman will receive a book at summer

orientation along with resources about the book, its author and other interest books.

Parents of incoming freshmen will also receive a flyer about the book and are encouraged to read it to prepare for discussions during parent weekend.

The Friday before classes start, a committee will meet and discuss the questions they are going to be using in their discussion groups with the students. Throughout the fall semester a group of 30 students will meet with their assigned

**THE BOOK**

» "A Hope in the Unseen, An American Odyssey from the Inner City to the Ivy League," follows the two-year journey of a prickly, religious honor student as he escapes from a blighted, Washington, D.C. terrain to find a home at Brown University.

» The book, which was launched by a series in the Wall Street Journal that won him the 1995 Pulitzer Prize for Feature Writing, has been a favorite on U.S. campuses and in book clubs.

-www.ronsuskind.com

faculty and staff groups and discuss the reading. These groups will continue all fall until all freshmen have discussed the book.

Faculty will be asked, when appropriate, to incorporate the book within their coursework and other students are encouraged to read the book as well. All of the university foundations classes will incorporate it into their classes.

The faculty and staff on the committee had interests in helping with this program and some were asked by Provost Blair Lord to serve on the committee.

Their long-term goal is to ask the campus for recommendations on choosing a book and developing a Web site.

The Web site will have resources about the book and other suggested books for the students if they like their summer reading. The book is required for all incoming freshman and copies of it will be sold at the bookstore and it will be available in Booth Library.

# Students make the university

**Anderson reiterates point during State of University address**

By **Matt Hopf**  
Student Government Reporter

When Sean Anderson ran for student body president, one of his platforms was campus safety.

In his State of the University address, Anderson claimed that to say Eastern was one of the safest campuses was "without evidence."

"There is no comprehensive analysis of campus safety for the state or the nation," Anderson said at Wednesday's student senate meeting.

The only analysis done on campus safety is a federal study that looks at how much money is spent on campus safety, he said.

Throughout his speech, Anderson said that the university is here because of the students and is paid for by the students.

"We're all here for the students," said Dan Nadler, vice president for student affairs. "If we weren't here for the students, we wouldn't be here."

During his address, Anderson announced that the administration was looking to raise the Campus

Improvement fee from \$5.67 per credit hour to about \$12 per credit hour.

Nadler said that an increase to that fee is being proposed. "It's for new students only," Nadler said.

The proposed fee would start next year. Anderson also said that the vetoed health service fee would be introduced to the Board of Trustees.

Nadler said he takes a variety of recommendations and decides what is best to do. The Student Senate, Health Service Advisory Board and the Student Senate Tuition and Fee Review Committee all recommended the fee, Nadler said.

Students need to be more involved with shared governance, Anderson said.

"On that one day, students at EIU will get a legitimate excuse when it comes to our fees," Anderson said.

"We pay nearly \$1,000 a semester in fees which goes towards things like Health Services, the union, athletics, campus improvement, student activities, etc."

During the address, he said that the Union Advisory Board is supposed to have seven students on the board, and only the two appointments made by Anderson actually were on it.

In other business at the Student



KELLY MARIE CREMENT | THE DAILY EASTERN NEWS

Tiffany Turner, a sophomore political science major, attends a student senate meeting Wednesday night in the Martin Luther King Jr. University Union.

Senate meeting:

— Student Senate Speaker Jeff Lange gave the State of the Senate address. He gave an overview of what the committees accomplished and reaffirmed that the Student Senate members are there for the students. Junior Adam Martinelli was elected as Student Senate speaker at the meeting as well.

— An amendment to the Student Body Constitution that changed

how Student Supreme Court justices are appointed. Three associate justices are to be appointed in the fall semester, while three associate justices and the chief justice will be appointed in the spring. The justices will now serve one-year terms, instead of two.

— The Student Senate unanimously approved the mission statement that will be added as a preamble to the bylaws.

— A bylaw change was passed that renamed the committee on Legislative Leadership to the Council of Chairs and that the committee will no longer vote on legislation. The committee will discuss Student Senate programs and have the option "to recommend confirmation, rejection, continuance or discontinuance to the Senate."

— The Student Senate speaker will now have the discretion to allow proposals to be named emergency legislation. The committee on Legislative Leadership originally voted on whether to deem it emergency. The Student Senate can also vote a two-thirds majority vote to make it emergency legislation. Emergency legislation may be voted on after only one reading.

For the complete State of the University podcast, visit dennews.com.

# VIEWS

THURSDAY

4.26.07

GUEST COLUMNIST | LEVI BULGAR

## Put yourselves in tuggers' shoes

The April 23<sup>rd</sup> editorial, "Greek Week is weak," demands a considered response.

I do not understand how a student-funded publication could say such unfounded things about the very students who pay to help keep it solvent.

One thing the editorial focused on was the lack of unity within Greek Week, but how can *The DEN* Editorial Board write about "unity" when this and prior editorials have appeared to work so hard to alienate an entire section of the student body with insensitive comments?

The lack of respect that you have shown for events such as Airband and Tugs, which my brothers and countless members of the Greek community have worked tirelessly to train and prepare for, is testimony to your lack of understanding of the Greek Community, its members and its ideals.

Maybe the Editorial Board members should put themselves in tuggers' shoes and imagine what it must feel like to train for three months and push your body to its ultimate limit, sacrificing blood, sweat and tears.

Imagine being cheered on by your brothers as you put everything you have into an event that you cherish, only to be ridiculed by those who have never known the pain of dedication or felt the joy of winning with your brothers cheering by your side. There is no pain worse; there is no humiliation that can ever equate how you would feel then.

Greeks are often stereotypically put into roles that stem from a set of common misconceptions about Greek organizations by groups of people who are not part of the Greek Community. Therefore, it is even more disheartening to hear that someone from the outside looking in would make such disparaging comments without making the effort to gain a true understanding of the nature of Greek Week.

Greek Week is a time of celebration and dedication where Greek Life is united in the common goal of raising money to help a worthy cause, St. Jude Children's Hospital. In this time we also test ourselves by competing in events that challenge the mind as well as the body.

Yes, these events are also fun and entertaining, but all while holding a deeper meaning than most observers would think. Tugs is more than just cutting weight and pulling a rope; it is about brotherhood, dedication and sacrifice. Airband is more than lip-syncing; it's about hard work and the thrill of putting on a truly entertaining show.

We work to be the very best at these events to earn the respect of our peers and to challenge our fellow members and even ourselves. The demands of Greek Week force many of us to stretch ourselves and develop talents we never knew we had within us.

It is because of this that when we retire our cleats, put down our sheet music and put away our awards, we leave this week with more than just accolades and a pat on the back; we leave having become something better than what we were.



Levi Bulgar

Levi Bulgar is a member of Sigma Phi Epsilon. He can be reached at [lbulgar@eiu.edu](mailto:lbulgar@eiu.edu)

ourview

# Victims must speak up

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On Tuesday, we published an editorial stating that the easy accessibility to weapons is one of the major factors leading to the bloodshed in Virginia Tech, as well as other violent incidents in the United States.

Another key issue factoring into the atrocity was public apathy toward Cho Seung-Hui's threatening behavior.

We at *The Daily Eastern News* feel it is important for all suspicious and threatening behavior to be reported to the proper authorities. In many cases, this could be a key component in stopping an atrocity.

Just as there's no telling the number of lives strict gun control laws have saved worldwide, it's impossible to say how many lives were saved by properly reporting hostile behavior.

Cho's English teacher had reported the disturbed student to the police, but they said she had no proof he was displaying threatening behavior.

However, one female student's parents reported to campus police that their daughter was being stalked. The student decided not to press charges, so, all police could do was ask Cho to leave her alone.

Later, another student reported to police that Cho was stalking her, but again, decided not to press charges.

Roommates say a friend of theirs was also stalked, but did not report the incident because they personally told Cho to leave her alone. Authorities are also considering that

Cho may have also stalked the first victim of the mass killing, an 18-year-old female student.

Had any or all of these stalking victims chosen to press charges, it would have made it possible for police to do something about the deranged killer before his deadly rampage.

Charleston Deputy Police Chief Mark Jenkins said that police will not pursue a suspect unless charges are pressed – even in cases of assault. They are only allowed to take action without charges in cases of domestic violence when victims show clear signs of physical abuse.

Jenkins said that he has seen cases where more than one police report was filed against a person, but police still need charges to take action.

He also said it is a myth that charges must be filed along with a police report. Typically, people pursue charges, but don't have to. Police reports are merely used to refer back

to once charges are filed, he said.

Jenkins said that if someone decides not to press charges when being stalked or threatened in other ways, he would recommend that they at least file a restraining order. In those cases, he would refer them to project Hope, the Coalition Against Domestic Violence or other social agencies that help victims file restraining orders.

Besides giving the police the right to take action and preventing further violence, pressing charges has another advantage. Unless charges are pressed, journalists are unable to cover an alleged crime. This has been a problem on Eastern's campus where alleged victims have complained of violence, but have failed to press charges, making it impossible for *The DEN* to give the incident coverage.

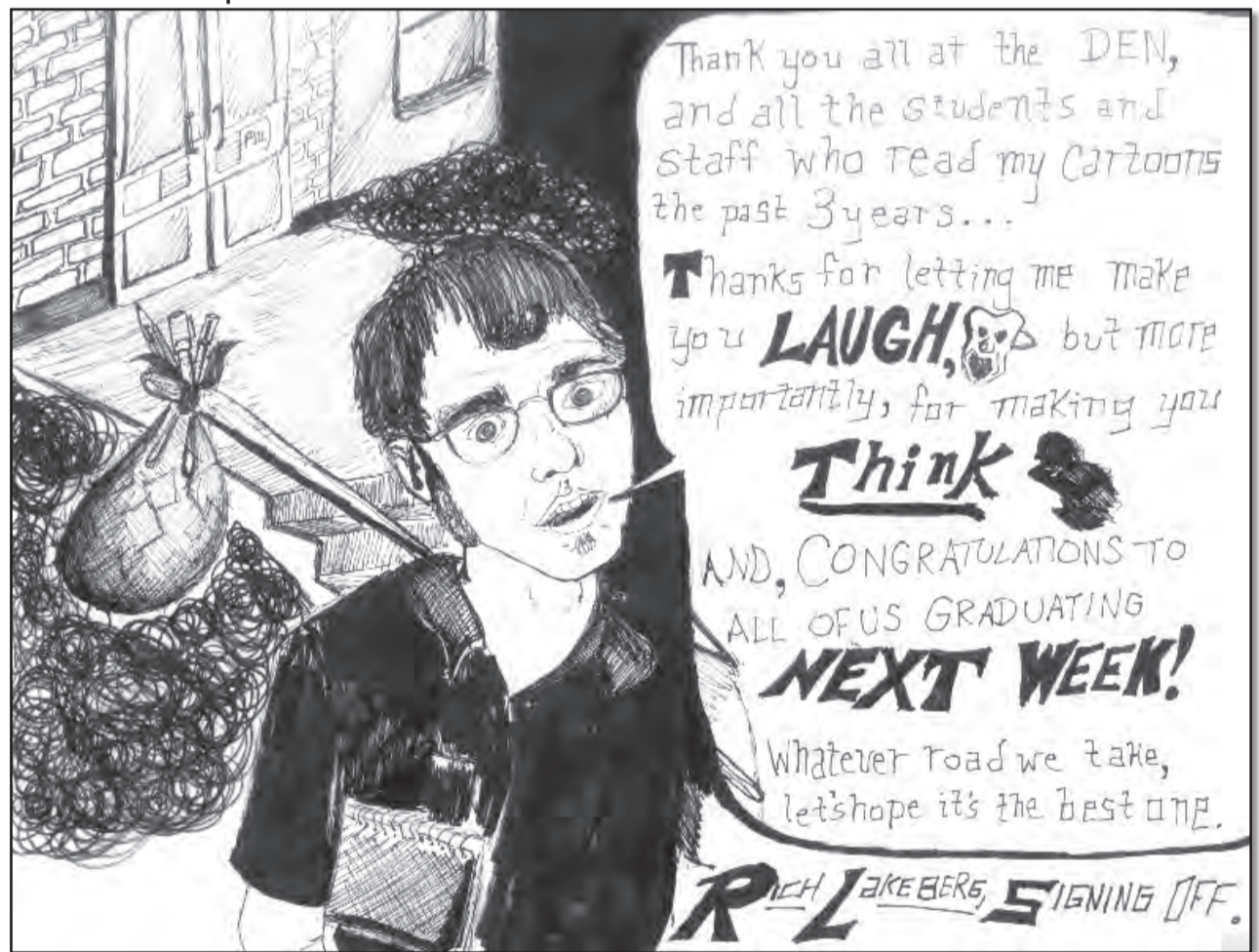
But, more importantly than helping the media, it helps society as a whole to file charges and restraining orders against stalkers and other threatening psychopaths, whether they be strangers or ex-friends.

Many unnecessary deaths occur due to victims' persistence in not pressing charges.

We at *The DEN* urge victims to take action.

The editorial is the majority opinion of The Daily Eastern News editorial board. Reach the Opinions editor at [DENopinions@gmail.com](mailto:DENopinions@gmail.com).

## DRAWN FROM THE NEWS | RICH LAKEBERG



## YOUR TURN | LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

I do appreciate the five sentences of applause the article threw in about the \$32,000 Greeks raised for St. Jude's and the 300 head wraps and involvement at Jefferson Elementary. What they got wrong was this: "We at *The Daily Eastern News* wish they would devote more time to the good deeds and less time to tugs training..." [etc.]

Training for Greek Week events lasts approximately three months. Greek Week lasts approximately nine days. Community services and philanthropic projects last all year, even during Greek Week training. In addition to the above stated "good" stuff that Greeks do, this year, the PHC sororities alone did well over 2,700 hours of community service. Not to mention work done by fraternities, NPHC and other organizations.

In addition, almost every house holds a philanthropic event. Some houses raise over \$2,000 for their philanthropies and for space's sake I won't list them. They can be found on the individual home pages of

chapters which are linked to <http://www.eiu.edu/~grklife/panhel/chapters.htm>.

I know a lot of people who were greatly angered by the article "Greek Week is Weak," and I know a lot who thought it was hilarious and absolutely correct. What I'd like to say to the people who loved the "Greek bashing" and then laughed at what an uproar it caused is this...

Think of something that you put all your effort into, whether it be your sports team, your RSO, a video game, work, school work, an article you wrote for *The DEN*, whatever. You would not be particularly thrilled if people started stereotyping, writing false information about, and criticizing your organization when it did absolutely nothing wrong.

Because really... what was "Greek Week is Weak" all about? It was not an informative article. It did not report some crime that the Greek community committed. It was an editorial to put down and make fun of organizations on this campus. Maybe if

it was your organization the editorial was making fun of, you would see my point.

**Madeline Hoercher** | Junior education major

### TO COMMENT....

*The Daily Eastern News* welcomes responses to our original content.

For consideration, e-mail letters to [DENopinions@gmail.com](mailto: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](http://www.dennews.com).

OP-ED

THURSDAY  
4.26.07

Dining halls lack vegan options

I'm writing in regards to the lack of vegan food options available on campus. I researched the availability of vegan-friendly foods on campus and concluded that the dining halls, food court and café do not provide an adequate amount of choices for students who eat a vegan diet. Some of the dining halls do have a salad bar, which provides some vegetables and fruits, but there are rarely any entrées suitable for a vegan. Plus, if an entrée is vegan-friendly, vegans would not always know this because there are no ingredient labels for any foods in any food places on campus. And the likelihood of a student worker knowing the ingredients of the food they serving (which they should) is almost as absurd as thinking that they would be willing to take the time and energy to show you the box listing the ingredients. I ate at every dining hall on campus in a two-week period and only two workers were more than willing to find out what ingredients were in the food I was about to let them place on my plate.

When I asked Jody Horn, director of dining, why there are barely any vegan options on campus, she replied "the need is not there." I found that ironic because the need for foods enriched in other things besides meat and dairy is needed for health reasons and for that minority of students who are vegan. Horn did say that the campus is working on ingredient labels for next year.

I suggest that students voice out their opinions on the foods available on campus whether it be vegan, vegetarian or any other special dietary needed food. Whether or not the "need" is there, students should have the option of vegan foods. Vegans are not the only students who enjoy eating healthy, nutritious foods that do not contain meat and dairy. I would also suggest that campus dining survey and do some research of their own on what students really want and what their bodies need.

Holly Thomas | Junior journalism major

Proposed smoking ban is unlawful

I strongly agree that Eastern has gone way too far to control smoking on campus. Smoking is a personal right that one should have, and it should not be banned. It should be more of an issue of where individuals should be allowed to smoke. If the debaters on both sides would evaluate the pros and cons of having restricted areas for smokers

on campus, a conclusion would be drawn.

If Eastern had a smoke-free campus, it would add more problems, and many will question their personal rights and freedom.

If Eastern would approve this ban, they may lose students, staff and other people that may contribute to many positives at Eastern.

Smoking has many health concerns that raise eyebrows, but it's not up to me to tell a person they cannot smoke. Smoking is a personal choice that one decides to do, and it should be up to them, not a decision based on opinions formulated from individual who just like don't like smoke.

Is that fair? No, because it violates freedom of choice.

Restrictions can be implemented so that people who don't smoke will not be affected by the smokers who choose to smoke. I believe restrictions can be maintained, because smokers would be in the smoking area and non-smokers would not go in the areas designated for the smokers. This is only fair.

If individuals want to smoke they should have that right; however, Eastern should satisfy both sides, and make it comfortable for smokers and non-smokers. This tactic will improve student relations on campus.

Jasmine Mosley | Freshman undeclared major

University needs to ban smoking

I would love for Eastern to be the first university to have a smoke-free campus. I am fed up as a non-smoker. I honestly fear for my health because of being a secondhand smoker.

Smoking is prohibited in a lot of facilities, but I don't feel it's enough. Students and faculty don't always use or go to the designated smoking areas. They are always walking around smoking, standing at the entrances of doors smoking. It is true that we students don't report someone for smoking in a prohibited area. In a DEN article, a representative from the Office of Judicial Affairs said, "If we ask a smoker to put out a cigarette and they don't follow through they are violating the current policy." I didn't know this until I read this article. Non-smokers and smokers should be more aware of this policy so everyone can know the dos and don'ts of the smoking policy.

Students not only from Eastern, but from every university, we need to speak up about enforcing a smoke-free campus.

Najah Shearrill | Freshman education major

Smoking ban is appropriate

I am writing in regards to the proposed smoking ban on campus. I feel that, as a non-smoker, this ban should definitely be passed. It would not only help out Eastern students, but also help in our part of saving the environment. I know that smokers feel they should have the right to smoke wherever they want, but I don't want to have to walk through clouds of smoke to get to my class, or into my dorm. That ban would only allow people to smoke in designated areas. This would also include being a certain distance away from on campus buildings. I know it may be unfair to limit where people can smoke, but I also feel that it is unfair to non-smokers to breathe the air. Secondhand smoke is one of the leading causes of death in America, and it is one of the cancers that people can't control. I think that anything possible to help improve Eastern should be done.

Kaite Kostelny | Freshman special education major

What did the Greeks ever do to The DEN?

In recent articles of *The Daily Eastern News*, there has been a lot of Greek bashing. As a member of a fraternity, I am having a hard time trying to figure out why the Greek Community here at Eastern deserves such disrespect. In a column written on April 20, 2007, Matt Daniels says Greeks are all about "getting drunk." Spoken like true ignorance, in my opinion. Fraternities and sororities participate in important community service projects as well as philanthropy events. It is my belief, and I know I am speaking for my fellow Greeks, that this disdain for Greeks is because someone did not get a bid and they are still holding a grudge against the entire Greek community.

In an editorial on April 23, 2007, *The DEN* claims that Greeks are not promoting campus unity because only Greeks can participate in Greek Week events. However, where is it that they are helping build it? They are alienating a group of students by continuously insulting them. The DEN staff is not practicing what they are preaching. They have turned the Greek community against them. This past week, they were not journalists as they claim to be. Rather, they were impersonating journalists while lashing out in an attempt settle some score with the Greeks that only they know about. If *The*

DEN believes in campus unity, then they will stop all Greek bashing immediately.

Greg Poznic | Freshman business major

Greek Week editorial made strong points

My roommates and I read the properly named editorial "Greek Week is Weak." We have never written about anything that we have read throughout any of our four years here at Eastern. For four years we have watched the ridiculous kids across the street from our apartment complex pull a rope back and forth for months at a time. We have never understood why they would waste so much of their time practicing an event (not a sport) that takes very little athletic ability. So thanks for the wonderful laugh that we all had after we read one of the best editorials ever written. Oh, and I guess a thanks should be sent out to all the tug-o-war participants for always giving us someone to make fun of through our four years here.

Mark Langusch | Senior physical education major

FEATURED BLOGGER

"Since I have returned to the land of tea and crumpets this past Monday night, I have been wrestling with the idea of adequately fitting 32 days and 10 countries into words. I have decided it just can't be done. Perhaps by reading this you can get a little glimmer of what it feels like to be on a journey such as this."



KATIE ANDERSON

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» **Athletes**

FROM PAGE 1

The facility was designed for student-athletes to come and study, do homework or talk with Tozer or Hall about academic help.

Over the years, the number of students wanting to use the study facility grew.

"We really outgrew (Stevenson) and needed more room for our students," Tozer said.

Tozer also said that there are many universities that have an academic center for their athletes, and Eastern was one school that didn't have that to offer its student-athletes.

"We would have 100-plus students in a room, and with that many people it became a distraction

when people had to get up," Hall said.

The students had to put up with this environment because as a rule, they are required to attend a specific number of study hours a week.

Athletes can get exemptions from these hours based on grades or academic standing.

The location of the center is at a more convenient place for athletes as well.

"I think the new facility has been a great addition," said senior swimmer Megan Frawley. "It is so convenient to be able to go there in between classes or before practice. I think it will improve athletes' academic involvement. I think it also strengthens our communication with Cindy Tozer and other academic staffs."

But more than just the students benefited from this renovation.

Along with a new learning facility came new offices for the men's and women's head basketball coaches, as well as for Tozer and Hall.

"It just didn't work, we were in dire need of more space," Hall said regarding the previous academic center and offices. "We now have a conference room; it used to be if we had a meeting with more than eight people we had nowhere to go. We had to take chairs in the hallway and that blocked a lot of space."

The athletes also enjoy the use of the conference room.

"The conference room is awesome: huge screen to watch game film and comfortable to sit in there," said junior basketball player Jake Byrne. "The offices are real nice, too. All the assistants don't have to be crammed into one office. It's a lot more spacious. I'm a big fan of it."

» **Perry**

FROM PAGE 1

"It's a combination of all those things that determined what the final offer and acceptance would be," Webb said. "You don't know the answer to all those factors until you know the candidate you're going to offer the position to."

Hencken declined to comment on his salary or the difference between his own paycheck and what Perry's will be.

Webb said, "The board complied with President Hencken's wishes in regard to his salary."

Hencken's current salary is the lowest among Illinois public university presidents which is part of the reason for the \$60,000 difference between his and Perry's

salary. "The types of responsibilities that now days a university president carries, I think are what merit the salaries that they're paid," Webb said.

"The salary that is required to bring in a president with the qualification that Perry brings to bare at Eastern Illinois University, we think will be reflected in his ability to bring in resources to the university."

» **Education**

FROM PAGE 1

Methven said some of the graduate students who are done with the masters degree program would go to community colleges and teach. He said by having graduate students teach the general education class, they will gain proper experience to teach at community colleges.

Methven said some of the graduate students go to doctorate programs and a variety of those programs require them to teach.

"I think they are capable of doing it," Methven said when asked if graduate students have enough experience teaching in a college atmosphere. "Not all students are, probably, and this would not be students that are first-year graduate students."

The biological science graduate school is a two-year program. Methven said only graduate students in their second year will be eligible to teach.

Second-year graduate students also assist professors in labs prior to their second year of graduate school, Methven said.

As for Poffinbarger's concern, Methven said students might be

**AMANDA POFFINBARGER | BIOLOGY INSTRUCTOR**

**"That is my only job here: to be a good teacher. And I believe that I will not be as effective if this goes through."**

wary of graduate students teaching class, but other students might not.

"The other perspective is some students might prefer it because they will have someone closer to their own age," he said. "There might be more of a connection."

Four graduate students will be teaching the general education class. There will also be a training program for graduate students before the start of the fall semester.

A faculty member of the department will oversee that program, Methven said.

The English department also has a program that allows graduate students to teach Composition and Language as well as Composition and Literature, which started in Fall 2005.

Both courses are 1000-level classes that students often take to fill the general education requirement.

"The graduate student who teaches those courses begin with a

mentor teaching class," said Robin Murray, an English professor and program director. "They work with a tenured faculty member who's teaching either a 1001 or 1002, or the honors equivalents."

Murray said graduate students shadow professors for a semester while taking a three-hour class with Murray on how to instruct a course, and are offered some opportunities to teach.

She also meets with the graduate students once a week when they are teaching a class by themselves.

The program only allows for three graduate students to teach per semester.

Students who have been taught by the graduate students have not had any complaints, Murray said.

She said faculty members were apprehensive before the program came into effect because they had concerns about their own job, but that feeling has subsided.

"It's gone really well," Murray said of the program.

As for the biology department, Methven is aware that faculty members are upset by the decision.

"It's one of those administrative decisions that a chair is sometimes forced to make," Methven said.

Methven said the faculty has mixed feelings on the change.

"I kind of expected that there would be this kind of reaction," Methven said.

Poffinbarger said she still plans to fight the decision along with other faculty members.

"That is my only job here: to be a good teacher," Poffinbarger said. "And I believe that I will not be as effective if this goes through."

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TRACK AND FIELD | NOTEBOOK

# Seniors prepare for last two weeks of career

**By Kevin Kenealy**  
Online Interactive Editor

Jumper Nicole Marczewski and pole vaulter Nicolene Galas have two weeks left at Eastern, and thus, two weeks left to their Eastern track and field careers.

Before they leave, however, they have a few goals they'd like see

accomplished.

Marczewski set a new personal record this past weekend at the Vanderbilt Classic, jumping 38 feet, 9 inches in the triple jump and 18 feet, 2 inches in the long jump.

Previously, her personal best in the triple jump was 38 feet, 6 inches.

By the end of the year, she

hopes to set new records in those categories once again, with a goal of 19 feet in the long jump and 39 feet in the triple.

As a team, the women finished 12th at Vanderbilt, a finish Marczewski contributes to a lot of no-shows.

"A lot of people didn't show. I think if we had a full roster and if

people performed at their absolute best, then yeah, we would have deserved to have been placed a little bit higher," Marczewski said. "It was kind of a practice meet to get ready for conference."

Unlike Marczewski, Galas has goals for her teammates, specifically pole vaulters Tricia Gaumer and Anci Borozan.

"I hope Tricia Gaumer PRs and Borozan goes 12-feet-5-inches," Galas said. "That's what I want more anything in world right now."

And now that the last meet is approaching, Galas said she can't believe it.

"I'm definitely going to miss it," she said. Marczewski also said she would miss track and field also.

She said she has been in a track meet every weekend of her life from her freshman year of high school.

**Wesson to compete at Drake**

On the men's side, Chris Wesson is one of the few lucky ones to have been selected to participate at the Drake Relays in Des Moines, Iowa

this weekend. Only a select few are allowed to go to the meet.

At Vanderbilt, Wesson beat out friend and running partner David Holm. Wesson took second in the 800-meter run as Holm took third.

For those that aren't headed to Drake, will be on their way to the Indianapolis for the Butler/IUPUI Invitational meet this weekend.

The following weekend the whole team will be united once again for the Ohio Valley Conference Championships here at Eastern.

Assistant coach Nate Davis is excited to move forward after the men finished third out of 26 teams at the Vanderbilt Classic, he said he thought if more athletes would have showed, more points could have been earned.

"Our best long jumper stayed here because of class commitments, same with our best triple jumper, best high jumper on the men's side," Davis said. "Our number one pole vaulter no-heighted, so that was points we could have had and two other men pole vaulters didn't go so we missed out on some points."

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**SOFTBALL | NOTEBOOK**

# Panthers to play critical weekend series

**By Matt Daniels**  
Sports Editor

To say this weekend's series against Austin Peay is just another conference series is an understatement.

Eastern sits in eighth place in the current Ohio Valley Conference standings, while Austin Peay is in sixth place.

The top six teams make the OVC Tournament, scheduled to start play May 10.

Eastern is currently one game behind the Lady Governors for sixth place.

The Panthers (20-26, 7-11 OVC) have seven conference games left beginning with Saturday's doubleheader in Clarksville, Tenn.

Eastern head coach Kim Schuette said the key is to play loose and with energy.

"These kids play better when they're talking and jumping around," she said. "I don't know, when everything's loud, they play

better for some reason. As long as they bring that energy out to the game, then I'll be proud of them."

Last year at this time, the two teams met in a crucial series also. Austin Peay visited Charleston coming into the series in sixth place, while the Panthers were in seventh.

Eastern swept the three-game series, with pitcher Kathleen Jacoby recording all three wins, including a complete game, shutout in the third game.

The sweep started a seven-game

winning streak that Eastern ended the regular season on en route to a third-place conference finish.

"We have a perfect situation, in my eyes, because we decide what happens with us," Schuette said. "We have to get our job done this weekend to even worry about anyone else."

**Slap-hitters come up clutch**

Two days after left-handed slap-hitters Angela Danca and Megan Nelson played an instrumental

role in Sunday's 4-3 win against Morehead State, the two contributed again Tuesday.

In Eastern's second game against Illinois, the Panthers trailed 3-2 going into the seventh inning. Chelsea Adams drew a walk with one out and Schuette turned to Nelson to pinch-hit for junior Allyson Nolte. Nolte had contributed a run-scoring single in her previous at-bat.

But Nelson forced a walk out of Illinois' pitcher.

the daily eastern news  
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Department of Special Education: Special Olympics on Friday, April, 27, 2007 from 7:30 a.m.-2:30 p.m. at the O'Brien Stadium-EIU. "Rain or Sunshine" Everyone must report to the Volunteer Table upon arrival.

4/26

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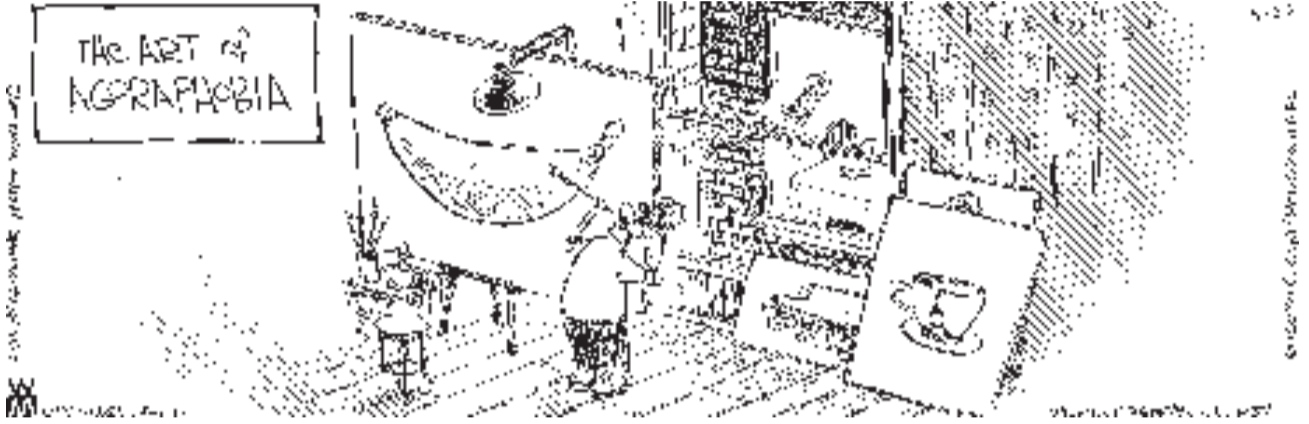
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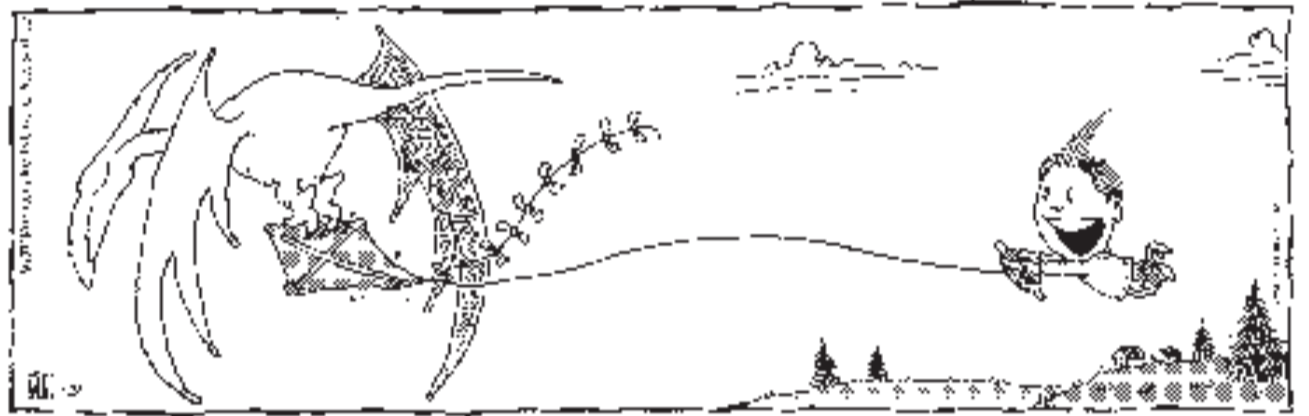
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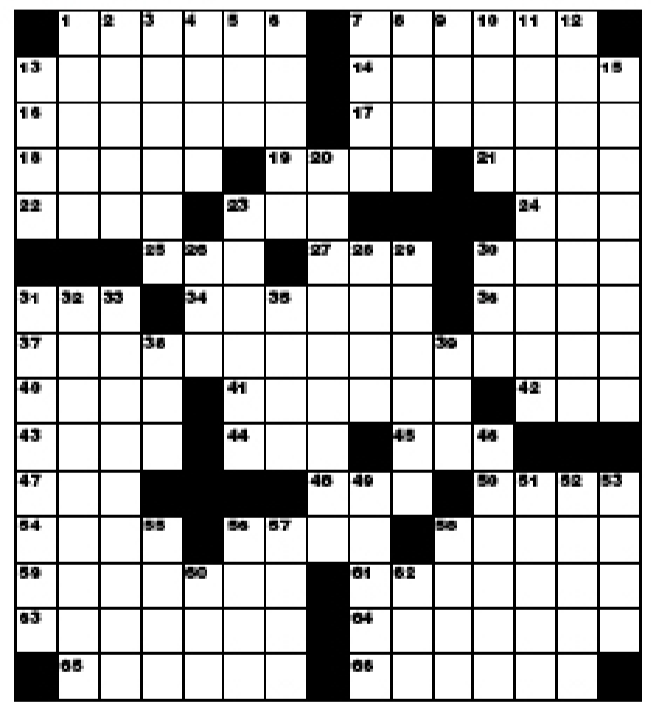


**The New York Times Crossword**

Edited by Will Shortz

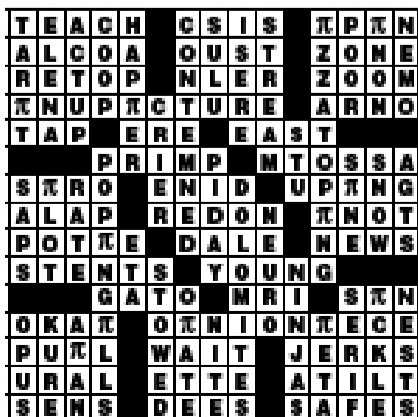
No. 0315

- Across**
- 1 Brazilian dance
  - 7 Matters of Intl. concern
  - 13 Snares
  - 14 Kaplan course, briefly
  - 18 Cause for a siren
  - 17 Accumulator
  - 18 Agent
  - 18 Greyhound fare?
  - 21 Sammy Davis Jr.'s "\_\_\_ Can"
  - 22 Sound
  - 23 VW front?
  - 24 Kind of number
  - 25 Sink
  - 27 Gen \_\_\_
  - 30 Fishing hook with a handle
  - 31 Teachers' org.
  - 34 Bring into harmony
  - 38 High: Prefix
  - 37 Private affair?
  - 40 Marvel Comics hero
  - 41 Affirmed's 1978 Triple Crown archival
  - 42 Prior to, in verse
  - 43 Evidences exposure to ultraviolet light
  - 44 Waterspout
  - 45 Missile from a prankster
  - 47 Period of years
  - 48 Bruiser
  - 50 Big, in adspeak
  - 54 Deer \_\_\_
  - 56 Prefix with meter
  - 58 Ribald BBC comedy, informally
  - 59 Fix firmly
  - 61 Ump's call
  - 63 Moon of Saturn
  - 64 Disparage
- Down**
- 1 Actress Kelly
  - 2 Cover in the kitchen
  - 3 1738 Handel opera set in Persia
  - 4 Brit's exclamation
  - 5 Top of a clock
  - 6 Wrap up by
  - 7 "The faster the better"
  - 8 68-Across snack
  - 9 Abbr. after a comma
  - 10 Nimble
  - 11 Like some questions
  - 12 Checks in on
  - 13 Upbraids
  - 15 Menu heading
  - 20 Monopoly square
  - 23 Army NCO
  - 26 Kind of battery
  - 28 Vance Air Force Base site
  - 29 Shoot over
  - 30 Hootenanny participant
  - 31 Informational sign on an Interstate
  - 32 Some vets
  - 33 Titled
  - 85 "Shifting gears a little" and others
  - 88 Spicy cuisine



Puzzle by Peter A. Collins

**ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE**



- 35 Output from Washington Irving
  - 36 Hosp. workers
  - 38 Cal-Nev-\_\_\_, Nev.
  - 48 Globe with olive branches, for the United Nations
  - 49 Classic name in Milwaukee brewing
  - 51 Prior to, in verse
  - 52 Popular anti-anxiety drug
  - 53 "Yeah, sure!"
  - 55 Tennis star
  - 56 "Women and Love" author
  - 57 Son of Seth
  - 58 \_\_\_ Cross, James Patterson detective
  - 59 Sun Devils' sch.
  - 62 Suffix with pent-
- For answers, call 1-800-285-5856, \$1.20 a minute; or, with a credit card, 1-800-814-3554.
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**Sudoku** By The Mephan Group

8 4 1 3  
3

1 5 7 4

4 3 9

8 7 2

3 6 9 7

5 3 7 1

Level 1 2 3 4

Complete the grid so each row, column and 3x3 box (in bold borders) contains every digit 1 to 9. For strategies on how to solve Sudoku, visit www.sudoku.org.uk

Solution to Wednesday's puzzle

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

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BASEBALL | ILLINOIS STATE 4, EASTERN 1

# Patience leads ISU to victory

Redbirds take nine walks, defeat Panthers at home

By Kevin Murphy  
Associate Sports Editor



ERIC HILTNER | THE DAILY EASTERN NEWS

Senior first baseman Erik Huber swings Wednesday afternoon against Illinois State at Coaches Stadium. Eastern lost 4-1 to ISU.

Patience is a virtue. Illinois State was patient at the plate and was walked nine times, which resulted in three runs.

ISU's easy base runners took advantage and used them in a 4-1 against Eastern on Wednesday at Coaches Stadium.

"Our hitters are very selective," said ISU head coach Jim Brownlee.

The Redbirds (18-20) have been walked 176 times in the 2007 season and the Panthers (17-19) have drawn 164 walks.

"Our guys are good at taking borderline pitches," Brownlee said.

Those pitches include those in and out of the strike zone.

The Panther pitching staff has issued 158 walks.

In the fourth inning, Redbird second baseman Kyle Cherney was walked. That left the Redbirds with runners on first and second. Centerfielder Mike Tokarski hit a single to bring Cherney in for the first run of the game.

Other walks were issued later that did not help the Panthers.

Freshman Richie Derbak started off the ninth inning by walking shortstop Collin Salzenstein. Salzenstein stole second base and advanced to third on a wild pitch.

Mike Stalowy hit an infield single to score the walked runner. Right fielder Matt Bolt singled to bring in the fourth and final run of the game.

The Redbirds left the bases loaded and Derbak got out of the jam by striking out the final two batters.

Strikeouts were rare for the Panther pitching staff with four the whole game.

For Illinois State, it was the norm with its pitching staff hurling 6 K's.

The other walks did not have an affect on the game but the walks in the ninth inning did not help the Panthers.

Eastern senior pitcher Drew Gierich gave up the biggest hit of the game in the fifth inning.

ISU's Jesse Griswold hit a homerun to left

centerfield from the first pitch from Gierich.

"He's got some pop on the ball," Brownlee said.

Gierich came into relieve junior starter Tyler Brandon. Brandon pitched four innings, gave up three hits and one run and walked five. Eastern batters were not patient at the plate. They struggled for the most of the game with five hits and only plating one run. The lone bright spot was senior designated hitter Erik Huber.

Huber finished 2-4 and batted in Eastern's lone run.

"We've just got to get everyone else hitting," said Eastern head coach Jim Schmitz.

Huber returned to the starting lineup after nursing a hamstring injury. He has only been used a pinch hitter since April 12.

"It's great to see Erik in that role," Schmitz said.

Huber was previously 0-2 in five games after April 12.

"I was kind of nervous," Huber said.

The Belleville native said it was good to see some live pitching. The Panthers extended their losing streak to four games.

"We got to go out and play baseball," said Gierich.

The Panthers return to action when they travel to Southeast Missouri this weekend in a critical Ohio Valley Conference series.

### Illinois State 4, Eastern 1

Inning	by Inning	R	H	E
Illinois State	0 0 0 1 1 0 0 0 2	4	9	0
EIU	0 0 0 0 0 0 1 0	1	5	1

WP: Reeser (3-2) LP: Guttosch, Alex (0-4)

E: Astrouski -EIU. DP: EIU 1; ILS 2. LOB: EIU 6;

ILS 13. 2B: Huber, Erick, Chagnon, Mark -EIU.

HR: Griswold -ILS. HBP: Bolt, Ruffolo -ILS; Nom-

mensen, Brett, Cobb, Jason, Blaskovitz, Bryan

-EIU. SH: Derbak, Richie -EIU. SF: Griswold -ILS.

SB: Salzenstein, Stalowy, Bolt, Ruffolo, O'Brien,

Tokarski -ILS.

Key Inning: Top of the ninth

Illinois State put the game out of reach when they walked plated two runs on two walks.

## » Waltasti

FROM PAGE 12

Something to watch on television, read in the newspaper and argue about with your roommates?

My answer to that question came the next day while reading *The Daily Eastern News*. Those words on the page didn't appear there magically for my viewing pleasure. Somebody put in many hours of work to make sure I could read about everything from Cubs baseball in the *Chicago Tribune* to women's rugby in *The DEN*.

It clicked for me that day as I walked down the old brick steps into the McAfee basement to add a journalism minor - I could get a job doing what I loved.

Almost two years have passed and I have seen game-winning goals and heart-breaking missed shots, but no matter the outcome of the game, I always walked back home feeling full.

That process is exactly what college is made for.

Sure, beer breakfast at Marty's is a pretty good reason to go to college - but finding out what really interests you - what you are really passionate for, is what coming to Eastern or any university is all about.

So forget mom and dad's scorn when you tell them you are thinking about switching your major for the third time.

Forget them when you decide to stay in school just one more year.

In the long run, all the loans and homework are worth it - if you take the time to realize it.

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» Preach

FROM PAGE 12

“When you look at talent, you’re not always able to project talent on a special upside like Vincent has,” he said. “We didn’t really have an idea until his senior year that he really emerged as an athlete, sticking around after practice, doing sprints. You could just tell he was a determined kid.”

But that determination wasn’t getting schools to offer him football scholarships.

Webb said Southern Illinois showed the most interest in him, but the Salukis only wanted him as a defensive back.

Late in the recruiting season, Webb said his father contacted Western Illinois and Eastern.

Both wanted him to play running back, but he would have to walk-on.

Webb visited Eastern, saw the spring game and decided to come to Charleston – even without a scholarship.

“(The coaches) just told me if you come and you work hard and

you prove yourself, then you can have a scholarship,” Webb said. “I took that as my motivation that summer and worked hard.”

Webb red-shirted his first year at Eastern, with running backs J.R. Taylor and Andre Raymond taking most of the carries.

But Webb emerged as the Panthers’ No. 1 running back during his red-shirt freshman year.

Once he earned that No. 1 spot, despite competition during the next three years, he held onto it.

After rushing for 593 yards his red-shirt freshman year, Webb

eclipsed the 1,000-yard plateau in each of his next three seasons.

He also earned that coveted scholarship prior to the beginning of his second year at Eastern.

Eastern head coach Bob Spoo said the accomplishments Webb made on the field proved that college coaches sometimes don’t always sign the right player to a scholarship out of high school.

“His accomplishments mean there’s no science to this recruiting thing,” Spoo said. “It’s just a luck of the draw sometimes. But we were lucky to get him.”

family,” Brown said. “I think the support of the family makes a difference in any child’s life. And I think that has helped Vincent become the man that he is today.”

**Looking for a future in football**

There is no hesitation in his voice. Webb is adamant about his upcoming plans for the rest of the year.

“Next fall, I want to be on someone’s team playing football,” he said.

Where that will be is unknown. Webb said he is hoping his name will get called this upcoming weekend during some point of the NFL Draft.

But, if his name isn’t called, Webb only wants a phone call from his St. Louis-based agent Harold Lewis saying a professional team wants his services.

“God has blessed me with the talent (to play football) and now I just want to continue it,” Webb said. “If I have to be invited to camp, be cut, whatever, I’m going to keep trying to make it.”

“It’s a life-long goal. I’m here now, so I’m willing to do whatever it takes.”

Webb worked out for some NFL scouts, including one from the Indianapolis Colts, on March 31.

But Webb had suffered a pulled hamstring prior to the workout and couldn’t perform position drills.

Webb’s first passion is football. But he has developed a love for the ministry, more so now that he has preached his first sermon.

He said 10 years from now, along with playing football, he wants to be a preacher and own a real estate company.

“I feel if football doesn’t work out, I’ll have a place in the church,” Webb said. “God has given me the ability to speak well and deliver his word. If it works, I’m more than thankful.”

But, right now, his focus is on football and improving his appeal to pro teams. Johnson said, though, that a fallback plan for Webb wouldn’t be the ministry, but rather football.

Now Webb can reflect and move on to the next part of his life, a place where only he knows will take him.

“It’s just amazing from where I started to where I finished,” Webb said. “Without God, it wouldn’t be possible. God definitely blessed me. I walked on and then four years later, male athlete of the year? It’s awesome.”

**Family is everything to him**

Webb’s parents separated when he was a young child. But that doesn’t mean he had a rough family life growing up.

Webb lived with his mother until he entered his freshman year at Ladue.

Prior to entering high school, he moved in with his father. Both parents still remain close today, and traveled together to most of Vincent’s games at Eastern.

“As a child, my mother raised me and she couldn’t teach me how to be a man, so my dad was here to be that role model in my life,” Webb said.

Webb’s father had always played a major role in his life, telling him words of wisdom from his own boxing career.

And the young Webb paid attention to his advice.

“That kid listens to me more than anyone else,” the elder Webb said. “And it started when he was two or three years old.”

The elder Webb was a boxer, even trying out for the Olympic squad.

He has taken the lessons he learned from his own athletic career and tried to apply it to his son.

But all of the elder Webb’s boxing accomplishments and accolades don’t measure up to what his son has done, he said.

“As far as football, I don’t have words to put into it,” his dad said. “All of that is second. What I do is secondary to anything that Vincent do.”

The fact that nearly 40 family and friends showed up to Webb’s house in St. Louis last Friday to congratulate him on being named the DEN’s male athlete of the year is evident to his family’s involvement in his life.

“We have a very close-knit

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# SPORTS

THURSDAY  
4.26.07

## sportschedule

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TRACK AND FIELD

**FRIDAY at Butler/IUPUI Invite |**  
Indianapolis, Ind.

TRACK AND FIELD

**SATURDAY at Drake Relays |**  
Des Moines, Iowa

BASEBALL

**SATURDAY at Southeast Missouri |**  
Doubleheader 1 p.m. Cape Girardeau, Mo.

SOFTBALL

**SATURDAY at Austin Peay |**  
Doubleheader 1 p.m. Clarksville, Tenn.

SOFTBALL

**SUNDAY at Austin Peay |**  
Noon Clarksville, Tenn.

BASEBALL

**SUNDAY at Southeast Missouri |**  
1 p.m. Cape Girardeau, Mo.

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happy

When I first transferred to Charleston, like many students before me, I wanted to be a teacher – high school history to be exact.

For two semesters I trudged to Coleman Hall every morning for class, still full from my Stevenson breakfast. But during the walk back to a dorm room piled high with teacher's manuals and textbooks, I was never full.

Not because my omelet had fully digested and it was time for lunch, but because I was not passionate about what I was training to become.

Perhaps teaching was the only thing I knew coming out of high school. From preschool to 12th grade, there was always an adult in front of the dry erase board guiding me, helping me. Maybe I figured when I became an adult, I should be the one in front of that dry erase board, paying respect to all my teachers before me by following in their footsteps.

But there was no maybe about how that educational psychology class didn't cut it for me.

What did cut it for me was going to the Eastern men's basketball games with my friends, sitting front row and watching Emanuel Dildy run the point for the Panthers.

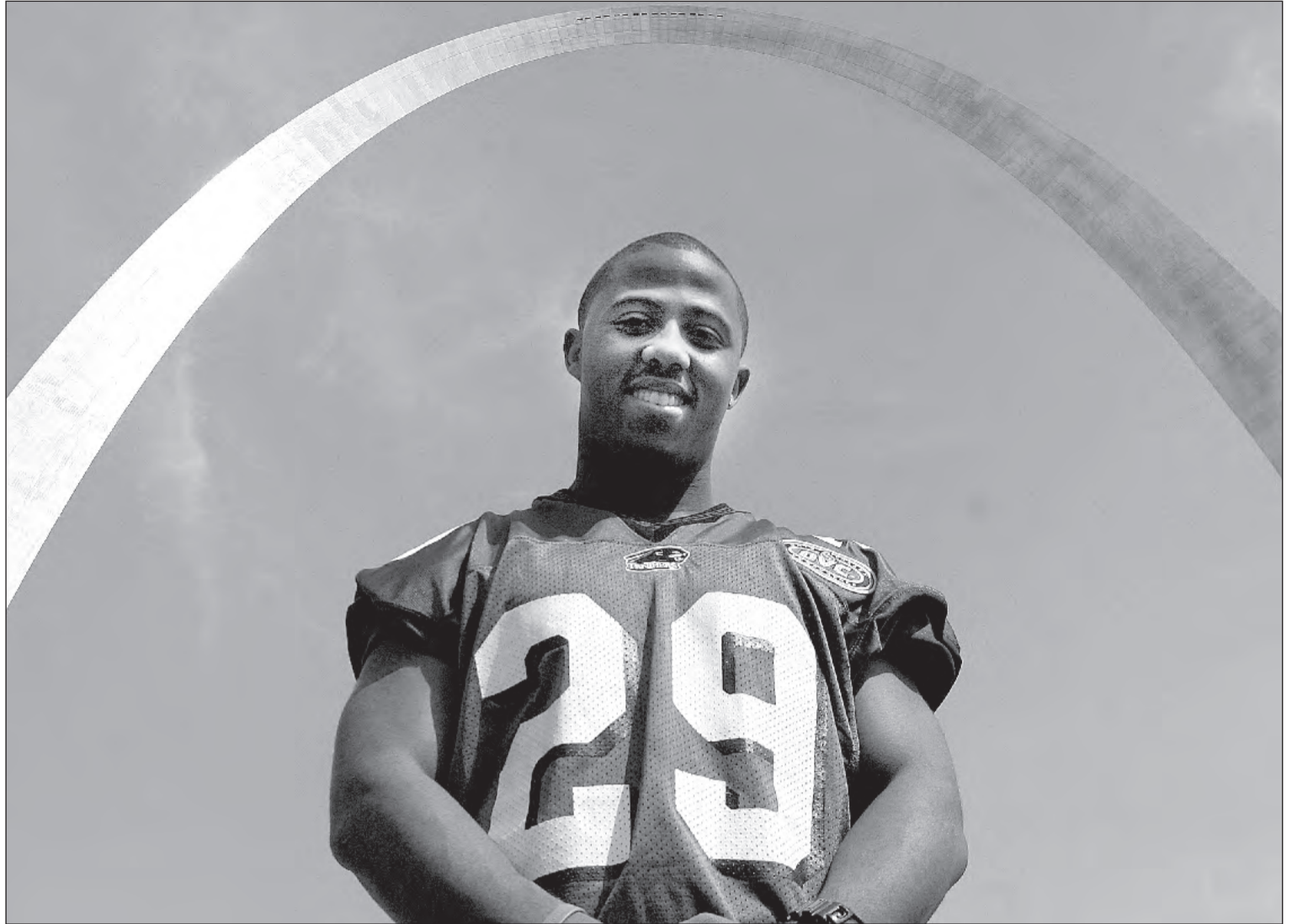
But sports were just a hobby right?

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# THE DAILY EASTERN NEWS ATHLETE OF THE YEAR | VINCENT WEBB JR.



NORA MABERRY | THE DAILY EASTERN NEWS

Running back Vincent Webb Jr. finished second all-time with 4,233 rushing yards and delivered his first church sermon last month in his hometown of St. Louis. "My favorite place in St. Louis is home," said Webb.

# Practice what he preaches

Webb started out his career as a walk-on; he ends it as athlete of the year

By Matt Daniels  
Sports Editor

Vincent Webb Jr. knows about temptation.

He even has a plan to defeat it.

And unlike some athletes today, Webb practices what he preaches – literally.

Webb, Eastern football's second all-time leading rusher with 4,233 yards and the 2006-07 *Daily Eastern News*' male athlete of the year, delivered his first sermon in front of a church crowd last month in his hometown of St. Louis.

He talked about temptation and delivered a four-step plan to overcome it.

"The first step is to speak the word of God," Webb said. "Step two is to control your mind. Step three is, control your eyes and your body. And the fourth step is to find an escape for the temptation. And it went well. It was something I'd never done."

It's a philosophy that Webb feels can work. But Webb's life hasn't gone exactly on a normal path.

"Vincent always felt like he had to prove himself," said his father Vincent Webb Sr.

From birth, where it was unclear if he would survive, to switching homes before he entered high school to coming to Eastern as a walk-on, his life has been full of obstacles he's had to overcome. Webb Jr. was born in the bathroom of his childhood home and wasn't breathing initially.

But his grandmother saved his life.

Martha Webb, Vincent's paternal grandmother, rushed to the home to help.

"My mother's breathing into his mouth," Vincent Webb Sr. said. "I was outside crying. I didn't



### PAST MALE ATHLETE OF THE YEAR WINNERS

- » **2006:** Clint Sellers (Football)
- » **2005:** Aaron Grobengeiser (Track)
- » **2004:** C.J. Weber (Tennis)
- » **2003:** Henry Domercant (Basketball)
- » **2002:** Tony Romo (Football)
- » **2001:** Kyle Hill (Basketball)

### GET TO KNOW VINCENT WEBB JR.

- » **Hometown:** St. Louis
- » **Measurables:** 5-10, 206 lbs.
- » **Major:** African-American Studies
- » **Sports Idol:** Muhammad Ali
- » **High School:** Ladue (Mo.)  
- District 4 Champions in 2001
- » **High School Accolades:**  
- Named all-district in 2001 by the *St. Louis Post-Dispatch*
- » **Family Matters:**  
- Father was a professional boxer

think he was going to make it."

Martha Webb said she delivered CPR to the newborn.

She kept him alive until an ambulance came and took him to the hospital.

Being there from the beginning of his life to where he is now fills Martha with pride.

"It's just a wonderful feeling," she said. "There was a purpose for him to be here."

A purpose that Webb has

VINCENT WEBB JR.'S FOOTBALL HIGHLIGHTS	
» <b>Position:</b>	Running back
» <b>2006 Statistics:</b>	
Games Started:	12/12
Attempts:	250
Rushing Yards:	1,383
Touchdowns:	10
Rushing YPG:	112.6
» <b>2005 Statistics:</b>	
Games Started:	12/12
Attempts:	262
Rushing Yards:	1,129
Touchdowns:	15
Rushing YPG:	94.1
» <b>2004 Statistics:</b>	
Games Started:	11/11
Attempts:	228
Rushing Yards:	1,106
Touchdowns:	12
Rushing YPG:	100.5
» <b>2003 Statistics:</b>	
Games Started:	1/12
Attempts:	115
Rushing Yards:	593
Touchdowns:	5
Rushing YPG:	49.5
» <b>Honors:</b>	
-	2006 co-OVC offensive player of year

OVC.

But on-the field accomplishments are secondary to what he has achieved away from it, say several members of his family.

The moment Webb's mother, Veronica Brown, is most proud of is her son receiving a college degree.

Webb graduated from Eastern last year with a degree in African-American studies.

It's a fact that left an impression on his maternal grandmother.

"That was important for me, him getting a degree and being educated is just as important as him playing sports," said Lockytee Humphrey, Webb's maternal grandmother.

Webb moved back to St. Louis following his graduation in December, in a move to help his professional football chances.

He's also become more involved in his church, New Jerusalem, going to different areas of St. Louis and talking with other young people of different denominations.

"What I've seen him is fulfill his full spiritual belonging to the Lord," said Solomon Williams, the pastor at New Jerusalem who has known Webb his entire life. "He is a breath of fresh air for a young man."

### His path to Eastern

Webb Jr. came to Eastern out of Ladue High School in St. Louis as a walk-on.

Other schools recruited him as a defensive back, but the 5-foot-10, 206-pound Webb didn't want to play defense.

Eddie Johnson, an assistant at Ladue and whom Webb refers to as "my mentor," said Webb's work ethic helped elevate him into a special player.

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fulfilled away from the football field also.

### Away from football

This past season, Webb had a breakthrough year, rushing for a career-high 1,351 yards and leading Eastern to its second straight trip to the I-AA playoffs and second straight Ohio Valley Conference championship.

His efforts also earned him co-offensive player of the year in the