

Eastern Illinois University

The Keep

April

2012

4-26-2012

Daily Eastern News: April 26, 2012

Eastern Illinois University

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Recommended Citation

Eastern Illinois University, "Daily Eastern News: April 26, 2012" (2012). *April*. 19.
https://thekeep.eiu.edu/den_2012_apr/19

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Open Mic Night draws together diverse artists

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Nixon garners respect from teammates, coaches

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COMPETITION

Dancers compete for ultimate prize

Talented women win money for shaking it

By Jaime Lopez
Staff Reporter

Two members of EIU Dancers earned \$700 each in scholarships after impressing choreographer Charles Lawrence with their dance moves on Wednesday.

Kiki Chiligris, a junior management major, and Nicolette Sheridan, a communication studies major, both made it through to the final round, where Lawrence made the final three dancers compete until they got tired.

Ashlee Hare, a sophomore special education major, collapsed as she struggled to keep up with the choreography.

Hare, a member of the Pink Panthers, said the choreography was too much for her to handle.

"It was intense, and my side cramped," Hare said.

She said the dancing she does with the Pink Panthers is completely different from what she experienced during the competition.

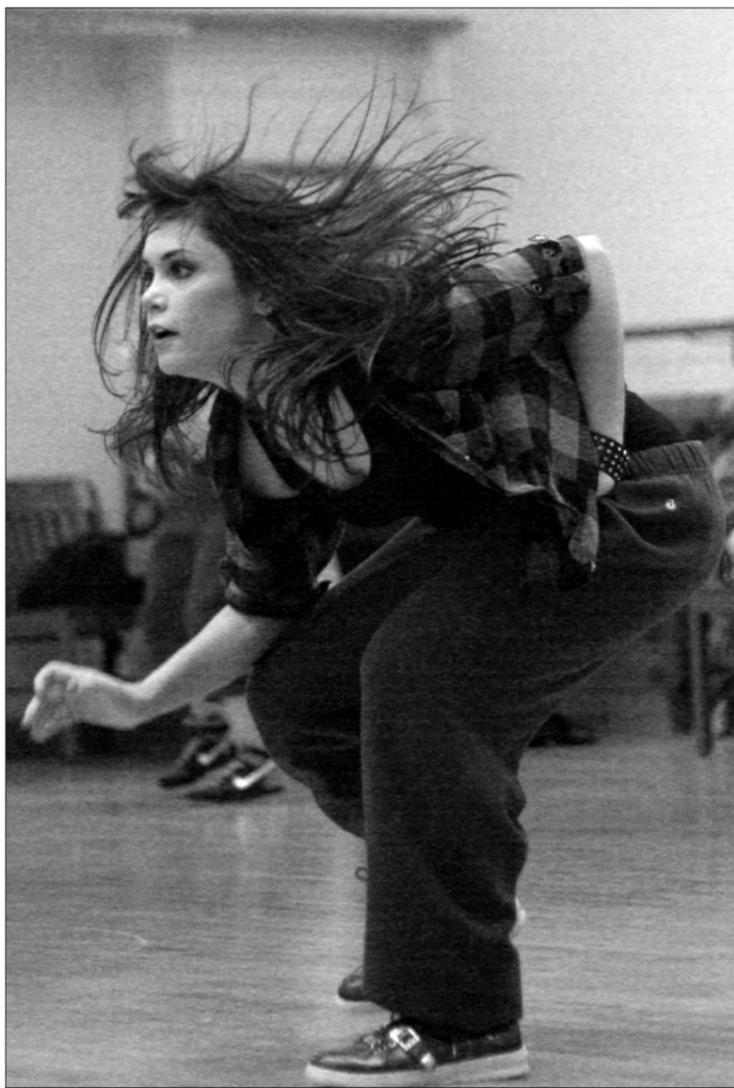
Lawrence, who worked with Justin Bieber and Chris Brown, walked around the studio observing each dancer's techniques and told them what they needed to work on.

Kaitlyn Kavanaugh, a senior communications studies major, was the second to last dancer to be eliminated.

Kavanaugh's face turned bright red as she continued to dance.

When it comes to dancing, Kavanaugh said, "There is always some thing new. You just have to stop thinking."

Ahkeem Lang, a freshman undecided major, who was the last dancer to be eliminated, said dancers



MIRANDA PLOSS | THE DAILY EASTERN NEWS

Kiki Chiligris, a junior business management major, practices choreography by Charles Lawrence Wednesday during a master class in the dance studio of McAfee Gymnasium. Chiligris along with Nicki Sheridan, a junior communication studies major, won a scholarship for a week of classes at Millennium Dance Complex in Los Angeles and an invite to Dance Rouge's intensive workshop in Detroit.

just have to dance.

Drenched in sweat and out of breath, Chiligris said competing was so fun she could not even describe the emotions that ran

through her as she danced.

DANCE, page 5

HONORS

Eastern receives Tree Campus award

Status retained as environmentally friendly campus

By Kaylia Eskew
Staff Reporter

Eastern has once again been honored as one of 115 colleges and universities in the nation as a Tree Campus through the partnership between the Arbor Day Foundation and Toyota.

The foundation and Toyota recognizes campuses for promoting forest management and environmental stewardship.

In honor of the award, on Friday, the Charleston Tree Commission will be awarding Tree of Merit status to three more trees on campus: the Cottonwood tree on the northwest corner of the Martin Luther King Jr. University Union; a London Plane tree on Fourth Street to the west of Pemberton Hall and some American Beech trees on property Eastern owns south of the Newman Center on Fourth Street.

Andrew Methven, the chair of the Tree Campus USA Committee, said certificates for new Trees of Merit will be handed out along with the Tree Campus USA and Tree City USA awards, to President Bill Perry and Mayor John Inyart at 10 a.m. under the Black Oak on the east side of Morton Park.

Eastern currently has four Trees of Merit on campus: the Bur Oak on the east side of Old Main; the Ginkgos in the North Quad; the Bald Cypress on the east side of the Union; and the Dawn Redwood on the north side of the Life Science Building.

The trees awarded are only a few

of the more than 100 different varieties and cultivars on campus and probably in excess of roughly 1,000 total trees, Methven said.

To be considered for the honor a school must meet five different standards according to the Eastern sustainability website.

Schools must have a campus tree advisory committee with student, faculty, facilities and community members, a campus tree care plan that has policies and guidelines for planting, maintaining and removing trees, finances for its annual campus tree program, an Arbor Day observance and an service learning project to engage students and community members.

Ryan Siegel, campus energy and sustainability coordinator, said Eastern works hard to improve and maintain the current trees on campus and this award shows the work that goes into it.

"Being recognized as a Tree Campus recognizes Eastern's efforts to have a diverse culture of trees as well as a good outreach program into the community to promote cultivation of trees in the surrounding community as well," Siegel said.

Methven said the award shows Eastern's outreach efforts and dedication to its status as a Tree Campus.

"Recognition as a Tree Campus USA demonstrates (Eastern's) efforts to have a diversity of trees on campus, a tree maintenance program and an outreach program for students on campus as well as into the community to promote trees," Methven said.

Kaylia Eskew can be reached at 581-2812 or kbeskew@eiu.edu.

CITY

Professor emeritus publishes 40 years of poetry

Lincoln Bookshop to feature Guernsey at book signing today

By Rachel Rodgers
Administration Editor

Bruce Guernsey found his passion to write poetry at age 23 during his first teaching position after one of his students came home in a body bag from the Vietnam War.

"It occurred to me that if I failed a male student then he would be drafted and sent off, and I had a lot of feelings I needed to express in some way," said Guernsey, a professor emeritus of English.

At the time in 1967, Guernsey was teaching at William and Mary in Williamsburg, Va.

In 1970, he published his first poem titled "Grading Papers" about critiquing a sentence in a student's essay about how "a common practice for marines is to hack off V-C ears which they send back home or keep for souvenirs."

"I scrawled down the poem after giving a comment in the paper to write it in the passive voice, and I could not believe that I found myself making a grammatical comment to something as hideous as this," he said.

Guernsey has been writing poetry for more than 40 years, and he featured about 100 of them in his new book titled "From Rain: Poems, 1970-2010."

Guernsey will be at the Lincoln Bookshop, 619 Monroe Ave., from 5-7 p.m. today for a book signing accompanied by wine, cheese and music.

Wendy Meyer, who has owned the Lincoln Bookshop for about a year, said this will be the first book-signing event in more than a decade.

"I generally do not read too much poetry, but I am a fan of Bruce's," she said. "He creates a beautiful use of language in his poems, and has a way with making words flow."

One of the dominant themes in his poems revolves around his father returning from World War II.

"From what I understand from my mother, the war made my father a very different person," Guernsey said. "I called him Doug for a couple of years because it didn't register to me that he was my dad, and then I called him Pop, which seemed like the right name because he was an explosive character."

He also wrote about a crucial event in his life that happened on May 11, 1987.

His father, who was 71 and had the degenerative disease Parkinson's, was staying at a veterans affairs hospital in rural Pennsylvania at the time.

"He got dressed that particular day and walked out the door, and I haven't seen him since," he said. "His ghost wanders in my imagination still."

He included about 15 poems about his father in the book. He also featured poems about his three uncles—who were also in World War II, his mother, his children and his wife.

He separated his collective poems in four thematic sections and said he wanted the collection to be cohesive and unified opposed to organizing it chronologically.

The first section reflects on many aspects of the natural world including "The Apple," "Ice" and "Stones," he said.

"When I was organizing the book, I realized that many titles were proper nouns and symbols of some kind," Guernsey said. "I guess I was a bit of a detective with looking at things with a magnifying glass. There is a lot of intimacy with the natural world."

He said the second section contains poems influenced by living in Illinois like "October," which is about harvesting cornfields.

"The third section has some poems with a weird sense of humor like 'Yam' and 'Oatmeal,' and the fourth section is my attempt to resolve the themes of the first three sections," he said.

POETRY, page 5

EIU weather

TODAY



Mostly Sunny
High: 67°
Low: 62°

FRIDAY



Rain
High: 48°
Low: 37°

For more weather visit castle.eiu.edu/weather.

CAMPUS BRIEFS

The Council on Academic Affairs will vote Thursday on a general education requirement that will allow students to waive a senior seminar course if they study abroad.

The senior seminar will be waived if the study abroad program is three weeks or longer. Students will also have to take a new class called Study Abroad Experience and Project, which will also be voted on at the meeting.

The new class is called STA 4000G.

Revisions on the agenda include the theatre arts minor and history honors program.

EASTERN NEWS

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

Contact

If you have corrections or tips, please call:

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Printed by Eastern Illinois University on soy ink and recycled paper. **Attention postmaster: Send address changes to:** The Daily Eastern News 1802 Buzzard Hall, Eastern Illinois University Charleston, IL 61920 **Attention postmaster: Send address changes to:** The Daily Eastern News 1802 Buzzard Hall, Eastern Illinois University Charleston, IL 61920

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The Daily Eastern News is produced by the students of Eastern Illinois University. It is published daily Monday through Friday, in Charleston, Ill., during fall and spring semesters and twice weekly during the summer term except during university vacations or examinations. One copy per day is free to students and faculty. Additional copies can be obtained for 50 cents each in the Student Publications Office in Buzzard Hall. The Daily Eastern News is a member of The Associated Press, which is entitled to exclusive use of all articles appearing in this publication.

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Sing it with soul



KATIE SMITH | THE DAILY EASTERN NEWS

Graduate student Ebony Frazier and junior management information systems major DiMarco Gray sing Wednesday in the South Quad outside of Coleman Hall. The duo was advertising for Delta Sigma Theta's karaoke night as part of United DST of America, Delta week on campus. Their Karaoke night took place in the basement of Pemberton, and was only one of many events planned for the remainder of the week to celebrate various Delta chapters.

HOUSING AND DINING SERVICES

Finals Feast to honor Oreo's 100th birthday

By Emily Gallichio
Staff Reporter

In honor of the 100th anniversary of the Oreo cookie, University Housing and Dining Services has planned a Finals Feast to give students a break before finals.

On Sunday in Thomas Dining Center from 9 p.m. to 11 p.m., students can close out the semester with "Oreo's 100th Birthday."

Susan Kohn, the interim director of Dining Services, said the goal of finals feasts is to provide a break from the stress of final exams.

"We are hoping to make this a time for students to eat and relax," she said.

University Housing and Dining Services has been having finals feasts for seven years, one each semester on the Sunday be-

fore finals begin.

Mark Hudson, the director of University Housing and Dining Services, said student feedback has always been positive.

"Every feast has been successful, and there has been no negative feedback from the students," Hudson said.

Besides being able to relax from studying finals, students can interact with the administration.

The deans of each college, President Bill Perry and Blair Lord, the vice president for academic affairs, will also be joining students for finals feast.

Kohn said each semester during finals there is a different theme that lets students escape from the reality of final exams.

She said in previous years there

have been themes such as "Don't Flip Over Finals" featuring pancakes, and "Minis and Munchies" with mini hot dogs and hamburgers.

They have also had themes like "Farewell Finals," which was a goodbye to former Eastern President Lou Hencken and featured a build-your-own sundae bar, as well as "Don't Bet on Finals," which was casino-themed dinner.

To celebrate the Oreo theme, there will be many chocolate-filled options to choose from.

Kohn said there will be chocolate fountains to dip Oreo cookies in, along with fruit, pretzels and other assorted items.

"We are also going to do make your own Oreo milkshakes, Oreo Rice Krispie treats, veggie trays, a salad bar and pizza," Kohn said.

Along with the food options, Kohn said there will be games and prizes from Eastern's brokers.

The types of prizes include gift baskets from Java Beanery and Bakery filled with a mug and other coffee items, as well as a Food Court basket including grab n' go items for students.

In order to let students know about the feast, Hudson said housing and dining posts information almost everywhere students can see.

"We want the students to get away from all the stress, come down for two hours, eat, visit and get away from the real world. It's just a social time," Kohn said.

Emily Gallichio can be reached at 581-2812 or ekgallichio@eiu.edu.



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COMPETITION



KATIE SMITH | THE DAILY EASTERN NEWS

Family consumer science major Jasmine Sullivan performs at the semester's final University Board Open Mic Night. Sullivan was runner up to sophomore art major Kadija Stallings. Both performers sang as their act for the night and tied for the title of final winner. Judges attempted to determine a winner by applause after hosting a sing-off between the two. The final decision was made by a coin-toss.

Open Mic Night draws together diverse artists

Final decision comes down to coin toss

By Andrew Crivilare
Staff Reporter

Rap, rhyme, comedy and creativity were the order of the evening Wednesday as genres mixed and performers mingled in the final Open Mic Night of the year, sponsored by the University Board.

The event served as a forum for self-expression for the students up on stage, as well as a moment of relief for students in the audience preparing for finals in the coming week.

The night started off with a University Board winner of last semester's "So You Think You Can Rap" competition, Jeff the MC.

Onstage, Jeff the MC began sharing a new-found personal philosophy involving greatness through the concept of infinity, which he calls "G R Infinity," by which anything may be accomplished and even working the idea into his song "I Be Stylin'."

"G R Infinity, thought I'd let you know your girlfriend is into me," he rapped. "I'm just a rapper

looking to tap her while she is into me."

Lacretia Brazzleton followed the fast-paced rap with a soulful rendition of the Jill Scott song "Hear My Call," a song appealing to a higher power from a singer in a time of need.

"God, please hear my call, I am afraid," Brazzleton sang. "I am just a child to your vision, standing here in the cold and the rain."

Vocal duo Kadija Stallings and Destiny Winford took the stage next, forgoing any musical accompaniment and instead providing their own bass lines through hums and clicks mixed with melodic harmonies in an a cappella review of several songs, including the Queen of Funk Chaka Khan's "Keep Your Head Up."

"When your heart is free it is easy to make a decision. When your head is cleared you know you have good judgment," the duo sang. "Keep your head up and walk away from the hurtin'."

Ericka Duncan, a junior health studies major, interjected a moment of comedy in the evening when she won a t-shirt from the University Board by correctly answering Sam Worthington as the lead actor in the 2009 film "Avatar."

Duncan approached the stage

with her smart phone in hand and unapologetically admitted she used Google to find the actor.

"I'm saying we don't pay these \$80 phone bills for nothing," Duncan said.

Jasmine Sullivan took to the stage following the Hollywood trivia and sang the Karina Pasion song "Slow Motion," a romantic ballad about trust and companionship, despite a series of technical difficulties with her microphone.

Sullivan eventually faced off against Stallings for first place out of all the performers of the evening, with both performers intending to sing "The Truth" by Indie Arie.

"I didn't know what I wanted to sing," Stallings said. "They (the audience) judged us both, but the ended up going with a coin flip."

Stallings said she plans on following up her Open Mic Night victory when she returns to Eastern after a summer of internships, with an eye towards returning to the stage.

Stallings said, "When I get back in the fall, I'm going to bring it."

Andrew Crivilare can be reached at 581-2812 or at ajcrivilare@eiu.edu.

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CITY

Charleston, students to celebrate National Day of Prayer

By Kathryn Richter
City Editor

The Charleston Area Chamber of Commerce will host a prayer breakfast Thursday, May 3 in honor of the National Day of Prayer.

The program will feature guest speaker Tom Logan, and the theme will be centered around the 7x7 theme that encourages individuals to pray seven days a week for the seven points of power: government, military, media, business, education, church and family.

The National Day of Prayer is an American tradition that was started in 1775 when the Continental Congress asked the colonies to pray for guidance during the formation of the nation.

A prayer breakfast will take place at the Unique Suites Hotel Banquet Facility and will be catered by County Catering.

Brittany Jones, a junior elementary education major, said she thinks the prayer breakfast will be good.

"It would be interesting to see how people come together to pray," Jones said.

Guest speaker Tom Logan is the co-founder of Marion Medical Mission, a Christian volunteer organization that helps the people of Africa, including providing clean drinking water.

Lauren Anderson, a sophomore history major, said she did not

know about the national day of prayer.

"If it is voluntary, I do not see what is wrong with it," Anderson said.

Steve Shor, a senior family and consumer science major, said he does not agree with the National Day of Prayer.

"I do not think it is necessary," Shor said.

Shore said he does not agree with those who try to push their religion on him and said he feels there should be a separation of church and state.

"I think it is horribly frustrating to have to deal with (those people)," Shore said.

Blake Korte, a senior music education major, said he does not know much about the National Day of Prayer. Korte said he does consider himself religious.

"I do my thing and I let people do theirs," Korte said.

The Coles County National Day of Prayer Breakfast will take place from 7 a.m. to 8:30 a.m. on May 3, and participants are required to pre-register for the event by 4 p.m. on Tuesday, May 1 at the chamber office, 501 Jackson Ave., or online, with each ticket costing \$15.

Kathryn Richter can be reached at 581-2812 or kjrichter@eiu.edu.

STAFF EDITORIAL

Pension plan would leave Eastern broke

Gov. Pat Quinn's pension reform plan he proposed on April 20 would shift considerable funding responsibilities from the state to the employer and employee, even though the colossal, unfunded pension liability came from decades of poor decisions by the state.

These poor decisions led to improperly funded pensions and left the state billions of dollars in debt.

As Illinois ranks 50th in the nation in adequately funding pensions, the state proposed to sweep the debt from its books and into the laps of employees and employers.

Quinn's proposed pension reform would increase employer contribution by 3 percent, raise the retirement age to 67 and reduce cost-of-living adjustments to 3 percent or one-half of the Consumer Price Index (whichever is lower).

In addition to these burdens, which would be felt across Illinois' five retirement systems, the state would wriggle out of covering the employer contribution of "normal costs" for university employees by claiming that community colleges and public universities do not fall under the public sector.

"Normal costs" are determined by a formula that calculates benefits earned through the employee's performed service each year.

President Bill Perry said this shift would cost Eastern about \$20 million, which is in no way an easy figure to swallow.

Suddenly deciding that public universities do not fall within the public sector is like a small child pointing its finger every which way to find a scapegoat after recklessly breaking a priceless heirloom. This heirloom being the benefits that hard-working Illinoisans are entitled to.

About 75 percent of the estimated \$20 million would be taken from appropriated funds, which consist of state general revenue funds and tuition monies. Perry said the bulk would be taken from appropriated funds because that is where most salary payments come from.

This would make up about 15 percent of Eastern's \$115 million in appropriated funds when you take into account that the Higher Education Committee in the Illinois General Assembly expects to make a 5.29 percent cut in general revenue appropriations.

The other 25 percent would be taken out of non-appropriated funds.

The proposed changes could hinder Eastern's ability to retain faculty and staff members. It would be more beneficial for those who are eligible for retirement to leave before the shift hits the fan and benefits are reduced.

We reported in an April 17 article, titled "Professors propose pension reform," about 100 Eastern employees are eligible for retirement.

If employees fled the university in flocks, more costs would arise from recruiting new faculty members.

This dent would burden not only faculty and staff members, but also students. With the magnified focus on recruiting and retaining students, the administration would surely like to avoid heavy tuition increases, but the \$20 million would have to be made up somehow.

The proposed pension reform also becomes a constitutional issue. The Illinois Constitution states that the agreed upon benefits for current employees shall not be "diminished or impaired," according to Article XIII, Section 5.

Quinn asserts that this would not violate the constitution because of its "voluntary" basis, but threatening to strip away health care benefits does not seem like a fair choice. We think the state wants to appear to be providing reasonable options while forcing employees out of the Tier I option.

Transferring the burden away from state responsibility is not reform and breaks citizens' social contract with government to protect and provide for its people.

The DAILY EASTERN NEWS

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

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COLUMN

Look before you leap into Internet investing

Without tuition, room, board, books or parking tickets to pay for this summer (unless your parents wised up and started charging you rent for living in their basement), you may have the urge to become something us young adults could not become prior to the Internet: an investor.

Or, to be or accurate, a Crowd-Investor. Thanks to newly popular crowd-funding websites like Kickstarter and RocketHub, people with disposable incomes the size of ours (\$15 and change till the next paycheck) can contribute to exciting, new, creative business endeavors.

Unlike traditional investors, who can pour thousands of dollars into fledgling companies in the hopes they can make a good return when the company takes off, you or I would be kicking in far less money and do so without expecting to make any money back.

Here's the basic format for a crowd-funding site: Creative people, be they artists, designers, musicians, film makers or anything else, post details about a project they are working on but need cash to finish. On Kickstarter, which sees the most traffic of any of the sites, the creative people will often make a promotional video demonstrating what their finished product will look like.

Investors can decide how much money they want to commit, although the minimum pledge is typically \$1. Often the amount an investor puts into a project relates to what the creative person is offering as a reward for that payment level. For example, the most suc-



Doug T. Graham

cessful Kickstarter thus far, a computer game called "Doublefine Adventure," offered those who pledged \$15 or more a digital copy of the finished game and access to the documentary they are producing about making the game. The rewards can get rather ridiculous, pledges of \$5,000 or more were promised a large original painting of art used in the final game and all of the previous seven reward tiers.

The game I mentioned above exceeded its original goal of \$400,000 by almost \$3 million. Since the final pledge was given before their timer expired on March 13, the interest in Kickstarter has increased exponentially.

Crowd-funding has changed the way creative projects get funded already, and I believe we are just seeing the beginnings of how much work can find an audience out there.

The glaring issues with the crowd-funding system have already begun cropping up, however. One recent campaign on Kickstarter raised \$37,000 out of a \$20,000 goal, but the team who started it began burning through their money before they even began making the product they had promised. It cost them

over \$10,000 to print and ship the T-shirts and posters they promised their crowd-investors.

This highlights a simple fact about crowd-funding—the creative people making the project may not be business people. Whether you are investing \$500 or \$5, you want to make sure the project you sink money into has some sort of plan for delivering what they promise.

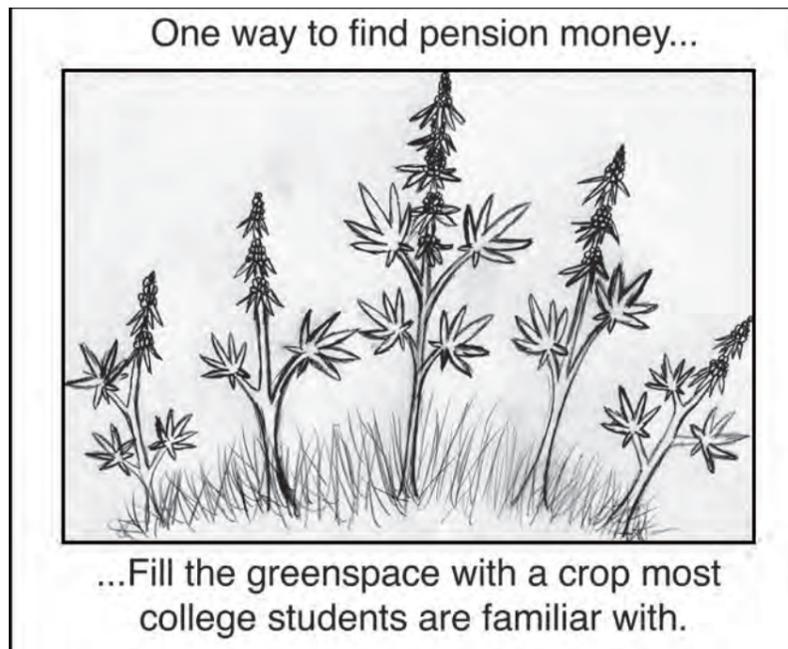
As we get into the summer and more of us unemployed college kids have lots of time and no money, there are going to be a lot more projects put out there by people without plans.

As such, I predict an exponential increase in the amount of lazily organized, half-baked project proposals from our college-aged brethren. Before you put any money into their new custom-cookie-baking company or partially fund their independent zombie movie, vet them like they are a vice presidential candidate. Most crowd-funding sites give you a way to ask questions to the creators, if you don't like their answers, don't give them your money.

With any luck, they'll fall short of their goal and have return to freeloading off the people who can't get their money refunded—their parents.

Doug T. Graham is a senior journalism major. He can be reached at 581-7942 or DENopinions@gmail.com.

FROM THE EASEL



SETH SCHROEDER | THE DAILY EASTERN NEWS

COLUMN

Wind down for finals with some nature

By David Wasserman
 Columnist

Finals are coming up, projects are due and there are few spots available in the library. If you need some time to relax and unwind, you might want to consider checking out two amazing places located right here in Charleston.

Lake Charleston and Fox Ridge State Park are two well-kept secrets. During the spring and fall, they are always empty and you feel like you have the entire area to yourself. Either place will keep you entertained for hours on end.

Lake Charleston is easily accessible to anyone. It is roughly one mile south down 18th Street. There you will find 440 acres of beautiful scenery. One quick shortcut is to cut through Greek Court to 18th. If you are fortunate enough to drive there, parking is plentiful and you shouldn't have to worry about finding a spot. The park opens every day at 6 a.m. and closes at 10 p.m.

Lake Charleston offers fishing, boating,

and of course sight-seeing. Anyone who loves to fish would be enthralled with the variety of fish available there. The lake has bass, pike, catfish and sunfish, just to name a few. Many people sit for hours on the peninsula-like pathway with their lines in the water. The lake even has an area where you can release some pent-up energy while fly fishing. The grounds provide a nice place where you can chill out and have a picnic.

Fox Ridge State Park is not as accessible as Lake Charleston. It is roughly seven miles south of Lake Charleston. The sign is easy to miss, so keep your eyes peeled for a wooden sign on your right.

The park itself covers 2,064 acres, so you won't be able to do everything in one visit. Fishing, boating, and hiking are the main attractions.

Fishing in Fox Ridge is much more peaceful than in Lake Charleston. Visitors will need to register with the Illinois Natural History Survey in order to go fishing. The phone number is (217)-345-6490 and you must reserve the day and time in advance. The lake has bluegill,

largemouth bass and channel catfish. Boating does not require a license, but only canoes are allowed in Ridge Lake or the Embarras River.

Hiking is an excellent way to stay in shape and enjoy the beautiful sights offered. All of the trails eventually meet, making it very easy to find your way back to where you parked and to leave if it starts getting dark or a member of your group ends up getting tired.

Among the four miles of trails, each is ranked according to difficulty. Novice and advanced hikers will like the ability to choose a trail based on the amount they want to exert themselves.

If none of the above sound right for you, maybe a lazy afternoon grilling at the Brick Pavilion or a picnic by the swings is what you are looking for. The facility has nine shelters. Most shelters are available for reservation for larger groups or get-togethers. Whatever you choose, you will not be able to go wrong visiting these amazing pieces of Charleston history.

David Wasserman is a sophomore marketing major.. He can be reached at 581-7942

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Letters may also be submitted electronically from the author's EIU e-mail address to DENopinions@gmail.com.

DOUDNA FINE ARTS CENTER

Multiple cultures to be shared through music

Concert will represent diverse sounds

By Katie Smith
Staff Reporter

Cultures will mix musically on the Dvorak stage with a combination concert by the Eastern percussion and choral ensembles.

The Multicultural Concert will take place at 7:30 p.m. on Friday in the Dvorak Concert Hall of the Doudna Fine Arts Center.

The concert is an opportunity for the performers to use their voices and instruments to represent the music native to different cultures.

Janet McCumber, a music professor and conductor of the University Mixed Chorus, said the choir ensembles will perform music by American, Canadian, Czech and Brazilian composers.

"There is a wealth of music in print from various cultures," McCumber said. "It's very easy to find quality literature that is a good representation of any particular culture's music."

Both groups had to overcome the challenge of replicating the sounds of a new culture.

Jamie Ryan, a music professor and the director of the EIU Percussion Ensemble, said although the concert has a laid back feeling about it, students put forth a lot of effort to master each song.

"The level of sophistication needed to perform music from outside one's own culture is high," Ryan said.

He said the key to doing this is to learn to perform like a native of each culture to achieve a natural sound.

McCumber agreed with Ryan's statement.

"The best we can hope for is a re-

spectful interpretation that honors the traditions and techniques of the culture," McCumber said.

McCumber said this performance strays from the traditional, history-inspired concerts by focusing on music from all around the world. It is also the only concert that combines the choral and percussion ensembles.

Ryan said the percussion ensemble will represent a variety of cultures with an emphasis on Cuban music.

"The percussionists also sing as much as they play for the Afro-Cuban repertoire, using their voices as a powerful, pitched layer of rhythmic expression," Ryan said.

He said the ensemble will utilize instruments such as wooden box drums, the marimba, and a xylophone to represent a wide range of cultures throughout the concert.

McCumber said the ensembles have prepared a show they hope the audience will be both visually and musically enjoyable.

"They will see and hear traditional Afro-Cuban music, both sacred and secular, which is a feast for the eyes as well as the ears," McCumber said. "Some really fantastic drumming of various cultures; some non-traditional vocal techniques; and a rainstorm right in Dvorak Concert Hall," McCumber said.

She encourages students to come, no matter their cultural background or taste in music.

"The world is getting smaller and smaller and it's important for all of us to reach out to and try to understand other cultures," McCumber said. "In many ways, they're not that different from our culture and music is a great way to do that."

Katie Smith can be reached at 581-2812 or kesmith2@eiu.edu.

POETRY, from page 1

One of the poems in the fourth section titled "Homage to Edgar Bergen" describes the tradition in Guernsey's childhood of listening to a ventriloquist's radio special on Sunday nights. He recounted that when he was older he thought it

must have been easy to be a ventriloquist on the radio. "It was my secret desire as a little kid to be a ventriloquist, and when I first started teaching poetry it occurred to me that I am a ventriloquist," he said. "Speaking

without moving your lips, that's what poems are—like voices on the page."

Rachel Rodgers can be reached at 581-2812 or rjrogers@eiu.edu.

DANCE, from page 1

Chiligiris is also a Pink Panthers and said the choreography provided by EIU Dancers is something completely different from what she is used to.

While the dancers competed, Antoine Thomas, the director of the EIU Dancers, sat in the sidelines, cheering on each of the students he mentors.

Thomas shouted, "Come on, come on, move," trying to encourage the dancers to pull through the choreography.

Thomas said he enjoyed watching his students grow.

"I like watching as people shape their craft and grow into better dancers," Thomas said.

Sheridan said she was very close to sitting down and dropping out of the competition.

"I came to perform after a long day of work," Sheridan said. "I didn't even eat before coming into the studio. I told myself I had keep going."

After the long competition came to end, Lawrence asked his dance partner to pick two of the three remaining dancers.

His dance partner picked Sheridan and Chiligiris.

The two girls jumped out of excitement and hugged one another.

Sheridan and Chiligiris received scholarships for classes in Los Angeles' Millennium Dance Complex and a dance workshop hosted by Dance

"I like watching as people shape their craft and grow into better dancers"

Antoine Thomas, director of EIU Dancers

Rogue in Detroit.

Jaime Lopez can be reached at 581-2812 or jlopez2@eiu.edu.



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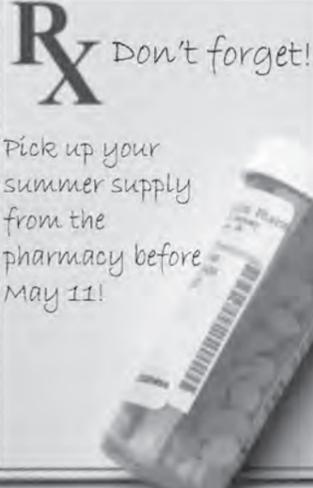
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NIXON, from page 7

She did, increasing her steals per game from 1.7 to 2.7. She had 11 games where she got four steals or more this season.

Offensively, she ended the last three games of the season on a tear. In those games, Nixon scored 30, 23 and 25 points, respectively.

Nixon is up to 1,442 points in her career after having had her best year this season with 506 total points. She has catapulted herself into seventh on Eastern's all-time scoring list.

Assistant coach Rachel Galligan holds the crown with 1,891 points. Nixon knows that, but she said it's not one of her goals to break the record.

"That would be like a by-product," Nixon said. "It would be a part of my legacy. It would be nice, but it's not one of my goals."

Nixon said she wants to do whatever makes the team better next season, trying to win an OVC conference championship.

"I don't know if coach is going to need me to score 20 points a game next year," Nixon said. "He may need just 10."

To break the record, Nixon will not need anywhere close to 20 points per game; in fact, if the team plays 31 games as they did this season, Nixon will only have to average about 14.5 points per game to break the record. She'll only have to score 450 points to break the record by one point.

In each of her first three seasons, Nixon has scored 461, 475 and 506 total points each season.

Alex McNamee can be reached at 581-7942 or admcnamee@eiu.edu.



FILE PHOTO BY DANNY DAMIANI | THE DAILY EASTERN NEWS
Ta'Kenya Nixon attempts to run past a Tennessee-Martin defender Jan. 16 during the Panthers' 70-63 home win in Lantz Arena.

"I don't know if coach is going to need me to score 20 points a game next year. He may need just 10."

- Ta'Kenya Nixon, junior guard

IUPUI, from page 4

Sophomore Kaylie Pruett went two for two at the plate with two singles and a sacrifice bunt.

Freshman Hannah Cole and Seniors Amanda Bilina, Hayley Pieper and Maria Sorrentino all had singles.

Mennenga gave up only five hits, but one of them left the yard in fourth inning and proved to be the difference maker in the game.

The Panthers will hit the road on Saturday to start a three game series against Tennessee-Martin to try

to break up their current four game losing streak.

Erik Jensen and Alex Anderson can be reached at 581-7942 or densportsdesk@gmail.com

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FEATURES



SETH SCHROEDER | THE DAILY EASTERN NEWS

THE DAILY EASTERN NEWS'
FEMALE
ATHLETE
OF THE YEAR

Ta'Kenya
Nixon

Women's Basketball

Nixon garners respect from teammates, coaches

By Alex McNamee
Staff Reporter

Morehead State women's basketball head coach Tom Hodges plans on attending Ta'Kenya Nixon's graduation next May to make sure she walks across the stage and gets her diploma.

"Just to make sure we don't have to play against her again," Hodges said.

This season Nixon averaged 16.3 points, 5.5 rebounds and 4.5 assists per game, and Hodges said Nixon was his vote for conference most valuable player.

However, Nixon had two of her lowest scoring games against Morehead State this season, scoring 10 and nine points respectively.

"The (Ohio Valley Conference) is a guard dominant league and, in my opinion, she has the best all-around game at

"Ta'Kenya is a fierce competitor who raises her level of play with the level of competition she faces."

- Tennessee-Martin coach Kevin McMillan

that position," Hodges said. "One of the top 10 mid-major guards in the country in my eyes."

Nixon has earned similar respect from coaches all over the Ohio Valley Conference for what she has accomplished at Eastern in three years.

"Ta'Kenya is an unbelievable all-around athlete," said Austin Peay head coach Carrie Daniels.

Nixon had two of the biggest games of her career this season, setting and matching a career high with 30 points. The first 30-point effort came against Tennessee-Martin. The second came against Eastern Kentucky.

"Ta'Kenya is a fierce competitor who raises her level of play with the level of competition she faces," said Tennessee-Martin coach Kevin McMillan.

McMillan's Tennessee-Martin team couldn't shut down Nixon in either game it played against her this season. In the first, she scored 21 points, had six steals and nine rebounds. In the second, she scored 30 points and had nine assists.

Nixon, who is rapidly jumping up the ranks in scoring in Eastern history, said it was her goal to improve defensively this season.

NIXON, page 7

BASEBALL

Panthers
post come-
from-behind
win against
Benedictine

Eastern improves to
16-13 overall, 6-7 in OVC

By Jordan Pottorff
Assistant Sports Editor

Eastern's baseball team capitalized on a mid-week match-up against NAIA opponent Benedictine on Wednesday beating them 7-6 in comeback fashion.

After falling behind 6-4 after five innings of play, the Panthers rallied to score three unanswered runs en route to picking up the hard-fought 7-6 win. Freshman third baseman Brant Valach delivered in the clutch with the eventual game-winning run in the seventh inning. Valach roped a RBI single to right field to give the Panthers their decisive seventh run.

"I think it's a big win," Eastern head coach Jim Schmitz said. "You don't want to play a team just to get a W - you don't want to play LSU either - but to me that was a good win against a good team. We did the things at the end to get us a win with Valach's base hit the other way."

Coming off of a double-digit loss to cross-state rival Western Illinois the Panthers were looking for a bounce back win to gain momentum heading into the stretch run of the conference schedule.

"Even though they are an NAIA team they are a great team," red-shirt senior T.J. McManus said. "They are 30-22 and to have a comeback win like that is big. We haven't had one of those in a while."

A long with Valach, a number of Panthers had crucial hits in the come-from-behind win. Sophomore catcher Jacob Reese delivered a big two-run double to left field that had the Panthers beginning their comeback bid.

"Down 6-4 we went back out there and guys got critical walks and we got a big hit from Jacob Reese in a big situation," Schmitz said. "We talked about running in scoring positions and we did a really good job today."

The Panthers also got a stellar effort out of their bullpen as senior lefthanders Darin Worman and Adam Clark combined to keep the Bulldogs off the scoreboard in the final three innings of play.

"You can't say enough about Worman and Clark," Schmitz said. "Those two guys in the back end of the rotation gives us something we really feel good about."

Worman entered the game in the sixth inning, tossing two innings and giving up no runs on one hit. He also recorded two strikeouts and issued just one walk en route to picking up his third win of the season. Clark was also impressive in relief as he also tossed two innings of shutout ball. Clark allowed one hit and recorded three strikeouts as he picked up his second save of the season.

Offensively, the Panthers were paced by Reese and junior outfielder Nick Priessman. They each recorded a hit and two RBI in the win. Valach, freshman outfielder Caleb Howell and redshirt senior David Ciaglia each picked up two hits.

With the win, Eastern improves its record to 16-23 overall and remain at 6-7 in Ohio Valley Conference play. The Panthers will be back in action this weekend when they will travel to Cookeville, Tenn., for a three-game series against OVC-rival Tennessee Tech. First pitch is scheduled for 6 p.m. on Friday.

Jordan Pottorff can
be reached at 581-7942
or at jbpottorff@eiu.edu.

SOFTBALL

Panthers split with IUPUI, go 0-2

Team could
not pull off win
against Jaguars

By Erik Jensen &
Alex Anderson
Staff Reporters

The Eastern softball team fell in its doubleheader today, losing both games to IUPUI.

Game One

In the first game of doubleheader action, the team lost a 10-inning battle to the IUPUI Jaguars by a score of 3-2.

The Jaguars got things started in the third inning when Aundria Basquez drew a lead off walk. Kelsey Rupert then hit a groundball to freshman shortstop Bailey O'Dell who bobbled it to further compound the inning. Eastern sophomore third baseman Ashleigh Westover made a play on a sacrifice bunt attempt by Nicole Checkie to get the lead runner out at third base and give the Panthers their first out of the inning.

Things would get interesting when Eryn Dillon hit a groundball to sophomore pitcher Stephanie Maday who attempted to get

the lead out at third but ended up getting no one out. Eastern got another game-saving play from its defense when junior catcher Abby Wood picked the runner off at first base with a quick throw down the line to get its second out of the inning. IUPUI's Ashley Seering had the best at-bat of the inning, doubling in two runs and giving IUPUI a two-run lead before Maday retired the last batter in the inning.

Eastern was able to get its first run of the day in the fourth inning when Willert drove in O'Dell after she singled and stole second to begin the inning.

Things would stay the same until the bottom of the sixth inning when junior Melise Brown belted a two-out game-tying home run to right field. It was Brown's second homerun of the season.

The game remained tied up at 2-2 all the way to the tenth inning when IUPUI scored the game-winning run. Because of the international tiebreaker rule, IUPUI started the inning with a runner on second base. After advancing the runner over to third base on a sacrifice bunt, Checkie drove in the game-winning run with an infield single, beating the throw from O'Dell and getting under the tag to secure the



SETH SCHROEDER | THE DAILY EASTERN NEWS

Junior Ally Seplak swings at the ball during a game against IUPUI Wednesday at Williams Field. The Panthers lost the first game of their double-header 3-2.

win.

Game Two

In game two, sophomore pitcher Hanna Mennenga only gave up one run, but Eastern was not able to put any runs on the board.

The Panthers were threatening in the first inning with a runner on third and no outs, but Senior Hailee Hanna flew out to the warning track to end the inning. After that, the Panthers were unable to get

anything going.

"We stunk it up today," said Eastern head coach Kim Schuette. "You have to be able to put the ball on the ground and put the ball in play but we didn't do that today. Mennenga pitched a great game, a game that we should have been able to win for her, plain and simple."

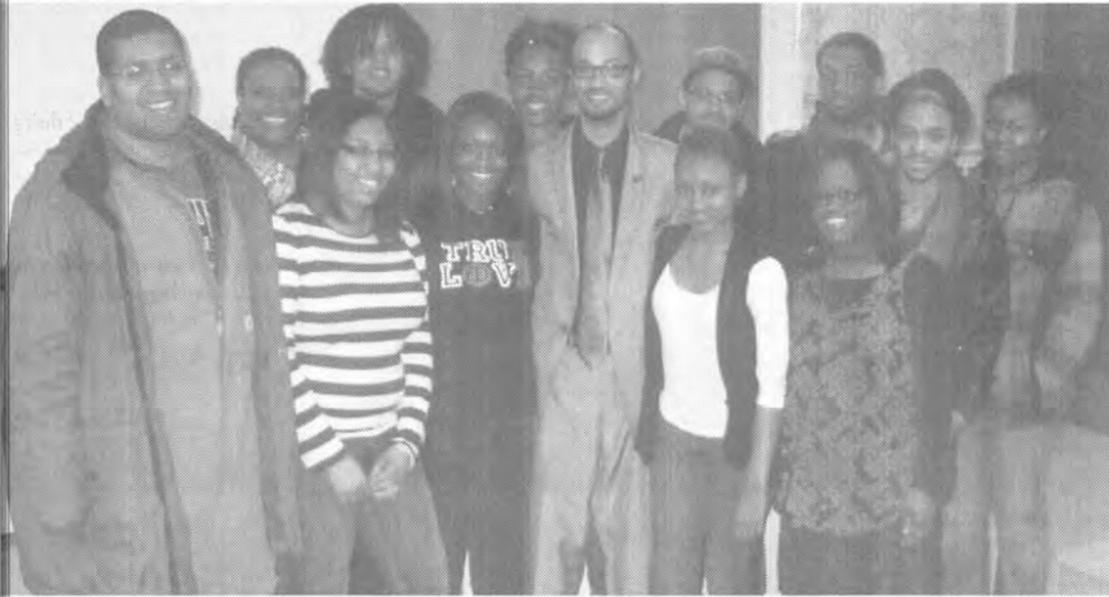
IUPUI, page 7

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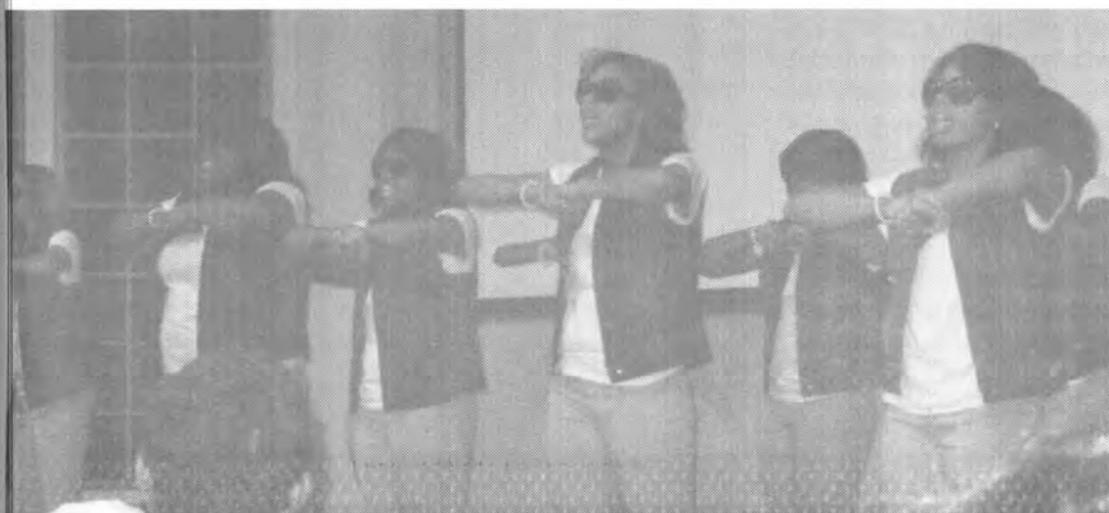
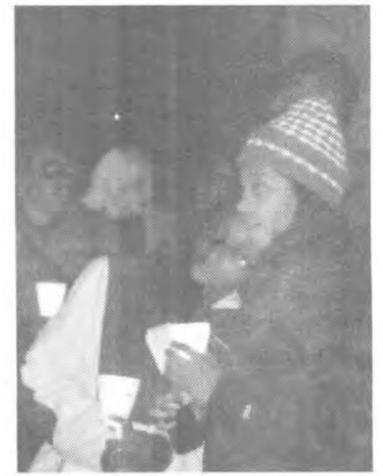
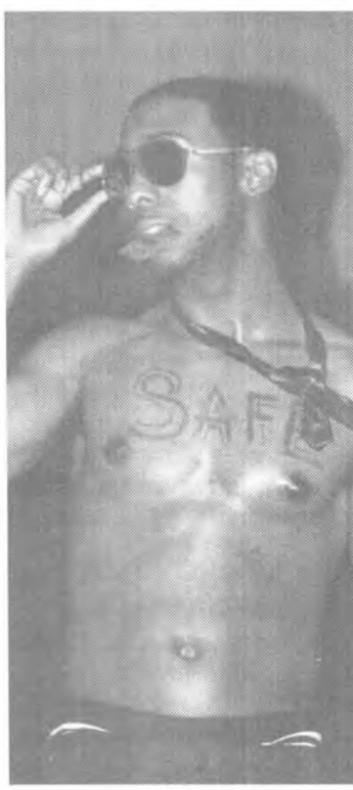
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Fresh! 2011 to 2012 Year in Review



Fresh! test ... FRESH TEST

Dana Jackson
Editor-in-Chief

I am well aware of my weaknesses and strengths as a writer (check). But, as I progress in life, beyond Easterns walls, this is subject to change. The main note, I continue to use in everything that I do is to always be true others as well as myself

Being in college for five years, and then working for Fresh! newspaper my last year was a test.

Compassion, patience, and persistence has helped me to accomplish a lot in my life while in college. What really kept me afloat was dedication and also having a good attitude about my work. Scott Hamilton said, "The only disability in life is a bad attitude."

Since working with others, I understand that everyone has their own set of opinions and values in life. When working with Fresh! there had to be an equilibrium. Working with others is not always easy. But, the best guide for me was communication, and being open to others opinions but also speaking up and out when needed. A good attitude and persistency is always needed in journalism.

A positive environment leads to a successful workforce. It's something about working with honest and hardworking people that comforts me. But, this may not be the case somewhere else. Fresh! has given me the privilege to offer a different perspective to readers where

they can see through a different lens. I am happy that I could be a part of this.

Challenging the norm, that is me. My plan was to bring awareness, knowledge, creativity, enjoyment, and concrete ideas to the Fresh! pages and I needed a goal before I could do this, or I would have certainly lost my focus.

Working with Fresh! has helped me to develop professionally and also become more aware of the campus and societal issues around me. My frustration of not being aware of certain issues about my African-American culture and other ethnicities on campus. Is why I was so eager to continue to cover issues that I knew may receive criticism. I felt that whatever I did not know, or learned, the readers should know.

This plan did not send me to the curve, it motivated me to not give up and stay in my lane. I have never been afraid to succeed, when challenged. I believe that working as Editor-in-Chief for Fresh! was ideal for me.

My main priority was to help spark the brains of African-Americans, as well as all ethnicities of how to proactively act as individuals, unselfishly. I wanted and still want to enhance a person's lifestyle. Fear is what keeps people from evolving productively. My experience with being a reporter for the newspaper and the Editor-in-Chief for Fresh! as well as doing volunteer work has helped me to conclude that

awareness is the key to success.

I have seen Fresh! evolve into a newspaper that has broken the silence, which is uncomfortable for many, and this is ok. This is the reason why we do not see topics discussed about minorities, within literature or the media. Sometimes we as African-Americans do not want to even talk about it ourselves because we feel that it contradicts our side, that we would rather not represent.

Being bold and acknowledging our culture and accomplishments is not wrong. Now, I see the readership increasing among African-Americans and other ethnicities on Easterns campus and off campus as well. People are beginning to understand the significance of why Fresh! is so important to have. I believe the paper has achieved excellence and enhanced lifestyles of all who come in contact with Fresh!

I know that we cannot please every reader, but if we are doing what is right we can only continue to go up and not bring ourselves down. Just to please a few, because they may not agree with what is being published. Everything that may be done is not to satisfy people. But to help them, always giving people what they want and not what they need in this context, could create problems.

I hope that Megan Johnson, the new editor-in-chief continues to lead on this bold and ambitious task, which I believe she will. My advice to you Megan, is stay true to yourself, and if



Dana Jackson 2011-2012 editor-in-chief of Fresh!.

you continue to do this you will stay true to you readers. Keep a positive attitude always because, people feed off negativity. But trusting in yourself to know when you are doing the right thing for others, your critics might not recognize it right away, and you may never know if they do. But, at least you know you are doing the right thing. Also always stay profes-

sional even in the most hostile situations. With all this being said, congratulations to you and I wish you well.

Dana can be contacted at dajackson@eiu.edu

End of the year brings new beginnings

Megan Johnson
Staff Reporter

I absolutely love the summer time, its one of my favorite seasons. From the warm weather to downtown shopping to the "Taste of Chicago," I love every aspect of it. The end of the school year means more than no reading and writing, but instead the opportunity to experience new beginnings.

This has been an amazing school year for me. I have been able to work with the great student body of journalism and I look forward to working with each and every one in the upcoming school year.

The 2011-2012 school year has proven to be my best school year yet. My first encounter with student publication was working with the Warbler yearbook. I worked with them as

the section-editor and ultimately this is where I learned all of my journalistic skills.

I went on to become the designer and editor of the Wave-length, a broadcast newsletter. Later I went on to join the staff of Fresh! as the designer and occasional writer and in the fall I will be taking on the editor-in-chief position of Fresh!.

I have been awarded the great opportunity to grow and stay involved with the different aspects of student publications and they are definitely paying off.

I would have liked to spend my summer vacation sitting on a lovely beach in Florida but instead I was awarded the opportunity to intern at BuildOn in Chicago. BuildOn is a non-profit organization built around keeping the youth off of the street while working to bridge

the gap between community services locally and globally. I will be working as the Marketing, Communication and Public Relations intern. I can't wait to start and I look forward to including everything I've learned within Fresh!.

As the editor-in-chief of Fresh! in the 2011-2012 school year, I plan to keep some things the same while making small changes. We will continue to have fresh ideas and perspectives, followed by numerous other things. I hope everyone continues reading Fresh! and you will never be disappointed.

Megan Johnson can be reached at mgjohnson@eiu.edu



Megan Johnson designer of Fresh! 2012-2013 editor-in-chief.

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Editor-in-chief: Dana Jackson
Senior Reporter: Tempestt Washington
Online Editor: Jeremy Nowell
Staff Photographer: Timothy Bell

Staff Reporters: Lauren Thomas, Angelica Moore, Timothy Bell, Chantrell Nealon
Designer: Megan Johnson

Summer: Family, Friends ... Italy!

Jasmine Randle
Staff Reporter

Every time the school year draws to an end, I think, "Yes I am going home and don't have to worry about homework anymore. I hear Pink Floyd's lyrics screaming in my head, "no more pencils, no more books, no more teachers dirty looks."

Then I realize not only do I not have homework and have to stay up late studying, but also I get to go home to my friends and family. To enjoy what summer has to bring such as: parties, cookouts, family vacations and reunions.

However, this summer I have that to look forward to but so much more, I have the opportunity of a lifetime picking up the pencils and books once again, but I will be doing so in

Italy.

I will be studying at "Lorenzo de Medici," in Florence, Italy. I will be learning about international communications, which is how to communicate with different countries. It will be beneficial to me as a Journalism and PR student as well as in future job opportunities. I will be delving into the thinking process of the Italian mafia in my organization crime class. I know it's creepy to be gaining that knowledge.

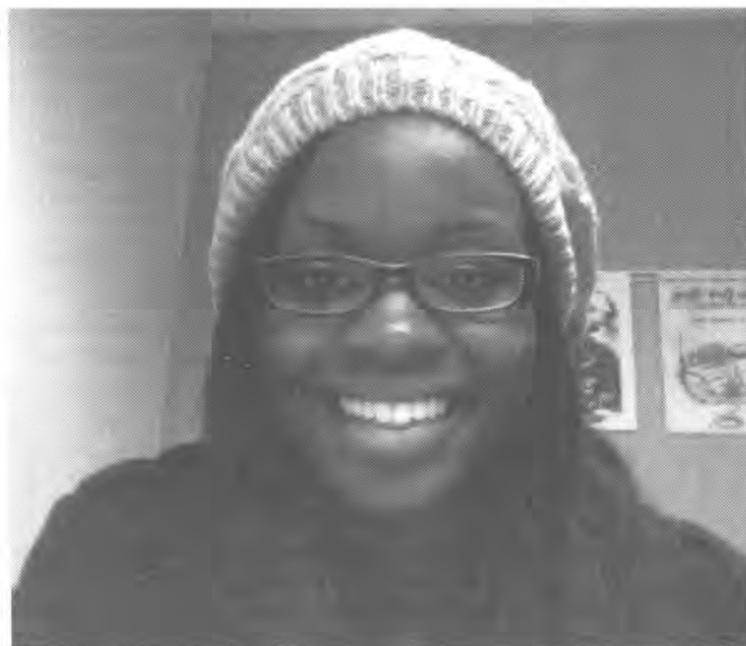
I will have the opportunity to enjoy some of things I love to do such as fashion, art, photography, dancing and cooking, I guess the benefits of not being on a schedule.

Yes, I will be having fun during the summer I have no doubt, but I can't forget about my responsibilities as well.

When I came on as Fresh's Editor and NABJ-EIU's President, I was doing so to gain experience in editing as well as trying to decide if I wanted to continue to have it as my concentration, along with improving my leadership abilities.

However, now that the school year is ending editing still remains my concentration as well as design. I will remain Fresh's editor for next year as well as co editor of the wavelength giving me the opportunity to gain experience in design. I hope and plan to help improve fresh!, The Wavelength as well as making NABJ-EIU known on campus and other campuses as well.

Jasmine Randle can be reached at jnrandle@eiu.edu



Jasmine Randle 2011-2012 editor of Fresh!

Angelica Moore
Staff Reporter

Every time we get closer to the end of the school year, I think of a song by American rock singer Alice Cooper, entitled "Schools Out" I replay the tune in my head day to day until I turn in that last final exam.

Ah! "No more pencils, no more books, no more teachers dirty looks," Alice Cooper. This feeling will last about a week for me then the pencils and books will return but not so much the dirty looks from teachers.

For me, the end of the school year means preparing for more classes in the summer. Yes, summer classes. Some of my friends looked at me in disgust when I told them I would be taking classes this summer. Until, I added that the classes

I'm taking are in Italy! Within maybe three seconds, the "that sucks" comment turned into "that's awesome."

This summer I will be attending "Lorenzo de' Medici" a school in Florence, Italy. Where I'll be studying fashion. One of the courses I'll be taking, "Introduction to the Fashion Industry" will provide an overview of the fashion industry from research and design to the marketing of the finished product.

I will also learn more about the potential career opportunities in the fashion field. The course will look at the historical origins of fashion. What I'm really excited to learn about is the "made in Italy" phenomenon. The course will discuss the basic industry terms and of the process of apparel production, from the con-

cept to the consumer.

This course as well as others that I'll be taking will prepare me for my future occupation, "fashion journalist."

Family always comes to mind during the end of the school year. After I land back in the US and recover from the huge culture shock, I will talk about my trip for about three days non-stop. Then it's family time, I will be no longer the student for the rest of my time home, I become a full time Aunt, the little sister who gets picked on and spoiled at the same time, the daughter who has to do chores, and "little Angie" who still get's those kisses of the cheek from grandma.

I must say I can't wait!

Angelica Moore can be reached at armoore2@eiu.edu



Basking in the memories of summer



Jeremy Nowell
Staff Reporter

Students buried in dorm rooms studying, final exams almost underway, and all I can seem to think about is this summer. Yes, it's almost that time of the year. Summer is when people drink icy cold lemonade to take away from the summer's bolstering heat. The time of the year where students go home to have unforgettable memories with the people they love. It's also the time of the year where you can sit back and crack open a bag of Hot Krunchy Kurl chips and pig out on other foods that seem to

be nothing more than a distant memory here in Charleston.

The ending of this school year really is a wake-up call to me. Next year will be my last year here at Eastern Illinois University. Some people never get the chance to reflect until something is over. However, I chose to reflect now on these past three years and all of the things that I have achieved.

I've gotten good grades, started an organization on this campus, volunteered at charity events and became the online managing editor for Fresh. I knew when I came to college I wanted to make an

impact and to really use every opportunity college presented to me.

I have several study guides, notes and books hovering over my computer screen as I sit here writing this article. Whether you're a junior, sophomore, freshman or senior, I urge you to bask in the reckless glory of college years. Bask in the knowledge that you have teachers that care about your education. Bask in the fact that you are in college doing something great with your life. A wise woman once said "There's no next time. It's now or never."

Here is a great book to read this summer:

Jasmine Randle
Staff Reporter

The New Book On the Block:

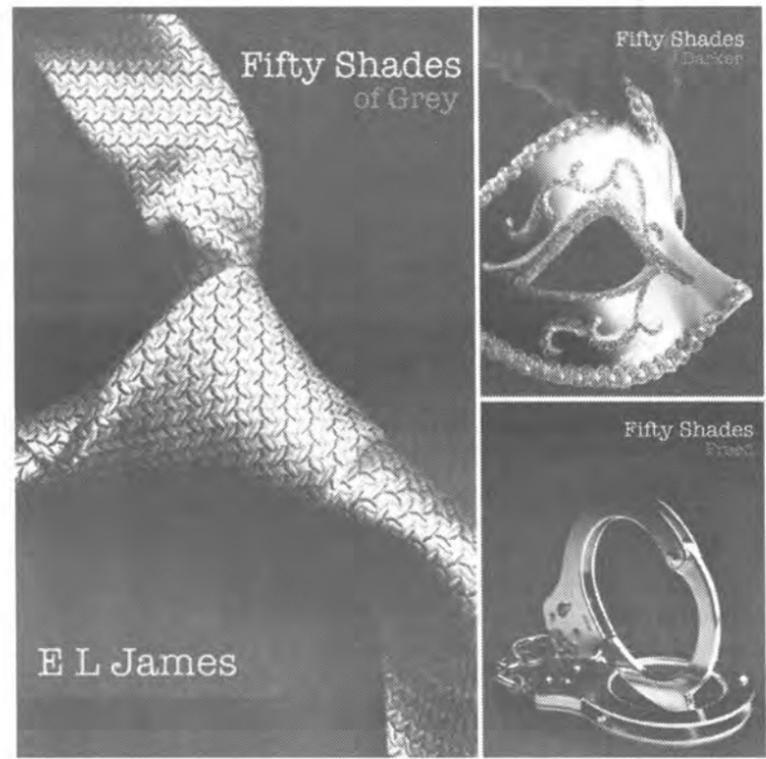
Looking for the next sensual kick ladies, a book that you just want to curl up with a glass of wine and read. Well look no further Fifty Shades of Grey by E.L. James is the book for you. According to the New York Times Best Sellers List,

Fifty Shades of Grey is #1 on the print and E-book fiction list, followed by Fifty Shades Darker in 2nd and Fifty Shades Freed coming in as #4 on the list. Megan Johnson designer of Fresh! put me on to it. I began reading it last night, and before I knew it was five o'clock in the morning.

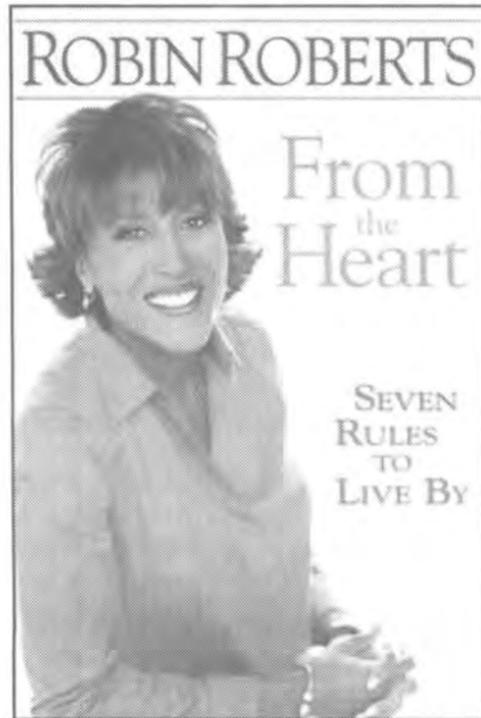
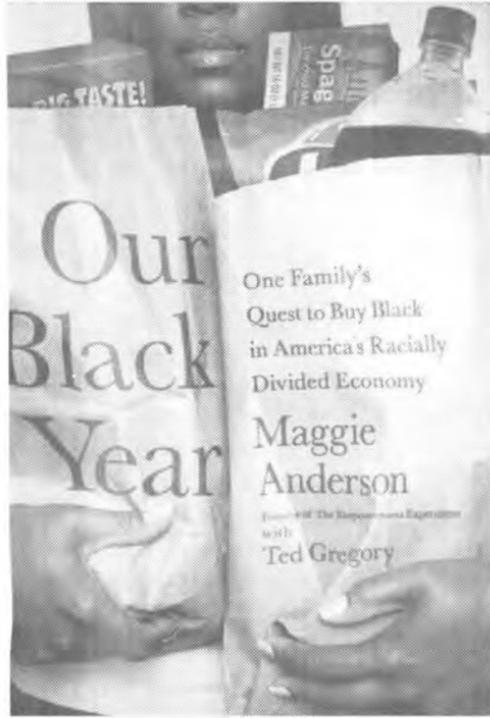
Dominate and Submissive is the theme of this book. College graduate, Anastasia Steele, meets and interviews

young, confident entrepreneur Christian Grey, sparks fly and I do mean fly. Fifty shades of Grey is the first in the trilogy that gives us not just a glimpse, but also a whole new outlook on dominating men and how they put their "dominance" to the test.

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More great books to read:



The New York Times bestsellers list:

1. FIFTY SHADES OF GREY, by E. L. James
2. FIFTY SHADES DARKER, by E. L. James
3. CALICO JOE, by John Grisham
4. FIFTY SHADES FREED, by E. L. James
5. THE LUCKY ONE, by Nicholas Sparks

— Cooking for Campus —

Jasmine Randle

Material

- 1 Medium skillet
- 1 Spatula
- Tilapia
- Green Giant Steamers Roasted Red Potatoes/Green Beans & Rosemary Butter Sauce
- Cooking spray
- Season Salt
- Pepper

Cost

- Total \$10.00
- 1 bag of tilapia (\$6.00)
- 1 bag of Green Giant Steamers Roasted Red Potatoes/Green Beans & Rosemary Butter Sauce, 12 oz. (\$4.00)

Green Giant Steamers Roasted Red Potatoes
Put in the microwave...it says for 4 minutes and 30 seconds, but I usually cook it for 7 minutes

Tilapia

- 1) Unthaw 1 piece of fish
 - 2) In a skillet spray canola or olive oil and let it heat.
 - 3) Season both sides with season salt and pepper (or whatever type of seasoning you feel like)
 - 4) Cook on both sides for 3-5 minutes or until each side is fully cooked
- Optional: sprinkle Parmesan cheese on one side and let it melt

