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TOUR DE EXCHANGE

The community will have the chance to cycle across Illinois to raise money for local groups that help prevent child abuse.

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SUPER SABI

Junior forward Sabina Oroszova of the Eastern women's basketball team is looking forward to becoming the team's leader next season.

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THE DAILY EASTERN NEWS

Tuesday, April 29, 2014

"TELL THE TRUTH AND DON'T BE AFRAID"

VOL. 98 | NO. 147



SUBMITTED PHOTO

From left to right: Scott Doody, historian; Grant Woods, geology graduate student; Steve DiNaso, geology professor; Vince Gutowski, retired geology professor; and John Foster, retired Washington County Sheriff pose for a photo outside the Governor's Mansion after being awarded the Superior Achievement Award from the Illinois State Historical Society.

Professors, students honored for uncovering massacre victims' graves

By Stephanie Markham
Verge Editor | @DEN_Verge

Outraged about immigrants taking their jobs during a national strike, a group of Herrin, Ill., union coal miners responded resulting in the beating, shooting, stabbing and otherwise massa-

cring of their rivals one fatal June in 1922.

After several confrontations and gunfire face-offs, two union miners were dead, and the non-union miners surrendered on the condition that they would be led safely out of the area.

But the violence was only just beginning.

The union miners marched their non-union

counterparts down the road, lined them up along a barbed-wire fence, told them to run for their lives and started shooting.

Those who did not escape or get shot were taken to the schoolhouse, stripped naked and made to crawl down a main street where people beat and urinated on them.

MASSACRE, page 5

2 killed in car accident in Charleston

By Bob Galuski
Managing Editor | @BobGaluski

An Eastern student and a Mattoon resident were killed Sunday after one driver failed to stop at a stop sign and crashed his vehicle into another, according to police.

Landon Stuckey's, 16, vehicle collided with Brianna Seaman's, a communication studies major at Eastern, as Stuckey was driving southbound on 800 East County Road at approximately 2:20 p.m. Sunday, according to a news release sent out by the Coles County Sheriff's Office.

The news release stated Stuckey failed to stop at the stop sign located at the intersection of 800 East County Rd., at 1200 North County Rd. Stuckey's vehicle entered the westbound lane of 1200 North County Rd., and collided with the westbound vehicle driven by Seaman, the release stated.

Stuckey's vehicle caught fire after the crash. Both Humboldt and Cooks Mills Fire Departments responded to the scene and extinguished the fire.

The crash is currently under investigation by the Coles County Sheriff's Department and the Illinois State Police.

Bob Galuski can be reached at 581-2812 or dennewsdesk@gmail.com.

Faculty, staff retirements set to increase this year

By Jarad Jarmon
Associate News Editor | @JJarmonReporter

Throughout this school year, primarily in the spring semester, the Benefits Office staff has seen an increasingly abundant number of faculty and staff looking at their retirement plans.

As of Friday, 31 faculty and 34 staff are confirmed to be retiring by June 30. More than 40 employees are considering leaving before June 30 as well. This is not the final total on who will be retiring or leaving Eastern. Linda Holloway, the assistant director of payroll and benefits, said Eastern will likely see more leaving by June 30.

This is a significant departure from the normally 50 to 60 expected retirements every year.

"Some employees deal directly with the State Universities Retirement System and will not let us know much before they actually retire," Holloway said. "There are others who will likely retire and that we just haven't seen yet because they have not made their final decision or they do not want it known yet that they are retiring."

Holloway along with the three other staff members have noticed more and more are looking for options when it comes down to retirement. Because of this, the Benefits Services has had to devote much of their time to counseling appointments with faculty and staff.

They spend on average of one to two hours a day on individual with many returning for follow-up consultations.

"This decision is one of the biggest decisions an

employee will make in their lifetime, so they have many questions and many worries," Holloway said.

Many of the faculty and staff who have been interested in looking at their ability to retire had no plans of retiring this year, Holloway said. Unforeseen changes in the pension reform and changes to their "money purchase" plan have coerced many into retiring earlier than originally intended.

The pension reform, which will go into effect June 1 unless a stay is granted by the courts, will reduce the amount of money state employees will receive when they retire. Even though the courts are looking at whether the reformative bill is constitutional, faculty and staff are still worried they may lose money if they do not retire before that date.

Holloway said in many cases, leaving after June 1 would impact their monthly annuity, invested money in order to receive income in retirement by as much as \$1,000.

"People won't be able to recover that loss for years, if at all," Holloway said.

These changes cause many to act out of fear instead of want, she added.

"Because they had not been planning to leave and are making decisions they didn't think they would have to make yet," Holloway said. "They are anxious and sometimes fearful that they are not as well prepared, both financially and/or emotionally, as they might have otherwise been."

Jarad Jarmon can be reached at 581-2812 or jjarmon@eiu.edu

Judge appoints counsel for murder case

By Katie Smith
Photo Editor | @DEN_news

A Charleston man has been granted a continuance of his preliminary hearing for charges related to the death of Gina Giberson, who was killed April 7 by multiple gunshot wounds.

The defendant, 52-year-old Larry Steeples, is set to appear before Circuit Court Judge Mitchell Shick at 8:45 a.m. Thursday in courtroom 1.

When Steeples appeared Monday, his family had not hired counsel and he was appointed Public Defender, Anthony Ortega. However, Steeples said he refuses to work with Ortega, since he believes there may be a conflict of interest.

Shick notified Steeples when he appeared in court April 21, he would not be granted any more continuances after Monday to seek other counsel.

In connection with the death of Gina Giberson, Steeples currently faces charges of three counts of murder with intent to kill or injure as well as three counts of murder with the strong probability to kill or injure.

The court also addressed a March 22, 2013 offense of domestic battery. The record filed in the Coles County Circuit Court read, "... the Defendant knowingly and without legal justification caused bodily harm to Gina Giberson, a family or household member, in that said defendant struck Gina Giberson in the face with a closed fist causing bruising and swelling."

Steeples is allowed time, should he choose, to meet with Ortega and discuss his case before



Larry Steeples

Thursday.

In his three most recent appearances, however, Steeples has expressed a refusal to work with Ortega at all regarding his current murder charges.

Steeples was admonished for his uncooperative and disruptive behavior during Monday's hearing.

The defendant has had multiple offenses filed against him regarding Giberson, including an instance of domestic abuse March 17, 2014, in which Ortega was appointed to represent Steeples.

The case was dismissed, although Steeples served 155 days in jail.

Additionally, Steeples was scheduled to appear in court one day after Giberson's death, regarding an order of protection she filed March 18, 2014.

Katie Smith can be reached at 581-2812 or ksmith2@eiu.edu

Local weather

TODAY



Thunderstorm
High: 71°
Low: 48°

TUESDAY



Rain
High: 59°
Low: 44°

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

THE DAILY EASTERN NEWS

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

The Daily Eastern News
1802 Buzzard Hall
Eastern Illinois University
Charleston, IL 61920
217-581-2812
217-581-2923 (fax)



News Staff
Editor in Chief
Dominic Renzetti
DENeic@gmail.com
Managing Editor
Bob Galuski
DENmanaging@gmail.com
Associate News Editor
Jarad Jarmon
DENnewsdesk@gmail.com
Opinions Editor
Kyle Daubs
DENopinions@gmail.com
Online Editor
Jason Howell
Assistant Online Editor
Seth Schroeder
DENnews.com@gmail.com
Photo Editor
Katie Smith
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Faculty Senate to review mission

Senate does not agree with council's decision; thinks academia is core

By Jarad Jarmon
Associate News Editor | @JarmonReporter

Faculty Senate will be voting on a resolution that would solidify the senate's opinion on how to interpret the mission at its meeting 2 p.m. Tuesday in Room 4440 of Booth Library.

The resolution was proposed at the previous senate meeting in response to a decision the Council on University Planning and Budgeting. According to the resolution, the senate does not agree with the council's decision and believe that academics are at the university's core.

The council voted down a resolution that said academics was at the forefront of the mission statement.

"Academics is the 'central core' of EIU's mission, we the members of CUPB affirm that the EIU mission statement places comprehensive instruction provided by outstanding faculty at the foundation of the University's mission," according to the resolution.

The council resolution sparked a heated debate between to factions. One of which believed academics should have the smallest percentage of cuts and one of which thought Eastern's mission statement did not rely on academics alone. Many voted down with fears of academics being untouched in future cuts.

Faculty Senate Chairman Grant Sterling said if passed, the resolution will most likely be sent to the president and the vice-presidents to communicate the senate's opinion on the matter.

"Were it not for the academic mission of EIU, there is no need for any of the ancillary services."

- Gary Canivez, psychology professor

Psychology professor Gary Canivez said he was in complete agreement with the belief that academics are at the center on the university's mission.

"Were it not for the academic mission of EIU, there is no need for any of the ancillary services," Canivez said.

Grant Sterling said it would be the senate's take on what the mission statement really means.

"No person or group in the university has the right to take that mission statement and say 'Oh, now we are going to take it and interpret it other than what we think it obviously means,'" Sterling said.

The state of admissions and enrollment will also be reviewed after staff from the department present plans in place to boost enrollment and how things stand currently in terms of enrollment. Sterling said they are invited to come to a meeting every semester to discuss what admissions is doing and if it is successful.

He added the senate will probably talk about whether plans made in the fall have worked or not as well as what might need to be changed in the future.

Jarad Jarmon can be reached at 581-2812 or jsjarmon@eiu.edu

BLOTTER

Theft reported at Andrews Hall, Doudna Fine Arts Center

- On Saturday at 1:42 p.m., criminal damage to property was reported in University Apartments. This incident is under investigation.
- On Saturday at 7:44 p.m., Ryan Pratt, 21, 1751 Bradford Ln., Crystal Lake, Ill., was arrested at Greek Court. He was charged with DUI-Alcohol, DUI-Drugs and was released at 9:22 p.m. after posting 10 percent of a \$3,000 bond.
- On Saturday at 8:39 p.m., Kashiemi Hughes, 18, Douglas Hall, Charleston, was arrested in Douglas Hall. He was charged with domestic battery, resisting a peace officer and released to the custody of the Coles County Sheriff's Office at 9:28 p.m., pending a court appearance to determine bond.
- On Sunday at 10:57 a.m., a theft was reported near the Doudna Fine Arts Center. This incident is under investigation.
- On Sunday at 3:30 p.m., a theft was reported in Andrews Hall. This incident is under investigation.



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Cyclists to ride across state for charity

Tour de Exchange to raise money for local groups

By LeeAnn Reid
Staff Reporter | @DEN_News

Students and Charleston community members alike will be cycling across Illinois on Saturday to raise money for local groups that help prevent child abuse.

The Tour de Exchange is a cycling event in its eighth year and is sponsored by the Exchange Club of Charleston that crosses Illinois with the option of riding a 10 or 25-mile route. It is a daylong tour that highlights

the historic landmarks of Coles County.

Exchange Club member Harold Strangeman said that Eastern students are more than welcome to participate in the upcoming event, and they are hoping to see a good turn out between the Charleston community members and the students.

"We hope that they have a good time and enjoy the weather in a way that they don't typically do," Strangeman said. "And this is a little different way of doing it than they may have thought of."

There are a few safety precautions participants will be required to take when it comes to participating in the Tour de Exchange. Each participant is required to

"We hope that they have a good time and enjoy the weather in a way that they don't typically do."

- Harold Strangeman, Exchange club member

wear a helmet, wear appropriate clothes and shoes, and to consider the fact that their bike needs to be in good shape for the long route throughout rural Illinois ahead of them.

Students and community members will be able to register for this event at the doors of Charleston High School the morning of the event. Registration is \$25 for adults and \$12 for children, and this fee includes a T-shirt.

"The race is staggered," Strangeman said. "By that I

mean that you could come at 6:30 in the morning and sign up or you could come at 9:30 in the morning and sign up, so it's up to whatever your personal schedule is."

Strangeman said he really enjoys participating in the Tour de Exchange because it allows him to continue his cycling career even though he is no longer able to ride as often as he'd like anymore.

"Many moons ago I used to be a bicyclist," Strangeman said. "A

couple of years ago we went to a place off the coast of the Carolina's for a few days because it was my 70th birthday and I said I was going to show that them I could still ride a bicycle."

Strangeman hopes that this event will allow Eastern students to enjoy the exhilaration of cycling.

A few members of the Eastern women's volleyball team came out to the event last spring and said that they enjoyed themselves and the Exchange Club of Charleston hopes to see more students come out and experience the Tour de Exchange for another year.

LeeAnn Reid can be reached at 581-2812 or ltreid@eiu.edu.

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happening at EIU and in Charleston!**

Letter to the Editor

A recent column by Brian Weaver (Dems attack Black conservatives ... Again, April 28) asks the question why do many in the black community support the Democratic Party, despite some racist history.

As a political science graduate student, I would like to help clarify. While the historical part of the column is true, the modern Republican Party favors numerous policies that disproportionately affect the black community in a negative manner.

Since President Nixon embarked on his "Southern Strategy" to gain increased support from whites, the party hasn't sought to regain trust from the black community in a serious manner since. The modern, more conservative Republican party has pushed for voter ID laws, blocking the expansion of unemployment benefits, blocking Medicaid expansion, heavy sentences for drug possession, Stand Your Ground laws, and others that hurt the black community on a much greater level than other groups. When one party considers trying to gain your support a waste of time and resources, it seems obvious the black community is heavily Democratic. This is not a manner of Democrats keeping the black community in their camp, it is the Republicans keeping them out of theirs.

Steve Anderson
Graduate Student
Political Science

PAWS UP/PAWS DOWN



CELEBRATION: Celebration was a hit this past weekend, and it didn't even rain.



PROPOSAL: Alex Pierce, a senior offensive lineman on this past season's football team asked volleyball and softball athlete Reyane Hutchinson to marry him on Senior Night.



FINALS: The days are counting down until finals week.



CRASH: A car accident Sunday afternoon killed a 16 year Mattoon High School student and a 22 year old Mattoon resident.

Quote of the Day

"A hospital bed is a parked taxi with the meter running."

- Groucho Marx

Write a letter to the editor

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TOO EARLY TO PACK



JOSH WILLIAMS | THE DAILY EASTERN NEWS

STAFF EDITORIAL

Budget cut action should not wait until summer

President Bill Perry announced at the Board of Trustees meeting Friday that the initial steps for how to cut \$7 million from the budget will begin in June.

However, after a semester long debate on which areas need to be whittled down or eliminated all together, the summer time is an odd time to begin the first steps.

With summer here, most of the campus will have left, and many faculty members and staff are not needed until August. With such an enormous cut as \$7 million, along with the \$1 million needed to be reallocated, it should be brought to the campus's attention when a majority is present to hear the effects.

Even though these are the first steps, and it may extend through the summer and into the next school year, the campus has a right to know ahead of time. By presenting the first initial steps for this massive budget cut in the summer, when fewer people are here, it is as if the budget cut is being swept under the rug.

Whatever the first steps may be, and Perry said it would be guided by Eastern's mission statement, it only will be forgotten if the whole of the campus is not present.

The first steps, even if it is the final few weeks, should have been announced before then, and then faculty, staff and students would

know what to expect and be more prepared entering the summer.

It does no good to have an area slashed or cut down at the beginning of the semester, but rather beforehand. If the administration believes this is the best way to solve the budget crisis, then it needs to act in a way that the campus will be aware. If not, then the entire idea of the budget cut has been a time waster.

While this budget cut is indeed necessary and will not make everybody happy, in the end it will be worth it. However, it should be brought to the campus's attention when they are still present.

If the university does want the budget cut, then people know that areas are bound to change. And with that, comes hard decisions. But by trying to quietly pass a massive budget cut, it sends the wrong message. It sends the message of knowing nobody will agree with it. And if that is the case, maybe it is time to reconsider.

In the end, the \$7 million will be cut, and the \$1 million will be reallocated. But in the meantime, the university should do its best to not make it go quietly, but to give everyone fair warning.

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

OUR POSITION

- **Situation:** Budget cuts for Eastern will begin in June.
- **Stance:** Budget cuts should not wait until summer because most of campus will not be here to hear the effects.

May is motorcycle awareness month, let's ride

As the school year winds down, we are ready to start the summer activities. May is motorcycle awareness month.

Here in Illinois, you have probably seen the "Start Seeing Motorcycles" stickers and posters.

I am one of the few around here who ride all year long, so I suppose May is just another month of riding. I will say this winter has forced me to drive my truck more than usual.

If I choose to ride all year, I have to be more cautious because I realize people are not looking for bikes to be out there during the winter months. The fact is, no matter what time of year we ride, motorcycles are smaller and hard to see. If you ride, be aware of your surroundings. Defensive driving (or riding) is a must, not only for you, but everyone else who you share the road with.

When you are in your vehicle, please be aware there are many bikes out there this time of year, and this will increase as the weather gets warmer. We cannot always stop as quickly as you would think. The bike I ride weighs just shy of 900 pounds of the assembly line. Add myself, gear in the truck and side bags, fuel, etc. I have more than 1,000 pounds to maneuver.

We (bikers and drivers of vehicles) all share the streets, highways and interstates and we all have a responsibility to be safe while out there. I



Paul Weber

am not one to get upset if I am cut off for some reason. People are apt to make mistakes.

While riding, I have had some close calls. Most, (if not all) of them have been in town and not on the highway or interstate.

If you ride, by all means, show some respect for the bike you ride. One little slip could make for a lousy day. If you are fortunate enough to walk away from it, try to learn from your mistakes. Also, show respect for the vehicles out there. It is unnerving to see another bike weave in and out of traffic like they own the road and everyone around them needs to see how fast they can go. This not only makes the rider look irresponsible, but it also gives the rest of us who try to ride responsible a bad name.

Before you take to the road, you should make some checks to your bike. An acronym that is easy to remember is T-CLOCS: tires, cables/

controls, lights/switches, oil/fuel, chain /chassis, stand. This is just a guideline and may vary with the type of bike you ride (chain versus belt drive etc.).

The point is this, you are the responsible party to ensure you are riding a safe machine. If you are unsure how to make these checks, contact your local dealer or a veteran rider for assistance.

If you have not ridden and have been thinking about getting you license, Illinois has numerous training course throughout the year.

The earlier you sign up, the better your chances are of securing a spot. For information on the nearest site to you contact your local DMV or go to startseeingmotorcycles.org and click on the course-offering link. On the same web page is a ton of information on safety, FAQs, statistics, and much more. There is not enough room here for me to write about it.

Check it out and you will find a lot of useful information. Riding can be fun and relaxing, but it takes a little bit of responsibility on the operator's part. Enjoy the road.

Paul Weber is a Building Service Foreman at Eastern.

He can be reached at 581-2812 or DENopinions@gmail.com.

» **MASSACRE**
CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Then, six non-union miners were tied together by their necks to the back of a Model-T Ford and dragged two miles down a gravel road to a cemetery where an attacker unloaded two revolvers on them and slit the three survivors' throats.

Following this brutal slaying, which became known as the Herrin Massacre, 16 non-union miners, or "scabs" as they were bitterly called, were buried in a potter's field in the local cemetery.

But when historian Scott Doody began looking for a Russian immigrant World War I veteran who was killed during the massacre, he was told the field no longer existed.

Vince Gutowski, a retired Eastern geology professor; Steve Di Naso, current geology professor; and Grant Woods, a geology graduate student, were part of the group that was honored Saturday with the Superior Achievement Award from the Illinois State Historical Society for their work in uncovering the burial sites.

Doody recruited people from Eastern in particular because of their knowledge of Geographic Information Systems (GIS), which were used to map the cemetery and inevitably locate the victims.

Gutowski said the process began with digging through undertakers' records from the years of about 1914 to 1949. One record indicated that the potter's field was located in Lot 15 of the cemetery.

However, the team discovered that the old sextons, or groundskeepers, had been selling off those spots and burying people over other bodies for about three decades.

Many of the graves either did not have markers or had markers that were deteriorated, making the field look empty, Gutowski said.

The group used GIS to compare four different maps of information against one another, and members would determine what sites to investigate based on disagreements in the data, Woods said.

"There might be three different



SUBMITTED PHOTOS

Professors involved in the burial site excavations dig to uncover victims from the Herrin Massacre. The geology experts were recognized by the Illinois State Historical Society for a Superior Achievement Award in uncovering the burial sites of the 16 victims.



people in the same space according to the records, so that's mainly what I used the GIS for, to determine who was actually in that space," Woods said.

When the group determined that the burial records did not match up, members began looking in spaces that were sold and supposed to be empty.

Gutowski said the group probed the soil to determine if it had been disturbed, at which point city workers dug with a backhoe to see whether or not a body was there.

"We started going down there and doing soil studies and confirming burials, and a lot of the real estate that's sold is occupied," Di Naso said. "Most of our excavations down there we find bodies in sold spaces."

Gutowski said the group found almost 50 instances of bodies buried in

plots that were already purchased, including people whose spouses or parents were waiting to be buried next to them.

Although the group was looking for the 16 massacre victims, members eventually found more than 140 bodies that were unaccounted for, Di Naso said.

"We stood up in front of the (city) council without having any evidence other than applying our science and the technology we engage in, and we said 'You have interments in these areas that you've sold,' and of course there's a lot of denial; there's a lot of anger," Di Naso said. "By the time we were allowed to dig in there, we were churning up bodies left and right, and then it became painfully clear that they had a serious problem."

The group is working to provide a

cemetery management model so that the newer part of the cemetery can be mapped with a modern, digital database that can be easily accessed by the sextant and put online for people doing genealogical research.

"The old sexton did it the old way with a card file and a notebook, and it wasn't very accurate, and when you do that you hand it to somebody in city hall who re-transcribes it into another book," Gutowski said. "Here we're putting it into one GIS database and it's going to make the new sextant's life a heck of a lot easier."

Even though this massacre rivals others in history, many people in the area had never heard of it.

Gutowski said the event left such a stain on the town that everyone wanted it forgotten.

"There's people who are still

alive today that are a few generations down the line that are the sons and daughters and grandsons and granddaughters of people who partook in the event, and they were never spoken to of the event by their parents and that carries on down the line," he said.

Of the people who do know of the event, some still harbor hostility and wanted to make sure they were not buried near the "scabs," while the younger generations wanted to find out what happened, Gutowski said.

"It's taken about four generations for those townspeople to get it out of their mind that they were another class of human being," he said.

Stephanie Markham can be reached at 581-2812 or samarkham@eiu.edu.

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Steeplechaser motivated by faith

By Blake Nash
Staff Reporter | @DEN_Sports

Joe Calio's faith in God has been an influence in his entire life, which includes his success on the Eastern track and field team this year.

His success in the steeplechase races this season has been the result of God's gift, a blessing on Calio.

"The thing that really helps me relax is praying and reading my Bible."

on campus through bible studies and other ministerial opportunities. To go along with that, his academic schedule and cross country season in the fall, makes his life at Eastern difficult to manage.

"It's rough," Calio said. "If I were to show you my schedule, I'm taking 12 hours and also I've got a lot of relationships to keep up and ministry opportunities I've invested in."

-Joe Calio, red-shirt sophomore

"I feel like God's given me this gift and I just want to do the best of my ability to run for him," Calio said.

The way he has run in the past, Calio has to have had God watching over him throughout his career.

Calio went to nearby Mattoon High School and was one of the top runners in the state his junior and senior years, respectively.

In his junior year, he won the Mattoon sectional 1,600-meter run, with a time of 4:21.44.

That was the second fastest time in the state that year and later on Calio finished eighth overall at the IHSA state finals, with a time of 4:24.

He also had an outstanding career as a cross-country runner.

As a senior he placed third at the state championships, with a three-mile time of 14:50.

Following his senior year, Calio was determined to be the best he could for a solid track program. Eastern's legacy appealed to him to the most.

"The short distance between Charleston and Mattoon was by far the least reason why I wanted to come here," Calio said. "I love the coaching staff and the environment and just felt like this place was the one for me".

Calio has also gotten involved

All these taxing challenges coincide with his daily track practices and meets and cross country during the fall.

Along with his daunting schedule, Calio feels a lot of stress and worries before his races. To cope with these worries, he has come up with his own off the field techniques to help him relax.

"The thing that really helps me relax is praying and reading my Bible," Calio said. "Also I like having my own quiet time in the morning, so I can focus."

Whatever techniques he has used this season have been working for him. So far this year he has won two steeplechase races and competed in the Drake Relays, one of the biggest regular-season meets of the year for collegiate track and field athletes.

"I've always wanted to do the steeplechase because I thought it would give me a good chance to make the all-conference team," he said. "Plus I've always wanted to jump over the hurdles, which is something most distance runners don't get the chance to do."

Blake Nash can be reached at 581-2812 or banash@eiu.edu



KATIE SMITH | THE DAILY EASTERN NEWS

Joe Calio, a red-shirt sophomore who competes in the steeplechase, uses his faith to help him compete.

Eastern, Saint Louis set for rematch Tuesday

By Aldo Soto
Assistant Sports Editor | @AldoSoto21

Following a 6-hour and 39-minute series finale against Belmont, the Eastern baseball team travels to Missouri to play Saint Louis in a mid-week, out of conference game.

The Panthers are coming off a 5-5 tie against the Bruins at home, which preceded two Eastern wins against Belmont. Eastern is 14-28-1 and 8-12-1 in the Ohio Valley Conference.

Saint Louis enters Tuesday's game, coming off a 2-1 series loss to George Mason, as the Billikens lost 9-2 Sunday on the road. Saint Louis dropped to 24-17 overall and 12-5 in the Atlantic 10 Conference.

Last time out

Tuesday's matchup will be Eastern's and Saint Louis' second game against each other this season.

The Panthers won the first game of

the season-series on March 26, when red-shirt sophomore Demetre Taylor hit a two-run double down the left-field line to give Eastern an 8-7 lead and ending with a 9-7 home win.

Eastern coach Jim Schmitz started freshman Jake Haberer against Saint Louis at Coaches Stadium, where he struggled early, allowing three runs, two of them earned in 1.1 innings.

Eastern used seven pitchers in its first game against the Billikens, with Joe Greenfield and Troy Barton pitching the final two innings to get the win for the Panthers.

Saint Louis starter Robert Plohr lasted three innings, giving up one earned run, but three total on six hits.

The Billikens' bullpen did not provide much relief, as four relievers all allowed at least one run during their outings.

Zach Girrens took the loss, as he surrendered the Saint Louis lead in the bottom of the eighth inning, allowing three runs.

	EASTERN ILLINOIS VS. SAINT LOUIS	
14-28-1, 8-12-1 (OVC)	6 P.M. TUESDAY ST. LOUIS, MO.	24-17, 12-5 (A10)

Tuesday starters

Freshman Chase Thurston will make his third start of the season and first since March 15, when he started against Austin Peay.

Thurston's other start came against Vanderbilt on March 11, when he pitched a season-high 4.2 innings. In his two starts, the right-handed pitcher has allowed a combined nine earned runs on 12 hits, while striking out three and walking three.

Overall, Thurston has pitched in 16 games and has a 0-3 record with a 9.11 ERA and has recorded a save.

In 27.2 innings, he has allowed 28 earned runs, 36 hits, 21 walks and

four home runs.

His last appearance came against Southeast Missouri on April 18, when he allowed three runs without recording an out.

Thurston pitched against Saint Louis, walking one and striking out another, as he recorded two outs before being replaced.

Saint Louis has not announced who will start against Eastern on Tuesday.

Eastern on the road

Eastern is 6-20 on the road this year, but the Panthers are 3-4 in their last seven games away from Coaches

Stadium.

Saint Louis is 13-3 at home this season and is carrying a three-game home winning streak into Tuesday's game against Eastern.

The Billikens have won seven of their last eight games at the Billiken Sports Center.

The only home losses for Saint Louis this season have been against Southeast Missouri, (6-2) Memphis (6-4) and Bradley (9-1). Only the loss to the Redhawks came at the Billiken Sports Center, as the other two defeats came at T.R. Hughes Stadium in O'Fallon, Mo.

Last season both games between Eastern and Saint Louis were canceled because of inclement weather.

First pitch is scheduled for 6 p.m. Tuesday at the Billiken Sports Center in St. Louis.

Aldo Soto can be reached at 581-2812 or asoto2@eiu.edu.

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THE DAILY EASTERN NEWS | FEMALE ATHLETE OF THE YEAR



OLIVIA DIGGS | THE DAILY EASTERN NEWS

Junior forward Sabina Oroszova is Female Athlete of the Year, as named by *The Daily Eastern News*. Oroszova said she looks forward to being a leader of the team next season, as the Eastern women's basketball team loses four starters.

Oroszova has career year in third season

By Bob Reynolds
Staff Reporter | @BobReynoldsDEN

Before this season started, Eastern women's basketball player Sabina Oroszova knew she was going to have to take on a new role, considering the team lost four seniors.

"I realized that I needed to be the player that will step up and take some type of responsibility," Oroszova said. "I knew I could do it and I felt big support from my coaching staff and teammates."

Oroszova was coming off a year that had her team get its first postseason win ever in the Women's National Invitation Tournament against Missouri and an Ohio Valley Conference regular season championship.

Last season, Oroszova averaged 22 minutes per game, making 31 starts and averaged only six points a game.

This season, with all the changes, Oroszova was expected to play a bigger role because of those losses from the previous year.

She averaged 34.5 minutes per game, and played more than 37 minutes in eleven games this season.

Oroszova shot 44 percent from the floor and averaged 16.9 points per game.

She averaged nearly 11 rebounds per game, which was second in the Ohio Valley Conference and best on the team.

She had 13 double-doubles this

"I realized that I needed to be the player that will step up and take some responsibility."

Sabina Oroszova, junior forward

season and had a stretch in the middle of the season where she had eight in a row.

In the beginning of the season, Oroszova's minutes were getting cut because of foul trouble.

Through the first eight games, Oroszova fouled out twice and had four fouls in four of the next six games.

But in the Panthers' 71-67 win against Bradley, Oroszova turned her season around very quickly.

She put up 38 points on 16-of-29 shooting from the field in 39 minutes of action and had 15 rebounds.

She tied records for most points in a game, most shot attempts in a game and most shots made in a game in that win.

"I will always remember it, not only because of my personal performance, but also because of the way we played as a team," she said. "It was a great game."

Oroszova scored 22 of her 38 points in the second half of that game, and the Panthers battled back from a 17-2 run by Bradley to end the first half.

This season the Panthers hired a new coaching staff, which in-

cluded their new head coach and former WNBA All-Star Debbie Black.

"They helped me and are still helping me become a multi-dimensional player," she said. "I need to move my game on from being a post player and also become a guard and accountable on the perimeter."

Despite her dominance of a season, Oroszova said she knows she can improve in some areas of her game.

"I need to improve on my defense," she said. "I need to be more comfortable with my left and also work on my mid-range game."

Although she said she needs to improve on her defense, her defensive stats were among the tops in the OVC.

She led the conference in defensive rebounds per game with 8.4, and averaged a steal and 1.6 blocks per game.

Oroszova had multiple games this season with more than 10 defensive rebounds, with the most coming in the game on January 18, when she recorded 13 of them.

For the three years, Taryn Olson played with Oroszova and she knew she was always a talented player.

"This year I saw her take great strides in the things she was able to do before the season even started, which clearly carried over on the court," Olson said.

As for next year, the Panthers will be without four starters from the previous season.

Jordyne Crunk, Morgan Palombizio and Olson are graduating and junior Katlyn Payne is transferring to Northern Illinois.

But, Oroszova said she could not be more excited to be the head of the team for next year.

"We have had a lot of changes made in our team, but I believe we can do some big things with the new team," she said. "We have some really good people coming in that will definitely help us to be successful, and I am very excited and ready to be a leader again."

Olson said Oroszova will be someone to look up to for new players.

"Incoming players who are new to the program are going to need a lot of direction, both vocally and by example," Olson said. "I'm confident Sabi will have no problem providing that."

Bob Reynolds can be reached at 581-2812 or rjreynolds@eiu.edu.

ABOUT SABINA OROSZOVA

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