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Mind(fulness) over matter

By Paige Gemein
Contributing Writer | @DGEM_News

The Booth Library is bringing back activities during finals week to help students who need a break from studying.

These activities will be available throughout the library and are set to include mad-libs, coloring pages, bookmarks, Sudoku and jigsaw puzzles.

Certified therapy dogs will be available on campus Monday to Tuesday to give emotional support from 2 p.m. to 6 p.m. in the Library Quad. The dogs come from "All Things Pawsitive" and are back for their fifth semester at Eastern.

Beth Heldebrandt, the public relations director for Booth Library, said the library will also be providing free popcorn and lemonade to students on Monday as well which will be available while supplies last.

All activities and refreshments are free to everyone on campus.

The EIU Meditation Club will be offering sessions to help with relieving stress, reducing anxiety and strengthening focus during the week.

The sessions will be offered at 5 p.m. and 5:30 p.m. Monday and Tuesday in the library's Edgar Room.

Booth will also provide postcards that say, "Don't worry, I'm at Booth Library" students can send to friends and family at home. There will be a limited number of postcards available.

Paige Gemein can be reached at 581-2812 or at prgemein@eiu.edu.
Officials: Border crossing is full; migrant caravan to wait

SAN DIEGO (AP) — A group of Central Americans who journeyed to the U.S. border in a caravan resolved to turn themselves in and ask for asylum Sunday in a direct challenge to the Trump administration — only to have U.S. customs and border protection officials announce that the San Diego crossing was already at capacity and wouldn’t be able to immediately accept them.

Nearly 200 migrants, many traveling with children, had decided to apply for protection at the crossing at San Diego, organizers said.

But even before the migrants arrived, the U.S. Customs and Border Protection said the crossing can take in additional people only as space and resources become available. The agency has said the port can hold about 300 people temporarily.

The migrants made their way north by foot, freight train and bus over the past month, many of them saying they feared for their lives in their home countries.

The Trump administration has been tracking the caravan, calling it a threat to the United States since it started in Mexico on March 24. Acting Customs and Border Protection Secretary Kevin McAleenan has called on Congress to pass a border security bill.

Administration officials have signaled they plan to take a hard line with asylum seekers and release policies that allow people requesting asylum to return to their home countries.

It’s the first time in history that a large-scale asylum request has prompted a major humanitarian crisis in both countries.

“The administration is taking a hard line with asylum and release policies that allow for immediate return so our laws and overburden our system,” McAleenan said in a statement.

Amnesty International officials have said the group’s right to seek asylum remains in question, and that the border is not the best place for their legal fight against the Trump administration.

The migrants have made no public statement on their plans for the day.

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Student Spotlight: Hill involved in community, campus

By Kareemah Martin
Contributing Writer | @DEN_News

Alisa Hill, a senior political science major, has overcome several challenges in her journey into Northern Illinois University’s master’s in public administration program.

Hill was accepted into Eastern through the Gateway program; she was out of it by her second semester with a GPA of 3.2. While at Eastern, Hill has never received anything less than a 3.0.

Hill has received the Johnetta Jones Scholarship, the Elisha Baumgartner Scholarship and the James E. and Joseph T. Connelly Scholarship. She also received the TRiO Achiever Award and has been named Eastern’s Top Black Scholar.

At the 2018 Political Science Banquet, she received the GPA Academic Achievement Award. Hill has been a part of the NAACP, College Democrats, the Political Science Association, the Black Student Union and Sigma Pi Alpha.

Hill’s path to success was not easy. She funded her own education, working 60 hours a week while also traveling back and forth to Chicago to work with community partnerships.

One of Hill’s biggest challenges at Eastern was a conflict she had with a professor freshman year, who told her “black people always have excuses.”

She struggled with what the professor said to her at the time she felt like he was right. Hill was still able to use what the professor said to push her so she could prove him wrong. During the process of finding out who she was, Hill said she also ended up losing friends and relationships.

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Hill graduated from North Lawndale College Prep, which is where the program is held. Hill tells all the girls she works with, “You don’t have to put up with anything from anybody, and you can’t change people who doesn’t want to change for them selves.”

Kareemah Martin can be reached at 581-2812 or ktmartin2@eiu.edu.
Have fun with senior friends who are leaving

As the year comes to a close and we wish our seniors the best of luck, we want to also take the time to look back on all the things that happened during the year. We cannot help but feel that there’s never a dull day.

Working in a university where there’s always something happening, this was always bound to be the case.

Now I am graduating, and I won’t be on campus every day. This makes me realize just how connected the place made me feel. This was always bound to be the case.

I have become to this place.

Every day. This makes me realize just how connected the memories we share.

All the times when that one friend walked us home after a wild night and made sure we got into bed, or the times that other friend held our hair when we were in a state we don’t want to talk about, or the time one friend mad, faculty, staff and community members forever—let’s not forget the good memories we have.

I witnessed some of the fear and frustration that came as people who were loved by their colleagues and peers were prevented from going to these events due to work or only for a certain amount of time. Although some are prevented from going to these events due to work or other unfortunate circumstances, I do not believe anyone who really has been politi
cally active before, getting involved in politics to fight for the funding Eastern needed.

I saw students, faculty, staff and community members passionatly working tirelessly to make sure they and their colleagues had a say. In times of tragedy, I saw people who lost loved ones—beloved friends, classmates, neighbors—come together and comfort each other.

In short, I witnessed bravery, compassion and a sense of community I have never seen anywhere else while at Eastern.

As the former editor of this publication, I will always remember the moments forever—let’s not forget the good memories we have.

Cassie Buchman is a senior journalism major. She can be reached at 581-2812 or cbuchman@eiu.edu.

Don’t miss out on chances to make memories

Many people miss out on events in their family or friends’ lives that will only happen either once or only for a certain amount of time. Although some are prevented from going to these events due to work or other unfortunate circumstances, I do not believe simply not wanting to drive 15 minutes or an hour is worthwhile.

For example, my biological father missed out on his younger son’s high school graduation, at least 15 softball games and at least 15 volleyball games because he would rather go play pool with his buds than go watch his son graduate, go to the games and support him.

I saw people try to take the easy way out, who didn’t want to be held accountable for the choices they made; who, for whatever reason, didn’t want to be held accountable for the choices they made at each other during the vitalization project, a project that may have slipped us by. But it wasn’t for lack of trying. Instead, what we should do is embrace those times rather than the ones we share.

In times of tragedy, I saw people who lost loved ones—beloved friends, classmates, neighbors—come together and comfort each other.

Enjoy your final weeks of finals and your last Taco Tuesday/Trivia Night out at the bars, but be happy doing it.

Think about the moments that make you who you are and the people who made you who you are and be grateful for every minute you have left at this school.

This week shouldn’t be a week of sadness or regret (unless you are studying for finals, of course), it should be a week of happiness and enthusiasm.

We are going to remember these moments forever—let’s not forget the good memories we have.

Cassie Buchman is a senior journalism major. She can be reached at 581-2812 or cbuchman@eiu.edu.
Tech professor named Teacher of Year by EIBEA

Staff Report | @DEN_News

Technology professor Julie Chadd was recently selected as the Eastern Illinois Business Education Association’s Teacher of the Year.

According to a press release, the association is made up of business teachers from Illinois’ eastern region and is an affiliate of the Illinois Business Education Association.

“I am thrilled that Dr. Chadd was recognized with this distinction and equally proud of her commitment to our students,” said Austin Cheney, chair of the School of Technology.

In Chadd’s nomination materials, Eastern student Jean Cornell said her demeanor in and out of the classroom is a class act.

“As a role model, she is a guiding light who shares past experiences and future challenges,” Cornell said in the materials.

Chadd has served in numerous roles in the Illinois Business Education Association, including as a board member, officer, presenter and chair.

The News desk can be reached at 581-2812 or dennewsdesk@gmail.com.

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Also approved by the Board of Trustees was the FY18 athletics budget.

The Board of Trustees has rules stating the need for approval of the athletic budget if it exceeds 1.5 percent of the total university budget.

The athletic budget proposed at the board meeting is 1.65 percent of the total budget.

The total budgeted appropriated and income fund revenue is $78,567,300.

The total athletic budget is $1.3 million.

Eastern President David Glassman said the reason the athletics budget is going over 1.5 percent is because the total budget has been lowered as a result of having fewer students.

“This does not represent any increase in funds for the intercollegiate athletics,” Glassman said.

“In fact, when I first came here, (the athletic budget) had been about $2 million of allocations. It went down to $1.8 million, then I brought it down to $1.3 million.”

Glassman said he expects the athletics budget to be below 1.5 percent of the total university budget next year.

The budget was passed unanimously.

The board also elected executive positions for next year, with Timothy Burke, current vice chair, being voted chair and Barb Baurer being voted as next year’s vice chair.

Carl Mito will keep his position as secretary.

Cassie Buchman contributed to this article.

Brooke Schwartz can be reached at 581-2812 or at bsschwartz@eiu.edu.

A furry fan

An Eastern baseball fan’s dog watches the game Friday against Morehead State at Coaches Stadium.

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Katelyn Nichols, a sophomore psychology major, studies with her friends Kadarrious Hooks, a senior psychology major, and Madelyn Wilson, a sophomore psychology major, outside of Starbucks Sunday evening. Nichols said they were studying for their biological psychology class final with Jeff Stowell. “He’s the best,” Nichols said. They all agreed that studying was easy, and Nichols said she was “feeling pretty good” about her final.

Madelyn Wilson, a sophomore psychology major, sips coffee in front of Starbucks Sunday evening while her friends continue to talk about their final.
Eastern drops series to Morehead State

By Adam Shay

Eastern drops series to Morehead State as redshirt senior right fielder Frankie Perone blasted a home run in the bottom of the 11th, putting the score at 9-8 and giving the Panthers their 16th win of the year.

As for the next two days, Morehead State dominated offensively as it put on a hitting clinic Saturday, winning 24-11 in 23 hits. Prior to the eighth inning, Morehead was up 9-7 before the team caught fire and scored 12 runs, none of which was scored by a home run.

On that day, there were nine different players on the roster with an RBI, including five-RBI performances from junior first baseman Trevor Snyder and senior third baseman Eli Boggs.

During Sunday's game, the offense quickly tallied down for Morehead State, but still provided enough run support to win 7-5. Once the Panthers scored their five runs in the opening innings, they were shut down after by sophomore Dom Marullo and redshirt freshman Cory Conroy.

"Morehead State is a good team, and two of the three games we were right there with them and playing good baseball," senior closer Michael Starcevich said.

Over the weekend, senior third baseman Doug Parks had himself a series that he will not soon forget. In each game this series, Parks hit a home run in each game, bringing his season total to 12 and adding to his team lead in home runs, as well as leading the team with 14 doubles.

Continuing with the home runs, redshirt junior Hunter Morris launched a pair of his own over the weekend, bringing his season total to a team leading 12 home runs, as well as lowering his team-leading ERA to 2.65 in 51 innings pitched.

"I feel blessed to have coached so many good players and been around many great people," Starcevich said.

But after sweeping Murray State Saturday, Sunday's opening game against Austin Peay could not have been more disheartening.

The Panthers put together two complete games Saturday, including an eighth-inning win, but Sunday's opening game against Austin Peay could not have been more disheartening.

After a promising start to the series with an 11th-inning walk-off victory, the Eastern baseball team failed to come out on top for the rest of the weekend.

The Panthers had a thrilling first game against Morehead State as redshirt senior right fielder Frankie Perone blasted a home run in the bottom of the 11th, putting the score at 9-8 and giving the Panthers their 16th win of the year.

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Portis breaks track record at Drake Relays

By Kaitlin Cordes
Track and Field Reporter | @DEN_Sports

Senior Brion Portis broke the school triple jump record over the weekend, landing 41 feet, 10 inches at the Drake Relays Saturday.
Portis placed sixth overall in the event, and she beat the previous school record of 41'9.75" set by Portis’s school record of 41 feet, 10 inches at the Drake Relays Saturday. She was named a Freshman All-American by sports writer Phil Steele and Freshman All-American honorable mention by Hero Sports.

Novotny was a rock for Eastern this season as goalkeeper, starting in 18 games. The St. Charles native led the Summit league with 91 saves. 19 more than the next highest players. He also led the conference in shutouts with a .858 save percentage. In his four seasons with the Panthers, Novotny never started in less than 14 games. In addition to his play on the field, Novotny was a leader on the field, often giving direction and encouragement from his spot in front of the net.

Runner up: Montell Goodwin, men’s basketball

Freshman male: Mark Williams, Football

Williams made his presence known in the first quarter of his college career. Williams picked off Indiana State quarterback Isaac Harker for a 73-yard interception return in the Panthers’ season opening game. Williams tied for the most interceptions on the team with three and he led the team with eight pass breakups. He was named a Freshman All-American by sports writer Phil Steele and Freshman All-American honorable mention by Hero Sports.

Runner up: Mack Smith, men’s basketball

Freshman female: Laurel Bailey, Volleyball

Bailey led the Panthers with 292 kills this season coming out of Waunakee High School in Wisconsin. She started in all 30 matches for Eastern in a season in which the team finished 15-15. She was third on the team with 309 digs. Bailey also led the team with 29 aces and a 2.61 kills-per-set number.

Runner up: Taylor Steele, women’s basketball

Runner up: Aviva Troia, women’s basketball

Runner up: Jessica Wireman, softball

DEN Sports Awards 2017-2018

Senior male athlete: Mike Novotny, Men’s soccer

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Runner up: Montell Goodwin, men’s basketball

Senior female athlete: Haleigh Knapp, Field

An all-conference, first-team, high jumper five times in her career at Eastern, Knapp was not only one of the top performers in OVC, but she also broke her own records repeatedly.
This season, Knapp set the school record for high jump with a height of 5-foot 11.25-inches. She finished in first place at the Illinois State Redbird meet and the Western Illinois Lee Calhoun invite during the outdoor season. She was also named to the USTFCCCA All-Academic teams in her junior and senior seasons.

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