

4-30-2010

## Daily Eastern News: April 30, 2010

Eastern Illinois University

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## Finals bring about a range of emotions

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## The Daily Eastern News' Top 10 sports stories

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### STUDENT GOVERNMENT

## New speaker familiar with new position objectives

By Erica Whelan  
Student Government Editor

Jason Sandidge had his eye on the prestigious student speaker of the senate seat since running against his older brother Isaac for the position in December.

Though the race for a place at the head of the executive table was nothing new to him, Jason Sandidge, a junior sociology major, said he found Wednesday's election more nerve-wracking than ever. Jason Sandidge was pitted against opponents Alex Boyd and Tommy Nierman, who announced his interest in serving after being nominated at the meeting.

Used to competing against his brother, Jason Sandidge described his most recent election as intense when he ultimately tied Nierman with 10 votes apiece, removing Boyd from the running and requiring a runoff vote.

"I'm still kind of in disbelief," Sandidge said. "It's an honor to be voted among my colleagues. This is the only position I've ever wanted to shoot for."

Formerly acting as the senate parliamentarian, a role that held him responsible for ensuring senate observance of parliamentary procedure during meetings, Sandidge immediately assumed the seat to his right, formerly filled by his brother, and led

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### JOBS

## Career Services helpful place during job hunt

### Department offers advice to students

By Daniel Hajek  
Staff Reporter

If you are graduating this spring and still in search of a job, students are encouraged not to worry, but to get motivated. Many students on campus are beginning to get flustered because it is almost graduation and they have yet to find a job. Nikki Mangiaracina, a senior communication studies major decided to apply to graduate school because she was unsure of what she wanted to do.

"I wasn't exactly sure what jobs would be available after graduation," Mangiaracina said. "Everyone has been talking about how bad the economy is. It is scary to think about graduating and going into the real world."

If you are still looking for jobs, Career Services is available to all students, and offers great assistance in helping find jobs as well as prepare for interviews. Students can also set up appointments for mock interviews at Career Services. This helps students hone their interviewing skills so they are ready when the time comes.

Joe Ethington, a graduate assistant for Career Services, said the main thing is to be persistent and prepared.

"Stay persistent and don't get discouraged if you get rejected," Ethington said. "Jobs are out there, and if you are prepared and confident you will find one."

Panther Recruiting, available on-line through  
JOBS, page 7

### UNIVERSITY

## English professor dies

### Keith Spear was diagnosed with cancer in February

By Sarah Jean Bresnahan  
Associate News Editor

Keith Spear, an instructor in the English department, died Wednesday night after being diagnosed with cancer in February.



Keith Spear  
English instructor

Spear had been on medical leave from the university this semester, and was named Faculty Laureate, alongside Cameron Craig of the geology-geography department, for the 2010-11 academic year at the April 1 Council on Academic Affairs.

Spear has taught writing at Eastern since 1995. According to his fac-

ulty member bio on the English department's website, he holds the record for having the most students win the First-Year Essay Contest.

Ed Schneirs, the Coles County Coroner, said although he did not receive a report on Spear's death, he did know that Spear was on hospice care.

Spear received his bachelor's in philosophy and master's in English from Eastern, and had his own contracting business.

Matt Schumake, a senior English major, had Spear as an instructor his

freshman year, and said he was very encouraging to his students on a personal level.

"He's almost the reason why I decided to study English and go into writing," Schumake said.

Dana Ringuette, chair of the English department, said Spear died at home after a brief battle with cancer.

"(He was) just a tremendous teacher," Ringuette said.

Spear had written a letter to the English department in early March, describing his feelings on learning of

PROFESSOR, page 7

## Race to the finish



MEGAN MATHY | THE DAILY EASTERN NEWS

Brittany Beauregard, a sophomore pre-nursing major, and Ryne Turke, a mass communication major, race in a bungee run Thursday afternoon in the Library Quad during Last Blast, an event put on by the University Board.

### CAMPUS

## Seniors reflect on time well spent at Eastern

### Three students share memories and future plans

By Shea Brunson  
Staff Reporter

College is, for some, the best years of their lives. From Greek life, to athletics, to the performing arts, to just plain old having fun, the college experience is one that few forget.

For some students, this experience is coming to an end, where all the hard work will finally be rewarded.

With the final chapter at Eastern closing, it has led some seniors to look back fondly at the time spent at Eastern. Three Eastern students expressed a similar fondness for the past four years while expressing three very different experiences.

#### Excited and indifferent

Gary Pearson, a graduating political science major with a history minor, said a lot about his experiences at Eastern. The thought of graduating and leaving Eastern leaves Pearson with a somber tone he describes as "indifferent."

"When the day comes I'll be happy, but right now, I don't know," Pearson said. "My mind is saying 'Hey we're graduating!' but my body is saying, 'Hey, we're still in school, ain't much going to change.'"

When looking back at the past four years, some outstanding moments in his college career stood out to Pearson.

"Crossing Phi Rho Eta Fraternity Inc. stands out the most, also joining Alpha Phi Omega. I've made some lifelong friends in both organizations and will never forget the experiences," Pearson said.

Pearson hopes that his legacy as a man who "always told it like it is"

will live on, and he will be remembered for his accomplishments, not only as a student, but as a valuable example of a man who worked his hardest in every aspect of his college experience.

After graduation, Gary Pearson has a wide variety of opportunities waiting for him, including an internship with the FBI, graduate school and possibly work serving in the U.S. Air Force.

#### 'Start the next chapter'

Martha Rauch, a graduating recreation administration major, has had a similar fondness for Eastern with a host of different experiences. Rauch has a very upbeat attitude about her leaving Eastern.

"It feels amazing! And very scary," Rauch said. "I can't explain how great it feels because the possibilities are endless. I'm excited for school to end so I can start the next chapter."

Rauch, who worked as a resident

assistant in Taylor Hall for two years, looks back at her time as an RA, happy with the impact she has had on many students' lives.

"I've tried to encourage many residents to follow their heart and take the right path," she said.

Along with her memories of residents and the impact she has had on them, Rauch will also have the memories made hiking at Fox Ridge with her close friends who also share her love of the outdoors.

After graduating, Rauch's pursuits for life can be summed up with one quotation. "After college I will be living in Chicago wandering the world all the while discovering what I want to do with the rest of my life."

#### All-around experiences

Graduating senior Ian Winston will not only be leaving Eastern with a degree in art with a 2-D

SENIORS, page 7



WEATHER TODAY



Sunny - Evening T-Storms

**HIGH**  
**79°**  
**LOW**  
**58°**  
Another warm and breezy day today. The afternoon will start out mostly sunny, but as the day goes on, more clouds will make their way into the area. Late tonight scattered showers and thunderstorms will move into the area. For the majority of the weekend, scattered showers will be on and off, with temps near 70.

WEATHER TOMORROW



**Saturday**  
**Scattered Showers**  
**High:** 75°  
**Low:** 63°



**Sunday**  
**Scattered Showers**  
**High:** 74°  
**Low:** 60°

For more weather information: [www.eiu.edu/~weather](http://www.eiu.edu/~weather)

CAMPUS BRIEFS

Academy of Lifetime Learning to host reception in Doudna

The School of Continuing Education's Academy of Lifetime Learning will host a membership reception at 6:30 p.m. today in the Doudna Concourse.

Choral and percussion ensembles to perform

The EIU choral and percussion ensembles will perform a multi-cultural concert at 7:30 p.m. today in the Dvorak Concert Hall of the Doudna Fine Arts Center. General admission is \$5; \$3 for students.

28th Children's Art Exhibition opens Saturday

Art by area school students, representing approximately 40 area school programs, will be on display beginning Saturday in the Tarble Arts Center.  
The exhibition is sponsored in part by Consolidated Communications. The exhibition will run through May 23.

—Compiled by Associate News Editor Sarah Jean Bresnahan

THE DAILY EASTERN NEWS

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

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Avoiding the shot



AMIR PRELLBERG | THE DAILY EASTERN NEWS

Dan Schuetter, a junior history major from Evergreen Park, jumps past some barriers to shoot an opposing team during Bongo Ball Thursday afternoon in the library quad during Last Blast, presented by University Board.

DENNEWS.COM



Bikes around campus

From the local celebrities to local professionals, bikes are common to see people riding around campus. Check out an interactive online package put together by *The Daily Eastern News'* online staff on DENnews.com. Filled with slideshows, podcasts, videos and blogs, there is nearly everyone you would want to know about bikes.

CORRECTION

An article in the Thursday edition of *The Daily Eastern News* incorrectly reported the number of tickets available for the commencement ceremonies. Students can get seven tickets for the 9 a.m., noon and the 6 p.m. graduations, but only six tickets will be available at the 3 p.m. graduation. Approximately 400 students will walk at the 9 a.m., noon and 6 p.m. ceremonies, but 500 will walk at 3 p.m. Students can pick up their tickets and caps and gowns between 10 a.m. and 5 p.m. Wednesday through Friday.

The DEN regrets the errors.



Looking forward to your new roommate?

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Single bedroom apartments now available for Fall 2010

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[www.poteeterentals.com](http://www.poteeterentals.com)



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JOBS

# Money may be saved by composting

**Pescitelli creates environmentally-friendly idea to save money**

By Jason Hardimon  
Campus Editor

One Eastern student has a simple solution for making the campus more efficient and environmentally responsible—composting.

Stephani Pescitelli, a senior environmental biology major, will submit a proposal to President Bill Perry for the diversion of organic waste from the Thomas Dining Hall within approximately two weeks.

Pescitelli hopes the program will eventually incorporate all dining halls.

"A compost program offers benefits to Eastern in the form of waste reduction and also tremendous educational value," Pescitelli said. "On one hand, a new system is being put in place to divert over 70 pounds of waste each day to produce nutrient-rich organic fertilizer for campus. Additionally, a compost site would offer a space for student research, service, independent study,

and skill-building."

Mark Hudson, director of university housing and dining services, expressed his support of the program.

"I think the university needs to look at every way in which we can be more green," Hudson said. "It's good for the environment, but there is also a lot of cost avoidance built into that as well. The less you can put into a landfill, all the better."

Hudson described how the compost program would cut costs.

"We have a trash contract, and we pay by the amount of trash they haul away," Hudson said. "If we can reduce that amount then there will be some savings that are related to that. Plus, if it creates some organic matter that can be used to fertilize flower gardens and stuff like that, those will be things we won't have to buy."

Pescitelli said food scraps will be collected from the Thomas Dining Hall kitchen and transported to a site on campus, located between the soccer fields and the Frisbee golf course, which is currently used by grounds operations to process yard waste.

"Some of this yard waste will be incorporated into the nitrogen-rich food material to ensure the bal-

**"I conducted three waste audits in the kitchen to assess the volume of waste we could collect, and during this time the staff took ownership of the system and provided valuable insight and support."**

Stephani Pescitelli, senior environmental biology major

anced carbon-to-nitrogen ratio required for effective decomposition," Pescitelli said. "The resulting compost product will be available for grounds operations for landscaping on campus, and also for a future campus community garden."

Pescitelli said the staff at Thomas Dining Hall has played an essential role in pushing the program forward.

"I conducted three waste audits in the kitchen to assess the volume of waste we could collect, and during this time the staff took ownership of the system and provided valuable insight and support," she said.

Pescitelli said the program would

require little extra effort for those involved.

"The kitchen staff will simply dispose of certain food scraps in a conveniently placed receptacle," she said.

In addition, collection of the food waste, which will be coordinated through the Office of Sustainability, which is a division of facilities planning and management, will only require the student workers to pick up the compost receptacles along with the recycling materials already picked up on a daily basis.

Pescitelli said she was inspired to establish the program while studying at Humboldt State University in Arcata, Calif. through the National

Student Exchange program.

"I noticed that compost receptacles were placed around campus right next to trash and recycling bins," Pescitelli said. "It made so much sense to me that organic waste be collected the same way as other materials. When I came back to EIU, I wanted to bring some of the ideas and inspiration I picked up in California to my own campus community."

Illinois State University, as well as Southern Illinois University at Carbondale, already has a compost program. So far, SIUC has composted 170,000 pounds of waste using their current system, Pescitelli said.

Ryan Siegel, Eastern's energy and sustainability coordinator, praised Pescitelli's leadership in developing the project.

"I think it's been a great partnership between the environmental biology department and the office of energy and sustainability, to be able to bring Stephani on board to really flesh out and develop the plans for this composting program," Siegel said.

Jason Hardimon can be reached at 581-7942 or jrhardimon2@eiu.edu.

FINAL EXAMS

# Students head to the library for finals week

By Kate Kelleher  
Staff Reporter

All the hard work of the semester is finally over, however; finals can still determine many students' grades.

Finals are just around the corner, and for most students, this is a time of extreme stress.

"I'm most worried for my math final because I'm not really good at math," said Stefanie Mahan, a freshman communication studies major. "I write out flashcards to help me study."

For some students, the stress can just be finding the motivation to study.

"Senioritis has massively kicked in," said Christina Crowley, a senior communication studies major. "I'm just ready to be done and get on with the rest of my life."

Many students flock to Booth library during finals week to get in some quality study time. For those students looking for a calm place to study, the second floor of the library is their best

## Finals week

**Library:**  
Saturday 9 a.m. to 9 p.m.  
Sunday 12 p.m. to 1 a.m.  
Monday - Friday 8 a.m. to 1 a.m.

**Triad Computer lab:**  
Open 24 hours

bet, because it is a designated quiet area. The library has also extended hours Saturday until 9 p.m. rather than 5 p.m.

There are also many alternative study areas.

"I like going to Starbucks or Jackson Avenue (Coffeehouse)," Crowley said. "I can't stand the library, it's too quiet. Plus I take breaks to enjoy the coffee."

The dorms are another great option for study areas.

"During finals week we have extensive quiet hours," said Katie Kubski, a junior special education major and se-

nior staff assistant for Pemberton Hall and the Triad. "The lobby areas tend to fill up more with people that are trying to study."

Students who need some extra help preparing for finals can also look to the Student Success Center.

"Many students get stressed because there are so many exams at one time, but they should have hope and rely on the effort they have put in throughout the semester," said Student Success Specialist Taisha Mikell. "We're here and always willing to see students."

The SSC also encourages students to take advantage of moving their finals if they have too many on one day.

"Students should map out what days they have exams, and then based on that sequence start studying in that order," Mikell said.

Between the long hours of cramming for tests, students should also take time to de-stress.

"A lot of the halls do exam snacks where residents can take a break from



AUDREY SAWYER | THE DAILY EASTERN NEWS

Freshman sociology major Kate Kresach studies for her jazz and rock final Thursday afternoon on the fourth floor of the Booth Library.

studying and get a snack," Kubski said.

Students are also preparing to go home for the summer, so they should enjoy the last week with their friends.

"Do some things that are going to be fun," Mikell said. "Spend some time

with your college friends before leaving for the summer, but keep that in balance with studying."

Kate Kelleher can be reached at 581-7942 or kmkelleher@eiu.edu.

CAUSES

# Eastern's Haiti Connection gives opportunity to give back

**Students work to raise money for citizens of Haiti**

By Nick Livers  
Staff Reporter

That old couch sitting in the corner of your room could help someone halfway around the world.

The Haiti Connection at Eastern is currently collecting usable items for its annual fall yard sale to raise money for projects in Haiti.

Julia Novotny, a sophomore physics major, has been working with the

Haiti Connection since the beginning of her freshman year. She said the Haiti Connection hopes the yard sale will raise a few thousand dollars this year.

"This is definitely one of our biggest fundraisers of the whole year," Novotny said.

All of the money raised from the yard sale will go directly to Haiti to help with the group's many projects, the two largest being Gayden Dlo and Fonkoze.

Gayden Dlo is a clean water program focused on creating specialized buckets that filter water. Technicians are needed to teach Haitian families how to use the filtration systems. Part

**"This is definitely one of our biggest fundraisers of the whole year."**

Julia Novotny, sophomore physics major

of the money pays the technicians' salaries and therefore helps create much-needed jobs.

Fonkoze is a micro-credit pro-

gram with several branches in Haiti. It focuses on giving women loans to help them start their own small businesses. It also provides women with classes on reading, writing and business.

Joseph Grasser, a sophomore business major, plans to donate several items of clothing.

"I'm involved in a few Haiti relief programs in the Chicago area, so I figured I could help out here, too. My Louis Vuitton shoes should bring in some cash," Grasser said.

The Haiti Connection, which has about 20 volunteers at Eastern, has been a part of the Newman Center's

mission outreach since 1989. It conducts several fundraisers, a child sponsorship program and several mission trips to Haiti.

Students can drop off their unwanted items in boxes located in each residence hall, Greek Court, University Court and University Apartments.

The collection runs until May 9. When the collection is over, students can call the Newman Center at 348-0188 if they need items picked up.

Nick Livers can be reached at 581-7942 or nllivers@eiu.edu



## VIEWS



David Thill

# Every road must come to an end

Well, here it is: My last column for *The Daily Eastern News*.

A journalism professor once referred to my collegiate career as "The long and winding road." Yet, despite the fact that I began my higher education at the fine institution that is Eastern in fall 2003, the past seven years have gone by incredibly quick.

Well, at least at this point, standing at the edge of graduation, it seems like it has gone by quickly.

To be honest, the last three years of my little adventure here have been sort of a chore. In spring 2007, when the last of my friends who I came up through college with were graduating, I was being informed that I had gone quite the other route, failing out of college.

Nearly two years and what seemed like a long stint working midnight shifts at a factory later and I was back. And now here I am, trying to wrap my head around the idea of actually graduating.

Now, I'm not so sure I want to leave. This campus has become comfortable to me.

To tell the truth, I've been in and around Eastern for so long that I feel like an institutionalized prisoner — I don't even know how to live on the outside anymore.

And I've worked for this newspaper for so long that I'm not sure I'll know what to do with myself when I'm not dragging myself in to plop at my desk every day.

In all seriousness, though, while I always thought this last column would be the easiest to write, it is turning out to be quite the opposite.

For so many years I have been writing my little columns. Most of the time I try to make my little slot one that will bring a chuckle to most who read them. Judging from the comments I so often receive on the *DEN's* website, sometimes I succeed, often I fail.

Either way, thank you, dear reader. Regardless of whether you have enjoyed or hated my columns, at least I always knew I had an audience to write for.

I've always taken my job as a student journalist seriously. Sometimes mistakes will be made. But now that I'm graduating, I will no longer have the student portion of my title to hide behind. I will no longer have the luxury of rambling for 550 words in an attempt to make a joke.

No, now the real world beckons, as it does for so many others like me who, in eight days, will do the whole cap-and-gown routine. It has been nearly a decade since I did it last.

And I assume many are feeling the way I do now.

It's a mixture of relief and fear, joy and sadness. I can't wait to call myself a college graduate and feel the sense of accomplishment.

However, I'm deeply saddened to leave this school. I never thought I would be, but I am. Over the past seven years this has become my home, like it has for so many of you. And my friends have become my family, like they have for you.

But today, my last day of regular college classes, will pass by quickly and I won't realize it until it's over, just like my college career as a whole.

It may have been a "long and winding road," but this road has finally come to an end. Thanks for reading, Eastern. And good luck, Panthers.

David Thill is a senior journalism major and can be reached at 581-7942 or DENopinions@gmail.com.

# THE DAILY EASTERN NEWS

"Tell the truth and don't be afraid"

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

# Wilber model student, leader; McHugh inspired through giving

Thursday, we proudly named Paul McCann, treasurer and director of business services, our Person of the Year.

The Editorial Board of *The Daily Eastern News* thought the honor was well deserved because of his leadership through this past year's financial crisis and his communication skills aiding in the passing of legislation, allowing Eastern to begin construction on the new Renewable Energy Center.

However, when trying to determine just who should be named our Person of the Year, numerous names were brought up. And although choosing McCann was unanimous and quick, we still thought there were two individuals, in particular, who also deserved to be thanked and honored for their effort and contributions to Eastern and the university community as a whole.

For that reason, we are proud to name Eric Wilber, student executive vice president for student government, our Student of the Year. We are also proud to name Tom McHugh, owner of McHugh's Double Drive Thru in Charleston and Mattoon, our Community Member of the Year.

During our discussion, we agreed that McCann had contributed the most to the university as a whole. We also agreed that both Wilber and McHugh have had a considerably positive effect on Eastern over the past year and we thought the two were more than worthy of distinction and that their efforts should also be commended and brought to the attention of the university community.

Wilber, a senior political science and philosophy major, has served on student government for more than two years.

While we have taken issue in the past with certain aspects of student government, Wilber's endless efforts and willingness to go above and beyond make him not only

"...We still thought there were two individuals in particular who also deserved to be thanked and honored for their effort and contributions to Eastern..."

a model member of student government but also a model student.

This past year, as legislators failed the students of Illinois' institutions of higher learning and left many wondering if they would even be able to afford to attend school next year, it was Wilber who led the Student Action Team not once, but twice, to Springfield to meet face to face with legislators to plead the collective case of Illinois students.

And it was Wilber who led the letter-writing campaign and urged students to write and contact their state senators and demand payment for the Monetary Award Program grant that so many students need so dearly.

Back in Charleston, McHugh took it upon himself this year to use money out of his own pocket to reward one local student, either at Eastern or Lake Land Community College in Mattoon, with one year of free tuition.

In a time when local businesses all over town were closing, McHugh took the effort, and the potential hit to his own profits, to ensure that at least one student would not be left without an education.

His philanthropic efforts went far beyond that which anyone would have asked of him, and McHugh proved not only to be an ideal businessman, but the type of person we are proud to claim as a member of our community.

While we wish more business owners could follow his example, simply knowing there is at least one person around our community that is willing to go to great financial lengths to help people in need makes us glad to call Charleston our home.

So, thank you Mr. Wilber and Mr. McHugh. Your efforts have not gone unnoticed and the positive marks you have left on our university and our community are greatly appreciated.

## FROM THE EASEL



ILLUSTRATION BY DAVID THILL | THE DAILY EASTERN NEWS

## FROM AROUND THE STATE

# How are you... really?

By Brittany McKenna  
*The Daily Vidette*  
Illinois State University

"How are you?" When responding to this common question, we routinely say, "Good, you?" even if we don't feel good. It's unfortunate this question has become so mundane because an honest response can provide a powerful glimpse into one's life.

With Mental Health America declaring May as Mental Health Month, what better time than now to ask ourselves this question and answer it truthfully? The upcoming month's motto is "Live your life well." As the semester ends, we

become less concerned about how well we are and more worried about completing an unbearable amount of schoolwork.

This mental stress causes us to not only feel irritated or overwhelmed, but can cause headaches, memory problems, trouble sleeping, acne and muscle aches. It also increases our risk of reduced bone density, diabetes, digestive, reproductive and immune problems.

It's critical that any signs of stress be treated. MHA's Web site, nmha.org, provides some easy methods of treatment such as connecting with others, being physically active, helping others and getting enough sleep.

Other tips include eating adequate portions

from the food pyramid regularly, taking care of our spiritual lives and tackling our problems better.

These are all great ways to improve our mental health, but sometimes stress or other factors impair our ability to function well and professional help is needed.

By sitting down with the director, staff psychiatrist, and other board-certified members of Student Health Services here on-campus, I learned just how prevalent mental health disorders are amongst U.S. college students and how critical it is we seek treatment.

To read more, visit [www.DailyVidette.com](http://www.DailyVidette.com)



EVENTS

# O'Brien Stadium to be used for Olympics

Eastern students volunteer for Special Olympics' events, today

By Heather Holm  
Activities Editor

Participants in Special Olympics can go for the gold today.

The annual event will take place today at O'Brien Stadium from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. with a parade at 8 a.m. where schools get to carry a banner and walk the track.

Students from 58 agencies, including students from group homes, workshops and schools will participate in this year's Special Olympics.

Kim Abell, area director, has been involved with Special Olympics for about 10 years and been in her current position as area director for five years.

"I started out as a volunteer," she said.

One of the reasons Abell became

**"Athletes show that even though they are different, they still have the same capabilities as track runners at Eastern."**

Clara Kurtz, senior special education major

involved was because she has two cousins with Down Syndrome.

"Athletes show that even though they are different, they still have the same capabilities as track runners at Eastern," she said.

The Special Olympics event at Eastern is a qualifying event for state summer games as well as national and world games.

State games will take place June 11 to 13 at Illinois State University, the national games are in June in Lincoln, Neb. and the world games are Athens, Greece next summer.

Darci Peadro, a coach for one of the teams, was nominated to go to nationals this year.

Peadro is a teacher certified to coach athletics/Special Olympics in Shelbyville.

About 800 students, officials and community members are volunteering.

Clara Kurtz, a senior special education major, will be volunteering for the second time this year.

She will be at the head tables and will make sure Eastern students who volunteer get their certificates for participating.

Kurtz likes seeing the athletes train, participate and win at something.

"It's a good cause," she said.

Activities to be performed in-

clude shot put, running, long jump, 500-meter dash, tennis and softball throw among others.

Cindy Friesen, a co-chair for the event and special education major with dual certification in elementary education, has been volunteering for people with special needs for about eight to 10 years and has been involved in Special Olympics for every year she has been at Eastern.

"I think it's just the right thing to do and I wanted a bigger role this year," Kurtz said. "We want to make sure the Olympians have the best day ever—this day is for them."

Sarah Vetter, another co-chair, has been involved in Special Olympics at Eastern for three years and for nine years with other similar events.

"My cousin is an Olympian (with Special Olympics)," Vetter said.

This year, about \$50,400 was raised for Special Olympics through Polar Plunge.

People had to raise a minimum

## Volunteers

Special Olympics Committee: 30 students

Officials: (All KSS majors) 70-80 students

Volunteers: 700+

of \$75 and then jump into Lake Sara in Effingham with this fundraiser on March 4 with 144 college students out of 307 plungers.

This money is used to get medals, lunches and transportation to the event since athletes do not have a fee for participating.

Eastern donates O'Brien Stadium as the facility, but the money pays for any supplies, games equipment, and purchase of food plus miscellaneous costs at the event.

Heather Holm can be reached at 581-7942 or haholm@eiu.edu.

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## HEALTH

# Mobile station to screen for cancer today

## Van to be on campus to screen for breast cancer

By Heather Holm  
Activities Editor

The mobile mammography van will make a stop at Eastern's campus today.

Patty Peterson, a public relations person for the Sarah Bush Lincoln Health Center, said women with

a family history of breast cancer should be tested along with anyone around the ages of 35-40.

"The van travels to communities in the seven or eight county area," she said. "It travels to areas surrounding Coles County."

Libby Ard, a clerical support partner and one of the van drivers, said people getting tested have to be at least 35 years old because that is when women should have their baseline mammography with a yearly one once they reach the age of 40.

"We go to Eastern every year around this time," Ard said. "Sarah Bush also has a clinic (in Charleston) we go to once a month."

Staff and faculty at Eastern, along with area residents around this age, can be tested and 15 people have already made appointments.

The van will take walk-ons and use digital technology to test women.

These mammograms are taken back to the hospital for a radiologist to read.

The Sarah Bush Lincoln Health Center has had a mobile unit for about 12 years and has five different technicians with 40 years of experience along with serving more than 1,000 women in 11 plus counties annually.

"We've caught a lot of cancer by doing mammograms on or off the bus," Ard said. "There's a lot of women who don't do monthly breast exams — there's a lot of tissues and lumps you can't feel."

Ard also said that if a mammo-

gram catches someone's breast cancer sooner, they could be treated sooner.

She said there have been a lot of cases where women say they would not have been tested and their cancer would have been caught if the van had not come to their town.

The van will be parked in front of the bell tower from around 9 a.m. to 2 p.m.

*Heather Holm can be reached at 581-7942 or haholm@eiu.edu.*

## CITY

# Habitat for Humanity gives women a chance to help out

## Coles County affiliate building house for Lee Pedigo and son

By Kayleigh Zyskowski  
City Editor

A local construction site will trade its seasoned workers for pink hard hats and ponytails when the Coles County Habitat for Humanity participates in the first Women Build project.

Women Build is a week for women in Habitat for Humanity who are interested in learning construction skills and making a difference.

The Coles County affiliate will be

building a house for Lee Pedigo and her son at 408 N. 4th St. The construction site will be taken over by women June 5.

"It gives them the opportunity to get involved, learn the skills and work with other women in the community," said Cindy Roberts, the executive director for the Coles County Habitat for Humanity. "Women are an essential part of our program and women want to get involved in the construction part of it."

The Pedigo house will be the 24th project for the county's Habitat for Humanity.

The house will take about 12 to 16 weeks to complete; however, on the day of the women's build, Roberts said she hopes the women will be able to put up dry wall and siding as well as

**"Women are an essential part of our program and women want to get involved in the construction part of it."**

*Cindy Roberts, executive director for the Coles County Habitat for Humanity*

start painting.

"Then again it depends on where we are at in construction," Roberts said. "It is really hard to plan events like this because the scheduling is so iffy with our weather here."

But, no matter the weather, community members are welcome to get

involved by making donations or signing up for one of the sessions for the June 5 build.

The event is free for all volunteers, but requires registration.

"Applications will be accepted until the program is full," Roberts said. "It is space limited because I don't want to be

overwhelmed, and that's why we have divided it up into two timeframes."

The first session of the build will be from 8 a.m. to 11:30 a.m., the second session will be at 11:30 a.m. Lunch for all volunteers will be served at 11:30.

"Anyone can participate and you don't need to have major skills, we will have people there to teach them," Roberts said. "We even have some men who have volunteered to provide the food for them and to be there to check people in."

Women Build T-shirts, \$10, and pink hard hats, \$12, are available for purchase by calling the Coles County Habitat for Humanity at 217-348-7063.

*Kayleigh Zyskowski can be reached at 581-7942 or kzyskowski@eiu.edu.*

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SPEAKER, from page 1

the senate in a period of announcements preceding adjournment.

He told senate members of his goal to set his personal ambitions aside in the effort to assist each committee toward achieving one project they wish to adopt and see through to the finish.

Sandidge said this goal extends to affect his plans for executing a “Last Night” celebration for the campus that he and the university development and recycling committee were unable to host this year due to time constraints.

However, he did say that he hopes to make the endeavor a side project for each committee to contribute their efforts so as to accomplish a larger task in less time on the new senate.

“Something I’ll do differently is, there were a lot of times last semester when I spoke when I shouldn’t have,” Sandidge said. “There’s a saying that ‘a great senator only speaks when they have something to say.’”

As such, he said he wishes to remain impartial to senate proceedings and party lines, as well as conduct a more in-depth research of senate procedures. As for the UDR committee, which he chaired for the past two semesters, Sandidge said he has no doubts that new senate members will step up and keep the group going strong.

Though Sandidge will officially begin his term this fall, he said he will waste no time in preparing for the semester ahead by organizing plans this summer.

His first orders of business will be disseminating applications for committee chair positions and creating a contact list for new and returning senators.

Sandidge said he looks forward to getting a head start on the semester by communicating ideas and expectations to his constituents, some of who will be studying abroad in Europe, and working to eliminate what he described as an awkward transitional phase into the or-

ganization for new members.

As a result, he said he plans to continue the senate mentorship program resurrected this semester by his brother, who said he intended to provide an effective means of developing new leaders.

During his time on the senate working beside his brother, Jason Sandidge said he gathered invaluable insight into the inner workings of the body and expressed gratitude for the advice he said Isaac Sandidge was consistently happy to provide.

“He offered me advice the entire year, even when I was running against him,” Jason Sandidge said. “He told me exactly how the job goes, but there’s still a lot more I’ll need to prepare for.”

In the meantime, Sandidge said he wants to thank his constituents both on and outside student government for granting him the opportunity to serve.

Erica Whelan can be reached at 581-7942 or elwhelan@eiu.edu.

JOBS, from page 1

Career Services, is another great tool available to Eastern students in search of a job. Panther Recruiting sorts through jobs to avoid scam companies that infest other sites.

“Panther Recruiting is a great way for students to find jobs, regardless of their major,” said Wendy Downing, graduate assistant at Career Services.

Another thing to remember when

searching for a job is not to be discouraged by qualifications.

Daniel Hajek can be reached at 581-7942 or djhajek@eiu.

PROFESSOR, from page 1

of his cancer in February. The letter has been published in the May 2010 issue of Agora, the online journal written by members of the English department.

Spear said in his letter that, by the time the cancer was detected, it had already spread to a number of vital systems and organs. His letter can be seen in full on Agora’s website, <http://www.eiu.edu/~agora/>. Spear’s wife, Karen

Hart, is an instructor in the School of Family and Consumer Sciences.

The memorial for Spear will be from 5 to 7 p.m. Tuesday at the Adams Funeral Chapel, 2330 Shawnee Dr. in Charleston.

Sarah Jean Bresnahan can be reached at 581-7942 or at dennewsdesk@gmail.com

SENIORS, from page 1

studio focus, but also a long list of memorable experiences. Since his freshman year at Eastern, Winston has strived to get involved in every facet of Eastern’s campus. From music, to sports, to art, to new life experiences, Winston has made his mark on Eastern.

Over the past few years Winston has taken advantage of every opportunity presented to him, participating in and winning the competition ‘So you think you can rap?’ which secured him a spot opening for Lupe Fiasco.

Winston also set a new high jump record at Eastern jumping 7 feet in a recent track meet.

“Looking back on it all, I’ll re-

member meeting new people, getting involved with campus as far as being on the track team, opening for Lupe Fiasco, breaking the school record, going through new life experiences, as well as knowing how to deal with them,” Winston said. After graduating, Winston plans to continue on with the pursuits that helped make his college experience great.

“I plan to continue on with track, as well as get a job as a graphic designer. Possibly continue on with the music,” Winston said.

Shea Brunson can be reached at 581-7942 or sebrunson@eiu.edu.

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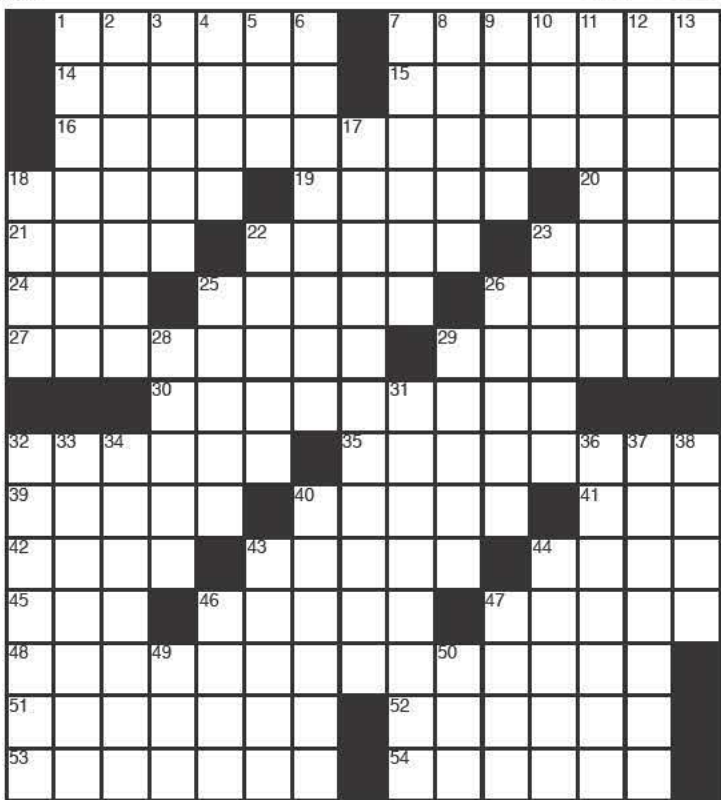
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- ACROSS
1 Nightclub in the Trump Taj
7 Like some party prizes
14 Part of the iris bordering the pupil
15 Getting there
16 Famous bodybuilder
18 "On Golden Pond" wife
19 "Closer Than Ever," e.g.
20 Fed. management org.
21 Zoologist Fossey
22 Permanent solutions
23 Resort town on I-70
24 TV lawyer Stone
25 Splotchy apparel, familiarly
26 Often-used word in Matthew 1
27 Holds over?
29 Apollonian
30 In days of knights?
32 Factors in handwriting analysis
35 Oldest of a literary quartet
39 Unwieldy ships
- DOWN
40 Song from Sondheim's "Into the Woods"
41 \_\_\_ Claire
42 11-time N.C.A.A. basketball champs
43 Racehorse whose 1955 Kentucky Derby win kept Nashua from taking the Triple Crown
44 Hide
45 "Laus \_\_\_" (words atop the Washington Monument)
46 New York City's first Jewish mayor
47 "In Search of Identity" autobiographer
48 Famous body builder?
51 All at once
52 When data's been \_\_\_ ...
53 ... you may have to \_\_\_ it
54 Lettuce



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- 4 Cricketer's action
5 Mobile home: Abbr.
6 Disapproving comment
7 "Speed" star
8 CD, e.g.?
9 Priceless?
10 Bewilderment
11 Carousel riders?
12 Summer wind in the Mediterranean
13 Nickname of Chancellor Konrad Adenauer
17 Balancing act?
18 Broadway star Linda who won \$100,000 on "Star Search"
22 Flings
23 Actress Felton of 1950s TV's "December Bride"
25 Barrows
26 Radiant
28 See 50-Down
29 Makes binding
31 Back in business
32 Some people do it to think
33 Swiss canton or its capital
34 1932 song or 1984 movie
36 More frail
37 Gradually quieting, in music
38 Jabba the \_\_\_ of "Star Wars"
40 Reveille, e.g.
43 Just know
44 Michelangelo's country
46 Cordage fiber
47 Coveleski of Cooperstown
49 Governed
50 With 28-Down, its flag has a lion holding a sword

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PANTHERS, from page 12

quarterback Tony Romo returned to the field where he became a legend Oct. 17. The Eastern football team faced off against Tennessee Tech that day, but at halftime Romo stepped on the field to accept his framed, retired Panther jersey. Also, he was acknowledged as an Eastern Hall of Fame inductee.

4. Payton stars at gala

The 2010 Athletic Director's Gala was an overwhelming success this year, with the help of a special guest, as the department raised \$59,500.

Fresh off winning a Super Bowl win 17 days earlier, New Orleans Saints' head coach Sean Payton traveled to Effingham to support Eastern Athletics at the gala.

Together, Payton and Athletic Director Barbara Burke unveiled a facility vision for the future of Eastern athletics. The vision includes a new football stadium, renovations to Lantz Arena and two other new facilities.

5. Gridiron champs

The Eastern football team made an about-face this season after its 5-7 re-

cord in 2008. This season, the Panthers were 8-4 and won the OVC Championship.

After winning the OVC Championship, the Panthers advanced to the FCS playoffs where they played top-seeded Southern Illinois-Carbondale. The Salukis routed the Panthers, 48-7. Head coach Bob Spoo was named OVC Coach of the Year and was one of five FCS finalists for the 2009 Liberty Mutual Coach of the Year Award.

6. Martin quits men's basketball team

On Jan. 19, the Eastern men's basketball team lost Romain Martin, who was the team's leading scorer three years running. Martin said his frustration with injuries was the reason he quit the team, after having missed the first five weeks of the season.

After coming back on Dec. 22, Martin played a limited role on the team, averaging 4.4 points per game, 10.4 points below his career average.

Then, on Jan. 19, a press release announced that Martin had chosen to quit the team.

7. Volleyball coach resigns

After an 11-20 season, the Eastern volleyball head coach Alan Segal resigned citing a desire to pursue other professional opportunities.

Segal was only the head coach for one year, but resigned Jan. 20. He said that he was interested in pursuing other opportunities, like re-entering the hotel and restaurant business or taking a coaching job elsewhere.

8. Another sad ending for women's basketball

For the third season in row, an Ohio Valley Conference Tournament title wasn't in the cards for the Eastern women's basketball team. And for the second year in a row, Austin Peay was the kryptonite.

Despite winning the OVC regular season title and having the most successful senior class in program history, the Panthers couldn't take care of business in Nashville, Tenn.

The Panthers lost to Austin Peay, 69-60, in Bridgestone Arena.

Despite losing the tournament title, the Panthers were guaranteed a

spot in the postseason Women's National Invitation Tournament, the program's first postseason tournament appearance since 1988. Eastern lost in the first round to Marquette.

9. Eastern celebrates history

This season was the 100th for the Eastern men's basketball program, and the athletic department held an event celebrating the historic milestone.

During the event, which was held Feb. 26 and 27, members of the Panthers' All-Century Team were honored. Also, six of the top teams in Eastern men's basketball history were recognized.

Five of the seven living members on the All-Century Team were in attendance for the celebration. A logo, recognizing the 100 years of men's basketball, was a spectacle on the basketball court in Lantz Arena all season.

10. Men's soccer on the move


The Eastern men's soccer team is ending their run as a member of the

Missouri Valley Conference and rejoining the Summit League in 2011, which they belonged to from 1983-1995.

As a member of the Summit League, formerly known as the Mid-Continent Conference, the Panthers won at least a share of the conference championship five times.

The MVC era will end after the Fall 2010 season but the Panthers are expected to play MVC competition during non-conference play when they make their move to the Summit League.

While there were many intriguing stories during the 2009-2010 Eastern athletics season, there were many famous names, too. Every year there is a different player who shines on his or her team. This year, the list is as good as any other year.



For an in-depth version of this story, visit:  
**DENnews.com**

FINALLY, from page 12

The multiple OVC championships, school records, personal bests and watching the athletes compete was the most fun. Sure it last five to six hours, but there is so much going on. People should really make time to see these athletes compete. Covering athletes like Kandace Arnold, Megan Gingerich, Zye Boey, Dan Stackel-jahn, Nicole Flounders, Erin O'Grady and David Holm was an honor.

Men's basketball — This is a sport that has been at its highs and lows. No NCAA infractions, but just bad and good in a stretch of four years. Lantz Arena had some great wins: Mike Robinson hitting the game-winning shot against Arkansas State, Julio Anthony hitting the game-winner against Morehead State and Tyler Laser hitting

the game-winning free throws against Morehead State. We'll have to see what's in store for next year.

Wrestling — If there's anyone nicer than Ralph McAusland, I haven't met that person. It's a shame things ended the way they did, but if you haven't met this guy, you should.

Swimming — Matt Bos has the program on the right track. Bos took over for Ray Padovan and these teams are competitive. With college programs like rowing and tennis, it's nice to see that Eastern still backs swimming when no OVC schools sponsor the sport.

Women's basketball — I could write a novel on them. And although I didn't cover the team this year, I got to see the program really grow. I'm going to miss all the small stories like

Marie Baker and her taco challenge or Maggie Kloak forgetting her shoes on the trip to Jacksonville State. I'll miss head coach Brady Sallee's gift of gab. Boy, did he have a whale of an answer for tough questions.

Rugby — If Sallee doesn't fill your recorder, then Eastern head coach Frank Graziano will. Graziano loves this sport and you can't fault the man for trying to produce and teach the sport no one really understands.

Men's Soccer — While I didn't cover this team as much, I always enjoyed the home crowds and watching Eastern head coach Adam Howarth's teams compete at Lakeside Field.

Women's Soccer — I talked to Summer Perala once, and I've seen her coach. Gotta love that enthusiasm

and that's what this past senior class deserved. While this program was up and down, I think there's great things in store with Perala in charge now.

Cross Country — It's hard to fault the Eastern teams for not winning. They're competing against Kenyans from Eastern Kentucky. Both teams have had a low point, but as part of the track and field program, which always constant competing, I'm sure they'll do just fine.

Volleyball — Watching Maren Crabtree, Eliza Zwettler and Alex Zwettler set or hit the ball was engaging. These truly are some great athletes. I guess if there's only one sport that's struggled with off the court issues, I guess I can't complain. But the people who suffer in this are the athletes.

Football — I really wish I had covered this sport more. Beating Jacksonville State twice in two years, especially watching them on TV in the 2007 season was awesome. Watching Michael Torres run back a touchdown, his first.

As you can see, I've gone over my word limit. If you check the column online, I've listed the past four years of top sports moments at Eastern done by *The Daily Eastern News* sports staff. Check them out if you're graduating this year or even if you're not. You know a little something more about Eastern sports than Tony Romo and the trio of NFL head coaches.

Kevin Murphy can be reached at 581-7944 or kjmurphy@eiu.edu

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BASEBALL | EASTERN VS TENNESSEE MARTIN

# Doubleheader intensifies standings race

By Bob Bajek  
Sports Editor

Despite reeling from two devastating losses, the Eastern baseball team will host Tennessee Martin at 1 p.m. Saturday for the first of a doubleheader in Coaches Stadium to battle for possible playoff position.

This match-up has more at stake than a simple three games. Eastern is trying to gain the sixth best record out of a 10-team to make the Ohio Valley Conference Tournament, a shot at glory. Tennessee Martin (19-21, 4-8 OVC) is tied for eighth in league standings, while Eastern (11-28, 6-8 OVC) is in seventh. Both squads trail Morehead State (23-19, 5-6 OVC) for the coveted sixth spot.

“Our goal every weekend is two out of three,” Gee said. “Our major goal for the rest of the year is to make the OVC Tournament. If we make the OVC Tournament, everyone starts 0-0 and everyone has a chance to win.”

Gee is riding a significantly hot bat by hitting 5-for-5 against Southern Illinois-Carbondale, with this being the first five-hit game by a Panther this season. This also was a career high for Gee.

“It’s about coming out early,” Gee said. “Baseball is about making adjustments and my swing has been a little off lately. Even at Murray State, I had a pretty decent weekend but my swing didn’t feel right. I went out here with Coach (Schmitz) and made a minor adjustment with my stance in the box and I really felt more comfortable and was able to see pitches better Wednesday.”

Tennessee Martin has one of the most potent offenses in the OVC, hitting .322 as a team and blasting 52 homers. The Skyhawks feature the dangerous senior catcher Ty Nelson, who is batting .416 for fifth in the



AUDREY SAWYER | THE DAILY EASTERN NEWS  
Senior first baseman Alex Gee tosses the ball to junior pitcher Brent McNeil to get the out at first during the game against Southern Illinois Wednesday afternoon at Coaches Stadium. Gee had one run and five hits against SIU.

league, has hit seven home runs and has 38 RBIs.

Besides Nelson, Tennessee Martin juniors third/first combination of Trey Karlen and Wes Patterson along with sophomore right fielder Jordan Owen and have 32 home runs between them for the Skyhawks. These batters also averaged .344 this season.

“They are such an offensive team that I wish our football team could stop them defensively,” Schmitz said. “The key with looking at an offensive team is when you can look at some of the scores that put up around the league. They have put up unbelievable numbers. There is really no sense in talking about it, if we are going to

swing the bats ourselves, it will take the pressure off our team.”

Losing this past week has not been enjoyable for Gee and his teammates, getting blasted by Missouri 10-2 Tuesday and losing in the 10th to the Salukis 8-6 Wednesday.

Gee said Eastern’s blowing late inning leads is disheartening.

“It’s very, very frustrating to keep losing games like this,” Gee said. “In a positive way, we never had a game like this all year where we blew a lead and then came back in the ninth and battled back.”

Bob Bajek can be reached at 581-7944 or [rbajek@eiu.edu](mailto:rbajek@eiu.edu).

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TRACK & FIELD | OVC PREVIEW

# ‘It’s going to be a real dogfight’

## Defending champs look to retain titles

By Kevin Murphy  
Staff Reporter

Eastern head track coach Tom Akers said his biggest concerns this week are injuries.

Those injuries could lead to the downfall of the Eastern track and field teams as they try to defend their Ohio Valley Conference Outdoor Championships today and Saturday in Cookeville, Tenn.

Both Eastern teams swept the indoor OVC titles in February and will look to do the same this weekend.

His teams have been able to still roll capturing a combined four team titles at the Western Illinois Lee Calhoun Invitational and Southern Illinois Edwardsville’s Gateway Classic this spring.

The Panthers did the same thing last year (both teams won at WIU and the men’s team won at Memphis, while the women’s team was second) en route to both team titles at the OVC outdoor championships.

Track events start at 2:15 p.m. today, and field events start at 1 p.m. today. Track events continue at 10 a.m. Saturday, and field events continue at 8 a.m. Saturday.

All events are at Tucker Stadium. It’s the first time in 32 years that Tennessee Tech has hosted the OVC meet and the first-ever for the women’s division.

Running and jumping events will be held in Tucker Stadium, while the

throwing events (discus, javelin, hammer and shot put) will take place on the field adjacent to the Tennessee Tech softball field, just west of Willow Avenue.

“We’re on a roll,” Akers said. “We hope that trend continues. Our work will be cut on that end. You gotta watch them all. If you don’t score your points, then your rival will.”

The women’s team is seeking its third conference title in history with outdoor titles in 2007 and 2009. The men’s team has won 10 outdoor titles.

There will be five men’s teams competing and nine women’s teams competing.

Since SIUE is not a member of the OVC yet, the Eastern men’s track team has 12 of the top marks in the OVC heading into the meet.

The Eastern women’s track team has five of the top marks in the OVC heading into the meet.

Last year Eastern finished with 227 points to win while Eastern Kentucky was in second with 141, followed by Southeast Missouri with 124, Tennessee State with 45, Texas-Pan American with 26 and Morehead State with 6.

Texas-Pan American is not competing as an associate member of the OVC anymore.

At last year’s meet on the women’s side the Panthers finished with 188 points while Southeast Missouri placed second with 155,

Murray State finished third with 91.5 points, Jacksonville State followed in fourth with 78.5 and Austin Peay rounded out the top five with 76.5.

“I think we’re solid,” Akers said.



DANNY DAMIANI | THE DAILY EASTERN NEWS

Junior Justin Washington throws a shot put during practice on April 22. The men and women’s track teams are competing in the Outdoor Track and Field Championships this weekend at Tucker Stadium in Cookeville, Tenn.

“Some event areas are stronger than others. I don’t think we have a weak event. I’m pleased with we’re where at.”

The indoor championships were a close call for both squads, but they have returned red-shirt sophomore Zye Boey, senior David Holm and senior Shawana Smith for the outdoor season to help them.

The women’s team edged Eastern Kentucky 142-128 in the team standings and the men’s team battled past Southeast Missouri 178-150.5 at the indoor championships.

Eastern Kentucky finished third with 88.5 points and Tennessee State was fourth with 71 in the men’s race.

“We’re going to have our work cut out for us in the outdoor season,” Akers said in March. “It was not an easy victory by any means on either side of the ball.”

On the women’s side, Southeast Missouri finished third with 93 points followed by Austin Peay (72), Murray State (67), Jacksonville State (54), Tennessee State (42) and Tennessee Tech (36).

“It’s going to be a real dogfight,” Akers said.

Of the weekly outdoor awards this season, the Panthers have earned eight awards among seven different people.

“This (year) is one of our strongest teams,” Akers said.

After the OVC championships, the Panthers will send athletes Indiana’s Billy Hayes Classic on May 7 in Bloomington, Ind.

Kevin Murphy can be reached at 581-7944 or kjmurphy@eiu.edu.

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AMIR PRELLBERG | FILE PHOTO | THE DAILY EASTERN NEWS

Junior running back Mon Williams breaks free of a tackle against Penn State University October 10 at Beaver Sta-

# EASTERN PANTHERS '09-'10 Victory, tragedy, disappointment & aspiration

By Alex McNamee  
Assistant Sports Editor

The 2009-10 sports year was busy as always. This year, Eastern was rocked by two coaching deaths, welcomed home two legendary alums, said goodbye to three football players turned NFL pros, watched two teams advance to national postseason tournaments, witnessed the men's basketball team lose a star, the volleyball team lose its coach, and celebrat-

ed 100 years of men's basketball.

Out of everything that happened this year in Eastern athletics, there are ten stories that stand out from the rest.

## 1. Coaching deaths

November 4 and 28 were dark days for Eastern athletics as the women's basketball program and football program lost Jackie Moore and Jeff Hoover.

Moore, who died of valvular disease, collapsed while working out on

campus Nov. 4 on Eastern's campus. She was taken to Sarah Bush Lincoln Hospital and was pronounced dead at 9:44 p.m. Moore's death came three days prior to the Panthers opening their 2009-10 season with an exhibition against Illinois-Springfield. The game was canceled.

Hoover died in a car accident south of Effingham following the Panthers' Football Championship Series (FCS) playoff game against Southern Illinois-Carbondale. The Panthers lost

the game 48-7.

## 2. Hudson drafted by NFL's Bengals

Former Eastern offensive lineman Otis Hudson got a call from the NFL's Cincinnati Bengals April 24. The voice on the other end of the phone told Hudson that the Bengals were going to draft him.

In the fifth round of the NFL Draft, Hudson's name was called and he became the first Panther to be

picked in the NFL Draft since 1999.

After the draft was over, two more Panthers were given opportunities with NFL teams. Former offensive lineman Chris Campbell signed a contract with the Green Bay Packers. Former kicker Austin Signor was invited to the New York Giants' rookie camp.

## 3. Romo returns

Former Panther quarterback and current Dallas Cowboys starting  
PANTHERS, page 9



FILE PHOTO | THE DAILY EASTERN NEWS

Eastern offensive line coach Jeff Hoover, shown here during the Nov. 19, 2009 game against Tennessee State at O'Brien Field, died Nov. 28, 2009 after the car he was riding in rolled over when the driver swerved to avoid hitting a deer on Interstate 57.



KAROLINA STRACK | FILE PHOTO | THE DAILY EASTERN NEWS

Maggie Kloak, senior forward, cries on the sidelines as the Panthers continue to trail behind Austin Peay in the Ohio Valley Conference championship game on March 6 at Bridgestone Arena in Nashville Tenn. Austin Peay beat Eastern 69-60.

## VIEWS

# Finally it's over: Trudging through seasons of memories

How do you pack in four years of memorable Eastern sports moments in less than 600 words?

I'm going to attempt that. And if I've forgotten anyone or any event, please e-mail me. After so many matches, games, athletes and coaches — they all run together.

After writing for the sports section for four years, my college career will come to a close. Like an athlete's eligibility, my time has come. It's time now to reflect.

Baseball — I've seen the ups and



Kevin Murphy

downs. A team that had Erik Huber didn't make the Ohio Valley Conference Tournament, a team that runs the table at the OVC Tournament

and reaches the NCAA Tournament and an OVC regular season championship team. Who knows about this year's team? I will miss Eastern head baseball coach Jim Schmitz, who always had a wise comment or wanted a fall game covered, but most often seemed like a father figure.

Softball — What an exciting sport. It's always a guessing game with Eastern head softball coach Kim Schuette's squad. Too many close games, but fun at the same time. It is heart wrenching though to see the final at-bat if the

Panthers lose, but it's rewarding to see that walk-off win at the same time.

Golf — I've seen about 80 Imburgias come through the program, but I love to see the team and individual titles. I still can't forget Carrie Riordan winning the OVC Tournament or Anthony Imburgia winning the Kauai Collegiate was a special treat as well.

Tennis — For those who did not get to see Sandra Sasidharan, Natalie Martin or Hayley Homburg, you really missed some superb tennis. These are the matches you watch on TV.

There's yelling, there's screaming. I'll miss that too. And being in Jeff Rutherford's class I was able to see him earn OVC honors again, and there are honors something well deserved. He's battled at the No. 1 position and saw his team reach three OVC tournaments.

Outdoor, Indoor Track — I've spent way too much time out at the track or at the fieldhouse. But they have the greatest stories, and these athletes are successful at the same time.

FINALLY, page 9

## EASTERN SPORTS SCHEDULE

### Men's outdoor track

Friday - OVC Outdoor Championships  
TBA

### Women's outdoor track

Friday - OVC Outdoor Championships  
TBA

### Softball

Saturday at Tennessee State  
Noon - Nashville, Tenn.

### Baseball

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### Softball

Sunday at Tennessee State  
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### MLB

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### NBA

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8:30 p.m. on ESPN

### MLB

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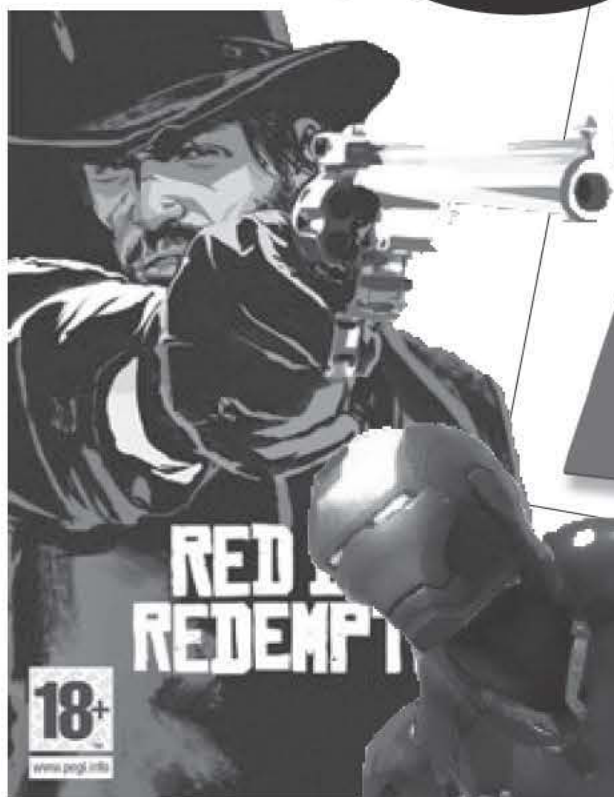
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see pages 2-3

## Comedy class takes the stage

### STUDENTS' HOMEWORK TO GIVE LAUGHS WITH STAND-UP, SKITS

By Michael Cortez  
 Staff reporter

Students in the Laughter and Comedy class were given a choice between writing a term paper and performing a stand-up comedy routine.

The students who went with the second option will be presenting their routines today from 7 to 9 p.m. at the 7th Street Underground in the Martin Luther King Jr. University Union. The show is called Kilgore's 2nd Rate Comedy Troupe Presents: 2nd Rate Comedy Show and admission is free.

According to fliers, the show is not recommended for children, small animals or

the politically correct. Crude language will be a part of the show.

The cast of the comedy troupe is made up of a class of English majors and is taught by English professor John Kilgore. According to the syllabus, the purpose of the course is to "provide an inquiry into the nature of comedy, the nature of laughter and the surprisingly variable connections between the two."

At first, there was not an option to perform the stand-up routine. Kilgore had originally planned to have the students write a term paper on different comedic topics such as laughter and cruelty, laughter and groupness, and the sense of nonsense. The requirements for the paper was it needs to be eight

to 10 pages and is worth 35 percent of the final grade.

However, Darius Jutzi, a graduate in English education, and Brandon Kujawa, a junior English education major, approached Kilgore with their idea for the stand-up routine two weeks into the semester.

Kilgore accepted the idea and laid down the guidelines that every person has to perform for at least six to 10 minutes of personal stand-up. There will also be four group skits.

"Last time, the students performed the skits during class time," Kilgore said. "Now, they are putting on a show outside of class time. They are doing all of this on their own."

The two are very good leaders."

Since then, the two were in charge of putting everything together. They had to reserve the location, coordinate rehearsals, decide how the show layout, and other details.

"We thought it would be easy from the beginning," Kujawa said. "But it took a lot of work. We've really been working on it this last month."

Jutzi and Kujawa have been putting on rehearsals in 7th Street outside of class time. There, the students give their performance and are critiqued so that the students can improve on their stand-up comedy.



# Graduation just a dot on the timeline of life

As the semester comes to a close, fruition is beginning to take place for me and many other seniors leaving Charleston behind.

Sure, I didn't get as good of grades as I should have. Sure, I missed more classes than I would have hoped, but if I had to do it all again, I wouldn't change a thing.

I'm sure many of you have heard this before, and I am positive that other people meant it before me.

What I failed to realize before this week of school is that graduation doesn't mean all that much to me.

Many people will tell you they can't wait to graduate and move on with their lives. They will tell you their schooling here at Eastern was superb, and they loved the friends and professors they met along the way.

I'm here to tell you, you've been lied to.

Students may be ready to move on with their lives, but it is truly surprising the vast number of students who don't want to graduate just yet.

It could be boiled down to the job market or economy. It could be because they aren't ready to leave their friends, but I would be willing to bet that a majority of the campus is like me and asking themselves, "What now?"

For me, college was all just a test of what the body can endure mentally and physically. The test is up and it seems as though I passed,



Brad York

but barely.

I leave Eastern behind a more calloused, more intelligent, dumb person, to put it politely.

In this manifested, disgusted fruition, I still manage to find hopes and goals on a road I have yet to travel.

For most, this is a job or beginning a family. For me, I look to the arts.

I look forward to hearing new music in my new hometown. I look forward to watching movies in theaters I've yet to visit. I look forward to watching plays in theaters I could only dream of visiting. I look forward to all the things I have been doing while at school.

Life doesn't begin or end after graduation.

Everyone is quick to call it one thing or another, but the way I see it, life simply continues.

Everyone loves to place this massive pedestal on graduating, but honestly, I don't see much of a change.

I have worked at *The Daily Eastern News* for a few years now, and I feel properly trained for what lies ahead of me. I have taken classes that have taught me that learning is never over.

This is what I have learned: It isn't over until it is over.

The hardest struggles still lie ahead of me. The accomplishments I hope for myself remain as long-term goals. The love I have to give is still yet to give.

College is not something used to make you better than other applicants. College is not simply a placeholder before the rest of your life. College isn't about the parties and the friends. College is just a dot on a timeline.

On the timeline of life I have many of these dots: My first kiss, my first ticket, my first fight, my ex-girlfriend, my parents' divorce, my first time hearing "Tubthumping." None of these dots are more important than another one. They all make me.

College is about yourself and nothing more.

Everyone takes something different from the experience, but the only thing that remains common is it all makes you.

So life will continue on after graduating, I assure you. You will not be reborn, and you won't have made a complete 180-degree spin.

If you are true to yourself then what should happen will happen. College was simply here to help that understanding along.

It was in my head that I should feel happy, excited or possibly sad for leaving college, but I'm not leaving college. I'm continuing through life with the weight of a college degree on my shoulders.

## Summer music preview rundown

By Adam Mohebbi  
Staff Reporter

Music fans everywhere are eagerly anticipating new summer releases to provide a soundtrack for their barbecues, road trips and beach excursions.

Hip-hop aficionados can expect new albums to drop from Plies's "Goon Affiliated," Lil Jon's "Crunk Rock," Drake's "Thank Me Later," Chamillionaire's "Venom," Eminem's "Recovery," 3OH!3's "Streets Of Gold," Three 6 Mafia's "Laws Of Power," a debut album from Outkast's Big Boi "Sir Lucious Left Foot: The Son of Chico Dusty" and a currently untitled release from T.I.

Shea Keating, a sophomore elementary education major and lead guitarist for local metal band Cured by Fire, is looking forward to Godsmack's "The Oracle" and In This Moment's "A Star Crossed Wasteland."

A few more metal albums are expected this summer as well, including new albums from Papa Roach ti-

tled "To Be Loved," Ozzy Osbourne's "Scream," and even a new record from the venerable Korn titled "Korn III - Remember Who You Are."

The rock industry is set to produce the highest number of new albums this summer. Practically every subgenre is represented, with offerings from classic rock artists such as The Steve Miller Band with "Bingo," Tom Petty and The Heartbreakers with "Mojo," and Stone Temple Pilots with a new eponymous album.

Eric Fitts, a junior jazz studies major and guitarist in Eastern's Jazz Lab Band, highly recommends the new Minus the Bear album, titled "Omni."

Alternative fans can also look forward to new albums. These include Kean's "Night Train," Band Of Horses' "Infinite Arms," The Black Keys' "Brothers," Deftones' "Diamond Eyes," Against Me!'s "White Crosses," Saving Abel's "Miss America," Tokyo Police Club's "Champ," and We Are Scientists with "Barbara."

There are plenty of pop releas-

es coming out as well, with offerings from Macy Gray with "The Sellout," LCD Soundsystem with "This Is Happening," Jack Johnson's "To the Sea," Christina Aguilera's "Bionic," Chemical Brothers' "Further," Cyndi Lauper's "Memphis Blues," and Kylie Minogue with "Aphrodite."

Last but not least, country fans will be gifted with albums from The Wreckers' Jessica Harp with "A Woman Needs," Mary Gauthier's "The Foundling," Jewel's "Sweet and Wild," and Sheryl Crow with "100 Miles From Memphis."

No matter what musical preference a listener may have, they'll be sure to find something to enjoy this summer.

Bands as diverse as 3OH!3, Tom Petty and the Heartbreakers and Hanson are all releasing new material that is sure to fit the bill for any summer gathering. The only problem is going to be choosing what to listen to.

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# Movie sequels anticipated as box office hits

By Colleen Kitka  
Assistant Verge Editor

Summer does not officially start until June 21, but the highly anticipated summer movie season starts long before that in early May.

Many of the most highly anticipated summer movies are riding off the success of previous films and established fan bases. Some of these include "Iron Man 2," "Toy Story 3," "Shrek Forever After," "Sex and the City 2" and "The Twilight Saga: Eclipse."

Robin Murray, an English professor and film studies minor adviser, speculates what the early months will hold.

"Remakes and sequels seem to be the story this summer with April and May releases like 'Wall Street 2' featuring Michael Douglas and Shia LaBeouf, 'Iron Man 2,' 'Robin Hood' with Russell Crowe and 'Nightmare on Elm Street' with Jackie Earle Haley, setting the tone for the rest of the summer."

"Iron Man 2," to be released on May 7, is said to be one of the biggest blockbusters

this summer.

Joe Heumann, a communication studies professor who teaches film studies, lists "Iron Man 2" as one of the top three.

"'Iron Man 2' is going to be big just based on the success of the first one and the on-going success that you see in the adds and the buzz that you get by looking on the Internet to see how many people want to go see this film," Heumann said.

Heumann lists "Toy Story 3" at the top of the list too. He said the previous "Toy Story" films were well received, grossed closed to \$80 million between tickets sales and DVD sales and has a high recognition rate from the billions of dollars worth of "Toy Story" toys sold.

"It has a really great halo effect because people who say it when they were 10 are going to see it when they are 20," said Heumann, "or people who were 20 when watched it will bring their five-year old kids to see it now that they are like 30 or 32. It is a film that will draw in people from across the spectrum."

"Sex and the City 2" will draw different crowds this summer because it is mar-

keted toward women, especially those over the age of 20.

Murray said "Sex and the City 2" is the only chick-flick getting air time this summer, besides "The Twilight Saga: Eclipse."

Five of Access Hollywood's most anticipated movies for 2010 are to be released during the summer. They include "Iron Man 2," "Robin Hood," "The A-Team," "The Twilight Saga: Eclipse," and "Inception" starring Leonardo DiCaprio.

Original films like "The Sorcerer's Apprentice" with Nicolas Cage, "Letters to Juliet" and more than 75 other feature films face tough odds.

"If you take the two animated films, 'Iron Man,' and 'Sex and the City' will take the oxygen right out of the other films, just based on the success of those films because they are all sequels."

The studios planned their release dates carefully so no two highly anticipated films are released the same weekend. They also planned it so movie goers, who do not want to see action-thrillers or animations, will have more to choose from with the less highly anticipated films.

## SUMMER FILMS RELEASE DATES

### MAY

- 7 — "Iron Man 2"
- 14 — "Robin Hood"
- 14 — "Letters to Juliet"
- 21 — "Shrek Forever After"
- 28 — "Sex and the City 2"

### JUNE

- 11 — "The Karate Kid"
- 11 — "The A-Team"
- 18 — "Toy Story 3"
- 30 — "The Twilight Saga: Eclipse"

### JULY

- 16 — "Inception"
- 16 — "The Sorcerer's Apprentice"

# Summer unleashes variety of video gaming abundance

By Jose Gonzalez  
Staff Reporter

With the spring semester almost complete, summer is on its way, which also means another batch of summer video games are also released.

The three major game systems: the Xbox 360, PlayStation 3 and Nintendo Wii will showcase their newest and best games at the Electronic Entertainment Expo and to fans.

Michael Lattimore, a junior political science major, said he is looking forward to the various sports games, first-person shooters and fighting games on the way for the summer. These include "Tiger Woods PGA Tour '11," "Madden NFL '11," more "Call of Duty" games and "Tekken" games.

Zach Schwulst, a freshman pre-business major, said his Xbox 360 will keep him occupied for the entire summer, along with the batch of new releases.

"The summer releases coming out are either sequels or games produced by companies that have

strong reputations for cranking out high-quality games," Schwulst said.

Schwulst said some games he is looking forward to playing this summer are "Halo Reach," "Splinter Cell: Conviction," "Red Dead Redemption" and "Mass Effect 2."

The 2010 summer looks to be one of the best. With releases like "Green Day: Rock Band," "Madden NFL '11," "Kane & Lynch 2: Dog Days," "Alan Wake" and "UFC Undisputed 2010" on the way, the summer releases look to be a potential bag of goodies. Here are a select few:

### Green Day: Rock Band

As their popularity rises from their latest album "21st Century Breakdown," Green Day is finally getting a Rock Band game of its own.

After the success of "The Beatles: Rock Band," Harmonix and MTV Games got together and decided to give the honors of the next Rock Band game to Green Day.

Some of the songs featured on the game, according to GameStop.com, will be "American Idiot,"

"When I Come Around," "Restless Heart Syndrome," "Good Riddance (Time Of Your Life)," "Murder City" and "Warning."

Along with that, those who pre-order the game at any available GameStop store will receive tracks like "21 Guns," "Know Your Enemy," and "Last of the American Girls" as downloadable content.

"Green Day: Rock Band" officially releases to the Xbox 360, PS3, and Wii systems June 8.

### Kane & Lynch 2: Dog Days

With its release on November 13, 2007 to the Xbox 360 and PlayStation 3, "Kane and Lynch: Dead Men" set a scorching pace of blood, guts and violence, resulting in massive popularity, despite several gaming websites official ratings of the game.

The sequel, "Kane and Lynch 2: Dog Days" will pick up with the same amount of intensity and violence as its predecessor.

According to IGN.com, the story starts after the events of "Kane and Lynch: Dead Men." Here, the lead character Kane had to make a

difficult choice of taking down The 7, or going off with his daughter.

The sequel will follow Lynch, as he has makes his way to Shanghai. There, he calls his buddy Kane and asks for his help in one last big score. With no objections, Kane obliges to secure money for his daughter's survival.

Combined with the revamped third-person shooting style, the violent shadows of the original game and controlling Lynch, who is a full-blown psycho, "Kane and Lynch 2: Dog Days" is a potential title that gamers of mature ages should not overlook for one second.

"Kane and Lynch 2: Dog Days" officially releases to the 360, PS3 and PC Aug. 24.

### Madden NFL '11

With the announcement of Super Bowl MVP and New Orleans Saints quarterback Drew Brees as the official cover-boy for "Madden NFL '11," Madden gamers of all experience types and ages will be paying attention to see if Drew Brees can break the fabled "Mad-

den Curse."

The "Madden Curse" began with Madden NFL 2002, and cover-boy Daunte Culpepper, who then was the quarterback for the Minnesota Vikings.

Once an athlete appeared on the cover, their following season would be horrendous. Stars like Marshall Faulk, Michael Vick, Donovan McNabb, Vince Young, Ray Lewis and Brett Favre have all appeared on the cover, and have fallen to the curse.

According to GameStop.com, this year's game will feature an all-new GameFlow playcall system, which places the player inside the helmet of an NFL QB.

The game also has the ability to play full-length games in 30 minutes and offers the perspective that virtually places players right on the field, as if they were experiencing the NFL for themselves.

"Madden NFL '11" officially releases to the 360, PS3, Wii PlayStation 2 and PSP Aug. 10.

*Jose Gonzalez can be reached at 581-7942 or jlgonzales@eiu.edu.*

## COMEDY, from page 1B

This will be a first time for many of the students to tell jokes on stage. However, all of the students taking part in the show feel it is much better than writing another English term paper.

"It's just something different," said Kevin Powers, a junior English major. "A lot of teachers in English classes are just about papers, papers, papers. This is something new and interesting."

Powers will be telling jokes on the stages and plans to use observational humor and jokes about the bar scenes in colleges.

Even though it is not a term paper, students will have to use what they have learned in class about delivering comedy.

Still, many of the students said the routine will be fun and a good way to use what they learned.

"I can watch Comedy Central and say I've been doing research for my term paper," junior English major Justin Kimes said. "I've been trying to get notes on delivery and tim-



MICHAEL CORTEZ | ON THE VERGE

Justin Sudkamp, a senior English major, practices his stand-up comedy routine for English professor John Kilgore's Second Rate Comedy Troupe which will present the "2nd Rate Comedy Show".

ing. I'll try to get punch lines in there as well."

Kimes said he watches all kinds of stand-up comedians in order to get his influence.

Some of the bigger names he mentioned were Dane Cook and Dimetri Martin. Kimes said a topic he will be going over in his routine is about the downfalls of being short and his

job at Wal-Mart.

"I learned more about comedy by working with other people and watching their techniques, comedic timing and punch lines," said senior English major, Amanda Smith.

Smith will tell personal stories about her life and give the pros and cons of being a twin, among other things.

Jutzi and Kujawa said they are glad to see the students are enjoying themselves more and more as the date for the show approaches.

"I was surprised to see the funny talent come out of these guys," Jutzi said. "It's good to see what funny things get yanked out of them. We know they will be really goofy."

"Every class we go to, we are always laughing," Smith said. "I think it will be a great show. We are coming together and working together. We have fun, we laugh at it, and I hope that everyone else does too."

*Micheal Cortez can be reached at 581-7942 or mjccortez@eiu.edu.*



# Gilliam lets the imagination wander

## Rating: B-

By Brad York  
Verge Editor

With the death of Heath Ledger, it can be assumed that more people will now watch the last movie he will ever star in, "The Imaginarium of Doctor Parnassus." The viewer should be aware of what they are getting themselves into prior to watching this film.

Director of the film Terry Gilliam is known for making films that stretch the boundaries of the believable, plausible world as we know it. He has directed movies such as "Twelve Monkeys," "Fear and Loathing in Las Vegas," "Brazil" and "Monty Python & the Quest for the Holy Grail." His movies feature off-the-wall characters and unlikely plots featuring disturbing visuals and themes. "Imaginarium" is no different.

The plot revolves around a traveling carnival-like show which is highlighted by a mirror that allows passers-through a moment of suspended reality where their imaginations come to life.

Doctor Parnassus is a character that is granted eternal life by the devil and runs the show as a competition

to see how many people he can get to walk into their wildest dreams.

Heath Ledger comes into the picture as a man, Tony Shepard, that assumingly attempted suicide after he is found swinging by his neck under a bridge. Through tarot cards Doctor Parnassus decides to keep Shepard as an employee so he can draw in a new customer basis.

What plagues this movie is the same reason avid Gilliam fans watch for, the cooky oddness of each of his films. From a directing stance Gilliam is one of the top in the business for producing movies with out-there concepts and relaying a message to the masses that makes them think.

Over thinking this plot will send the viewer in a whirl-wind of ideas that eventually lead no where. The viewer begins trying to guess what they will see next instead of letting the mediocre effects unfold the plot.

Not much character development takes place within the star character Shepard, also played by Johnny Depp, Jude Law and Colin Farrell. Instead the movie is driven by the ways Doctor Parnassus interacts with his daughter as he struggles to find his true intentions for running the travel-

ing act.

The acting in the movie is a delight as each character is portrayed in an understanding light, but that doesn't mean the characters couldn't be developed more.

The best part of this movie is the wonderment of what could happen next. At times the movie turns dark and other times it is filled with suckers and cotton candy.

The movie was made under an independent budget, but the visuals seem to be above average quality as the viewer watches the imaginations of a plethora of patrons.

Overall this movie seems a perfect fit for the unusual characters that only Ledger and Depp can pull off.

The viewer watches the movie, they leave with a feeling as though they missed something and should watch it again.

If they were to have paid attention, then chances are they missed nothing. Instead they should leave with the feeling that they just watched a Gilliam movie and weren't meant to understand everything.

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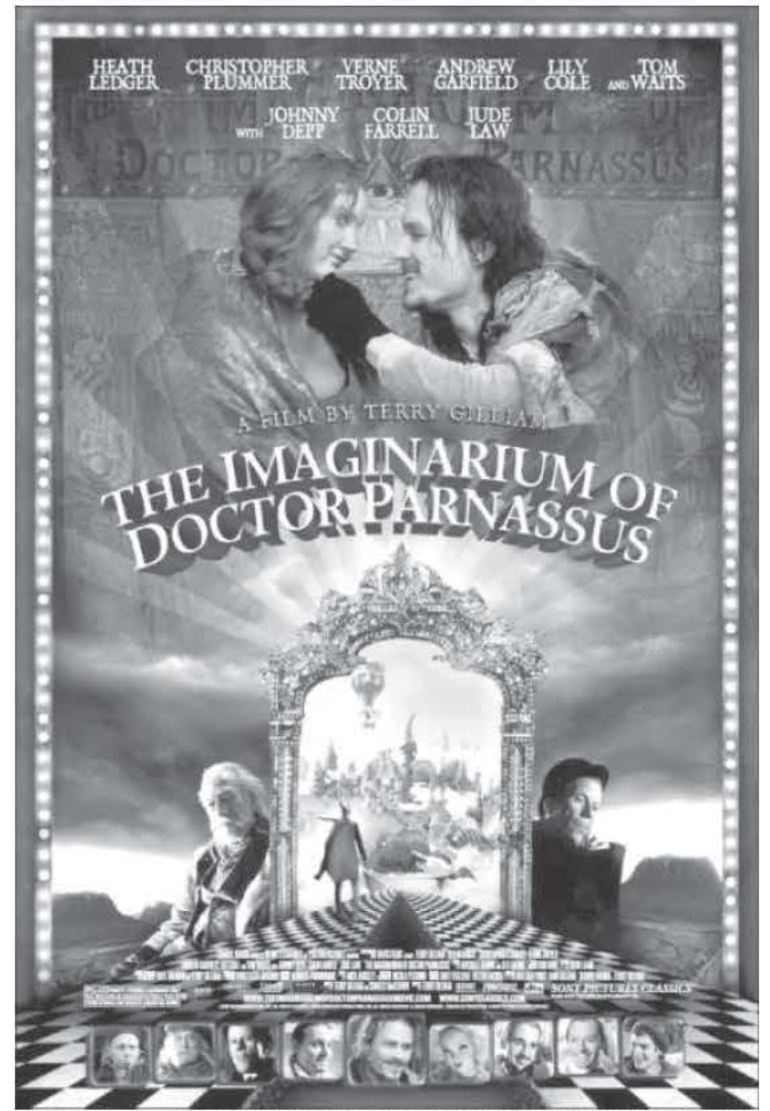


PHOTO COURTESY OF INFINITY FEATURES ENTERTAINMENT

# Rapper makes forgettable return to music

## Gucci Mane returns with album from behind bars but fails to impress

## Rating: D

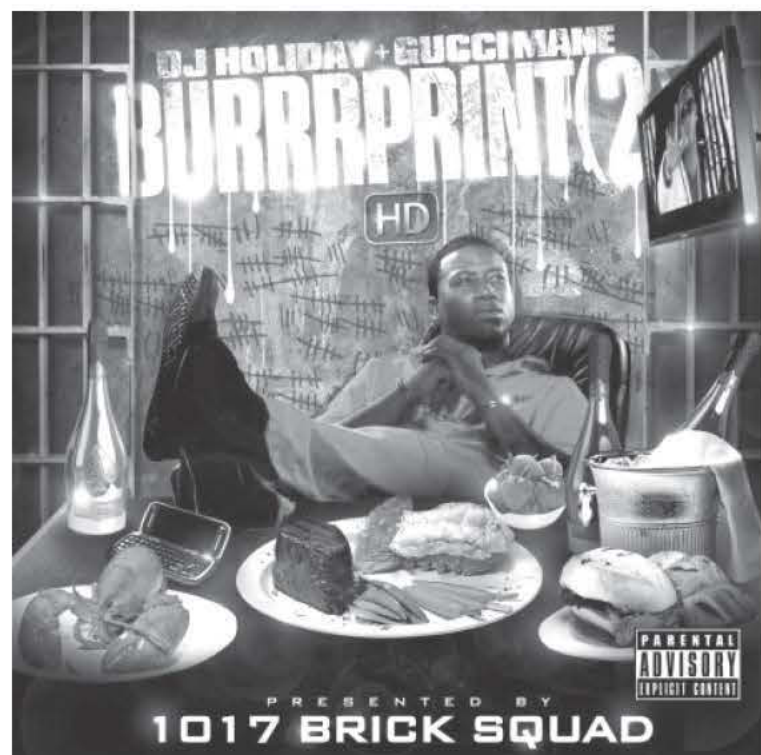


PHOTO COURTESY OF ASYLUM RECORDS

By Adam Mohebbi  
Staff Reporter

For all of you who have end of semester exams to study for and projects to do, let me cut to the chase. Gucci Mane's new album, Burrprint (2) HD, is completely forgettable. It has clever moments and a few pretty good tracks, but for the most part, the main vibe one receives upon listening to the entire album is annoyance. Roughly 20 minutes later, the only thing remembered is further annoyance at having wasted your time.

The main problem with "The Burrprint (2) HD" is that it never settles into a good flow. There are a whopping seven "speak" tracks dispersed throughout the album, in which another rapper or Gucci himself will talk through a gravelly prison phone. These tracks jolt the listener out of any potential groove they might be in, and they appear so often that it is extremely difficult to recover that groove before another one comes knocking.

The intro and outro tracks are also recorded live over the prison phone, but these are more forgivable, since they don't interrupt the rest of the album. Also, the idea is actually fairly interesting and experimental.

Imagine if you were trying to

watch a movie or maybe lie on the steps of the Doudna Fine Arts Center and read a good book. Now imagine that every few minutes, a man shouted something into your ear. Would you be able to enjoy your preferred activity? Of course not, that's just common sense that nonsensical screaming would be distracting and disruptive. So, why does Gucci Mane insist upon shouting "HOLIDAY SEASON!" on practically every track, at the most random of times?

One can only assume that Gucci is attempting to associate his time in jail as a holiday. This is fair enough. Half of the album (including a few of the better songs) is a testament to his ego. That's common enough and nothing to complain about, but when bragging goes from the topic of a track to something that interrupts the track, now that becomes a humongous problem.

The keystone of the entire album is an eight-minute, 48 second snooze titled "Coca Cola." The track itself focuses on a relatively unique topic, Gucci Mane's love affair with cocaine. Quite literally, Gucci raps that "cocaine is my girlfriend."

However, this song about a love affair with the illegal substance cannot save this track.

Including Gucci and all of

his guest stars, there are a total of seven artists on "Coca Cola," and it still manages to be forgettable. There is no change up, no interplay among themselves, simply one artist after another rapping to the same beat in the same manner.

There are a few good tracks on "Burrprint (2) HD," but they are few and far between, and are far from perfect. The best one by far is "Atlanta Zoo," but tragically, the only real reason it works is because of Ludacris' part, which has the best flow on the entire album.

"Antisocial" has to be one of the most honest tracks ever recorded on a rap album, with Gucci rapping like he's legitimately heartbroken. However, its followed up a few tracks later by "911 Emergency" in which Gucci raps about stealing "your" girlfriend, somewhat cutting the honesty level.

"Burrprint (2) HD" is wholly forgettable and partially annoying. Gucci Mane may shine on a few tracks, but the rest of the album really needs a lot more polish. Do yourself a favor and buy the few tracks you may enjoy by themselves, the whole album isn't worth purchasing.

Adam Mohebbi can be reached at 581-7942 or armohebbi@eiu.edu.